

# GLOBAL NEXUS BRIEF



## IRAN POLITICAL AND SOCIAL SNAPBACK

In September 2025, Iran experienced a significant political snapback following months of civil unrest over economic hardship, fuel shortages, and government policies. Protests erupted in major cities including Tehran, Isfahan, and Shiraz, with demonstrators demanding greater political transparency and relief from soaring inflation. Security forces responded with heightened patrols and temporary shutdowns of key public squares, aiming to restore control without escalating violence. Analysts noted that this snapback reflects both the government’s determination to reassert authority and the population’s ongoing frustration over declining living standards, particularly in urban centers.

## UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY & CLIMATE SUMMIT PUSH

In September 2025, the UN General Assembly (UNGA) convened in New York amid growing global concern over climate change, energy crises, and geopolitical instability. Member states debated urgent international measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, address extreme weather events, and coordinate disaster response. The assembly highlighted the increasing political and economic pressures nations face due to extreme heatwaves, wildfires, and flooding observed across the globe in 2025.

## EUROPE SUPPORTS PALESTINE



In September 2025, several European countries publicly reaffirmed support for Palestinian statehood and humanitarian aid amid escalating tensions in Gaza and the West Bank. Countries including Sweden, Ireland, and Belgium pledged increased financial assistance for Palestinian hospitals, schools, and refugee programs, while also calling for renewed international diplomatic efforts to resume peace negotiations with Israel.



## Middle East

In Syria, exchanges between Israeli forces and Iranian-backed militias escalated along the northern and southern border regions. Israeli artillery strikes targeted suspected weapons storage facilities, while militia groups responded with rocket fire. Casualties included several militia fighters, and infrastructure damage disrupted local communities. Analysts warned that continued escalation could destabilize Lebanon and northern Syria, potentially drawing in additional regional actors and complicating ongoing U.N. mediation efforts.

Iraq's northern provinces, particularly Mosul and Diyala, experienced a surge in insurgent attacks targeting security checkpoints and critical infrastructure. Despite U.S. and coalition support, insurgent groups exploited gaps in security and local governance. Casualties among both military personnel and civilians were reported. Analysts warn that the resurgence could undermine national stability and threaten ongoing reconstruction efforts in formerly contested regions.



### Lebanon Political Unrest

In Beirut, protests erupted over fuel shortages and governmental mismanagement, with demonstrators clashing with security forces. The unrest disrupted transportation, municipal services, and electricity supply. The protests were particularly concentrated around central government offices and key transport hubs, reflecting public frustration with persistent economic hardship and corruption.



### Saudi Arabia Economic Stimulus Expansion

Saudi Arabia expanded its stimulus package in response to rising inflation and lower oil revenues. Measures included public sector bonuses, targeted subsidies for low-income households, and investment incentives for foreign companies. Economists noted that while the package may stabilize domestic markets temporarily, structural challenges remain, including dependence on hydrocarbons and rising living costs.



Europe



**FRANCE PENSION PROTESTS ESCALATE**

Protests in France intensified following controversial pension reform legislation. Clashes between demonstrators and police led to temporary closures of transport systems in Paris, Lyon, and Marseille. Demonstrators blocked highways, disrupted train lines, and organized marches targeting government offices. Analysts warned that prolonged unrest could damage public trust in government institutions and impact economic productivity.



Italy Flooding



UK Cybersecurity Breaches



Northern Italy faced flooding in Lombardy and Veneto after unprecedented rainfall. Thousands were evacuated, and infrastructure including roads, bridges, and public utilities suffered significant damage. Local authorities deployed emergency response teams to assist affected communities, while insurance companies prepared for large-scale claims. The floods intensified discussions on climate adaptation and infrastructure resilience.

Multiple cybersecurity breaches targeted UK government networks and critical infrastructure, suspected to originate from state-sponsored actors. Sensitive information was compromised, prompting emergency countermeasures and heightened alerts across public and private sectors. Analysts noted that the incidents underscore the growing threat of cyber espionage and the need for robust national cybersecurity strategies.



Germany Energy Supply Concerns

Germany experienced electricity supply pressures due to lower-than-expected wind and solar outputs, coinciding with peak industrial and residential demand. Authorities issued energy conservation advisories while utility companies implemented load-shedding measures in some regions.

## Africa



### ETHIOPIA TIGRAY TENSIONS

Fighting resumed in Tigray, with clashes between federal forces and regional militias causing fatalities and displacement. Humanitarian agencies reported worsening shortages of food, medicine, and shelter. Observers emphasized the urgent need for a ceasefire and renewed international diplomatic engagement to prevent further humanitarian deterioration.

### Kenya Drought Escalation



Severe drought conditions worsened in multiple counties, affecting millions of people. The government, along with international NGOs, implemented emergency food and water distribution programs, yet analysts warned that prolonged dry conditions could destabilize agricultural production and local economies, increasing food insecurity.

### South Africa Mining Disputes



Labor strikes disrupted mining operations across several provinces, reducing production and affecting exports. Workers demanded wage increases and improved safety standards. The government intervened to mediate disputes, but analysts noted that unresolved tensions could have long-term economic impacts and intensify social inequality.

### Nigeria Insurgent Attacks

In Borno and Yobe states, Boko Haram-linked groups carried out coordinated raids on villages and checkpoints, resulting in civilian and military casualties. The Nigerian military responded with targeted operations, but the attacks revealed persistent gaps in regional security. Analysts warned that ongoing instability could undermine development projects and humanitarian efforts.





## Asia-Pacific

Taiwan's government conducted nationwide cybersecurity drills in response to a spike in suspected pro-Beijing cyberattacks. The exercises included simulations targeting financial institutions, transportation systems, and government data centers. Authorities reported minor service disruptions during the drills but emphasized their importance for protecting critical infrastructure. Analysts note that cyber threats are becoming a central component of cross-strait tensions and could have serious economic and security consequences if unaddressed.



Australia remained on high alert for bushfires in New South Wales and Queensland, following intense heatwaves and dry conditions. Emergency services conducted large-scale evacuation drills and pre-positioned firefighting resources. Rural communities were advised to create defensible spaces around homes, while urban centers faced heightened risks from power infrastructure and transport corridors. Experts emphasized that repeated heatwaves and extended fire seasons, linked to climate change, require significant improvements in national preparedness strategies.



## North Korea Missile Tests

North Korea launched multiple short- and medium-range ballistic missiles into the Sea of Japan, marking its most intensive series of tests in 2025. South Korea and Japan reported air raid alerts and scrambled defense systems to monitor the missiles. Analysts warn that these tests are designed to pressure the U.S. and neighboring countries while demonstrating advances in Pyongyang's missile technology. Diplomatic efforts, including backchannel talks facilitated by China, have so far failed to de-escalate tensions, leaving the region on edge.



## India Heatwave Crisis

Severe heatwaves across northern and central India resulted in hundreds of hospitalizations and the deaths of dozens of vulnerable residents. Power grids were stressed as millions relied on air conditioning, and water shortages in urban areas compounded public distress. Crops suffered heat damage, particularly in wheat and rice-growing regions, prompting emergency interventions by local governments. Analysts warned that prolonged extreme temperatures may exacerbate poverty and threaten food security if climate adaptation measures are not strengthened.



# America

Large-scale protests erupted in Brasília and São Paulo against inflation and government economic policies. Citizens demanded reforms to address rising costs of living, while political deadlock prevented timely policy responses. Analysts warned that prolonged unrest could affect economic stability and investor confidence.

Wildfires intensified in British Columbia and Alberta, destroying forests and prompting evacuations of thousands. Smoke spread across North America, affecting air quality and public health. Authorities mobilized national firefighting resources and coordinated with international agencies. Experts highlighted climate change as a major driver of increasingly severe fire seasons.



## United States Extreme Weather

The U.S. faced hurricanes in the Gulf Coast and heatwaves in western states. Widespread power outages affected millions, forcing evacuations and emergency responses. Analysts noted that infrastructure and emergency preparedness are increasingly challenged by extreme weather events linked to climate change.



## Mexico Cartel Violence

Rival cartels escalated violence in Jalisco and Michoacán, leading to casualties and temporary lockdowns in affected towns. The Mexican government increased military presence and coordinated with the U.S. on intelligence sharing, but persistent criminal activity underscores ongoing governance challenges along the northern border.





## The Energy Crisis and Geopolitical Controversy

In September 2025, the world faced a controversial and urgent energy crisis intertwined with extreme weather events and geopolitical tensions. Across Europe, Asia, and North America, record-breaking heatwaves, prolonged droughts, and intense storms pushed energy grids to their limits.

Countries dependent on renewable energy faced challenges when low wind or solar output coincided with surging demand for cooling, while fossil fuel-dependent nations struggled with supply and price volatility. Blackouts and rolling power outages affected millions, prompting public outrage and calls for immediate government action.

The crisis sparked heated debates over energy policy and climate responsibility. European nations faced criticism for delayed investment in renewable infrastructure, while developing countries demanded international support to mitigate climate-induced energy disruptions.

In Asia, heatwaves strained urban infrastructure and raised concerns over food and water security, further fueling political debates on preparedness and governance. North America experienced a dual challenge: extreme weather compounded by political polarization over energy policy, leaving federal and state governments scrambling to respond.

The controversy extended to global geopolitics. Nations accused each other of failing to meet climate commitments or of using energy as a strategic tool. The UN General Assembly and the Climate Summit emphasized the need for coordinated international action, but disagreements over responsibilities, funding, and timelines remained contentious.

Analysts warned that unresolved tensions could exacerbate social unrest, disrupt trade, and intensify global economic instability.

*Thank you for reading!*

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