

MEIWeekly.



Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian enacted a law to suspend cooperation with the United Nations' nuclear watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Iranian state media reported on Wednesday. This move will shut out international inspectors from overseeing the country's contested nuclear programme. Photo: AFP

WHAT'S HOT: MEI PUBLICATIONS, PODCASTS, & MORE

READ: Iran has been hit hard by US and Israeli strikes but is still holding—for now. Amid a fragile ceasefire and a severely weakened regime, what comes next for Tehran? RSIS Research Fellow Ghada Soliman weighs in - click [here](#) to read this article in MEI's Perspectives Series.

WHAT'S NEWS: THE BIG HEADLINES THIS WEEK

Iran Suspends Cooperation with IAEA

This decision will further strain relations between Tehran and the IAEA, which were already at a lowpoint since the start of the 12-day war between Iran and Israel. Experts warned that Iran could feel that it needs to start work on building a weapon as a deterrent to future attacks.

Saudi Team Stuns English Giants in Club World Cup

PIF-powered Al Hilal eliminated Manchester City from the tournament in a landmark victory for the Saudi Arabian team, winning a remarkable last-16 game. The team's run speaks to the standard of football in Saudi Arabia, long dismissed by many as merely a cash grab for players.



"Let's see now if they will criticise us after these games", said Al Hilal midfielder Sergej Milinkovic-Savic (standing with hands raised), after the match. He added, "it's not like how they are speaking about the league". Photo: AFP

Israelis Set a Palestinian Village Ablaze

Scores of masked Israelis arrived in Kafr Malik by foot and vehicle, launching an attack that saw Molotov cocktails thrown and homes and cars set ablaze, according to witnesses. This violence set off a chain of confrontations between settlers and Israeli security forces in the area.

CALENDAR: MEI EVENTS

ICYMI: Jordan's Balancing Act

Amman continues to juggle competing demands — foreign policy pressures, economic dependency, and internal political shifts. This webinar unpacked key developments including Jordan's refusal to absorb Gaza's population under the "Riviera Plan", the political resurgence of Islamists, and the deeper implications of recent royal family tensions. Catch the replay by video or podcast by clicking [here](#).

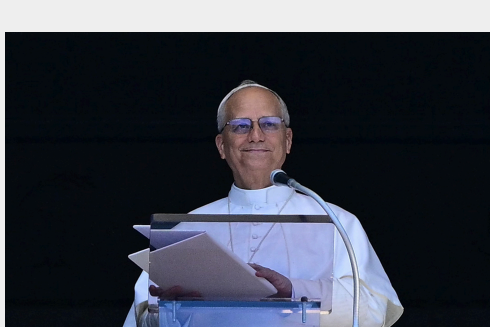


US President Donald Trump's comments on Gaza put Jordan's King Abdullah in an awkward position earlier this year. Photo: US Embassy in Jordan

LOOK AHEAD: WHAT TO KEEP A WATCH ON

Pope Leo Might Make a Trip to Ankara in November

Pope Leo XIV (pictured) told Turkish First Lady Emine Erdogan that he aims to visit Turkey at the end of November, according to a readout of their meeting at the Vatican on Wednesday by the office of the presidency. The Pope, who held an official meeting with the wife of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan at the Vatican's apostolic palace, told her that officials from Ankara and Vatican were working on the details of the visit.



The Pope was expected to visit Ankara in place of the late Pope Francis, who was planning a trip to the nation before his death. Photo: AFP

China's Premier Li to Visit Egypt

Chinese Premier Li Qiang (pictured) will visit Brazil for a meeting of Brics countries and then Egypt next week, Beijing's foreign ministry said on Wednesday. "During the visit, Premier Li Qiang will have in-depth exchanges of views with Egyptian leaders on the development of China-Egypt relations, the deepening of mutually beneficial cooperation, and issues of common concern", said Chinese officials.



"China looks forward to promoting the traditional friendship with Egypt through this visit", added Chinese officials. Photo: AFP

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