



August 31, 2026

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Two Tropical Features Monitored in Gulf and Bahamas

At the time of publication, the [National Hurricane Center](#) was tracking Potential Tropical Cyclone Five, located in the Gulf, just south of Louisiana. PTC Five has a high chance of strengthening into a depression or minimal named storm. The next name on the 2026 Atlantic names list is Edouard.

97L is expected to make landfall near the Texas-Louisiana state line, near Beaumont, Port Arthur, and Cameron, between late Tuesday morning and early Tuesday afternoon. Marginal atmospheric conditions and limited remaining time over water are likely to hinder odds of significant intensification. Additionally, Five is a rather compact disturbance, and is unlikely to stall near the coast. For these reasons, while there is a threat of locally heavy rain and flash flooding, the overall risk is not as extreme as it often is for landfalling Gulf storms.

Two consecutive days of Level 2 of 4 WPC-issued excessive rainfall risk have been outlined for much of southeast Texas, including Beaumont, Galveston, and Houston. Flood Watch expansion is possible. On Wednesday, the threat will steadily lift north into the eastern Texas Piney Woods, including Lufkin. Over the next few days, a narrow swath of 3-5 inches of rain is forecast, with locally higher amounts greater than 7 possible.

Elsewhere, the remnants of Tropical Storm Dolly have a very low threat of reorganization as they move into the Bahamas Tuesday and Wednesday. Ultimately, no development is forecast at this time.

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More Than a Dozen Missing After Grand Canyon Floods

A **powerful flash flood** tore through Bright Angel Canyon at Grand Canyon National Park on Saturday, triggering evacuations, destroying infrastructure, and forcing widespread closures across the inner canyon. By Sunday morning, 62 hikers and visitors had been evacuated by authorities. On Sunday night, the National Park Service confirmed the **death of a 46-year-old man** near Crystal Rapids along the Colorado River. Officials are **still working to account for approximately 15 others** who may have been in the affected area. Nearly all footbridges over Bright Angel Creek were destroyed. The flooding also severely damaged the Transcanyon Waterline, which supplies water to the South Rim, prompting the park to impose **Stage 4 water restrictions** beginning Monday. Overnight lodging inside the park was ordered to close.

Officials are warning that additional thunderstorms could bring more flash flooding, rockfalls and dangerous trail conditions. A **significant flood risk** will continue over central and southern Utah through Monday. **Scattered flash flooding** is also anticipated over northern Arizona, western Colorado, and New Mexico.

U.S. Pressure on Migrants Threatens Industries Reliant on Foreign Workers

The Trump administration continues to pursue other means of limiting legal immigration to the United States, especially in cases where potential immigrants could be seen as a financial burden. This campaign has targeted various demographics, from **highly skilled workers** to **foreign students** and **asylum seekers**, the latter of whom are protected under **international law**. The **latest measure** is a **global pause** on U.S. immigrant visa processing that the State Department has said is to accommodate a global training initiative, although officials have not specified the details of the training or its timeline. The pause is likely to further increase pressure on various categories of aspiring immigrants, especially on low-income earners, people fleeing from persecution in their home countries, and other vulnerable groups. While some analysts do not expect the current processing freeze to impact nonimmigrant visas (such as those for foreign workers), the broader rising pressure on various demographics of immigrants threatens both near-term and lasting impacts for U.S. hiring trends and employment levels, especially in sectors such as agriculture, healthcare, and others **heavily reliant on immigrant labor**. These restrictions could ultimately discourage foreign workers from seeking employment in the U.S., which could cause lasting disruptions to business activity in these sectors unless suitable domestic hires are available and seek those roles.

The immigrant visa processing freeze is not expected to end **unless** the State Department resumes processing upon the completion of its planned training, a court order forces the administration to resume processing, or congressional action to block the measure takes place. Republican control of Congress makes that last option especially unlikely, at least until January 2027 and unless Democrats take control of the legislature during midterm elections. These efforts are also expected to continue facing

legal challenges, with the recent pattern of outcomes suggesting that an effective challenge in the courts will take at least several months.

Alternative for Germany Poised for First State Majority, Breaking Longstanding Taboo in German Politics

Current polling suggests that the Alternative for Germany (Alternative für Deutschland, AfD) party is on track to win a majority in **state elections** in Germany's Saxony-Anhalt on September 6. A win for the party, which is often **described** as "far-right extremist" and has **faced accusations** of being sympathetic to Nazi ideology, would mark a breach of the "firewall" that has been in place in German politics since the AfD was founded and make it the **first far-right party** to gain power at the state level in the country since World War II.

German **political** and **religious leaders** are warning of the potential impacts, with Chancellor Friedrich Merz saying that the AfD's expected victory could **discourage foreign investment**. AfD candidates have **attacked** Germany's established parties and the media over issues such as immigration, the green energy transition, and German support for Ukraine in its war with Russia as drivers behind the country's **flagging economy**. Observers fear that an AfD victory could be particularly harmful to **investments in renewable energy** technologies and the state's **existing immigrant population**, which could face rising regulatory pressure or public abuse in the state. AfD's rising popular popularity will likely push other parties to adopt some parts of its agenda, especially around immigration.

At the federal level, the processing of results and coalition formation **can take weeks**, though the Saxony-Anhalt results are likely to emerge much more quickly, especially in light of the AfD's strong lead. The AfD is also **polling first nationally**, leading the federal-ruling CDU and raising fears that other parties may break the aforementioned firewall and ally with the AfD. A win in Saxony-Anhalt would provide the party with a fillip in its quest to secure power at the **federal level**. Two other state elections scheduled for September-Mecklenburg-Vorpommern and Berlin, both on September 20-will provide additional opportunities for the party to build momentum going into 2027, which will feature five additional state elections.

Climate and Natural Hazards

- **Severe Weather Forecast Over Northeast U.S., Southern Canada:** Several days of severe weather are expected across the Northeast U.S. and southern Ontario through early this week, and the Mid-Atlantic through late this week. Damaging wind gusts, hail, and localized flash flooding will be likely each day, with the threat of flash flooding increasing through the week as multiple rounds of heavy rain and storms move over the same areas. A few tornadoes cannot be ruled out. Prolonged impacts may linger in areas that experience multiple days of severe weather and flooding.

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- **Nepal Rescue Mission Continues:** As of Monday afternoon, Nepal's [Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#) reports that 903 bodies have been recovered and about 4,200 people remain unaccounted for following the Bhote Koshi-Trishuli flood disaster. More than 10,000 people have been rescued, including over 323 foreign nationals. About 590 foreign nationals from 39 countries remain missing. The government says search, rescue, body-recovery, and identification operations remain ongoing, with international teams providing specialized tunnel-rescue assistance.
- **European River Level Recovery:** [Rhine water levels in Germany rose](#) after recent rain, easing record-low conditions. However, ships are still allowed to only carry partial loads. Freight costs have fallen from mid-August peaks, yet transport remains disrupted and expensive.
- **Multiple Heavy Rain and Tropical Storm Risks Across Asia:** The El Niño-fueled western Pacific typhoon season remains active, with the U.S. [Joint Typhoon Warning Center \(JTWC\)](#) monitoring four to five systems of interest. AlertMedia meteorologists assess that three systems surrounding China, Taiwan, and southern Japan currently pose the greatest potential for impacts. Japan has already experienced [multiple extreme rainfall and flooding events in recent weeks](#), and while one or two weaker tropical systems could threaten the country over the next seven days, the more significant concern will be prolonged above-average rainfall, flooding, and landslides. Much of Japan could receive 150-300 mm of rain over the coming week, with locally extreme totals possible. Similar rainfall and flooding risks extend across Taiwan and coastal mainland China, particularly from Hong Kong northward through Fuzhou and Wenzhou.

Worldwide

- **U.S. Resumes Strikes on Iran; President Trump Posts Misleading AI Video About Attack:** On Sunday, August 30, a U.S. official said that forces [struck](#) two Iranian rocket launchers on Larak Island in the Strait of Hormuz, marking the first announced American strikes on Iran since late July. Tehran [retaliated](#) on August 31 with a combined ballistic missile and drone strike targeting the King Hussein and Al-Azraq U.S. bases in Jordan, warning that "every attack will be met with even more devastating responses." Tehran also [claimed](#) to have targeted the UAE's Al Minhad Air Base near Dubai, although the UAE has disputed this account. Amid the exchanges, U.S. President Donald Trump [posted](#) an AI-generated video on Truth Social claiming Iran's Kharg Island was "being blown to smithereens," though Reuters confirmed the accompanying clip was most likely synthetically generated and found no evidence of an actual attack, which would have been a significant escalation in the conflict.
- **Canada Seeks New Trade Partners as U.S. Tensions Worsen:** The possibility of [additional U.S. tariffs](#) on Canadian imports could push the two sides further away from a bilateral trade deal just as the potential impacts of a lasting trade war come into view. Canadian counter-tariffs, set to go into effect on September 8, will likely have the greatest impact on U.S. exports from California, Illinois, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Ohio, while Canada's [Ontario](#) is likely to be hit the hardest due to the province's exposure to tariffs on steel and auto parts not covered by the USMCA trade agreement. Canada's trade relationships are [far less diversified](#) than the U.S., with 70% of Canadian exports bound for the U.S. and 60% of imports originating there. This

imbalance has led Prime Minister Mark Carney to seek [new trade opportunities](#) that could have a lasting impact on North American supply chains and cross-border manufacturing.

- **Syrian State Sponsor of Terror Designation Lifted:** On August 24, the U.S. [removed Syria's designation](#) as a state sponsor of terrorism, [in place since 1979](#). The change will lift what Syrian Foreign Minister Asaad al-Shibani [described](#) as the last "obstacle to investment, doing business, and rebuilding economic life in Syria." It's the latest and most significant step in President Ahmed Al-Sharaa's campaign to reintegrate Syria into the global community. Al-Sharaa's government continues to cooperate with international authorities, [including nuclear inspectors](#), following the overthrow of the Assad regime in 2024, and recently offered to [drastically](#) reduce its imports of Russian oil to facilitate sanctions relief. The removal of the designation will also provide a boost to Syria's hopes of establishing itself as a [fossil fuel trade hub](#) in the region. This goal has taken on added significance as global buyers seek to diversify their supply chains away from the Gulf region.
- **Concerning Criminal Element Amid Proliferation of Private Security Companies in South Africa:** Concerns are growing that criminals are using South Africa's private security industry as a front to access firearms. The sector accounted for [nearly a fifth](#) of all business-to-business services in South Africa during 2024, with the growing interest in leading to a [proliferation](#) of security firms. [Over 7,000 private security firms](#) were registered in the country since 2020, while Police Minister Senzo Mchunu reported in 2024 that nearly 140 firearms were reported lost by or stolen from security companies monthly. Persistent efforts to reign in firearms ownership and use [among these firms](#) and other [private owners](#) have not progressed, creating an opportunity for criminals to form security firms that ultimately enable "targeted assassinations, attempted murder, extortion, kidnapping, and drug dealing."
- **Land Mine Casualties Rise as Support for Ban, Removal Efforts Slips:** Despite the [Ottawa Convention](#) banning their production and use in most countries since 1999, casualties due to land mines are trending upward in conflict zones around the world. These small, indiscriminate explosive devices, sometimes placed decades ago, continue to injure and kill civilians in [Afghanistan](#), [Cambodia](#), [Myanmar](#), and other countries that hosted ground-based fighting before the ban. Additionally, the [changing](#) nature of modern conflicts, growing role of [non-state actors](#), [ease of production](#), and [integration of advanced technology](#) has seen their use grow in recent years. This is particularly true of the war in Ukraine, with Russia's [extensive use of landmines](#) driving [Ukraine](#) and five NATO member states to [withdraw from the treaty](#) since the conflict began. Meanwhile, challenges such as [resource limitations](#) continue to weigh on postconflict remediation of unexploded ordinance, further raising the risk that civilians might detonate one of these devices long after any fighting ends.

Cyber and Regulatory

- **U.S. Disrupts China-Linked Hack of Sensitive Infrastructure:** U.S. authorities [disrupted](#) a China-linked cyber espionage operation that targeted sensitive government agencies and critical infrastructure by seizing four domains supporting two hacking platforms, QScan and QTRouter.

The Justice Department said the platforms were [operated](#) by China-based Nanjing Xinjiuwei Network Technology Company on behalf of customers including China's Ministry of State Security and the People's Liberation Army. Targets included NASA, the Federal Reserve, U.S. Senate, and the departments of Energy, Justice, and Health and Human Services. QScan automatically compromised thousands of internet-connected devices worldwide, while QTRouter employed proxies and virtual servers to disguise the origin of attacks. Both QScan and QTRouter were rendered inoperable as a result.

- **U.S. Agencies Accelerate Post-Quantum Security Preparations:** The General Services Administration (GSA) and Treasury Departments are [launching](#) initiatives to prepare federal systems and the financial sector for cyber threats posed by future quantum computers. GSA is [updating](#) the federal identity, credential, and access-management architecture to support quantum-resistant encryption and is expanding its testing of quantum-resistant employee badges, visitor credentials, and physical access systems. Treasury [launched](#) a public-private Quantum-Readiness Task Force focused on financial sector migration, third-party dependencies, and digital asset risks. Federal agencies have also been directed to develop post-quantum cryptography migration plans and transition high-value systems to quantum-resistant encryption keys by the end of 2030. The National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST) has already [finalized](#) three post-quantum cryptography standards and recommends organizations begin migrating vulnerable systems immediately.
- **Breach of Three U.K. Airports Compromises Data of 8.7 Million Customers:** Hackers [accessed](#) the personal data of approximately [8.7 million customers](#) of Manchester Airports Group (MAG), affecting Manchester, London Stansted, and the East Midlands airports. The breach [did not](#) disrupt airport operations or expose payment information, though compromised data reportedly included email addresses from airport Wi-Fi registrations, vehicle registration numbers, and postcodes linked to parking, lounge, and Fast-Track bookings. MAG says it refused the hackers' ransom demand, contained the incident, and notified affected customers, adding that it is working with law enforcement and the Information Commissioner's office. The suspected perpetrator has not been announced, though MAG says it [knows](#) who was responsible and has informed the authorities. The breach follows a series of cyber incidents [affecting major U.K. companies](#).
- **Russia Using AI-Enabled Drones on the Battlefield:** Russia has begun using [AI-guided drones](#) capable of identifying and striking targets without a human pilot amid its ongoing war with Ukraine, raising new questions about civilian protection and accountability. Ukrainian officials said a Russian Molniya drone equipped with a [Nvidia Jetson Orin module](#) killed three civilians in Zaporizhzhia after onboard AI independently selected its final target. The drone was programmed to target a gas station but used onboard AI to identify what it determined to be propane tanks before striking. The incident marks the first documented civilian deaths caused by a Russian drone using fully autonomous training. Russia, the United States, Ukraine, and other militaries are investing in AI-enabled drones and targeting systems that reduce direct human

involvement in the process. International negotiations on regulating lethal autonomous weapons continue, though no global framework has been adopted.

- **Studies Find AI Expands Bioweapon Research Capabilities:** Recent analyses [warn](#) that while AI is accelerating breakthroughs in agriculture, biotechnology, and medicine (including [AI-designed viruses](#)) it also has the potential to [lower barriers](#) to developing biological weapons. A RAND [red-team study](#) found that current AI models did not improve biological attack planning compared with internet access alone. But while current capabilities appear limited, over time, advances in AI, bioengineering, and biotechnology could make synthetic pathogens easier to design. The more plausible [near-term risk](#) is that AI could make it easier for less experienced individuals to find technical information and carry out complex biological tasks, though the study also found that problematic AI outputs largely mirrored information already available online rather than introducing new capabilities.

Infrastructure and Supply Chain

- **Moscow Threatens State Takeover of Refineries that Fail to Restore Production Capacities:** Russian President Vladimir Putin [signed](#) a decree empowering the state to temporarily seize control of critical infrastructure, including energy, industrial, communications, transport, and logistics sites, if private owners fail to protect or rebuild them after Ukrainian drone strikes. The move comes amid an increasingly successful Ukrainian campaign targeting Russian industrial sites, leading to [fuel supply challenges](#). Russian officials claim the decree stops short of implying nationalization or a change of ownership and aims instead to encourage increased investment in repair and security of refineries, particularly those that have been targeted repeatedly.
- **South Korea Testing Arctic Route Amid Growing Interest in Shipping Alternatives:** South Korea is [testing](#) the commercial viability of the Arctic's Northern Sea Route (NSR) to Europe, with the first vessel departing from Busan on August 20 on a roughly 45-day voyage to Felixstowe, Rotterdam, and Gdansk. The voyage challenges China's early lead in trialing the route, where Sea Legend Shipping launched the first regular weekly container service on August 15. Vice Oceans Minister Nam Jae-hon [said](#) the route is "bound to become an alternative" to Middle Eastern shipping lanes, with global shipping firms seeking to prevent disruptions associated with critical chokepoints near conflict zones. The Arctic corridor can shorten Busan-Rotterdam transit by as much as 10 days and 7,000 km, giving Seoul a potential edge on the Asia-Europe trade. However, the route's continued use will be reliant on [Russian cooperation](#), raising the risk that Moscow might use its newfound leverage to influence shipping nations' stance on other issues of Russian interest, such as support for Ukraine during Moscow's ongoing war.
- **Global Heatwaves Behind Expanding Market for Gulf Cooling Infrastructure:** Record heatwaves across Europe are driving growing interest in [cooling](#) technologies developed and [commercialized](#) in the Gulf region, positioning sustainable cooling options as an [emerging](#) global infrastructure market rather than a regional niche. While outdoor cooling systems such as chilled walkways and evaporative cooling remain largely suited to hot, arid climates and face ongoing concerns over their energy intensity, other technologies, such as [reflective "supercool"](#)

[coatings](#), are seen as showing promise. District-wide cooling systems, meanwhile, are believed to be 30-40% more efficient than conventional air conditioning, offering more scalable opportunities for urban infrastructure. As extreme heat becomes more frequent, investments in energy-efficient cooling materials and centralized cooling networks are expected to continue increasing.

- **American Factory Output Sustains Growth Momentum Into Mid-2026:** U.S. manufacturing is experiencing a broad-based recovery, with output expanding at a [4.5%](#) annualized rate in the first half of 2026. The boost has been supported by AI-driven infrastructure investment, resilient domestic demand, and previously-announced industrial spending rather than protective tariffs alone. Components for [data centers](#) and power infrastructure accounted for nearly a third of the increase in industrial activity, while aerospace and AI-related industries led the sector's more modest employment gains, reflecting a shift toward more heavily-automated factory floor processes. Although the rebound remains concentrated in high-value manufacturing rather than traditional mass production, it could support further U.S. industrial capacity and strengthen domestic supply chains.
- **Post-Quake Venezuela Faces Compounding Crises That Could Deter Fresh Investment:** Venezuela's post-earthquake recovery is being undermined by mounting fiscal pressures and a worsening power crisis, increasing uncertainty surrounding the country's future infrastructure development and foreign investment. The June twin earthquakes are expected to impose reconstruction costs of as much as \$15 billion, equivalent to [up to 11%](#) of GDP, while slowing economic growth, rising inflation, and the diversion of oil revenues toward emergency spending leave the government with limited means to finance the recovery. These pressures come amid a [deepening](#) electricity crisis that is causing [recurring](#) blackouts, disrupting industrial activity, and increasing operating costs. Without fresh international financing or private investment, persistent infrastructure and energy constraints are likely to delay the country's economic recovery.

Health

- **Fluoride Shortages in U.S. Due to Middle East Conflict:** Several cities across the U.S. face shortages of [fluoride](#), an important chemical for potable water treatment, due to supply disruptions stemming from the ongoing conflict between the U.S. and Iran. The fluoride supply from Israel, one of the **top global exporters**, has [fallen](#) amid the conflict. Shortages have impacted water treatment practices in the U.S. since at least April, with [Baltimore and Washington, D.C.](#) reducing the fluoride ratio in the two major water systems for customers in the area. Meanwhile, Shreveport, Louisiana reported last week that the city ["has run out"](#) of fluoride for the city's drinking water. While some cities and states have [banned](#) the use of fluoride in drinking water, 60% of the U.S. population relies on fluoridated water supplies, threatening a worsening impact as conflicts in the Middle East shows little sign of resolution.
- **DRC Ebola Outbreak Crosses 100 Day Mark:** The World Health Organization released an [assessment](#) of how the Ebola outbreak is progressing in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) as the outbreak reaches the 100-day mark. The mortality rate is estimated at around 48%, with over 6,000 [confirmed cases](#) and nearly 3,000 deaths. The disease has also now spread to

two new health zones: Biena and Manguredjipa in the North Kivu province. The DRC has begun **vaccinating** frontline health workers with the Ervebo vaccine, which has been approved for the Zaire strain and which officials hope will provide some protection against the Bundibugyo strain currently circulating. While the DRC has been able to substantially expand its capacity to test and treat Ebola, the outbreak **remains on track** to become the worst on record.

- **Employer Health Care Costs Expected to Rise by Over 9%, Prompting Cost-Cutting Measures:** American employers are likely to see a fourth straight year of near double-digit increases to health care costs, according to **analysis** by professional services firm Aon. The projected 9.5% rise would continue one of the most prolonged periods of health care cost inflation in decades, with prices **driven** by increases in chronic disease, the growing use of AI in billing and coding, greater adoption of GLP-1s, the dispute resolution process of the No Surprises Act, and overall higher demand for health services. As sharp as the forecasted increase is, other analyses expect the final impact may end up being even more dramatic, noting that employers have underestimated the increase in medical spend for each of the past three years and may be unprepared. The sustained upward pressure has many employers **trimming benefits**, switching vendors, and questioning whether they can continue to serve as the backbone of the American health insurance system.
- **Measles Deaths in Pennsylvania Touch Off Political Controversy, Further Mixed Messaging Over Vaccines:** Pennsylvania recently **recorded** its first measles deaths in 35 years as the state becomes the latest **hotspot** in the continued resurgence of the disease in the U.S. One of the deaths—a newborn who passed away shortly after birth and tested positive for the virus—has become politically **controversial**. In a press conference, Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro said that Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F Kennedy Jr has contributed to the state’s measles outbreak by spreading misinformation, while Kennedy said that Pennsylvania had “fabricated” one of the deaths and questioned whether the death was “caused by measles” or if another ailment was the primary cause of death. The CDC **issued** its own statement that appeared to back Kennedy. The back-and-forth threatens to introduce **further confusion** into the discourse around measles and vaccination, which has seen government officials take **varying stances**, many of which appear to question the utility and safety of the frontline public health intervention.
- **Indonesian Forest Fires Lead to Declining Air Quality in Malaysia, Elsewhere:** El Nino-linked forest fires in Indonesia’s Kalimantan and Sumatra are leading to **hazardous air quality** across parts of Malaysia. As of August 31, the Bornean state of Sarawak is Malaysia’s worst-hit district, with an air pollutant index of over 400 (anything over 300 is considered hazardous). Malaysia has activated its National Open Burning Action Plan and National Haza Action plan and **directed** schools, kindergartens, and childcare centers to suspend outdoor activities and close their doors if API readings breach 200. The transboundary haze is also impacting air quality in **Kuala Lumpur**, Singapore, and Brunei.
- **U.S. Announces Additional Food Recalls:** U.S. officials have issued additional recalls in recent days, even as the **produce lobby** has asked health officials to be more specific in their messaging

around what foods are safe to eat and which should be treated with caution. Officials [widened](#) their probe of the cyclosporiasis outbreak tied to iceberg lettuce to include three additional states, bringing the overall total to 20. The FDA also opened an [investigation](#) into an outbreak of Salmonella Newport that has sickened 84 people, although officials have released few other details. Earlier this month, the USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) [recalled](#) 30,000 pounds of beef imported from Argentina that was being sold in Texas and Florida. The FDA [issued](#) a Class I recall (meaning there is a reasonable probability of serious health consequences or death) for Whole Foods Mild Guacamole Dip. The agency also issued a recall of [alfalfa sprouts](#) by Everything Sprouts for possible E. coli and Salmonella contamination. The recall notices have not been restricted to food products. B. Braun and Baxter, both healthcare companies, issued voluntary recalls for the potential presence of [iron oxide](#) and [fiberglass](#), respectively, in lots of 0.9% sodium chloride injection.

Demonstrations and Industrial Action

- **Spain to See Nationwide Demonstrations Over Migrant Crisis in Ceuta:** The Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (FEMP) and the "For Ceuta" citizen initiative have [called for demonstrations](#) at all town halls across Spain on the evening of Wednesday, September 2 in support of the North African Spanish exclave of Ceuta. On July 30, approximately [72,000 migrants](#) crossed into Ceuta from neighboring Morocco. While most migrants have returned to Morocco, several thousand remain in Ceuta weeks after the mass crossing, contributing to increasing tensions with residents and pockets of unrest. Police in Ceuta [dispersed](#) large crowds and established cordons in the Loma Colmenar area after several hundred migrants attempted to enter an accommodation center. Wednesday's demonstrations, which [coincide](#) with Ceuta Day, are likely to be well-attended, with gatherings planned in Barcelona (Plaça de Sant Jaume), Madrid (Plaza de Cibeles), and Valencia (Plaza del Ayuntamiento) at 8 p.m. Meanwhile, a coalition of civil society groups is organizing mobilizations to "[stop racism](#)" on the same date in multiple cities.
- **Teachers Prepare for Further Education Strikes this Fall in Spain, Belgium:** The USTEC education union has [called for a strike](#) on the first day of the school year in Catalonia, meaning disruptions for students and their parents. Teachers held mass demonstrations and strikes across Spain in [May](#), and, despite a proposal from the Ministry of Education in June to reduce class sizes, unions are still [pressing](#) for negotiations over pay. The community of [Madrid](#) is also bracing for a teachers' strike, which unions are threatening to begin on October 14. Ceuta is facing separate struggles amid the exclave's migrant crisis, with education officials promising to [deploy](#) private security in all education centers. To the north, teachers' unions in Belgium are [organizing](#) a demonstration in Liege on September 10 against government austerity measures, with strike actions already taking place across several schools in the Wallonia-Brussels Federation.
- **Cockroach Janta Party Prepares for Another March in Delhi on September 5:** India's Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) [announced](#) that its next major march in Delhi would take place on

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Saturday, September 5, saying that the government has failed to deliver on three of the protest movement's four major demands for ending its initial round of demonstrations. Organizers have said that they plan to march from India to New Delhi Police Headquarters. The Supreme Court has [declined](#) to intervene and halt the planned march, saying that the police are expected to maintain order. The march would come just days ahead of the 18th BRICS Summit, which New Delhi is hosting from September 12-13, increasing incentives for the government to prevent a prolonged protest campaign and avoid negative press.

- **U.S. to See Heightened Demonstration Activity Next Week:** The Republican National Committee (RNC) will host its first-ever midterm convention at the American Airlines Center in Dallas on September 9 and 10 next week, with organizers [expecting](#) approximately 20,000 attendees. U.S. President Donald Trump is scheduled to appear both nights and will [deliver the keynote address](#) on the convention's closing night. A visible security presence and demonstration activity can be expected during the convention, with Dallas city officials estimating approximately [\\$1.8 million](#) in security expenses and groups opposed to the Trump administration [planning a rally](#) outside the American Airlines Center on September 10. Ahead of the convention, unions and civil society groups are organizing rallies on Labor Day, September 7, with large gatherings planned in [Pittsburgh](#) and [San Francisco](#).
- **Flight Disruptions in Kenya Due to Airport Workers' Strike, Qantas Ground Crew Threaten to Strike:** Workers at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA) [launched a strike](#) over working conditions and labor rights on Sunday, affecting [thousands](#) of passengers at Kenya's main airport. Negotiations between the Kenya Aviation Workers' Union (KAWU) and government officials are ongoing, with strike actions expected to continue until an agreement is reached. In Australia, workers for Qantas Ground Services (QGS), a subsidiary of Qantas Airways, [overwhelmingly voted in favor](#) of taking industrial action in response to "[rock-bottom levels](#)" of pay, safety, and working conditions. No strike date has been set as of today, and the Transport Workers Union (TWU) must give three days' notice before work stoppages take place. Qantas is Australia's largest airline, and QGS workers [service](#) Qantas Freight and the company's regional Q-Link service. Long-haul pilots for Qantas also [threatened](#) to strike before reaching a deal on wages earlier this month.

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Upcoming Events

- August 22-September 13: La Vuelta (Monaco, France, Andorra, Spain)
- August 30-31: Notting Hill Carnival (London, England)
- August 31: Independence Day (Malaysia)
- August 31-September 1: Shanghai Cooperation Organization Summit (Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan)
- September 2: National Day (Vietnam)
- September 6: State Election (Sachsen-Anhalt, Germany)
- September 7: Independence Day (Brazil)
- September 7: Labor Day (United States, Canada)
- September 8: Opening of United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) (New York City, United States)
- September 9-10: GOP Midterm Convention (Dallas, United States)
- September 11: 9/11 Anniversary (United States)
- September 11-13: Rosh Hashana (Global)
- September 12-13: BRICS Summit (New Delhi, India)
- September 13: Parliamentary Elections (Sweden)
- September 14: Ganesh Chaturthi (India)
- September 16: Independence Day (Mexico)
- September 18-20: State Duma Elections (Russia)
- September 20-21: Yom Kippur (Global)
- September 22-29: UN General Assembly High-Level Week (New York City, United States)
- September 23: Parliamentary Elections (Morocco)
- September 25: Mid-Autumn Festival (China)
- September 25-October 2: Sukkot (Global)
- October 1-7: Golden Week (China)
- October 2: Gandhi Jayanti (India)
- October 4: General Elections (Brazil, Bosnia & Herzegovina)