



January 12, 2026

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Top Stories

Cold Spell Coming into Eastern U.S., Still Monitoring Northeast Snow Potential

After a period of relatively mild weather through early Wednesday, much of the eastern United States will turn sharply colder from midweek into the weekend as several strong **cold fronts** push southward. These fronts will bring below-normal temperatures to the Northern Plains, Great Lakes, Ohio Valley, Northeast, and Southeast, with Friday morning lows near 20°F as far south as Raleigh and Atlanta, mid-30s reaching central Florida, and temperatures dipping into the 40s in Miami. A **storm system** is still expected to bring snow to parts of the Great Lakes, central Appalachians, and the Northeast from Wednesday through Friday, but forecast uncertainty remains high. Recent guidance suggests the risk of widespread snow in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic is decreasing, as key storm features may not fully come together until the system moves offshore, limiting impacts in some areas.

More Details of Maduro Operation Emerge Amid Lukewarm Reception by Fossil Fuel Sector, Concern Over Which Country Might Be Next

Additional information continues to emerge surrounding the January 3 U.S. military operation that led to the removal of Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro; however, access to some information from within Venezuela, such as the nature of the public's response to Maduro's removal, is obscured by the government's control of the media environment. At least a dozen media workers **detained** in the country since the raid, and there are **reports** that *colectivos* (paramilitary groups) are searching for U.S. citizens and supporters, prompting a **security alert** from the U.S. Department of State.

Following the operation, the Trump administration was quick to announce plans to help revitalize the country's fossil fuel sector by **selling Venezuelan oil** and soliciting private investors. However, industry majors reportedly harbor **various concerns**, including the poor condition of the country's critical infrastructure, an uncertain security landscape, and a long history of Venezuelan governments seizing foreign oil assets. While there are **some opportunities** for Venezuela to quickly increase its oil output, a return to the levels seen in the late 1990s would take years and billions of dollars of investment.

As for **what country could be next** to face Trump administration scrutiny and potential U.S. intervention, possible targets include Colombia and Mexico, which face their own pervasive drug crime challenges that could serve as a pretext for intervention. Cuba and Iran, meanwhile, have become increasingly frequent targets of the Trump administration's ire; this is especially true in the latter case amid widening unrest that has cost hundreds of demonstrators' lives. And finally there's Greenland, which Trump has coveted for its mineral deposits and strategic Arctic position.

Killing of U.S. Citizen During Immigration Operation Sparks Nationwide Demonstrations, Heightened Scrutiny of Enforcement Drive

The shooting death of 37-year-old U.S. citizen Renee Good during a January 7 immigration enforcement operation in Minneapolis sparked a rapid resurgence in unrest across the country, reinvigorating demonstrations against the Trump administration to a scale not seen in months. Over the weekend, "ICE Out for Good!" demonstrations drew tens of thousands of supporters to protest the administration's current approach to immigration enforcement.

While the demonstrations have remained largely peaceful, the widespread participation is emblematic of public frustration with the enforcement drives, which has led to frequent confrontations between federal officers. Many critiques of these operations revolve around the disproportionate threat or use of force, including near schools and other sensitive sites.

Federal agents have reportedly been involved in more than a dozen shooting incidents nationwide amid the ongoing immigration enforcement drive, killing four people and wounding at least seven others. Demonstration activity is expected to continue at an escalated pace in the near term, especially as the Trump administration has not shown signs of moderating its approach, instead saying that it intends to send "hundreds more" federal officers to Minneapolis.

Climate and Natural Hazards

- **Mediterranean Storm System Heading for Iran:** A large storm system is bringing widespread impacts across the eastern Mediterranean and Middle East, with heavy snow falling in eastern

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Türkiye and the mountains of Lebanon. Meanwhile, intense rainfall is affecting Lebanon, Gaza, the West Bank, **Israel**, Syria, and northern Jordan. Periods of heavy showers and localized flooding are expected to continue through tomorrow. Tuesday through Thursday, the storm will shift east into Iran, bringing a mix of rain and snow to Tehran and surrounding areas. National weather conditions will steadily improve going into Friday. Snow accumulation in Tehran, if any, is expected to be light, while mountainous regions to the north could receive up to a foot. It is currently unclear whether these weather conditions will meaningfully disrupt ongoing domestic protest operations or any international actions involving Iran.

- **Bushfires in Australia's Victoria State Continue to Burn: Uncontrolled bushfires** continue to burn across Victoria after destroying more than **350 structures**, burning nearly 400,000 hectares, and claiming one life near Seymour. At least 12 major fires remain active, with multiple emergency warnings and watch-and-act alerts in place. Authorities warn some blazes could burn for weeks. Victorian Premier Jacinta Allan and fire officials stress that **the fire threat has not passed**, urging early evacuations and vigilance, especially with another heatwave possible later this month.
- **Southern Africa Flood Threat:** A slow-moving, moisture-rich weather system will bring repeated thunderstorms and very heavy rain to southern Mozambique, Zimbabwe, northeastern **South Africa**, and Eswatini through Wednesday, January 14, prompting a high risk of dangerous flooding. Forecast rainfall totals of 150–300 mm (6-12 inches) are expected across much of the region, with isolated areas possibly exceeding 600 mm (2 feet). Such totals could lead to life-threatening flash flooding, river flooding, infra-structure damage, and potential mass evacuations, particularly in northeastern South Africa. Locally severe thunderstorms may also produce damaging winds, frequent lightning, hail, power outages, hazardous travel, and localized rescues. Pretoria is expected to remain south and west of the main hazard area.
- **Philippines Tropical Storm Formation:** A weak tropical disturbance near Palau has a moderate to high chance of strengthening into a minimal **tropical cyclone** before approaching the eastern Philippines between January 15-18. While it remains uncertain whether the storm's center will make landfall, confidence is high that it will at least brush eastern areas from Caraga northward to the Bicol Region as it turns gradually northward. The main concern is heavy rainfall, with multi-day totals of 200–400 mm and locally higher amounts along eastern coasts and mountainous areas, increasing the risk of flash flooding, river flooding, and landslides. Current forecasts indicate a very low threat to the National Capital Region, as well as to Cebu and Davao.
- **Northern Japan Hit by Heavy Snow:** Severe **winter weather** is affecting Hokkaido through Tohoku, Hokuriku, and western regions along the Sea of Japan with heavy snow, blizzard conditions, and strong winds disrupting transportation and daily life. Dozens of domestic flights have been canceled by major airlines, impacting thousands of passengers. Some areas have already recorded snow depths exceeding one meter. Through Wednesday, another reinforcing round of cold and snow showers will bring upwards of **another foot of snow** in mountainous areas. Primary impacts will remain well north of Tokyo, Kyoto, and Osaka.

Worldwide

- **World Leaders Head to Switzerland's Davos for World Economic Forum:** Thousands of political, business, and civil society leaders are expected to discuss global issues at the World Economic Forum (WEF) annual meeting beginning next Monday in the Swiss Alps. Competition among major powers and workforce resilience are top themes on the conference agenda, with AI and climate change also expected to be major talking points. The WEF is scheduled to release its annual **Global Risks Report**, a key resource for business leaders and policymakers, this week. Significant security measures and resources will be in place for the WEF meeting. No specific threats against the annual meeting have been identified by the AlertMedia team; however, demonstrations are planned in Davos and Bern, and the visibility of the annual event and its prominent guest list make the summit an attractive target for threat actors. For more information, read AlertMedia's **situation report**.
- **Continued U.S. Pursuit of Greenland a 'Red Line' for Europe, Could Lead to End of NATO:** The Trump administration's repeated attempts to gain control of semi-autonomous Greenland from Denmark, including floating **potential military action** to seize the territory, is drawing increasingly forceful pushback from Danish and other European leaders. While Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen warned that a military takeover of Greenland "would amount to the **end of the NATO military alliance**," others such as French Foreign Minister Jean-Noël Barrot are said to be preparing a **unified European response** to any potential U.S. aggression. U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio is **expected** to meet with Danish leaders this week, but the Trump administration has shown no signs of retreating from the issue.
- **U.S. Businesses Seen as Supporting Trump Administration Immigration Drive Face Reputational Risks:** Businesses perceived as either tied to or supporting the Trump administration's immigration enforcement drive are facing rising reputational risks as **public opinion** sours on the effort. The issue threatens to drive bad press, boycott campaigns, or demonstrations targeting such companies. In one recent example, the Hampton Inn by Hilton in Lakeville, Minnesota, began blocking new registrations and canceling existing ones for federal immigration agents. The move was possibly out of concerns that they would be **targeted by protesters**, who have regularly held noise demonstrations outside of locations that they believe are hosting federal immigration agents. The situation in Lakeville forced parent company Hilton to **respond, ending** its affiliation with the hotel in question and signaling consequences for the franchisee as well.
- **Protester Casualty Count Spikes in Iran as U.S. Mulls Possible Military Options:** An activist group has said that the likely death toll from protests in Iran **jumped to 544** over the weekend as authorities have moved to crack down on the swelling movement that has now spread to all 31 provinces. BBC has **confirmed** reporting on clashes in Mashhad and dozens of bodies being taken to some Iranian hospitals. U.S. President Donald Trump is **scheduled** to receive a briefing tomorrow on potential options to respond to the protests after Trump threatened to intervene if

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the regime killed demonstrators. Iran has responded with warnings of its own, **threatening** to retaliate against Israel and “U.S. military and shipping centers” in the region. The ongoing protests have led to dozens of solidarity actions around the world, including one in **Los Angeles** during which a man drove a box truck into a crowd, injuring two. Oil prices also **rose** over the weekend as traders grow increasingly concerned over the unrest and potential spillover into the surrounding region.

- **Portugal to Vote in Presidential Election Next Sunday, Unions Mobilize in Lisbon on Tuesday:** Early voting began in Portugal this week ahead of the January 18 presidential election, with a runoff election on February 8 highly likely as none of the 11 candidates are expected to receive more than 50% of the vote. While the election is primarily being **contested** between candidates of the country’s two main parties, the candidate for the Chega party—**described** as far-right and anti-immigration—is closely **trailing** in the polls, signaling a continued shift to the right after the **party’s gains** in last year’s May general election. The elections come amid the country’s largest labor mobilization in decades, with trade unions organizing a general strike in December that **resulted** in flight cancellations, school closures, and significant transportation disruptions nationwide. This Tuesday, the CGTP union will hold a “**large demonstration**” in Lisbon to demand the withdrawal of labor reforms.

Cyber and Regulatory

- **Job Fears Growing in U.S. Over Rising AI Adoption:** As the use of artificial intelligence becomes more widely integrated across U.S. industries, concerns are rising over its potential **impact** on employment. AI is increasingly being used to automate tasks, possibly contributing to slower hiring and a rise in job reductions in administrative, financial, and entry-level positions. This trend has **heightened** concerns about long-term job security and career progression. While some analysts argue that AI will reshape roles in the U.S. workforce rather than eliminate them, others warn of significant structural changes to the labor market that may present challenges to skills development and workforce planning.
- **EU Moves to Enforce Digital Rules as U.S. Tech Pushback Intensifies:** The European Union is **strengthening** its enforcement of several of its digital rules, including the Digital Markets Act and the Digital Services Act, targeting major U.S. tech firms like Google, Apple, Meta, and X to ensure fair competition and moderate harmful content. The EU is shifting from negotiating to actively applying compliance measures and investigations into areas such as AI access, cloud competition, and data practices. The increase in enforcement has drawn strong pushback from the United States, with President Donald Trump’s administration threatening retaliation, including tariffs and visa restrictions, while calling the EU’s approach discriminatory. Both Apple and Meta **changed** their EU business models in early 2025 after fines for breaching antitrust rules.

- **U.S. Multinational Firms Exempt from Global Tax Minimum:** The OECD has finalized a **revised** global tax agreement that exempts large U.S.-based multinational companies from the 15% global minimum corporate tax. Nearly 150 countries signed on to the updated plan, which was originally agreed to in 2021 to limit profit shifting by multinational corporations to low-tax jurisdictions. The exemption for U.S. companies followed negotiations between the Trump administration and other G7 countries. The revised agreement aims to improve tax certainty, reduce complexity, and protect national tax systems. U.S. officials said it addresses concerns about foreign taxes being applied to American companies. Supporters say the changes help maintain U.S. competitiveness, while critics argue they reduce the effectiveness of the global minimum tax in discouraging profit shifting. Future changes may depend on whether participating countries alter their domestic tax laws and how consistently countries implement the agreement.
- **Japan Considers Stricter Residency Amid Global Shift:** Japan is **considering** tighter **residency** checks for foreign nationals—including stricter permanent residency requirements, possible Japanese language proficiency standards, and increased scrutiny of certain work and student visas—as part of an effort to curb illegal stays and improve integration. The proposed changes could affect workers, students, and long-term foreign residents, signaling a shift toward stricter enforcement despite Japan’s reliance on foreign labor. Last year, Italy **tightened** its citizenship-by-descent rules to limit eligibility to applicants with a parent or grandparent born in Italy, while Spain **closed** its golden visa program over housing affordability and fairness concerns. Together, these moves reflect a wider international trend toward tightening migration pathways, though political shifts, labor market pressures, or public backlash could alter the pace or scope of Japan’s proposed changes.
- **MuddyWater Deploys New Rust-Based Malware:** Iranian-linked hacking group MuddyWater has **launched** a spear-phishing campaign across the Middle East, targeting maritime, financial, telecommunication, and government sectors. The campaign leverages phishing emails and **compromised** email accounts to spread a new piece of malware called RustyWater is harder to detect and disrupt. MuddyWater, which has been active since at least 2017, is **linked** to Iran’s Ministry of Intelligence and Security (MOIS). The attacks rely on fake emails with Word documents that trick victims into enabling content that secretly installs the malware. RustyWater allows attackers to collect system information and stay hidden on infected machines, while gaining the ability to remotely run commands. Similar attacks have been recently reported in Israel targeting information technology, human resources, and software development companies.

Infrastructure and Supply Chain

- **Ukrainian Drone Strike on Distant Tanker Raises Concerns About Eastern Mediterranean Routes, Rates:** After Ukraine’s Secret Service (SBU) claimed responsibility for a **drone strike** that rendered the Oman-flagged tanker Qendil inoperable from over 2,000 km away, concerns are

rising that the potential expansion of the Russia-Ukraine conflict into the eastern Mediterranean would impact broader shipping activity in the region. The strike, which targeted the tanker while it was en route to Russia and empty (to minimize the likelihood of environmental damage), was meant to prevent the tanker's use in circum-venting sanctions. Though the direct threat is most likely limited to vessels perceived as having a connection to Russia or the war in Ukraine, the strike will likely drive an increase in **insurance rates** for vessels plying nearby waters. The heightened costs could in turn lead traders to seek alternative routes, increasing voyage times and associated costs.

- **Mexican Tariffs Meant to Curb Abuse of Country as U.S. 'Back Door' Likely to Drive Up Costs:** Mexico is applying **tariffs** of up to 35% on over 1,400 products from China and other countries with whom Mexico does not have a trade agreement, threatening significant cost increases for both goods sold in the country and inputs used in the assembly of Mexican exports. The move is meant to curb the abuse of trade loop-holes that allowed the country to be treated as a "**back door**" to the U.S. market by foreign firms. The companies have been accused of taking advantage of Mexico's preferential trading terms with the U.S. without investing in the local economy in return. As a result of the tariffs, buyers of Mexican goods can expect price increases on key exports such as **automobiles**, with tariffs on some raw materials likely to have even wider impacts across a range of goods.
- **Data Center Demand and Slow Progress on Capacity Driving Power Costs to Record Highs in Some States:** Already-rising electricity rates in several U.S. states are expected to increase further as competition for existing capacity drives prices at auctions for future supply to **record highs**. The growing **proliferation** of data centers along the East Coast, in the Midwest, and elsewhere is exceeding the pace of capacity increases in the form of either new plants or investment in renewables, with challenges stemming from both underinvestment in infrastructure and the lengthy windows of time required for permitting and construction before service delivery begins. While some officials, such as Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro, have moved to protect consumers in their state from exorbitant price increases, other customers face further increases in their electricity bills absent regulatory intervention.
- **Indonesian Land Reclamation Campaign Sparks Supply Chain Fears, Provides Environmental Opportunity:** Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto described recent moves to nationalize about 10 million acres of resource-rich lands as "**just the beginning**" of a campaign to reclaim the country's rich supply of coal, metals, palm oil, and other goods from Indonesian elites and foreign firms he accuses of profiteering at the country's expense. In addition to concerns that this could impact supply chains of consumer goods ranging from cooking supplies to tech products, industry experts are concerned that the increasingly frequent land reclamations will temper investor interest in the country, which could lead those same strategic sectors to stagnate. However, the return of wide swathes of land to state control also provides an opportunity to strengthen land management practices at a time when the impacts of extreme weather events are being exacerbated by deforestation.

- **'Left-Wing Extremist' Group Claims Responsibility for Berlin Grid Attack, Outage:** Vulkangruppe (Volcano Group), an environmentally-oriented German activist group, claimed responsibility for a January 3 attack on Berlin's energy infrastructure that led to the most impactful **power outage** in the city since World War II. While power was restored by January 7, the attack affected about 45,000 households and 2,000 businesses, potentially impacting heating systems protecting tens of thousands of people from freezing temperatures. The government ultimately deployed the military to the city to aid in the emergency response, and German leaders are now questioning whether the country's infrastructure is sufficiently protected from widespread impacts in the event of targeted attacks.

Health

- **U.S. Issues New Federal Dietary Guidelines:** The United States **issued** new federal dietary guidelines that emphasize higher proportions of animal-based protein and less added sugar and whole grains. Evidence for the guidelines, which play a significant role in shaping Americans' eating habits, were reviewed by nine outside experts, four of which have ties to the meat and dairy industries. During the announcement of the new guidelines, Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F Kennedy Jr said that they were "ending the war on saturated fats," although recommendations on how much saturated fat to consume remains unchanged despite the increased emphasis on animal protein. The new guidelines are also the first to warn against eating highly processed foods.
- **Flu Continues to Surge Across the U.S.:** In the beginning of 2026, flu-like activity **reached** its highest level since the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) began tracking such data around 30 years ago. While indicators have dropped modestly since then, experts caution that metric may not yet have peaked, and could reflect a decrease in healthcare-seeking or reporting over the holidays. The CDC estimates that so far there have been 180,000 hospitalizations and 7,400 deaths from flu this season, including 17 pediatric deaths. With the record-setting number of cases, there have also been **reports** of short-ages of the antiviral treatment Tamiflu, although the **scale** of the shortfall is still being determined.
- **U.S. Health Officials Drop Several Recommended Vaccines for Children:** On Monday of last week, U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr **announced** that the agency was revising down the number of diseases that they recommend children be inoculated against, from 17 to 11. While the authority to mandate vaccines lies with the states, the recommendations from the federal government typically play a significant in influencing state regulations. The new vaccine schedule drops blanket recommendations for hepatitis A, hepatitis B, meningococcal disease, rotavirus, influenza, and respiratory syncytial virus, instead only recommending them for high-risk groups or after consultation with a medical provider.

- **U.S. FDA to Adopt Light Touch to Regulating Wearables, AI:** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration **released** new guidance outlining a more permissive, AI-friendly approach to regulating health software and wearables, aiming to distinguish wellness tools from medical devices. Products that provide general health information—such as wearables tracking heart rate, blood pressure, or blood glucose for non-medical purposes—may be exempt from FDA oversight, while devices offering clinical-grade measurements remain regulated. The guidance also loosens rules for clinical decision support software, exempting tools that provide recommendations without directly analyzing images or performing time-sensitive clinical tasks. FDA Commissioner Marty Makary said the changes are intended to reduce regulatory friction, encourage innovation, and clarify long-standing uncertainty around digital health boundaries.
- **Around 15,000 Nurses in New York City Go on Strike:** Around 15,000 nurses at three New York City hospital systems **went on strike** this morning, with the primary issues being workplace safety and staffing levels. Impacted hospitals include The Mount Sinai Hospital and two of its satellite campuses, as well as New York-Presbyterian and Montefiore Medical Center in the Bronx. The strike comes amid a record-setting flu season, leading Governor Kathy Hochul to issue an **executive order** saying that “a disaster is imminent” and that the strike was likely to “impact the availability and delivery of care.” The New York Department of Health has **instructed** unaffected hospitals to accept patients from impacted systems, with patient transfers taking place last week in the leadup to the strike. A smaller strike in 2023 resulted in significant pay increases and lasted for three days; however, nurses have brought forward an expanded set of grievances this year and are negotiating with each hospital system separately. Meanwhile, the Demonstrations and Industrial Action hospitals are anticipating lower revenues over the next few years following a reduction in federal health care funding, suggesting that this year’s industrial action could be prolonged.

Demonstrations and Industrial Action

- **Surge in U.S. Protest Activity in Response to ICE Operations:** Activist groups, including the 50501 movement, the Women’s March, and the Party for Socialism and Liberation, are calling for a nationwide shut-down on Tuesday, January 20 under the banner “**Free America.**” According to organizers, hundreds of rallies have been organized as of the time of this writing, with major cities likely to draw the largest crowds. Ahead of next Tuesday, including on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, rallies denouncing the Trump administration and ICE operations are planned across the U.S. The latest calls to action follow hundreds of demonstrations called on short notice this past weekend that saw tens of thousands of people **march** in Minneapolis to protest the killing of Renee Good

by an Immigration and Customs Enforcement officer last week. While the majority of actions were peaceful, several resulted in **police intervention**.

- **Heightened Political Tensions in Uganda Ahead of General Election:** The United Nations is **warning** that Uganda's general election, scheduled for January 15, may see a **repeat** of widespread violence and communications restrictions that marked the country's last elections in 2021. Uganda's government, led by incumbent President Yoweri Museveni since 1986, dismissed rumors that it plans to shut down internet access this week; however, concerns remain after Starlink blocked Ugandan users at the request of the Uganda Communications Commission. Uganda's campaign period has been marked by intervention by security forces involving tear gas, water cannons, and live ammunition, **particularly** at rallies organized by opposition presidential candidate Bobi Wine's National Unity Platform (NUP). Human rights groups **report** that the security forces have "unlawfully targeted opposition rallies with unnecessary and excessive force and arbitrary arrests." Uganda's security forces have a history of deploying heavy-handed measures to disperse demonstrators, and the government **stated** last week it is banning live broadcasts of "unlawful processions" and riots ahead of the election.
- **European Farmers Continue Anti-Mercosur Demonstrations:** The European Union will **sign** a deal with the Mercosur South American trade bloc this weekend despite concerns from European farmers that have resulted in weeks of protests across EU member states. French farmers continue to block roads into this week, and the country's Young Farmers agricultural organization and the FNSEA (National Federation of Farmers' Unions) is calling for a major national mobilization outside the European Parliament in Strasbourg on the morning of Tuesday, January 20. To the east, in Spain, livestock producers will **gather** in Irun near the French border to protest both the EU-Mercosur deal and the spread of bovine nodular dermatitis. To the west, in Germany, farmers will return to Berlin's streets this Saturday with a demonstration organized by an alliance of agricultural and civil society groups. Approximately 9,000 people are **expected** to gather at Brandenburg Gate at noon.
- **Britain, France, Italy See Demonstrations Over Domestic Policies Related to War in Gaza:** Demonstrations related to the war in Gaza continue across the world, with the United Kingdom in the global spot-light due to ongoing hunger strikes by several imprisoned activists. The activists, one of whom is on day 70 of her hunger strike, are calling for the lifting of the Palestine Action ban. British diplomatic facilities are likely to see demonstrations organized on short notice if the hunger strikers' conditions deteriorate. In France, pro-Palestine activist groups are calling for a mass rally outside the National Assembly in Paris next Tuesday to call for the withdrawal of a bill that would **criminalize** criticism of Israel. In Italy, pro-Palestinian groups are organizing buses for demonstrators to travel to L'Aquila on Friday to demand the release of imprisoned Palestinians

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Anan Yaesh, Ali Irar, Mansour Doghmosh, and Ahmed Salem, who face their final court hearings that same day.

- **Political Uncertainty Persists in Nepal Following September Protests:** Youth in Nepal who took part in the September 2025 demonstrations that overturned the government are now expressing frustration that little has been done to address corruption and compensate those injured during the protests. While mobilizations by the Gen Z movement have waned since September, the Communist Party of Nepal (Un-ified Marxist–Leninist), the party of ousted prime minister K.P. Sharma Oli, has **organized** some of the largest political gatherings in recent weeks. Six smaller communist party factions have announced a boy-cott of the country's general elections, which are scheduled for March 5. Student organizations associated with the six parties are calling for a **general strike** tomorrow in the Kathmandu Valley to express solidar-ity with plans to boycott the elections. Amid these political developments, it appears unlikely that the country's Gen Z movement will formalize its position ahead of the March general elections.

Upcoming Events

- January 15: General Elections (Uganda)
- January 18: Presidential Election (Portugal)
- January 19: Martin Luther King Jr Day (United States)
- January 19-23: World Economic Forum Annual Meeting (Davos, Switzerland)
- January 25: Third Phase of General Elections (Myanmar)
- January 26: Republic Day (India)
- January 26: Australia Day (Australia)
- February 1: General Election (Costa Rica)
- February 4-22: Winter Olympics (Italy)
- February 7 – March 8: Men's T20 Cricket World Cup (India, Sri Lanka)
- February 8: Super Bowl LX (Santa Clara, United States)
- February 8: General Election (Thailand)
- February 12: General Election, Constitutional Referendum (Bangladesh)
- February 13-15: Munich Security Conference (Munich, Germany)
- February 17: Chinese New Year begins (Global)
- February 17: Tét (Vietnam)
- February 17: Mardi Gras (Global)