

TODAY'S MEDIA TRENDS

TELESUR

FEBRUARY 18, 2026

THE GDELT PROJECT

SYSTEMIC INSTITUTIONAL DECAY IN THE ANDES AND THE GEOPOLITICAL WEAPONIZATION OF THE GLOBAL ENERGY CRISIS - FEBRUARY 18, 2026



DAY-AT-A-GLANCE

Global news dominated by institutional instability in the Americas, notably Peru's total collapse and Argentina's labor unrest. The Andean crisis is worsened by the global energy transition's fallout, like Cuba's fuel shortages. A major narrative pivot involves unsealed Epstein files used to frame U.S. President Trump, counteracting U.S. sanctions on Cuba. Thermobaric weaponry in Gaza and Palestinian exclusion from 'Peace Councils' signal a shift to unilateralism.

MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS & REGIONAL CRISES



PERUVIAN CONSTITUTIONAL COLLAPSE

Interim President José Jeri destituted after 130 days amid sexual assault & corruption scandals. Congress factory closure (930 layoffs) and deadlocked on successor. 'Moral incapacity' now a routine weapon.



ARGENTINE LABOR MOBILIZATION

CGT launches general strike against Milei's reforms. Fate tire assault & corruption scandals. Congress factory closure (930 layoffs) and union leader arrests escalate tensions.



CUBAN ENERGY & HUMANITARIAN CRISIS

Critical grid failure forces return to charcoal. Mexico & Russia send fuel/aid, defying U.S. 'blockade' threats.



U.S. POLITICAL FALLOUT & EPSTEIN FILES

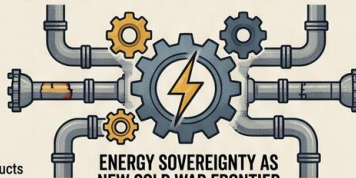
Unsealed files allegedly link Trump to misconduct, framed as 'lawfare' against U.S. power. Used to distract from high-level scandals.

KEY GOVERNANCE TOPICS & GEOPOLITICAL TRENDS



ARMED CONFLICT & MILITARIZATION

Gaza: Thermobaric bombs reported. Israel seeks ammo autarky. Iran conducts large-scale naval drills in Strait of Ormus.



ENERGY SOVEREIGNTY AS NEW COLD WAR FRONTIER



MACROECONOMICS & TRADE

Cacao prices crash. Oil rises. China announces zero-tariff policy for 53 African nations.



CLIMATE & EXTREME WEATHER

Europe faces extreme cold wave (-20°C). Chile & Kansas battle wildfires.



THE END OF MULTILATERALISM & RISE OF 'PEACE VIA EXCLUSION'

Traditional forums bypassed for ad-hoc 'Peace Councils' (e.g., Gaza) that exclude victims, shifting from resolution to management.

DEEP DIVE: THEMES & INTERNAL DYNAMICS



INSTITUTIONAL CANNIBALISM IN LATIN AMERICA

Peru & Argentina exemplify decay where legislature/executive destroy each other, leading to 'fictional democracies'.



INFORMATION WARFARE & NARRATIVE CONTROL

Epstein files vs. Cuba sanctions as narrative weapons. 'Propaganda' reframes state failure as resilience (Venezuelan charcoal). 'Censorship' allegations (British Museum map).

FUTURE OUTLOOK & RISKS

→ STRATEGIC FORESIGHT

Short Term: Violent selection for Peruvian president; Escalating Argentine strikes.
Medium Term: Cuban energy crisis tipping point; Potential U.S.-Mexico trade war.
Long Term: Military/energy autarky fractures global supply chains; BRICS as alternative governance.

→ RISK ASSESSMENT

High Risk: Total state collapse in Peru; Argentine civil unrest; Cuban humanitarian emergency.
Moderate Risk: Naval conflict in Strait of Ormus; U.S. Constitutional Crisis.

→ RECOMMENDATIONS

Statecraft: Prepare for Caribbean maritime friction; Diversify soft commodity sourcing.
Private Sector: Shift supply chains to China-Africa routes; Increase compliance on Epstein-linked entities.

GEOPOLITICAL FRAMING: World divided into 'Imperialist Aggressors' (U.S., Israel) vs. 'Sovereign Resisters' (Mexico, Cuba, Russia) with international law as rhetorical cudgel.

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SYSTEMIC INSTITUTIONAL DECAY IN THE ANDES AND THE GEOPOLITICAL WEAPONIZATION OF THE GLOBAL ENERGY CRISIS

DAY-AT-A-GLANCE

The global news cycle for February 18, 2026, is dominated by a profound sense of institutional instability across the Americas, punctuated by the total collapse of the interim administration in Peru and escalating labor unrest in Argentina. Peru's legislative body moved with unprecedented speed to remove its eighth president in a decade, [José Jerí](#), following a litany of scandals involving alleged sexual assault and illicit contracts. This vacuum of power in Lima serves as a localized echo of a broader regional theme: the perceived failure of traditional democratic structures to maintain order amidst hyper-partisan polarization and systemic corruption. The Andean crisis is further exacerbated by the continued economic fallout of the global energy transition, as reflected in the [severe fuel shortages](#) crippling basic services in Cuba.

Concurrently, a major narrative pivot emerged from the unsealing of files related to Jeffrey

Epstein, which have been leveraged to frame U.S. President Donald Trump as a [serial abuser](#). This development appears to be strategically amplified by regional state media to counter recent U.S. executive orders that have designated Cuba as an "unusual and extraordinary threat" to national security. The convergence of these stories suggests an environment where legal warfare (lawfare) and information operations are being used to delegitimize heads of state on both sides of the ideological spectrum. In the Middle East, the deployment of [thermobaric weaponry](#) in Gaza and the exclusion of Palestinians from U.S.-led "Peace Councils" signal a shift toward unilateralism and the abandonment of multilateral mediation frameworks.

MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

The Peruvian Constitutional Collapse

- The Peruvian Congress destituted interim President José Jerí with 76 votes in favor after only 130 days in office, citing [permanent moral incapacity](#).
- Serious criminal allegations surfaced during the proceedings, including Jerí's alleged involvement in a [group sexual assault](#) and secret meetings with foreign businessmen while in disguise.
- The legislative body is currently deadlocked between four candidate lists to name a successor, with Action Popular's [Mari Carmen Alva](#) considered a leading but highly unpopular contender.

Unsealing of Epstein Files and U.S. Political Fallout

- New disclosures from declassified archives allegedly link President Donald Trump to [multiple instances](#) of sexual misconduct and interactions with minors.

- U.S. Representative Ted Lieu has publicly accused Trump of participating in child trafficking networks [promoted by Jeffrey Epstein](#).
- The reports suggest a coordinated effort by the U.S. Department of Justice and the IRS to mishandle [tax information](#) of undocumented immigrants to distract from these high-level scandals.

The Cuban Energy and Humanitarian Crisis

- Cuba is facing a critical failure of its energy grid, forcing bakeries to revert to [charcoal and wood](#) to maintain basic food production.
- Mexico has dispatched over [800 tons of humanitarian aid](#) and fuel, while President Claudia Sheinbaum has rejected U.S. threats to impose tariffs on countries supplying oil to the island.
- Russia has reaffirmed its commitment to defending [Cuban sovereignty](#) against what it terms an "illegal maritime blockade" proposed by Washington.

Argentine Labor Mobilization Against Milei's Reforms

- The CGT has initiated a massive general strike in response to President Javier Milei's [anarcho-capitalist labor reforms](#), which seek to extend trial periods and reduce severance protections.
- The closure of the [Fate tire factory](#) after 80 years of operation, resulting in 920 layoffs, has become a flashpoint for anti-government protests.
- Union leaders, including Alejandro Crespo, were [arrested by police](#) while attempting to enter the Fate facility, escalating tensions between the state and organized labor.

KEY GOVERNANCE TOPICS

Armed Conflict & Militarization

- Reports from Gaza indicate the systematic use of [MK84 and GBU39](#) thermobaric bombs, which generate temperatures up to 3,500 degrees Celsius, allegedly "vaporizing" human tissue.
- Israel is implementing a strategic plan to achieve [military autarky](#) in ammunition production to reduce dependence on U.S. supply chains.
- Iran has launched large-scale [naval exercises](#) in the Strait of Ormus, utilizing drone swarms and electronic surveillance to counter perceived threats to its territorial waters.

Macroeconomics & Trade

- The global cacao market is in [steep decline](#) after reaching historical highs, with prices dropping below \$3,680 per ton due to reduced demand and surplus projections for 2026-2027.
- West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude saw a moderate [increase to \\$64.90](#), while Brent crude rose to \$69.97.
- China announced a [zero-tariff policy](#) for 53 African partner nations, effective May 1, 2026, to solidify its position as the continent's primary trade partner.

Climate & Extreme Weather

- Europe is grappling with an [extreme cold wave](#), with temperatures hitting -20°C in Poland and -12°C in France, exposing the fragility of the region's energy security and housing standards.

- In Chile, forest fires have consumed approximately [1,000 hectares](#) in the center-south region, prompting emergency declarations.
- Kansas, USA, reported [emergency evacuations](#) in three localities due to wind-driven wildfires.

Legal Warfare & Regulatory Risk

- The Peruvian Congress's use of "[permanent moral incapacity](#)" has transformed from a rare constitutional tool into a routine weapon for legislative coups.
- The unsealing of the [Epstein files](#) is being characterized as a legal threat to the U.S. presidency, with calls for the resignation of the Assistant Attorney General for misinterpreting sex trafficking laws.

DEEP DIVE: TRENDS AND THEMES

The End of Multilateralism and the Rise of "Peace via Exclusion"

A disturbing trend is emerging where traditional diplomatic forums (UN, Geneva) are being bypassed in favor of ad-hoc "Peace Councils" that exclude the very victims of conflict. The [Gaza Peace Council](#), led by the U.S. without Palestinian representation, is being analyzed as a mechanism for "de-Palestinianization" and the eventual conversion of the Gaza Strip into [private real estate](#). This represents a shift from conflict resolution to conflict management through the erasure of the opponent's political existence. This is mirrored in the [British Museum's removal](#) of the word "Palestine" from its historical maps, a move criticized as an attempt to rewrite history through nomenclature.

Energy Sovereignty as the New Cold War Frontier

The broadcasts highlight a deepening schism between the U.S. and a burgeoning Mexico-Russia-Cuba bloc. Energy is no longer just a commodity but the [primary instrument of coercion](#). The U.S. designation of Cuba as a national security threat serves as the legal basis for secondary sanctions against oil suppliers. In response, Mexico's [President Sheinbaum](#) is positioning her country as a "bridge" of sovereignty, openly defying Washington to maintain ideological and logistical support for Havana. This suggests that the BRICS-aligned nations are increasingly willing to risk trade wars with the U.S. to establish a non-dollarized, independent energy corridor in the Caribbean.

Institutional Cannibalism in Latin America

Peru has entered a state of [institutional cannibalism](#), where the legislature and executive are in a constant cycle of mutual destruction. With only two of the last eight presidents having been elected by popular vote, the state's capacity to govern has functionally vanished. This decay is allowing fringe candidates and corrupt elites to maintain a "fictional democracy" that primarily serves as a [political booty](#) for the highest bidder. Similarly, in Argentina, the rapid dismantling of labor laws is framed not as modernization, but as a return to [semi-slavery](#), suggesting a regional trend where economic desperation is being used to justify the erosion of constitutional rights.

INTERNAL DYNAMICS & DOMESTIC INSTABILITY

Peru: The nation is suffering from a terminal [crisis of legitimacy](#). The ousting of Jerí was not met with public celebration but with profound indifference or hostility toward the Congress. The fact that candidates for the presidency are being selected based on their [unpopularity](#) (to ensure they can be easily manipulated or removed later) indicates a system that has completely decoupled from the electorate. The presence of rapes and corruption charges at the highest level of government has normalized criminal behavior within the state apparatus.

Argentina: The Milei administration is facing its [most severe domestic challenge](#) to date. The closure of iconic factories like Fate and the arrest of high-profile union leaders suggest a government moving toward an openly repressive stance to enforce its neoliberal agenda. The "Martes de Challa" and Carnival celebrations provided a temporary [cultural reprieve](#), but the undercurrent of the general strike indicates that the societal social contract is near its breaking point.

Venezuela: In contrast to the Andean chaos, the broadcast depicts Venezuela as a [zone of "peace and respect"](#) despite external pressures. The government is focusing heavily on community-level projects, such as the ["Eight Roots of Mecedores"](#) commune, to demonstrate state efficacy. However, the mention of the "sentida ausencia" (heartfelt absence) of President Nicolás Maduro in some segments and the prominent role of [Delcy Rodríguez](#) as "Presidenta Encargada" (Acting President) suggests a sensitive internal transition or a high-level strategic delegation of power.

EXTERNAL DYNAMICS & GLOBAL POSTURE

The world is framed as a [multipolar arena](#) where U.S. hegemony is in "decadent" decline. The broadcast highlights the U.S. failure to maintain its alliances in Europe, noting [pugnas internas](#) (internal fights) between Washington and Brussels during the Munich Security Conference. This perceived weakness is being exploited by regional powers to forge new axes of influence. For example, Brazil's [Lula da Silva](#) is visiting India and South Korea to "strengthen BRICS-focused strategic alliances," signaling a pivot away from the Atlanticist order.

The "outside world" is increasingly viewed through the lens of [imperialist aggression](#) (the U.S. blockade of Cuba) versus [solidarity-based trade](#) (China's zero-tariff policy). This binary framing is used to justify defensive militarization, such as Israel's push for autarky and Iran's naval drills. The global posture of the broadcasting nation is one of [unapologetic resistance](#), seeking to lead a "Patria Grande" that is "no longer the backyard of the United States."

THE ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

The economic outlook is characterized by extreme volatility in soft commodities and a hardening of trade blocs. While GDP growth is reported in some developing nations, it is

often overshadowed by rising unemployment and industrial decay in others.

- **Agricultural Commodities:** Cacao prices are in a ["free fall,"](#) dropping below \$3,150 per ton. This is devastating for West African producers like Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana, who are struggling with unsold stocks and disease-ridden plantations. Manufacturers are responding by reducing [cacao content](#) in products (shrinkflation).
- **Labor Markets:** UK unemployment has reached a [record 5.2%](#), the highest since the COVID-19 era. In Argentina, the industrial sector is contracting sharply, exemplified by the [Fate factory closure](#).
- **National Growth Indicators:** Colombia reported a [2.6% GDP increase](#) for 2025. Malaysia outperformed expectations with [5.2% growth](#) driven by strong domestic consumption.
- **Energy Costs:** U.S. beef prices are skyrocketing, with ground beef hitting [historical maximums](#) due to herd reductions and speculative logic, hitting working-class families directly.

LEADERSHIP CHANGES

The day's events highlight a significant churn in executive leadership and the targeting of prominent figures through legal and scandalous disclosures.

- **José Jerí (Peru):** The interim president is the primary loser of the day, [destituted and arrested](#) for "moral incapacity" following allegations of group rape and corruption.

- **Delcy Rodríguez (Venezuela):** Appears as a major winner, increasingly assuming the role of ["Presidenta Encargada,"](#) receiving heads of state (Qatar) and managing regional crises while Maduro is cited as "absent."
- **Donald Trump (USA):** Facing a [massive reputational hit](#) following the unsealing of Epstein files; however, he is also projecting strength by establishing his own ["Junta de Paz"](#) for Gaza, bypassing international organizations.
- **Nasri Asfura (Honduras):** Noted as the [head of a new administration](#) negotiating with the IMF, signaling a potential shift in Honduran fiscal policy.
- **Alejandro Crespo (Argentina):** The tire union leader was [detained by police](#), making him a martyr for the anti-Milei labor movement.

EDITORIAL POSTURE & STORY HIERARCHY

The editorial hierarchy for February 18, 2026, focuses on the **delegitimization of U.S. power** and the **valorization of regional resistance**. The lead stories are the [Trump-Epstein connection](#) and the "genocidal" nature of the U.S. blockade on Cuba. These are prioritized over the internal crises in friendly nations; for instance, the Venezuelan fuel shortage is framed as a [heroic return to tradition](#) (using wood-fired ovens) rather than a failure of state infrastructure. The Peruvian crisis is portrayed as a [failure of the right-wing establishment](#). **Buried stories** include the specifics of the negotiations between the IMF and Honduras, which could signal a pivot toward fiscal austerity. **Conspicuous Omissions** include any detailed reporting on the current whereabouts of Nicolás Maduro or a balanced perspective on why the British

Museum changed its maps (beyond the "Zionist pressure" narrative).

GEOPOLITICAL FRAMING

The news portrays a world divided into "imperialist aggressors" and "sovereign resisters," with international law being used as a rhetorical cudgel by both sides.

COUNTRIES

- **United States:** Portrayed as a [chaotic and corrupt](#) empire whose president is a sexual predator and whose foreign policy is "inhumane and illegitimate."
- **Peru:** Framed as a [failed state](#) with a "crisis of legitimacy" where the ruling class is more interested in "political booty" than governing.
- **Cuba:** Depicted as a [principled and resilient](#) victim of a "brutal and illegal" blockade, yet one that maintains "universal and inclusive" systems like education.
- **Israel:** Characterized as a ["colonial laboratory"](#) conducting a "gigantesco experimento de ingeniería demográfica" (demographic engineering experiment) through genocide.

LEADERS

- **Donald Trump:** Consistently described as a ["sexual aggressor"](#) whose administration represents "a crime against international law."
- **Javier Milei:** Portrayed as an [inept and cruel](#) leader whose policies are "anticonstitutional" and lead to "semi-slavery."

- **Claudia Sheinbaum:** Framed as a [strong and solidary](#) protector of regional independence, standing up to U.S. tariff threats.

INFORMATION WARFARE ENVIRONMENT

- **Narrative Seeding:** The frequent mention of the [Epstein files](#) alongside U.S. sanctions on Cuba suggests a tactical "information dump" intended to neutralize U.S. moral authority in the region.
- **Propaganda:** The Venezuelan government's framing of the [return to charcoal ovens](#) as "resilience and ingenuity" rather than infrastructure collapse is a classic example of cognitive reframing of state failure.
- **Censorship:** The reporting on the [British Museum](#) removal of "Palestine" uses the term "censorship of history" to create a meta-narrative that Zionism is erasing the physical and historical map of the Levant.

HYPOTHESES AND FUTURE OUTLOOK

- **The "Peruvianization" of Regional Politics:** Peru's collapse is a likely precursor to similar institutional crises in other highly polarized Latin American states. The use of "moral incapacity" as a political tool will likely spread, making executive stability a thing of the past.
- **Formalization of the Mexico-Russia-Cuba Axis:** The defiance shown by Mexico regarding the [Cuban blockade](#) suggests that a formal, non-U.S. aligned security and energy pact in the Caribbean is imminent.

- **U.S. Political Paralyzation:** The Epstein disclosures, if they gain traction in domestic U.S. media as they have in regional media, could lead to a [constitutional crisis](#) or impeachment proceedings, further domesticating U.S. focus and reducing its international projection.

STRATEGIC FORESIGHT

Short Term (1-4 Weeks): Expect a [highly contested](#) and potentially violent selection process for the next Peruvian president. Argentina will likely see an escalation in [strikes and roadblocks](#) as the labor movement mobilizes against Milei.

Medium Term (1-6 Months): The Cuban energy crisis will reach a tipping point, potentially forcing a [mass migration event](#) unless the Russia/Mexico aid package can stabilize the grid. The U.S. may follow through on [tariff threats](#) against Mexico, triggering a trade war within North America.

Long Term (1-5 Years): The push for [military and energy autarky](#) by middle powers (Israel, Iran, Mexico) will lead to the permanent fracturing of global supply chains. BRICS will likely emerge as the primary [governance framework](#) for the Global South, replacing the UN in all but name.

RISK ASSESSMENT

- **Total State Collapse in Peru:** Triggered by the failure to elect a new interim president or the election of a highly polarized figure like Mari Carmen Alva. Likelihood: High. Impact: Regional instability, increased migration, and suspension of international trade agreements. Mitigations: International mediation and the immediate scheduling of general elections.
- **Naval Conflict in the Strait of Ormus:** Triggered by an incident during [Iranian drone maneuvers](#) or a U.S. attempt to enforce maritime blockades. Likelihood: Moderate. Impact: Global oil price shock, disruption of 20% of the world's energy supply. Mitigations: De-escalation through direct military-to-military communication channels.
- **Argentine Civil Unrest:** Triggered by the [closure of more industrial facilities](#) or a violent crackdown on the general strike. Likelihood: High. Impact: Political paralysis of the Milei administration and potential early exit. Mitigations: Compromise on labor reforms and social safety net expansions.
- **Cuban Humanitarian Emergency:** Triggered by the total exhaustion of [fuel reserves](#) and failure of aid shipments. Likelihood: High. Impact: Collapse of the health and food systems, leading to regional instability. Mitigations: Diplomatic pressure on the U.S. to lift energy-related sanctions.

- **U.S. Constitutional Crisis:** Triggered by [legal proceedings](#) stemming from the Epstein disclosures. Likelihood: Moderate. Impact: Global market volatility and a vacuum in Western leadership. Mitigations: Judicial transparency and swift legal resolution.

GAPS & BLIND SPOTS

- **The "Sentida Ausencia" of Maduro:** Multiple broadcasts mention the "heartfelt absence" of Nicolás Maduro or refer to [Delcy Rodríguez](#) as "Presidenta Encargada." There is no explanation of Maduro's status, health, or location, which is a critical blind spot for regional risk assessment.
- **The IMF-Honduras Deal:** While mentioned, the strategic implications of [\\$823 million in financing](#) for a purportedly left-aligned government are not explored. This context is needed to understand if Honduras is pivoting back toward the Washington Consensus.
- **The Veracity of thermobaric weapon claims:** The reports of ["vaporization" of thousands](#) of people in seconds rely heavily on "forensic data" that is not independently verified in the transcripts.

CONTRARIAN NARRATIVE SCENARIOS

- **Peru's Crisis as a Purge:** Instead of decay, the rapid removal of Jerí could be seen as an effective, if messy, **self-cleaning mechanism** of the Peruvian state, removing a criminal element before it could consolidate power.

- **The Epstein Files as a False Flag:** The disclosures could be a **distraction operation** orchestrated by elements within the U.S. intelligence community to facilitate the designated "extraordinary threat" status of Cuba, allowing for a military intervention under the guise of national security.
- **Black Swan Event:** The sudden **assassination of a key mediator** in the Geneva negotiations could trigger a rapid escalation of the Ukraine-Russia conflict into a direct NATO engagement, rendering all other regional crises secondary.

RECOMMENDATIONS & IMPLICATIONS

For Statecraft/Public Sector:

- **Security:** Prepare for maritime friction in the Caribbean as the U.S. blockade and Mexico/Russia aid shipments [inevitably intersect](#).
- **Economic:** Diversify soft commodity sourcing away from West Africa, as the [cacao price collapse](#) and disease issues will lead to multi-year supply volatility.
- **Diplomatic:** Recognize the [unviability](#) of the current Peruvian political structure and prepare for a potential refugee surge from the Andean region.

For Private Sector/Investors:

- **Supply Chain:** Shift focus toward [China-Africa trade routes](#), which will benefit from the new zero-tariff regime, while avoiding investments in the Argentine industrial sector.

- **Regulatory:** Increased compliance scrutiny on any dealings with the [Epstein-linked entities](#) or personnel as legal actions accelerate.
- **Capital Allocation:** Invest in [tech and innovation](#) hubs in Ethiopia, where a state-sponsored program to train 5 million programmers is creating a new global talent pool.

LEGISLATIVE ROUNDUP

The day saw a flurry of ["lawfare"](#) and emergency executive actions. In Venezuela, a new General Amnesty Law is being debated to reconcile the political opposition, while in Argentina, Milei's labor reforms face a [constitutional challenge](#) in the courts.

BILLS DISCUSSED/DEBATED:

- **Venezuela Law of Amnesty and Democratic Coexistence:** Aims to [pardon political crimes](#) from 1999 to 2026 to foster "national reconciliation."
- **Argentina Labor Reform Bill:** Seeks to [precaritize the workforce](#) by extending probation periods and reducing corporate liabilities, currently being debated in the Chamber of Deputies.
- **Israel Death Penalty for Prisoners:** A bill to [execute Palestinian prisoners](#), which has passed its third reading despite international condemnation.

HEARINGS & PRESS EVENTS:

- **Peruvian Congress Emergency Session:** Convened to [formally declare](#) the vacancy of the presidency and debate the four candidate lists.

- **President Sheinbaum's Daily Briefing:** Confirmed Mexico's [defiance](#) of U.S. sanctions and intent to supply fuel to Cuba.
- **UN/UNESCO Briefing on Cuba:** Reported that [one million students](#) in Cuba are affected by the U.S. blockade, with an emergency fund being launched to provide materials.

KEY STORIES

- **Destitution of José Jerí in Peru:** After [only 130 days](#), the interim leader was removed by Congress following seven motions of censure related to rape and corruption.
- **Epstein/Trump Revelations:** Newly released files allege [thousands of interactions](#) between Donald Trump and Epstein's criminal network.
- **The Cacao Market Crash:** Prices dropped significantly below [\\$3,150 per ton](#) due to global oversupply and falling consumer demand.
- **Gaza Thermobaric Bombings:** Palestinian officials allege the use of [high-heat weapons](#) that vaporize human remains, with 2,800 people reported "missing" or evaporated.
- **Argentine General Strike:** The CGT led a [24-hour national stoppage](#) against Milei's labor reforms.
- **China's African Pivot:** A new [zero-tariff agreement](#) for 53 African nations solidifies Beijing's influence on the continent.
- **European Arctic Freeze:** Temperatures as low as [-20C](#) are causing widespread health crises and energy strain across France and Poland.

- **Ethiopian Tech Initiative:** President Atskelacie announced a program to train [5 million codifiers](#) over the next 10 years.
- **Venezuelan Commune Projects:** Details on the ["Eight Roots of Mecedores"](#) project, including water treatment and textile production.
- **Brazil's Diplomatic Gira:** Lula da Silva lands in [New Delhi](#) to discuss BRICS governance and multipolarity.
- **Geneva Ukraine Talks:** Russian and Ukrainian delegations report ["difficult but efficient"](#) progress with U.S. mediation.
- **Petare's 405th Anniversary:** Venezuela celebrates the founding of [Petare](#) as a center for urban art and community resilience.
- **UK Unemployment Crisis:** The joblessness rate hit [5.2%](#), sparking calls for the Bank of England to cut interest rates.
- **Strait of Ormus Drills:** Iran utilizes [drone swarms](#) in large-scale naval maneuvers near strategic oil shipping lanes.

ABOUT THIS REPORT

Today's Media Trends is a public interest experiment in applying deep thematic trend analysis to television news coverage from around the world to explore how responsibly applied advanced AI can help journalists and scholars better understand the overarching trends, themes and patterns of our global world.

No data is used to train or tune any AI model.

Each morning, in collaboration with the Internet Archive's TV News Archive, we apply Google's Gemini 3 to deeply examine yesterday's coverage from each television news channel to tease out the overarching themes and trends of its news coverage into a richly annotated thematic analysis. Each high-level insight is connected back to the original broadcast, allowing journalists and scholars to understand the dominate themes and trends and instantly click out to the underlying sources for details.

By helping journalists and scholars see the broader trends and patterns of global news coverage, this analysis helps them identify relevant stories and coverage they might not otherwise have encountered and uncover connections, emphases and narrative shifts that enable more comprehensive reporting and deeper, evidence-based research.

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