TriCorps
A world-class blend of security and technology.

November 9, 2026

Headlining This Week's Brief

Top Stories

Climate and Natural Hazards
Worldwide
Cyber and Regulatory
Infrastructure and Supply Chain
Health
Demonstrations and Industrial Action
Upcoming Events

Top Stories

Demonstrations, Historic Security Deployment Threaten to Exacerbate Disruptions Across Antalya During COP31

The 31st United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP31) will be held in Antalya, Türkiye between 09-20 November, with the World Leaders Summit running from 11 to 12 November. Preparations suggest that the principal threats to attendees are terrorism against soft targets outside the security perimeter, fraud and cyberattacks targeting delegates, and demonstration activity, leading authorities to mount one of the largest security operations in Türkiye's history to safeguard the event. The Interior Ministry will deploy 26,000 security personnel across Antalya Province to deter terrorism, manage mass gatherings, and protect dignitaries moving between points of interest including Antalya Airport (AYT), Belek, and the EXPO Center. The People's Climate Summit will anchor civil society activity from 14-18 November. More than 130 organizations will hold around 150 events at the Mimar Sinan Congress Center. The primary demonstration will be a march on 14 November organized by the Antalya Labor and Democracy Forces, who have called supporters to gather at Aydın Kanza Park at 1:00 pm, with the march starting at 2:00 pm. Organizers report that free buses will bring participants from other cities. Labor groups will also mobilize ahead of the march, with both international and local unions to meet in a Labor Assembly from 12-14 November at the call of Trade Unions for Energy Democracy. In a pre-emptive crackdown ahead of the conference, Turkish police conducted pre-dawn home raids in Antalya on 03 November, detaining Mehmet Şerif Özdemir of the Human Rights Association (İHD), KESK union representative İlhan Karakurt, and Çağdaş Hukukçular...

Storms Bruna and Charles, Dangerous Wind and Flood Threat for the Iberian Peninsula

Back-to-back named storm systems will threaten Portugal and Spain with dangerous winds and life-threatening rainfall this week. Meteorologists are increasingly concerned with Storm Charles, which will strengthen before reaching Portugal and Spain on Wednesday. Widespread power outages and travel disruptions are expected as winds peak around 50-60 mph across large portions of the region.

Democrats' Control of Legislature Could Change Operating Environment for Businesses; Data Center Projects Particularly Exposed

The 03 November 2026 US midterm elections passed largely peacefully and produced a strong majority for Democrats in the House of Representatives and Senate that will have significant implications for governance across the US. Current results show Democrats to hold 54 seats in the Senate to Republicans' 44 (with two contests left to be called, including the hotly-contested Alaska race). Democrats have already won at least 247 seats in the House of Representatives, creating a commanding margin over Republicans, who are expected to hold just 176 seats at most. Observers have widely characterized the result as a rebuke of the Trump administration's agenda and the state of the economy. President Trump told The New York Times that he will accept the results of the election and will seek to work with the incoming legislature. The strong majorities in both houses of the legislature are expected to "profoundly reshape Trump's final two years in office and hamstring his legislative agenda." Given the significant margin of their victory, Democrats are unlikely to moderate their positions on some of the Trump administration's highest-visibility platform planks, ranging from immigration enforcement to the war in Iran. The party will also now "be able to set the legislative agenda in both chambers of Congress, compel testimony from Administration officials, investigate allegations of corruption, force Republicans to take difficult votes, and block new Cabinet nominees or federal judges." The policy changes that will result from the swing hold significant implications for the economy and business interests in...

Climate and Natural Hazards

- Ecuador Suffering from El Niño Rains, 57,000 Impacted: Official statistics released on Monday confirm that over 57,000 people have been impacted by heavy rains in Ecuador this season. Deadly floods have killed at least 12 already, with severe flooding likely to worsen through the first several months of 2027 due to El Niño.
- Poor Air Quality in India, Restrictions Implemented: Poor air quality in Delhi worsened last week, ahead of Diwali, and is now worsening following firecracker use during the holiday. GRAP-III has been invoked across the Delhi-NCR. Officials are urging the public to take steps to protect themselves from pollution.
- Heavy Rain Brings Flash Flood Threat to South Texas on Monday: Heavy rain across South Texas this weekend has left the area vulnerable for additional flood impacts on Monday as rain and

storms continue to focus over the region. Areas near and west of Kingsville have already observed severe flooding, forcing school closures.

Worldwide

- Ethiopia's Latest Military Purchases, Tensions With Eritrea Raise Fears of Wider Conflict: Relations between Ethiopia and Eritrea have deteriorated further amid renewed fighting in Ethiopia's northern Tigray region, inspiring fresh fears of a wider conflict in the Horn of Africa. Ethiopia has repeatedly accused Eritrea of supporting Tigrayan rebel factions, an allegation Asmara denies. Military tensions are also mounting after Ethiopia confirmed the acquisition of 12 Russian Su-35 fighter jets and four S-400 air defense missile batteries, signaling efforts to strengthen the country's military capabilities amid growing regional insecurity. Meanwhile, Addis Ababa's appointment of a new Tigray administration and plans for regional elections within six months risk further antagonizing the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), which led a large-scale offensive and captured a large swath of territory earlier this year before being pushed back by government forces and their allies. The instability is compounding humanitarian and security challenges in Tigray and other parts of the country, with the renewed violence forcing thousands to flee across the Kenyan border. The WHO warns that the continued fighting and attacks on civilians in Amhara and Tigray are pushing the country's fragile healthcare system toward collapse. Given the recent TPLF offensive and the government's acquisition of Russian equipment, further escalations cannot be ruled out, particularly if Ethiopia launches fresh operations in Tigray, or targeting Eritrea abroad. In the latter case, a direct confrontation between the two militaries would likely contribute to wider regional instability, increasing refugee flows and demand for humanitarian aid across the Horn of Africa.
- Ireland to Roll Out Largest-Ever Security Operation for EU Meetings Amid Hoax Threats, Perceived Russian Threat: In light of a string of hoax bomb threats targeting airlines across Europe and, more recently, media outlets in Ireland and the UK, security professionals are growing increasingly concerned that the threats may be related to Russia's pattern of "hybrid attacks" against supporters of Ukraine. The scale of the latest campaign and similarities between attacks suggest that regardless of potential involvement, the series of threats are likely a coordinated effort. This is particularly concerning ahead of planned EU meetings to be held in Dublin in the coming days, leading authorities to announce Ireland's largest-ever policing and security operation. Authorities consider an attack a "strong possibility," particularly in light of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's participation in the Meeting of the European Political Community (EPC) on 12 November and the Informal Meeting of EU Heads of State or Government (iEUCO) the following day. Some 50 leaders in total will be in attendance, suggesting that the event may be targeted due to others' participation as well. Security operations are expected to begin rolling out at scale from 10 November, likely disrupting traffic and business activity near Convention Centre Dublin and the National Gallery of Ireland. According to the Garda, "a Maritime Exclusion Zone has been established in the coastal area adjacent to Dublin

City" between 11 and 14 November to bolster security operations, potentially threatening maritime activities as well.

- Massive Jakarta Security Deployment Raises Questions Amid Unrest, Trial of Former President, Wiretapping Scandal: Amid an ongoing trial of former president Joko Widodo regarding his education credentials, a wiretapping scandal that has ensnared three officials in the current administration with close ties to the former president, and a series of demonstrations over various issues ahead of the country's celebration of National Heroes' Day on 10 November, the deployment of tens of thousands of security personal to the Indonesian capital is raising concerns about the potential for a security crackdown. The Indonesian Military (TNI) has prepared nearly 21,000 personnel for deployment in Jakarta over the coming days, which officials have described as a "routine" national security deployment. While President Prabowo Subianto and his predecessor Widodo were initially political allies, a growing rift between the two camps and Widodo's close ties with the country's defense officials (including at least one of the detained Prabowo cabinet members) could suggest Widodo's allies are acting in his interests, further raising the risk of fresh unrest ahead of the holiday. The deployment follows large student protests in October, and raises the risk of clashes between demonstrators and authorities in the coming days, which could be used to justify the further securitization of the capital and threaten additional disruptions.
- US to Cut Israel Off From $3.8 Billion in Annual Aid: On 03 November, US President Donald Trump announced that the US would end its financial support for Israel, cutting off nearly $4 billion per year in aid and offering instead to sell the country military equipment for its defense rather than indirectly funding it. Until the Ukraine conflict, Israel was long the top recipient of US direct aid, and has remained the second-highest receiver since Ukraine took the top spot in 2022. The funding is defense-oriented, but has been criticized as both unnecessary and supportive of purported human rights violations. Trump said the decision came at the recommendation of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who had discussed the issue with him in the past. With the issue being a particularly unpopular Democratic talking point, Trump's decision to announce the move on election day may have been politically motivated. Similarly, Netanyahu recently faced his own electoral setbacks, and the move may have implications for Israel's self-defense and access to US munitions. A Memorandum of Understanding allotting Israel $3.8 billion dollars in funding annually is active until September 2028, raising questions about the next steps.
- Investigation Reveals Network of Thousands of Iranian Agencies Using Shell Companies to Support Regime, War Effort: Despite longstanding sanctions pressure, the degradation of Iranian infrastructure and supply chains during its recent conflicts with the US and Israel, and the ongoing US blockade of the country's ports, the country's military logistics network has evolved to overcome these challenges. According to a Reuters investigation into Iranian financial records and import data, with the help of a network of shell companies, the country has imported some $2 billion in munitions, vehicles, and other materiel critical to the regime's war effort since January 2025. The companies are organized under thousands of Iranian government entities

traced back to to the Ministry of Defense and the country's Revolutionary Guard Corps, a branch of the country's military that is closely tied to the regime. These companies, some of which have been active for a decade or longer, help Tehran secure both finished weapons and inputs that can be used to produce them, such as rocket propellant or explosives. The investigation shines new light on the means by which Iran has managed to continue producing missiles and replenishing stocks of other military equipment despite ongoing US efforts to degrade these capabilities, and its findings could influence future US action against both Iran and the companies and countries found to be supplying it. In light of the US effort to punish countries providing a lifeline to the regime, the discovery of trade relationships could lead to secondary sanctions and other political fallout.

Cyber and Regulatory

- Cybersecurity Researchers Discover US-Based Servers Used to Facilitate Iran-Backed Cyberattacks: In late October, cybersecurity researchers with Semperis found that hackers with the Prince of Persia Advanced Persistent Threat (APT), a group that has been operating on behalf of Iran for at least twenty years, were operating covert C2 "command-and-control" servers based in the US. These systems facilitate Iranian hackers' efforts to target US-based devices for data exfiltration or infection with malware. Using various kinds of malware in conjunction with C2 channels enables hackers with Prince of Persia " to steal sensitive documents, as well as secretly taking screenshots and capturing audio recorded by the infected device," all while evading infected devices' built-in cyber defenses. Advanced anti-detection capabilities helped disguise the use of these covert channels for more than a decade, and their discovery could impact Iran-aligned hackers' ability to target victims inside the US.
- Rapid Advancement of AI Capabilities Seen Raising Risk of 'Sovereign' Agents: In a new report, the Center for a New American Security, a self-described "independent, bipartisan, nonprofit organization that develops strong, pragmatic, and principled national security and defense policies," warns of the threat posed by AI agents that "run outside human control but only pursue closed-ended, fixed goals" (persistent agents), as well as those that "pursue open-ended, evolving survival"—dubbed sovereign agents. The authors warn that while AI has long shown signs of self-preservation instincts, the technology's growing capabilities are raising concerns that models might employ increasingly sophisticated means, such as self-replication and deviation from set goals. According to the authors, more advanced models " could earn money, copy themselves, coordinate, resist shutdown and self-improve," which could see the issue grow more complex if these agents begin to protect themselves by renting and paying for computer space. Rapid advancements in problem-solving and specific skills such as banking could further facilitate these efforts, making it increasingly difficult for researchers to identify and react to models that have broken free of human command.
- Cargo Thefts Expose Data Center Supply Chains to Rising Costs, Security Risks, and Supply Shortages: Organized criminal networks are increasingly exploiting vulnerabilities in digital freight

and logistics systems to steal high-value cargo destined for US data centers, using tactics such as GPS spoofing to misdirect tracking systems, hacking freight brokers' accounts, creating fake shipment listings, and impersonating legitimate drivers to intercept deliveries. More than $100 million in data center-related cargo has reportedly been stolen since June 2026, including copper wiring, fiber optic cables, memory chips, power equipment, and servers. The growing sophistication of these operations highlights the vulnerability data center supply chains to organized, tech-enabled theft, potentially delaying infrastructure projects, disrupting hardware availability, and increasing replacement and insurance costs. As demand for high-value equipment rises alongside AI infrastructure investment, data center operators, manufacturers, and logistics providers could seek to strengthen supply chain security through stricter driver and broker verification methods, multi-factor authentication, tamper-resistant GPS tracking, shipment inspections, or physical security escorts. These additional safeguards are bound to raise compliance, insurance, and transportation costs, in addition to the risk of violent clashes between private security and thieves. Meanwhile, more strict verification procedures could slow deliveries, increasing infrastructure buildout times and exposing investors to greater operational and financial risks.

- Belgian Officials Shut Down Tax Portals, Delay Filing Deadline Following Cyberattack: On 28 October, Belgian officials announced that a cyberattack had disrupted access to the country's main tax filing portal, MyMinfin, and other services affiliated with regulator FOD Financiën, the federal tax and finance authority. While authorities willfully shut down other services in an effort to prevent a wider impact, the attack forced officials to extend the 31 October deadline for declaring certain earnings, with the new deadline set as 16 November while cybersecurity experts assess the impact and restore functionality to MyMinfin and other affected services. Authorities claim that there is no evidence of a data leak or other jeopardization of taxpayers' personally identifiable information, crediting this to the decision to suspend other services, which prevented the attack from being " sufficiently expanded within our environment" to compromise user data.
- Repeated Hacks of Commercial Refrigeration Systems Expose Vulnerability of Commercial IoT: Cyberattacks targeted chain supermarket refrigeration systems across at least nine European countries on 02 November, with hackers remotely manipulating freezer controls to raise temperatures as high as 122°F (50°C), forcing impacted retailers to discard perishable food and temporarily withdraw chilled and frozen products from sale. The attacks affected chains including Ahold Delhaize, Carrefour, Colruyt, Coop, ICA, Musgrave, and SuperValu. The incidents follow a similar attack that unfolded in France earlier in October, which impacted hundreds of supermarkets. While no group has claimed responsibility for the attack as of publication, the rising frequency and widespread impacts of attacks on refrigeration systems across Europe raises concerns that other remotely managed operational technology could also be targeted for disruption. The incidents highlight growing vulnerabilities in operational technology (OT) and the Commercial Internet of Things (IoT), a phrase used to describe interconnected equipment, administrative software, and other aspects of trade that increasingly frequently rely on internet connections and other telecommunications mediums to share information and change

parameters remotely. These systems can be exploited to cause physical damage, disrupt the food supply, and produce financial losses at a comparatively low cost. Often-insufficient cybersecurity protections makes these systems particularly attractive targets for hackers. A British cybersecurity expert cautioned that manufacturers must maintain updated software and enable security features such as multi-factor authentication to increase cyber resilience.

- Chinese Banks Evade US Secondary Sanctions Despite Evidence of Iranian, Russian Transactions: A Wall Street Journal investigation recently identified China's Zhejiang Chouzhou Commercial Bank as one of several in the country believed to be "facilitating transactions that appeared designed to evade sanctions," raising questions about US efforts to enforce measures meant to isolate these countries at a time of waning tensions between Beijing and Washington. With the Trump administration's late August announcement of Operation Economic Outcast, an enforcement drive meant to cut off financial lifelines to Iran specifically, the US has levied secondary sanctions against firms based in Canada, India, Türkiye, and other countries. However, while the Trump administration has previously claimed that Chinese firms would not be exempt and despite pressure from US legislators, only a limited number of Chinese entities have been targeted, none of which are major banks. The recent warm reception of Chinese President Xi Jinping in Washington could indicate that the Trump administration is seeking to focus on other issue areas in the relationship between the two countries, which could see sanctions pressure on Chinese banks lessened in favor of progress on technology, resources, and other bilateral concerns.
- Growing Push to Restrict Children's Internet Access Around the World Likely to Face Challenges: Several countries are weighing measures that would limit children's access to the internet and social media platforms, though it is unclear whether these plans will endure legal challenges or have the intended impact. Mexico is tightening restrictions on students' access to cell phones, which has been prohibited during the school day since 03 November with limited exceptions. Some parents oppose the move, arguing that phones are vital for contacting children in the event of a security incident, particularly amid the ongoing violence in Sinaloa. An October decree issued by President Claudia Sheinbaum also requires social media platforms to restrict children's exposure to harmful content, strengthen age verification measures, and provide parental supervision tools. The UK is moving towards a similar approach, with a planned ban on social media for users under 16 from spring 2027, alongside restrictions on livestreaming and contact from strangers for younger users. These policy-based approaches, and other legislation under consideration elsewhere around the world, reflect growing concern about addictive platform features, harmful content, and online exploitation. However, Australia's experience in attempting to implement similar restrictions highlights the challenges of enforcement. Since its ban took effect in December 2025, millions of under-16 accounts have been removed, but some children continue to bypass age checks, and early research found limited changes in social media use or users' wellbeing. The law is also facing a High Court challenge over freedom of communication and privacy. At the same time, the increasingly deep integration of AI into basic internet searches and...

- FCC To Determine Whether Chinese Telecoms Lose 'Direct Access' to US Numbers on 19 November: On 19 November, the US Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will vote on whether to prevent Chinese telecoms from accessing US phone numbers, purportedly on national security grounds. The plan intends to undermine the use of services offered by providers like China Mobile, China Telecom, and China Unicom to launch large-scale scam robocall campaigns targeting Americans. Cutting off “direct access” for these services would dramatically increase the cost of such fraud attempts and could limit certain features that help make these efforts more convincing. Beijing criticized the plan, claiming it will stifle cooperation between Chinese and US businesses. Stronger measures, including an outright ban on these companies’ access to US networks, are under consideration.
- EU and UK Draft Food Trade Deal Amid Evolving Post-Brexit Economic Ties: The United Kingdon (UK) and European Union (EU) have agreed on a draft deal to remove many post-Brexit checks and fees on food and agricultural trade, such as sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) certifications. The agreement is expected to boost two-way food and agricultural trade by removing routine health certificates, inspections and related fees, reducing costs and delays for exporters and importers. It could produce over £5 billion in economic windfall for the UK, even though implementation could be delayed until 2027. The draft awaits EU member-state review ahead of a planned 20 November summit. Under the terms of the deal, UK farmers and food producers would regain streamlined access to EU markets, potentially resuming exports of products such as fresh sausages, burgers, certain shellfish, and seed potatoes, while benefiting from lower certification and transport costs that could make smaller consignments more commercially viable. EU exporters would similarly face fewer barriers when supplying the UK, improving pricing competitiveness and bolstering British food supply chains. Streamlined trade processes could also limit spoilage, improve efficiency, and ease some costs that are typically passed on to consumers. However, customs declarations and some import controls would remain in place, and the UK will need to align dynamically with EU food and plant-health rules, limiting its ability to diverge from the bloc's standards.

Infrastructure and Supply Chain

- Conflict-Related Power Outages Threaten Public Safety as Winter Approaches: As military activity targeting power plants and global fossil fuel supply chains drives large-scale power outages in conflict zones across Eurasia, businesses and civilians alike face increasingly severe disruptions ahead of the northern hemisphere winter. A Russian attack on Ukraine’s Dnipropetrovsk region on the night of 08-09 November reported left some 850,000 people without power across the country, including about 600,000 people “in the Pavlohrad, Samar, Kamianske and Dnipro districts, as well as in the city of Dnipro itself,” as well as Kharkiv Oblast and the Zhytomyr region. The strikes disrupted heating service in at least 140 apartment buildings in Zhytomyr alone, where daytime temperatures were forecast on 08 November to peak at 6°C (42.8°F). Meanwhile, in Iraq, a drone strike on the Khor Mor gas storage facility in the country’s Kurdish region reduced

grid capacity by up to 80%, undermining power delivery to 70% of Iraqi Kurdistan. While not as severe as Ukraine's, Kurdish regions of Iraq also experience significant winter weather including cooling temperatures and precipitation, raising the risk that energy disruptions will threaten health impacts or reduce economic activity.

- Hundreds of Thousands of Data Center Chips Stuck in Hong Kong After China Restricts Import, Threatening Buildout as Regulators Push Domestic Substitutes: Around 600,000 Nvidia H200 artificial intelligence chips, typically used to power data centers and other commercial applications, are reportedly stockpiled in Hong Kong, awaiting shipment to mainland China as Beijing withholds approval for large-scale imports despite strong demand from Chinese technology companies. The restrictions reflect Chinese efforts to reduce dependence on US technology and prioritize domestic semiconductor alternatives, but also a significant supply chain bottleneck that strands valuable computing hardware while companies struggle to secure sufficient processing capacity for AI and other tech research. The decision could delay the buildout and servicing of Chinese data centers, slow AI development and productivity gains in the country, and increase costs for businesses active in the sector as restrictions on authorized supplies push buyers towards intermediaries and unofficial markets. More broadly, the standoff highlights how escalating US-China technology tensions and competing national semiconductor policies impact global supply chains, raising uncertainty for investors and eating into the financial performance of impacted firms.
- Dozens of Hoax Bomb Threats Disrupt European Air Travel: A wave of hoax bomb threats emailed to airports across Europe has disrupted dozens of flights and is raising concern that the trend could represent a new tactic in Russia's ongoing campaign of hybrid attacks meant to discourage EU support for Ukraine. The threats, which were sent to airports across the continent, in addition to seven flights and a cruise ship, led to at least 27 flights being diverted and a series of security operations that included the scrambling of fighter jets. While no country has yet attributed the incident to any one attacker, security experts noted that many of the countries targeted support Ukraine in the country's ongoing conflict with Russia, and that the tactics fit the pattern of recent Russian instigations that fall short of full military operations; however, they did caution that other actors (including disgruntled private citizens) could also be responsible. Both Russia and Iran have denied any involvement in the incidents.
- Resource Nationalism, Export Controls Threaten Critical Mineral Supply Chains: African countries are seeking to capture a greater share of the value chain derived from their natural resources, at a time when global supply disruptions accelerate efforts to diversify critical mineral and energy supply chains. Ghana plans to phase out exports of unprocessed minerals including bauxite, iron, lithium, and manganese by 2030 in order to attract investments in domestic refining capabilities, create jobs, and increase tax revenue and other financial benefits derived from increased processing. Meanwhile, Tanzania's discovery of an estimated 223 billion cubic feet of natural gas in Mnazi Bay could strengthen domestic energy security and support industrial growth. A proposed rail link between the country and Angola aims to connect Indian Ocean and Atlantic trade corridors through Zambia and the DRC, a potential boon to trade connectivity across the

region. In a setback for Kenya, two Chinese companies have withdrawn from the competition to develop the Mrima Hill rare earth and niobium deposit, leaving five bidders, including three US-linked groups. These developments come as Chinese export restrictions are constraining supplies of rare earth metals for buyers such as Japan, which risks running out of yttrium (a critical input for the aerospace, automotive, consumer electronics, defense, and semiconductor industries) within months. The shortage highlights the risks of concentrated critical mineral supply chains, necessitating efforts to diversify sourcing and build strategic reserves.

- US Federal Disaster Relief Agency Could Cut Funding, Hand Over Responsibility to States Within Six Months: The US Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), which coordinates disaster relief efforts in the country, intends to cut federal aid funding, shifting the financial burden of response and recovery to state governments instead. Announcing the change, FEMA Administrator Cameron Hamilton noted that the changes could come "in the next six months," leaving states little time to accumulate the "appropriate financial reserves...to ensure that recovery efforts can start immediately," rather than waiting for a federal disaster declaration. Another FEMA spokesperson claimed the organization's "primary focus is on empowering communities to lead and executive disaster response and recovery," rather than serving as a "first responder." The Trump administration has long warned of plans to reduce FEMA's role in emergency management across the country, and previously threatened to abolish the agency. According to Hamilton, the administration intends to launch a "national mutual aid" program to help coordinate inter-state support without federal financing, a move that threatens to increase the burden on neighboring states in the event of a disaster. Critics warn that the lack of existing financial reserves and the short lead time for preparation efforts will leave states unprepared for the end of federal funding for these efforts, adding that the move undermines environmental and historical protection legislation. In the longer term, the move could set a precedent enabling future administrations to stall or expedite disaster declarations as they see fit.

Health

- DRC Ebola Outbreak Nears 11,000 Cases, Shows No Sign of Slowing Amid Testing and Treatment Challenges: As of 06 November, the Bundibugyo strain ebolavirus outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) had reached 10,910 confirmed cases, leading to at least 5,234 deaths in the second-largest Ebola outbreak ever recorded. Despite a much more robust public health response to an imported case in Kenya, authorities have confirmed at least 9 cases associated with that cluster, causing 2 deaths and highlighting the challenges in preventing the spread of the highly infectious disease, which spreads through contact with contaminated bodily fluids. Challenges impeding contact tracing and healthcare efforts are particularly severe in the DRC, where difficult terrain, limited access to medical supplies, skepticism of the healthcare system, and active civil conflicts further restrict public health efforts. During an 06 November attack on the village of Cantine-Aloya in North Kivu province, militants killed dozens of locals and torched a

healthcare facility housing Ebola patients, forcing them to flee and raising the risk of spread to nearby communities.

- Florida's Surging Dengue Outbreak Driven by Local Transmissions, Raising Fears of Endemic Spread in Mainland US: Florida accounts for at least 880 of the nearly 2,700 dengue infections reported in the US this year, with rising local transmissions raising concerns that illnesses associated with the virus, including the deadly dengue hemorrhagic fever, could become endemic in the southern part of the country. In severe cases, dengue (which is spread by mosquitoes) can cause "shock, hemorrhage, and organ failure." Epidemiologists note that it is unusual for people to contract dengue in the continental US, though the disease is endemic in Puerto Rico and American Samoa. However, over 500 of Florida's cases this year were contracted in the state, compared to just 72 of the 517 total cases reported in 2025. While last year's outbreak hit Miami-Dade county the worst, this year's epicenter is Hillsborough County, which includes Tampa. While some public health experts note that higher living standards and better access to healthcare reduce the likelihood of a significant outbreak in the US, the death of an 80-year-old dengue patient highlights the risk of significant disease, particularly in the elderly, children, and other immune-compromised individuals.
- EEOC Expected to Narrow Eligibility for Protection Under Pregnant Workers Fairness Act: Under Trump administration appointee Andrea Lucas, the US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) is believed to be preparing to roll back Biden-era legislation providing "workplace accommodations for women related to pregnancy and reproductive health." The 2022 Pregnant Workers Fairness Act has faced criticism for the Biden administration EEOC's inclusion of abortion and fertility treatment protections in the bill. If the legislation is pared back to exclude non-pregnant women seeking family planning services, it could expose impacted workers to a loss of benefits or employment, and raises the risk that these women might suffer health complications as a result of delaying treatment to attend work. A University of Wisconsin study found that the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act has contributed to a 10% decline in miscarriages among working women, though unnamed sources cited by The New York Times claim that any changes would be unlikely to impact pregnant workers. The proposed changes, which are summarized by the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs as "revising language in the regulations regarding the interpretation of the words 'pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions,'" are expected to be revealed by the end of November, and will be open for public comment until 01 January 2027.
- US Measles Outbreak Continues to Worsen as New York Reports First Death: The US has recorded 4,852 confirmed 2026 measles cases as of 29 October, more than double the 2025 total, with outbreaks across multiple states. Pennsylvania reported its sixth measles-associated death on 04 November, while a child's death in Lewis County marked New York's first measles-related fatality in more than 30 years. Despite states reporting 7 deaths in total, the CDC has confirmed only four

measles-associated deaths without specifying where they occurred, reflecting ongoing discrepancies in the official tally that could impact the public's perception of the threat. The CDC recommends full vaccination, comprising two doses of the measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine, as the best protection against the world's most contagious disease, particularly if traveling to areas already facing an outbreak. Infants aged 6–11 months may need an early dose of the vaccine if travelling or exposed to local transmission. The CDC has also flagged falling kindergarten vaccination rates (which have dropped to 92.4%, below the 95% herd immunity threshold) as a risk for further outbreaks. While CDC epidemiologists sought an urgent clinical alert on measles risks during pregnancy, including miscarriage, premature birth, and severe maternal illness, it was not approved for rapid release as guidance remains under review.

- Calls for Tighter Restrictions on Nitrate Levels in Potable Water Highlight Health Risks, Need for Agricultural Pollution Control: Health and environmental groups are urging the World Health Organization (WHO) to review its safety standards for nitrate levels in drinking water, which were established in 1958, arguing that the current safe limit fails to reflect growing evidence of chronic health risks associated with levels well below the current threshold of 50 mg/L. Epidemiological studies associate prolonged exposure to nitrate concentrations at a small fraction of the current limit with increased risks of colorectal cancer, premature birth, and other adverse pregnancy outcomes, raising concerns for pregnant women, infants, and communities reliant on contaminated groundwater. Nitrate pollution is largely driven by agricultural fertilizers, intensive livestock farming, and manure runoff, as well as leaking septic systems, which allow nitrogen compounds to accumulate in drinking water sources. An international coalition of 85 organizations is calling for nitrate to be prioritized in WHO's upcoming review of present guidelines, citing Denmark's recommendation to lower its national limit to 6 mg/L as evidence of the need for stricter standards. Since many countries base their drinking-water regulations on WHO guidance, a revised limit could prompt tighter monitoring, agricultural pollution controls, or investments in water treatment, potentially increasing costs for governments, service providers, and farmers in the interest of reducing long-term public-health and environmental risks.

Demonstrations and Industrial Action

- Youth-Led Demonstrations Planned in Belgium, Germany: Youth organizations in Germany are planning demonstrations over climate and economic issues over the coming weeks. On Friday, 13 November, the youth-oriented climate activist group Fridays for Future is organizing demonstrations in over 65 locations to coincide with COP31 in Antalya, Türkiye. Separately, organizers with Germany's newest youth movement, GenZ regelt, had initially called for a second wave of actions this Saturday, 14 November. However, their website and social media accounts are now focused on organizing for the following Friday, 20 November. On 31 October, organizers

estimated that tens of thousands took to the streets across several cities, resulting in violent clashes and vandalism. Similar incidents could follow future GenZ regelt demonstrations on 20 November, which are scheduled to begin in the early afternoon. Frankfurt faced the most significant impacts on 31 October, with at least 17 shops damaged and five looted. Clashes between demonstrators and police resulted in injuries to at least 100 officers. Meanwhile, students in Belgium are organizing demonstrations against austerity measures, particularly education funding cuts, with a march in Brussels planned for Tuesday, 17 November to coincide with International Students' Day. Tuesday's march is expected to attract the participation of unions, which are organizing a national demonstration against austerity measures and budget cuts in the capital city the following week on Monday, 23 November. Liège, which saw student demonstrations escalate in early October, will see a student-led protest against the government at Pl St Lambert at 2:00 pm this Wednesday, 11 November. Meanwhile, Belgium faces a...

- Unrest Over Housing Affordability, Availability Continues Driving Disruptions in Spain, Portugal: Housing demonstrations are scheduled across Portugal on 14 November, driven by rising rents, housing shortages, and opposition to proposed rent reforms that protesters argue could weaken tenant protections. The mobilization follows a recent Lisbon administrative court ruling allowing activist Renata Cambra to maintain an overnight protest tent in Rossio Square, although the decision applies to her individual case rather than establishing a general right to protest encampments. Supporters of the call to action demand affordable housing, stronger tenant protections, and the withdrawal of the proposed reforms. Meanwhile, in Spain, a nationwide general strike is scheduled for 11 November over rising rents, housing shortages, and evictions, with the backing of the UGT and CCOO trade unions—Spain's two largest—and tenant organizations. The mobilization reflects growing frustration over housing affordability and inadequate government action despite months of related demonstrations, and protesters are demanding rent reductions, expanded public housing, and stronger eviction protections. The strike is expected to involve workplace stoppages and demonstrations nationwide, increasing pressure on the government ahead of snap elections scheduled for 29 November.
- Paraguayan Digital Bank's Collapse Causes Widespread Disruptions, Political Change: On 03 November, the solvency ratio of Ueno Bank, one of the country's largest digital lenders, fell below the legal minimum, leading to an intervention by the Central Bank of Paraguay (BCP). All services were immediately suspended, cutting the bank's clients off from app, ATM, and card access. The bank's assets and liabilities were also frozen. The collapse has affected some 3 million customers and roughly US$850 million in deposits, including US$380 million belonging to the state pension and healthcare fund (IPS). The crisis has intensified scrutiny over lending irregularities and potential political involvement, prompted the Central Bank chief's resignation and triggered an impeachment push against Peña and Vice President Pedro Alliana by the opposition lawmakers, which led to Peña's resignation on 05 November. Demonstrations by depositors, pensioners, and

Ueno employees began on 03 November, later escalating into clashes and leading police to deploy water cannon, pepper spray, and rubber bullets to disperse crowds. Crowds gathered near the National Pantheon of Heroes in central Asunción and outside Mburuvicha Róga, the presidential residence. Security was reinforced around the National Congress ahead of the 05 November impeachment debate, with 500–600 officers deployed and nearby streets closed to traffic. Further demonstrations are expected in central Asunción, particularly around the Central Bank, Ueno Bank headquarters and satellite locations, Congress, the presidential palace, and other government facilities as lawmakers consider depositors' demands for reimbursement. Labor groups are discussing a possible nationwide mobilization and general strike, while former bank employees are also protesting over unpaid wages….

- Polish Cities See Demonstrations Over Constitutional Crisis Ahead of Nationalist March on 11 November: Demonstrations have continued since violent unrest took place in Poland on 30 October amid a dispute over the leadership of the country's Constitutional Tribunal. Officers threatened to crack down on the unrest as demonstrations steadily grew, raising pressure on the site in central Warsaw. While authorities ultimately secured the site, further unrest over the issue is likely in the coming weeks as the political fallout widens ahead of elections expected by October of next year. On 03 November, demonstrations were held in front of Warsaw's Presidential Palace and several other Polish cities to denounce the political crisis and in defense of the country's democratic institutions. Opposition groups, including the nationalist All-Polish Youth (Młodzież Wszechpolska) led by Marcin Osowski, are expected to capitalize on the political crisis to increase turnout at the Independence March held annually in Warsaw on 11 November. This year's march has adopted a controversial banner phrase associated with anti-immigration sentiment, and with past years' events seeing the participation of extremist groups, clashes between participants and authorities or counterdemonstrators cannot be ruled out.
- Bangladesh Garment Sector Unrest Forces Hundreds of Factories to Close, Threatening Exports: Ongoing garment worker unrest is likely to continue disrupting factory operations and major roads around Dhaka, and raises the risk of widespread escalations that could increase the impact, lead to clashes with authorities, or spread to other sectors. On 03 November, a fourth day of demonstrations, clashes, vandalism, and factory suspensions was reported. The disgruntled workers demand wage increases that would double their monthly salary to roughly $242. Pay is a frequent driver of widespread unrest in the sector, which in the past has caused blockades, infrastructural damage, clashes with authorities, and other impacts to the wider community. While this unrest typically centers around the payment of bonuses surrounding the Eid holiday, economic pressures such as the rising cost of cooking fuel in the country have contributed to the increasingly frequent pattern of unrest in recent years. The country's garment sector is the second largest globally after China's, employing approximately four million people (roughly 3.5% of the workforce) and generating over 80% of export earnings. The sector's pivotal role in the economy

raises the risk that unrest could spread to other industries. Hundreds of factories have already been forced to close amid the latest unrest, and further blockades, confrontations and clashes with security forces, and production delays are likely unless factory owners meet protesting workers' demands. A prolonged disruption could delay production and export shipments, deepening the financial pressure on employers and workers alike.

Upcoming Events

- Upcoming Events - Week of 09 November: AlertMedia is tracking a series of demonstrations, holidays, labor actions, and other events scheduled to take place over the coming weeks. 09 November: Independence Day (Cambodia) 09-20 November: COP 31 UN Climate Change Conference (Antalya, Türkiye) 10 November: National Heroes' Day (Indonesia) 11 November: National Independence Day (Poland) 11 November: Armistice Day Public Holiday (France) 12 November: 9th European Political Community Summit (Dublin, Ireland) 13 November: Informal Meeting of EU Heads of State or Government (Dublin, Ireland) 14 November: Nationwide Housing Protests (Portugal) 15 November: Presidential Elections (Cape Verde) 16 November: Revolution Day (Mexico) 16-18 November: 49th ASEAN Summit (Manila, Philippines) 16-18 November: World Food Programme Executive Board Session (Rome, Italy) 17 November: Nationwide Strikes (France) 18-19 November: Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum (Shenzhen, China) 19-20 November: International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Council Meeting (Montreal, Canada) 20 November: UK-EU Summit (Brussels, Belgium) 20 November: General Strike (Italy) 20 November: International Youth and Student Strike (Europe) 23 November: Labor Thanksgiving Day Public Holiday (Japan) 23-27 November: 31st Chemical Weapons Convention Conference (The Hague) 23-24 November: Tazuangdaing Festival (Myanmar) 25 November: International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women (Global) 26 November: Thanksgiving Day (United States) 26 November: Republic Day (Mongolia) 29 November: International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People (Global) 29 November: Snap Legislative Elections (Spain) 30 November: Bonifacio Day (Philippines) 30 November: St Andrew's Day Public Holiday (Scotland) 30 November-07 December: 25th ICC Assembly of States Parties (The Hague) 02-03 December: Eid Al Etihad National Day celebrations (United Arab...