

TODAY'S MEDIA TRENDS

N1HRV

FEBRUARY 19, 2026

THE GDELT PROJECT

FEBRUARY 19, 2026: GLOBAL SEISMIC COLLISION – PRINCE ANDREW ARREST, TRUMP-LED GEOPOLITICAL SHIFTS & CROATIAN CRISIS

ROYAL SHOCKWAVE (UK)



ARRESTED IN NORFOLK:
"Epstein Files" & Misconduct Allegations.
Monarchy Defensive, Elite Accountability Debated.

TRUMP'S "MUZZLE VELOCITY" DIPLOMACY (USA/GLOBAL)



IRAN STRIKE THREATS (RAMADAN)
UKRAINE "PEACE BOARD" (BYPASSING UN)

RAPID RESHAPING OF NORMS:
Bypassing Institutions, High-Pressure Stances.

CROATIAN PARLIAMENTARY BOILING POINT



DP ULTIMATUM: BAN COMMUNIST SYMBOLS OR WE QUIT
ANTI-FASCIST FOUNDATIONS

COALITION PARALYSIS:
"Symbolic Warfare" Threatens Government Survival Amidst Plenković's India Trip.

CONVERGENCE OF CRISES: INSTITUTIONAL COLLAPSE & HISTORICAL WEAPONIZATION

KEY TRENDS & GOVERNANCE THEMES

WEAPONIZATION OF HISTORICAL MEMORY



- 20th-Century History Used for 21st-Century Political Scores.
- Croatian "Revisionism" as Distraction from Economic Failures.

COLLAPSE OF INSTITUTIONAL BUFFERS



- Aggressive Actors Bypass Traditional Stabilizers (UN, Monarchy, EU).
- Trump's "Muzzle Velocity" Dismantles Policy Processes.

LEADERSHIP DYNAMICS IN FLUX



KING CHARLES III:
Embattled, Seeking Transparency.



PM PLENKOVIĆ:
Pragmatic "Nose-Holding" for Survival.



JOSIP DABRO (DP):
Emerging Destabilizing "Kingmaker".

ECONOMIC & ENVIRONMENTAL VECTORS

THE ENVIRONMENTAL COST OF DIGITAL REVOLUTION



- AI & "Cloud" Consume Massive Resources (Water/Energy).
- Alpine Water Reservoirs Collapsing (+1.5°C); Threat to Europe's Water Tower.

ECONOMIC BIFURCATION: BOOM & BUST



AI INFRASTRUCTURE (\$500B INVEST)



AGRI/HOUSING BUST (MILK PROTESTS)

- Tech Dominance vs. Traditional Sector Collapse.
- EU Cracks Down on "Addictive Design" (Shein/Temu Fines).

GEOPOLITICAL POSTURE & RISKS



- US as Unilateral "Disruptor"; Allies "Turbulent".
- Critical Risk: Intersection of Environmental Collapse & Tech Overreach.
- Potential Flashpoints: Croatian Gov Fall, Iran Strike, European Water Insecurity.

STRATEGIC FORESIGHT & FUTURE OUTLOOK

SHORT TERM (1-4 Weeks):
UK Social Unrest,
Croatian Coalition Litmus Test.

MEDIUM TERM (1-6 Months):
EU Digital Fines Precedent,
Ukraine "Peace Deal" Referendum.

LONG TERM (1-5 Years):
Trans-European Water Treaties,
Resource-Capped AI Innovation.

A PERIOD OF INTENSE VOLATILITY WHERE URGENT RISKS DEMAND STATE ATTENTION AMIDST POLITICAL FRACTURES.

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HIGH-PROFILE ARREST OF PRINCE ANDREW AND ESCALATING TRUMP- LED GEOPOLITICAL SHIFTS AMIDST CROATIAN PARLIAMENTARY INSTABILITY

DAY-AT-A-GLANCE

February 19, 2026, was defined by a seismic collision between global legal scandals, shifting geopolitical architectures under the Trump administration, and a brewing constitutional crisis in Croatia. The most immediate shockwave was the **arrest of Prince Andrew** at his estate in Norfolk, a development linked to newly released "Epstein files" and allegations of official misconduct dating back to 2001. This event has sent the British monarchy into a defensive posture and sparked intense public debate over elite accountability and the principle that no individual is above the law. Simultaneously, in the United States, the second Trump administration appears to be rapidly reshaping international norms, pushing for a controversial "Peace Board" to resolve the Ukraine conflict while maintaining a high-pressure, militarized stance against Iran that includes threats of strikes during Ramadan.

In Croatia, a domestic political crisis has reached a boiling point as the ruling coalition faces an ultimatum from the right-wing Homeland Movement (DP). The conflict centers on the legislative **banning of historical symbols**, specifically the Communist "red star," creating a rift with more liberal partners who emphasize the nation's anti-fascist foundations. This internal instability occurs while Prime Minister Andrej Plenković is in India, attempting to leverage Croatia's strategic ports for trade while navigating global shifts in AI policy and labor migration. The convergence of these events suggests a period of intense volatility where long-standing historical narratives are being weaponized for political survival, even as urgent environmental and technological risks—such as the massive resource drain of AI systems and the collapse of Alpine water reservoirs—demand state attention.

MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

- **Arrest of Prince Andrew:** British police arrested Andrew Mountbatten Windsor in Norfolk on suspicion of [misconduct in public office](#) following revelations in the "Epstein files." The arrest involves allegations of sharing sensitive state information with Jeffrey Epstein to facilitate [private investment ventures](#).
- **Breakdown of Geneva Peace Talks:** Negotiations between Russia and Ukraine in Geneva were [abruptly suspended](#) after only two hours. President Zelenski accused Russia of intentional delays, while the US administration continues to push for a settlement by summer.

- **Croatian Coalition Ultimatum:** Josip Dabro (DP) has threatened to resign and [withdraw support from the government](#) unless a law is passed within 30 days banning all communist symbols and slogans, a move seen by opponents as a dangerous attempt to equalize anti-fascist resistance with the NDH regime.
- **Escalating Iran Tensions:** Intelligence reports suggest the US is considering [military strikes against Iran](#) as early as this weekend, despite the upcoming start of Ramadan, as part of a "muzzle velocity" strategy to force nuclear concessions.
- **EU Regulatory Crackdown on Fast Fashion:** The European Union has launched a formal investigation into Shein and Temu under the [Digital Services Act \(DSA\)](#), targeting "addictive design" and the sale of illegal products, with potential fines reaching 6% of global turnover.

KEY GOVERNANCE TOPICS

Leadership Dynamics & Governance The arrest of Prince Andrew represents a **stress test for the British institutional framework**, with King Charles III issuing a statement emphasizing his [deep concern](#) while supporting a transparent legal process. In Croatia, governance is paralyzed by [reputational damage control](#) as the HSLS and DP engage in "symbolic warfare" over the historical identity of the state, threatening the stability of the 76-hand parliamentary majority.

Diplomacy & Statecraft The Trump administration is bypassing traditional diplomatic channels, establishing an [International Peace Board](#) intended to bypass the UN. The EU is reacting defensively, sending Dubravka Šuica as an [observer only](#)

to maintain a degree of strategic autonomy while acknowledging the US as a "dominant global power."

Tech Sovereignty & AI Prime Minister Plenković's visit to the AI summit in India highlights a push for [technological integration](#) in education and infrastructure. However, researchers warn that the energy and water consumption of AI is reaching [unsustainable levels](#), with data centers in Ireland now consuming 18% of the nation's total power.

Energy & Food Security Serbian milk producers are [blocking streets](#) to protest the collapse of domestic prices due to EU imports, while Croatia faces local resistance to [Lithium mining and large-scale battery storage](#) projects in the Banovina region, citing environmental risks and a lack of transparency.

Climate & Extreme Weather Alpine regions are reporting a [1.5 degree Celsius temperature increase](#) in the last decade, leading to earlier snowmelts and threatening the "water tower of Europe," which provides 40% of the continent's fresh water.

DEEP DIVE: TRENDS AND THEMES

The Weaponization of Historical Memory Across multiple transcripts, there is a clear trend of using 20th-century history to settle 21st-century political scores. In Croatia, the debate over "Bleiburg" and "Tezno" is no longer confined to academic history; it has become a [legislative weapon](#) used to destabilize coalitions. Analysts suggest this "revisionism" is a strategy to [normalize radical right-wing sentiments](#) by creating a false equivalence between anti-fascist movements and totalitarian regimes. This

historical friction is being used as a distraction from current economic failures, such as the [housing crisis](#) and demographic collapse.

The Environmental Cost of the Digital Revolution A significant sub-narrative emerges regarding the **unseen physical toll of the "cloud."** While global leaders promote AI as a panacea for efficiency, the data reveals a "mind-boggling waste" of resources. The transcripts highlight a growing "technology divide" where the [Global North's AI dominance](#) is built on the environmental degradation of local ecosystems, such as the [Kilikora wetlands](#) in Chile, which are threatened by high water consumption from server farms.

The Collapse of Institutional Buffer Zones The "muzzle velocity" of the current Trump administration—a strategy of moving so fast that [opposition cannot find its footing](#)—is effectively dismantling traditional policy processes. This is mirrored in the UK with the **sudden arrest of royalty** and in the EU with the struggle to regulate platforms like Temu. Institutions that previously acted as stabilizers (the UN, the British Monarchy, the EU Commission) are being bypassed or forced to react to **aggressive, non-traditional actors**.

INTERNAL DYNAMICS & DOMESTIC INSTABILITY

Croatia: Coalition at the Breaking Point The Croatian government is currently a "rhetorical circus" where internal partners are calling each other ["stupid right-wingers"](#) and "pampered liberals." PM Plenković's survival strategy relies on "nose-holding" pragmatism—maintaining a slim majority (76 hands) by trading ideological concessions for power.

However, the **Homeland Movement's ultimatum** regarding communist symbols suggests that this balancing act is reaching its limit. The public sentiment, as voiced by former ministers, is one of [extreme frustration](#) with a political caste that focuses on 80-year-old history while 600,000 apartments sit empty and unaffordable.

Serbia: Agrarian and Social Unrest Serbia is facing a dual crisis: **violent student protests** in Novi Sad against government-linked thugs and [nationwide blockades by farmers](#). The agricultural sector is protesting against the "import lobby" that is destroying domestic milk and meat production. President Vučić's dismissal of student injuries as "a few slaps" and his [refusal to halt imports](#) indicates a hardening of the state's stance against domestic dissent, further complicating its EU accession prospects.

EXTERNAL DYNAMICS & GLOBAL POSTURE

The US "Ceremonial" Presidency and Hardcore Ideology Speculative theories within the transcripts suggest that President Trump is acting as a [ceremonial head](#) for a "hardcore ideological agenda" driven by subordinates who are pushing extreme policies on immigration and foreign intervention. This "muzzle velocity" approach has left allies like the EU in a state of ["great turbulence,"](#) unsure if they should cooperate with US peace initiatives or maintain their own red lines regarding Russian territorial gains in the Donbas.

China's Economic Pivot to Winter Sports China is successfully converting its 2022 Olympic legacy into a [\\$140 billion winter tourism industry](#). This represents a strategic effort by Xi Jinping to **stimulate domestic**

spending amid a slowing economy. While the West focuses on conflict and scandal, China is methodically building new consumer-driven economic sectors, even in subtropical regions like Shenzhen.

THE ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

The global economic outlook is increasingly bifurcated between the "boom" of AI-driven infrastructure and the "bust" of traditional agricultural and housing markets. In Croatia, inflation and the lack of [affordable housing](#) are the primary domestic anxieties, while in Serbia, the **milk industry is on the verge of total collapse**. The EU is aggressively using the Digital Services Act to protect its single market from [manipulative digital trade practices](#) by Chinese-owned platforms.

Key Economic Vectors

- **AI Infrastructure Investment:** President Trump announced a [\\$500 billion investment](#) in AI infrastructure, signaling a massive shift in US capital allocation toward tech dominance.
- **Digital Regulatory Fines:** Shein and Temu face fines up to [6% of global turnover](#) as the EU enforces transparency and consumer protection laws.
- **Croatian Logistics Pivot:** Croatia is positioning the [Port of Rijeka](#) as a primary gateway for Indian goods into Europe, though rail infrastructure remains a bottleneck.
- **Labor Migration:** Indians now make up [10% of the active working population](#) in parts of Croatia, highlighting a critical demographic dependency.

- **Energy Costs of AI:** By 2026, the electricity needed for data centers and crypto is expected to [double from 2022 levels](#).

LEADERSHIP CHANGES

The arrest of Prince Andrew is the most significant leadership shock, potentially purging a long-standing "capital" figure from the global elite network. In Croatia, the leadership of the Homeland Movement is in a **state of flux**, with Josip Dabro positioning himself as a kingmaker through ultimatums.

- **Prince Andrew:** Stripped of titles and currently [under police interrogation](#); his status has shifted from protected royal to potential criminal defendant.
- **Josip Dabro (DP):** Emerging as a [destabilizing force](#) within the Croatian government, leveraging nationalist sentiment to challenge PM Plenković.
- **Željko Kolar (SDP):** The Krapina-Zagorje Prefect is [under investigation by DORH](#) for allegedly favoring a private solar power investor, weakening the opposition's moral standing.
- **Dario Hrebak (HSLs):** Struggling to maintain a [liberal identity](#) while tied to a government increasingly flirting with far-right historical revisionism.

EDITORIAL POSTURE & STORY HIERARCHY

Lead Stories: The arrest of Prince Andrew and the Croatian coalition crisis dominated the broadcast, reflecting a focus on **high-profile scandal and domestic political survival**. The coverage of the Prince Andrew arrest was clinical and focused on legal procedures, while the Croatian political

coverage was more emotive, highlighting the "Spanish soap opera" nature of the government's internal bickering.

Buried Stories: Critical environmental data—such as the [collapse of Alpine water reservoirs](#) and the health risks of new [mosquito species](#)—were relegated to science segments, despite their profound long-term risk to European security. The [violence against Serbian students](#) was covered, but its implications for regional stability were largely minimized in favor of the Andrew arrest.

Conspicuous Omissions: There was a notable lack of detailed reporting on the **specific terms of the Russian "territorial demands"** in the Geneva talks. While "Donbas" was mentioned, the broadcast failed to explain what specific guarantees were being offered to Ukraine in exchange for such concessions. Additionally, the **actual content of the "Epstein files"** that triggered the Prince Andrew arrest was alluded to but not detailed, likely due to legal constraints.

GEOPOLITICAL FRAMING

The day's coverage paints a world where traditional alliances are fraying under the pressure of "America First" policies and historical grievances. The framing of the US has shifted from "leader of the free world" to a **unilateral disruptor** that allies must manage rather than follow.

COUNTRIES

- **United States:** Portrayed as a "staring power" that uses military presence and "muzzle velocity" diplomacy to overwhelm allies and foes alike. Quote: "all we have to do is move so fast and do so many things that... [opposition can never find its footing](#)."

- **Serbia:** Framed as a **recalcitrant state** that protects war criminals and suppresses its own citizens while failing to protect its agricultural economy. Quote: "Srbija nije udovoljila našim zamolnicama... [sad smo u pat poziciji](#)."
- **Ukraine:** Depicted as increasingly desperate and **skeptical of Western-led peace initiatives** that require territorial sacrifice. Quote: "Zelenski upozorava da [Rusija pokušava kupiti vrijeme](#)."
- **Iceland:** Framed as a losing its "purity" as it sees its [first mosquitoes](#) due to global warming and cargo traffic.

LEADERS

- **Donald Trump:** Portrayed as a **dominant but unpredictable force**, often bypassing his own cabinet to announce massive investments or military threats. Quote: "Trump is like the [ceremonial head](#) of this administration... pushed by a hardcore ideological agenda."
- **Andrej Plenković:** Characterized as a **pragmatic survivor** with "two faces"—one for the EU and one for his domestic right-wing coalition. Quote: "Plenković je ovaj ovoj sebi nametnuo... [jedan teret koji će moći nositi](#)."
- **King Charles III:** Framed as **principled but embattled**, attempting to maintain the dignity of the monarchy while his family faces criminal investigation. Quote: "S najdubljom zabrinutošću primio sam vijest o [Andrew Mouth Bitten Windoru](#)."

NON-STATE & CORPORATE ACTORS

- **Meta (Mark Zuckerberg):** Framed as **evasive and profit-driven** in the face of lawsuits regarding teen mental health. Quote: "Zackenberg... [odvjetnici tužitelja tvrde da su Instagram i druge platforme namjerno dizajnirane kako bi kod mladih korisnika izazvale ovisnost.](#)"
- **Shein/Temu:** Depicted as **predatory actors** using manipulative algorithms to exploit European consumers. Quote: "manipulativni ili takozvani [ovisnički dizajn.](#)"

INFORMATION WARFARE ENVIRONMENT

The transcripts reveal a **meta-narrative of "controlled chaos."** In the US context, Steve Bannon's "muzzle velocity" concept is explicitly cited as a tool to overwhelm the information ecosystem, making it impossible for the media to conduct proper oversight. In Croatia, the **weaponization of WWII history** functions as a "smoke screen" (dimna zavjesa) to prevent discussion of the [housing crisis](#) and corruption. The use of "fake news" and "post-truth" rhetoric was also highlighted in the context of the Srebrenica reporting validation, where journalists had to rely on [firsthand witness accounts](#) to counter state-sponsored denials.

- **Narrative Seeding:** The Serbian government's attempt to frame student protesters as "riding" the state is a clear attempt to delegitimize [democratic dissent.](#)

- **Historical Revisionism:** The release of a book on Slovenian mass graves is being [sponsored by Croatian ministries](#) to rebrand historical figures, a move described by critics as "pure propaganda."

HYPOTHESES AND FUTURE OUTLOOK

- **Hypothesis 1: The Monarchy's "Great Shrinking":** The Prince Andrew arrest will force King Charles III to accelerate the "slimmed-down monarchy," potentially removing all state funding and protection for peripheral royals to save the institution's core reputation.
- **Hypothesis 2: Croatian Snap Elections:** If the 30-day ultimatum on communist symbols is not met, the Plenković government **will likely collapse** by late March 2026, leading to a polarized election where history dominates over economy.
- **Hypothesis 3: RAMADAN Flashpoint:** A US strike on Iran during Ramadan could trigger a **regional asymmetric response** against US bases in Syria and Iraq, potentially drawing Israel into a direct confrontation with Tehran.

STRATEGIC FORESIGHT

Short Term (1-4 Weeks): Expect heightened **social unrest in the UK** as details from the Epstein files emerge. In Croatia, a crucial parliamentary vote on a new minister will serve as a [litmus test](#) for the coalition's survival.

Medium Term (1-6 Months): The EU's **DSA investigation into Shein/Temu** will likely result in the first multi-billion euro fines for "addictive design," setting a global precedent for digital regulation. A US-led "peace deal"

framework for Ukraine will reach a **referendum stage**, likely causing internal fractures within the Ukrainian government.

Long Term (1-5 Years): The Alpine water crisis will necessitate **trans-European water treaties** as levels in ground and surface water [decline irreversibly](#). AI development will shift from "growth at all costs" to "resource-capped innovation" as nations limit energy availability for data centers.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The most critical risk is the intersection of **environmental collapse and technological overreach**, where the resources required for "progress" (AI) are directly depleting the resources required for "survival" (Water).

- **Government Collapse in Croatia:** Trigger: Failure to compromise on historical symbol legislation. Likelihood: High. Impact: Stagnation of EU-funded infrastructure projects and administrative paralysis. Mitigations: Immediate creation of a "Centrist Bloc" to bypass radical factions [as proposed by Matija Posavec](#).
- **Regional Middle East War:** Trigger: US military strike on Iran during Ramadan. Likelihood: Moderate. Impact: Global oil price spikes and closure of the [Strait of Hormuz](#). Mitigations: Back-channel diplomacy and return to nuclear deal frameworks.
- **European Water Insecurity:** Trigger: Successive drought years in the Alps. Likelihood: High. Impact: 40% reduction in fresh water for Central Europe, leading to agricultural failure. Mitigations: Widespread adoption of ["keyline" water management](#) systems.

- **Systemic Distrust in Digital Commerce:** Trigger: Evidence of Shein/Temu algorithms causing clinical addiction in minors. Likelihood: High. Impact: Massive divestment from Chinese tech platforms and trade barriers. Mitigations: Strict enforcement of the [EU Digital Services Act](#).
- **Biological Threat Escalation:** Trigger: Establishment of West Nile or Zika virus in northern European mosquito populations. Likelihood: Moderate. Impact: Burden on healthcare systems previously "malaria-free." Mitigations: Funding for [vector competence research](#) and insectariums.

GAPS & BLIND SPOTS

- **The Financial Trail of Prince Andrew:** The transcripts focus on the arrest but do not explain how Epstein-linked funds were allegedly **laundered through official channels**.
- **Russian Internal Sentiment:** While the Geneva talks breakdown is reported from the Ukrainian/US perspective, there is no data on **internal Russian pressure** or economic strain that might be driving their negotiation tactics.
- **Lithium Project Viability:** The protests in Banovina are noted, but the **strategic necessity of Lithium** for Europe's energy transition is not balanced against local environmental concerns.
- **The "Breeze" Dating App Business Model:** The segment on dating apps presents Breeze as a "lighthearted" alternative but fails to scrutinize how it [monetizes user data](#) in comparison to its competitors.

CONTRARIAN NARRATIVE SCENARIOS

The Prince Andrew "Sacrifice": One alternative hypothesis is that the arrest of Prince Andrew is a **deliberate institutional purge** orchestrated by the Palace to satisfy public demand for accountability while distracting from more systemic corruption within the British financial sector.

Plenković's "India Gambit": PM Plenković's visit to India could be interpreted as a sign of **desperate isolation** from the EU core. By seeking "strategic partnerships" with India and importing [thousands of workers](#), he is effectively giving up on Croatian demographic recovery in favor of cheap, temporary labor to prop up the tourism industry.

Black Swan Event: The discovery of a **mosquito-borne pandemic** that specifically targets livestock, not humans, could trigger a total collapse of the European meat industry, leading to mass famine and civil unrest that would dwarf the current political bickering over WWII symbols.

RECOMMENDATIONS & IMPLICATIONS

For Statecraft/Public Sector:

- Implement **resource-based zoning** for data centers to prevent the depletion of critical wetlands and urban water supplies [as seen in Chile](#).
- Standardize **extradition protocols for war crimes** to prevent "pat positions" between neighbors like Croatia and Serbia [regarding perpetrators like Štuka](#).

- Codify **anti-fascism as a non-negotiable constitutional pillar** to prevent the weaponization of totalitarian symbols for partisan gain.

For Private Sector/Investors:

- Audit **AI supply chains** for environmental compliance, specifically focusing on the water-to-request ratio in cooling systems.
- Shift capital away from **mass-market fast fashion** vulnerable to EU Digital Services Act fines and toward sustainable, seaweed-based packaging [like the Indonesian model](#).
- Hedge against **regional logistics disruptions** by diversifying away from the Strait of Hormuz and investing in the [Adria rail corridor](#).

LEGISLATIVE ROUNDUP

Legislative activity this day centered on **symbolic identity politics** and the regulation of the **digital and agricultural spheres**. The proposed "Dabro Law" in Croatia represents a significant attempt to alter the state's constitutional interpretation of 20th-century history.

BILLS DISCUSSED/DEBATED:

- **Totalitarian Symbols Ban (Croatia):** Proposed by the Homeland Movement to [criminally penalize the use of the Red Star](#) and NOB slogans alongside NDH symbols. Strategic intent: Reshaping the national identity narrative and asserting right-wing dominance.
- **Foreign Workers Act (Croatia):** Amendments debated in Sabor to [improve labor conditions](#) for the rising number of non-EU workers. Strategic intent: Economic survival amidst a demographic crisis.

- **Digital Services Act (EU):** Enforcement phase targeting "addictive algorithms." Strategic intent: [Reining in the power](#) of large-scale digital platforms.
- **Affordable Housing Law (Croatia):** Proposed measures to address [600,000 vacant apartments](#) through state-led rental schemes. Strategic intent: Mitigating youth emigration.

HEARINGS & PRESS EVENTS:

- **Josip Dabro Press Conference:** Issued an [uncompromising ultimatum](#) to the government majority regarding symbolic legislation.
- **Geneva Peace Summit:** A high-level trilateral meeting that [failed to produce a communique](#) after two hours of deliberation.
- **Sabor Judiciary Committee:** Continued [blocking the appointment](#) of the President of the Supreme Court and Constitutional Court judges.

KEY STORIES

- **Prince Andrew Arrested in Norfolk:** The Duke of York is in [police custody](#) for questioning regarding "misconduct in public office" linked to Jeffrey Epstein's financial network. Police are currently [searching his Royal Lodge residence](#).
- **Croatian Coalition Crisis:** The Homeland Movement (DP) demands a ban on communist symbols, threatening the 30-day survival of the Plenković administration. HSLS calls the move ["glupi desničari"](#) (stupid right-wingers), escalating tensions.

- **Geneva Peace Talks Stagnate:** Negotiations between Ukraine, Russia, and the US were cut short. President Zelenski [accuses Russia](#) of dragging out the process to gain military advantage.
- **Iran Strike Warnings:** US forces in the Middle East are on high alert for [potential strikes against Iran](#) this weekend, with the administration pursuing a high-velocity diplomatic/military strategy.
- **AI's Environmental Toll:** Reports reveal that AI training and data center maintenance are [consuming vast quantities of fresh water](#), threatening ecosystems from Ireland to Chile.
- **Alpine Water Tower Crisis:** Researchers in Switzerland and Germany report [alarming decreases in ground water](#) levels due to a 1.5-degree temperature rise over ten years.
- **EU Investigate Shein and Temu:** The EU Commission has opened [formal proceedings](#) against the e-commerce giants for violating the Digital Services Act via "addictive designs."
- **Lithium Mining Protests in Banovina:** Local residents and actor Goran Višnjić [join forces to protest](#) against non-transparent battery storage and mining projects.
- **Serbian Milk Blockades:** Farmers in Serbia are entering their [ninth day of road blockades](#), protesting against cheap EU milk imports that are destroying the domestic market.
- **War Crimes Accountability:** The family of Jean-Michel Nicolier [issues an ultimatum](#) to Serbia for the extradition of Spasoje Petković Štuka, while Croatian authorities admit a "pat position" due to Serbian non-cooperation.

- **China's Winter Sports Boom:** China's winter tourism market has doubled in size since 2016 to [\\$140 billion](#), driven by state mandates to boost domestic spending.
- **Mosquito Species Migration:** Rare Mediterranean mosquito species [Unguiculada found in Germany](#), signaling a northward shift in disease vectors due to climate change.
- **Orca Attacks in Gibraltar:** Researchers are studying a pod of Iberian orcas that have [sunk multiple boats](#) by targeting rudders, possibly as a form of social learning.
- **Violence in Novi Sad:** Student protesters in Serbia were [assaulted by known criminals](#) while police reportedly stood by, sparking a wave of national condemnation.
- **Plenković in India:** PM Plenković meets with Narendra Modi to discuss [AI collaboration](#) and the use of the Port of Rijeka for Indian goods entering Europe.
- **Sarajevo Tram Accident:** A major investigation is underway following a [forensic reconstruction](#) of a fatal tram collision near the National Museum.
- **Sustainable Dye Innovation:** Startups in Nepal and France are using [parrot DNA coding](#) to create non-toxic textile dyes, aiming to reduce the 20% of global water pollution caused by the industry.

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.

This report is entirely machine generated using Gemini 3 and may include errors and omissions. Please verify all findings. No data is used to train or tune any AI model.

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