



**June 23, 2025**

## Headlining This Week's Brief

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## Top Stories

### **U.S. Bombs Nuclear Sites in Iran as Risks of Wider Conflict Grow**

The United States' entry into the Iran-Israel conflict raises the threat to U.S. nationals and companies, both domestically and abroad. Earlier today, Tehran [took credit](#) for missile attacks on the U.S.-run al Udeid air base in Qatar. Iran said that the base in Qatar was chosen because it was away from populated areas. According to [Qatar's Ministry of Defense](#), no deaths or injuries were reported, and the New York Times is [reporting](#) that Iran gave Qatar prior warning of the attack to minimize casualties. Prior to the attack, the U.S. Embassy in Qatar [recommended](#) that constituents shelter in place. [Qatar](#) and [other countries](#) in the region have closed their airspace as a precaution.

Today's missile attacks on U.S. forces, coupled with President Donald Trump's escalating rhetoric — now suggesting potential [regime](#) change in Iran — could result in greater U.S. involvement to come. Iran may also take further [retaliatory measures](#), such as [closing](#) the Strait of Hormuz or conducting additional attacks on U.S. interests in the region. A June 22 National Terrorism Advisory System [bulletin](#) highlights some potential cyber and physical threats, while the latest State Department "[Worldwide Caution](#)" security alert emphasizes the global scale of the danger.

It also remains unclear if the June 21 U.S. strikes on Iran's three most prominent nuclear facilities accomplished their stated purpose. Though Trump [stated](#) that the strikes "totally obliterated" the targets, it remains [unclear](#) whether the damage is extensive enough to completely derail Iran's nuclear program and if key uranium stores were destroyed. If the administration perceives that Iran's nuclear program still poses a threat, additional military action is likely. For additional information on the situation in the Middle East, read AlertMedia's [Situation Report](#).

## Tensions Rise Along Thailand-Cambodia Border

Relations between Cambodia and Thailand continue to deteriorate following a [brief exchange of fire](#) on May 28 that left one Cambodian soldier dead. In the latest moves, Cambodia announced that it will [halt](#) all fuel imports from Thailand after earlier [cutting off](#) internet and electricity connections and [blocking](#) the trade of produce. In response, Thailand's Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra [said](#) that she would [restrict border crossings](#) into Cambodia across seven provinces, halt exports that support cybercrime operations, and ban foreign tourists from traveling to Cambodia, among [other measures](#). Cambodia and Thailand have also completely [shut](#) multiple border crossings.

The ongoing dispute has also prompted protest activity in both countries and has put Thailand's ruling coalition in jeopardy. [Thousands](#) took part in a demonstration in Phnom Penh in support of the government's decision to deploy the army to the Thai border on June 18. Meanwhile, in Thailand, several activist groups [operating](#) under the name Ruam Palang Phaendin (United Power of the Nation) have [called](#) for a demonstration demanding the Paetongtarn's resignation following a leaked phone call during which she [appeared to defer](#) to former Cambodian leader Hun Sen. The demonstration is planned for Victory Monument in Bangkok on Saturday at 4 pm.

## Hottest Temperatures of the Year to Take Hold of Eastern U.S.

A stagnant dome of high pressure over the eastern half of the United States will set the stage for the hottest days of the year so far for the East Coast. While summer has now started, this will not be an ordinary summer heat. Strong high pressure locked in place over the region will cause temperatures to soar to 15-20°F above average from the Carolinas through New England and into southern Quebec. Temperatures could even reach 25°F above normal for late June in the Northeast U.S. While the most severe heat is expected over the Eastern U.S., [extreme heat watches and warnings](#) are in effect across the Central U.S. as well, including Chicago, St. Louis, and Memphis.

The National Weather Service produces a [HeatRisk index](#), which measures unusual heat, the duration of the event, and the risk of heat-related impacts. With widespread high temperatures expected to reach the upper 90s to low 100s°F from the Gulf of Mexico to southern Ontario on Monday, the NWS HeatRisk is at the maximum level for portions of Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New York. The heat wave will continue to affect a majority of the Eastern U.S. through about Wednesday before the high pressure begins to deteriorate and cooler air slowly works its way back into the region. Portions of the Mid-Atlantic and Ohio Valley will continue to face maximum level HeatRisk through Friday as conditions moderate.

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With high temperatures in Washington D.C., Philadelphia, New York, and Boston expected to surpass 100°F during the front half of the week, officials are urging residents to take precautions. New York Governor Kathy Hochul has even declared a [State of Emergency](#) due to the extreme heat. The public is being advised to drink plenty of fluids and avoid unnecessary time outdoors, as heat exhaustion and heat stroke are possible. To make matters worse, little relief is expected overnight as low temperatures in the 70s and 80s°F will likely break daily records. The extreme heat may even lead to strains on the power grid as residents try to stay cool. Energy providers, including [PJM](#), have announced load management alerts as generators may be required to operate at maximum output capabilities, which could force blackouts.=

## Climate and Natural Hazards

- **European Heat Wave to Shift East Over the Balkans:** After a prolonged stretch of above-average temperatures in Western and Central Europe, the high-pressure system that triggered the event is expected to shift eastward. Between Tuesday and Thursday, the Balkans are expected to bake under the strong ridge, with high temperatures forecast to reach 10-15°C above normal for the end of June. In addition to an elevated risk for heat-related illnesses, the heat and lack of precipitation will also drive an increased wildfire threat throughout the week.
- **New Mexico to Face Increasing Flash Flood Threat:** Well-above-average moisture streaming northwards from the remnants of Hurricane Erick will lead to a significant flash flood threat over central New Mexico through Wednesday. Torrential downpours will be most widespread on Monday and Tuesday and could lead to potentially life-threatening flash flooding in just a few hours. Low-lying and urban areas will be most at risk during the period, though residents living near wildfire burn scar areas will also have to be cautious for potential debris flows. A [flood watch](#) is in effect and will likely be expanded over the next 24-48 hours.
- **Tropical Storm Sepat Approaching Japan:** Tropical Storm Sepat lies over 600 miles south-southeast of eastern Honshu, Japan, as it tracks north-northwestward along the edge of the subtropical ridge. Increasing wind shear and cooler ocean waters will cause the system to weaken as it nears Honshu by Wednesday. The main impacts are expected to be localized flooding, gusty winds, rough seas, and associated coastal hazards before Sepat fully dissipates off the coast by late Thursday.
- **Hurricane Erick Slammed Mexico, Watching for the Next Disturbance:** Hurricane Erick made landfall in Oaxaca about 20 miles east of Punta Maldonado last Thursday morning. Erick was a Category 3 Hurricane at landfall, making it the first major hurricane on record to hit Mexico before July. With that system still in mind, eyes are now turning to the next disturbance highlighted for potential development from the [National Hurricane Center](#). The disorganized

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area of showers and thunderstorms off the west coast of Costa Rica will have a high chance for development by the middle to end of the week. While the system is currently forecast to remain well off the coast, residents in south ern Mexico should continue to monitor the forecast, as confidence at this stage remains low.

## Worldwide

- **DRC, Rwanda Agree on Peace Deal:** A draft peace deal meant to end the fighting in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo has been [agreed](#) upon by Rwandan and Congolese representatives, increasing the likelihood of a return to status quo business operations in the mineral-rich region. Congolese troops and Rwanda-backed M23 rebels clashed increasingly frequently amid a renewed M23 offensive that saw regional hubs, including [Goma](#) and [Bukavu](#), fall under the group's control. The region is an important source of several minerals critical to industrial activity and the manufacture of advanced technology, including significant [reserves](#) of gold and [coltan](#), an ore that is refined into tantalum and niobium. The country holds about 60% of global coltan reserves and produces about 70% of the global [cobalt](#) supply annually.
- **Vietnam Undertakes Administrative Overhaul:** Vietnam has [approved](#) the Communist Party of Vietnam's (CPV) proposal to restructure administrative roles and [merge several provinces](#). The move follows an anti-corruption campaign that led to hundreds of arrests and dismissals. General Secretary To Lam has framed the restructuring as a step toward making the party-state "lean, compact, strong, efficient, effective, and impactful". New provincial leadership will be announced on June 30, with the restructured governments set to begin operations on July 1. The overhaul is expected to eliminate [nearly 80,000 government](#) positions, saving more than VND190 trillion (\$7.3 billion) during the 2026– 2030 period. The restructuring marks one of the most significant overhauls of Vietnam's administrative system in decades, reflecting Vietnam's push for greater efficiency amid ongoing economic and political challenges.
- **Panama Suspends Constitutional Protections Amid Recent Protests:** The Panamanian government declared a [five-day suspension](#) of constitutional protections in Bocas del Toro province starting June 20, extending measures first introduced with a state of emergency (SOE) on May 27. While the SOE aimed to address ongoing unrest, the latest suspension represents a tougher crackdown amid nearly two months of protests and roadblocks. On the evening of June 19, protestors damaged the local airport and the Chiquita Brand facilities, which [laid off](#) thousands of workers last month. Presidential Minister Juan Carlos Orillac condemned the damage as unacceptable and said it did not represent a "legitimate protest," adding that the five-day suspension aims to reestablish order and "rescue the province" from "radical groups". Approximately 1,500 additional police have been deployed to clear roadblocks. In response to the

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recent civil unrest, the [U.S. Embassy in Panama](#) has prohibited U.S. Government officials from traveling to the mainland and the islands of Bocas del Toro until further notice.

- **Extremist Group Using Social Media to Radicalize Disaffected Filipinos:** The Global Network on Extremism and Technology warns that the [Philippine Falangist Front \(PFF\)](#), which the organization describes as “a regional movement that has recently emerged as a prominent extreme-right online community,” is using social media platforms like [TikTok](#) and Discord to distribute propaganda “or engage in discussions lamenting the Philippines’ and the world’s descent into a so-called godless society.” The group’s messaging, which includes allusions to violence against the political left, religious minorities, the LGBT+ community, and other marginalized groups it sees as a threat to Philippine society, has been used to “recruit, radicalise [sic] and rally disaffected youth,” raising the risk of attacks targeting these groups.
- **Security Warning Issued for Travel in Northern Mexico:** The United States Embassy and Consulates in Mexico [issued](#) an update to their travel advisory warning of an increase in disappearances on the highway between Reynosa and Monterrey. Security officials state that all land-based travel between the cities should be avoided after dark, particularly the stretch between Los Ramones and Cadereyta Jimenez. The U.S. government prohibits its employees from traveling on highways in the state of Tamaulipas due to security concerns. The advisory also [states](#) that inbound travel to Monterrey should be limited to Highway 85D from Nuevo Laredo and during daylight hours. At least six people have [disappeared](#) along the highway in recent days, particularly between Cadereyta Jimenez and Los Ramones.

## Cyber and Regulatory

- **U.S. Critical Infrastructure Threatened by Iranian Hackers:** Industry organizations, former government officials, and cybersecurity experts [warn](#) that the growing conflict between Iran and Israel and the potential for direct U.S. involvement could lead Iranian hackers to target critical infrastructure across the United States more frequently. Organizations representing critical services such as the aviation, financial services, and food industries highlight the increased threat, citing earlier Iranian [hacks](#) of water utility providers across the U.S. using Israeli-made equipment. Critical services may be further exposed to these risks due to recent funding and staffing cuts at the country’s Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, potentially impacting programs that support industry efforts to develop robust cyber- defenses.
- **Brazilian Gangs Targeting Internet Services in Northern States:** Brazil’s Ceará and Pará states are struggling with the growing [entrenchment](#) of criminal organizations in the internet services sector, with internet service providers facing rising extortion, increased competition, and concerns

for the security of local staff. Local gangs take advantage of legitimate internet service providers' withdrawal from the local market to establish their service operations, deepening their role in the local market and raising the risk that customers might face extortion, service disruptions, or other secondary impacts of the gang's growing role in the local market. Experts warn that regulators' reliance on local law enforcement support and extensive corruption among the police force limit the government's ability to address the problem.

- **Compilation of Records From Earlier Hacks Creates New Risks:** Cybersecurity researchers **discovered** a list compiling in one place the login credentials of 16 billion social media, cloud platform, email, and other internet accounts stolen during various earlier hacks, potentially raising the risk that hackers could use the combined information to more effectively target impacted users. Even if user credentials were changed following earlier hacks, the potential existence of multiple sets of credentials for one user in one place could facilitate hackers' efforts to determine new credentials based on data found in the leak. Cybersecurity experts recommend changing impacted credentials and enabling multi-factor authentication where possible to minimize the threat posed by the release.
- **Spider Hackers Believed to be Targeting U.S. Insurers:** Hackers using tactics associated with the [Scattered Spider](#) cybercriminal organization [breached](#) U.S. insurers Philadelphia Insurance Companies and Erie Insurance in June, causing service disruptions for customers and raising the risk that other insurance companies may be targeted. According to cybersecurity expert John Hultquist, the group "approaches one sector at a time," using sophisticated social engineering tactics to target help desks and call centers to plant ransomware on victims' systems. The group, which is also known as Oktapus, UNC3944, Scatter Swine, Starfraud, and Muddled Libra, is believed to have breached three U.K. retailers earlier this year.
- **North Korean Hackers Using Deep Fakes, Zoom to Trick Corporate Leaders** North Korean hackers affiliated with the BlueNoroff Advanced Persistent Threat actor (also known as TA444, Sapphire Sleet, and COPENICUM) have expanded their tactics to incorporate [deep fakes](#) of target company leadership into social engineering campaigns, seeking to trick other company executives into installing Mac device malware disguised as Zoom extensions. Cybersecurity firm Huntress, which discovered the campaign, noted that "the attack delivered a range of macOS malware, including info-stealers, keyloggers, and backdoors" — eight in total — some of which are deeply embedded in affected devices and "execute only when the screen was off," helping evade detection.

## Infrastructure and Supply Chain

- **U.S. Housing Starts Drop, Completions and Inventories Remain High:** In May, new home construction in the U.S. [fell](#) to its lowest level since the COVID-19 pandemic, with housing starts declining 9.8% to an annual [rate](#) of 1.26 million homes. Builders are contending with high inventories of unsold homes, elevated mortgage rates, and weakened demand, prompting the use of incentives like mortgage rate buydowns and price reductions. Despite a slight increase in single-family homes built, overall residential construction remains flat, especially in the multi-family sector. Economists anticipate residential investment will weigh on economic growth in the coming months, as housing completions continue to outpace new construction starts. Builders' sentiment stands at the lowest since 2022, with 37% of builders reporting lowering their prices to offload inventory.
- **U.S.-China Rivalry Disrupts Latin American Infrastructure Projects:** The growing U.S.-China contest for geopolitical influence is becoming increasingly disruptive to existing infrastructure projects in Latin America. Two recent cases — U.S. telecommunications [investments](#) dedicated to the replacement of Huawei-made towers in Panama, and [concern](#) over the potential for greater Chinese influence on the strategically important Paraguay-Paraná river system — illustrate how U.S. efforts to restrict China's role in infrastructure across the Americas can upend development plans. China's growing interest in South and Central America, both for economic reasons as an import sourcing and export destination, and political ones pertaining to the diplomatic [recognition](#) of Taiwan, has forced the Trump administration to devote a [significant](#) amount of energy to the region. However, observers [warn](#) that Trump's often coercive approach could push regional decision-makers closer to China.
- **China Removing Tariffs on African Exports:** China and Africa have agreed on a new [economic pact](#) aimed at accelerating Africa's economic growth. The agreement eliminates trade tariffs on the 53 African nations with diplomatic ties to China. While trade between the two sides has grown in recent years, it has largely favored China. The new pact could boost Africa's revenue and strengthen trade ties. Middle-income African countries will gain duty-free access to Chinese markets, potentially driving regional economic growth. This policy shift improves export terms and makes African nations more attractive to Chinese manufacturers looking to [expand globally](#). The pact signals a potential shift in China-Africa relations from infrastructure-led investment to balanced, trade-driven economic cooperation.
- **U.S. Policies Meant to Undermine Criminal Organizations Threaten Legitimate Businesses:** New U.S. policies meant to strengthen the legal basis for dismantling transnational criminal organizations are, in some cases, increasing the risk that companies inadvertently "providing



goods, services, or capital to any members of these criminal groups” might face regulatory ramifications. The addition of 10 such groups that are deeply integrated with Latin America’s legitimate economies to the U.S. State Department’s [list](#) of Foreign Terrorist Organizations, in combination with the [decision](#) that ties to such groups should be “a ‘primary consideration’ in deciding which Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) cases to pursue,” could [expose](#) companies across the Americas to potential U.S. enforcement actions. This is especially true in Mexico, where several such criminal organizations are involved in sectors such as the [produce](#) and [fuel](#) industries, increasing the threat to U.S.-based traders.

- **U.S.-U.K. Reach Limited Trade Deal, Canada Seeks Tariffs on U.S. Steel:** Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney [announced](#) potential tariffs on U.S. steel and aluminum imports that may take effect on July 21, contingent on the outcome of trade negotiations with President Trump. Carney warned of global recession risks and cited the need to support Canadian industries amid ongoing tariff measures. Canada, a major supplier of critical minerals to the U.S., is seeking an agreement that maintains stable trade in steel, aluminum, and the automotive sectors. Separately, the U.S. and U.K. formalized a [limited](#) tariff agreement lowering duties on certain goods, with discussions ongoing over steel exemptions. Additionally, Nippon Steel [completed](#) its acquisition of U.S. Steel under a U.S. national security arrangement granting government oversight.
- **CPAA Reaches Agreement in Canada Post Strike:** The Canadian Postmasters and Assistants Association (CPAA) has [agreed](#) to the terms of a new contract with Canada Post that spans through the end of 2026. The union represents more than 8,500 employees who primarily handle rural post offices. The Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW), Canada Post’s largest bargaining unit, is continuing its negotiations with tensions reportedly still high. DHL Express Canada has [suspended](#) operations and [requested](#) an exemption to the prohibition of replacing federally regulated employees during strikes, citing a “time of high economic uncertainty.” CUPW representatives announced an upcoming vote on Canada Post’s final offer, although a date has yet to be selected.

## Health

- **COVID Variants Believed to Evade Vaccines Behind Global Surge in Cases:** The recent global [surge](#) in COVID-19 cases is associated with sub-variants of the Omicron strain, such as [NB.1.8.1](#), which has been detected in U.S.-bound travelers from the “eastern Mediterranean, Southeast Asia, and western Pacific regions”. The rising prevalence of these variants, which researchers now believe more effectively [evade](#) vaccines designed for earlier Omicron variants, inspired Bangladeshi authorities to reinstitute “[precautionary measures](#)” such as screenings at the Shah



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Amanat International Airport in Chattogram, though there are no current plans to restrict travelers with suspected cases. Of particular concern is the upcoming 4th of July holiday in the United States, when a [record](#) 72.2 million people are expected to travel domestically at a time when the U.S. government is rolling back vaccination [guidance](#).

- **Dengue Cases in Ho Chi Minh City Rise Dramatically Year-on-Year:** At least 2.5 times as many cases of dengue fever were [reported](#) by Vietnamese children's hospitals in May 2025 compared to May 2024, highlighting the worsening caseload in the country. [Dengue](#) — which, while rarely life-threatening, can cause [debilitating](#) symptoms that last for weeks — typically spreads faster during the rainy season, which provides a breeding ground for mosquitoes that carry the disease. Many impacted countries, including Vietnam, have established multi-faceted public health [campaigns](#) meant to raise awareness of the importance of vaccination while also tamping down mosquito populations. Challenges like [barriers](#) to successful community engagement, [pesticide](#) resistance, and increasingly [wet weather](#) are negatively impacting those efforts.
- **Measles Cases Rise Across North America, Netherlands Reports First Death:** The U.S. is on track to see the highest number of [measles cases](#) since the disease was [declared](#) eliminated in 2000. Measles cases in California [surpassed](#) last year's total number, with 16 cases confirmed as of last week. Health officials in Utah are [investigating](#) the state's first confirmed case and believe the infection was transmitted within Utah, though no other cases are known at this time. To the north, cases in Canada's Alberta province have [more than doubled](#) in the last month. To the south, Mexico's Chihuahua state [reported](#) four deaths last week. Across the Atlantic, the Netherlands reported that an adult [died](#) from measles earlier this month, the [first fatal case](#) in the country in over two years.
- **Local Zika Transmissions in Singapore, Screwworm Infections in the Americas:** Health officials in Singapore [confirmed](#) two locally transmitted Zika infections in the [Woodlands residential district](#) last week and have recommended that residents, particularly pregnant people, take measures to prevent mosquito bites. Zika infections during pregnancy can cause birth defects, such as microcephaly, and a recent meta-analysis published in The Lancet [estimates](#) that there is a fourfold higher risk of severe microcephaly in babies born to Zika virus-infected mothers. In other insect-related health news, public health officials in the Americas are [monitoring rising cases](#) of cutaneous myiasis in humans from the New World screwworm. Screwworm primarily infects livestock, particularly cattle, and the U.S. [announced plans](#) to build an \$8.5 million fly-breeding facility to prevent further infestations.
- **HHS Eyes Tougher Drug Ad Rules Amid CDC Committee Shake-Up:** U.S. Health and Human Services (HHS) is [pushing](#) two policies that would make it more difficult for pharmaceutical companies to advertise on television. HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. has promised to ban

drug ads, and though the [two proposed policies](#) fall short of an outright ban, they would require more side effect disclosures, making commercials longer and more expensive, and would eliminate tax deductions for direct-to-consumer drug advertising. In other U.S. public health news, the CDC official who led the team that tracks respiratory virus hospitalizations resigned last week over concerns that COVID-19 and RSV data would no longer be used "objectively or evaluated with appropriate scientific rigor to make evidence-based vaccine policy decisions," according to reporting from [Reuters](#). The resignation comes after Kennedy removed all 17 members of the CDC's vaccine advisory committee. The committee, ACIP, is [scheduled](#) to discuss COVID boosters and other vaccines later this week.

## Demonstrations and Industrial Action

- **Kenya Prepares for Possible Demonstrations on Anniversary of Finance Bill Protests:** The U.S. Embassy in Kenya issued an [alert](#) for demonstrations across all 47 counties on Wednesday as part of a campaign to mark one year since the protests over the Finance Bill. Calls circulating online for the "National Day of Remembrance to Demand Justice" say that marches across the country will take place at 10 am on Wednesday, while vigils will be held in Nairobi's Central Business District on Tuesday and Wednesday. Other actions may take place on short notice, and police are likely to aggressively disperse any gatherings. This week's protests come on the heels of other recent [demonstrations](#) against police brutality and as the government looks to [enact](#) a new finance bill, one that legislators had hoped would avoid triggering another bout of unrest.
- **Hungarians Expected to Celebrate Pride Despite Ban:** Dozens of members of the European Parliament have [announced](#) plans to join thousands of Hungarians for Budapest's Pride March, despite police [banning](#) the event. Organizers still plan to hold the march, slated for Saturday, despite the ban and a recently passed law that allows the police to issue fines to those who attend LGBT+ events and to use facial recognition cameras to track participants. Budapest's mayor, Gergely Karacsony, labeled the march a municipal event to celebrate freedom and, as such, did not require a permit and did not run afoul of any laws. The presence of MEPs may deter police from dispersing marchers, although confrontations between Pride-goers and either security forces or counterdemonstrators are possible.
- **Several Demonstrations Expected Alongside NATO Summit:** Dozens of heads of state will be traveling to The Hague for the 2025 NATO Summit, scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday. Ahead of the summit, [hundreds](#) took part in a demonstration against the alliance, and Extinction Rebellion (XR) Netherlands [attempted](#) to block the A44 motorway earlier today, but was unsuccessful. Tomorrow, pro-Palestine activists intend to gather at Scheveningen Noorderstrand at 7 pm for a "die-in" demonstration denouncing "NATO countries' role in the genocide in Gaza."

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The following day, Extinction Rebellion plans to hold another action, this time targeting the A12 beginning at 12 pm. Road blockades by XR on the A12 specifically have resulted in [mass arrests](#) and [multi-day](#) road disruptions.

- **Demonstrations Called in Response to U.S. Bombing of Iran:** Several groups held “emergency” demonstrations protesting [the](#) U.S. bombing of Iran, including in Boston, Chicago, New York City, and Los Angeles. Additional actions have been called for this weekend. The Answer Coalition, which consists of many antiwar and civil rights organizations, is planning a national march on Washington, D.C. at 1 pm on Saturday, although organizers have not specified an exact location. The group had previously called for a national day of action on Thursday, but it’s unclear if those demonstrations are moving forward. In London, Palestine Action held a protest today that drew hundreds of attendees, despite Home Secretary Yvette Cooper [announcing](#) that she was branding the group a “terrorist organization,” making support and membership illegal.
- **Significant Disruptions Expected With Belgium Strike:** Disruptions are likely across Belgium on Wednesday during a [national strike](#) by several trade unions. No flights will [depart](#) from Brussels Airport in Zaventem, and some arrivals may be disrupted. Charleroi Airport has cancelled all flights on Wednesday. As of today, no strike notice has been submitted for the [SNCB](#) rail network, although it could experience increased traffic due to disruptions to other transportation systems, including the [STIB](#) and [TEC](#). The strike may also impact operations at the [Port of Antwerp](#). Demonstrators also plan to march from the Brussels North train station to Brussels South, beginning at 10 am.

## Upcoming Events

- June 14 - July 13: FIFA Club World Cup (United States)
- June 24-26: NATO Summit (The Hague, Netherlands)
- July 3: Independence Day (Belarus)
- July 4: Independence Day (United States)
- July 5-6: Ashura (Global)
- July 6-7: BRICS Summit (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil)
- July 14: Bastille Day (France)
- July 22: Legislative Elections (Japan)
- July 28: Independence Day (Peru)
- August 15: Independence Day (India)
- August 17: General Elections (Bolivia)