

POLITICS / SECURITY · LEAD

Federal forces reportedly retake Mekelle airport as Tigray fighting escalates



File photo | Aerial view of Mekelle, reused from a previously verified edition. The image shows the city and is not direct evidence of the October 3 airport fighting.

Three sources told Reuters that Ethiopian federal forces regained Alula Aba Nega Airport in Mekelle, the capital of Tigray. Reuters could not independently verify the claim, and the TPLF did not immediately comment. A resident reported gunfire outside the city centre, while a source close to the TPLF said government troops and allied militias had encircled Mekelle. Washington urged Ethiopia and Eritrea to exercise maximum restraint and return to dialogue. The airport is strategically important, but its capture does not establish control of the whole city or signal that the conflict is near an end.

Reuters · Oct. 3

THIRTY SECONDS — THREE THINGS

Tigray: federal forces reportedly retook Mekelle airport; Reuters could not independently verify the claim.
North Korea: Japan measured about 680 km; KCNA later claimed a 1,000-km target.
Vietnam: Q3 GDP grew 9.95% year on year; nine-month growth reached 9.01%.

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SECURITY · MUST KNOW

North Korea tests intermediate-range missile; overnight report claims a 1,000-km target

Japan’s defence ministry said North Korea launched at least one ballistic missile early on October 3. Tokyo estimated a peak altitude of about 90 km and a flight of roughly 680 km, ending outside Japan’s exclusive economic zone, with no damage reported. South Korea assessed the flight at more than 700 km. Before the Taipei cutoff, KCNA said the drill used an intermediate-range strategic missile and claimed it struck a target 1,000 km away. The latter distance and the hypersonic-system description are North Korean state-media claims, not independently verified measurements.

來源 / Sources: [Japan MOD](#) · [Reuters](#) · overnight

680 km

Japan estimate

90 km

Peak altitude estimate

War, ballots and an energy chokepoint

SECURITY / ENERGY · MUST KNOW

Zelenskiy says Ukraine will intensify refinery strikes in response to Russian air attacks

President Volodymyr Zelenskiy told Reuters that Ukraine would step up attacks on Russian oil refineries in response to recent Russian strikes on energy, transport and urban infrastructure, while avoiding indiscriminate attacks on civilians. He said Ukrainian intelligence had obtained documents showing a broader Russian doctrine for striking civilian infrastructure. Reuters could not independently verify those documents, and the Kremlin was not available to comment at the time. The stated policy puts energy infrastructure even more clearly at the centre of the war’s winter strategy.

來源 / Sources: Reuters · Oct. 3

EVIDENCE LAYER

Zelenskiy’s refinery-strike policy is a stated Ukrainian position. His description of a broader Russian “doctrine” rests on documents cited by Ukraine that Reuters could not independently verify. Those are different evidence levels.

POLITICS · MUST KNOW

Brazil votes today after Lula and Flávio Bolsonaro close their campaigns

President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva and Senator Flávio Bolsonaro held their final campaign events on October 3 ahead of Sunday’s first-round presidential vote. Polling pointed to a close race and a likely runoff rather than a first-round majority. Under Brazil’s rules, if no candidate wins more than 50% of valid ballots, the top two advance to a second round on October 25. This edition does not project a winner.

來源 / Sources: Reuters · Oct. 3

10/04	First-round vote
50%+	Threshold to win outright: more than half of valid ballots
10/25	Runoff date if no candidate clears the threshold

ENERGY · BRIEF

Iraq says state tanker carried 2 million barrels through Hormuz

Iraq’s state-owned Oil Tanker Company said a very large crude carrier transported 2 million barrels of Iraqi oil through the Strait of Hormuz, a manoeuvre its director general described as the company’s first of its kind in decades. The operation gives state marketer SOMO more flexibility over delivery and pricing. It is a company-reported shipment and should not be read as evidence that normal commercial traffic through the strait has been fully restored.

Sources: Reuters · Oct. 3

Hormuz: what changed in this shipment



Schematic, not to geographic scale. The state tanker company described it as its first comparable operation in decades; one shipment is not a measure of overall commercial traffic through the strait.

High growth meets light-touch AI governance

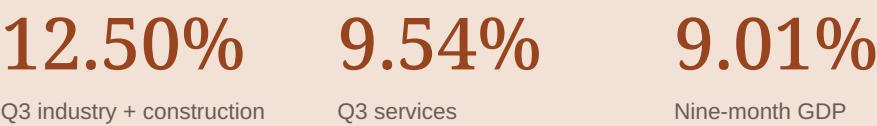
ECONOMY · MUST KNOW

Vietnam Q3 GDP rises 9.95%; nine-month growth reaches 9.01%

Vietnam’s National Statistics Office estimated third-quarter GDP growth at 9.95% year on year, up from 8.15% in Q1 and 8.81% in Q2. Growth for the first nine months reached 9.01%. Industry and construction expanded 12.50% in Q3, while services grew 9.54%. Final consumption rose 8.96%, gross capital formation 21.39%, exports of goods and services 23.27%, and imports 28.75% in the quarter. The mix points to unusually strong domestic investment and trade activity rather than one single sector driving the headline.

來源 / Sources: [Vietnam NSO](#) · Oct. 3

Vietnam real GDP growth, y/y



TECH / AI · MUST KNOW

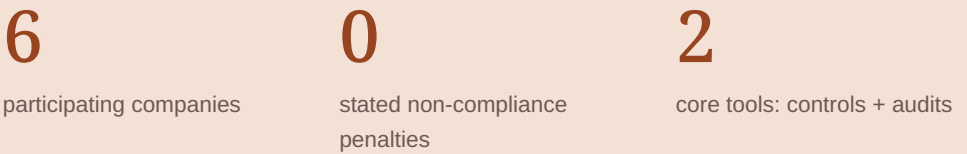
White House AI pact relies on voluntary safeguards rather than enforcement

The US administration’s safety agreement with Nvidia, SpaceX, OpenAI, Anthropic, Meta and Google calls for stronger internal controls and independent external audits. Reuters reported on October 3 that the document contains no stated penalty or enforcement mechanism if a company does not comply. The administration argues the approach can address public anxiety without slowing innovation; critics say voluntary commitments may be weak at preventing harm before it occurs. The core policy divide is therefore not whether safeguards are needed, but how enforceable they should be.

來源 / Sources: [Reuters](#) · Oct. 3

WHAT THE PACT DOES — AND DOESN’T — DO

Six companies commit to stronger internal controls and independent external audits. The public reporting identifies no stated penalty for non-compliance, making the arrangement closer to a commitment framework than a regulatory regime with fixed sanctions.



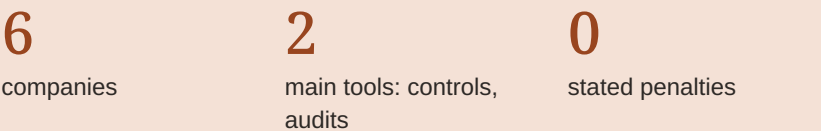
Nvidia · SpaceX · OpenAI · Anthropic · Meta · Google

Vietnam Q3: expenditure-side growth



Source: Vietnam National Statistics Office; all figures are Q3 2026 year-on-year changes.

Anatomy of the AI pact



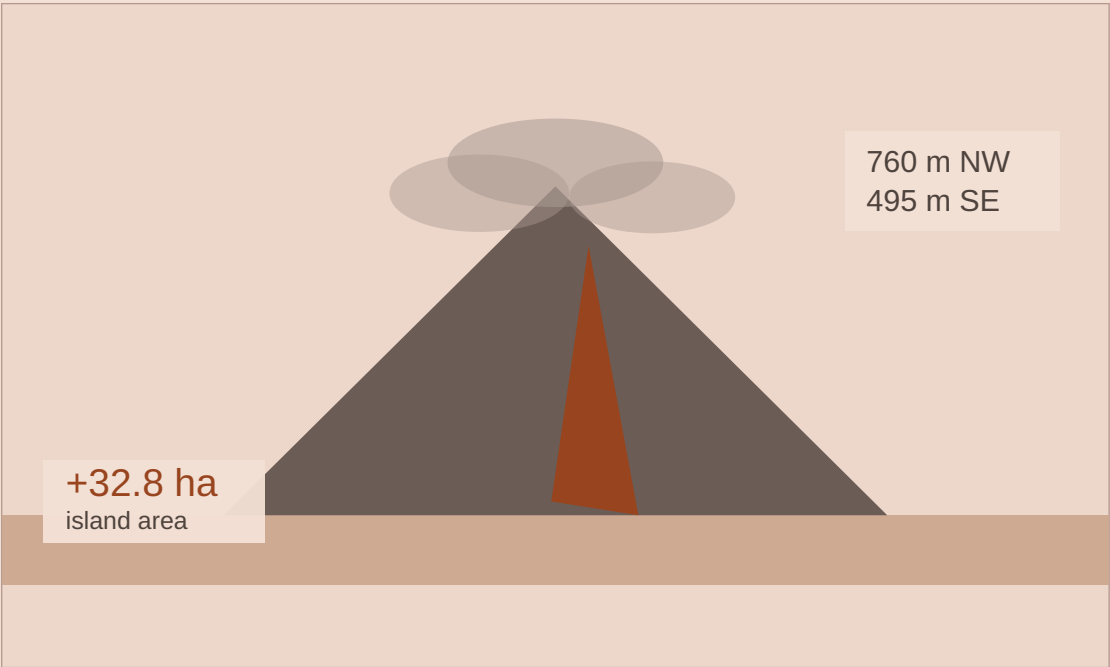
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CLIMATE / SCIENCE · MUST KNOW

Anak Krakatau grows by 32.8 hectares after lava flows reshape the island

Indonesia’s Geology Agency said comparisons of Sentinel satellite imagery show Anak Krakatau expanded by 32.8 hectares after September eruptions produced lava flows. Imagery from September 23 also showed two new land formations, roughly 760 metres northwest of the coastline and 495 metres southeast. The eruption phase lasted about 25 hours from September 4 to 6. The measurements describe rapid geomorphological change around an active volcano; they do not mean the hazard has ended.

來源 / Sources: Reuters · Oct. 3



Evidence graphic | Diagram based on the Geology Agency's published area and distance measurements from Sentinel imagery; not a scene photograph.

SOCIETY / RIGHTS · BRIEF

Spain housing protests draw about 70,000 in Madrid

Tens of thousands marched across Spain demanding action on housing after parliament rejected a package of measures. The Spanish government estimated around 70,000 people joined the Madrid demonstration, while related protests took place in about 50 cities. Later, far-right activists tried to reach protesters in Puerta del Sol and police arrested three people. The movement is feeding into a broader political debate over housing, labour action and the possibility of an early election; no election decision had been confirmed at publication time.

來源 / Sources: Reuters · Oct. 3

PUBLIC HEALTH · BRIEF

France plans more Ebola support for eastern Congo; Paris meeting set for October 6

French Foreign Minister Jean-Noël Barrot said Paris would propose additional humanitarian funding for Ebola during upcoming budget discussions. France allocated €13.4 million to the Ebola response between January and July. A national humanitarian conference is scheduled in Paris on October 6 with Ebola on the agenda. The extra funding is a proposal, not yet a completed appropriation. Barrot warned that outbreaks can return quickly if surveillance and local response capacity weaken.

來源 / Sources: Reuters · Oct. 3

€13.4m

allocated Jan–Jul

10/06

Paris humanitarian meeting

ARTS / CULTURE · BRIEF

Zvyagintsev’s Minotaur turns conscription and moral compromise into an Oscar bid

Exiled Russian filmmaker Andrey Zvyagintsev’s *Minotaur* sets a story of conscription and moral compromise against the war in Ukraine. The French-produced Russian-language film won the Grand Prix at Cannes and has been selected by France for the 2027 Academy Award for best international feature. Zvyagintsev, known for *Leviathan* and *Loveless*, has been designated a foreign agent by Russian authorities. The film’s international awards route contrasts with its politically fraught status in Russia.

來源 / Sources: Reuters · Oct. 3

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