* Controversial visit of Keir Starmer in Italy on Monday 16th to examine how Meloni’s government has cut the number of people arriving in dinghies across the Mediterranean by almost two-thirds in the past year, from 118,000 to 44,500.
* Creates tensions within the party, after UK foreign secretary [David Lammy](https://www.theguardian.com/politics/david-lammy) said the UK would consider copying Italy’s plans to process asylum applicants in a third country such as Albania: one backbencher questioned why a Labour administration was “seeking to learn lessons from a neo-fascist government”.
* This came after [8 men died while trying to cross the Channel](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2024/sep/15/several-dead-in-attempt-to-cross-channel-say-french-authorities) in the early hours of Sunday morning + a 10-month-old baby with suspected hypothermia was among 53 people rescued off the coast of Ambleteuse in the Pas-de-Calais region of northern France when their dinghy was “smashed” on to rocks.
* Shōgun has made [Emmys](https://www.theguardian.com/tv-and-radio/emmys) history as the first ever non-English language series to win for best drama.

The historical epic, based on the 1975 novel, picked up four awards during the evening, including Emmys for lead stars Hiroyuki Sanada and Anna Sawai, the first Japanese actors to win their respective awards.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3MRs6KUqhpE>

* Manchester City made history this year by winning the Premier League title for the fourth time in a row (and its sixth in seven years). These wins have come at a steep cost – by 2018, City’s owners had spent over £1.3bn directly investing in players, managers, the home stadium and marketing worldwide.

But, over the years, there have been accusations that the club’s financial transactions have not all been above board. Last February, the Premier League announced the Sky Blues were facing 115 breaches of its financial rules, which later increased to 130. 🡪 the case into possible financial impropriety began on Monday 16th at an unknown location and is expected to run for 10 weeks.

* On Tuesday 17th, foreign secretary David Lammy tried to make good on his party’s promises of setting the climate crisis as a priority and made a stirring speech at Kew Gardens in London that presented the climate emergency as the foremost existential crisis facing humanity. On the other side of the capital, energy secretary Ed Miliband delivered his own speech at the Energy UK annual conference, stating that time is of the essence: “The faster we go”, he said, “the more secure we become”.
* Hezbollah has vowed to retaliate against Israel after pagers used by its members [exploded across Lebanon simultaneously](https://ablink.editorial.theguardian.com/ss/c/u001.Yw_JkLMEmFuifc_XG18IRyTNtZQ7fIEMgszcCSneHEBTYMzVo8Z7ZCRUgYfo6rJ2eejpKEflHsKWygsENsQ_x_Urq7xNDJfYy49kCLs7z-XJY93vjTuQEVSjj7K3EjlyYETUK2wC-PGpaTGK_Q8XXhD8ch6NGiy4ABoeItvOXHbSbu1cB9I8VkSKJBNGL74lCTYFMh5o9dl4Xxg58P825yzZjdcILMpAbcN07jRFn-ec_8bEXqDpV0JA0k4ASJSp2vT_Ue9v3LYpJ_Qezh0LtYqwKFa0ygmbYgGI-T_8hIdKOQAIUf3bs7Z5gi5vbJsIi8jrTB4gaN3x_riQcC-Gmw/49v/xXAEkmlIT622TUZgMAJMaQ/h36/h001.iUN_-fPr7xKO_PmzAz0-GXAzz-UY3SM17Slw5V4PDSk), killing at least nine people and wounding almost 3,000. There was no immediate comment from the Israeli military. The apparent sabotage attack followed months of targeted assassinations by Israel against senior Hezbollah leaders.

Israeli operatives [probably intercepted the pagers](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2024/09/18/gold-apollo-hezbollah-lebanon-pagers/?utm_campaign=wp_the7&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&wpisrc=nl_the7&carta-url=https%3A%2F%2Fs2.washingtonpost.com%2Fcar-ln-tr%2F3f056a1%2F66eab06dd8c48740bcf410c7%2F6303c41fca31ee7e6627cb27%2F14%2F96%2F66eab06dd8c48740bcf410c7) somewhere in the supply chain and [rigged them with explosives](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2024/09/17/hezbollah-pagers-batteries-explosion-israel-lebanon/?utm_campaign=wp_the7&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&wpisrc=nl_the7&carta-url=https%3A%2F%2Fs2.washingtonpost.com%2Fcar-ln-tr%2F3f056a2%2F66eab06dd8c48740bcf410c7%2F6303c41fca31ee7e6627cb27%2F15%2F96%2F66eab06dd8c48740bcf410c7), experts said.

At least [20 people were killed](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2024/09/18/hezbollah-israel-pager-attack-lebanon-explosions/?utm_campaign=wp_the7&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&wpisrc=nl_the7&carta-url=https%3A%2F%2Fs2.washingtonpost.com%2Fcar-ln-tr%2F3f08c70%2F66ec01fc6393a411520f07ee%2F6303c41fca31ee7e6627cb27%2F13%2F96%2F66ec01fc6393a411520f07ee) and [hundreds injured](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2024/09/18/icom-investigates-lebanon-explosion-radios/?utm_campaign=wp_the7&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&wpisrc=nl_the7&carta-url=https%3A%2F%2Fs2.washingtonpost.com%2Fcar-ln-tr%2F3f08c71%2F66ec01fc6393a411520f07ee%2F6303c41fca31ee7e6627cb27%2F14%2F96%2F66ec01fc6393a411520f07ee) one day later when walkie-talkies also exploded almost simultaneously.

* The U.S. central bank lowered borrowing costs for [the first time in four years](https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2024/09/18/fed-rate-cut-fomc/?utm_campaign=wp_the7&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&wpisrc=nl_the7&carta-url=https%3A%2F%2Fs2.washingtonpost.com%2Fcar-ln-tr%2F3f056b0%2F66eab06dd8c48740bcf410c7%2F6303c41fca31ee7e6627cb27%2F44%2F96%2F66eab06dd8c48740bcf410c7). Experts are predicting either a quarter-percentage-point or a half-point cut.

It could ease [the costs of mortgages](https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2024/09/12/mortgage-rate-drop/?utm_campaign=wp_the7&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&wpisrc=nl_the7&carta-url=https%3A%2F%2Fs2.washingtonpost.com%2Fcar-ln-tr%2F3f056b1%2F66eab06dd8c48740bcf410c7%2F6303c41fca31ee7e6627cb27%2F45%2F96%2F66eab06dd8c48740bcf410c7), credit card debt, car loans [and other kinds of investments](https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2024/09/18/fed-interest-rate-cut-mortgage-car-loans/?utm_campaign=wp_the7&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&wpisrc=nl_the7&carta-url=https%3A%2F%2Fs2.washingtonpost.com%2Fcar-ln-tr%2F3f056b2%2F66eab06dd8c48740bcf410c7%2F6303c41fca31ee7e6627cb27%2F46%2F96%2F66eab06dd8c48740bcf410c7). And it may give Harris’s campaign [a timely pre-election boost](https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2024/09/18/kamala-harris-economy-fed/?utm_campaign=wp_the7&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&wpisrc=nl_the7&carta-url=https%3A%2F%2Fs2.washingtonpost.com%2Fcar-ln-tr%2F3f056b3%2F66eab06dd8c48740bcf410c7%2F6303c41fca31ee7e6627cb27%2F47%2F96%2F66eab06dd8c48740bcf410c7).

* Instagram announced “teen accounts” to help protect kids online. Meta will place [new sign-ups and existing users under 18](https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2024/09/17/instagram-teen-accounts-meta-child-safety-scrutiny/?utm_campaign=wp_the7&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&wpisrc=nl_the7&carta-url=https%3A%2F%2Fs2.washingtonpost.com%2Fcar-ln-tr%2F3f056bb%2F66eab06dd8c48740bcf410c7%2F6303c41fca31ee7e6627cb27%2F65%2F96%2F66eab06dd8c48740bcf410c7) into accounts with stricter default safety standards and more parental controls.

The changes are meant to address concerns that Instagram [is designed to keep teens addicted and harms their well-being](https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2023/11/07/meta-teens-kids-safe-instagram-facebook/?utm_campaign=wp_the7&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&wpisrc=nl_the7&carta-url=https%3A%2F%2Fs2.washingtonpost.com%2Fcar-ln-tr%2F3f056bd%2F66eab06dd8c48740bcf410c7%2F6303c41fca31ee7e6627cb27%2F67%2F96%2F66eab06dd8c48740bcf410c7). But many experts said the new features don’t go far enough.

* Moo Deng, whose name roughly translates to “bouncing pig” or “pork patty,” was born in July at a zoo in Thailand and [has become an internet sensation](https://www.washingtonpost.com/science/2024/09/18/baby-hippo-moo-deng-viral-science/?utm_campaign=wp_the7&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&wpisrc=nl_the7&carta-url=https%3A%2F%2Fs2.washingtonpost.com%2Fcar-ln-tr%2F3f056c1%2F66eab06dd8c48740bcf410c7%2F6303c41fca31ee7e6627cb27%2F74%2F96%2F66eab06dd8c48740bcf410c7). Her human baby-like features, like big eyes and a pudgy body, strike at our ingrained nurturing instinct, science shows. That instinct is key to human survival.