

TODAY'S MEDIA TRENDS

RUSSIA24

FEBRUARY 20, 2026

THE GDELT PROJECT

RUSSIA ASSERTS STRATEGIC INITIATIVE: GENEVA GRIDLOCK & UKRAINIAN CRISIS (FEB 20-21, 2026)

DAY-AT-A-GLANCE: BIFURCATED REALITY

GENEVA DIPLOMATIC STAGNATION



US-RUSSIA-UKRAINE TALKS: NO PROGRESS ON NATO
Kremlin leverages stasis, frames Western intransigence.

INTENSIFYING PRESSURE & UKRAINIAN DECAY



RUSSIAN MILITARY GAINS: ZAPOROZHYE, SUMY
GOVERNANCE CRISIS: ZELENSKY'S INNER CIRCLE
Strategic initiative shifts to Moscow; domestic administrative decay.

MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS & KEY GOVERNANCE TOPICS

ARMED CONFLICT & MILITARIZATION



Strategic Initiative: Moscow claims shift since late 2025. FPV Drones & 'Swarm' Tactics Standardized.
Russian MoD Claims 1.5M Ukrainian Personnel Losses (Unverified).

CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE & ENERGY FRACTURE



Cyclone Wallie: Record snowfall causes industrial roof collapses (Lipetsk, Podolsk).
Central European Fracture: Hungary & Slovakia threaten energy cutoff to Kyiv over Druzhba oil blockade.

TECH SOVEREIGNTY & BIOECONOMICS PIVOT



National Project 'Technological Leadership': Focus on Bioeconomics (5% market goal by 2030).
AI Integration: Combat systems, autonomous transport, biometric MFCs.

DEEP DIVE: TRENDS, THEMES, & INTERNAL DYNAMICS

WEAPONIZATION OF TRANSIT & 'SPECIAL MILITARY OPERATION' INSTITUTIONALIZATION



ENERGY AS CHOKE POINT
Druzhba pipeline dispute fractures EU pro-Kyiv coalition. Conflict viewed as permanent engine for state restructuring.



LONG WAR SCENARIO: SOCIO-ECONOMIC RESTRUCTURING

INTERNAL INSTABILITY & THE CRISIS OF 'ZELENSKYISM'



KURSK CORRUPTION SCANDAL: 'IRON FIST' RESPONSE
Domestic corruption crackdowns. Russian media delegitimizes Zelensky presidency; frames Zaluzhny as alternative.



ZALUZHNY'S 'EXILE': WITNESS PROTECTION NARRATIVE

EXTERNAL DYNAMICS, ECONOMY, & STRATEGIC FORESIGHT

GLOBAL POSTURE & ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT



MULTIPOLAR ALLIANCES: AI SUMMIT, AFRICA EXPANSION



SELF-CONTAINED HIGH-TECH BASE: TRADE SURPLUS \$28B, ENERGY LEVERAGE
West portrayed as 'fractured'; US as 'distracted hegemon'. Economy shifts to tech independence.

STRATEGIC FORESIGHT & TIMELINE

SHORT TERM (1-4 WEEKS): Domestic security surges, Iran deadline tension (March 7).

MEDIUM TERM (1-6 MONTHS): Russian winter offensive (Sumy/Kharkov), mandatory biometrics.

LONG TERM (1-5 YEARS): 80% tech localization, Bioeconomy transition.

RISK ASSESSMENT & FUTURE OUTLOOK

HIGH RISK	 Central European Energy Collapse (70%)	 Domestic Russian Sabotage Surge (80%)
MODERATE	 Strait of Hormuz Blockade (40%)	 Internal Ukrainian Coup (55%)

HYPOTHESES: Ukrainian Fracture, Middle East Escalation, Central European Realignment.

REPORT SUMMARY: RUSSIA NAVIGATES DUAL REALITY OF DIPLOMATIC STALEMATE & DOMESTIC CHALLENGES WHILE CONSOLIDATING MILITARY GAINS AND PIVOTING TOWARDS LONG-TERM TECHNOLOGICAL SOVEREIGNTY & NON-WESTERN ALLIANCES. CONSPICUOUS OMISSIONS & DATA GAPS REMAIN.

TODAY'S MEDIA TRENDS

RUSSIA24

FEBRUARY 20, 2026

RUSSIA ASSERTS STRATEGIC INITIATIVE AMIDST GENEVA DIPLOMATIC GRIDLOCK AND DEEPENING UKRAINIAN GOVERNANCE CRISIS

DAY-AT-A-GLANCE

February 20-21, 2026, was characterized by a bifurcated reality: a veneer of high-level diplomacy in Geneva contrasted against a backdrop of intensifying military pressure and domestic administrative decay in Ukraine. While three-way consultations between Russia, the US, and Ukraine occurred in Switzerland, Russian state media emphasized a complete lack of progress on fundamental security concerns, specifically [NATO's eastward expansion](#). This diplomatic stasis is being leveraged by the Kremlin to reinforce a narrative of Western intransigence, while simultaneously highlighting Russian military gains in the [Zaporozhye and Sumy regions](#), where the strategic initiative has reportedly shifted decisively in Moscow's favor.

Concurrently, a significant crisis is emerging within the European energy and refugee paradigms. Hungary and Slovakia have issued severe threats to [terminate energy supplies](#) to

Ukraine in response to Kyiv's blockade of the Druzhba oil pipeline, signaling a fracturing of the pro-Ukrainian coalition in Central Europe. Domestically, Russia is grappling with the catastrophic infrastructure impact of **Cyclone Wallie**, which has caused record-breaking snowfall and multiple [roof collapses at industrial sites](#). Despite these natural disasters, the state apparatus is aggressively pushing for "technological sovereignty," pivoting toward **Bioeconomics** and **Artificial Intelligence** as the primary pillars of future national security and economic independence.

MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

- **Geneva Diplomatic Stagnation:** High-stakes meetings in Geneva regarding the Ukrainian conflict and Iranian nuclear program have yielded [movement but no progress](#). The US position is framed as demanding "capitulation" rather than negotiation, particularly concerning [Iran's right to uranium enrichment](#).
- **Central European Energy Fracture:** Prime Minister Viktor Orbán has warned that Hungary may [cut off electricity and gas](#) to Kyiv, following Ukraine's interference with Russian oil transit, a move echoed by [authorities in Slovakia](#).
- **Ukrainian Governance Collapse:** Reports of a 100-page US Inspector General report [confirming systemic corruption](#) in Zelensky's inner circle have surfaced, alongside the "exile" of former Commander-in-Chief Valery Zaluzhny to London, which is framed as a [witness protection measure](#) following a failed assassination attempt.

- **Cyclone Wallie Infrastructure Damage:** A "metel of the century" has paralyzed central Russia, leading to the [collapse of industrial roofs](#) in Lipetsk, Podolsk, and Tatarstan, and breaking [24-hour snowfall records](#) in Moscow.
- **Pivoting to AI and Bioeconomics:** The Russian government is launching a new national project for ["Technological Leadership"](#) centered on Bioeconomics, with plans to increase domestic biotech production to 55% of the market [by 2030](#).

KEY GOVERNANCE TOPICS

Armed Conflict & Militarization

- Russian military leaders claim that the [strategic initiative](#) passed to Moscow in late 2025, with over 340 settlements liberated since then.
- The use of **FPV drones** and "swarm" tactics has become standardized, with [specialized military units](#) training for autonomous operations.
- The Russian Ministry of Defense reports that Ukrainian personnel losses have reached [1.5 million](#) since the start of the conflict.

Critical Infrastructure Security

- Severe weather has exposed vulnerabilities in industrial construction, with snow loads causing major [structural failures](#) across multiple regions.
- Upgrades to the [Pargolovo substation](#) in St. Petersburg and infrastructure in [Mordovia](#) are aimed at meeting a 10% annual increase in electricity demand.
- Investigation into the **Nord Stream** sabotage continues to center on [Valery Zaluzhny](#) as the alleged primary architect.

Tech Sovereignty & AI

- AI is being integrated into [combat systems](#) and [agricultural automation](#), with Russia positioning itself in the "top five" global leaders for autonomous transport like [St. Petersburg's driverless trams](#).
- Government digital service centers (MFC) are transitioning to **biometric identification**, claiming to reduce service times from [6 minutes to 30 seconds](#).

DEEP DIVE: TRENDS AND THEMES

The Weaponization of Transit and Energy

A coordinated effort by Hungary and Slovakia to retaliate against Ukrainian transit policies marks a significant escalation in **bloc-within-bloc** friction. The Druzhba pipeline, once a lifeline for Ukraine's energy-poor neighbors, has become a [geopolitical choke point](#). Moscow is framing this as a logical consequence of Kyiv's "blackmail," positioning itself as a reliable partner to those who maintain pragmatic relations, while the [EU center in Brussels](#) is portrayed as impotent to resolve the dispute.

Institutionalization of the "Special Military Operation"

The conflict is no longer treated as a temporary disruption but as a permanent engine for **socio-economic restructuring**. This is evident in the push for [unified federal standards](#) for veteran support, the rapid domestic production of [modernized Brem-80 armored vehicles](#), and the narrative focus on [former Ukrainian citizens](#) now fighting for the Russian Federation. The state is actively preparing the populace for a "long war"

scenario, likely [extending into 2028-2029](#), to match European defense industrial timelines.

The Crisis of "Zelenskyism"

Russian media is intensely focused on delegitimizing the Ukrainian presidency, characterizing it as a ["military dictatorship"](#) that avoids elections and relies on foreign funding and force. The emergence of US intelligence leaks regarding [corruption in Energoatom](#) and the "Witness Protection" framing of [Zaluzhny's London post](#) suggests an active psychological operation to sow discord between Kyiv and its Western sponsors.

INTERNAL DYNAMICS & DOMESTIC INSTABILITY

Russian internal stability faces two primary challenges: administrative corruption and the physical toll of extreme weather. The **Kursk Region** corruption scandal, involving the sentencing of former officials for [misappropriating billions](#) intended for border fortifications, highlights a critical vulnerability in frontline governance. The state's response—public trials and [heavy prison sentences](#)—is a visible attempt to restore public trust and demonstrate an "iron fist" against wartime graft.

Societally, the **Cyclone Wallie** event is being used to highlight the heroism of emergency workers and the superiority of planned communal responses, despite the clear failure of [modern roof designs](#) under extreme load. The narrative emphasizes [record-breaking humidity](#) and snowfall to frame these failures as unprecedented natural acts rather than maintenance oversights. Meanwhile, the growing **sabotage threat**—evidenced by the arrest of [teenagers tricked by foreign agents](#)

into arson—indicates that "Information Warfare" is increasingly manifesting as physical insecurity within Russian cities.

EXTERNAL DYNAMICS & GLOBAL POSTURE

Russia is projecting power through **Multipolarity** and **"Non-Western" Alliances**. The India AI summit, attended by high-level Russian delegations, is framed as a [challenge to US tech hegemony](#), with Russia offering "sovereign technologies" to the Global South. Diplomatic efforts in **Madagascar**, featuring the opening of a [Russian House in Antananarivo](#), signal a continued expansion into Africa to secure raw materials and strategic leverage.

The framing of **Western Europe** has shifted from "foe" to "fractured and panicked." UK and German media reports about a potential [Ukrainian front collapse](#) are highlighted to suggest that the "tide has turned." Conversely, the US is portrayed as a **distracted hegemon**, with Trump's internal political battles and the looming [Congressional elections](#) constraining its ability to act decisively in either the Middle East or Ukraine.

THE ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

Russia's economic data suggests a shift toward a **self-contained, high-tech industrial base** while maintaining significant leverage over international energy flows.

- **Trade Balance Convergence:** The gap between exports and imports has narrowed, with the trade surplus at [28 billion USD](#) (-3.5% YoY), driven by declining global commodity prices and [increased Russian travel abroad](#).

- **Energy Leverage:** Electricity exports to Georgia [increased 40-fold](#), and supplies to Armenia reached [4 million USD](#). Oil prices (Brent) spiked above [72 USD](#) following Trump's 15-day ultimatum to Iran.
- **Financial Indicators:** The Central Bank reports a slowing in [corporate lending](#) as firms pay down debt. Exchange rates: **USD 76.64**, **EUR 90.16**, **CNY 11.07** [as of February 20](#).
- **Tech Investment:** Estimates suggest AI could add [13 trillion rubles](#) to the Russian economy by 2030, with [70% of Russian firms](#) already integrating generative AI solutions.

LEADERSHIP CHANGES

The day's reporting highlights a significant "purge" and repositioning within both Russian regional and Ukrainian national leadership cadres.

- **Alexey Smirnov (Former Kursk Governor):** Identified as a primary loser, currently [under arrest](#) and disgraced following revelations of corruption in defensive construction [during the border crisis](#).
- **Valery Zaluzhny (Former Ukrainian Commander):** Portrayed as an "asset in waiting" in London, [distancing himself from Zelensky](#) via US media interviews as the presidency's legitimacy wanes.
- **Kirill Dmitriev (Russian Special Representative):** Emerging as a key diplomatic voice, asserting that [profitable commercial contacts](#) with the US are impossible for the next decade.

- **Nikita Filippov (Olympic Medalist):** Elevated as a [national symbol](#) of Russian resilience and success on the global stage [in ski-mountaineering](#).

EDITORIAL POSTURE & STORY HIERARCHY

The editorial strategy for the day prioritizes **Strategic Stability** over the chaos of natural disasters. Lead stories consistently focused on military achievements in the [Zaporozhye "cleaning" operations](#) and the Geneva talks, where Russia was framed as the only rational actor. Cyclone Wallie's massive damage, while covered, was placed **below** news of [high-tech medical breakthroughs](#) and sports triumphs. A significant portion of airtime was dedicated to exposing "Ukrainian deception," particularly the [sabotage schemes](#) targeting Russian youth, aimed at inducing domestic vigilance. **Conspicuous Omissions** include any detailed discussion of the impact of the US 15-day ultimatum on Russia's own regional interests, focusing instead on [Iranian-UN diplomatic maneuvers](#).

GEOPOLITICAL FRAMING

The international landscape is characterized by the tension between "principled" sovereign states and "chaotic" Western dependents.

- **Russia:** Framed as **strong, stable, and principled**. Statements highlight its role as a "defender of its own soil" [in the Kursk region](#) and a leader in **Bioeconomics and AI**.
- **Ukraine (Zelensky Regime):** Framed as **weak, inept, and corrupt**. Characterized as a "military dictatorship" [avoiding elections](#) and siphoning billions [into private accounts](#).

- **United States (Trump Administration):** Framed as **chaotic and impulsive**. Trump's ultimatums to Iran [and the Geneva talks](#) are presented as a desperate search for "achievements" before the **Congressional elections**.
- **Hungary (Orbán):** Framed as **principled and realistic**. His threat to [cut energy to Kyiv](#) is treated as a necessary defense of national interest against "Ukrainian blackmail."
- **Poland:** Framed as **fractured**. Once a primary sponsor, it is now cutting aid and [withdrawing special status](#) for Ukrainian refugees due to domestic pressure.

INFORMATION WARFARE ENVIRONMENT

The primary "meta-narrative" is the **Delegitimization of Ukraine**. Russian media has integrated US internal reports on corruption with local stories of [militant gangs in Ufa](#) and [Ukrainian-led arson plots](#) to create a tapestry of a failing state that exports only crime and instability. The weaponization of "leaks" is evident in the detailed reporting of [Zaluzhny's private comments](#) to the Associated Press. Meanwhile, the state is domesticating the narrative of **AI and Biometrics** to counteract "Big Tech" influence, framing the Russian [GenaL.mil platform](#) and biometric MFCs as "liberating" tools for the citizen.

HYPOTHESES AND FUTURE OUTLOOK

- **Ukrainian Fracture:** The growing tension between Zelensky and the London-based Zaluzhny faction [points toward an imminent political crisis](#) or even a military coup in Kyiv, likely triggered by a major **energy shortage** this winter.
- **Middle East Escalation:** Trump's [15-day ultimatum to Iran](#) makes a symbolic or limited kinetic strike on Iranian nuclear facilities a 60% probability by early March, leading to [significant oil price volatility](#).
- **Central European Realignment:** Hungary and Slovakia may formally **exit the pro-Kyiv bloc**, potentially forming a neutral sub-group within the EU that [negotiates directly with Moscow](#) for energy security.

STRATEGIC FORESIGHT

Short Term (1-4 Weeks):

- Expect a surge in **domestic security crackdowns** in Russia following the Stavropol [terror plot](#) and arson arrests.
- The 15-day **Iran deadline** [will conclude](#) around March 7, marking a period of extreme tension in the Strait of Hormuz.

Medium Term (1-6 Months):

- Russian **winter offensive** in the [Sumy and Kharkov](#) directions will likely seek to secure a buffer zone before the spring thaw.
- Introduction of **mandatory biometric entry** for all MFC services [across Russian regions](#).

Long Term (1-5 Years):

- Russia aims to achieve **80% technological localization** in high-speed rail [and power infrastructure](#).
- The transition to a **Bioeconomy** [will fundamentally alter](#) Russian agricultural exports, shifting from grain volume to **high-value biotech products**.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The current geopolitical environment presents a high-risk matrix where natural disasters intersect with military ultimatums and energy vulnerability.

- **Risk 1: Strait of Hormuz Blockade.** Triggers: A limited US strike on Iranian targets following the [15-day ultimatum](#). Likelihood: Moderate (40%). Impact: Catastrophic disruption to global oil supplies (20% of world flow) [and price spikes above \\$100/barrel](#). Mitigations: UN-mediated extension of the [Geneva nuclear talks](#).
- **Risk 2: Central European Energy Collapse.** Triggers: Continued Ukrainian [blockade of Druzhba pipeline](#). Likelihood: High (70%). Impact: Blackouts in Hungary and Slovakia, and [termination of gas/power transit](#) to Kyiv. Mitigations: Immediate [EU-level diplomatic intervention](#) in energy policy.
- **Risk 3: Russian Infrastructure Failure.** Triggers: Sustained [extreme weather from Cyclone Wallie](#). Likelihood: Certain. Impact: More [roof collapses and casualties](#) at industrial sites and public buildings. Mitigations: Emergency [roof clearing mandates](#) and temporary facility closures.

- **Risk 4: Internal Ukrainian Coup/Revolt.** Triggers: US intelligence reports on [Zelensky inner-circle corruption](#) and front-line collapse. Likelihood: Moderate (35%). Impact: Uncontrolled [refugee surges](#) and fracturing of military command. Mitigations: Transition to a [coalition government](#) or new elections.
- **Risk 5: Domestic Russian Cyber/Sabotage Surge.** Triggers: Effective recruitment of [youth via social media/links](#) by foreign agencies. Likelihood: High (80%). Impact: Critical infrastructure arson and data breaches. Mitigations: Heightened [FSB surveillance](#) and public awareness campaigns about [suspicious links](#).

GAPS & BLIND SPOTS

- The transcripts claim **1.5 million Ukrainian casualties** [without citing primary data](#), which deviates significantly from independent estimates and needs verification.
- There is a total lack of **Iranian perspective** beyond its UN ambassadors; internal Iranian public sentiment toward the [potential end of enrichment](#) is ignored.
- The economic reports fail to detail the **inflationary impact of Cyclone Wallie** on food prices [due to transport delays](#).
- The "success" of **St. Petersburg's driverless trams** [is touted](#), but safety data regarding accidents or system failures in winter conditions is missing.

CONTRARIAN NARRATIVE SCENARIOS

The "Geneva as Stalling Tactic": The apparent Russian openness to talks in Geneva may be a strategic ruse to delay Western

weapon deliveries while the [Russian VPK ramps up to full capacity](#). This would suggest that Russia has no intent of making territorial concessions and is only waiting for the [predicted front collapse](#) to present a fait accompli.

The "Managed Corruption Leak": The US report on [Ukrainian corruption](#) might be a managed leak by the US administration to provide an "off-ramp" for [withdrawing financial support](#) under the guise of fiscal responsibility, allowing for a pivot to the Pacific.

Black Swan Event: An **accidental engagement** between US escort fighters and the [Tu-95 mission](#) over the Bering Sea could trigger an immediate, unplanned military escalation that bypasses the Geneva diplomatic track entirely.

RECOMMENDATIONS & IMPLICATIONS

For Statecraft/Public Sector:

- **Security:** Increase maritime security near **Diego Garcia** and the **Archipelago of Chagos** [where US bombers are deploying](#).
- **Economic:** Accelerate the **Bioeconomics transition to ensure fertilizer and feed independence** before the next global commodity spike.
- **Diplomatic:** Formalize the **sub-regional energy pact with Hungary and Slovakia** to isolate Kyiv's transit leverage.

For Private Sector/Investors:

- **Supply Chain:** Diversify away from **Kyrgyz-certified imports until the current safety-certificate dispute** is resolved.

- **Capital Allocation:** Hedge against **energy volatility in early March** as the US-Iran deadline expires.
- **Compliance:** Update **cybersecurity protocols for young employees** to mitigate social-engineering attacks from foreign actors.

LEGISLATIVE ROUNDUP

Legislative focus centered on wartime social measures and technological regulation. Key debates included federal veteran support and the **legalization of biometric state services**.

BILLS DISCUSSED/DEBATED:

- **Unified Federal Standard for Veterans:** Proposed by [LDPR leader Leonid Slutsky](#) to equalize benefits across all regions for combatants in the "Special Military Operation."
- **Changes to Federal Law 86 (Biotech):** Amendments to [regulate and ease restrictions](#) on non-foreign DNA genetic modifications.
- **Polish Special Status Repeal:** Signed by [President Karól Nawrocki](#), ending free medicine and housing for Ukrainian refugees in Poland.

HEARINGS & PRESS EVENTS:

- **Russian Security Council Meeting:** Chaired by Putin to [discuss the outcomes](#) of the Geneva negotiations.
- **India AI Impact Summit:** High-level discussions on [digital sovereignty and AI investment](#).
- **MVD Report to State Duma:** Minister Kolokol'tsev reporting on [rising crime and staffing shortages](#) in the police force.

KEY STORIES

- **The Geneva Tri-Lateral Talks:** Representatives from Moscow, Washington, and Kyiv [met in Geneva](#) to discuss territorial questions and security guarantees, but achieved no breakthroughs on **NATO expansion**.
- **Hungary's Energy Ultimatum:** Viktor Orbán [warned of a total energy cutoff](#) to Ukraine in retaliation for the blockade of **Russian oil via Druzhba**.
- **Zaluzhny's London Exile:** Former Commander Zaluzhny [surfaces in London](#) amidst reports of a **failed assassination attempt** and US Inspector General reports on **Kyiv corruption**.
- **Cyclone Wallie Havoc:** A massive **Balkan cyclone** hit central Russia, causing record snowfall [up to 68cm in Moscow](#) and multiple **roof collapses** in Lipetsk, Podolsk, and Tatarstan [with eight people hospitalized in Lipetsk](#).
- **India AI Summit:** A high-level [Russian delegation](#) led by Maxim Oreshkin attended a 250,000-person summit in **New Delhi** focused on **AI industrial leadership**.
- **Kursk Corruption Sentencing:** Four officials, including [Vladimir Lukin](#), were sentenced to up to **9 years in prison** for stealing billions intended for **border defense structures**.
- **Tu-95 Arctic Patrol:** Russian [strategic bombers](#) completed a **14-hour flight** over the Bering Sea, shadowed by **foreign fighters**.
- **FSB Thwarts Stavropol Attack:** A **Ukrainian-directed plot** to bomb a veteran support fund on **Defender of the Fatherland Day** was [neutralized by security forces](#).
- **Child Rescue in combat zone:** Russian soldiers rescued [Alya, a 9-year-old girl](#), from Seversk, claiming they had to **hide her from Ukrainian volunteers** attempting a forced evacuation.
- **Trump's Iran Deadline:** Donald Trump issued a [15-day ultimatum](#) for a new **nuclear deal**, threatening "non-diplomatic measures."
- **Biometric MFC Transition:** Russian state service centers began pilot programs for [passport-free biometric service](#) in four regions, including **Leningrad and Lipetsk**.
- **Nord Stream Sabotage Allegations:** German outlet **Spiegel** reported that [Valery Zaluzhny](#) sanctioned the sabotage of the **Nord Stream pipeline** without Zelensky's knowledge.
- **Self-Driving Truck Success:** US-based **Aurora** reports its [autonomous trucks](#) are covering **1,600 km per day** in Texas, potentially displacing **200,000 drivers in the near future**.
- **Madagascar Cooperation:** A new [Russian House](#) was announced for **Antananarivo** as part of a deepening **cultural and strategic partnership**.
- **Ski-Mountaineering Olympic Debut:** Russian athlete [Nikita Filippov](#) won the first-ever **silver medal** in the newly added sport at the **Italian Olympics**.

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.

For questions or suggestions, please contact kalev.leetaru5@gmail.com. To learn more or subscribe to our free daily newsletters, visit <https://blog.gdeltproject.org/announcing-our-new-daily-todays-trends-on-capitol-hill-todays-media-trends-newsletter-briefings/>. You can also learn more about the GDELT Project at <https://blog.gdeltproject.org/> and the Internet Archive's TV News Archive at <https://archive.org/details/tv>.