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THE AMERICAS DIGEST

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Colombian Lawmakers Seek President's Suspension

The head of Colombia's legislative commission proposed suspending President Gustavo Petro amid legal and political controversies.

The development intensified domestic political tensions, raising debates over constitutional procedures, executive accountability, institutional stability, and the country's evolving democratic governance framework.



Panamanian and Barbadian-flagged commercial vessels sustained damage during attacks in Ukrainian waters. The incident underscored the continuing risks posed by the Russia-Ukraine conflict to global maritime trade, shipping security, commercial navigation, and international supply chains.

MERCHANT SHIPS DAMAGED IN UKRAINIAN WATERS





Canada Introduces Social Media Restrictions for Minors

Canada proposed legislation banning social media access for children under 16 while introducing regulations governing AI chatbots. The proposed law focuses on child safety, online protection, digital platform accountability, and responsible deployment of artificial intelligence technologies.

US Defends Cuba Sanctions Amid UN Criticism



The White House defended longstanding sanctions against Cuba despite United Nations concerns regarding their humanitarian impact. Discussions centred on human rights, democratic reforms, economic pressure, and balancing foreign policy objectives with growing international criticism over civilian hardships.





Canada Prepares Bilateral Trade Talks with US

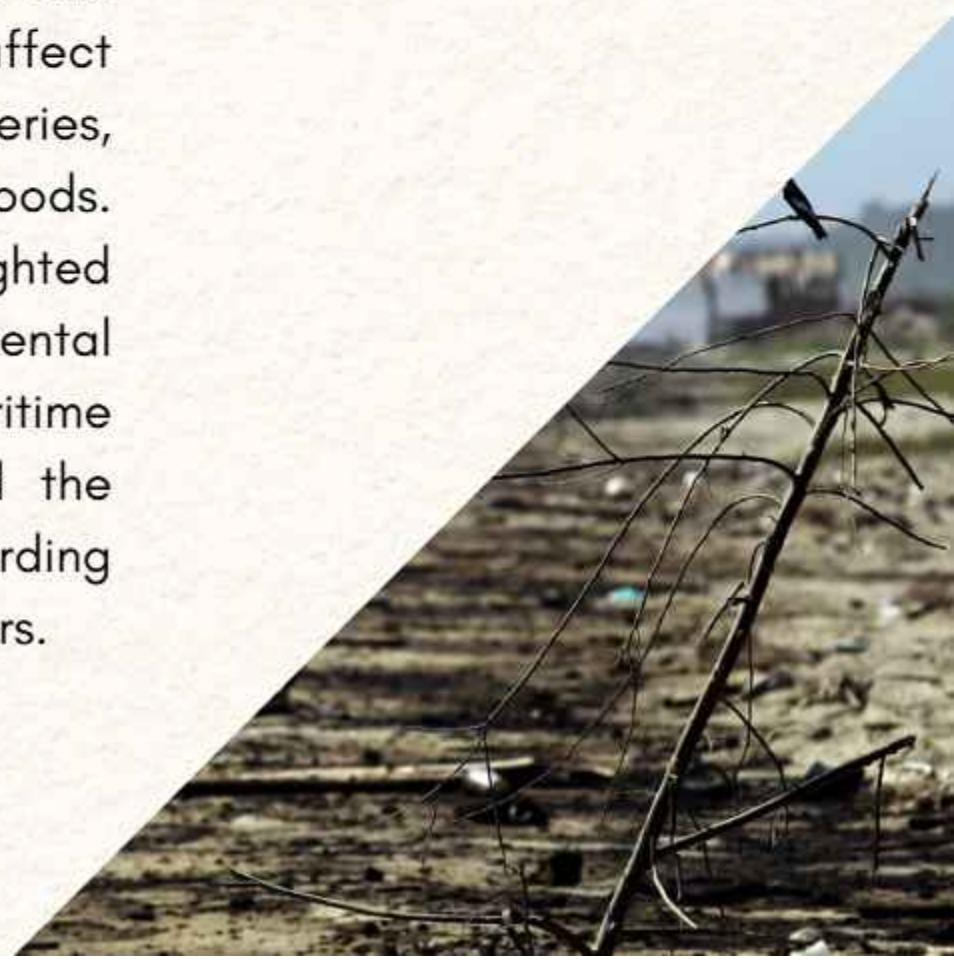
Canada announced that bilateral agreements with the United States would complement the upcoming review of the USMCA trade agreement. Discussions focused on strengthening North American trade, addressing sector-specific concerns, and modernising economic cooperation while preserving regional competitiveness.





Venezuela Voices Concern of Environmental Damage from Oil Spill

Venezuela voiced their concern that an oil spill originating near Trinidad and Tobago could severely affect marine ecosystems, fisheries, and coastal livelihoods. Discussions highlighted regional environmental cooperation, maritime disaster response, and the importance of safeguarding shared Caribbean waters.



EU Expands Digital Partnership with Brazil

The European Union deepened strategic engagement with Brazil by expanding cooperation in digital technologies, innovation, and connectivity. Discussions aimed to reduce reliance on US technology platforms while strengthening digital sovereignty, economic resilience, and technological collaboration.





World Bank Supports Argentina's Economic Recovery

The World Bank approved a guarantee-backed financing package for Argentina aimed at strengthening macroeconomic stability, improving investor confidence, and supporting structural reforms. The assistance forms part of broader international efforts to stabilise Argentina's financial position.



Advance Trade Discussions at G7

Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney confirmed detailed technical discussions with the United States during the G7 Summit. Talks focused on trade cooperation, economic competitiveness, supply chain resilience, and preparations for the upcoming USMCA review process.



Swiss Parliament Rejects Mercosur Trade Agreement

Switzerland's lower house voted against the Mercosur trade agreement, citing concerns over agriculture, environmental standards, and market access. The decision complicates efforts to expand trade relations between Europe and South America's Mercosur bloc.



Guyana Calls for Stronger Multilateral Cooperation

Guyana's candidate for a senior United Nations position stressed that safeguarding the UN remains a collective international responsibility. Discussions emphasised multilateralism, institutional reform, global governance, and strengthening international cooperation in addressing shared global challenges.

African and Caribbean States Back Reparations Initiative

African and Caribbean nations endorsed a coordinated initiative advocating reparations for slavery during a meeting in Ghana. Discussions focused on historical justice, international recognition, development cooperation, and advancing reparative measures through multilateral diplomacy.





Bolivia Reaches Agreement After Weeks of Protests

Bolivia's government signed an agreement with the country's principal labour union following nearly fifty days of anti-government protests. The deal addressed economic grievances, labour demands, and social stability while easing prolonged political tensions.



Argentina Approves New International Borrowing

Argentina authorised up to \$5 billion in additional borrowing from international financial institutions to strengthen public finances and support ongoing economic reforms. The move aims to improve liquidity, maintain macroeconomic stability, and sustain fiscal recovery efforts.



Colombia Elects New President

Colombia elected conservative candidate Abelardo De La Espriella as president following a closely contested runoff election. The outcome signals a significant political shift, with expectations of changes in national security, economic policy, and foreign relations.





Canada and Japan Discuss Defence Cooperation

Canada's Defence Minister held discussions with his Japanese counterpart on the Global Combat Air Programme (GCAP) and broader Indo-Pacific security cooperation. Talks focused on defence technology collaboration, regional stability, and strengthening strategic partnerships among like-minded nations.



Keiko Fujimori Leads Peru Presidential Election

Official election results placed Keiko Fujimori ahead in Peru's presidential race, signalling a possible political transition. Discussions centred on governance priorities, economic reforms, investor confidence, and addressing Peru's prolonged political and institutional challenges.

EU Strengthens Critical Minerals Partnership with Brazil

The European Union intensified engagement with Brazil to secure access to critical minerals essential for clean technologies and strategic industries. Discussions focused on sustainable mining, investment cooperation, supply chain diversification, and reducing dependence on competing global suppliers.





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