

**SATURDAY 16 DECEMBER 2023****SAT 00:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc78bwz)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SAT 00:06 The Real Story (w3ct4q7r)**

Is time running out for Ukraine?

This week is crucial for the future of Ukraine. After promises of open-ended support, the US and the EU are now struggling to agree on new funding for the war effort. President Zelensky says Ukraine risks losing the war if new funding is not available.

So much so that President Zelensky is in Washington in an attempt to rescue a threatened US defence package to Kyiv worth billions of dollars. The aid has become embroiled in domestic, partisan politics.

Meanwhile in Europe, EU diplomats are locked in talks throughout the week in a bid to strike a deal on a financial package.

On the battleground, Ukraine's much-vaunted counter-offensive has stalled. Public support for Ukraine has declined sharply in the US since the invasion and a cost of living crisis is sweeping across Europe. The situation in the Middle East has only served to distract world leaders even more.

Meanwhile in Russia, President Putin appears to be biding time. The Russian economy is holding together despite sanctions and he's standing for re-election next year.

So why is Western support wavering? Is time running out for Ukraine? What is Putin's plan? And what might victory look like for either side?

Shaun Ley is joined by:

Samuel Charap, a senior political scientist at the RAND Corporation in Washington DC

Iuliia Osmolovska, a former Ukrainian diplomat who heads Globsec, a think-tank in Kyiv

Gustav Gressel from the European Council on Foreign Relations in Berlin

Also featuring:

Sergey Markov, former advisor to President Putin

Matt Rosendale, US Republican Congressman

Photo: US President Joe Biden hosts Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, Washington, USA - 12 Dec 2023 Credit: Photo by MICHAEL REYNOLDS/EPA-EFE

Produced by Pandita Lorenz and Ellen Otzen

**SAT 01:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc78gr0)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SAT 01:06 Business Matters (w172yzry0nw104b)**

Maersk shipping firm halt Red Sea route after attacks

We discuss the impact of Maersk's decision to stop using the Red Sea route on the global shipping industry and explore the security issues behind it.

Malawi is not quite ready to give up fossil fuels. We speak to a coal mine manager to find out why.

Our guests in the US and Taiwan share their thoughts.

**SAT 02:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc78lh4)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SAT 02:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tq9m6tx4b)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**SAT 02:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s0z2tyyrj)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**SAT 02:32 Stumped (w3ct4tld)**

David Warner: Answering his critics?

Alison Mitchell and Jim Maxwell are in Perth as Australia take on Pakistan in the opening Test match of the Australian Summer. They are joined by Sunil Gupta from New Delhi and discuss David Warner's 164 in his final series before retiring from Test cricket. Warner is now fifth on Australia's all-time Test run-scorers list after passing Matthew Hayden and Michael Clarke. We debate the importance of the century amid recent

criticism from ex-team-mate Mitchell Johnson.

Plus we hear from Australia captain Pat Cummins on the importance of loyalty in the team and discuss the news that Australia all-rounder Cameron Green has chronic kidney disease.

We reflect on the Women's Premier League auction which saw uncapped India fast bowler Kashvee Gautam and Australia all-rounder Annabel Sutherland picked as the most expensive players. We also look at the stars who missed out.

And we are joined by the former Sri Lanka captain, Duleep Mendis who is now head coach of the Oman. He shares his plans to field a team who are all born in the country. He also looks back on his time as team manager when Sri Lanka won the World Cup on 1996.

Photo: David Warner of Australia celebrates after scoring a century during day one of the Men's First Test match between Australia and Pakistan at Optus Stadium on December 14, 2023 in Perth, Australia. (Credit: Getty Images)

**SAT 03:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc78q78)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SAT 03:06 The Fifth Floor (w3ct4v10)**

Ukraine: Ancient and modern

A stalled front line and diplomatic challenges - we look at the pressures on Ukraine with Vitaliy Shevchenko, Russia editor at BBC Monitoring. And Daria Taradai of BBC Ukrainian tells us about the return to Kyiv of hundreds of ancient Scythian treasures from Crimea, which were on loan to a European museum when Russia annexed Crimea in 2014. Their arrival in Kyiv follows almost 10 years of legal battles with Russia.

Pilgrimage to Aksum

Thousands of pilgrims recently made their way to Aksum in Ethiopia, for a religious holiday taking place for the first time since the end of the civil war in the northern region of Tigray. Aksum is a holy site for Ethiopian Orthodox Christians who say it is home to the Ark of the Covenant. BBC Tigrinya's Girmay Gebbru, who's based in the regional capital Mekelle, travelled to Aksum to talk to local people and visitors.

HIV and sterilisation: a legal victory in Kenya

After a nine-year legal battle, four Kenyan women living with HIV have shared their stories with BBC Africa, of how they were sterilised without informed consent. They have now received compensation, and the recognition that the procedures they went through at a public hospital were carried out because of their HIV status. Health correspondent Dorcas Wangira tells us about meeting them, and the legal significance of this ruling.

Lost and found: Indonesia's rare echidna

Pristine forests, crystal clear water, and an ancient species of animal that was believed to be extinct - BBC Indonesian's Famega Syavira travelled to northeastern Papua to report on the rediscovery of Attenborough's long-beaked echidna. Previously, the only evidence of this rare species of the egg-laying mammal was a dead specimen in a Dutch museum, collected 60 years ago.

(Photo: A copy of the Scythian Pectoral exhibited in the Treasury of the National Museum of History of Ukraine. Credit: Pavlo Bahmut/Getty Images)

**SAT 03:50 Witness History (w3ct4x8d)**

The funeral of Nelson Mandela

On 15 December 2013, South Africa held the funeral of Nelson Mandela who led the struggle in defeating apartheid and became the country's first black president.

His ancestral home in the village of Qunu in South Africa's Eastern Cape hosted 60 world leaders including four United States presidents and two UN secretary generals.

It was the first state funeral held by the country.

Nelson Mandela's eldest child Dr Makaziwe Mandela tells Josephine McDermott how it took eight years to plan and why it makes her proud to remember that day.

(Photo: Candles are lit under a portrait of Nelson Mandela at his funeral service. Credit: Odd Andersen/AFP via Getty Images)

**SAT 04:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc78tzd)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SAT 04:06 The Real Story (w3ct4q7r)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 00:06 today]

**SAT 05:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc78yqj)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SAT 05:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tq9m6v8cq)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**SAT 05:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s0z2tz9zx)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**SAT 05:32 Amazing Sport Stories (w3ct67mw)**

The Curse of County Mayo: Ep 3

As Mayo prepare for the All-Ireland Championship, a formidable obstacle stands in their way. Will the men from Mayo finally win the coveted tournament and vanquish talk of the curse once and for all? Meanwhile, the truth about what really happened that day in Foxford more than 70 years ago is finally within reach. Episode 3 of 3.

Let us know what you think of #AmazingSportStories

**SAT 05:50 More or Less (w3ct5b7f)**

China's missing numbers

How many young people are unemployed? How much debt does the government owe? How many people have died from Covid?

These are questions that many governments will keep regularly updated. But in China they have disappeared.

We investigate the reasons behind China's missing numbers.

Reporter: Celia Hatton

Series Producer: Tom Colls

Sound Engineer: Graham Puddifoot

Editor: Richard Vaden

(Picture: Chinese flag behind a graph with statistics Credit: Igor Kutyaev/iStock/Getty Images Plus)

**SAT 06:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc792gn)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SAT 06:06 Weekend (w172z37m3xzc9q8)**

Giuliani ordered to pay \$148m over false election claims

A jury in the United States has ordered Donald Trump's former lawyer, Rudy Giuliani, to pay \$148 million in damages to two election workers he falsely accused of vote tampering. Mr Giuliani called the figure absurd, and said he would appeal the defamation verdict.

Also in the programme: the Israeli military has admitted it killed three Israeli hostages in Gaza City after they were "mistakenly identified as a threat"; and we speak to the Rwandan-Scottish actor Ncuti Gatwa who will take over as the 15th time lord in the iconic TV sci-fi series Doctor Who.

Joining Julian Worricker to discuss this and more are Leslie Vinjamuri, director of the US and the Americas programme at the Chatham House think tank, and Steven Pemberton, an author, internet pioneer and researcher at the CWI, the Dutch National Research Centre for Mathematics and Informatics in Amsterdam.

(Picture: Former New York mayor Rudy Giuliani speaking to the press after he was ordered to pay \$148 million in his defamation case. Credit: Bonnie Cash/Reuters)

**SAT 07:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7966s)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SAT 07:06 Weekend (w172z37m3xzcfdg)**

Protests after Israel says it mistakenly killed three hostages

While intense fighting continues across the Gaza Strip, three hostages held by Hamas in Gaza were killed by the Israeli military after being "mistakenly identified as a threat." The Israel Defense Forces expressed its deep remorse over the incident, which is now under investigation, and sent the families of those killed its condolences.

Also in the programme: we assess the political debate in the United States after Ukraine president's visit to Washington this week to plead for the resumption of military aid to counter the Russian invasion; and we speak to Sierra Leone's agriculture and food minister who is leading a group to transform global food systems.

Joining Julian Worricker to discuss this and more are Leslie

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<p>Vinjamuri, director of the US and the Americas programme at the Chatham House think tank, and Steven Pemberton, an author, internet pioneer and researcher at the CWI, the Dutch National Research Centre for Mathematics and Informatics in Amsterdam.</p> <p>(Credit: People light candles in Israel's capital Tel Aviv as they protest following an announcement by Israel's military that they had mistakenly killed three Israeli hostages being held in Gaza by Palestinian Islamist group Hamas. Violeta Santos Moura/REUTERS)</p> <p><b>SAT 08:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc799yx)</b> The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.</p> <p><b>SAT 08:06 Weekend (w172z37m3xzc6j)</b> Trump adviser liable over false election claims</p> <p>A jury in the United States has ordered Donald Trump's former lawyer, Rudy Giuliani, to pay \$148 million in damages to two election workers he falsely accused of vote tampering. Mr Giuliani called the figure absurd and said he would appeal the defamation verdict.</p> <p>Also in the programme: a new study in Canada examines the the impact of smartphones on our wellbeing; we speak to the co-founder of the animation company that's producing the sequel to the film Chicken Run.</p> <p>Joining Julian Worricker to discuss this and more are Leslie Vinjamuri, director of the US and the Americas programme at the Chatham House think tank, and Steven Pemberton, an author, internet pioneer and researcher at the CWI, the Dutch National Research Centre for Mathematics and Informatics in Amsterdam.</p> <p>(Picture: Former New York mayor Rudy Giuliani speaking to the press after he was ordered to pay \$148 million in his defamation case. Credit: Bonnie Cash/Reuters)</p> <p><b>SAT 09:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc79fql1)</b> The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.</p> <p><b>SAT 09:06 BBC OS Conversations (w3ct5b2v)</b> Ukrainians and hope</p> <p>Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky knows that if he has any hope of victory in the war in his country he needs his international friends to keep backing him.</p> <p>Although the size of that task was pretty clear this week, in both the United States and Europe, when he returned largely empty handed - for now, at least.</p> <p>Russian President Vladimir Putin, on the other hand, says he remains up for the fight and talked confidently about ultimate success.</p> <p>It is now approaching two years of war in Ukraine. Despite both leaders talking of victory, the fighting and losses continue and neither side has been making much progress on the battlefield.</p> <p>In this edition, we hear conversations among Ukrainians. They talk about the emotional impact of the fighting but also how they are able to have plans despite the war.</p> <p>Three residents of Kyiv share their experiences, including Iryna, on how the approach of a second Christmas at war has affected her wedding plans to her British fiancé.</p> <p>“When first he proposed I said yeah, we’re going to do it after the war, after we will win,” says Iryna. “But now it’s so long already and I feel like I just paused my life. So we decided to get married next year.”</p> <p>Host James Reynolds also hears from a woman whose brother was captured in the Ukrainian port city of Mariupol and brings together Ukrainians in the UK and Poland.</p> <p>A Boffin Media production in partnership with the BBC OS team.</p> <p>(Photo: Iryna and her fiancé Reese)</p> <p><b>SAT 09:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s0z2tzzf)</b> The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.</p> <p><b>SAT 09:32 Pick of the World (w3ct5b9p)</b> What is your best video game of all time?</p> <p>CrowdScience looks at brainwashing - is it really possible to control someone else's mind? The man who gave up everything to look for water in the desert. And Witness History goes back</p>	<p>in time for a game of Tetris.</p> <p><b>SAT 09:50 Over to You (w3ct4rqb)</b> A listener's radio diary on World Questions</p> <p>Listener power strikes again! Following an invitation from Gilbert Banda from Zambia on this programme earlier in the year, World Questions has just been broadcast from Zambia. We asked Gilbert to record his own radio diary and go behind-the-scenes to report on what it is like when the BBC World Service comes to his home city of Lusaka.</p> <p>Plus, a listener asks if an edition of The Real Story on right-wing populism in Europe meant to miss out Britain?</p> <p>Presenter: Rajan Datar Producer: Howard Shannon A Whistledown production for BBC World Service</p> <p><b>SAT 10:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc79kg5)</b> The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.</p> <p><b>SAT 10:06 Sportshour (w3ct4sb3)</b> Sophie Jaques: Helping to make ice hockey more inclusive</p> <p>Boston defender Sophie Jaques and the founder of Black Girl Hockey Club, Renee Hess, tell us how they fell in love with ice hockey and how they're working to make the sport more inclusive.</p> <p>Hess founded the organisation after discovering the sport as a fan but noticing there weren't many people who looked like her in the crowd. Jaques is now a board member of Black Girl Hockey Club and says she takes her position as a role model seriously.</p> <p>Jenni Forbes explains the Australian sport of Swish, which is also known as vision impaired table tennis. It is sometimes likened to a mixture of traditional table tennis and air hockey, and can be enjoyed by people with varying visual impairments.</p> <p>And, Women's World Snooker Tour player Varshaa Sanjeev Kumar tells us about her passion for film making. She discusses making a film inspired by the story of her mother and how she would like to get into working behind the camera on sports broadcasts.</p> <p>(Photo: Sophie Jaques of the Ohio State Buckeyes poses for a portrait after winning the Patty Kazmaier Memorial Award during the 2023 Patty Kazmaier Memorial Award Ceremony at Amsoil Arena on March 18, 2023 in Duluth, Minnesota. Credit: Justin Berl/Getty Images)</p> <p><b>SAT 11:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc79p69)</b> The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.</p> <p><b>SAT 11:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tq9m6vzv)</b> The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen</p> <p><b>SAT 11:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s0z2v01gp)</b> The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.</p> <p><b>SAT 11:32 Health Check (w3ct4pf0)</b> Closer to a cure for morning sickness</p> <p>Morning sickness affects 4 in 5 women at some point in pregnancy but until now we've known little about why. Now researchers in the USA, Sri Lanka and the UK have discovered that it could be linked to a hormone produced in the placenta, and the mother's reaction to it. Dr Graham Easton explains how it could lead to new cures.</p> <p>He also brings Claudia Hammond news from Ukraine where the ongoing war has caused an increase in multidrug-resistant organisms. The US Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Center for Public Health of Ukraine are calling the spread of antimicrobial resistance in Ukraine an urgent crisis.</p> <p>People living in Port Sudan, the country's biggest sea port city, have spent days struck by an unprecedented infestation of flies. Claudia hears how it has made everyday life almost impossible, and how it could have long term health consequences for residents.</p> <p>And how does watching news coverage of disasters make you feel? Claudia discusses how bad news can impact our mental health with Roxane Cohen Silver, Distinguished Professor of Psychological Science, Medicine, and Public Health at the University of California Irvine, and Michael Clemence, Associate Director, Trends &amp; Futures at Ipsos.</p> <p>Presenter: Claudia Hammond</p>	<p>Producer: Clare Salisbury Assistant Producer: Jonathan Blackwell</p> <p><b>SAT 12:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc79syf)</b> The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.</p> <p><b>SAT 12:06 The Documentary (w3ct68tp)</b> Taiwan's balancing act</p> <p>Former BBC Taiwan correspondent Cindy Sui meets two young Taiwanese voters, Shirley Lin and Dennis, who have very different views about the island, its future and its relationship with mainland China. While one is a committed peace campaigner and seeks to reduce antagonism between Taiwan and China, the other has signed up to train with a citizen's army, to be ready for Chinese aggression. We follow them in their work and with their friends, and hear their differing reflections on an an island and an electorate being watched by a global audience.</p> <p><b>SAT 13:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc79xp)</b> The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.</p> <p><b>SAT 13:06 Newshour (w172z09t1pf6kxz)</b> Hostages killed by IDF were holding white flag</p> <p>The Israeli army says three hostages killed in Gaza by the Israeli military had been holding up a white cloth on a stick. Also, we hear from a war crime expert on allegations of genocide in Gaza.</p> <p>Plus, we'll look at the legacy of the leader of Kuwait, Emir Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, who's died at the age of 86; and the breakthrough in understanding what causes sickness in pregnancy, and how it could lead to treatment for the 1% of mothers who get the severe form which can be deadly.</p> <p>(Picture: People prepare the grave during the funeral of Samer Talalka, a member of Israel's Bedouin Arab minority who was mistakenly killed by the Israeli military while being held hostage in Gaza by Hamas. Credit: Clodagh Kilcoyne/REUTERS)</p> <p><b>SAT 14:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7b1fp)</b> The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.</p> <p><b>SAT 14:06 Sportsworld (w172z1l3rt9bcdx)</b> Live Sporting Action</p> <p>Lee James presents live commentary of Manchester City against Crystal Palace in the Premier League and Sportsworld will build up to the commentary game and all the other Premier League matches with the former Liverpool, Tottenham and USA goalkeeper Brad Friedel and the former Spurs, Newcastle and Cameroon defender, Sebastien Bassong.</p> <p>We've also got a wide-ranging chat with the Australia men's cricket captain Pat Cummins on the ultimate test of the Ashes, his captaincy, team loyalty and what achievement in 2023 has given him the most satisfaction.</p> <p>We'll talk the FIFA Club World Cup in Saudi Arabia and the country's plans for tennis and there's a big night of UFC with Leon Edwards defending his welterweight title in Las Vegas at UFC 296.</p> <p>Photo: Michael Olise of Crystal Palace is challenged by Nathan Ake of Manchester City during the Premier League match between Crystal Palace and Manchester City at Selhurst Park on March 11, 2023 in London, England. (Credit: Getty Images)</p> <p><b>SAT 18:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7bjf6)</b> The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.</p> <p><b>SAT 18:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tq9m6wv2d)</b> The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen</p> <p><b>SAT 18:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s0z2v0wpl)</b> The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.</p> <p><b>SAT 18:32 Amazing Sport Stories (w3ct67mw)</b> [Repeat of broadcast at 05:32 today]</p> <p><b>SAT 18:50 Sporting Witness (w3ct4sjw)</b> Roger Federer's first Men's Wimbledon win</p> <p>In 2003, arguably one of the greatest tennis players of all time, Roger Federer won the Wimbledon Men's title.</p>
Supported by <a href="https://bbc.co.uk/programmes/">bbc.co.uk/programmes/</a>		

Agged just 21, it was his first major win and was the start of a record eight men's single titles at the championships. Uma Doraiswamy goes through the BBC and Wimbledon archives where the Swiss champion looks back on his momentous win.

(Photo: Roger Federer holds the trophy after his victory over Mark Philippoussis in the Men's Singles Final at the Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championships on July 6, 2003 at the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, in Wimbledon. Credit: Getty Images)

**SAT 19:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7bn5b)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SAT 19:06 The Reith Lectures (w3ct68sr)**  
Our democratic future: The future of solidarity

Can we develop a shared sense of belonging in today's polarised societies? How can we ensure that we look after the less fortunate among us in an economy that seems only to reward the 'already haves'? This third lecture addresses the challenges posed by technologies that enrich a small elite and privatise solidarity with bespoke healthcare and benefits that might undermine collective solidarity. And it examines reforms and politics that might underpin our sense of community, from universal basic income to civic nationalism.

The series is delivered by Ben Ansell, professor of Comparative Democratic Institutions at Nuffield College, Oxford University.

**SAT 20:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7brxg)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SAT 20:06 The Arts Hour (w3ct4vm2)**  
On Tour in Buenos Aires

Presenter Nikki Bedi is joined on stage by Buenos Aires artists to explore the 'Porteño' identity of the city where inflation is soaring, tango is danced in the street and there are said to be more psychoanalysts per capita than any other city in the world.

There is live music from Dante Spinetta and Fémina, stand-up comedy from Ana Carolina and interviews and discussion with actress Delfina Chaves, filmmaker Benjamin Naishat and the live audience.

Nikki's guide for the 'Culture Cab' tour of the city's artistic locations is Macarena Gagliardi Cordiviola.

Presenter: Nikki Bedi  
Producer: Nicki Paxman

(Photo: Dante Spinetta performing at Ciudad Cultural Konex. Credit: Delfina D'Arminio, Fixer Argentina)

**SAT 21:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7bwnl)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SAT 21:06 Newshour (w172z09t1pf7jx0)**  
Increasing pressure on Netanyahu to reach new deal with Hamas

The pressure on Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to reach a new deal with Hamas on hostages is increasing. Mr Netanyahu said the fighting in Gaza would continue. We hear from Sharon Lifshitz, her mother was taken hostage by Hamas and freed a month ago but her father remains captive and she calls for a change of strategy from the Israeli government.

Also on the programme: a Vatican court has sentenced a cardinal to five years for embezzlement; and the indirect consequences of Israel's war on Hamas are making the world's biggest shipping companies suspend sailings through the Red Sea.

(Picture: People rally for the release of hostages kidnapped on the deadly October 7 attack by Palestinian Islamist group Hamas. Credit: REUTERS/Amir Goldstein)

**SAT 22:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7c0dq)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SAT 22:06 The Newsroom (w172z2swvwm70mm)**  
The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**SAT 22:20 Sports News (w172z1k9b2pp1tr)**  
BBC Sport brings you all the latest stories and results from around the world.

**SAT 22:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s0z2v1cp3)**  
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**SAT 22:32 Assignment (w3ct4m82)**  
Ukraine: Fighting for openness

As hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian soldiers defend their country against Russia, many patriotic civilians are engaged in a struggle that's less risky, but that they believe is also vital. They're battling for a fairer, less corrupt Ukraine, worthy of its heroes.

For Assignment, Tim Whewell follows one tireless citizens' group in the city of Dnipro as they continue, even in wartime, to hold local authorities to account. They've been investigating a contract to repair housing damaged in a Russian attack. And they claim there's been corrupt profiteering. But Dnipro's powerful mayor dismisses the allegations - and deliberately insults those who question his priorities. What's the role of civil society when rockets are falling? And can Ukraine - one of the world's more corrupt countries - pursue reform while the war continues?

Produced and presented by Tim Whewell

(Image: Protestors outside Dnipro City Hall call for more spending on the army – and less on urban improvement projects. Credit: BBC/Tim Whewell)

**SAT 23:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7c44v)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SAT 23:06 Music Life (w3ct4mgv)**  
Breathing through your fingers with Adrian Younge, Lonnie Liston Smith, Jean Carne and Brian Jackson

Since starting out in the late 90's, musician, DJ and label owner Adrian Younge's sound has borrowed from soul, funk, jazz and hip hop. His work includes scores for film and TV, including the Marvel series Luke Cage; a collaborative album with Ghostface Killah based on the comic book Twelve Reasons To Die; and productions for Kendrick Lamar and Jay-Z. He founded the label Linear Labs, and is also co-founder of the Jazz Is Dead label with A Tribe Called Quest's Ali Shaheed Muhammad. He's produced for greats such as Snoop Dogg, Kendrick Lamar and Wu Tang Clan, and in 2021, he released The American Negro, an album that provides an unapologetic critique on the evolution of racism in America.

Jean Carne is an incredible soul singer boasting a five-octave vocal range. She started her career in the early 1970s, with her 1978 solo single Don't Let It Go to Your Head becoming an R&B hit. She's also worked with Motown Records, the Temptations and Michael Jackson, and in 2014, she was honoured with a Lifetime Achievement Award by the National R&B Music Society. She's worked with host Adrian through the years, most notably on the 1990 song Star Flower.

Brian Jackson is a keyboardist, flautist, singer, composer, and producer who had a decades-long writing and producing partnership with Gil Scott-Heron, including the albums Pieces of a Man, Free Will, and Winter in America. He went on to work with Earth, Wind & Fire and Stevie Wonder, and also has an extensive solo career, looking to both the present and the past for inspiration in order to honour the ancient tradition of the griot – the African troubadour of truth.

Legendary jazz pianist and bandleader Lonnie Liston Smith joined Pharaoh Sanders's band in 1968, where he began to experiment with electric keyboards, and also had a stint in Miles Davis' band before forming Lonnie Liston Smith and the Cosmic Echoes in 1974. In April this year, he released his first record in 25 years, called JID017.

## SUNDAY 17 DECEMBER 2023

**SUN 00:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7c7wz)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SUN 00:06 BBC OS Conversations (w3ct5b2v)**  
[Repeat of broadcast at 09:06 on Saturday]

**SUN 00:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s0z2v1m5c)**  
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**SUN 00:32 Amazing Sport Stories (w3ct67mw)**  
[Repeat of broadcast at 05:32 on Saturday]

**SUN 00:50 Sporting Witness (w3ct4s5w)**  
[Repeat of broadcast at 18:50 on Saturday]

**SUN 01:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7ccn3)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SUN 01:06 Unexpected Elements (w3ct4wkj)**  
An exploration of empathy

On the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration Of Human Rights, we look into the phenomenon of caring for things outside of ourselves – whether it's human rights, the environment, or even odd sports.

**SUN 02:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7chd7)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SUN 02:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tq9m6xt1f)**  
The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**SUN 02:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s0z2v1vnm)**  
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**SUN 02:32 Health Check (w3ct4pf0)**  
[Repeat of broadcast at 11:32 on Saturday]

**SUN 03:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7cm4c)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SUN 03:06 The Documentary (w3ct68tp)**  
[Repeat of broadcast at 12:06 on Saturday]

**SUN 04:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7cqwh)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SUN 04:06 From Our Own Correspondent (w3ct4nty)**  
The Wagner Group at work in the Central African Republic

Pascale Harter introduces personal insights, wit and analysis from BBC correspondents, journalists and writers around the world.

After the Wagner Group launched a failed rebellion and march on Moscow, Russia's government announced it was to be disbanded. But as Yemisi Adegoke found on the streets of Bangui, the Group seems to be still very much alive and active in the Central African Republic - and it's just one element of a wider strategy to expand Russian influence and economic involvement in the region.

Formal state occasions aren't always exciting - but in Poland, cinemas and online broadcasters have attracted huge audiences to sessions of its new government. The swearing-in of new Prime Minister Donald Tusk this week also provided some moments of high drama. Sarah Rainsford reflects on the divides in Polish society which the last eight years of nationalist government have sharpened - and the political battles which will be fought in coming months.

Danny Vincent visits a Tam Tak Chi - an activist being held in Hong Kong's Lai Chi Kok detention centre before his upcoming trial for sedition and for violating the national security law which Beijing has imposed on the territory. His is just one of dozens of cases pending under the law - and just one sign of ever-shrinking space for public dissent in the city.

And from Tunisia, Elizia Volkmann reports from the farmland which usually yields tomatoes and peppers to make one of the country's iconic products - the fiery-red spicy paste called harissa. Tunisians love to slather it on almost everything, and the Cap Bon brand of harissa is internationally known - but climate change is making it far harder for farmers to keep the industry supplied with raw materials. And more traditional, handmade harissa recipes are also in decline. Does the future threaten to be far blander?

(Image: Figures from a monument to the Wagner Group in Bangui, Central African Republic, November 2023. Credit: BBC)

**SUN 04:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s0z2v234w)**  
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**SUN 04:32 The Explanation (w3ct4z75)**  
How does the World Health Organization work?

Many global health experts believe we should brace ourselves for more epidemics and pandemics in the future. But deadly diseases are not exactly new. Since 1948, the World Health Organization's aim has been "the attainment by all people of the highest possible level of health". Many would say its greatest

achievement has been the eradication of smallpox; in more recent years, some were critical of its response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Tulip Mazumdar, the global health correspondent for BBC News, speaks to Claire Graham about the organisation's successes, failures and future.

**SUN 04:50 Sporting Witness (w3ct4sjw)**  
[Repeat of broadcast at 18:50 on Saturday]

**SUN 05:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7cvmm)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SUN 05:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tq9m6y58t)**  
The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**SUN 05:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s0z2v26x0)**  
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**SUN 05:32 The Documentary (w3ct68np)**  
Stories from the New Silk Road: Norway

In the 'High North' of Norway, in a town called Kirkenes, set on the coast, and inside the Arctic Circle, Anna Holligan is on the edge of what the Chinese refer to as the Polar Silk Road. The Northern Sea Route or North East Passage is an increasingly valuable shipping route for both Russia and China, heading east from this region, hugging the Russian coastline to Eastern Siberia.

On the Barren Safari with guide Hans Hatle, Anna discovers how the Polar Silk Road could potentially change the fortunes for this most northerly Norwegian town. Port Director Terje Jørgensen wants to open up to Chinese shipping and is in talks with operators to increase the capabilities of the port. Terje's point is simple, Kirkenes is geographically closer to Beijing via sea, than any other port in Europe.

In 2010 a ship departed from Kirkenes bound for China with 41,500 tons of iron ore concentrate, arriving 22 days later. Via the Suez canal, the same journey would have taken over 40 days. It was the first time that a non-Russian ship had been along the Northern Sea Route along Russia's Northern coastline, showing that this was possible and paving the way for China's Arctic policy.

Here, Anna shines a light on China's wider ambitions in the Arctic. The region is rich in minerals, wildlife, fish, and other natural resources. So what does China's Polar Silk Road mean for Norway and when the sea ice melts, who is set to benefit most?

Presenter: Anna Holligan  
Producer: Peter Shevlin  
Editor: Alan Hall  
A C60 Media production for BBC World Service.

(Photo: A man holds giant crabs or king crabs in each hand, in the Barents sea, Kirkenes, Norway. Credit: Eric Beracassat/Getty Images)

**SUN 06:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7czcr)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SUN 06:06 Weekend (w172z37m3xzg6mc)**  
Britain and Germany call for 'sustainable ceasefire' in Gaza

The foreign ministers of Britain and Germany say there's an urgent need for what they call a sustainable ceasefire in Gaza. In a newspaper article, they say the sooner a truce comes between Israel and Hamas the better. We will speak to a representative from the UN agency UNRWA for the latest humanitarian situation in Gaza.

Also in the programme: we look at the long and winding road for Ukraine to become a member of the European Union; and the music festival taking place in Mali despite a blockade from an Islamist group.

Joining Julian Worricker on the programme are Michaela Kuefner, chief political editor of Germany's international broadcaster Deutsche Welle, and Shashank Joshi, the defence editor of The Economist.

(Picture: A damaged structure stands in Gaza as seen from southern Israel on December 16, 2023. Credit: Clodagh Kilcoyne/Reuters)

**SUN 07:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7d33w)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SUN 07:06 Weekend (w172z37m3xgzbch)**  
Pressure grows on Israel to secure hostage release

Hundreds of people gathered in Tel Aviv to demand the Israeli government to secure the release of hostages held by Hamas. Some of the families of the hostages met with US president Joe Biden this week. Among them was Jon Polin, father of Hersch Goldberg-Polin, a 23-year-old man who was taken from the Supernova music festival in Israel. Jon and the Israeli peace activist and former hostage negotiator Gerson Baskin join us on the programme.

Also in the programme: the International Organization for Migration says 61 migrants are believed to have drowned in a shipwreck off the coast of Libya; and we speak to the author who believes social divisions can be healed by our curiosity.

Joining Julian Worricker on the programme are Michaela Kuefner, chief political editor of Germany's international broadcaster Deutsche Welle, and Shashank Joshi, the defence editor of The Economist.

(Picture: Relatives and supporters rally for the release of hostages kidnapped by Hamas. Credit: Violeta Santos Moura/Reuters)

**SUN 08:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7d6w0)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SUN 08:06 Weekend (w172z37m3xzg3m)**  
Britain and Germany say "sustainable" truce needed in war

The foreign ministers of Britain and Germany say there's an urgent need for what they call a sustainable ceasefire in Gaza. In a newspaper article, they say the sooner a truce comes between Israel and Hamas the better. We speak to Riyadh Mansour, the Palestinian ambassador to the UN.

Also in the programme: Serbians are going to the polls today to elect a new parliament; and why an essay by the renowned Russian American journalist Masha Gessen has caused controversy in Germany.

Joining Julian Worricker on the programme are Michaela Kuefner, chief political editor of Germany's international broadcaster Deutsche Welle, and Shashank Joshi, the defence editor of The Economist.

(Picture: A Merkava tank is seen as Israeli soldiers operate in the Gaza Strip. Credit: Israel Defense Forces via Reuters.)

**SUN 09:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7dbm4)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SUN 09:06 From Our Own Correspondent (w3ct4nty)**  
[Repeat of broadcast at 04:06 today]

**SUN 09:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s0z2v2pwj)**  
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**SUN 09:32 Outlook (w3ct4rc1)**  
The beatboxing cellist making music out of family history

Gary Washington's family always knew their ancestors in South Carolina had been enslaved, but they were too busy dealing with challenges in the present to give the past much thought. Gary found solace and comfort in his passion for the cello as a child and, despite a chaotic family life, eventually found a way to study it full time, developing a unique style which sometimes includes beatboxing. Then, as a touring musician, he visited Manchester in the UK and discovered its connections with slavery. Realising the cotton his ancestors had picked contributed to the city's wealth spurred Gary on to research his family's history in more depth. He turned what he discovered into an epic work for orchestra, A Story of A People Called Black.

Presenter: Eric MugaJu  
Producer: Laura Thomas

Get in touch: outlook@bbc.com or WhatsApp +44 330 678 2707

(Photo: Gary Washington playing cello. Credit: Gary Washington)

**SUN 10:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7dgc8)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SUN 10:06 Music Life (w3ct4mgv)**  
[Repeat of broadcast at 23:06 on Saturday]

**SUN 11:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7dl3d)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SUN 11:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tq9m6ywr1)**  
The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**SUN 11:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s0z2v2ycs)**  
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**SUN 11:32 The Explanation (w3ct4z75)**  
[Repeat of broadcast at 04:32 today]

**SUN 11:50 More or Less (w3ct5b7f)**  
[Repeat of broadcast at 05:50 on Saturday]

**SUN 12:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7dpvj)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SUN 12:06 The Reith Lectures (w3ct68sr)**  
[Repeat of broadcast at 19:06 on Saturday]

**SUN 13:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7dtln)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SUN 13:06 Newshour (w172z091pf9gv2)**  
Mounting pressure on Israel to bring hostages home

Pressure mounts on the Israeli government to bring back hostages held by Hamas; but what are the chances of negotiation mediated by Qatar?

Also in the programme; a controversy in Germany over the awarding of a political prize; a snap election in Serbia; and Carlos Lyra, one of the men behind the popularity of bossa nova music has died.

(Picture: Relatives and supporters hold signs as they rally for the release of hostages kidnapped on the deadly October 7 attack by Palestinian Islamist group Hamas, amid the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hamas, in Tel Aviv, Israel, December 16, 2023. Credit: REUTERS/Violeta Santos Moura)

**SUN 14:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7dybs)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SUN 14:06 Music Life (w3ct4mgv)**  
[Repeat of broadcast at 23:06 on Saturday]

**SUN 15:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7f22x)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SUN 15:06 Sportsworld (w172z113rt9fd24)**  
Live Sporting Action

Sportsworld brings live Premier League commentary from Anfield as Liverpool take on Manchester United.

The Sierra Leone captain and former Liverpool defender Steven Caulker joins Delyth Lloyd to look ahead to the game.

There will also be updates from the day's three other Premier League games, including Arsenal's match against Brighton, and Aston Villa's trip to Brentford.

And the Sportsworld team will also be across the latest cricket from around the world, including the first Test between Australia and Pakistan, and the one-off Women's Test between India and England.

Photo: Mohamed Salah of Liverpool with Manchester United's Fred during the Premier League match between Liverpool FC and Manchester United at Anfield on March 05, 2023 in Liverpool, England. (Credit: Liverpool FC via Getty Images)

**SUN 19:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7fk2f)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SUN 19:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tq9m6zvqm)**  
The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**SUN 19:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s0z2v3xbt)**  
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**SUN 19:32 In the Studio (w3ct4yg4)**

Kengo Kuma: Building new Japanese histories

Kengo Kuma has a philosophy: to enrich the connection between buildings and nature, “almost tuning-in” to the materials. His architecture is inspired by traditional Japanese design, and he’s a serious critic of the global dominance of concrete.

Time magazine named him the world’s most influential architect in 2021. Kuma’s mission has manifested in iconic buildings including China’s Folk Art Museum, the V&A in Scotland, and Japan’s National Stadium, built for the 2020 Olympics. His work also extends to “micro-architecture”, encompassing pens and sustainable sneakers, among other things.

Broadcaster Nick Luscombe follows Kuma to Japan’s oldest and largest lake, and to the ancient capital of Otsu, to observe an unusual project. Kuma is attempting to represent the history of the area not by constructing a new building, but by creating a monument to a legendary cow. Along the way we hear from Chief Priest Fuke of Mii-dera Temple, and philosopher/writer Seigo Matsuoka.

Presenter/producer: Nick Luscombe  
Executive producer: Jack Howson  
A Peanut & Crumb production for BBC World Service

(Image: Kengo Kuma. Credit: Jack Howson)

**SUN 20:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7fntk)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SUN 20:06 Unexpected Elements (w3ct4wkj)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 01:06 today]

**SUN 21:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7fntk)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SUN 21:06 Newshour (w172z09t1pfbft3)**

Calls grow for Israel to let more humanitarian supplies into Gaza

As aid passes through a second border crossing, the Israeli military says it’s found a Hamas tunnel stretching for more than four kilometres below Gaza.

Also on the programme: we hear from the UN team of health workers that has been to Gaza’s main hospital; and the life of the Croatian American wine maker Mike Grgich who has died aged 100.

(Image: Palestinians gather to receive food cooked by a charity kitchen in Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip on 17 December 2023. Credit: Reuters/Tabatibi)

**SUN 22:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7fx9t)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SUN 22:06 The Newsroom (w172z2swvwm9xjq)**

The world’s Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**SUN 22:20 Sports News (w172z1k9b2pryqv)**

BBC Sport brings you all the latest stories and results from around the world.

**SUN 22:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s0z2v48l6)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**SUN 22:32 Outlook (w3ct4rc1)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:32 today]

**SUN 23:00 BBC News (w172z2r6jc7g11y)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**SUN 23:06 The Climate Question (w3ct5bl2)**

Was this year’s climate summit a game-changer?

The deal at this year’s COP conference in Dubai is being hailed as “historic” because it’s the first time nearly 200 countries have all acknowledged the role of fossil fuels in Climate Change. But critics says the agreement is riddled with loopholes, and that the pledge to “transition” from oil, gas, and coal is too weak.

So who’s right? And what difference will this year’s discussions make? Graihagh Jackson gets the low-down from COP from BBC Climate Editor Justin Rowlett, and she talks to three

leading experts on Climate Change diplomacy.

Guests:

Adil Najam - Professor of International Relations, Earth and Environment at Boston University’s Pardee School, USA  
Dr Musonda Mumba – Secretary General for the UN Convention on Wetlands  
David Victor - Professor of Innovation and Public Policy University of California, San Diego, USA.

Email us: theclimatequestion@bbc.com

Producers: Osman Iqbal, Octavia Woodward  
Editor: Simon Watts  
Sound mix: Graham Puddifoot and Tom Brignell

**SUN 23:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s0z2v4dbb)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**SUN 23:32 Pick of the World (w3ct5b9p)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:32 on Saturday]

**SUN 23:50 Over to You (w3ct4rqb)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:50 on Saturday]

**MONDAY 18 DECEMBER 2023****MON 00:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjl027)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**MON 00:06 From Our Own Correspondent (w3ct4nty)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 04:06 on Sunday]

**MON 00:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc48cbm)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**MON 00:32 The Explanation (w3ct4z75)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 04:32 on Sunday]

**MON 00:50 More or Less (w3ct5b7f)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 05:50 on Saturday]

**MON 01:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjl3tc)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**MON 01:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwj4fgk)**

The world’s Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**MON 01:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc48h2r)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**MON 01:32 Happy News (w3ct5hvl)**

The Happy Pod: Refugees share their stories of hope

This week, the Somalian man who brought the power of books to children living in refugee camps. Also, how a fascination with electricity inspired a Congolese woman to create a robotic medical tool. And, the cyclist who took to the Olympic track after fleeing Afghanistan.

**MON 02:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjl7kh)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**MON 02:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwj4k6p)**

The world’s Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**MON 02:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc48ltw)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**MON 02:32 CrowdScience (w3ct4y53)**

Are seeds alive?

Seeds are crucial to human existence – we eat them, we grow them and then we eat what they become. But what is a seed and how come it can sit there doing nothing for ages and then suddenly, when the conditions are right, burst into a plant?

That’s what CrowdScience listener Anke has been wondering. She runs an aquaponic salad farm near Stockholm in Sweden and she germinates thousands of seeds every week. With a bit of moisture and light, seeds that have been dormant for months can become leafy greens in just a few weeks. So are seeds alive,

are they on some kind of life support, or is something else going on?

Presenter Caroline Steel sets off to Sweden to meet Anke, before heading for the Nordgen seed bank near Malmö. There she discovers how seeds being stored for future generations are tested for viability, and wonders what’s going on inside a seed that allows it to remain asleep before suddenly coming to life. How does a seed decide that the time is right?

We hear about one of the world’s longest running science experiments - a real-life treasure hunt that takes place every twenty years in Michigan, USA. Plant biologists tramp through the snow looking for bottles of seeds that were buried nearly a century and a half ago. Once found they try to germinate them. What superpowers does a seed need to be able to last that long?

Caroline also meets the woman who tried to grow date seeds that had been discarded at the palace of Herod the Great 2000 years ago, and ended up with previously extinct trees that produce delicious fruit. Surely a seed can’t have been alive for that long. Or can it?

Contributors:

Anke Johanna van Lenteren, Johanna Stadsodlingar, Sweden  
Johan Axelsson, Nordic Genetic Resource Center, Sweden  
Prof George Bassel, University of Warwick, UK  
Dr Grace Fleming, Michigan State University, USA  
Dr Sarah Sallon, Hadassah Medical Center, Israel

Presenter: Caroline Steel  
Producer: Ben Motley  
Editor: Richard Collings  
Production Coordinator: Jonathan Harris

(Photo: Hands holding spinach seeds. Credit: Vince Streato / Getty Images)

**MON 03:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjl9m)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**MON 03:06 People Fixing The World (w3ct4y0l)**

The country tackling loneliness

Loneliness affects millions of people around the world and can have a significant impact on our mental and physical health.

In the Netherlands, they are taking the problem seriously, with a national coalition of organisations all trying to bring people together and build connections.

We visit a youth club teaching teenagers how to overcome shyness and social anxiety. Plus, we drop in on a soup-making session that’s bringing the generations together, and breaking down stereotypes.

Presenter: Myra Anubi  
Reporter/producer: Claire Bates  
Series Producer: Jon Bithrey  
Editor: Bridget Harney  
Sound mix: Gareth Jones

email: peoplefixingtheworld@bbc.co.uk

(Image: Queen Maxima of the Netherlands at Oma’s Soup, Getty Images)

**MON 03:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc48ql0)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**MON 03:32 Pick of the World (w3ct5b9p)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:32 on Saturday]

**MON 03:50 Over to You (w3ct4rqb)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 09:50 on Saturday]

**MON 04:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjlh1r)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**MON 04:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwj4spy)**

The world’s Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**MON 04:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc48vb4)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**MON 04:32 The Conversation (w3ct4twg)**

Women in cybersecurity

Kim Chakanetsa meets two cybersecurity experts who help women stay safe online.

Vandana Verma Sehgal is a Security Solutions leader at Snk and the Chair of the Board of Directors for OWASP, the Open Web Application Security Project Foundation. She is also the founder of InfosecKids and InfosecGirls.

Sophina Kio-Lawson is an information security engineer from Nigeria and the co-founder for SheSecures, an initiative that promotes cyber literacy and inspires and empowers young African women who aspire to work in the tech industry.

Produced by Alice Gioia.

(Image: (L) Sophina Kio-Lawson. (R) Vandana Verma Sehgal.)

#### **MON 05:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjllsw)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **MON 05:06 Newsday (w172z07c2rxlbrf)**

Hamas: '90 killed at Jabalia refugee camp'

The Hamas authorities in Gaza say at least 90 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli airstrikes in a single day in the Jabalia refugee camp.

The Hong Kong media tycoon and pro-democracy campaigner, Jimmy Lai, has gone on trial for criticising China's Communist leaders.

And thousands of children under the age of five are suffering from acute malnutrition in Afghanistan.

#### **MON 06:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjlk0)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **MON 06:06 Newsday (w172z07c2rxlghk)**

Hamas: 'Israeli strikes on refugee camp kill 90'

The Hamas authorities in Gaza say at least 90 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli airstrikes in a single day in the Jabalia refugee camp.

Vote projections following a general election in Serbia suggest that President Aleksandar Vucic's party will keep its majority in parliament.

And Arsenal is back on top of the Premier League table.

#### **MON 07:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjlv94)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **MON 07:06 Newsday (w172z07c2rxlfl7p)**

Israel-Hamas: Ceasefire calls grow

Israel is coming under growing international pressure over civilian casualties in Gaza, after 90 Palestinians were killed in airstrikes at the Jabalia refugee camp.

More big shipping firms stop Red Sea routes after attacks by Iran-backed Houthi rebels in Yemen who say they are targeting ships travelling to Israel.

And the veteran Hong Kong pro-democracy campaigner and media tycoon, Jimmy Lai, has gone on trial.

#### **MON 08:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjlv18)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **MON 08:06 HARDtalk (w3ct4p40)**

Paul Caruana Galizia – fighting for accountability and justice

Stephen Sackur speaks to Paul Caruana Galizia whose mother Daphne was a journalist in Malta, and was assassinated for exposing endemic corruption and sleaze. Six years on have Daphne's family won their fight for accountability and justice?

#### **MON 08:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc49b9n)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

#### **MON 08:32 Business Daily (w3ct4mvm)**

Has shoplifting become a global problem?

Shoplifting has long been a concern for small and large retailers worldwide, but many believe the issue has recently increased - including incidents of retail violence.

Sam Gruet speaks to some of these retailers in New Zealand,

India, Pakistan and the UK, to explore the possible reasons behind the rise in retail crime and what measures they're introducing to respond to the escalating issue. These include covert security, body cameras and stab-proof vests.

He also asks if advances in technology can act as a powerful deterrent to potential shoplifters, and if it could be the solution to minimise retail loss.

(Picture: Security camera. Credit: Getty Images)

Presenter: Sam Gruet  
Producer: Amber Mehmood

#### **MON 08:50 Witness History (w3ct4xbp)**

Tsunami devastates Samoa

On 29 September 2009, a devastating tsunami hit Samoa, killing 149 people and leaving a trail of destruction.

For Lumepa Hald it was a terrifying day which resulted in a tragic loss.

She tells her story to Gill Kearsley.

(Photo: The devastation in Samoa after the tsunami in 2009. Credit: Phil Walter/Getty Images)

#### **MON 09:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjm2sd)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **MON 09:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwj5dfl)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

#### **MON 09:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc49g1s)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

#### **MON 09:32 CrowdScience (w3ct4y53)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 02:32 today]

#### **MON 10:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjm6jj)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **MON 10:06 The History Hour (w3ct4w64)**

Mandela's funeral and Tsar's reburial

Max Pearson presents a collection of this week's Witness History episodes from the BBC World Service. Our guest is Dr Ongama Mtimka, lecturer in South African politics at the Nelson Mandela University. He tells us about Mandela's life and legacy 10 years on from his death.

We start with with Mandela's daughter, Makaziwe, describing her relationship with her father and planning his funeral. Then, the brother of Emanuela Orlandi describes his lifelong mission to unravel the mystery of her disappearance in Rome in 1983.

The second half of the programme has a Russian flavour. A relative of Tsar Nicholas II describes the murder of the Romanov royal family in 1918. Then a Russian journalist describes attending the Romanov's controversial reburial 80 years later. We finish with one of Russia's greatest poets, Anna Akhmatova.

Contributors:  
Dr Ongama Mtimka - Lecturer in South African politics at the Nelson Mandela University.  
Dr Phumla Makaziwe Mandela - Nelson Mandela's daughter.  
Pietro Orlandi - Emanuela Orlandi's brother.  
Olga Romanov - Great niece of Tsar Nicholas II.  
Lilia Dubovaya - Journalist who was at the reburial of the Romanovs.  
Era Korobova - Art historian and expert on Anna Akhmatova.

(Photo: Nelson Mandela. Credit: Tom Stoddart Archive/Getty Images)

#### **MON 11:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjmb8n)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **MON 11:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwj5mxv)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

#### **MON 11:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc49pk1)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

#### **MON 11:32 The Conversation (w3ct4twg)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 04:32 today]

#### **MON 12:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjmg0s)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **MON 12:06 Outlook (w3ct4qgz)**

A crime reporter and her own stalking story

A former television news anchor and now a true crime podcast host, Scottish Isla Traquair is used to telling other people's stories. Familiar with the law and courts as an observer, her perspective changed after she moved to the English countryside and was stalked by one of her neighbours. Today she tells her own story of seeing crime from both perspectives.

Growing up in Sweden, Patrik Svensson loved going fishing for eels with his father. As a young boy the eel was steeped in mystery for him, but the more he learnt about the fish, the more mysterious it became. This set Patrik on a scientific and personal journey of discovery, published in his book The Gospel of the Eels.

If you've been affected by anything you've heard in this programme, please visit the BBC Actionline website at [bbc.co.uk/actionline](http://bbc.co.uk/actionline).

Get in touch: [outlook@bbc.com](mailto:outlook@bbc.com) or WhatsApp +44 330 678 2707

(Photo: Isla Traquair. Credit: Denny's Ilic)

#### **MON 12:50 Witness History (w3ct4xbp)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 today]

#### **MON 13:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjmkrx)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **MON 13:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwj5wf3)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

#### **MON 13:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc49y19)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

#### **MON 13:32 CrowdScience (w3ct4y53)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 02:32 today]

#### **MON 14:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjmpl1)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **MON 14:06 Newshour (w172z09tdyqjbrg)**

US climate envoy John Kerry defends Dubai climate deal

When the gavel came down at the global climate summit in Dubai last week, the deal struck by more than 200 hundred participants was heralded by its supporters as ground-breaking and historic. Critics of the agreement - aimed at limiting global warming to less than 1.5°C - say it's toothless and full of loopholes.

U.S. Special Presidential Envoy for Climate, John Kerry, has told Newshour that he's focusing on putting the deal into action. But some question whether the transition the deal talks about will happen quickly enough.

Also in the programme: As media mogul Jimmy Lai pleads not guilty to security charges in Hong Kong -- another pro-democracy leader now in exile tells us why this trial matters; and why Chileans have rejected a second attempt to reform the country's constitution.

(Photo shows John Kerry speaking at a press conference in Dubai, United Arab Emirates on 13 December 2023. Credit: Martin Divisek/EPA)

#### **MON 15:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjmt85)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **MON 15:06 HARDtalk (w3ct4p40)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:06 today]

#### **MON 15:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4b5jk)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

#### **MON 15:32 World Business Report (w3ct4zf9)**

Companies pause shipping through the Red Sea

BP say the "deteriorating security situation" has forced them to make the decision after recent attacks on vessels by Houthi rebels.

It follows two of the world's largest shipping companies, Maersk and Hapag-Lloyd, saying they were temporarily stopping all freight through the area.

Sam Fenwick gets the latest reaction and finds out what the wider global impact is.

(Picture: Containers are seen on the Maersk's container ship Maersk Gibraltar at the APM Terminals in the port of Algeciras, Spain January 19, 2023. Credit: REUTERS/Jon Nazca/File Photo)

#### **MON 16:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjny09)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **MON 16:06 BBC OS (w172z0w6fr6kznx)**

Israeli airstrikes kill 110 Palestinians in Gaza

We get an update from Batool, an 18 year old woman in Gaza who we've kept in touch with, on how she is coping in the conflict - and get the latest on the Israel- Hamas conflict from our correspondents.

We speak to an Australian journalist who filmed a crocodile swimming in floodwaters, after extreme weather driven by tropical cyclone Jasper dumped a year's worth of rain on some areas.

As fighting in Sudan's civil war spreads south of the capital Khartoum, where hundreds of thousands of displaced people had taken refuge. We speak to two residents about the challenges of providing basics including healthcare for their family.

And we get reactions from people in France after the Miss France contest chose a winner with short hair for the first time in its 103-year history - causing much controversy.

Presenter: James Reynolds

(Photo by MOHAMMED SABER/EPA-

EFE/REX/Shutterstock

Smoke rises following Israeli air strikes in Al Nusairat refugee camp, southern Gaza Strip, 18 December 2023. )

#### **MON 17:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjnr1f)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **MON 17:06 BBC OS (w172z0w6fr6l3f1)**

Pressure grows on Israel to negotiate a ceasefire in Gaza

International pressure is growing on Israel for a ceasefire in Gaza ahead of UN security council vote on the issue on Monday. Our UN correspondent will have the latest from New York

As fighting in Sudan's civil war spreads south of the capital Khartoum, where hundreds of thousands of displaced people had taken refuge. We speak to two residents about the challenges of providing basics including healthcare for their family.

We get an update from Egypt as President Abdul Fattah al-Sisi is elected for a third term in office with just under ninety percent of the vote.

And we get reactions from people in France after the Miss France contest chose a winner with short hair for the first time in its 103-year history - causing much controversy.

Presenter: James Reynolds

(Photo by DAVID AZAGURY/US EMBASSY IN

ISRAEL/HANDOUT/EPA-EFE/REX/Shutterstock

A handout photo made available by the US Embassy in Israel shows US Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin (L) meets Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu (R), at the Kirya military base in Tel Aviv, Israel, 18 December 2023. )

#### **MON 18:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjnhk)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **MON 18:06 Outlook (w3ct4qgz)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 12:06 today]

#### **MON 18:50 Witness History (w3ct4xbp)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 today]

#### **MON 19:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjn97p)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **MON 19:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwjlww)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

#### **MON 19:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4bnj2)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

#### **MON 19:32 Sport Today (w3ct4sty)**

2023/12/18 GMT

BBC sports correspondents tell the story behind today's top sporting news, with interviews and reports from across the world.

#### **MON 20:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjndzt)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **MON 20:06 From Our Own Correspondent (w3ct4nty)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 04:06 on Sunday]

#### **MON 20:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4bs86)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

#### **MON 20:32 Discovery (w3ct4npg)**

When does sitting become bad for health?

How many hours do you spend sitting down per day? Six? Maybe eight? Or 10? Between commuting, working and relaxing, sitting can soon add up to hours and hours. James Gallagher delves into the science to find out exactly how much sitting is too much; when does it become worrying for our health? James visits a lab to explore what prolonged sitting does to the body and he'll find out whether there's anything you can do to offset the effects of sitting a lot. We'll hear about the origins of sitting research - and just because we like to explore every angle on a topic, we'll hear all about why standing too much can also be a worry.

(Photo: Woman sitting at desk in office. Credit: Richard Drury / Getty Images)

#### **MON 21:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjnjqy)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **MON 21:06 Newshour (w172z09tdyqk5zc)**

Gaza war: Tensions spill over to Red Sea

The United States has promised to form an international coalition to protect merchant shipping in the Red Sea from attacks by Iranian-backed Houthi rebels in Yemen; we hear from a leading expert on piracy and maritime terrorism.

Also in the programme: U.S. Special Presidential Envoy for Climate, John Kerry, on COP28; and a history of colonialism told through the spread of viruses.

(Photo: A view of the British-owned and Japanese-operated cargo ship Galaxy Leader, which was reported to have been captured by Houthis in the southern Red Sea, in this handout image taken near Queensland, Australia November 27, 2018. Credit: Reuters)

#### **MON 22:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjnnh2)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **MON 22:06 The Newsroom (w172z2sx74xjnpz)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

#### **MON 22:20 Sports News (w172z1k9pbzpx3)**

BBC Sport brings you all the latest stories and results from around the world.

#### **MON 22:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4c0rg)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

#### **MON 22:32 World Business Report (w3ct4zhk)**

US wants to form coalition to protect ships in Red Sea

US is seeking to form the "broadest possible" maritime coalition. This comes after major international shipping firms have paused all Red Sea shipments after recent attacks by Houthis targeting ships on the route. We ask how this will impact global trade and oil prices.

Apple may be forced to stop selling it's watches in the US over

a patent case find out why and what this means for consumers. And we ask how the price of sugar is affecting the sales of festive sweets.

(Picture: Houthi military helicopter flies over the Galaxy Leader cargo ship in the Red Sea in this photo released November 20, 2023. Credit: Houthi Military Media/Handout via REUTERS THIS IMAGE HAS BEEN SUPPLIED BY A THIRD PARTY/File Photo)

#### **MON 23:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjns76)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **MON 23:06 HARDtalk (w3ct4p40)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:06 today]

#### **MON 23:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4c4hl)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

#### **MON 23:32 The Conversation (w3ct4twg)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 04:32 today]

### **TUESDAY 19 DECEMBER 2023**

#### **TUE 00:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjnwzb)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **TUE 00:06 The History Hour (w3ct4w64)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:06 on Monday]

#### **TUE 01:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjnp0gg)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **TUE 01:06 Business Matters (w172zrycy5zk3s)**

US to form international coalition over Red Sea security

US is seeking to form the "broadest possible" maritime coalition. Operation Prosperity Guardian is the latest effort in ramping up security in the Red Sea region as international shipping firms have paused all shipments over safety concerns. The Houthis have attacked a number of ships in the last couple of months. We ask how this will impact global trade and oil prices.

Apple may have to stop selling some of it's watches in the US over a patent case find out why and how this may impact the company.

And the Chinese firm rewarding it's employees for exercising.

(Picture: Houthi military helicopter flies over the Galaxy Leader cargo ship in the Red Sea in this photo released November 20, 2023. Credit: Houthi Military Media/Handout via REUTERS THIS IMAGE HAS BEEN SUPPLIED BY A THIRD PARTY/File Photo)

#### **TUE 02:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjnp4gl)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **TUE 02:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwj7g3s)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

#### **TUE 02:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4chqz)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

#### **TUE 02:32 The Documentary (w3ct68nq)**

Stories from the New Silk Road: Iceland

In 2013 Iceland made history by becoming the first European country to sign a free trade agreement with China. It was aimed at increasing exports from Iceland to China as well as opening up Iceland to cheaper Chinese consumer goods.

Geothermal energy has meant that Iceland is effectively carbon neutral. Its expertise in this area has led to collaboration with China and its geothermal model is changing China's energy mix. One man behind this collaboration is Sigurdur Atlí Jonsson, CEO of Arctic Green Energy. Anna asks him how will geothermal help shape the future needs of China's energy consumption?

Iceland and China have steadily increased their scientific co-operation in the Arctic. In October 2018, the China-Iceland Arctic Science Observatory was officially opened in the city of Karholl, 440 km north of Reykjavik. Set up to monitor climate and environmental change in the Arctic, the observatory is managed by the Polar Research Institute of China and Iceland's

Institute of Research Centres. Station manager Halldor Johannsson explains the impact this collaboration has on Iceland. How is information shared with the second biggest economy in the world? And what could this eventually mean in terms of trade and transport across the Arctic region?

Presenter: Anna Holligan  
Producer: Peter Shevlin  
Editor: Alan Hall  
A C60Media production for BBC World Service

(Photo: The aurora borealis or Northern Lights, is seen over Godafoss waterfall, east of Akureyri, northern Iceland. Credit: Mariana Suarez/AFP)

#### **TUE 03:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjp86q)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **TUE 03:06 Outlook (w3ct4qgz)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 12:06 on Monday]

#### **TUE 03:50 Witness History (w3ct4xbp)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 on Monday]

#### **TUE 04:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjpcyv)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **TUE 04:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwjp1)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

#### **TUE 04:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4cr77)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

#### **TUE 04:32 In the Studio (w3ct4yg5)**

Ivo van Hove

Ivo van Hove is the most sought-after theatre director in the world. We join him in Paris, London and Amsterdam, where he works on productions that are often maximal - big musicals, operas and dramas such as The Damned - but where he also loves to stage minimal intimate dramas, such as The Glass Menagerie or A Little Life. How does van Hove work? Why are actors of the calibre of James Norton and Isabel Huppert so willing to work with him? And what drives his relentless thirst to bring new experiences to the theatre audience?

(Photo: Ivo van Hove. Credit: Jan Versweyveld)

#### **TUE 05:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjphpz)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **TUE 05:06 Newsday (w172z07c2rxj7nj)**

A new global naval force is to be set up to fend off attacks in the Red Sea

Ten countries are to form a coalition to try to protect merchant shipping in the Red Sea from intensifying attacks from Yemen - we ask what the country's Houthis rebels want.

Elderly Jewish women have chained themselves to the gates of the White House in protest at the Biden administration's support for Israel in the war in Gaza - we talk to one of the protesters.

And the US chemicals giant Monsanto has been ordered to pay almost \$900 million to people who said they were made sick by chemicals leaking from light fittings in a school.

#### **TUE 06:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjpmg3)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **TUE 06:06 Newsday (w172z07c2rxjcdn)**

US tries to end disruption to global trade in Red Sea

The US says it will lead a coalition of ten countries to protect merchant shipping in the Red Sea from attacks by Houthi rebels... these attacks have disrupted global trade.

At least 250,000 people have fled fighting on a new front in Sudan, as the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces fighting the army seize the country's second-largest city.

Striking a deal while the iron is hot - Japanese steel giant Nippon buys US Steel, creating one of the world's biggest steel companies.

#### **TUE 07:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjpr67)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **TUE 07:06 Newsday (w172z07c2rxjh4s)**

US defence secretary accuses Houthis over attacks on Red Sea shipping

Ten countries are to form a coalition to try to protect merchant shipping in the Red Sea from intensifying attacks from Yemen - we ask what the country's Houthis rebels want.

Elderly Jewish women have chained themselves to the gates of the White House in protest at the Biden administration's support for Israel in the war in Gaza - we talk to one of the protesters.

The United Nations warns that 45 million children will be at risk of poor health, malnutrition and displacement due to climate change in east and southern Africa.

#### **TUE 08:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjpyvc)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **TUE 08:06 People Fixing The World (w3ct4y0m)**

Making landfill less awful

Landfill sites are an icon of our wasteful society and the harm we cause to Planet Earth.

But around the world, people are trying to make these filthy places a little bit better.

We visit the human-built island in Singapore made of burned waste that has become a thriving ecosystem.

And in France, we hear how gas leaking from landfill sites is being collected as a source of energy.

Presenter: Myra Anubi  
Reporter/producer: Claire Bowes  
Singapore reporter: Tessa Wong  
Series Producer: Jon Bithrey  
Editor: Bridget Harney  
Sound mix: Annie Gardiner

email: [peoplefixingtheworld@bbc.co.uk](mailto:peoplefixingtheworld@bbc.co.uk)

(Image: Semakau island, Singapore National Environment Agency)

#### **TUE 08:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4d76r)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

#### **TUE 08:32 Business Daily (w3ct4n4n)**

Was 2023 a bad year for IPOs?

When private companies around the world want to raise cash, they can do so by starting a process to list on a stock exchange. This is known as an IPO, or initial public offering.

Analysts watch such public listings to gauge the health of an economy.

In 2021, IPOs were booming, but in 2023 there's been a big drop in activity - with a record low number of companies choosing to offer their shares publicly on stock exchanges in the US, UK and Europe.

What's going on, and why does it matter when IPOs don't do well?

(Picture: The hand of a man holding a phone, monitoring trading data on his phone, tablet, and computer. Credit: Getty Images)

Produced and presented by Frey Lindsay

#### **TUE 08:50 Witness History (w3ct4xh7)**

The assassination of King Faisal

On 25 March 1975, Saudi Arabia's King Faisal was murdered, shot by his nephew as he bent to kiss him as a greeting.

The king's oil minister Ahmed Zaki Yamani was standing beside him when the gun went off.

In 2017, Ahmed's daughter, Dr Mai Yamani, told Louise Hidalgo of her father's pain at witnessing the death.

(Photo: King Faisal in 1967. Credit: Pierre Manevy/Getty Images)

#### **TUE 09:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjzph)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **TUE 09:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwjp89bp)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

#### **TUE 09:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4dbyw)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

#### **TUE 09:32 The Documentary (w3ct68nq)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 02:32 today]

#### **TUE 10:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjq3fm)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **TUE 10:06 The Arts Hour (w3ct4vm2)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:06 on Saturday]

#### **TUE 11:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjq75r)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **TUE 11:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwjp8jty)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

#### **TUE 11:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4dlg4)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

#### **TUE 11:32 In the Studio (w3ct4yg5)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 04:32 today]

#### **TUE 12:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjqbxw)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **TUE 12:06 Outlook (w3ct4qxj)**

The pop rebel who rediscovered her voice

When Vashti Bunyan, a shy art-school dropout, tried to make it as a popstar in 1960s London, people just didn't get her music - or her. Disillusioned, she set off to Scotland on a horse and wagon. Along the way, she wrote songs of her extraordinary journey and in 1970 even recorded an album, Just Another Diamond Day. But when that flopped, she turned her back on music for good, vowing never to set foot in a studio again. Vashti thought her music was lost to history, but 30 years later, she discovered her album had become an underground hit.

Presenter: Asya Fouks

Producer: Zoe Gelber

Get in touch: [outlook@bbc.com](mailto:outlook@bbc.com) or WhatsApp +44 330 678 2707

(Photo: Vashti Bunyan. Credit: Getty Images)

#### **TUE 12:50 Witness History (w3ct4xh7)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 today]

#### **TUE 13:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjqgp0)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **TUE 13:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwjp8sb6)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

#### **TUE 13:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4dtyd)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

#### **TUE 13:32 Discovery (w3ct4npg)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:32 on Monday]

#### **TUE 14:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjqllf4)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

#### **TUE 14:06 Newshour (w172z09tdyqm7nk)**

'Too risky to sail through the Red Sea'

One of the world's biggest shipping companies, Hapag Lloyd, has told Newshour that the Houthi militia attacks targeting ships they believe are bound for Israel are making it too risky to sail through the Red Sea.

The US says 10 countries have agreed to form a coalition to protect merchant shipping in the Red Sea after attacks by Iran-backed Houthi rebels in Yemen.

Also in the programme: The Icelandic foreign minister tells us about a spectacular volcanic eruption; and we'll hear about the



Pope's support for a blessing for same-sex couples.

(File photo showing Hapag-Lloyd containers in Hamburg, Germany on 31 March 2023. Credit: Phil Noble/Reuters)

**TUE 15:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjq58)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**TUE 15:06 People Fixing The World (w3ct4y0m)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:06 today]

**TUE 15:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4f2fn)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**TUE 15:32 World Business Report (w3ct4zqb)**

Naval task force to tackle Red Sea attacks

The international security action, named Operation Prosperity Guardian, will protect commercial ships following attacks by Houthi rebels.

Sam Fenwick speaks to one of the shipping companies who have called the attacks on their vessels in the Red Sea terror attacks, and finds out what they want to be done to help.

(Picture: The tanker Island Challenger is moored off the coast of the Mediterranean port of Limassol. Cyprus, Friday, December 15, 2023. Credit: Danil Shamkin/NurPhoto via Getty Images)

**TUE 16:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjqtxd)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**TUE 16:06 BBC OS (w172z0w6fr6nw10)**

Sudanese flee fighting in former safe haven

The UN says at least 250,000 people have fled fighting in a Sudanese state once seen as a safe haven for those escaping the civil war. According to the UMN, the conflict has become the world's worst child displacement crisis. We explain who the warring sides in the war are and hear first-person accounts by people affected by the fighting. We also speak to people who have left the country.

Aid agencies have voiced anger at the continuing suffering of civilians in Gaza. We speak to our correspondent in Jerusalem.

We speak to a family that intended to travel from England to Australia without setting foot on an airplane. We find out how it went.

Presenter: James Reynolds.

(Photo: Sudanese fleeing the fighting. Credit: AFP)

**TUE 17:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjqynj)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**TUE 17:06 BBC OS (w172z0w6fr6p0b4)**

Iceland's volcanic eruption

Iceland's meteorological office has said the amount of lava spewing from a long fissure in the southwest of the country has declined since a volcanic eruption began on Monday night. It said, nevertheless, the highest lava plumes reach thirty metres into the air. We speak to a resident who was evacuated in November amid intense earthquake activity, and to a journalist in the capital Reykjavik.

Chemical firm Monsanto is to pay \$857m to seven people who said they were affected by chemicals leaking from light fittings at a US school. We speak to a journalist who has been following the case.

The UN says at least 250,000 people have fled fighting in a Sudanese state once seen as a safe haven for those escaping the civil war. We explain who the warring sides in the war are and hear first-person accounts by people affected by the fighting. We also speak to people who have left the country.

Presenter: James Reynolds.

(Photo: A helicopter flies near a volcano spewing lava and smoke as it erupts near Grindavik, Iceland, December 19, 2023. Credit: Icelandic Coast Guard/Handout via REUTERS)

**TUE 18:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjr2dn)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**TUE 18:06 Outlook (w3ct4qxj)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 12:06 today]

**TUE 18:50 Witness History (w3ct4xh7)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 today]

**TUE 19:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjr64s)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**TUE 19:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwj9hsz)**

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**TUE 19:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4fkf5)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**TUE 19:32 Sport Today (w3ct4szg)**

2023/12/19 GMT

BBC sports correspondents tell the story behind today's top sporting news, with interviews and reports from across the world.

**TUE 20:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjr9wx)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**TUE 20:06 The Documentary (w3ct68nq)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 02:32 today]

**TUE 20:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4fp59)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**TUE 20:32 Tech Life (w3ct4tqy)**

Our surfing habits

Internet usage is booming. We're using online services more than ever before. So which ones are popular, and why? We find out. Also, we bring you two very different voices from Africa, talking about the benefits - and problems - of social media content. And many of us are still dealing with the consequences of coronavirus. Now experts are using technology to help prepare for the next pandemic. PHOTO CREDIT: Mike Muchiri, or Muchiri Mike as he's known on TikTok, with Tech Life's Shiona McCallum in Nairobi, Kenya. You can hear their interview in this edition.

**TUE 21:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjrfn1)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**TUE 21:06 Newshour (w172z09tdyqn2wg)**

UN drafting resolution for Gaza ceasefire

The United States says it's working with other members of the UN Security Council to resolve outstanding issues on a draft resolution calling for a suspension of hostilities in Gaza. The vote has already been delayed for more than a day, amid continuing efforts to find wording that would persuade the US, Israel's strongest ally, not to use its veto. The Israeli president, Isaac Herzog, has said his country is ready for another humanitarian pause to enable more hostages to be released and more aid to be delivered. Hamas has said that it won't negotiate an exchange of prisoners as long as the Israeli military operation continues in Gaza.

Also on the programme: the couple who sold a 4.2 million dollar mask for 160 dollars; and Marvel drops one of its biggest stars.

(Photo: U.N. Security Council moves towards a vote to demand aid access for Gaza, in New York. CREDIT: REUTERS/Shannon Stapleton)

**TUE 22:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjrkd5)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**TUE 22:06 The Newsroom (w172z2sx74xmkm2)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**TUE 22:20 Sports News (w172z1k9pc02lt6)**

BBC Sport brings you all the latest stories and results from around the world.

**TUE 22:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4fxnk)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**TUE 22:32 World Business Report (w3ct4zsl)**

US calls for more support for maritime security in Red Sea

US defence secretary Lloyd Austin is calling for more countries to join the international coalition set up to protect maritime security in the Red Sea. This comes as a number of ships have been targeted by Houthis.

We hear from someone who lost millions in Sam Bankman-Fried's FTX fraud.

And Google deal for users to settle an antitrust case. It's agreed to play \$700m as part of the lawsuit

**TUE 23:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjrpd9)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**TUE 23:06 People Fixing The World (w3ct4y0m)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:06 today]

**TUE 23:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4gl1dp)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**TUE 23:32 In the Studio (w3ct4yg5)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 04:32 today]

**WEDNESDAY 20 DECEMBER 2023**

**WED 00:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjrswf)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**WED 00:06 The Arts Hour (w3ct4vm2)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:06 on Saturday]

**WED 01:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjrxmk)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**WED 01:06 Business Matters (w172zyrcy62g0w)**

Colorado Supreme Court rules Trump ineligible for 2024 ballot

Colorado's Supreme Court has removed Trump from the 2024 US Presidential ballot. We ask what this means for the elections.

US Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin is calling for more countries to join the international coalition set up to protect maritime security in the Red Sea. This comes as a number of ships have been targeted by Houthis.

We hear from someone who lost millions because of Sam Bankman-Fried's crypto fraud.

Toshiba has delisted from the Tokyo Stock Exchange, we ask how the company got to this point and what it means for it's future.

(Picture: Former U.S. President and Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump speaks during a "Commit to Caucus" event for his supporters in Coralville, Iowa, U.S., December 13, 2023. CREDIT: REUTERS/Vincent Alban/File Photo)

**WED 02:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjs1cp)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**WED 02:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwjbc0w)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**WED 02:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4gdn2)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**WED 02:32 The Climate Question (w3ct5bl2)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 23:06 on Sunday]

**WED 03:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjs53t)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**WED 03:06 Outlook (w3ct4qxj)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 12:06 on Tuesday]

**WED 03:50 Witness History (w3ct4xh7)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 on Tuesday]

**WED 04:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjs8vy)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**WED 04:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwjb1j4)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**WED 04:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4gn4b)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**WED 04:32 The Documentary (w3ct68tn)**

The Children Of Paradise

Three decades after the momentous transition from Apartheid to a democratic South Africa, Fergal Keane returns to see what happened to the hopes and promises of a better nation. In a famous speech thirty years ago, as he collected the Nobel Peace Prize, Nelson Mandela spoke of a "common humanity" in which all South Africans would live "like the children of paradise."

As the BBC's South Africa correspondent at the time, Fergal Keane, along with his colleague and friend Milton Nkosi, lived through some of the country's most desperate times. It was a period of extreme violence and loss, but also of great hope. Now Fergal and Milton travel through the country, re-visiting some of the places and people they encountered in the lead up to the end of Apartheid. Through this series they will explore how and why paradise was lost.

(Image: Young boy dressed as a superhero in Khayelitsha, South Africa. Credit: RichVintage/Getty)

**WED 05:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjsdm2)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**WED 05:06 Newsday (w172z07c2rxm4km)**

Donald Trump barred in US state of Colorado's presidential primary election

The top court in the US state of Colorado rules that Donald Trump should not be on the ballot, as the former president tries to get re-elected - we discuss the legal implications and the political fallout.

In Sudan hundreds of thousands of people are fleeing the advance of the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces - we speak to a Sudanese professor about the crisis and what could be done to stop it getting even worse.

And we find out about Dambe - the fierce Nigerian martial art that is gathering fans around the world.

**WED 06:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjsjc6)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**WED 06:06 Newsday (w172z07c2rxm89r)**

Colorado's top court bars Donald Trump from its US presidential primary race

In an historic decision, a Colorado court has disqualified Donald Trump from the 2024 ballot in the US state - we find out what does it mean for the former American president's re-election bid?

We go to Sudan where the conflict has forced nearly 7m people to flee their homes - we speak to one of the residents about the worsening situation there.

And artificial intelligence company OpenAI has laid out a framework to address safety concerns in its most advanced models as our Business presenter in Singapore explains

**WED 07:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjsn3b)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**WED 07:06 Newsday (w172z07c2rxmd1w)**

Colorado Supreme Court kicks Trump off US presidential ballot

A court in the US state of Colorado rules that Donald Trump should not be on the ballot in the state, as the former president tries to get re-elected - we discuss the legal implications and the political fallout.

There's been been a further delay to a United Nations Security Council vote calling for a unilateral ceasefire in Gaza.

In Sudan, hundreds of thousands of people are fleeing as the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces advances; they've taken the city of Wad Madani where many displaced civilians have fled to - we speak to a former advisor to Sudan's last civilian prime

minister.

**WED 08:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjsrvq)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**WED 08:06 HARDtalk (w3ct4p8j)**

Naftali Bennett: Has Israel responded unwisely?

Stephen Sackur speaks to Israel's former Prime Minister Naftali Bennett. He is a staunch supporter of Israel's military assault in Gaza. But in responding to Hamas's murderous October 7th attack, has Israel deployed wisdom as well as military might?

**WED 08:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4h43v)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**WED 08:32 Business Daily (w3ct4n95)**

Battling snakes to gather Brazil nuts

Despite the name, Bolivia is actually the world's biggest exporter of Brazil nuts.

We travel to the hot and humid north of the country to look at the production process which can be extremely dangerous.

Plus we hear how the business of Brazil nuts is helping stop deforestation in the Amazon.

Presenter: Jane Chambers

Producers: Jane Chambers and Helen Thomas

(Image: A worker unloading Brazil nuts from the Pando region at a nut processing plant in Riberalta, Bolivia. Credit: Bob Howard)

**WED 08:50 Witness History (w3ct4xkh)**

The mysterious death of Pablo Neruda

In late 1973, Chile was in turmoil. General Augusto Pinochet had led a military coup deposing the socialist president Salvador Allende who was now dead.

The army was rounding up leftists; torturing, imprisoning and killing them.

In the capital Santiago, the country's best-known poet Pablo Neruda was lying in a hospital bed. He was 69 and had cancer.

As a prominent member of the Communist Party his life was in danger. He had to get out.

With him was his driver and personal assistant Manuel Araya who spoke to Gideon Long.

(Photo : The poet in 1963. Credit: Angelo Cozzi/Mondadori/Getty Images)

**WED 09:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjswl)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**WED 09:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwjc67s)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**WED 09:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4h7vz)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**WED 09:32 The Climate Question (w3ct5bl2)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 23:06 on Sunday]

**WED 10:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjt0bq)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**WED 10:06 The Documentary (w3ct68tp)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 12:06 on Saturday]

**WED 11:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjt42v)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**WED 11:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwjcfr1)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**WED 11:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4hhc7)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**WED 11:32 The Documentary (w3ct68tn)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 04:32 today]

**WED 12:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjt7tz)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**WED 12:06 Outlook (w3ct4r49)**

Thorgy Thor: A pioneering drag queen and her violin

Thorgy Thor's drag name actually comes from her Norwegian ski-jumping, Olympic medallist grandfather, Thor. And that name has taken her from tiny gay bars in Brooklyn to sell-out shows in theatres around the US where she now performs violin with a full orchestra. Thorgy has spent decades trying to bring together these two loves: classical music and drag. Our reporter Nick de la Canal joins the pioneering drag queen at one of her performances.

Presenter: Asya Fouks

Producer: Emily Webb

Get in touch: outlook@bbc.co.uk or WhatsApp +44 330 678 2707

(Photo: Thorgy Thor playing the violin. Credit: Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra)

**WED 12:50 Witness History (w3ct4xkh)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 today]

**WED 13:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjtcl3)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**WED 13:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwjc79)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**WED 13:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4hqvh)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**WED 13:32 Tech Life (w3ct4tqy)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:32 on Tuesday]

**WED 14:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjthb7)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**WED 14:06 Newshour (w172z09tdyqq4kn)**

Pressure grows for a further halt to the Israel-Gaza war

Pressure is growing for a further halt to the Israel-Gaza war. The leader of Hamas, Ismail Haniyeh, has arrived in Cairo for talks on a fresh ceasefire in Gaza and Israeli President Isaac Herzog has said his country is ready for another humanitarian pause.

Efforts to get a United Nations Security Council ceasefire motion are set to resume after Tuesday's vote was delayed. The US says it is working with other members on the text, but it has vetoed previous resolutions.

Also on the programme: the European Union agrees new rules on migration; and we'll hear from the developer of an artificial intelligence model that can predict people's life chances with astonishing accuracy.

(Photo shows smoke rising in the Gaza Strip, as seen from southern Israel on 20 December 2023. Credit: Ronen Zvulun/Reuters)

**WED 15:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjtm2c)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**WED 15:06 HARDtalk (w3ct4p8j)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:06 today]

**WED 15:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4hzbr)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**WED 15:32 World Business Report (w3ct4zvv)**

Israel ships banned from Malaysia's ports

Malaysia has banned all Israeli-owned or flagged vessels from calling at its ports. The ban is a direct response to Israeli actions in Gaza, which were regarded in Malaysia as a violation of basic humanitarian principles and international law. It is still unclear how this will affect economic relations between countries and what problems will it create for trading in Israel.

In the programme presenter Sam Fenwick also takes a look at why Toyota says its subsidiary Diahatsu is suspending shipments of all its vehicles – and why voting in the Democratic Republic of Congo elections got off to a shaky start.  
(Picture: Picture credit: Cargo ships entering the busiest port - Singapore. Getty Images)

**WED 16:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjqtqh)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**WED 16:06 BBC OS (w1720w6fr6rsh3)**

Talks in Egypt over a new ceasefire

As international pressure grows for the resumption of a temporary truce in Gaza, the leader of Hamas, Ismail Haniyeh, is in Cairo to discuss a possible pause in the fighting. We speak to our correspondent in Egypt and explain who Ismail Haniyeh is. We also hear from residents in Gaza and speak to families of the hostages who are still being kept in Gaza.

Countries facing the largest numbers of migrant arrivals into the European Union have welcomed a deal that aims to standardise the way migration and asylum are dealt with across the bloc. Our Europe regional editor explains.

After Pope Francis permitted Catholic priests to bless same-sex couples, we speak to a couple who received their blessing this week.

England and Manchester United goalkeeper Mary Earps has been named the BBC's Sports Personality of the Year 2023 – she is the first goalkeeper to get the award. We get reaction from a journalist who has been following her story.

Presenter: James Reynolds.

(Photo: A woman reacts, amid the ongoing conflict between Israel and the Palestinian Islamist group Hamas, in Rafah, in the southern Gaza Strip, December 20, 2023. Credit: Ibraheem Abu Mustafa/Reuters)

**WED 17:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjtvkm)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**WED 17:06 BBC OS (w1720w6fr6rx77)**

Sudan war: Thousands of children at risk

350,000 children are under direct risk of being killed, injured or displaced in the town of Wad Madani in Sudan, according to charity Save the Children. This comes amid a new front of fighting between the Sudanese army and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF). We'll bring you the latest from Sudan.

Colorado's Supreme Court has ruled that Donald Trump cannot run for president next year in the state, citing a constitutional insurrection clause. So what will this mean for the elections in 2024? We'll explain and speak to voters in the US.

Also, we continue to follow the situation in Israel and Gaza. We'll speak to people whose relatives were kidnapped by Hamas on October 7th. We'll also hear from residents in Gaza.

(Photo: A boy holds bullet cartridges as clashes between Sudan's paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) and the army continue, in Khartoum North, Sudan, May 13, 2023. Credit: REUTERS/Mohamed Nureldin Abdallah)

**WED 18:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjtz9r)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**WED 18:06 Outlook (w3ct4r49)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 12:06 today]

**WED 18:50 Witness History (w3ct4xkh)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 today]

**WED 19:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjv31w)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**WED 19:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwjjdq2)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**WED 19:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4jgb8)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**WED 19:32 Sport Today (w3ct4t1q)**

2023/12/20 GMT

BBC sports correspondents tell the story behind today's top sporting news, with interviews and reports from across the world.

**WED 20:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjv6t0)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**WED 20:06 The Climate Question (w3ct5bl2)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 23:06 on Sunday]

**WED 20:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4jld2)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**WED 20:32 Health Check (w3ct4pf1)**

When will we have an HIV vaccine?

With the failure of the PrEPvacc trial in Southern and Eastern Africa, HIV researchers are concerned that an HIV vaccine will not be developed before 2030 at the earliest. Claudia Hammond is joined by Matt Fox, Professor of Global Health Epidemiology at Boston University, to discuss the latest news about HIV vaccines, funding and treatment from around the world.

We also hear about Super 5, a home-grown nutritional supplement being made by rural women in Rajasthan, in India, to address the problem of child undernutrition and malnutrition.

Claudia also speaks to Dr Rašads Misirovs to talk about sneezing. In a rare case, a patient of Dr Misirovs in Scotland tore a hole in their windpipe by stifling a sneeze. We learn more about why we sneeze as well as how to prevent injury when doing so.

Claudia and Matt also discuss how deaths from work-related illnesses are increasing, and concerns over the huge increase in calls to poison centres in the US because of accidental overdoses of injected weight-loss drugs.

Presenter: Claudia Hammond

Producer: Jonathan Blackwell

**WED 21:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjvbk4)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**WED 21:06 Newshour (w17209tdyqqzsk)**

Hamas reports 20,000 deaths in Gaza

A UN Security Council vote on a resolution calling for a suspension of fighting in Gaza has been delayed for a third day. Diplomats have been trying to come up with a text that would avoid a US veto. President Biden has said the world must put pressure on Hamas, not just Israel. The Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu has once again stressed his commitment to continuing the offensive until Hamas is destroyed. The Hamas political leader, Ismail Haniyeh, has been holding talks in Cairo on the situation in Gaza.

Also in the programme: "chaos" at elections in the Democratic Republic of Congo; and a new French immigration law creates divisions within government.

(Photo: A woman reacts, amid the ongoing conflict between Israel and the Palestinian Islamist group Hamas, in Rafah, in the southern Gaza Strip. CREDIT: REUTERS/Ibraheem Abu Mustafa)

**WED 22:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjvg98)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**WED 22:06 The Newsroom (w172z2sx74xqgj5)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**WED 22:20 Sports News (w172z1k9pc05hq9)**

BBC Sport brings you all the latest stories and results from around the world.

**WED 22:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4jtkn)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**WED 22:32 World Business Report (w3ct4zy3)**

US consumer confidence jumps to five-month high

US consumer confidence is at a five-month high, according to a new report. The Conference Board's consumer confidence index increased to 110.7 this month. We ask how e-scooters, once all the rage, have now been left parked up. And members of the Harlem Globetrotters join us in

the studio.

(Picture: A person carries a shopping bag at The Grove shopping mall in Los Angeles, California, USA, 15 December 2023. According to the Commerce Department, retail sales increased 0.3 percent in November after declining the prior month. US retail sales rise at start of holiday shopping, Los Angeles, USA - 15 Dec 2023 Credit: Mandatory Credit: Photo by CAROLINE BREHMAN/EPA-EFE/REX/Shutterstock (14259921g))

**WED 23:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjv1ld)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**WED 23:06 HARDtalk (w3ct4p8j)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:06 today]

**WED 23:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4jy9s)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**WED 23:32 The Documentary (w3ct68tn)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 04:32 today]

**THURSDAY 21 DECEMBER 2023****THU 00:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjvpsj)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**THU 00:06 The Documentary (w3ct68tp)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 12:06 on Saturday]

**THU 01:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjvtjn)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**THU 01:06 Business Matters (w172zyrcy65bxz)**

Warner and Paramount in reported merger talks

The CEOs of Warner Brothers Discovery and Paramount have reportedly met to discuss a \$38 billion merger – we ask what this could mean for the future of both companies. US consumer confidence is at a five-month high, according to conference Board's consumer index which says confidence has increased to 110.7 this month. We ask how e-scooters, once all the rage, have now been left parked up. And members of the Harlem Globetrotters join us in the studio.

(Picture: A Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. logo is pictured at one of the studio's gates in Burbank, California, U.S., July 5, 2017. Credit: REUTERS/Mario Anzuoni/File Photo)

**THU 02:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjvy8s)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**THU 02:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwjf7xz)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**THU 02:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4k9k5)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**THU 02:32 Assignment (w3ct4m83)**

Ukraine: Building back better

Rebuilding Ukraine after the destruction inflicted by Russia will be a gigantic task. Foreign donors have pledged billions of dollars. But they want reassurances that the money will be properly spent, in a country which still has high levels of corruption. For Assignment Tim Whewell visits Bucha, near the capital Kyiv, site of some of the worst Russian atrocities, to see the beginning of reconstruction. A series of shocking reports by Ukrainian journalists into alleged misuse of rebuilding funds have forced local authorities in the area to explain themselves. But a new state reconstruction agency committed to transparency has now also started work in Bucha. And anti-corruption campaigners believe a new digital accounting and monitoring system they are developing in collaboration with the authorities will help turn Ukraine into a world beacon of openness. The government's slogan is "build back better." But what exactly does that mean? And can it be achieved?

Produced and presented by Tim Whewell  
Studio Mix: Neil Churchill  
Production coordinator: Gemma Ashman  
Editor: Penny Murphy

(Image: Memorial to victims of mass killings in Bucha. Credit: BBC/Rostyslav Kubik)

**THU 03:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjw20x)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**THU 03:06 Outlook (w3ct4r49)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 12:06 on Wednesday]

**THU 03:50 Witness History (w3ct4xkh)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 on Wednesday]

**THU 04:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjw5s1)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**THU 04:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwjfhf7)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**THU 04:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4kk1f)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**THU 04:32 The Food Chain (w3ct4v7t)**

Festive food stories

We take a trip around the world with BBC World Service presenters and listeners, finding out which are their favourite foods when a celebration is in order.

A porridge which is hidden around the house to ward off spirits, sweet and delicious pilau shared with neighbours and an ornate box filled with as many as 50 types of food in Japan – we hear about what's on the menu at this time of year.

Ruth Alexander has help from her enthusiastic three-year-old son to make a traditional Christmas cake for the first time and BBC World Service business presenter Devina Gupta gets stuck washing up after a delicious Diwali feast with her family in Delhi.

Producers: Hannah Bewley, Beatrice Pickup and Rumella Dasgupta

Image: Ruth and her son making Christmas cake, Credit: BBC

If you would like to get in touch with the show, please email: [thefoodchain@bbc.co.uk](mailto:thefoodchain@bbc.co.uk)

**THU 05:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjw9j5)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**THU 05:06 Newsday (w172z07c2rxq1gq)**

Hamas says 20,000 killed in Gaza as UN delays truce vote

The number of people killed in Gaza has now surpassed 20,000. What's the significance of this sobering milestone in the war between Israel and Hamas?

Meanwhile, efforts at the UN Security council to gain consensus on a ceasefire resolution continue to stall.

Also how authorities regained control of Paraguay's largest prison, which was being run from the inside by one of the country's major cartel leaders.

And thousands take to the streets in Buenos Aires, to protest austerity measures planned by new Argentine president Javier Milei that include spending cuts and a drastic currency devaluation.

**THU 06:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjw89)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**THU 06:06 Newsday (w172z07c2rxq56v)**

Hamas says 20,000 killed in Gaza as UN delays truce vote

As the number of people killed in Gaza surpasses 20,000 a UN representative who has just returned from the strip says the figure is probably conservative as many people are still buried under the rubble.

One BBC cameraman in Gaza, whose family are among those to have fled south in hopes of escaping danger shares a harrowing personal account.

As consequences of the war continue to reverberate around the world, IKEA is the latest company to warn of a disruption to its services, following Houthi attacks on vessels in the Red Sea.

Also championing impartiality, or threatening free speech?

Why the decision by Poland's new government to take a public news channel off the air is causing controversy.

**THU 07:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjwk0f)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**THU 07:06 Newsday (w172z07c2rxq8yz)**

Hamas says 20,000 killed in Gaza as UN delays truce vote

At least twenty thousand people reported killed in Gaza according to Hamas as the UN security Council delays a truce vote once again.

A Palestinian in Canada pleads for a ceasefire to stop what he calls the madness in Gaza where many of his family are sheltering and trapped in a church and where two close family friends have been shot and killed.

A former US ambassador says the humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza is putting immense pressure on Biden to act. Young US people especially want the war to stop.

Also what do the changes made by the European Union on migrants arriving at their borders mean? An MP in Italy says migrants will keep arriving and most people there are concerned about how they will be integrated into society.

**THU 08:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjwnrk)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**THU 08:06 The Inquiry (w3ct4wdz)**

Has Toyota solved the electric car battery problem?

Toyota has unveiled a revolutionary electric car battery, able to travel 1,200 kilometres in one go and can be charged in just ten minutes.

Toyota's CEO Koji Sato said that "commercialisation of solid state batteries is a thing of the future... now within reach, changing the future of cars". The company also claims to be on the brink of being able to manufacture them.

So is this, as some are claiming, a 'watershed moment' in car making? Can these new batteries now be produced at scale? What impact will this have on the popularity of electric cars and their uptake?

Has Toyota solved the electric car battery problem?

Contributors:

Paul Shearing, chair in sustainable energy engineering and director of the Zero Institute at the University of Oxford.  
Shirley Meng, Professor of Molecular Engineering at the University of Chicago.  
Jeff Liker, Professor of Industrial Engineering at the University of Michigan for 35 years.  
Dr Evi Petavratzi, a mineral commodity specialist from the British Geological Survey.

Presenter: Tanya Beckett

Producer: Bob Howard

Editor: Tara McDermott

Sound Designer: Gareth Jones

Production Coordinator: Jordan King

Image: Olga Rolenko via Getty Images - 1403000871

**THU 08:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4l10y)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**THU 08:32 Business Daily (w3ct4n04)**

Turkey adjusts to 'bitter medicine' of high rates

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan heard Turkish voters back in May when they said they wanted change in the economy.

So, he appointed a new finance minister and central bank governor to lead the charge.

Despite the president's strong opposition to using higher interest rates to cool rising prices, he's allowed rates to rise in each of the last six months.

While that's helped bring about an economic turnaround, it's put added pressure on households who have for years been reliant on low borrowing costs.

Will the president's patience with economic orthodoxy last, or are these early policy changes a sign of long-lasting change?

Presenter Victoria Craig

Produced by Victoria Craig and Ceren Iskit

(Image: Eren and Ümit Karaduman and their children. Credit: Victoria Craig)

**THU 08:50 Witness History (w3ct4xdz)**

Al Jazeera Three: Imprisoned in Egypt

In 2014 three journalists were sentenced to seven years in jail in Egypt.

Peter Grete, Mohammed Fahmy and Baher Mohamed became known as the Al Jazeera Three.

The jail terms handed out to them led to an international outcry as protesters called for press freedom.

Peter Grete tells his compelling story to Gill Kearsley.

(Photo: Peter Grete inside the defendants' cage. Credit: Khaled Desouki/AFP via Getty Images)

**THU 09:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjwshp)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**THU 09:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwjg34w)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**THU 09:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4l4s2)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**THU 09:32 Assignment (w3ct4m83)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 02:32 today]

**THU 10:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjwx7t)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**THU 10:06 Unexpected Elements (w3ct4wkk)**

A very dark day

In the week of the solstice – the shortest or longest day of the year depending on your latitude - Unexpected Elements brings you tales of darkness and light.

We hear about the dark history of sensory deprivation studies and why up until now, we've been in the dark about light's role in the fairly fundamental process of evaporation.

We'll be shining a light on the darkest oceans, meeting the fantastical creatures who can turn their bodies into flashlights.

Our Under the Radar story this week also comes from the sea as we discover how fish skin is helping to treat burn victims in Brazil.

We have an Ask the Unexpected question about why we don't sneeze when we're asleep, and more of your emails and voicenotes about obscure sports, tunnel living and earworms.

We even find time to wonder why the Brazil nut isn't called the Bolivia nut.

Presenter: Marnie Chesterton, with Camilla Mota and Chhavi Sachdev

Producer: Ben Motley, with Dan Welsh

**THU 11:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjx0zy)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**THU 11:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwjgbn4)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**THU 11:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4ld8b)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**THU 11:32 The Food Chain (w3ct4v7t)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 04:32 today]

**THU 12:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjx4r2)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**THU 12:06 Outlook (w3ct4qpr)**

I cycled across Africa for a place at my dream university

A handwritten map is all Mamadou Barry had to guide him from Guinea to Egypt, where he wanted to enrol at one of the world's top Islamic universities. At the age of 24 he had reached a crossroads in his life. Having failed his final year secondary school exams five times in a row, he set his sights on a different type of education. Mamadou had heard about the prestigious Al Azhar University in Egypt, but could not afford a plane ticket.

So he decided to set off on an epic adventure, travelling by bike, and leaving his home in Guinea with only \$55, a small bag of clothes and tools, and a map he had drawn himself.

Presenter: Mobeen Azhar  
Producer: Rob Wilson  
Translator and interpreter: Olivier Weber  
Voiceover artist: Gaius Kowane

Get in touch: outlook@bbc.com or WhatsApp +44 330 678 2707

(Photo: Mamadou and his bike. Credit: Courtesy of Mamadou Barry)

**THU 12:50 Witness History (w3ct4xdz)**  
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 today]

**THU 13:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjx8h6)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**THU 13:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwjl4d)**  
The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**THU 13:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4lmrl)**  
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**THU 13:32 Health Check (w3ct4pf1)**  
[Repeat of broadcast at 20:32 on Wednesday]

**THU 14:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjxd7b)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**THU 14:06 Newshour (w172z09tdyqt1gr)**  
Fighting in Gaza intensifies as truce talks continue

Negotiations continue in Cairo, Egypt, to try to broker a new truce in the Israel-Gaza conflict and secure the release of more Israeli hostages. We hear about the traumatic journey of a BBC cameraman and his family forced to leave their home in northern Gaza.

Also in the programme: the fighting in Sudan forces two international aid agencies to suspend operations; and Europe's top court has ruled that FIFA and UEFA acted unlawfully when they stopped football clubs from forming a European Super League.

(Picture: Israeli soldiers sit in a vehicle as they patrol near the Gaza Strip border, in southern Israel. Credit: ABIR SULTAN/EPA-EFE/REX/Shutterstock)

**THU 15:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjxhzg)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**THU 15:06 The Inquiry (w3ct4wdz)**  
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:06 today]

**THU 15:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4lw7v)**  
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**THU 15:32 World Business Report (w3ct4zkt)**  
European court ruling could change football

The European Court of Justice has ruled that banning clubs from joining a European Super League was unlawful. The decision opens the way for new competitions and the potential of a whole new structure for European football. Within minutes of the ruling, the Spanish-based organisation behind the bid to set up a new superleague announced it wants to establish a 64 team structure.

Also in the programme presenter Sam Fenwick discusses new Turkish inflation figures, plus controversial economic reforms in Argentina.

(Picture: Sports accessories of soccer fans! Picture credit: Getty Images)

**THU 16:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjxmql)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**THU 16:06 BBC OS (w172z0w6fr6vpd6)**  
Sudan war: Your questions answered

As concern grows over the dire humanitarian situation in

Sudan's Gezira state, the BBC's Mercy Juma joins the programme to answer listener questions on the ongoing conflict. We also hear a voice message from a Sudanese woman - a resident of Khartoum who fled to Cairo in Egypt.

On Friday 3rd of November, BBC Arabic launched an emergency radio service for Gaza in response to the conflict in the region. We meet the team working on the service at the London BBC offices.

After weeks of Israeli bombing, on 16 November Jihad El-Mashhrawi and his young family fled their home in northern Gaza. The BBC Arabic cameraman shares a vivid and shocking account of what he, his wife and children experienced as they headed south.

Meanwhile, the BBC's Shaimaa Khalil in Jerusalem gives us the latest on the Israel - Gaza conflict. We also hear a new message from Jacob Burns, a project coordinator for MSF, the Doctors without Borders organisation, in Gaza about his work there.

Presenter: James Reynolds

(Photo: People leaving Wad Madani in Sudan. Credit: AFP)

**THU 17:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjxrgg)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**THU 17:06 BBC OS (w172z0w6fr6vt4b)**  
The BBC's emergency radio service for Gaza

On Friday 3rd of November, BBC Arabic launched an emergency radio service for Gaza in response to the conflict in the region. We meet the team working on the service at the London BBC offices.

After weeks of Israeli bombing, on 16 November Jihad El-Mashhrawi and his young family fled their home in northern Gaza. The BBC Arabic cameraman shares a vivid and shocking account of what he, his wife and children experienced as they headed south.

As concern grows over the dire humanitarian situation in Sudan's Gezira state, the BBC's Mohamad Osman gives the latest updates on the ongoing conflict from Cairo. The BBC's Africa Security correspondent, Ian Wafula also joins the programme from Nairobi to discuss what's been happening in Wad Madani in Gezira state.

Presenter: James Reynolds

(Photo: A family in Gaza. Credit:Reuters)

**THU 18:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjxw6v)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**THU 18:06 Outlook (w3ct4qpr)**  
[Repeat of broadcast at 12:06 today]

**THU 18:50 Witness History (w3ct4xdz)**  
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 today]

**THU 19:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjxzyz)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**THU 19:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwjh9m5)**  
The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**THU 19:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4mc7c)**  
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**THU 19:32 Sport Today (w3ct4sx6)**  
2023/12/21 GMT

BBC sports correspondents tell the story behind today's top sporting news, with interviews and reports from across the world.

**THU 20:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjy3q3)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**THU 20:06 Assignment (w3ct4m83)**  
[Repeat of broadcast at 02:32 today]

**THU 20:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4mgzh)**  
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**THU 20:32 Science In Action (w3ct4sdd)**  
Volcanic eruption lights up Iceland

This week, the Reykjanes volcano in Iceland has erupted, following weeks of seismic activity. Edward Wayne Marshall, from the University of Iceland, brings us the latest science about the volcano.

Also this week, the UK's 40-year-old JET fusion facility has been switched off. Roland Pease went along to watch.

Fusion facilities are trying to create clean energy by replicating the processes in the Sun. And the Sun itself is currently approaching solar maximum, which means we may get to enjoy more spectacular auroras but could also experience widespread radio blackouts. Solar physicist Dibyendu Nandi, from the Centre of Excellence in Space Sciences in Kolkata, tells us more.

And in the outer reaches of our Solar System, the iconic Voyager 1 craft has started sending back nonsense data. William Kurth, who has worked on Voyager since its launch in 1977, reveals his personal and scientific connection to the mission.

Presenter: Roland Pease  
Producer: Alice Lipscombe-Southwell  
Editor: Martin Smith  
Production Co-ordinator: Jana Bennett-Holesworth

(Image: Volcano Erupts On Iceland's Reykjanes Peninsula. Credit: Micah Garen/Getty Images)

**THU 21:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjy7g7)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**THU 21:06 Newshour (w172z09tdyqtpn)**  
Mass shooting at Prague university

More than a dozen people are killed and more injured at Charles University in the Czech capital. The gunman, who was found dead, is understood to have been a student at the university. We hear the latest from Prague.

Also in the programme: We discuss the current situation in Gaza with a senior Hamas member and the Israeli government spokesman. And a new legal ruling puts plans for a new European football Super League back on the pitch.

(Photo: A Police officer stands guard as an ambulance rushes to the scene of a shooting in central Prague. Credit: MARTIN DIVISEK/EPA-EFE/REX/Shutterstock)

**THU 22:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjyc6c)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**THU 22:06 The Newsroom (w172z2sx74xtcf8)**  
The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**THU 22:20 Sports News (w172z1k9pc08dmd)**  
BBC Sport brings you all the latest stories and results from around the world.

**THU 22:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4mqgr)**  
The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**THU 22:32 World Business Report (w3ct4zn2)**  
Is there a market for the European Super League?

The European Union's highest court ruled that football's governing bodies, FIFA and UEFA, were wrong to ban a breakaway Super League two years ago.

The move was deemed a breach of EU competition law. But is there an economically viable alternative football model for Europe?

(Picture: This picture taken in Milan on April 20, 2021 shows the jerseys of Italian football teams Juventus, AC Milan and Inter Milan. Picture Credit: Getty Images).

**THU 23:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjygyh)**  
The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**THU 23:06 The Inquiry (w3ct4wdz)**  
[Repeat of broadcast at 08:06 today]

**THU 23:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4mv6w)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**THU 23:32 The Food Chain (w3ct4v7t)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 04:32 today]

**FRIDAY 22 DECEMBER 2023****FRI 00:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjylpm)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**FRI 00:06 Unexpected Elements (w3ct4wkk)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 10:06 on Thursday]

**FRI 01:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjyqfr)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**FRI 01:06 Business Matters (w172zyrcy687v2)**

The chip wars intensify

Crucial in the manufacture of many key goods, chips and the materials used to make them, are the subject of an ongoing trade war between China and the West.

On Thursday Beijing banned the export of technology used to extract and process rare earth metals -- a vital component in the chip-making process.

The technology has been added to a list of items that can't be sold abroad for national security reasons.

So what does this mean for the global supply of advanced chips and semi conductors?

(Picture: Toshiba Electronic Devices & Storage Corp.'s inverter board displayed at the Semicon Japan exhibition in Tokyo, Japan, on Wednesday, Dec. 13, 2023. Picture Credit: Getty Images).

**FRI 02:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjyv5w)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**FRI 02:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwj4v2)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**FRI 02:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4n6g8)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**FRI 02:32 Tech Life (w3ct4tqy)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:32 on Tuesday]

**FRI 03:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjyyy0)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**FRI 03:06 Outlook (w3ct4qpr)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 12:06 on Thursday]

**FRI 03:50 Witness History (w3ct4xdz)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 on Thursday]

**FRI 04:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjz2p4)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**FRI 04:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwjdbb)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**FRI 04:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4nfyj)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**FRI 04:32 Heart and Soul (w3ct4pkk)**

Into the mystic: Irish myths and fairytales

Many mythological creatures and traditions we know, love, and more importantly fear, owe their origins to Celtic folklore. Borrowed to create epic franchises such as Harry Potter, Lord of the Rings, Game of Thrones, the countless adaptations of Bram Stoker's Dracula and Walt Disney's Peter Pan, this programme casts new light on the subject.

Seanchaí (shan-a-key) were/are traditional Irish storytellers and the custodians of history for centuries in Ireland. They can recite ancient lore and tales of wisdom whenever it was needed

and could be considered as something of the Google of ancient times. The English translation and definition of seanchaí is a custodian of tradition and while storytelling has largely been replaced in Ireland with TV and film, as it has in the rest of the world, it is still a highly respected ability that will have crowds waiting on a storyteller's every word.

The Irish people have created a unique and beautifully poetic oral literature. Bards evolved into storytellers who wandered from town to town. In this informal way, an ancient oral literary tradition continued into modern times.

(Photo: A blue fairy house with a yellow door along the path on the coast of Ireland. Credit: Getty Images)

**FRI 05:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjz6f8)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**FRI 05:06 Newsday (w172z07c2rxsyc)**

Gaza vote delayed again by UN Security Council

A long-awaited vote on a Gaza ceasefire at the UN Security Council has been delayed by a further day, but the United States has indicated it is set to back an amended resolution focussed on increasing aid.

As war continues in Sudan, people are continuing to flee the once safe city of Wad Madani. US Senator Chris Coons - a member of the Foreign Relations Committee - speaks to Newsday about the ongoing crisis in the northeast African country.

And after Egyptian president Abdel Fattah el-Sisi secured a new term, we examine the challenges he will face in the coming years.

**FRI 06:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjzb5d)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**FRI 06:06 Newsday (w172z07c2rxt23y)**

More UN talks as Gaza vote delayed again

Despite another delay to a UN Security Council vote on a Gaza ceasefire, there is optimism that an amended resolution focussing on an increase to aid could pass on Friday with US support.

A day of mourning has been announced in the Czech Republic after a student shot dead his father and then killed 14 people and injured 25 at his university in the capital, Prague on Thursday.

More than 300,000 people have fled Sudan's al-Jazira State following clashes between the country's armed forces and rival paramilitary Rapid Support Forces. We speak to someone who has fled the city of Wad Madani, previously considered a safe haven during the war.

**FRI 07:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjzfxj)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**FRI 07:06 Newsday (w172z07c2rxt5w2)**

US indicates it will back amended Gaza resolution

The UN Security Council is set to reconvene on Friday, as efforts continue to reach an agreement over meaningful humanitarian action in Gaza. There are hopes a delayed vote on an amended resolution will pass with US backing.

14 people have been killed and 25 injured at a university in Prague in the deadliest attack in the country's history. We speak to residents of the Czech capital about the shock they are feeling.

As people continue to flee fighting around the city of Wad Madani in Sudan, we ask a US Senator about accusations that the West is ignoring the severe impacts of the eight-month long war on civilians in the northeast African country.

**FRI 08:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjzkn)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**FRI 08:06 HARDtalk (w3ct4p30)**

Daron Acemoğlu: Who pays the price for technological progress?

Stephen Sackur speaks to the renowned economist Daron Acemoğlu who has been assessing the impact of dramatic technological advances on economic wellbeing. From the steam engine to artificial intelligence, we welcome 'progress', but does it entrench inequality and exploitation?

**FRI 08:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4nxy1)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**FRI 08:32 Business Daily (w3ct4mq3)**

Business Daily Meets: Dr Yasmeen Lari

Pakistan's first female architect came out of retirement to help rebuild her country after the 2005 earthquake.

Now she's helping communities devastated by the 2022 floods.

Dr Lari talks about her experience starting out in a male-dominated field, the changing focus of her career, and her mission to build a million flood-resilient homes in Pakistan by 2024.

Produced and presented by Emb Hashmi.

(Image: Dr Yasmeen Lari. Credit: Getty Images)

**FRI 08:50 Witness History (w3ct4x8f)**

'The bad boy of Welsh politics'

In the 1960s, the singer Dafydd Iwan started campaigning for the Welsh language to gain official status in Wales.

For years, Dafydd received little support. In January 1969 he decided to up the pressure, defacing a police station sign written in English with paint.

He ended up in prison, but soon young people across the country were picking up paint pots and taking up the cause.

Today, the Welsh language is found in schools, on documents and on police station signs. Dafydd tells Anoushka Mutanda-Dougherty about his activism and singing.

(Photo: Dafydd after his release from Cardiff prison. Credit: Central Press/Getty Images)

**FRI 09:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjzpd)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**FRI 09:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwjklz)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**FRI 09:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4p1p5)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**FRI 09:32 Science In Action (w3ct4sdd)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:32 on Thursday]

**FRI 10:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjzt4x)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**FRI 10:06 The Climate Question (w3ct68w6)**

Climate review of the year

2023 was the hottest year on record. How did the planet cope? And what has the world actually done to tackle climate change?

The BBC's Graihagh Jackson is joined by a panel of journalists and experts for an annual stocktake of the climate crisis. Under review from the past twelve months are wonky weather patterns, clever energy solutions and tense diplomatic negotiations.

Graihagh Jackson: Presenter of The Climate Question  
Najma Mohamed: Head of Nature Based Solutions at the United Nations Environment Programme's World Conservation Monitoring Centre  
Justin Rowlett: BBC Climate Editor  
Akshat Rathi: Senior Environment Reporter at Bloomberg News

Email us: [theclimatquestion@bbc.com](mailto:theclimatquestion@bbc.com)

Producer: Nick Holland  
Researcher: Octavia Woodward  
Editor: Simon Watts  
Sound: James Beard, Tom Brignell & Graham Puddifoot

**FRI 11:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmjzxx1)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**FRI 11:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwj7k7)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**FRI 11:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4p95f)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**FRI 11:32 Heart and Soul (w3ct4pkk)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 04:32 today]

**FRI 12:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmk01n5)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**FRI 12:06 The Fifth Floor (w3ct4v11)**

Myanmar: the world's top opium producer

Poppy cultivation in Myanmar has increased since the military takeover of February 2021, and the country has now overtaken Afghanistan as the main source of the world's opium. BBC Burmese editor Soe Win Than tells us about farmers, traders and insurgents in Shan State, where most of the crop is grown.

**Sri Lanka's X-Press Pearl pollution clean-up**

In May 2021, the X-Press Pearl cargo ship caught fire and sank off the coast of Sri Lanka. Plastics and chemicals from the wreck polluted the marine environment and beaches, killing fish and sea mammals, and destroying fishing livelihoods. But a clean-up operation has been underway, with women from the fishing community paid to clean the beaches, as BBC Sinhala's Roshan Chaturanga found out.

**Iran's dance protests**

Dancing has long been a form of defiance against the government in Iran. Recently a 70-year-old man from the northern city of Rasht, pictured doing an improvised dance in front of a group of men, had his Instagram account shut down, prompting outrage on social media and a storm of copycat dances. BBC Monitoring journalist Sarbas Nazari has followed the story.

**Disappearing memorials to Stalin's victims**

To many, Joseph Stalin was the strong leader who brought the Soviet Union to greatness. To others his rule is synonymous with the purges that killed millions. But recently plaques and memorials remembering his victims have started disappearing, while new statues to Stalin are increasing, as BBC Monitoring's Sandro Gvindadze reports.

**South Korean toy hospital**

Christmas is a time for new toys, but this story is about the love of old ones, specifically the ones so loved they broke. BBC Korean's Hyojung Kim went to a hospital for damaged toys run by retired professors wanting to put their engineering skills to use.

(Photo: Opium poppy seedpods in Shan State, Myanmar. Credit: BBC)

**FRI 12:50 Witness History (w3ct4x8f)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 today]

**FRI 13:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmk05d9)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**FRI 13:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwjkh1h)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**FRI 13:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4pjnp)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**FRI 13:32 Science In Action (w3ct4sdd)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:32 on Thursday]

**FRI 14:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmk094f)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**FRI 14:06 Newshour (w172z09tdyqwycv)**

Czech police seek motive behind country's worst mass attack

Czech police are trying to establish the motive behind the country's worst mass shooting which killed 14 people at Charles University in Prague – we speak to a survivor.

Also in the programme: the US says it's ready to support the latest draft of a Security Council resolution on Gaza; and some environmentalists in France say it's time to end the intensive farming of Christmas trees.

(Picture: People react at a memorial during a vigil following a shooting at one of Charles University's buildings in Prague. Credit: Reuters)

**FRI 15:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmk0dwk)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**FRI 15:06 HARDtalk (w3ct4p30)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:06 today]

**FRI 15:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4ps4y)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**FRI 15:32 World Business Report (w3ct4z8s)**

China tightens its rules for gamers

China is to bring in new rules that will limit the amount of money and time that people can spend on video games. The restrictions are aimed at limiting in-game purchases and preventing obsessive gaming behaviour. The draft legislation is a blow to the world's largest online gaming market, which is still recovering from a previous crackdown. The news sent shares in tech giants tumbling and wiped tens of billions of dollars off their value.

Also in the programme, presenter Roger Hearing examines some gloomy news for the UK economy, and we look at ways to stay 'green' during the festive season.

(Picture: Little boy on cell phone under duvet. Picture credit: Getty Images)

**FRI 16:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmk0jmp)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**FRI 16:06 BBC OS (w172z0w6fr6y199)**

UN vote on Gaza aid

Today the UN Security Council is expected to hold a repeatedly delayed vote on a draft resolution to bring more aid into Gaza, and try to create the conditions for a ceasefire. This comes as the humanitarian situation inside Gaza continues to worsen. We'll explain what this resolution might actually mean, and hear from people inside Gaza.

Also, we continue to follow the ongoing war in Ukraine. Over the past week Ukrainian President Zelensky has been making repeated appeals for more aid for Ukraine as troops on the ground face shortages. We'll speak to our correspondents in both Ukraine and Russia, to look back at this year's events in Ukraine, and what could happen going forward.

And, as Christmas approaches we'll speak to people spending the holidays alone - and the positive and negatives of this.

(Photo: Aid trucks enter from Egypt en route to Gaza, amid the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hamas, as seen from the Kerem Shalom crossing, in Israel, December 22, 2023. Credit: Reuters/Clodagh Kilcoyne)

**FRI 17:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmk0nct)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**FRI 17:06 BBC OS (w172z0w6fr6yq1f)**

Prague mourns after university shooting

The Czech Republic is still in shock, after the worst mass shooting in the country's history. A gunman who killed 14 people at a university in Prague, before shooting himself when confronted by police officers. We'll speak to people who were there and get the latest from our correspondent.

Also, the reaction continues after the European Court of Justice said that banning football clubs from joining a European Super League was unlawful and Uefa and Fifa are "abusing a dominant position". So what will happen next? We'll speak to our correspondent and hear from football fans around the world.

And we continue to follow the ongoing war in Ukraine. Over the past week Ukrainian President Zelensky has been making repeated appeals for more aid for Ukraine as troops on the ground face shortages. We'll speak to our correspondents in both Ukraine and Russia, to look back at this year's events in Ukraine, and what could happen going forward.

(Photo: People pay respects a day after a shooting at Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic - 22 Dec 2023. Credit: MARTIN DIVISEK/EPA-EFE/REX/Shutterstock)

**FRI 18:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmk0s3y)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**FRI 18:06 The Fifth Floor (w3ct4v11)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 12:06 today]

**FRI 18:50 Witness History (w3ct4x8f)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:50 today]

**FRI 19:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmk0ww2)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**FRI 19:06 The Newsroom (w172z2tqnwj16j8)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**FRI 19:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4q84g)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**FRI 19:32 Sport Today (w3ct4srp)**

2023/12/22 GMT

BBC sports correspondents tell the story behind today's top sporting news, with interviews and reports from across the world.

**FRI 20:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmk10m6)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**FRI 20:06 BBC OS Conversations (w3ct5b2w)**

The Taylor Swift phenomenon

There's no doubt this has been Taylor Swift's year. Just 34 years old, the American singer songwriter has been in the music industry for more than half her life. She's a multi-award winning performer whose diehard fans have helped her break all sorts of records.

Time Magazine's 2023 Person of the Year is also the most streamed female artist on Spotify and Apple and this week she achieved a record 90 weeks at number 1 on the US Billboard Artist 100 chart.

Swift's Eras tour, which began in March this year and concludes at the end of 2024, has become the first to gross over \$1 billion. Wherever Swift's concerts land, they bring a big boost in the local economy.

Host James Reynolds hears about Swift's appeal from those with a professional and personal interest in the singer-songwriter. They include the first full-time Taylor Swift reporter and also the professor who is about to start teaching a 'Taylor Swift and her World' course to students at Harvard University.

We also meet fans - or Swifties - from across four continents about why her songs are so special.

"I was in the southern most part of Africa," says Agape, who is from Cape Town and currently studying in the UK. "But I felt, even in her song lyrics, like she was writing for me or about me."

(Photo: Taylor Swift attends a premiere for Taylor Swift: The Eras Tour in Los Angeles, California, U.S., October 11, 2023. Credit: Mario Anzuoni/File Photo/Reuters)

**FRI 20:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4qcwl)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**FRI 20:32 CrowdScience (w3ct4y54)**

2023 Year-End Extravaganza, Part 1

Welcome to Part 1 of CrowdScience's year-end extravaganza! It's an extra-festive episode this week. For those who celebrate it, Christmas is the perfect time to pause and look back at the year just gone. Here on CrowdScience we've had a great 2023: we answered dozens of listener questions, ranging from climbing plants and ostriches to panic attacks and the weight of the internet.

This week presenter Anand Jagatia magically appears with a Santa's sack full of special features. We're catching up with some of our favourite guests from the past year and answering some of the extra questions that we never got the chance to cover.

First up we hear from presenter Tim Clare who we first heard in the episode "Why do some people have panic attacks?" He takes Anand through his new book – it's about board games: why we play them, how they've existed throughout history and what he's learned about himself in the process of writing it.

Then it's time for a bonus question. The CrowdScience team often get questions about noise pollution. One listener got in

touch to ask whether the transition to electric vehicles will reduce this noise. Acoustic scientist Kurt Fristrup and epidemiologist Erica Walker give their perspectives on this question, and how sound and noise can sometimes be very different things. CrowdScience listener Marie - who originally starred in an episode about why she doesn't have any sense of time - returns. Since the programme she has been speaking to psychologists about her problem and tells Anand what more she's learnt.

We received another bonus question after a show in 2023 about AI: why can't artificial intelligence be designed to explain its decisions? Producer Phil returns to data scientist Briana Brownell from the original episode to ask her why AI decision making is so very complex.

Finally, as it's the season for holiday music, we're asking what makes the genre so distinctive? Composer Jane Watkins - who originally created the sound of a panic attack for a CrowdScience episode - brings in her musical keyboard to demonstrate what makes a Christmas song so specifically 'a Christmas song'.

It's all topped-off with the premiere of a happy and heart-warming song performed by the CrowdScience Christmas Choir – a little gift for our loyal listeners.

Presenter: Anand Jagatia  
 Producer: Phil Sansom  
 Editor: Richard Collings  
 Production Co-ordinator: Jonathan Harris  
 Studio Managers: Tim Heffer and Cath McGhee

Featuring:

Tim Clare, author/poet/podcaster  
 Dr. Kurt Fristrup, acoustic scientist, Colorado State University  
 Prof. Erica Walker, RGSS Assistant Professor of Epidemiology, Brown University School of Public Health  
 Marie Bergholtz  
 Briana Brownell, data scientist  
 Jane Watkins, composer

**FRI 21:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmk14cb)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**FRI 21:06 Newshour (w172z09tdyqxslr)**

Interviews, news and analysis of the day's global events.

**FRI 22:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmk183g)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**FRI 22:06 The Newsroom (w172z2sx74xx8bc)**

The world's Newsroom brings you global events as they happen

**FRI 22:20 Sports News (w172z1k9pc0c9jh)**

BBC Sport brings you all the latest stories and results from around the world.

**FRI 22:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4qmcv)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**FRI 22:32 World Business Report (w3ct4zc1)**

First broadcast 22/12/2023 22:32 GMT

The latest business and finance news from around the world, on the BBC.

**FRI 23:00 BBC News (w172z2r6wmk1cvl)**

The latest five minute news bulletin from BBC World Service.

**FRI 23:06 HARDtalk (w3ct4p30)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 08:06 today]

**FRI 23:30 BBC News Summary (w172z2s1bc4qr3z)**

The latest two minute news summary from BBC World Service.

**FRI 23:32 Heart and Soul (w3ct4pkk)**

[Repeat of broadcast at 04:32 today]