**33. Press Review May 26th to June 2nd**

**Slide 2**

Just after 18:00 BST on Monday, in Liverpool, a car collided with a number of pedestrians during Liverpool FC's Premier League victory parade. Fans could be seen confronting the car before it ploughed through the crowds.

Aman was arrested on suspicion of attempted murder. The 53-year-old, from the West Derby area of Liverpool, was held on suspicion of dangerous driving and driving while unfit through drugs. The police released a statement claiming that this wa snot apparently related to an act of terrorism.

79 people were injured in the incident. Videos shared on social media showed a Ford Galaxy driving through a crowd as people scattered in the city centre.

On Friday, Paul Doyle, 53, a father of three, appeared at both Liverpool Magistrates' Court and Liverpool Crown Court on Friday where he faced seven charges including wounding with intent, causing grievous bodily harm (GBH) with intent, attempting to cause GBH with intent and dangerous driving. The court heard the prosecution allege Doyle used his car "as a weapon" when it was driven into the crowds. His trial will take place in November and he will remain in custody until then.

Doyle’s LinkedIn profile says he was a Royal Marine commando between 1990 and 1994 before working in IT and cybersecurity. A university graduate, he is said to have worked previously for an NHS trust and a large UK wealth management firm.

**Slide 3**

https://www.theguardian.com/world/2025/may/27/king-charles-canada-parliament-speech-trump

[King Charles](https://www.theguardian.com/uk/prince-charles) has said Canadians can “give themselves far more than any foreign power on any continent can ever take away” as he gave a rare speech in the country’s parliament that served as a rebuke of the US president, Donald Trump, and his threats to annex the country.

Charles, who serves as Canada’s head of state, is the first monarch since 1957 to preside over the opening of a new Canadian parliament.

In a speech attended by lawmakers, Indigenous leaders and dignitaries, Charles, on his 20th visit, praised a country he said he loved “so much”.

“The True North is indeed strong and free,” he said – a reference to both the Canadian national anthem and recent threats from Trump to make Canada the 51st state.

But for many Indigenous people, the elaborate spectacle of the royal visit – with its protocol, regalia, thrones and mounties in pith helmets – evoked a model of national identity at odds with ongoing efforts to confront Canada’s own violent history of colonization and dispossession.

The visit came as some Indigenous Chiefs and academics warned that questions of reconciliation with First Nations are being drowned out by [the noisy surge of patriotism](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2025/feb/16/canada-patriotism-surges-trump-comments) provoked by the US president.

**On the sidelines…**

On the day of Charles’ speech, the Ontario government announced that a statue of John A Macdonald, Canada’s first prime minister, would be put back on public display, five years after activists [threw paint on it](https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/sir-john-a-macdonald-statue-queens-park-to-be-uncovered-1.7545060) to highlight Macdonald’s efforts [to eliminate Indigenous people](https://educ.queensu.ca/sites/educwww/files/uploaded_files/JAM%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf) including through starvation.

**Slide 4**

After announcing postponed tariffs on the EU until July to allow for negotiations on Monday, President Donald Trump announced on Friday the US will double its current tariff rate on steel and aluminium imports from 25% to 50%.

Speaking at a rally in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Trump said the move would help boost the local steel industry and national supply, while reducing reliance on China.

The announcement is the latest turn in Trump's rollercoaster approach to tariffs since re-entering office in January.

The announcement comes amid [a court battle over the legality of some of Trump's global tariffs](https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c8xgdj9kyero),which an appeals court has allowed to continue after the Court of International Trade ordered the administration to halt the taxes.

The European Commission said it is prepared to impose retaliatory measures against U.S. President Donald Trump’s latest threat on steel and aluminum tariffs.

“We strongly regret the announced increase of U.S. tariffs on steel imports from 25 percent to 50 percent," the EU executive said on Saturday in an emailed statement. "This decision adds further uncertainty to the global economy and increases costs for consumers and businesses on both sides of the Atlantic," it said.

**Slide 5**

As Trump’s crackdown on international students intensified this week, Alan Garber, the president of Harvard University, received a standing ovation as he welcomed graduates “from down the street, across the country and around the world”, drawing applause for the last words: “*Around the world* – just as it should be.”

It was a nod, subtle but firm, to the international students who are part of the lifeblood of Harvard but now a target for Donald Trump: his administration is seeking to revoke Harvard’s ability to enroll students from overseas.

The case for international students is just one front in an escalating battle between a US president with authoritarian ambitions and the county’s oldest, wealthiest and most prestigious university, the other fronts being Trump’s attacks on Harvard’s tax exonerations and grants, which he stated he would happily transfer to ‘Trade schools’.

Harvard’s emergence as a bulwark of the opposition to Trump was summed up by this year’s Class Day speaker at Harvard, the former basketball star Kareem Abdul-Jabbar: “After seeing so many cowering billionaires, media moguls, law firms, politicians and other universities bend their knee to an administration that is systematically strip-mining the US constitution, it is inspiring to me to see Harvard University take a stand for freedom.”

**Slide 6**

https://www.nytimes.com/2025/05/27/us/politics/trump-chrisley-pardon.html

President Trump on Wednesday pardoned the reality television stars Todd and Julie Chrisley, who were convicted three years ago of evading taxes and defrauding banks of more than $30 million to support their luxurious lifestyle.

The pardon, announced Tuesday by the White House, is the latest instance of Mr. Trump using his clemency power to settle grievances over what he calls the political weaponization of the justice system. Mr. Trump, in notifying the Chrisleys’ daughter, Savannah, called their treatment “pretty harsh,” as shown in a video clip of their call posted to social media by one of the president’s special assistants, Margo Martin.

A review of Trump’s pardons and commutations since retaking office in January shows a consistent pattern: His grants of clemency have often benefited supporters and allies, usually ones who were convicted or sentenced during the Biden administration. Criticism is growing due to potential conflicts of interest in such pardons.

**Slide 7**

From the NYT

After roughly four months leading the Department of Government Efficiency, Mr. Musk ended up with a bruised reputation and a literal black eye, which he blamed on his 5-year-old son punching him in the face.

Mr. Musk said he would turn his focus to his businesses now that his time as a “special government employee” had ended. And while DOGE has not come close to delivering the $1 trillion in savings that Mr. Musk promised, he has racked up significant personal benefit in recent months — including having his allies chosen to run NASA and the Air Force, two key customers for his SpaceX company.

In the Oval Office on Friday, Mr. Trump praised Mr. Musk as “one of the greatest business leaders and innovators the world has ever produced,” and said Mr. Musk would continue to advise the administration on cutting costs.

Mr. Musk’s chapter in Washington began with a chain saw and a deep well of support among Republican lawmakers and allies eager to assist his effort to root out waste, fraud and abuse in the government. It ended with a cordial joint news conference with Mr. Trump, where Mr. Musk was largely on the sidelines.

Even as the two men grew more distant over the past several months, Mr. Trump still went to great lengths Friday to show there was no animosity between them.

Mr. Musk has faced increasing scrutiny over his personal life, particularly over his drug use and his tumultuous relationships with the mothers of his many children. Mr. Musk brushed off questions on Friday about a [new report in The New York Times](https://www.nytimes.com/2025/05/30/us/elon-musk-drugs-children-trump.html) about his use of drugs on the campaign trail.

While the event was billed as a send-off for Mr. Musk, it quickly turned into a largely solo news conference by Mr. Trump, who fielded questions that had nothing to do with DOGE.

In recent weeks, Mr. Musk put distance between himself and Mr. Trump on some key issues. He complained about Mr. Trump’s sweeping tariffs on all major trade partners, and this week, he said he was “disappointed” by the domestic policy bill that the president championed. He argued the bill would increase the budget deficit, putting him at odds with the president and his senior advisers. Mr. Trump praised the bill Friday and urged Congress to pass it quickly.

Mr. Musk has said he will now devote more time to his private companies.

**Slide 8**

SpaceX's Starship prototype exploded over the Indian Ocean on Tuesday following a test flight, marking another setback for Elon Musk's Mars colonisation plans. The rocket, the largest ever built, launched from Starbase, Texas – a newly incorporated city.

https://www.france24.com/en/americas/20250528-spacex-starship-rocket-mars

**Slide 9**

Sorry, I could not resist… Musk was not the only prominent figure who was potentially the victim of domestic violence this week!

The French President was filmed being firmly shoved by his wife upon arrival in the Vietnamese capital Hanoi as he was touring Asia last week. This footage created a major buzz and the media did spill a lot of ink on the subject. Mr Macron tried to claim these were fake pictures then admitted to jokingly bickering / squabbling with his wife.

Who knows what really happened?

https://nypost.com/2025/05/28/world-news/lip-reader-reveals-what-french-president-emmanuel-macrons-wife-brigitte-said-moments-after-shoving-him-in-the-face/

**Slide 10**

https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c4g2wz74jdzo

As Russia continues strikes on Ukraine, Trump called Putin ‘completely crazy’, to which the Kremlin responded this was an emotional reaction on behalf of Trump. Despite his rebuke, Trump failed once again to press sanctions against Russia this week.

Operation spiderweb: a drone attack conducted by the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) deep inside Russia on 1 June 2025 during the Russo-Ukrainian War. The coordinated strikes targeted Russian Air Force's Long-Range Aviation assets at five air bases—Belaya, Dyagilevo, Ivanovo Severny, Olenya, and Ukrainka—using drones concealed in and launched from trucks on Russian territory. It was the largest drone attack on Russia's air bases up to that point in the war, employing 117 drones that damaged over 40 aircraft, according to Ukrainian officials, with Russia confirming that the attack took place. The damage caused is said to be reaching in the 7 billion dollars worth.

Despite these strikes, a second round of negotiations between a Russian delegation and Ukraine officials is to begin today.

**Slide 11**

Strikes on civilians during aid distribution continued this week.

Hamas made a hostage release pledge at the end of the week after a draft proposed by Steve Witkoff, US President Donald Trump's special envoy for the Middle East. The full details of the US plan have not been made public and are unconfirmed, but these key points are reportedly included: a 60-day pause in fighting, the release of 28 Israeli hostages - alive and dead - in the first week, and the release of 30 more once a permanent ceasefire is in place, the release of 1,236 Palestinian prisoners and the remains of 180 dead Palestinians, and the sending of humanitarian aid to Gaza via the UN and other agencies.

A Hamas leader is reported to have been killed.

The Israel-Gaza war is still having repercussions elsewhere. There was an attack with eight people hurt in Colorado (US). A man fired an incendiary device at a group of people gathered in a peaceful protest organised by Run for Their Lives, an organisation that raises awareness for Israeli hostages still held in Gaza. The suspect used a ‘makeshift flamethrower’ while shouting ‘free Palestine’ at the crowd. A suspect has been identified as Mohamed Sabry Soliman, 45.

**Slide 12**

https://apnews.com/article/canadian-wildfires-air-quality-smoke-49ee2bff3e7aea5af4a6ab01a433dd3b

https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c5ye22l7zg1o

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