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- **Section:** Current Affairs / Actualidad
- **Window covered:** 14 November 2026, 15:00 to 15 November 2026, 15:00 Europe/Madrid
- **Compiled from:** list briefs for Estados Def-AE/OOII and EU, plus leaders' statements and Israeli/regional media carried in those briefs and in @F_CEAFE's posts of the same window.

US envoys float a Donbas-for-NATO probe as Europe forms an E5 and funding splits appear

After meeting US envoys Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy told reporters that American negotiators had for the first time asked whether Ukraine would withdraw from parts of the Donbas that Russia does not fully control, in exchange for NATO membership. He said Ukraine would not give up land or recognise occupied territory as Russian, but that if Washington and other NATO partners offered a concrete package of security guarantees, a strong army and funded reconstruction, he would put the question to Ukrainian society. The White House had not confirmed the remarks; a US official told the BBC that "many ideas continue to be discussed." Kushner wrote that he and Witkoff remained in close consultation with Russia, Ukraine and European partners, with the focus on facilitating direct engagement. France 24 reported that the meetings with Putin and Zelenskyy took place on Thursday after two days of talks in Abu Dhabi that ended without a breakthrough, but with agreement that European countries would join future talks.

In Dublin, after the ninth European Political Community summit and an informal European Council, Prime Minister Donald Tusk said leaders had broadly backed an "E5" format — Poland, Italy, the United Kingdom, France and Germany, plus EU institution leaders — to coordinate Europe's role in talks. He said European Council President António Costa should present a common European position, and that Poland's representative would be Deputy Foreign Minister Robert Kupiecki. Tusk also told NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte that, for now, Poland would not contribute additional funds to the PURL initiative (European money for US weapons for Ukraine), citing a high budget deficit and already very large national defence spending. Defence Industry Europe reported that Warsaw had previously contributed $100 million to PURL in a December 2025 package with Norway and Germany. Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico, in a post amplified by @F_CEAFE, rejected "war loans" and said Slovakia would support peace talks and humanitarian aid but "not a single cent for weapons." President Emmanuel Macron, in a 14 November address, said 42 countries had approved a French-initiated declaration of principles for Europe's security, warned against "rationing" Ukraine's means, and pointed to a Coalition

of the Willing follow-up in Berlin on Thursday 19 November. Ukraine's foreign minister, Andrii Sybiha, rejected any "new security order" for Europe, saying Russia keeps violating the existing one and that, at this stage, the most Moscow could negotiate was a fair ceasefire along the current line of contact, not spheres of influence.

Why it matters for Europe. The shape of any settlement — territory, NATO membership and who sits at the table — is being negotiated in formats that can include or sideline Europeans. Poland's pause on PURL and Slovakia's refusal of further military financing expose strain in the very mechanisms created after the United States stopped supplying weapons free of charge, just as US mediators want Europeans in the next round.

What to watch. Concrete security-guarantee language, if any, after further Witkoff/Kushner contacts; whether other allies fill a PURL gap; the Berlin Coalition of the Willing meeting on 19 November; and Europe's line if Russia again tables demands to roll NATO's posture back.

Sources

- Politico Europe on the Donbas-for-NATO remarks
- Polskie Radio on the E5 format
- Ukrainska Pravda on Poland and PURL
- France 24 / AFP on Macron's address
- Kyiv Post on PURL being underfunded
- @F_CEAFE quote of Tusk on E5
- @F_CEAFE on Tusk / PURL
- @F_CEAFE repost of Fico
- @F_CEAFE repost of Kushner
- Macron, 14 November
- MFA Ukraine quoting Sybiha

Trump, Xi and Putin plan a first trilateral meeting in Shenzhen

The White House and Russian officials have confirmed that Donald Trump, Xi Jinping and Vladimir Putin intend to meet on the sidelines of the APEC summit in Shenzhen, with the gathering expected on 19 November and the summit itself on 18–19 November. White House assistant press secretary Olivia Wales said the discussion would, "among other topics," address "the reduction of nuclear weapons in the world." Reporting indicates the agenda is also expected to include the US–Israel war with Iran and residual US–China trade tensions; US officials have said Ukraine is unlikely to be raised there because a separate Witkoff–Kushner track is under way and "China is not really a part of that track."

New START lapsed in February. Trump has previously rejected a simple Russian extension and called for a new agreement that would also involve China; Beijing has said it would be "neither fair, reasonable nor realistic" to join trilateral nuclear disarmament talks at this stage. A senior US official told Reuters that the nuclear discussion would open the conversation but that "we do not expect to get any kind of agreement." Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov called the meeting "extremely significant" but said any

understandings could not be imposed on other nations. Some Russian politicians have evoked a “new Yalta”; Ukraine’s foreign minister Andrii Sybiha dismissed the idea, saying that “to put forward ideas of this magnitude, you first need to win a world war.”

Why it matters for Europe. A US–China–Russia meeting from which Ukraine and European leaders are absent, with nuclear arms and Iran on the table and Ukraine officially off it, is a test of whether Europe can still shape outcomes that directly affect its security.

What to watch. The 19 November readout, or a cancellation; whether Ukraine or European security architecture appears despite the US briefing; and China’s line on New START-like constraints.

Sources

- Al Jazeera preview of the trilateral
- NSC preview via @nickschifrin, circulated on X
- Kushner on the parallel peace track

Eighteen states condemn the Nasser Hospital strike as the EU and Israel clash over winter aid

In a joint statement dated 14 November 2026 and circulated by Qatar’s foreign ministry and others, the foreign ministers of 18 Arab and Islamic states condemned “in the strongest terms” an Israeli airstrike on the Nasser Medical Complex in Khan Younis, which they said caused casualties among patients and medical personnel, in violation of international humanitarian law. The signatories were Türkiye, Algeria, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan and the United Arab Emirates. They also condemned continued Israeli attacks on civilians, including strikes on tents and other shelters, saying these undermined the ceasefire and were inconsistent with President Trump’s Comprehensive Plan, and called on Israel to implement its obligations under the Sharm El-Sheikh Agreement, that plan and UN Security Council Resolution 2803 (2025).

The same day, High Representative Kaja Kallas, speaking on behalf of the European Union, said severe flooding and winter conditions in Gaza were aggravating an already grave humanitarian situation and urged Israel to allow immediate, unimpeded access and to reopen all Gaza border crossings. The official EU text also called the Nasser Hospital airstrike “deeply alarming,” recalled that aid should not be diverted by armed groups, reaffirmed the two-state solution, and called for full implementation of Resolution 2803, including the permanent decommissioning of weapons from Hamas and other non-state armed groups and the full withdrawal of Israeli forces from Gaza. Israel’s Foreign Ministry rejected the EU statement as “completely unbalanced,” said it rewarded Hamas’s refusal to disarm, and stated that “more than 93,000 tents and over 8,600 trucks carrying winter supplies and essential equipment have entered Gaza.” A @DropSiteNews claim, reposted by @F_CEAFE, that 150,000 tents were being blocked at the border was not independently verified in the list briefs and sits in tension with Israel’s figure. Separately, the IDF said it had killed Samir Mahmoud Hassan Abu Younis, commander of Hamas’s Rafah Brigade, in a strike in southern Gaza.

Why it matters for Europe. The EU is publicly at odds with Israel — and with a US-backed "Board of Peace" mechanism — over humanitarian access, while military operations against Hamas commanders continue during a fragile, contested ceasefire. A new regional spiral would again draw in European diplomacy, naval deployments and domestic politics.

What to watch. Whether crossings reopen and shelter materials are allowed in; casualty figures and any Israeli or WHO account of the Nasser strike; and whether the Board of Peace or the United States presses on access.

Sources

- Turkish MFA text of the 18-state statement
- EEAS: EU statement on humanitarian developments in Gaza, 14 November 2026
- @F_CEAFE repost of the 18-state statement
- Kallas statement
- Israel MFA quoting Kallas
- IDF announcement

ASEAN leaders meet in Manila; Canada says it has concluded FTA talks

ASEAN leaders gathered in Manila on 15 November 2026 for the 49th ASEAN Summit and related meetings, under the chairmanship of Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. The opening included the ceremonial unveiling of an updated ASEAN emblem and flag — described as the first amendment to the emblem — and the handover of the ASEAN Digital Economic Framework Agreement (DEFA) from Marcos to Secretary-General Kao Kim Hourn. On Myanmar, ASEAN said leaders expressed deep concern over the conflicts and humanitarian situation, encouraged "substantive progress" in implementing the Five-Point Consensus, and underscored the need to "calibrate" ASEAN's engagement with Myanmar "based on developments on the ground."

Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney said in Manila that Canada had "just wrapped up negotiations on two major free trade agreements — with the Philippines and with ASEAN." On the margins he announced, with President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, an initial Canadian contribution of up to C$560 million over four years to Brazil's Tropical Forest Forever Facility; Carney's post said "half a billion dollars." Official Canadian statements also recorded a discussion of defence cooperation under a Canada–Brazil Defence Cooperation Agreement. @F_CEAFE reposted Global Times reporting that Australia and the Philippines had signed a new defence pact amid South China Sea tensions; that item was Chinese state-media commentary and was not independently confirmed from official Australian or Philippine texts in the briefs.

Why it matters for Europe. The Manila summit is a snapshot of Indo-Pacific alignment — trade, digital rules, Myanmar and South China Sea security — among partners the EU and European states are also courting.

What to watch. Publication of the FTA texts or official joint statements; official Australian and Philippine texts of any new defence pact; and ASEAN's full Leaders' Review on Myanmar.

Sources

- ASEAN opening and DEFA posts
- ASEAN on Myanmar
- Carney on the FTAs
- Canadian readout, Carney–Lula
- Canadian TFFF announcement

Greece rejects the "pseudo-state" in Cyprus on the 43rd anniversary of its declaration

Greece's Foreign Ministry marked 15 November 2026 as the 43rd anniversary of what it called "the illegal unilateral declaration of the pseudo-state in Cyprus," in "flagrant violation" of the UN Charter and international law, and recalled UN Security Council Resolutions 541 (1983) and 550 (1984). Athens "categorically rejects the fait accompli of the Turkish invasion and occupation," called on all states to respect the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus, and restated its commitment — "in full coordination with the Republic of Cyprus" — to a comprehensive settlement based on a bi-zonal, bi-communal federation with political equality, a single international personality, single sovereignty and single citizenship, in line with UNSC resolutions and the European acquis. Türkiye's Presidency Directorate of Communications, by contrast, issued remarks "wholeheartedly" celebrating the 43rd anniversary of the proclamation of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus as "a symbol of the Turkish Cypriot people's struggle for freedom." On the same day, several Turkish defence-industry firms on CEAFE's RoW list posted ceremonial congratulations; those messages announced no new capability or contract (see also the Defence Industry section only by this cross-reference).

On 14 November, Greek Foreign Minister Giorgos Gerapetritis separately briefed parliamentary party leaders on developments concerning the Greece–Cyprus electricity interconnection.

Why it matters for Europe. Cyprus remains a live EU–Türkiye fault line. Anniversary diplomacy, and any tension around the Greece–Cyprus interconnector, can affect Eastern Mediterranean energy projects, sanctions debates and the broader EU–Türkiye agenda.

What to watch. Any formal Turkish or TRNC replies; progress or incidents around the interconnector; the next step in the UN Personal Envoy's process.

Sources

- Greek MFA announcement, 15 November 2026
- Greece MFA on X
- Türkiye Directorate of Communications

FAS estimates Israel's nuclear stockpile at about 90 warheads, with delivery-system upgrades

Hans M. Kristensen and Mackenzie Knight-Boyle's Nuclear Notebook for the *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists* (10 November 2026) estimates Israel's stockpile at roughly 90 single-stage, boosted fission warheads — the same size as the previous notebook edition from 2021. The authors, of the Federation of American Scientists' Nuclear Information Project, say satellite imagery shows significant construction at several key sites and that aircraft and submarines are being upgraded. They place the force across a triad of aircraft (F-16s, possibly F-15I, and F-35I "Adir"), land-based Jericho ballistic missiles (about 25–50 road-mobile launchers at Sdot Micha, with Jericho III reportedly exceeding 4,000 km — enough, they write, to reach all of Iran, Pakistan, Europe and western Russia), and possibly sea-launched cruise missiles from six German-built Dolphin-class submarines, with three next-generation Dakar-class boats contracted in 2022 for delivery from the early 2030s. Israel continues its policy of nuclear ambiguity; the estimate is an open-source assessment, not an official disclosure.

The authors caution that rumours of several hundred warheads are likely exaggerated. They cite an International Panel on Fissile Materials estimate of 800–1,000 kg of plutonium as of the beginning of 2025, theoretically enough for 160–250 weapons if all were converted — which they do not assume. Dimona is described as nearing the end of its design life, with officials indicating an intent to keep it running until 2040, and as the site of the largest construction project in decades since 2021; 2026 imagery shows a new circular structure of similar diameter to the existing reactor, but the authors say there is no indication yet that it is a reactor.

Why it matters for Europe. A published open-source assessment that Jericho III's reported range includes Europe, ongoing force modernisation (including German-built submarines), and the wider Middle East crisis all affect European security, non-proliferation diplomacy and crisis management.

What to watch. Any official Israeli or US response; further imagery of the Dimona construction; and Dakar-class submarine milestones.

Sources

- Kristensen and Knight-Boyle, "Israeli nuclear weapons, 2026," Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists
- DOI 10.1080/00963402.2026.2748179