

NEWS IN BRIEF 3

October 4th – 10th 2025

THE NEW YORK TIMES

President Trump is at the brink of the biggest diplomatic accomplishment of his second term — a cessation of the brutal war between Israel and Hamas — and on Wednesday evening he made clear he was eager to fly to the Middle East to preside over a cease-fire and welcome hostages who have spent two long years in underground captivity. For Mr. Trump, success in this venture is the ultimate test of his self-described goal as a deal maker and a peace-maker — and a pathway to the Nobel Peace Prize he has so openly coveted. By chance, the winner for 2025 is scheduled to be announced just hours before he may be departing to take his victory lap in Egypt and Israel. Much could go wrong in coming days, and in the Middle East it often does. The “peace” deal Mr. Trump heralded on Truth Social on Wednesday evening may look more like another temporary pause in a war that started with Israel’s founding in 1948, and has never ended.

THE GUARDIAN

Venezuelan opposition politician María Corina Machado has won the Nobel peace prize for her dogged struggle to rescue the South American country from its fate as “a brutal, authoritarian state”. Machado, 58, a conservative often described as Venezuela’s Iron Lady, has spent the last year living in hiding after her political movement was widely believed to have beaten the country’s president, Nicolás Maduro, in the July 2024 presidential election.

BBC NEWS

A US federal judge has temporarily blocked the Trump administration from deploying National Guard troops from Texas and California to Portland, Oregon. Portland is the latest Democratic-led city targeted as part of the president’s attempt to address what he says is out-of-control crime, amid protests over his administration’s immigration enforcement. The ruling on Sunday from US District Judge Karin Immergut came shortly after the Pentagon confirmed 200 members of the California National Guard had been reassigned to Portland to “support US Immigration and Customs Enforcement and other federal personnel performing official duties”. Judge Immergut, who was appointed by Trump, said there was no evidence that recent protests in the city made the presence of federalised National Guard troops necessary.

CNN

Hundreds of trekkers have been rescued on blizzard-struck Everest in Tibet. They were stranded near the eastern face of the mountain, Chinese state media reported on Sunday, as unusually heavy snow and rainfall pummeled the Himalayas. Visitors to the remote valley of Karma, which leads to the eastern Kangshung face of Everest, were in the hundreds this week, taking advantage of an eight-day National Day holiday in China.

THE GUARDIAN

How this TikTok deal puts US media control into the hands of the super-rich



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1EWp8slm1w>

SKY NEWS

Kemi Badenoch: Are there plans to oust the Conservative Party leader?



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ofl7yw-KxU>

NBC NEWS

Helicopters equipped with AI are being made to fight wildfires



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IIsNMfAFVzM>

Another Archbishop of Woke, Hugo Timms, *spiked!*, 5th October 2025

Prior to Friday, the Church of England was without a leader for nearly a year. In the not-so-distant past, this would have been as unimaginable as the UK being without a prime minister. And yet, in a sign of the church's growing moral and cultural irrelevance, the long absence of an Archbishop of Canterbury elicited little public commentary or concern.

The news on Friday that Dame Sarah Mullally has been appointed as the new head of the church may have brought this period of uncertainty to an end. But it won't reverse the church's growing estrangement from its congregants. Indeed, Mullally's ascension to the head of the church is, if anything, confirmation that the Green Party at prayer is more determined than ever to alienate the world's dwindling Anglican flock and drive itself further into obscurity.

Among Britain's right-thinking classes, the reaction to her appointment has been one of celebration. She is the first female Archbishop of Canterbury, and therefore supposed proof that the church has moved with the times. The 63-year-old Mullally appears to firmly share this view, just as she shares much of the chronic wokeness that has eroded the church's standing.

Much of the blame for the CofE's problems can be laid at the feet of her predecessor, Justin Welby. He was forced to resign in November after an internal review – the Makin Report – found that it was likely he knew of, but said nothing about, the crimes of John Smyth. Smyth was an inveterate sadist who brutally abused hundreds of young boys at Christian camps, one of which he met Welby at in the 1970s. It was under Welby that so much damage was done to the church Mullally now leads. Much of it was self-inflicted. The morose, weedy archbishop seemed to view his job as denigrating the CofE as often as possible. 'It is now time to take action to address our shameful past', Welby said in 2023. This dramatic statement was made in response to the 'revelation' that the church, in the 18th century, had invested in a company that transported slaves. [...]

Welby was a full-throated supporter of the 2020 Black Lives Matter protests, in response to which he established a 'race action plan' to atone for his '[deeply institutionally racist organisation](#)'. This plan insisted that a certain proportion of new clergy members had to be from an ethnic minority, while Jesus, Welby said, should be 're-imagined' as black in CofE churches. Welby couldn't resist a fashionable cause. In 2020, to the surprise, by then, of no one, the church pledged to become Net Zero by 2030. One of Welby's favourite pastimes, when he wasn't libelling his own church, was meddling in politics. In 2023, he described the Conservatives' Illegal Migration Act as 'isolationist', 'unprecedented' and 'morally unacceptable'. He described the Rwanda scheme as 'ungodly', and bleated about the 'cruel Tories' 'harmful rhetoric'. Last year, he complained that the Conservatives' new definition of extremism 'disproportionately target[s] Muslim communities'. [...]

Alas, there is little evidence that Mullally will change the church's trajectory. Unsurprisingly, given she's been a senior figure of the church for some time, she seems to share in the identitarian posturing that has brought the CofE to its current low ebb. She laid out some of these views in 2017, when she gave her first speech as the Bishop of London. 'If churches are going to be more relevant in our communities', she said, 'that means increasing churches that are led by women, who come from black, Asian and minority-ethnic groups'. She has been described as 'managerialist and bureaucratic', which makes her sound more like a member of Starmer's cabinet than a spiritual leader.

Britain's shrinking Christian congregation will find little comfort in the rise of Mullally to the CofE top job. The spirit of Welby lives on in her. Under the new Archbishop of Canterbury, English churches can get ready to host plenty more silent discos, mini-golf tournaments and evenings with celebrity drag queens. Anything that's not Christian worship.

archbishop /ˌɑːrtʃˈbɪʃəp/ : archevêque **spiked!** is a UK-based magazine known for its libertarian and often controversial critiques of the left. **The Church of England** (CofE) is the Anglican church. **to elicit** /ɪˈlɪsɪt/ : susciter **little** : ici, peu **to appoint** [əˈpɔɪnt] : nommer (à un poste)
estrangement : éloignement **congregants** /ˈkɒŋgrɪɡənts/ : les fidèles **to dwindle** = to decrease
right-thinking : bien-pensant **to erode** /ɪˈrəʊd/ : saper, affaiblir **standing** = reputation, prestige
to lay at the feet : imputer la responsabilité à **full-throated** = vigourously **to atone for** : expier, réparer **to libel** /ˈlaɪbl/ : voir NiB 2 **to meddle in** : se mêler de **The Rwanda scheme** /skiːm/ est le projet du Royaume-Uni visant à expulser des demandeurs d'asile vers le Rwanda. **alas** /əˈlæs/ : hélas **low ebb** : bas niveau, période de déclin. **to worship** : vénérer