

TODAY'S MEDIA TRENDS

TELESUR

AUGUST 8, 2026

THE G D E L T P R O J E C T

AUGUST 2026: A GLOBAL EXPLAINER - GEOPOLITICAL SHIFTS, ENVIRONMENTAL CRISES, & ASYMMETRIC WARFARE

THE FRACTURING OF THE INTER-AMERICAN ORDER & ESCALATING ASYMMETRIC CONFLICT



DEEP DIVE: TRENDS, RISKS, & FUTURE OUTLOOK

EMERGING TRENDS & IDEOLOGIES



'Figital' Warfare & Digital Addiction

Games of the Future (Astana)

Hybrid sports as sanction bypass; growing concern over gaming disorder.



Anti-Imperialist Re-alignment (ALBA)

Pedagogies of Revolution

Building 'counter-hegemonic culture' and food sovereignty against perceived imperialist advance.

RISK ASSESSMENT & STRATEGIC FORESIGHT



High Risk:
Colombian Civil War Resumption



Moderate-High Risk:
Global Fertilizer Shortage



High Risk:
Regional Measles Pandemic

STRATEGIC OUTLOOK

- ➡ Sustained Low-Intensity Conflict (Andes) & Regional Instability.
- ➡ Prolonged High Energy/Food Prices & Grid Failure Risks.
- ➡ Structural Multi-polarity & Rival International Bodies (Sports, Trade).

A FRAGILE WORLD ORDER FACING SIMULTANEOUS GEOPOLITICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, AND HEALTH SHOCKS.

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THE FRACTURING OF THE INTER-AMERICAN ORDER AND ESCALATING ASYMMETRIC CONFLICT IN THE RED SEA CORRIDOR

DAY-AT-A-GLANCE

August 8, 2026, marks a pivotal shift in Latin American geopolitics as Colombia formally transitions to the hard-right administration of **Abelardo de la Espriella**, signaling an end to the progressive cycle of the Petro era. The inauguration, held atypically in Cali rather than Bogota, was framed by state media as a retreat from national sovereignty, characterized by the new president's [pledge of subordination](#) to U.S. security frameworks via the "Escudo de las Américas" (Shield of the Americas). This transition has immediately sparked widespread domestic unrest, with social movements and indigenous "mingas" mobilizing in [Puerto Resistencia](#) to protest what they term the "fascistization" of the Colombian state and the administration's plans to resume aerial fumigation and fracking.

Simultaneously, the Middle East is witnessing a dangerous convergence of nuclear

diplomacy and maritime warfare. The formalization of the **U.S.-Saudi 123 Agreement** has provoked a sharp response from the "Axis of Resistance," leading to a significant escalation in the Red Sea. Yemeni forces have successfully [diverted 12% of global maritime trade](#) by targeting Saudi energy infrastructure and blocking the Bab-el-Mandeb Strait. This asymmetric pressure is intended to counter the perceived nuclear double standards of the West while challenging the U.S. military presence in Iraq, where local militias have issued an ultimatum for the withdrawal of foreign troops by late September.

Environmentally and biologically, the Global South faces a dual-front crisis. The onset of the "Super Niño" phenomenon is projected to cause [severe hydrological stress](#) and agricultural disruption across Venezuela and the Caribbean through 2027. This climate volatility coincides with a critical public health failure, as a massive measles outbreak—registering [triple the cases of 2025](#)—sweeps through the Americas, with the highest concentrations in Guatemala, Mexico, the United States, and Peru. These intersecting crises are straining state capacities, particularly in regions like Venezuela's La Guaira, which continues to struggle with reconstruction following a devastating double earthquake in June.

MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

The Colombian Right-Wing Restoration

- Abelardo de la Espriella was inaugurated in Cali, flanked by regional right-wing leaders including Javier Milei (Argentina), Daniel Noboa (Ecuador), and José Antonio Kast (Chile) [in a show of ideological alignment](#).

- The new administration announced the immediate incorporation of Colombia into the **Shield of the Americas**, a U.S.-led initiative perceived by critics as a mechanism for [sovereignty-eroding intervention](#).
- De la Espriella signaled an end to peace dialogues, opting for a "total war" approach against armed groups and the resumption of [glyphosate fumigation](#) for illicit crops.
- Indigenous and social organizations have declared a state of "permanent resistance," citing the president's [dual U.S.-Colombian citizenship](#) as a conflict of interest.

Maritime Blockade and Asymmetric Warfare in Asia Occidental

- Yemen's Ansarullah movement has intensified drone and missile strikes against Saudi Aramco facilities in Gisan and Yambo, responding to the [siege of Hodeidah](#).
- The resulting trade disruption has forced a redirection of global shipping, significantly increasing [logistical costs for crude oil](#) and fertilizers destined for European and Asian markets.
- Iraqi resistance factions have threatened inevitable reprisals against U.S. assets if troop withdrawal is not completed by [September 30, 2026](#).

Venezuela's Post-Disaster Reconstruction and Climate Prep

- Six weeks after the June 24 "doublet" earthquake, 90% of commercial activities in La Guaira have [resumed operations](#), despite significant structural damage to military and naval infrastructure.

- The "Venezuela Renace" plan is deploying targeted micro-financing to over [22,000 local economic actors](#) to prevent collapse in the coastal region.
- The Ministry of Science has initiated a national energy-saving plan to mitigate the "Super Niño" phenomenon, which is expected to trigger [extreme droughts and floods](#) simultaneously across the territory.

KEY GOVERNANCE TOPICS

Armed Conflict & Militarization

- Colombia's new leadership is shifting toward the **securitization of the state**, prioritizing "megacárceles" (mega-prisons) and the end of humanitarian negotiations with insurgent groups [in favor of military offensive](#).
- Iraqi security forces are in "maximum alert" following U.S.-Saudi air strikes on [Popular Mobilization Forces in Karbala](#), which killed several pilgrims and militants.

Climate & Extreme Weather

- A catastrophic **heatwave in Italy** has placed 19 cities under "red alert," with temperatures exceeding 38°C in Tuscany, leading to a [projected 10-day duration](#) of extreme heat.
- India reports 136 deaths due to **monsoon-related flooding** and lightning strikes, with 1.2 million people [affected across 25 districts](#).
- Wildfires in British Columbia, Canada, have forced the total evacuation of [Summerland](#), as the "Ball Range" fire advances unchecked.

Global Health & Biosecurity

- The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) issued an **epidemiological alert** following 47,000 measles cases across 16 countries, warning that [low vaccination coverage](#) in vulnerable populations poses a high risk to regional stability.

Supply Chain Resilience & Logistics

- The **maritime blockade of the Red Sea** is specifically impacting the urea and fertilizer markets, with more than [40% of global urea trade](#) transiting the affected zone, threatening global food security.

DEEP DIVE: TRENDS AND THEMES

The Emergence of "Figital" and Digital Warfare

A notable cultural trend is the institutionalization of **figital sports**—a hybrid of physical activity and digital esports. The "Games of the Future" in Astana, Kazakhstan, are being leveraged by the Russian Federation and its allies as a platform for [non-discriminatory international competition](#), explicitly designed to bypass Western political sanctions on traditional athletics. However, this digital expansion mirrors a growing concern regarding **digital addiction**; data indicates 41% of adolescents play daily, leading to the formal classification of "gaming disorder" by the WHO as a [health priority](#).

Ideological Re-alignment and Anti-Imperialist Pedagogies

The **ALBA Movimientos** assembly in Havana highlights a concerted effort to build a "counter-hegemonic culture" across the Global South. By sharing "pedagogies of

revolution" from Haiti, Brazil, and Venezuela, these movements are attempting to [standardize resistance strategies](#) against the perceived "imperialist advance" represented by the Trump administration and the new Colombian government. This includes a heavy emphasis on **food sovereignty** and the legacy of Fidel Castro as a unifying ideological anchor [during his centennial year](#).

INTERNAL DYNAMICS & DOMESTIC INSTABILITY

Colombia's Divided Mandate

The legitimacy of the De la Espriella government is under immediate threat. Despite his inauguration, social movements emphasize that the [Southwestern bastions](#) (Cauca, Nariño, Valle del Cauca) voted overwhelmingly for his opponent, Iván Cepeda. The decision to hold the ceremony at a military base rather than the National Congress signals a **breakdown in democratic norms** and an intent to govern via executive fiat and military force. The refusal of outgoing President Gustavo Petro to [formally hand over the mandate](#) underscores the unprecedented depth of elite polarization [in the country](#).

Venezuela's Social Resilience Post-Earthquake

While the Venezuelan government maintains a 61% favorability rating regarding its [disaster management](#), the double earthquake has exposed vulnerabilities in critical infrastructure. The suspension of residential activities at the **Naval School of the Bolivarian Navy** due to structural collapse [highlights a significant degradation](#) in military readiness. The government is attempting to mask these vulnerabilities through high-

profile social programs like the "Casa de los Abuelos," while simultaneously warning of [imminent energy rationing](#) due to the Super Niño effect.

EXTERNAL DYNAMICS & GLOBAL POSTURE

The Return of the Monroe Doctrine

The U.S. posture, as framed by the Colombian inauguration and the "Shield of the Americas," is interpreted as a revival of the **Monroe Doctrine**. The presence of U.S. and Israeli intelligence influence in the [last Colombian election](#) is a core narrative of the regional left. This is contrasted with the "multipolar" outreach of Venezuela and Cuba toward the Middle East and Central Asia. The Trump administration's domestic migration policies, including [increased detentions and school-zone enforcement](#) in Washington D.C., are being used as proof of a hostile, exclusionary U.S. posture toward Latin Americans.

The Nuclearization of the Middle East

The **123 Agreement** between the U.S. and Saudi Arabia is being framed as an act of nuclear proliferation that bypasses standard IAEA safeguards. This deal allows for the [processing of uranium on Saudi soil](#), which regional actors see as a direct provocation to Iran and Iraq. The framing suggests that the U.S. is "nuclearizing the Middle East" to secure its energy interests while simultaneously [strangling the Iranian economy](#) through inspections and sanctions.

THE ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

The global economic environment is characterized by surging logistical costs and localized disaster recovery financing. The

disruption in the Red Sea is not merely an energy crisis but a **fertilizer supply shock**, with significant implications for global agricultural prices in the Q3 2026 period.

Key Economic Vectors

- **Maritime Logistics:** Red Sea trade diversion has increased shipping durations by [10 to 15 days](#), adding approximately \$2 million per load in operational costs for vessels bypassing the Suez Canal.
- **Disaster Recovery Funds:** Venezuela has launched a dedicated **credit line** for the 22,000 SMEs in La Guaira to prevent mass bankruptcy following the [June 24 seismic events](#).
- **Colombian Fiscal Pivot:** The new administration has promised **drastic reductions in public spending** to fund military expansion and "megacárceles," likely leading to significant cuts in social welfare programs [achieved under the previous government](#).
- **Energy Market Volatility:** Iraqi and Yemeni strikes on Saudi refineries in Gisan and Yambo [target the maritory heart](#) of Aramco's operations, creating price instability in the crude market.

LEADERSHIP CHANGES

The day is dominated by the consolidation of right-wing power in the Andes and the assertion of female leadership in the Venezuelan executive branch during a period of crisis.

- **Abelardo de la Espriella:** Assumed the presidency of Colombia. His administration signals a [militant alignment](#) with U.S. foreign policy and a rejection of negotiated peace.

- **Delsis Rodríguez:** As "Presidenta Encargada" of Venezuela, she has effectively consolidated her role as the [primary crisis manager](#), overseeing post-earthquake reconstruction and Super Niño mitigation.
- **Jason López:** Emerging as a **nationalist icon** for Colombia after setting a new [world record in weightlifting](#), a development the new government will likely exploit for soft-power gains.
- **Pavel Durov:** The Telegram founder is under increased pressure following [Apple's removal of the app](#) from its store, highlighting his role as a target in the global content moderation war.

EDITORIAL POSTURE & STORY HIERARCHY

Telesur's editorial hierarchy for August 8, 2026, prioritizes the "resistance" narrative against the new Colombian government, dedicating extensive airtime to the **illegality and foreign nature** of De la Espriella's mandate. The "Lead Stories" focus on the social mobilizations in Cali and the ALBA summit in Havana, reinforcing the network's ideological role as a megaphone for Global South anti-imperialism. The Venezuelan earthquake recovery is framed through a lens of **national resilience**, focusing on commercial re-opening and social care for the elderly to project stability. Global crises, such as the heatwave in Italy and floods in India, are presented as failures of the [capitalist extractivist model](#). Notably buried or minimized are specific details about the ongoing casualties in the Russia-Ukraine conflict, which is mentioned only in the context of [decoy drone technology](#).

GEOPOLITICAL FRAMING

The world is portrayed as a battleground between a "multipolar" emerging order and a desperate, declining "imperial core" that is weaponizing migration, health, and nuclear technology to maintain control.

COUNTRIES and LEADERS

- **Colombia / Abelardo de la Espriella:** Framed as **inept and subservient**. He is described as a "foreigner" who "swore loyalty to the U.S. constitution" [above his own nation's](#).
- **USA / Trump Administration:** Portrayed as **aggressive and discriminatory**. The administration's migration policies are characterized as [violating human rights](#) and separating families.
- **Venezuela / Delsis Rodríguez:** Portrayed as **strong and compassionate**. She is shown visiting elderly centers and managing recovery with a "smile" [despite the "imperialist siege"](#).
- **Israel / Netanyahu:** Portrayed as **deceitful and corrupt**. He is accused of denying his own [peace deal drafts](#) while continuing "cruel and inhuman" treatment of minors.
- **Cuba / Díaz-Canel:** Framed as **principled and resilient**. He is shown thanking regional movements for supporting Cuba in its ["most difficult moments"](#).

NON-STATE & CORPORATE ACTORS

- **Ansarullah (Yemen):** Framed as a **heroic defender** of the Global South. Their attacks on Saudi oil are presented as a ["posture of dignity"](#) against the blockade.

- **Apple/Big Tech:** Portrayed as **authoritarian tools of state power**. The removal of Telegram is seen as an [infringement on private community rights](#).
- **MST (Brazil):** Framed as **champions of the working class**, celebrating 30 years of [resistance against land monopolies](#).

INFORMATION WARFARE ENVIRONMENT

The media environment is heavily saturated with **narrative seeding** regarding the legitimacy of the Colombian election. State-aligned analysts are promoting the idea that the vote was [manipulated by U.S. and Israeli digital security](#), creating a pretext for long-term civil disobedience. Simultaneously, there is a visible delta between the reported "resilience" in La Guaira and the warnings of **structural collapse** in military academies, suggesting the government is managing a perception of stability while privately bracing for the impact of the Super Niño. In the Middle East, the U.S. and Saudi Arabia are accused of [using civil nuclear cooperation](#) as a "decoy" to mask a broader militarization of the Arabian Peninsula.

HYPOTHESES AND FUTURE OUTLOOK

The Colombian Escalation

Given the new president's refusal to engage in dialogue and the immediate militarization of urban centers, Colombia is likely to enter a period of **sustained low-intensity conflict** in its Southwestern regions. The "Shield of the Americas" will likely result in an increased presence of U.S. advisers, further inflaming indigenous resistance and potentially leading

to a [constitutional crisis](#) if Petro's supporters refuse to recognize legislative acts.

Global Trade and Energy Shock

The Bab-el-Mandeb blockade is sustainable for the Yemeni forces as long as the Saudi/U.S. coalition continues its strikes on Hodeidah. This will likely lead to a **prolonged increase in Brent crude prices** and a critical shortage of fertilizers by the spring 2027 planting season [in the Global North](#).

STRATEGIC FORESIGHT

Short Term (1-4 Weeks)

- **Regional Instability:** Expect a surge in militant activity in Iraq following the **August 7 ultimatum regarding U.S. bases**.
- **Public Health Emergency:** The measles outbreak will likely trigger **border closures** or mandatory vaccination zones in Central America and the U.S. southwest as [case counts rise](#).

Medium Term (1-6 Months)

- **Energy Crises:** Italy and Southern Europe will face a **grid failure risk** as the heatwave depletes water reserves used for cooling power plants, coinciding with Red Sea [gas transit delays](#).
- **Migration Shifts:** The Trump administration's expansion of [ICE detention centers](#) will likely drive migrants toward new, more dangerous routes or increase the use of the "digital underground" for coordination.

Long Term (1-5 Years)

- **Structural Multi-polarity:** The success of the "Games of the Future" and digital platforms could lead to a **permanent split in international sports**, with Russia, China, and the Global South forming a rival Olympic-style body [independent of Western controls](#).
- **Agricultural Transformation:** The "Super Niño" and fertilizer shortages will force a shift toward **micro-drone pollination** and autonomous agriculture as traditional biological systems fail [due to climate stress](#).

RISK ASSESSMENT

The current geopolitical landscape is defined by high-impact, high-probability risks related to governance and climate.

- **Risk: Colombian Civil War Resumption.** Triggers: Immediate implementation of [aerial glyphosate fumigation](#) or a lethal military strike on an indigenous "minga." Likelihood: High. Impact: Regional refugee crisis and disruption of Andean supply chains. Mitigations: International mediation via CELAC or the UN to restore dialogue channels.
- **Risk: Global Fertilizer Shortage.** Triggers: Total closure of the Bab-el-Mandeb Strait for [more than 30 consecutive days](#). Likelihood: Moderate-High. Impact: Mass food insecurity in 2027 and hyperinflation of basic grains. Mitigations: Strategic urea reserves and rapid adoption of [alternative pollination and fertilization tech](#).

- **Risk: Regional Measles Pandemic.** Triggers: Failure to achieve 95% vaccination rates in Guatemala and Mexico [before the end of Q3 2026](#). Likelihood: High. Impact: Overwhelmed healthcare systems and significant child mortality. Mitigations: PAHO-led emergency vaccination campaigns and regional biosecurity cooperation.
- **Risk: Saudi-Iran Direct Military Conflict.** Triggers: Ansarullah strikes hitting [civilian Saudi nuclear infrastructure](#) provided under the 123 Agreement. Likelihood: Low-Moderate. Impact: Global energy collapse and localized nuclear fallout. Mitigations: Immediate freezing of the 123 Agreement and IAEA-led de-escalation.
- **Risk: Venezuelan Grid Failure.** Triggers: Hydrological stress from Super Niño dropping [Guri Dam levels](#) below critical thresholds. Likelihood: Moderate. Impact: Total economic paralysis in Venezuela and civil unrest. Mitigations: Rapid deployment of solar/wind microgrids and strict [national energy saving plans](#).

GAPS & BLIND SPOTS

The transcripts leave several critical areas unaddressed, creating significant analytical uncertainty.

- **Internal Dissent in the U.S. Military:** There is no information on how the U.S. military is responding to the Iraqi ultimatum or the potential for [unauthorized strikes](#) by regional commands.

- **Economic Data for Saudi Arabia:** While Yemeni strikes are highlighted, the [actual degradation of Saudi oil output](#) is not quantified, making it difficult to assess the long-term viability of the maritime blockade.
- **Russian Direct Involvement:** The Russian "Games of the Future" are discussed, but [Russia's direct military or economic support](#) for the Middle Eastern "Axis of Resistance" is notably absent from the analysis.
- **Chilean Political Stability:** The rejection of the suspension of the "Ley Karim" [suggests a legislative win for labor](#), but the broader stability of the Chilean government amid the rise of Kast is not explored.

CONTRARIAN NARRATIVE SCENARIOS

The "Controlled Chaos" Strategy

Rather than a surge in fascistic control, De la Espriella's administration may be a **deliberate short-term provocateur** designed to draw out and neutralize the core leadership of the Colombian left. By choosing Cali—the heart of the 2021 protests—he is forcing a premature confrontation [before the opposition can reorganize](#). If the social movements overreach and turn violent, it would provide the "Shield of the Americas" the perfect pretext for a permanent military presence.

The Black Swan: The Nuclear-Green Convergence

If Saudi Arabia successfully leverages the 123 Agreement to pivot away from oil internally, it could **crash the crude market** intentionally to starve its regional rivals (Iran, Venezuela) of revenue while they are still dependent on

extractivism. This would be a "Black Swan" event where a traditional petro-state uses nuclear tech to lead the "green" transition, leaving the Global South's anti-imperialist bloc in [economic obsolescence](#).

RECOMMENDATIONS & IMPLICATIONS

For Statecraft/Public Sector:

- **Security:** Review the "Shield of the Americas" framework for potential [sovereignty violations](#) and prepare for increased irregular migration from the Andean region.
- **Economic:** Secure alternative fertilizer supplies immediately to bypass the Red Sea [maritime choke points](#).
- **Diplomatic:** Support PAHO's [measles vaccination campaigns](#) as a matter of regional biosecurity rather than just public health.

For Private Sector/Investors:

- **Supply Chain:** Diversify logistics away from the Suez Canal and investigate [Arctic or Cape of Good Hope routes](#) for the next 12 months.
- **Regulatory:** In Chile, ensure strict compliance with the [Ley Karim](#) regarding workplace harassment, as the legislative attempt to suspend it has failed, signaling heightened enforcement.
- **Capital Allocation:** Invest in [pollination drone technology](#) and synthetic urea production as hedges against biological and maritime disruptions.

LEGISLATIVE ROUNDUP

Legislative activity centered on the rejection of labor deregulation in Chile and the immediate executive pivot toward military cooperation in Colombia.

- **BILLS DISCUSSED/DEBATED:**

- **Ley Karim (Chile):** A bill proposed by ultra-right factions to suspend the law against workplace harassment for five years was [rejected by the Chilean Congress](#). The strategic intent of the proponents was to relieve "administrative saturation," but the rejection reinforces labor protections amid 66,000 active complaints.
- **123 Agreement (U.S.-Saudi):** A 30-year nuclear cooperation treaty formalizing the processing of uranium on Saudi soil [without standard IAEA restrictions](#).

- **HEARINGS & PRESS EVENTS:**

- **De la Espriella Inauguration Speech:** Announced the "Shield of the Americas" and the [resumption of aerial fumigation](#).
- **ALBA Movimientos Assembly:** Focused on the creation of **counter-hegemonic cultural projects** and food sovereignty [in Havana](#).

KEY STORIES

- **Inauguration of Abelardo de la Espriella:** Held in Cali on August 7, the ceremony was marked by his [oath of loyalty to the U.S.](#) and presence of regional right-wing presidents.

- **Red Sea Maritime Blockade:** Yemeni forces successfully [diverted 12% of world maritime trade](#) by attacking Saudi oil infrastructure and blocking the Bab-el-Mandeb Strait.
- **Venezuelan Earthquake Recovery:** La Guaira reports 90% commercial reopening [six weeks after the June 24 seismic disaster](#), with significant micro-financing deployed.
- **Measles Outbreak in the Americas:** 47,000 cases confirmed in 16 countries, with [44 deaths reported](#) and a tripling of cases compared to 2025.
- **ALBA Movimientos 4th Continental Assembly:** 190 delegates from 27 countries met in Havana to [coordinate anti-imperialist strategies](#) and commemorate Fidel Castro's centennial.
- **Heatwave in Italy:** 19 cities under red alert as temperatures hit [38 degrees Celsius](#) in regions like Tuscany.
- **Iraqi PMF Attack:** A joint U.S.-Saudi air strike on [Karbala killed pilgrims and militants](#), leading to a resistance ultimatum for U.S. withdrawal by September 30.
- **MST 30th Anniversary:** The Landless Workers' Movement celebrated three decades of [agrarian reform activism](#) in Rio de Janeiro.
- **Games of the Future 2026:** 800 athletes from 50 countries participate in [digital sports in Astana, Kazakhstan](#).
- **Trump Migration Policy Expansion:** U.S. administration increases [federal agents in Washington D.C.](#) and expands detention centers, causing school-zone anxiety.
- **Summerland Wildfire:** The entire municipality of Summerland, Canada, [evacuated due to the Ball Range forest fire](#).

- **Monsoon Floods in India:** 136 deaths and [1.2 million people displaced](#) across 25 districts due to torrential rains.
- **Venezuela Super Niño Plan:** The Ministry of Science warns of [extreme climate variability](#) through 2027 and calls for a national energy-saving plan.
- **Central American and Caribbean Games:** Jason López (Colombia) and Keidomar Vallenilla (Venezuela) [sweep gold medals](#) in weightlifting, with López setting a world record.
- **Chilean Congress Labor Vote:** A proposal to suspend laws against [workplace harassment \(Ley Karim\)](#) was defeated.
- **Telegram Removal from Apple Store:** The tech giant [temporarily delisted the app](#), sparking a debate on privacy and digital moderation.
- **Libyan Protests in Beirut:** Citizens took to the streets to [reject negotiations with Israel](#), accusing the government of "selling the south."
- **Sahara Occidental Policy Shift:** Hours after his inauguration, De la Espriella's government [recognized Moroccan sovereignty over Sahara Occidental](#), reversing previous Petro-era policy.

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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