Press review May 12-18, 2025

US-China tariff war on hold

BREAKING NEWS



Valentin Flauraud/Agence France-Presse - Getty Images

U.S. and China Agree to Temporarily Slash Tariffs in Bid to Defuse Trade War

The 145 percent U.S. tariff on Chinese goods will come down to 30 percent under the deal. The U.S. Treasury secretary said "neither side wanted a decoupling."

Trump's tour of Gulf States

5 Takeaways From Trump's Gulf Tour, Beyond the Lavish Receptions

President Trump's trip, during which he received opulent welcomes in wealthy Gulf capitals, yielded a turnabout with Syria and announcements of multibillion-dollar agreements for U.S. companies.

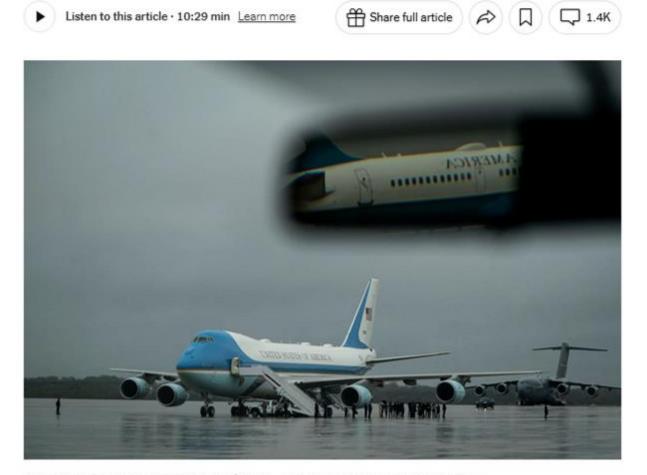


President Trump at a business event in Abu Dhabi, the United Arab Emirates, on Friday. Doug Mills/The New York Times

Lavish reception, business deals, but also (surprise, surprise) a controversy...

Trump Is Poised to Accept a Luxury 747 From Qatar for Use as Air Force One

The plan raises substantial ethical issues, given the immense value of the lavishly appointed plane and that Mr. Trump intends to take ownership of it after he leaves office.



Air Force One at Joint Base Andrews. Haiyun Jiang for The New York Times

Donald Trump

'Just wildly illegal': top Democrats push to censure Trump's plan to accept Qatar jet

Four senators, including Cory Booker, say they will press for vote against president's plan to take \$400m gift from Qatar

Ed Pilkington

Mon 12 May 2025 20.23 CEST





Cory Booker speaks in Washington DC last month. Photograph: Rod Lamkey/AP

Trump signed an Executive Order Aiming to Lower Prescription Drug Costs by up to 90%



Trump administration

First white South Africans arrive in US after Trump grants them refugee status

Trump stirs controversy by calling Afrikaners, minority descended from Dutch colonists, victims of a 'genocide'

Rachel Savage in Johannesburg, David Smith in Washington and agencies

Mon 12 May 2025 22.24 CEST





♠ Afrikaners from South Africa arrive in Dulles, Virginia, on Monday. Photograph: Julia Demaree Nikhinson/AP



California

Dani Anguiano and agencies

Wed 14 May 2025 02.41 CEST



California judge resentences Menendez brothers to be eligible for parole

Erik and Lyle Menendez given 50 years to life, making them eligible for parole and giving them chance at freedom

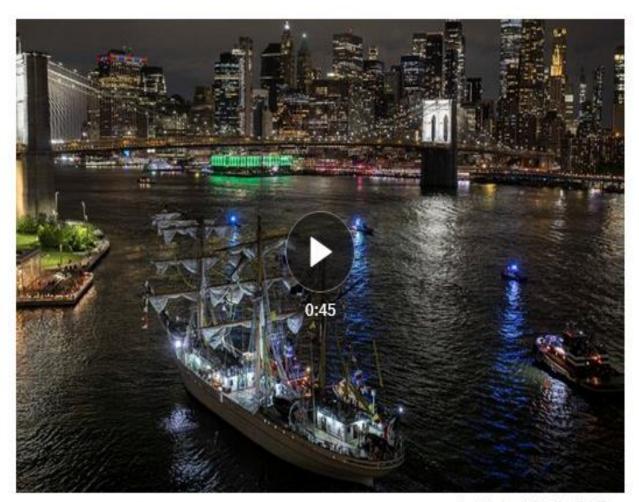


■ Menendez brothers resentenced giving them potential path for release - video

Mexican Navy Sailing Ship Crashes Into Brooklyn Bridge, Killing 2

There were 277 people on board when the ship drifted into the underside of the bridge, the authorities said. At least 22 were injured, half of them critically.

5 MIN READ



Dave Sanders for The New York Times

Missiles, drones and airstrikes, until a sudden ceasefire. How India and Pakistan agreed to an uneasy truce



By Kunal Sehgal, Sophia Saifi, Alex Stambaugh, Nic Robertson and Matthew Chance, CNN

5 minute read • Updated 3:23 AM EDT, Tue May 13, 2025





But...

India

India has only 'paused' military action against Pakistan, Modi says

Indian PM says he is 'monitoring every step of Pakistan' as ceasefire holds

Hannah Ellis-Petersen *in Delhi*

Mon 12 May 2025 18.47 CEST



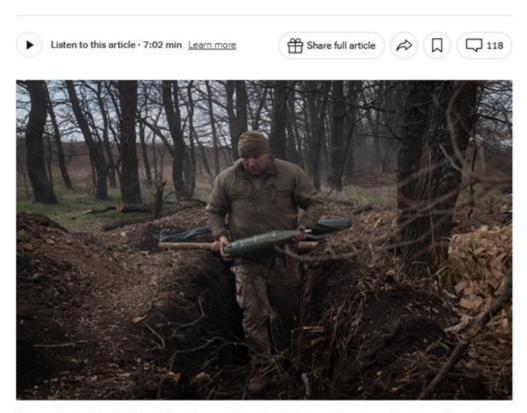


■ Narendra Modi says India has only 'suspended' military action against Pakistan - video

In Istanbul

Russia and Ukraine Agree to Prisoner Swap in First Direct Talks in Years

But the two sides failed to broker a temporary cease-fire or a meeting between their two leaders, a sign of how far apart they remain on ending the conflict.



Preparing to fire shells on Russian positions in the Donetsk region of eastern Ukraine, in March. Nicole Tung for The New York Times

Ukraine

Zelenskyy calls for tougher Moscow sanctions after deadly Russian strike on bus

Ukraine president describes strike on minibus reportedly carrying mostly elderly women as 'deliberate killing of civilians'

18m ago

Analysis Kremlin cites past wars as it threatens long conflict in Ukraine

Ukraine war briefing Kyiv rallies support of allies after peace talks with Russia end without ceasefire

Ukraine Russia and Ukraine agree prisoner swap but peace talks fail to make progress



Starmer's plan for immigration reform

Immigration and asylum

Explainer

Skilled visa rules, deportations and higher fees: what's in the immigration white paper

Policies include tightening up qualification and language requirements and longer waits for settlement

UK politics live - latest updates





Keir Starmer castigated what he called 'a one-nation experiment in open borders' under the Conservatives, in his foreword to the white paper. Photograph: Fabrizio Bensch/Reuters

Immigration and asylum

Nigerians, Pakistanis and Sri Lankans face UK student visa crackdown

Applicants will be targeted by Home Office due to suspicions they are most likely to overstay and claim asylum

UK politics live - latest updates

Rajeev Syal Home affairs editor

Tue 6 May 2025 12.18 CEST





□ The Guardian revealed that the government planned to reduce the numbers of UK student visa holders who make asylum claims. Photograph: Andrew Fox/Alamy

blunder

Migration

UK risks becoming 'island of strangers' without more immigration curbs, Starmer says

PM unveils policies to 'significantly' drive down net migration including English tests and degree requirements

UK politics live - latest updates

Rajeev Syal Home affairs editor

Mon 12 May 2025 16.25 CEST

Share



Keir Starmer says his government will close the book on a 'squalid chapter' of rising inward migration. Photograph: Tolga Akmen/EPA

Keir Starmer

Starmer accused of echoing far right with 'island of strangers' speech

Prime minister's immigration speech was likened by MPs to rhetoric of Enoch Powell

Rajeev Syal Home affairs editor

Mon 12 May 2025 20.46 CEST





Immigration and asylum

'Things could fall over': businesses and public services on Starmer's immigration crackdown

Social care, hospitality, health, universities and construction sectors raise questions over impact of plan

Rob Davies, Sally Weale, Jasper Jolly and Andrew Gregory

Mon 12 May 2025 18.56 CEST





♠ A care home. The sector is still 'many thousands of workers short', said the Unison union. Photograph: Murdo MacLeod/The Guardian