

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.

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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.



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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

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 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

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





# MONSTERS

THE LYLE AND ERIK MENENDEZ STORY

California

# 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

**Dani Anguiano and agencies**

Wed 14 May 2025 02:41 CEST

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■ 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*

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■◀ 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.



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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

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**Peter Walker** Senior  
political correspondent

Mon 12 May 2025 13:06 CEST

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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



# 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

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**Rajeev Syal** *Home affairs  
editor*

Tue 6 May 2025 12.18 CEST

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 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

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**Rajeev Syal** *Home affairs editor*

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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

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📷 Keir Starmer: 'Our strategy is about delivering where the previous government failed year after year.' Photograph: Tolga Akmen/EPA

# '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

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