



| Report |

Monthly Geopolitical Report November 2024

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Scope Note

ZeroFox Intelligence is derived from a variety of sources, including—but not limited to—curated open-source accesses, vetted social media, proprietary data sources, and direct access to threat actors and groups through covert communication channels. Information relied upon to complete any report cannot always be independently verified. As such, ZeroFox applies rigorous analytic standards and tradecraft in accordance with best practices and includes caveat language and source citations to clearly identify the veracity of our Intelligence reporting and substantiate our assessments and recommendations. All sources used in this particular Intelligence product were **identified prior to 7:45 AM (EDT) on October 31, 2024**; per cyber hygiene best practices, caution is advised when clicking on any third-party links.¹

Key Findings

- Several Latin American states (led by Peru and Bolivia) are experiencing protest movements reminiscent of the 2019 indefinite protest period, which led to widespread changes in political leadership months later.
- European authorities are growing increasingly concerned that Russia and Iran are financing criminal groups to carry out acts of sabotage and violence across Europe.
- The deployment of North Korean troops to Russia carries significant new security considerations for both Europe and the Korean Peninsula.
- Brazil will host the G20 Summit in mid-November; it is arguably the premier geopolitical forum in the world. However, major takeaways on key issues like war in Ukraine and the Middle East are unlikely with U.S. politics in flux.

Middle East

Israel Attacks Iran in Effort to Avoid Further Escalation Amid Continued Fighting in Gaza and Lebanon

On October 26, 2024, approximately 100 Israeli war planes participated in a direct attack against Iran in retaliation for a barrage of ballistic missiles fired on Israel by the Islamic Republic on October 1, 2024.² Israel's response primarily targeted Iranian missile defense and production

¹ Report Purpose: The purpose of this report is to provide weekly updates on significant geopolitical occurrences and logistics developments, as well as potential impacts to the global supply chain.

² [hXXps://www.jpost\[.\]com/middle-east/iran-news/article-826126](https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/iran-news/article-826126)



facilities in the provinces of Ilam, Khuzestan, and around Tehran. The attack notably avoided Iran's nuclear program and oil and gas production installations, which would have risked escalating the conflict further. In this vein, Israel reportedly warned the Iranians in advance about what it would and would not attack in general.³

This exchange of fire was triggered in part by Israel's ground invasion of Lebanon that was launched on October 1, 2024. Thus far, the operation has remained limited and focused on clearing the militant group's infrastructure near the Israeli border, with most Israeli troops having pushed only 1-2 kilometers (0.6-1.2 miles) into Lebanon.

Recent weeks have seen major developments in the Gaza Strip as well—most notably the killing of then-Hamas head Yahya Sinwar on October 16, 2024, and the beginning of a major Israeli offensive in the northern Gaza Strip around Jabalia. This operation has triggered some of the most intense fighting in the enclave in recent months.⁴ According to Israeli military officials, this renewed offensive in Gaza is specifically targeting thousands of Hamas fighters that were able to reconstitute in the area.

In the wake of Sinwar's death and in an effort to moderate the conflict, international mediators have renewed their efforts to reach a ceasefire in the Gaza Strip. On October 27, 2024, Egyptian officials proposed a two-day truce that would see Hamas release four hostages in exchange for an unspecified amount of Palestinian prisoners.⁵ This proposal came as U.S., Qatari, and Israeli officials held meetings in Doha, Qatar, aimed at reaching a deal.⁶

- **Forward Look for Iran:** Following the Israeli attack on Iran, Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) head Hossein Salami warned that Israel will face "bitter consequences," and Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmaeil Baghaei claimed that Iran will "use all available tools" to punish Israel for its attack.⁷ Nonetheless, it remains very unlikely that Iran will respond in a way that could provoke a wider war, an outcome the country's leadership continues to want to avoid.⁸

³ [hXXps://www.axis.com/2024/10/26/israel-iran-attack-warning](https://www.axis.com/2024/10/26/israel-iran-attack-warning)

⁴ [hXXps://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c5y5zylvvml0](https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c5y5zylvvml0)

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[hXXps://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/israeli-strikes-kill-dozens-north-gaza-raid-deepens-medics-say-2024-10-27/](https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/israeli-strikes-kill-dozens-north-gaza-raid-deepens-medics-say-2024-10-27/)

⁶ [hXXps://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-826326](https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-826326)

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[hXXps://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/iran-says-it-will-use-all-available-tools-respond-israels-attack-2024-10-28/](https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/iran-says-it-will-use-all-available-tools-respond-israels-attack-2024-10-28/)

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[hXXps://www.wsj.com/livecoverage/iran-israel-conflict/card/ahead-of-strikes-iran-said-it-didn-t-want-wider-war-IIQhZiuCTlwksn49pwA](https://www.wsj.com/livecoverage/iran-israel-conflict/card/ahead-of-strikes-iran-said-it-didn-t-want-wider-war-IIQhZiuCTlwksn49pwA)



- **Forward Look for Lebanon:** Israel's invasion of Lebanon will approach an inflection point in the near to medium term.⁹ Its main stated goal was to allow for the return of Israeli citizens to the north of the country, over 60,000 of whom have been displaced due to continuous rocket fire. However, Israel's limited incursion has thus far done little to limit missile and drone strikes launched from Hezbollah-controlled territory across Lebanon. Therefore, Israel will either have to widen its offensive and risk hundreds if not thousands of casualties or reach a political agreement with Hezbollah and withdraw. At the time of writing, it remains unclear which path the Israeli government will choose.
- **Forward Look for Gaza:** The prospects of an all-encompassing ceasefire deal that leads to the end of the conflict in the Gaza Strip remains unlikely. The government of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has not signaled that it is open to ending the war. Meanwhile, the killing of former Hamas head Sinwar does not appear to have affected Hamas' desire to fight. In fact, it has also reportedly left a leadership vacuum that may be incapable of making such decisions.¹⁰ Therefore, if any agreement were to happen in the coming weeks, it is likely to be similar in scope to the potential ceasefire proposed by Egypt.

| Europe

Growing Sabotage, Assassination, and Terror Threats from Iran, Russia, and Islamic State

On October 8, 2024, MI5 Director General Ken McCallum said the United Kingdom (UK) is facing a growing threat from criminal and terror groups linked to Russia, Iran, and the Islamic State (IS).¹¹ Russia has been accused of staging acts of sabotage across Europe, typically targeting supporters of Ukraine or Russian opponents. These have included violent attacks on politicians, harassment, sabotage of critical infrastructure, and assassination attempts on dissidents. Iran is reportedly adopting similar tactics, hiring assassins or kidnappers to target Israelis and Jewish people across Europe. McCallum also said MI5 and other UK law enforcement agencies have disrupted thousands of IS plots since 2017. While some of those disrupted plots may have been orchestrated attacks, there is ongoing concern that lone actors inspired by IS propaganda or events of the Israel-Hamas War will carry out small-scale attacks in the future, like knife attacks on public gatherings or vehicular assaults.

⁹

[hXXps://www.economist\[.\]com/middle-east-and-africa/2024/10/14/just-inside-lebanon-israeli-soldiers-debate-how-far-to-go](https://www.economist.com/middle-east-and-africa/2024/10/14/just-inside-lebanon-israeli-soldiers-debate-how-far-to-go)

¹⁰

[hXXps://www.timesofisrael\[.\]com/in-warning-qatar-and-egypt-tell-us-hostage-talks-complicated-by-killing-of-sinwar/](https://www.timesofisrael.com/in-warning-qatar-and-egypt-tell-us-hostage-talks-complicated-by-killing-of-sinwar/)

¹¹ [hXXps://www.bbc\[.\]com/news/articles/cp8e15yr1gwo](https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cp8e15yr1gwo)



- **Supply Chain Impacts:** This past July, a package exploded at a DHL warehouse in the UK. In September 2024, another package from a Baltic nation exploded at a DHL warehouse in Leipzig, Germany. Now, in mid-October, UK counter-terrorism police are investigating if the packages were bombs planted by Russian-backed groups.¹² The packages contained modest amounts of explosives, but they were reportedly shipped by air; had the explosions occurred mid-flight, they could have downed the plane. Russia is likely hoping to weaken Western support for Ukraine by causing a spike in food prices and increasing threats to critical infrastructure like supply chains.
- **Targeting of Israeli Entities:** Since early October 2024, there have been a series of attacks in Nordic nations against Israeli interests, including Israeli embassies in Stockholm and Copenhagen. Iran has been accused of paying local criminals to carry out the attacks.¹³
- **Border Restrictions:** Starting November 1, 2024, France will reintroduce border checks with Belgium, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Spain, and Switzerland.¹⁴ The checks will be applicable for at least six months but could be extended. While border checks are rare across European Union (EU) member states, France last instituted the checks for six months ahead of the July 2024 Olympics. The latest checks are largely for the same reasons: a rising terrorism threat and migration. France is just the latest European nation to reintroduce border checks; Austria, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Norway, Slovenia, and Sweden have also imposed them for the same reasons.¹⁵ The Netherlands is also planning border checks starting December 1, 2024.¹⁶ Expect an increase in deportations in the coming weeks. These border checks could also cause supply chain disruptions, particularly for goods that travel via truck between European states. However, most trucks are fast-tracked through border crossings to avoid major delays.

EU Delays Deforestation Law Start Date Until January 2026, Removing a Key Supply Chain Disruptor

The EU Commission proposed delaying the start date of the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) by one year to January 1, 2026. EUDR requires suppliers who import into the EU to certify that their goods are not sourced from deforested areas. The law was initially proposed in 2022 and

¹² [hXXps://www.ft.com/content/6c57e5b6-6084-4fdc-a7fd-7653a1c9d1ba](https://www.ft.com/content/6c57e5b6-6084-4fdc-a7fd-7653a1c9d1ba)

¹³ [hXXps://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cvglk3md4e3o](https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cvglk3md4e3o)

¹⁴

[hXXps://www.brusselstimes.com/belgium/1285400/france-reintroduces-border-controls-what-does-this-mean-for-belgium](https://www.brusselstimes.com/belgium/1285400/france-reintroduces-border-controls-what-does-this-mean-for-belgium)

¹⁵ [hXXps://apnews.com/article/germany-borders-eu-migrants-a9d7a025bab08160c772b8644441c66b](https://apnews.com/article/germany-borders-eu-migrants-a9d7a025bab08160c772b8644441c66b)

¹⁶

[hXXps://www.brusselstimes.com/belgium/1285400/france-reintroduces-border-controls-what-does-this-mean-for-belgium](https://www.brusselstimes.com/belgium/1285400/france-reintroduces-border-controls-what-does-this-mean-for-belgium)



approved by EU member states in 2023.¹⁷ However, in the last year, companies that produce commodities like soy, beef, coffee, palm oil, rubber, cocoa, wood, and its derivatives (such as leather and furniture) pushed back against the law, arguing they did not have the infrastructure in place for the type of supply chain monitoring that would ensure their goods were not sourced from areas recently stripped of wood to make way for farms and plantations.

- **Supply Chain Impacts:** In the year delay, the EU will work with leading importers to establish a single point of contact for IT support for business operators, support to test the geolocation files, and detailed multilingual user instructions about the system.¹⁸ However, many companies are likely years away from having the supply chain monitoring in place and will push for further delays or to be exempt from the law. When in place, EUDR is likely to increase the costs of these products. The EU climate is not suitable to produce many of these items, and the law will reduce the supply coming into the EU—especially for goods like coffee and chocolate, thus pushing up the price.

North Korean Troops Deploy to Russia

The deployment of North Korean troops proved to be the most significant development in Russia's war with Ukraine in October. Ukrainian and South Korean intelligence estimate some 3,000 North Korean soldiers are currently in Russia receiving training but warn North Korea has likely decided to send a total of 12,000 troops to Russia in the coming months.¹⁹ This deployment marks the first ever large-scale deployment of North Korean troops, which carries significant new security considerations for both Europe and the Korean Peninsula. Russian President Vladimir Putin confirmed the presence of North Korean troops during an interview on October 24 and cited the two countries' recently signed defense treaty, which stipulates that if either of the countries finds itself in a state of war, the other would immediately provide military assistance.²⁰

- **Soldier Backgrounds:** The soldiers in Russia are from an infantry unit in North Korea's Eleventh Army known as the "Storm Corps." Though North Korea describes it as an "elite" unit, the soldiers lack quality training, Russian-language skills, or battlefield experience and are mostly known for their loyalty to the Kim regime.²¹ These attributes indicate Russia intends to use North Korean soldiers more as "cannon fodder" rather than competent force structures and likely hopes the North Korean contingent will help replace heavy Russian losses to delay additional mobilizations of Russian men. Russia will most likely use North Korean troops to repel Ukrainian forces from Russia's Kursk region; Ukrainian and South

¹⁷

[hXXps://www.euronews.com/my-europe/2024/10/02/commission-delays-deforestation-laws-implementation-foll
owing-global-outcry](https://www.euronews.com/my-europe/2024/10/02/commission-delays-deforestation-laws-implementation-following-global-outcry)

¹⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁹ [https://cloud.zerofox.com/intelligence/incidents/122EBBABB1C63745E604DDDB09D9C2F3\\$0/content](https://cloud.zerofox.com/intelligence/incidents/122EBBABB1C63745E604DDDB09D9C2F3$0/content)

²⁰ [https://cloud.zerofox.com/intelligence/incidents/5F234B855CA13C29EF71F898D621601F\\$0](https://cloud.zerofox.com/intelligence/incidents/5F234B855CA13C29EF71F898D621601F$0)

²¹ [hXXps://www.ft.com/content/f908deed-7bc5-4e8c-b20f-02d935beaaaf](https://www.ft.com/content/f908deed-7bc5-4e8c-b20f-02d935beaaaf)



Korean intelligence confirmed the presence of North Korean troops in Kursk in late October. It remains unclear whether Russia will use North Korean troops on Ukrainian territory, as such a deployment could prove escalatory. However, CNN reported on October 29 that a small number of North Korean troops have been geolocated within Ukrainian territory. As of this writing, other sources have not yet corroborated CNN's reporting.²²

- **Implications:** The news of North Korean soldiers has sparked concerns from both Western and South Korean leaders. On October 29, South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol announced he will send a delegation to Ukraine to strengthen security and intelligence cooperation.²³ There have also been reports that South Korea may consider lifting its ban on the export of lethal weapons to Ukraine.²⁴ President Yoon is very likely concerned North Korea will receive advanced military technology from Russia in exchange for its support in Ukraine, which could then be used in a future conflict on the Korean Peninsula. Meanwhile, Western leaders are now faced with the reality that North Korean troops are fighting a war on European soil. Western officials have so far issued critical yet measured statements on the development as officials discuss how best to respond. Western leaders will likely seek to walk a fine line between demonstrating their opposition to North Korea's presence in Europe and avoiding escalation.

Russia-Ukraine Battlefield Update

Battlefield trends have remained relatively unchanged since September. Russia has continued to make modest yet consistent advances in Donetsk Oblast, specifically near Pokrovsk. In Russia's Kursk region, Ukrainian troops still hold a considerable swath of Russian territory, though Russian forces have reclaimed about half of the territory initially seized by Ukraine. Russia can be expected to continue its advances through the next several weeks. However, autumn rains and the onset of cold weather conditions will likely soon freeze the frontline positions for the winter by late November or early December.²⁵

- **Energy Infrastructure:** Russia is once again likely to target Ukrainian energy infrastructure during this upcoming winter. Ukrainian officials are especially concerned Russia may target sites that connect nuclear power plants to Ukraine's electric grid. Ukraine generates most of its electricity through nuclear power, meaning such a tactic would be highly disruptive.²⁶

²² [hXXps://www.cnn.com/2024/10/29/politics/north-korean-troops-ukraine/index.html](https://www.cnn.com/2024/10/29/politics/north-korean-troops-ukraine/index.html)

²³ [https://cloud.zerofox.com/intelligence/incidents/D7354B346BADF39EAA8A5666F25F648D\\$0/content](https://cloud.zerofox.com/intelligence/incidents/D7354B346BADF39EAA8A5666F25F648D$0/content)

²⁴

[hXXps://kyivindependent.com/south-korea-could-review-ban-on-supply-of-lethal-arms-to-ukraine-president-yoon-suk-yeol-says/](https://kyivindependent.com/south-korea-could-review-ban-on-supply-of-lethal-arms-to-ukraine-president-yoon-suk-yeol-says/)

²⁵ [hXXps://www.understandingwar.org/backgrounder/ukraine-conflict-updates](https://www.understandingwar.org/backgrounder/ukraine-conflict-updates)

²⁶ [hXXps://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c20mz0l36gjo](https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c20mz0l36gjo)



Georgian Opposition Dispute Parliamentary Election Results

On October 26, 2024, Georgia held parliamentary elections that observers largely framed as a choice between the increasingly pro-Russian ruling Georgian Dream party and pro-EU opposition parties. Georgian Dream secured a majority in Parliament with 54 percent of the vote, while opposition parties Coalition for Change (11.04 percent), Unity National Movement (10.17 percent), Strong Georgia (8.8 percent), and Gakharia for Georgia (7.8 percent) won the rest of the vote.²⁷ According to this result, Georgian Dream looks set to secure another governing mandate. However, Georgia's pro-Western President Salome Zourabichvili and other opposition leaders rejected the results and called for mass protests to demand a re-run of the elections.²⁸ The opposition argued that Georgian Dream used intimidation tactics, vote-buying, and other fraudulent measures to secure its victory. Georgian Dream dismissed the opposition's concerns and declared victory, claiming to have fairly won the elections.

On October 29, the EU, United States, and NATO officially urged Georgia's Central Election Commission (CEC) to conduct a "transparent inquiry" into widespread reports of "irregularities, pressure and intimidation on voters impacting public trust in the process." Following these statements, the CEC announced it will recount ballots at 14 percent of polling stations.²⁹

- **Social Unrest Likely:** It remains unclear whether the results of the election will stand, and the situation is highly fluid. Georgia likely faces a period of domestic instability while political leaders fight over the results. Georgia has a long history of mass protests in response to controversial government policies. Most recently, thousands of Georgians staged weeks-long protests against Georgian Dream's foreign agent bill. The legacy of Georgia's 2003 Rose Revolution may also contribute to sustained protests against the election results. On October 28, tens of thousands of Georgians answered the opposition's call to protest and gathered in Tbilisi to demand the election results be overturned.³⁰

Moldovan Presidential Elections Head to Second Round

Moldova held two critical votes on October 20: the country's presidential elections and a referendum on whether Moldova should pursue EU membership as a national goal. Incumbent pro-Western President Maia Sandu won the majority of votes with 42.45 percent, ahead of pro-Russian candidate Alexandr Stoianoglo, who won 25.98 percent. However, the election will now progress to a second round between Sandu and Stoianoglo on November 3, as neither candidate secured the 50 percent of votes required to win outright. Three other pro-Russian opposition candidates secured another 23.62 percent of the vote: Renato Usatii with 13.79 percent, Irina Vlah

²⁷ [https://cloud.zerofox.com/intelligence/incidents/AF505F7E1277DA8EC12484F137022F1F\\$0](https://cloud.zerofox.com/intelligence/incidents/AF505F7E1277DA8EC12484F137022F1F$0)

²⁸ [hXXps://x.com/Zourabichvili/status/1850623129783251168](https://x.com/Zourabichvili/status/1850623129783251168)

²⁹ [https://cloud.zerofox.com/intelligence/incidents/F818AE14364E85868369B14F5029ED3D\\$0/content](https://cloud.zerofox.com/intelligence/incidents/F818AE14364E85868369B14F5029ED3D$0/content)

³⁰ [hXXps://x.com/Zourabichvili/status/1850993253555847349](https://x.com/Zourabichvili/status/1850993253555847349)



with 5.38 percent, and Victoria Furtună with 4.45 percent.³¹ Usatii has refused to endorse Stoianoglo, which may remove a potential bloc of support for his candidacy.³²

Meanwhile, the EU referendum vote was extremely close, with 50.46 percent of Moldovans voting to support EU accession and 49.54 voting against.³³ The results of the referendum, though closer than expected, are a win for Sandu, who has pledged to bring Moldova into the EU by 2030 and exit Russia's sphere of influence. As a result of the referendum, the government will add a clause to the Moldovan constitution enshrining EU accession as a key goal for the country.

- Russian Influence:** The votes took place amid widespread reports of Russian attempts to influence the electoral process. Russia's campaigns aimed to keep Moldova within Russia's sphere of influence by manipulating the electorate to ensure the referendum on EU membership failed and Moldova's pro-Western President, Maia Sandu, lost power. Though impossible to determine for certain how much Russia influenced the outcome of the election, Russia's efforts may have had some impact. Moldovan officials revealed shortly before the elections that fugitive oligarch Ilan Shor financed a network that sought to purchase votes ahead of the election. According to the country's chief of police, Viorel Cernauteanu, the network involved 138,000 Moldovan citizens and may have influenced up to 300,000—or 10 percent of Moldova's electorate.³⁴

| Latin America

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil: Military Mobilization During G20 summit

The Brazilian government confirmed that it would enact a General Law and Order operation (GLO) during the G20 Summit in Rio de Janeiro in anticipation of potential protests. The summit is scheduled to take place on November 18-19, 2024, and Brazilian armed forces will be deployed in the city as part of the GLO during the event.³⁵ Leaders from 19 of the world's largest economies are expected to attend. Russian President Vladimir Putin is not expected to attend, while the attendance of outgoing U.S. President Joe Biden and Chinese Premier Xi Jinping is also unknown at this point. However, the leaders of France, India, Germany, Turkey, Mexico, South Africa, and the United Kingdom (UK) are all expected to attend.³⁶

- Protests:** With the presence of so many high-profile world leaders, protests are very likely. More than 60 Brazilian social movements and organizations have announced their

³¹ [https://cloud.zerofox.com/intelligence/incidents/CA8A8F957C08C623FF21CC84F8B79068\\$0/content](https://cloud.zerofox.com/intelligence/incidents/CA8A8F957C08C623FF21CC84F8B79068$0/content)

³² <https://moldova.europalibera.org/a/usatii-nu-va-sprijini-niciun-candidat-in-turul-doi/33176207.html>

³³ <https://carnegieendowment.org/russia-eurasia/politika/2024/10/moldova-elections-results>

³⁴ <https://www.dw.com/en/moldovan-police-explain-how-russia-meddled-in-recent-polls/a-70636678>

³⁵

<https://anovademocracia.com.br/luiz-inacio-decretara-glo-no-g20-para-proteger-genocidas-e-imperialistas-de-protestos/>

³⁶ <https://sdg.iisd.org/events/g20-summit-2024/>



intentions to hold a People's Summit in Rio de Janeiro in parallel with G20.³⁷ As reported by Brazilian news sources, previous G20 summits in other countries have seen protests, and the organizers of the People's Summit are expecting street-level protests to occur during the events.³⁸ With the possibility of protests and the deployment of armed forces to the city, travel disruptions are likely to occur during the course of the G20 summit.

- **Key Topics:** With Brazil hosting the event, climate change and global tax governance are expected to feature prominently, as is the energy transition. While Russia's war in Ukraine will be discussed, no major solutions are expected, although Western commitments to back Ukraine could be announced. Israel's multi-front war across the Middle East could also be discussed.

Bolivia: Roadblock Protests Grow, Costing Economy Millions

Since mid-October, supporters of former President Evo Morales have established dozens of roadblocks across Bolivia. The protests started over an arrest warrant issued for Morales that has yet to be delivered to police.³⁹ A supposed assassination attempt on Morales occurred on October 27.⁴⁰ Protests will likely expand greatly if Morales is arrested or further attempts on his life are made. Morales supporters say the arrest warrant is political, aimed at preventing Morales from running in the 2025 presidential elections.

- **Divided electorate:** Morales fled the country after the 2019 elections when his Movimiento al Socialismo (MAS) party was accused of orchestrating massive electoral fraud to grant Morales an unconstitutional fourth term in office.⁴¹ However, Morales supporters then led widespread protests, paralyzing the country and costing the country millions in supply chain losses.⁴² A year later, re-run elections were held and easily won by Luis Arce, very likely borrowing from the popular support for Morales.⁴³ However, the two former allies have since become enemies over Morales' continued efforts to return to power.
- **Economic and Supply Chain Disruptions:** This is just the latest nationwide protest by Morales supporters, who in recent weeks also protested after Morales was banned from

³⁷ [hXXps://boletimluanova\[.\]org/guerras-g20-brasil-e-a-construcao-de-um-novo-internacionalismo/](https://boletimluanova[.]org/guerras-g20-brasil-e-a-construcao-de-um-novo-internacionalismo/)

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[hXXps://www1.folha.uol\[.\]com\[.\]br/mundo/2024/10/secretario-de-seguranca-do-rio-de-janeiro-diz-que-glo-sera-decretada-para-o-g20.shtml](https://www1.folha.uol[.]com[.]br/mundo/2024/10/secretario-de-seguranca-do-rio-de-janeiro-diz-que-glo-sera-decretada-para-o-g20.shtml)

³⁹

[hXXps://www.lostiempos\[.\]com/actualidad/pais/20241021/reportan-15-puntos-bloqueo-octado-dia-protesta-evista](https://www.lostiempos[.]com/actualidad/pais/20241021/reportan-15-puntos-bloqueo-octado-dia-protesta-evista)

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[hXXps://en.mercopress\[.\]com/2024/10/27/bolivia-evo-morales-survives-alleged-assassination-attempt-accuses-president-arce](https://en.mercopress[.]com/2024/10/27/bolivia-evo-morales-survives-alleged-assassination-attempt-accuses-president-arce)

⁴¹ [hXXps://www.bbc\[.\]com/news/world-latin-america-50397922](https://www.bbc[.]com/news/world-latin-america-50397922)

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[hXXps://www.npr\[.\]org/2019/11/16/780118421/8-killed-in-bolivia-as-protesters-call-for-return-of-ousted-president-evo-morale](https://www.npr[.]org/2019/11/16/780118421/8-killed-in-bolivia-as-protesters-call-for-return-of-ousted-president-evo-morale)

⁴³ [hXXps://www.aljazeera\[.\]com/news/2020/10/19/luis-arce-presumed-winner-of-bolivia-presidential-election](https://www.aljazeera[.]com/news/2020/10/19/luis-arce-presumed-winner-of-bolivia-presidential-election)



running in the 2025 elections. Morales supporters are battle-hardened protesters capable of protesting for weeks on end. Expect protests to continue in the lead-up to the elections, as it is very unlikely Morales will be able to run. The protests are causing millions in economic losses daily and costing Bolivia valuable export income.⁴⁴ Bolivia has also seen economic protests related to the lack of U.S. dollars and diesel, which have further weakened Arce politically.

- **Regionwide protests:** Bolivia's 2019 protests were mirrored across the region, led by Chile, Ecuador, and Argentina. The region has recently seen renewed protest activity elsewhere, notably in Peru, Argentina, and Colombia. The region is likely to see further protest activity in 2025 in the course of several notable elections, which could cause regionwide supply chain disruptions.

Peru: Transportation Workers Threaten Another Nationwide Strike if President Boluarte Remains in Office on November 11, 2024

Protesting transportation workers have threatened another nationwide strike in Peru starting on November 11, 2024, if President Dina Boluarte does not step down. Transportation workers have been protesting intermittently for a month over rising insecurity and extortion of bus drivers. Since then, other groups have joined the movement, with a large nationwide strike planned from October 23–25. The additional demand of calling for new elections is a major escalation. The workers' previous demands were more police on transportation routes and tougher criminal laws.⁴⁵

- **Previous protests:** Boluarte has seen numerous indefinite protests against her government but has managed to remain in office despite being deeply unpopular.⁴⁶ Peru has a recent history of its presidents being deposed by protests; with the latest protests being concentrated around the capital Lima, there is the possibility protests could escalate into widespread instability.
- **Regionwide Crime Trends:** While Peru's previous protests were largely over political corruption, the latest protest movement is over insecurity—a common theme across the region. While the region has consistently endured ubiquitous drug-related violence in places like Colombia and Mexico, high murder rates in Brazil and Venezuela, and gang-related activity in Central America, this era is unique in that violent crime is replacing political corruption as the primary political concern—especially in places with historically

⁴⁴ [hXXps://en.mercopress\[.\]com/2024/10/19/bolivia-s-economy-seriously-hit-by-evistas-blockading-roads](https://en.mercopress.com/2024/10/19/bolivia-s-economy-seriously-hit-by-evistas-blockading-roads)

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[hXXps://www.infobae\[.\]com/peru/2024/10/24/paro-nacional-si-no-vacan-a-dina-boluarte-de-lo-contrario-no-de-jaran-que-se-realice-el-apec-en-noviembre/](https://www.infobae.com/peru/2024/10/24/paro-nacional-si-no-vacan-a-dina-boluarte-de-lo-contrario-no-de-jaran-que-se-realice-el-apec-en-noviembre/)

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[hXXps://www.amnesty\[.\]org/en/latest/news/2024/07/peru-killings-injuries-protests-president-chain-command-criminally-responsible/](https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2024/07/peru-killings-injuries-protests-president-chain-command-criminally-responsible/)



low crime rates like Uruguay, Peru, Chile, and Ecuador. This has resulted in a brand of tough-on-crime politics, which is what protesters are calling for in Peru.

Uruguay: Final Presidential Election Set for November 24, 2024

Yamandú Orsi of the left-leaning Frente Amplio (FA) party won the first round of presidential elections in Uruguay, winning almost 44 percent of the vote. However, Orsi did not win an outright majority and will therefore go to the second and final round of presidential elections on November 24 against Álvaro Delgado of the National Party (PN), who won 27 percent of the vote.⁴⁷ The second round vote with only two candidates will likely be closer, as Delgado is favored to get most of the votes that went to third-place finisher Cabildo Abierto, who won 16 percent of the vote.⁴⁸

- **Forward Look:** The biggest campaign issues are crime as well as the cost of living. Uruguay's economy has performed well in recent years, driving down poverty but also increasing the cost of living. Crime has risen as drug traffickers identify new trading and smuggling routes. Similar crime waves are also taking place in normally safe places like Ecuador and Chile.

| Asia

Sri Lanka: New President Dissolves Parliament with New Elections on November 14, 2024

On November 14, 2024, Sri Lankans will vote to select a new parliament after it was disbanded by recently elected President Anura Kumara Dissanayake. President Dissanayake was expected to dissolve the legislative body in order to consolidate his mandate. His Marxist-leaning People's Liberation Front party (PLF) held only three seats in the 225-seat parliament prior to its dissolution. Dissanayake is likely seeking to boost PLF representation in the body while his post-election popularity remains high.⁴⁹ Mail-in voting for the parliamentary election began on October 30.⁵⁰

- **A New Approach:** Voters elected Dissanayake, a former political outsider who received only 3 percent of the vote in 2019's presidential election, largely because of widespread animosity toward Sri Lanka's traditional ruling parties. Long-term mismanagement by former governments left Sri Lanka short on funds when pandemic lockdowns froze most

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[hXXps://en.mercopress\[.\]com/2024/10/24/what-the-polls-say-three-days-before-the-presidential-elections-in-uruguay](https://en.mercopress.com/2024/10/24/what-the-polls-say-three-days-before-the-presidential-elections-in-uruguay)

⁴⁸ *Ibid.*

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[hXXps://constitutionnet\[.\]org/news/sri-lankas-president-dissolves-parliament-and-announces-new-elections-under-constitution](https://constitutionnet.org/news/sri-lankas-president-dissolves-parliament-and-announces-new-elections-under-constitution)

⁵⁰ [hXXps://english.news\[.\]cn/asiapacific/20241030/ae8621baba894cf3b8f287ead945e02b/c.html](https://english.news.cn/asiapacific/20241030/ae8621baba894cf3b8f287ead945e02b/c.html)



economic activity in 2020. The resulting tourism crash and foreign currency shortage led to the country's worst economic collapse since its independence. A popular revolt ousted then-president Gotabaya Rajapaksa in 2022. His successor, Ranil Wickremesinghe, forged an agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to rebuild the country's finances, but the accompanying austerity measures created a cost-of-living crisis for many Sri Lankans.

- **Economic Challenges:** President Dissanayake faces numerous challenges restoring Sri Lanka's economy to its pre-Covid condition. He campaigned on a platform of renegotiating the IMF deal to ease economic difficulties for everyday citizens, but it is not immediately clear how much power he has in negotiations.⁵¹ Additionally, Dissanayake has promised to revamp both the taxation system and state employment, two efforts that could receive pushback from opposing parties.

EU Tariff Rise on Chinese EVs, Agricultural Retaliation Starts

On October 4, 2024, the EU announced an increase in the tariffs on electric vehicles (EVs) made in China, from 10 percent to up to 45 percent. Germany voted against the high tariffs, as its car manufacturing industry heavily depends on exports to China, while France, Italy, the Netherlands, and Poland backed the import taxes.⁵² Since the majority of the member-states backed the plan, the tariff will be imposed at varying levels on different Chinese manufacturers, including SAIC, BYD, and Geely, for the next five years based on estimates of how much Chinese state aid each manufacturer received following an EU investigation.

- **Weakening China:** China has been counting on high-tech products to help revive its struggling economy, and the EU is the largest overseas market for the country's EV industry. China will continue negotiating with the EU for an alternative solution and may retaliate against some EU members with trade probes outside the car sector.⁵³ While the EV industry is huge for China, the tariffs represent a larger economic distancing of the EU from China. The United States has been trying for years to get EU states to buy less from China, but it was not until Russia's war in Ukraine underscored China's ties to Russia that EU states began the process of reducing trade ties with China.
- **Economic Retaliation:** China remains a large market for EU exports as well. China will likely focus on targeting those countries and industry leaders who export most to China, hoping to weaken support for wider EU measures limiting trade with China. This could include EU dairy and pork producers like the Netherlands, France, and Denmark, which rely on Chinese customers but voted in favor of the tariffs. Luxury goods makers, as well as

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[hXXps://www.firstpost\[.\]com/world/a-reality-check-for-dissanayake-renegotiating-bailout-deal-with-imf-may-not-be-easy-13818964.html](https://www.firstpost.com/world/a-reality-check-for-dissanayake-renegotiating-bailout-deal-with-imf-may-not-be-easy-13818964.html)

⁵² [hXXps://www.bbc\[.\]com/news/articles/cly20n4d0g9o](https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cly20n4d0g9o)

⁵³ [hXXps://www.straitstimes\[.\]com/world/eu-executive-to-adopt-tariffs-on-chinese-evs-after-vote](https://www.straitstimes.com/world/eu-executive-to-adopt-tariffs-on-chinese-evs-after-vote)



liquor producers, may also see new tariffs. On October 8, 2024, China imposed anti-dumping measures on European brandy, which primarily comes from France. Rémy Cointreau stock dropped 8 percent on the news, while luxury goods maker LVMH dropped 4 percent despite not yet being subject to tariffs.⁵⁴ LVMH is extremely dependent on sales to China and, as a French company, could also be subjected to sanctions. The top Chinese imports from Italy are pharmaceutical products, with copper being the top import from Spain; those products are likely targets of tariffs.⁵⁵

India: November State Parliamentary Elections in Maharashtra and Jharkhand

The Indian states of Jharkhand and Maharashtra will hold state-level parliamentary elections on November 13 and 20, respectively. All seats in both legislative assemblies are up for election following the conclusion of their five-year terms. Both results will be announced on November 23.⁵⁶

- **Maharashtra:** In Maharashtra, home of India's financial hub Mumbai, the ruling government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) will seek to maintain its position against an opposition led by the resurgent Indian National Congress (INC), formerly India's most powerful party. After years of falling support, the INC doubled its seat share in the federal legislature in this year's national general election, contributing to the loss of the BJP's absolute majority. It is unclear if the INC will maintain this momentum going into the Maharashtra election; a poor performance may sap confidence in the party despite its strong showing in the national election. Conversely, the BJP is likely hoping for a strong showing after it was unexpectedly seen as the loser in the federal election.
- **Jharkhand:** In Jharkhand, the election will be held in two phases from November 13-20. The ruling government—led by the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha and including participation from the INC—will be seeking to maintain its position against the BJP-led opposition. While Jharkhand is seen as a less influential state than Maharashtra, it will nonetheless be watched to gauge the level of support for the INC and BJP. The election is expected to be a close contest that will likely be decided by only a small number of constituencies.⁵⁷

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[hXXps://www.euronews.com/business/2024/10/08/china-goes-for-the-slow-burn-with-anti-dumping-brandy-levy-for-europe](https://www.euronews.com/business/2024/10/08/china-goes-for-the-slow-burn-with-anti-dumping-brandy-levy-for-europe)

⁵⁵ *Ibid.*

⁵⁶

[hXXps://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/maharashtra-jharkhand-election-2024-live-updates-assembly-election-result-dates-election-commission-rajiv-kumar-eknath-shinde-shiv-sena-jmm-hemant-soren/liveblog/114743253.cms](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/maharashtra-jharkhand-election-2024-live-updates-assembly-election-result-dates-election-commission-rajiv-kumar-eknath-shinde-shiv-sena-jmm-hemant-soren/liveblog/114743253.cms)

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[hXXps://indianexpress.com/article/political-pulse/jharkhand-assembly-polls-outcome-low-margin-seats-9641744](https://indianexpress.com/article/political-pulse/jharkhand-assembly-polls-outcome-low-margin-seats-9641744)



| Africa

Mozambique: Further Social Unrest Likely After Implausible Election Results Confirmed

Opposition leader Venâncio Mondlane has called for a week-long nationwide strike from October 31–November 6 and for supporters to stop paying taxes over the October 9 general elections. Mondlane is in hiding following his lawyer being killed in early October after Mondlane declared himself the winner of the elections. Since then, Mondlane has held two other well-attended strikes, while the ruling Mozambican Liberation Front (FRELIMO) party announced electoral results where they won an absolute majority. Mondlane has also proposed a unity government with other opposition parties.⁵⁸

According to the National Election Commission (CNE) FRELIMO gained 11 seats to win a total of 195 seats, a three-quarter majority and enough to rewrite the constitution. Longtime opposition party Renamo lost 40 seats, falling from 60 seats in parliament to only 20, while the nascent Podemos party of Mondlane won 31 seats to become the largest opposition party.⁵⁹ EU election observers reported witnessing ballot stuffing, and there were millions more votes for FRELIMO in certain areas than actual voters.⁶⁰

- **Social Unrest:** Expect a violent crackdown on protesters, which is common in Mozambique. FRELIMO knowingly announcing highly improbable election results likely indicates the party will not tolerate dissent and aims to nullify the opposition quickly, which could include violence directed at Mondlane and his closest associates. In the first weekend of protests after the official results, at least 11 protesters were shot dead by police.⁶¹
- **Regionwide Political Apathy:** Like its southern neighbors in South Africa, Angola, and Zimbabwe, Mozambique has been ruled by only one party since independence. Like those countries, the majority of the voting-age population was not alive during the fight for independence, and popular support for these parties has waned in recent years. Recent elections in the region have seen ruling parties win by their smallest margins ever.

Egypt, Eritrea, and Somalia Forge Alliance Against Ethiopia

In October, Egypt, Eritrea, and Somalia held a joint summit designed to strengthen defense ties aimed at countering Ethiopia, with some calling it an axis against Ethiopia.⁶² Tensions have

⁵⁸ [hXXps://www.zitamar\[.\]com/email/03f79421-8fcf-47fa-a1a4-40a240356236/](mailto:03f79421-8fcf-47fa-a1a4-40a240356236@www.zitamar.com)

⁵⁹ [hXXps://www.zitamar\[.\]com/email/bce0d2e5-95f3-4489-bd2a-b386bfbd956d/](mailto:bce0d2e5-95f3-4489-bd2a-b386bfbd956d@www.zitamar.com)

⁶⁰ [hXXps://www.bbc\[.\]com/news/articles/c391931zyg8o](https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c391931zyg8o)

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[hXXps://www.zitamar\[.\]com/email/8ed8fab9-9b4d-4bf2-a1e3-6918b2c160c9/?ref=zitamar-daily-briefing-newsletter](mailto:8ed8fab9-9b4d-4bf2-a1e3-6918b2c160c9@www.zitamar.com?ref=zitamar-daily-briefing-newsletter)

⁶² [hXXps://www.bbc\[.\]com/news/articles/cdje7pkv1zxo](https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cdje7pkv1zxo)



continued to mount between Ethiopia and Somalia, Egypt, and Eritrea after the Ethiopian government agreed to recognize the breakaway region of Somaliland and its independence from Somalia in January 2024 in exchange for Somaliland's coastal Red Sea access.⁶³ Somali officials have condemned the move as violating the country's territorial integrity and sovereignty and have enhanced security cooperation with Egypt and Eritrea as a result. Eritrea is also against the recognition of Somaliland, while Egypt has longer-term tensions with Ethiopia over the building of a dam project on the Nile River that Egypt has argued threatens its water supplies. Egypt has proposed replacing Ethiopian forces in Somalia with Egyptian forces.

- **Supply Chains:** All three allies are also allies in Sudan's civil war, backing the Sudanese army, while Ethiopia backs the rebel Rapid Defense Forces (RSF). The tensions also have trade and supply chain implications. Ethiopia is landlocked and views access to the Red Sea, either via RSF control of the Red Sea port of Sudan or via the Somaliland deal, as vital to its economic security. Further unrest in the region will have even bigger implications on supply chains, which are already being harmed by Houthi attacks in the area and Somalia's decades-long battle with al-Qaeda's affiliate al-Shabaab. A weakened Ethiopia or Somalia could see violence spread elsewhere.
- **War Unlikely for Now:** The tensions threaten to result in war if not mediated; however, the summit was likely organized to pressure Ethiopia into not going through with the deal with Somaliland and to push for concessions on the dam project in general.

Senegal: Legislative Elections on November 17, 2024

On November 17, 2024, Senegal will hold elections for the National Assembly, just eight months after its controversial presidential elections. This is the first major referendum on the performance of Senegal's new government, led by former opposition members Bassirou Diomaye Faye and Ousmane Sonko. Faye ran for president and won after Sonko was declared ineligible, though Sonko continues to play a major role as prime minister. Their Pastef party will face off against Takku Walla Senegal (a coalition of the parties of two former presidents) as well as Jamm Akk Njerign (led by former Prime Minister Amadou Ba, who finished second in the most recent presidential election). Sonko and recent President Macky Sall, who were locked in a political battle throughout the past few years, will headline their parties' respective candidate lists.⁶⁴

- **Forward Look:** While this election is expected to pass peacefully, previous elections under former President Sall—including the last legislative and presidential ones—were marked by widespread violence and protests over the banning of opposition candidates. Sonko was

⁶³ <https://www.crisisgroup.org/africa/horn-africa/ethiopia-somaliland/stakes-ethiopia-somaliland-deal>

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https://afrique.le360.ma/politique/senegal-demarrage-de-la-campagne-electorale-pour-les-legislatives-du-17-novembre_R6JVOODLIJDJB54VGEPCLL4Y/



the most high-profile candidate barred from running in previous elections.⁶⁵ Faye ordered the dissolution of Parliament after the opposition-controlled body blocked his reforms, including efforts to renegotiate liquid natural gas contracts.⁶⁶ Many of Faye's policies, including renegotiating energy contracts, are unpopular with the international business community, which could withhold investment if Faye's party gains a majority.

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[hXXps://www.aljazeera\[.\]com/news/2024/2/13/protest-over-election-delay-postponed-in-senegal-after-government-ban](https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/2/13/protest-over-election-delay-postponed-in-senegal-after-government-ban)

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[hXXps://www.lemonde\[.\]fr/en/international/article/2024/09/13/senegal-president-faye-announces-dissolution-of-parliament_6725844_4.html](https://www.lemonde[.]fr/en/international/article/2024/09/13/senegal-president-faye-announces-dissolution-of-parliament_6725844_4.html)



| Appendix A: Traffic Light Protocol for Information Dissemination

	Red	Amber
WHEN SHOULD IT BE USED?	Sources may use TLP:RED when information cannot be effectively acted upon by additional parties and could lead to impacts on a party's privacy, reputation, or operations if misused.	Sources may use TLP:AMBER when information requires support to be effectively acted upon but carries risks to privacy, reputation, or operations if shared outside of the organizations involved.
HOW MAY IT BE SHARED?	Recipients may NOT share TLP:RED with any parties outside of the specific exchange, meeting, or conversation in which it is originally disclosed.	Recipients may ONLY share TLP:AMBER information with members of their own organization and its clients, but only on a need-to-know basis to protect their organization and its clients and prevent further harm. Note that TLP:AMBER+STRICT restricts sharing to the organization only.
	Green	Clear
WHEN SHOULD IT BE USED?	Sources may use TLP:GREEN when information is useful for the awareness of all participating organizations, as well as with peers within the broader community or sector.	Sources may use TLP:CLEAR when information carries minimal or no risk of misuse in accordance with applicable rules and procedures for public release.
HOW MAY IT BE SHARED?	Recipients may share TLP:GREEN information with peers and partner organizations within their sector or community but not via publicly accessible channels.	Recipients may share TLP:CLEAR information without restriction, subject to copyright controls.



| Appendix B: ZeroFox Intelligence Probability Scale

All ZeroFox intelligence products leverage probabilistic assessment language in analytic judgments. Qualitative statements used in these judgments refer to associated probability ranges, which state the likelihood of occurrence of an event or development. Ranges are used to avoid a false impression of accuracy. This scale is a standard that aligns with how readers should interpret such terms.

Almost No Chance	Very Unlikely	Unlikely	Roughly Even Chance	Likely	Very Likely	Almost Certain
1-5%	5-20%	20-45%	45-55%	55-80%	80-95%	95-99%

