

MacauDaily Times 澳門每日時報 ®

FOUNDER & PUBLISHER Kowie Geldenhuys EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Paulo Coutinho www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

N.º 5074 FRIDAY 13 Nov 2026 T. 22º/ 27º Air Quality Moderate

" THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN' "

MOP 8.00 HKD 10.00 2305 4271

GBA VIEWS weekly P9



THE FORMER POST OFFICE QUARTERS NEXT TO THE RED MARKET, NOW OVER 57 YEARS OLD, ARE EXPECTED TO BE DEMOLISHED AND REBUILT NEXT YEAR P4

EXCO BACKS BILL PROPOSING NEW DISSOLUTION POWERS FOR ASSOCIATIONS P5

LAWMAKER COUTINHO HAS URGED TOUGHER INSURER PENALTIES, SAYING COMPENSATION DELAYS ARE FORCING ACCIDENT VICTIMS TO POSTPONE OR FORGO TREATMENT P6

HOUSE LOSES

2026 economic growth forecast halved as gaming and spending weaken P8

RENATO MARQUES



AP PHOTO



Indonesia's police chief told lawmakers yesterday that an illegal wiretapping operation targeting President Prabowo Subianto also surveilled politicians, officials and activists. Three senior police generals have been detained, including Prabowo's former police chief, as investigators examine possible criminal violations and deleted recordings.

AP PHOTO



Asian markets Stocks fell yesterday as concerns about Nvidia's leadership weighed on artificial intelligence companies. Japan's Nikkei 225 declined 0.7%, Taiwan's Taiex dropped 2.6% and Hong Kong's Hang Seng lost 1.2%. Nvidia shares plunged in after-hours trading amid national security concerns involving CEO Jensen Huang.

AP PHOTO



Nepal A passenger van plunged about 700 meters off a mountain road near Bhimphedi yesterday, killing at least 10 people and injuring five. Police took survivors to hospitals and investigated the cause. The crash occurred during Nepal's Tihar holiday travel period.

AP PHOTO



Israel An Israeli airstrike on Nasser Hospital in southern Gaza killed six people, including a surgeon, and wounded at least 12 others yesterday, Palestinian health authorities said. Israel said it targeted a Hamas commander and militants, alleging the hospital housed a headquarters.

More on backpage

TELECOM

Gov't plans to divest CTM stake to avoid market conflict

P4



P15

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報 Times
MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER
www.macaudailytimes.com.mo
13.11.2026 fri

POLITICAL SMEARING IN THE NAME OF HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCACY

FURTHER ANALYSIS WITH LEGAL APPLICATION IN THE CASE OF AU KAM SAN

FANG QUAN*



RECENTLY, the Court of the Macao Special Administrative Region (SAR) delivered its verdict, in accordance with the law, on the case involving Au Kam San, who was suspected of endangering national security. All sectors of Macao society maintain a highly unified stance on this case, fully supporting the SAR's judicial ruling and firmly opposing any external interference. However, certain Western non-governmental organisations (NGOs) have once again published an article that contain groundless comments and flagrant provocations. Their writings demonstrate a pervasive disregard for the law of the SAR, as well as a lack of basic knowledge of jurisprudence.

The aforementioned article characterises Au Kam San's criminal acts, which endanger national security, as so-called 'peaceful political activity' (atividade política pacífica in the Portuguese article), and describes individuals like Au as 'people actively participating in socio-political activities', attacking the judgment as a criminalisation of the exercise of free speech. In reality, the key to distinguishing criminal acts that endanger national security from so-called 'peaceful political activity' lies neither in whether the acts are carried out in a 'violent' manner, nor in whether the actor claims to be 'peaceful'. Rather, it lies in whether the subjective purpose and objective behaviour meet the constitutive elements prescribed by law. The ruling in the case of Au Kam San indicates that the Court found him to have 'colluded with multiple overseas organisations successively'. The information he disseminated was 'manifestly replete with political advocacy for the subversion of state power' and consisted of 'false and clearly distorted' materials, with the objective of 'inciting hatred among Macao residents toward the Central Government'. Clearly, such actions have crossed well beyond the boundaries of so-called 'peaceful political activity', such as expressing dissent or making demands within a legal framework. By contrast, mere policy criticism or the expression of demands — even if harsh and critical in content — will not be penalised under charges of endangering national security. In short, as long as an act subjectively possesses the intent to infringe upon the legal interests of national security, and the objectively completed act is prescribed by the Law on Safeguarding National Security, it satisfies the constitutive elements of the relevant crime of endangering national security. It absolutely cannot be conflated with so-called 'peaceful political activity' or the 'exercise of freedom of speech'.

The article describes the case of Au Kam San as a so-called 'closed-door trial'. It is universally known that the public nature of judicial proceedings is a general principle of procedural law, yet applying non-public trials as an exception for national security cases is likewise a common practice in the international community. Article 14, Paragraph 1 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights stipulates that 'the press and the public may be excluded from all or part of a trial ... for reasons of ... national security'. Examples include the layered sealed system constructed by the United States Classified Information Procedures Act (CIPA), which reduces the danger to national security to a minimum. The German Courts Constitution Act (GVG) explicitly stipulates that a court may decide to close all or part of a trial to the public when there is a risk of endangering national security. Portugal's Law No. 2/2014, the State Secrets Regime, similarly amended its Code of Criminal Procedure to align with the protection of state secrets. As for the case of Au Kam San, there is a legal basis for a non-public trial, i.e. a conditional exceptional procedure established by Article 9, Paragraph 2 of Law No. 9/1999, the Basic Law of Judicial Organisation. The application of this procedure relies on the substantive prerequisite that 'a public trial would damage national security interests', and strictly adheres to conditions and procedures requiring a request by the Public Prosecutions Office, confirmation by the Committee for Safeguarding National Security, and a decision by the judge. A non-public trial is not equivalent to a secret trial; even if the trial is closed to the public, the defendant's defense lawyer and other participants in the proceedings participate in the entire process and enjoy full procedural rights, fully reflecting a prudent balance between judicial justice and national security interests.

The article accuses the Court of being 'disproportionate' in sentencing Au Kam San to 12 years and six months in prison. The so-called 'principle of proportionality' is typically applied in administrative law, whereas in criminal law, it is expressed as the 'principle of commensurability between crime and punishment', meaning severe punishments for severe crimes, minor punishments for minor crimes, and proportionality of sentencing. The counts of offences which Au Kam San was found guilty include one count of 'subversion of state power', for which he was sentenced to 11 years and three months in prison, and two counts of 'establishing contact with organisations, groups, or individuals outside the Macao Special Administrative Region to commit acts endangering national security', each drawing a sentence of three years and nine months in prison; and one count of 'breach of secrecy', for which he was sentenced to nine months in prison.

Under the provisions of Article 71 of the Macao Penal Code regarding the legal concurrence of crimes, the minimum limit of the sentencing range the court could impose is the highest individual penalty among the various sentences, namely 11 years and three months in prison; the maximum limit of the sentencing range is the sum total of all individual penalties, namely 19 years and six months in prison.

The judge also explicitly pointed out two aspects of sentencing considerations: on one hand, the suspect is a first-time offender and admitted to a substantial portion of the criminal facts; on the other hand, the suspect's degree of intent was extremely high, and both the degree of unlawfulness of the relevant crimes and the potential consequences were exceptionally severe. Under these considerations, the final sentence of 12 years and six months in prison is clearly closer to the minimum limit of the statutory range. Thus, how then can there be any issue of being 'disproportionate'?

The article further accuses the judgment of violating the Macao SAR's obligations to safeguard litigation rights under international human rights treaties and criteria. In fact, throughout the entire legal process of the case, as Au Kam San did not hire a lawyer on his own, the Court appointed a defense lawyer to represent him in accordance with the law. The appointed lawyer was recognised and accepted by Au and maintained close communication and contact with him to conduct his defense. Au Kam San fully exercised his right to defense according to the law. In addition, the Court also approved regular family visits in accordance with the law.

The Court's judgment further shows that regarding certain allegations, the judge considered that doubts remained as to whether the relevant behavior satisfied the statutory elements of the offence; based on the principle of in dubio pro reo (the presumption of innocence in case of doubt), the court found him not guilty of those specific charges. Thus, it is evident that the Macao SAR Court's handling of the case of Au Kam San strictly adhered to statutory procedures, upheld procedural justice, and fully protected the legitimate rights and interests of the party involved. How is the case a violation of the relevant covenants?

As for the article's attacks on the 'Holistic Approach to National Security', they are even more nonsensical. The 'Holistic Approach to National Security' is the outcome of a sovereign state independently defining its security boundaries and autonomously choosing its security pathway in the midst of profound changes unseen in a century based on its own security situation. It takes 'the security of the people as its ultimate goal' and explicitly anchors itself on 'promoting international security', bringing both 'one's own security and common security' into overall planning. By directly characterising this choice, which is based on a different philosophy of security, as the 'suppression of human rights', the criticisers only expose their true objective of carrying out political smearing under the guise of human rights advocacy.

*** Associate vice president and dean of the faculty of law, Macau University of Science and Technology**

Editor's Note: The views expressed in this article are the author's own and do not necessarily reflect those of Macau Daily Times.

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo
REACHING OUT!
+27,000
Like us on facebook.com/mdtimes

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報 Times
DIRECTOR & EDITOR-IN-CHIEF_Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com
MANAGING EDITOR_Lynzy Valles
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS_Leanda Lee, Severo Portela, Sheyla Zandonai
NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS_Albano Martins, Grace Yu, Irene Sam, Ivo Carneiro de Sousa, Jenny Lao-Phillips, João Palla Martins, Jorge Costa Oliveira, Joseph Cheung, Juliet Risdon, Nadia Shaw, Paulo Cordeiro de Sousa, Renato Marques (Senior Reporter), Ricaela Diputado, Richard Whitfield, Sérgio de Almeida Correia, Viviana Seguí, Yuki Lei DESIGNER_Melissandre Denize | ASSOCIATE CONTRIBUTORS_JML Property, MdME Lawyers, PokerStars, Ruan Du Toit Bester | NEWS AGENCIES_ Associated Press, MacauHub, MacaoNews, Xinhua SECRETARY_Yang Dongxiao amy@macaudailytimes.com
A MACAU TIMES PUBLICATIONS LTD PUBLICATION
ADMINISTRATOR & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Kowie Geldenhuys kowie@macaudailytimes.com
OFFICE MANAGER Juliana Cheang juliana@macaudailytimes.com
ADDRESS Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edif. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C, MACAU SAR Telephones: +853 287 160 81/2 Fax: +853 287 160 84
Advertisement advertising@macaudailytimes.com
For subscription and general issues:
general@macaudailytimes.com | Printed at Welfare Printing Ltd
SEND NEWSWORTHY INFORMATION AND PRESS RELEASES TO: NEWSROOM@MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM WEBSITE: WWW.MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM.MO

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報 ®
Times
MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

TOURISM+

Gov't bets on sports events to drive tourism and community spending

YUKI LEI

MACAU is positioning major international sporting events as a key driver of economic diversification, seeking to extend visitor stays and expand international source markets under its "tourism + sports" strategy.

Under the Economic Diversification Plan for 2024-2028 and the second-phase review of the Tourism Development Master Plan, the sports industry has been designated a key emerging sector, with a target of hosting at least two international events a month.

The Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) continues to operate incentive schemes and community tourism subsidies to support sports tourism groups, while the six integrated resort operators are encouraged to use their venues to attract high-level competitions, connecting local



small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and community businesses to the resulting economic activity.

The 73rd Macau Grand Prix runs from Nov. 19 to 22, followed by the Macau International Marathon on Dec. 6, with car shows, family carnivals and a city culture festival running alongside. Other events include WTT Macau Champions, the FIVB Volleyball Nations League Macau leg, the Macau International Dragon Boat Races, the Macau Open golf tournament and the FIBA 3x3 Macau Masters, held outside the Ruins of St. Paul's.

The government is also promoting "ticket stub economy" initiatives, integrating arts performances and food stalls into events and encouraging visitors to use tickets for dining and retail discounts so that spectator traffic translates into community spending.

Speaking to public broadcaster TDM, sports committee member Lou Kit Long said major events bring large numbers of overnight visitors who generate more substantial spending, adding that he hoped Macau would continue adding attractive events.

"At our big competitions, we can attract top athletes from around the world because they come for a particular brand," he reportedly said. "We could hold more events in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area, or closer to home, on a smaller scale - events that break even or need only partial subsidies.

The Greater Bay Area has a large population, and we could attract more of it, or even spark homegrown brands that draw participants from Southeast Asia and neighboring regions."

Macau Economic Association economist Loi Hoi Ngan told TDM that some countries and regions strengthen the connection between sporting events and their host cities, including through mass participation, to enhance the appeal of both. Loi suggested that Macau explore more possibilities through hosting sporting events.

Following the joint hosting of the 15th National Games by Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau in 2025, Macau is deepening sports exchanges with Greater Bay Area cities and exploring more "one event, multiple stops" competitions. The government is encouraging the industry to use the mainland's 240-hour transit visa-free policy and the international flight networks of Hong Kong, Guangzhou and Shenzhen airports to design multi-stop itineraries combining sports events, leisure activities and eco-tourism in Hengqin.

Last year's marathon drew 12,000 entrants, of whom 5,234 were non-local - up more than 600 from the previous year - with the 1,457 overseas full-marathon runners coming from 36 countries and regions.

AD

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報 ®
Times
MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER
www.macaudailytimes.com.mo
13.11.2026 fri

Sai Van free sports ground to reopen today

The Free Sports Ground on Avenida Panorâmica do Lago Sai Van will reopen today (Nov. 13) following renovation works, the Municipal Affairs Bureau said. The project included resurfacing, repainting court markings and replacing basketball backboards and hoops. The bureau has been upgrading several free sports grounds since late last year to address wear and aging facilities, with the final phase underway since October. The works aim to improve safety and provide better facilities for public recreation and sports.

IAM to expand colorful public waste bin makeover project

The Municipal Affairs Bureau (IAM) has begun upgrading public wastepaper bins with colorful new designs to help them blend into their surroundings. New coverings have been installed at Temporary Leisure Area in Doca do Lam Mau and the Kun Iam Statue Waterfront, with plans to extend the project to other public leisure areas. At a community meeting, IAM also outlined local improvements, including flood barriers at Red Market and Patane Market and renovated garbage rooms. The bureau pledged to strengthen cleaning to address odor complaints.

Gov't to offer free flu shots to residents from Nov. 16

Macau will expand its free seasonal influenza vaccination program to all residents from Nov. 16, the Health Bureau said, as about 106,000 people had received shots by Tuesday, roughly matching last year's pace. Vaccinations have been prioritized since Sept. 29 for high-risk groups, including older adults, children, pregnant women and people with chronic illnesses. Appointments will be available from Nov. 16 at health centers and participating medical facilities. Priority groups can continue receiving free vaccinations without appointments.

Drink-driving crash damages 20 motorcycles

More than 20 motorcycles were damaged when a private car struck a motorcycle parking area on Avenida Marginal do Lam Mau early Thursday, the Public Security Police Force (PSP) said. The local male driver, aged about 30, sustained minor injuries and was taken to hospital. His blood alcohol level was 0.95 grams per liter, and he has been prosecuted on suspicion of drink-driving. Police said the driver was suspected of failing to maintain control of the vehicle and driving under the influence of alcohol. The incident occurred at about 1 a.m. A male passenger in the car was not hurt.

URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Red Market former post office quarters to be rebuilt at owners' expense from 2027

YUKI LEI

THE former post office quarters building next to the Red Market, now more than 57 years old, is expected to be demolished and rebuilt starting next year with funding from its owners, with Macau Urban Renewal Limited (MUR) providing support and the government offering assistance.

The seven-story building, which has two ground-floor shops and 18 residential units, will retain the same number of floors after redevelopment. Owners will in principle receive new units of similar size on a one-for-one basis, with improved layouts, lifts and better accessibility.

The rebuilt building will reserve connection points for the planned extension of the Lam Mau Tong elevated pedestrian walkway, which is expected to improve pedestrian connectivity in the district.

Secretary for Transport and Public Works Raymond Tam said during the 2025 policy debate that the government had selected the former post office quarters as the first pilot project for single-building redevelopment in the old districts. He stressed that work would begin in the short term so residents could see tangible results from urban renewal rather than just hear about plans.





Former Macau Post and Telecommunications Bureau (CTT) director Derby Lau said in October 2025 that, because of the building's age and changes in ownership, the bureau now holds only about 20% of the property rights. The bureau would fully support the redevelopment timetable and planned to reclaim some space after completion for a post office branch or other postal facilities.

Regarding the Red Market Library, currently located on the ground floor, the bureau said it had agreed with the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) that the library could be relocated, provided 60 days' formal notice was given before construction began. Responding to concerns raised by urban planning committee members about the building's modernist architectural features, the IC's heritage department said it did not meet the criteria for heritage listing and had no objection to its demolition and reconstruction.

MUR, the government-owned project implementation entity, said Wednesday that it had begun preparatory work under government guidance and support, including raising start-up funds and helping owners complete the project. After incorporating owners' views and taking into account the planning conditions, it completed a draft redevelopment plan and submitted it to the Land and Urban Construction Bureau for approval in October, aiming to begin demolition and reconstruction in 2027.

The company said it had formally obtained written authorization from the owners to assist with the redevelopment. A signing ceremony was held Wednesday, witnessed by a lawyer, marking the project's move into the implementation phase. The project, funded by the owners with support from the company and government, is intended to serve as a model for single-building redevelopment and urban renewal in Macau.

TELECOM

Gov't plans to divest CTM stake to avoid market conflict

LYNZY VALLES

THE government plans to relinquish its 1% stake in CTM to avoid potential conflicts of interest and ensure fair competition among telecommunications operators under a proposed new Telecommunications Law, a lawmaker said.

Leong Sun Iok, chairman of the Legislative Assembly's Third Standing Committee, said government representatives acknowledged the committee's concerns during a clause-by-clause review of the bill. However, they did not provide a timeline for the divestment.



The proposed legislation would replace the current telecommunications licensing system with an application-based regime without a fixed limit on the number of licenses. Applicants would undergo qualification assessments, while the government would shift its regulatory focus toward maintaining market order through a combination of preventive and post-incident oversight.

Under the bill, the Post and Telecommunications Bureau (CTT) could require operators to revise service pricing or promotional plans if these were found to involve anti-competitive practices or hinder market development. The legislation also proposes adjusting fines and introducing tougher penalties for certain violations.

The committee also raised concerns about responsibility for emergency repairs to telecommunications infrastructure during typhoons after existing concession arrangements end.

Lei said the government had responded that, under the more open market framework, the chief executive could require licensed operators to jointly participate in emergency repair work as part of civil protection efforts.

The proposed changes aim to introduce greater competition while maintaining regulatory oversight.

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報 Times
MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

REFORM

ExCo backs bill proposing tougher oversight and new dissolution powers for associations

NADIA SHAW


NADIA SHAW

THE government is proposing tighter oversight of associations, including new procedures to address inactive organizations and powers to dissolve groups in specified circumstances, under a bill whose discussion has been completed by the Executive Council (ExCo).

Wong Sio Chak, Secretary for Administration and Justice and the council's spokesperson, announced at a press conference Thursday that the proposed overhaul to the Legal Regime of Associations would be submitted to the Legislative Assembly (AL) for scrutiny and approval.

The bill would make the Identification Services Bureau (DSI) the principal authority responsible for registering and supervising associations.

It would also introduce rules for branches of overseas organizations, associations of non-local people and declarations concerning membership of organizations outside Macau.

DSI director Sonia Chan said, "In the bill, each [association] will be required, when carrying out its functions, to submit contact reports, activity reports, accounts, assets and other documents," adding that the government considered document-retention requirements necessary.

Wong added that the Civil Code and Law No. 2/99/M, which currently govern association procedures and operations, had been in force for many years.

The proposal follows a 45-day public consultation held from Aug. 10 to Sept. 23, 2026. The government said it had considered the responses and Macau's circumstances when drafting the legislation, and had recently published its consultation summary.

Alongside centralized supervision, the bill would regulate the qualifications and numbers of founders and office-holders, as well as the use of association names and premises.

It would also establish mechanisms requiring associations to correct irregularities, introduce administrative penalties and revise procedures for ending an association's legal existence.

QUESTIONS OVER SECURITY AND DISSOLUTION

Chan described three circumstances in which the bureau could act under the proposed framework. These concerned national security, the continued eligibility of an overseas association's Macau branch and the failure to correct irregularities within a legally prescribed period.

Discussing the security provision, Chan referred to the "review opinion of the Macau SAR Committee for Safeguarding National Security."

She also explained that an overseas branch could be affected if its parent organization ceased to exist or the required relationship between the parent and branch no longer existed.

"As everyone may have seen, among our current 2,400 associations, about 40% are dormant. It cannot be ruled out that a large proportion of those dormant associations may eventually be dissolved. If none of their names could be used again, this may not necessarily be beneficial to the development of the community," Chan said.

INACTIVE ASSOCIATIONS FACE TRANSITION DEADLINE

Reporters also questioned whether existing associations would have enough time to regularize their position.

Asked whether the proposed 180-day period following notification would be sufficient, Chan said the transitional arrangement concerned associations already in existence before the legislation took effect, including organizations that had gone five years or more without providing updated information to the bureau.

Notifications would be issued in batches, she said, allowing the affected associations 180 days to address the outstanding matters. Chan said, "We will notify these associations in batches and give them 180 days to deal with the required matters."

"If they provide the relevant documents within 180 days of receiving the bureau's notice, they can resume normal operations."

Chan said the longer transition period was intended to give dormant associations, many of which had been inactive for a considerable time, an opportunity to comply. For associations established after the law takes effect, she said the arrangements would be different because they would have sufficient time to comply from the outset.

When questioned about whether allowing a new association to adopt the name of a dissolved organization after three years could cause public confusion, Wong said proposed names would remain subject to government examination and statutory criteria intended to prevent misunderstandings.

Chan added that permanently reserving names previously used by organizations that had ceased to exist could unnecessarily restrict future associations, citing hometown groups as an example.

She said applications to reuse a name would face the same assessment standards as other applications.

"The standard for reusing a name will be the same as for any other association's name. I would not say that because a name was used before, we would not carry out any other review." However, she said names of associations dissolved because of national-security concerns would be unlikely to be reused.

The bill now moves to the AL, where its detailed provisions will be examined.

IMMIGRATION

Gov't refuses entry to more than 6,100 Chinese passport holders

NADIA SHAW

IN a crackdown on suspected misuse of the territory's transit arrangements, local authorities have refused entry to more than 6,100 arrivals holding Chinese passports this year, the Public Security Police (PSP) said.

Police said those refused entry had failed to produce valid transport documents, had not continued their journeys to a foreign country as required, or had repeatedly crossed the border to circumvent Macau's permitted-stay rules.

The force said it was targeting travelers who used frequent visits to secure what effectively amounted to long-term residence.

The figure covers the period from January through Nov. 10, 2026, and counts refused arrivals rather than necessarily representing 6,100 different individuals.

In its statement, the PSP said it continued to tackle cases involving Chinese passport holders who "use frequent trips to Macau to achieve long-term stays."

Authorities also said they had strengthened intelligence sharing and joint operations with relevant mainland departments. These include joint checks at the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge checkpoint, tighter immigration screening and inspections of cross-border vehicles.

Officers are also analyzing vehicles carrying people suspected of misusing the transit policy.

Police said the stepped-up measures were intended to maintain orderly border clearance during major events, including the 33rd Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation leaders' meeting.



The force said data screening and enhanced immigration checks helped identify travelers who did not meet entry requirements, with refusals imposed in accordance with the law.

Police also warned travelers about information circulating on social media claiming to explain how to evade Macau's immigration rules.

Visitors should "carefully verify" such information, the PSP said, adding that it would "maintain a high-pressure enforcement stance."

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報 ®
Times
MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER
www.macaudailytimes.com.mo
13.11.2026 fri

AL PLENARY

LAWMAKER URGES INSURANCE REFORM AS COMPENSATION DELAYS DISRUPT TREATMENT

NADIA SHAW



LAWMAKER José Maria Pereira Coutinho has called for tougher penalties for insurers and faster dispute resolution, warning that lengthy compensation delays are forcing some accident victims to postpone or abandon treatment.

In a statement before the Legislative Assembly's (AL) formal agenda earlier this week, Coutinho said victims of traffic and workplace accidents, as well as people suffering occupational diseases, face prolonged waits for insurance payments despite Macau's economic development and existing legal safeguards.

"This structural delay transfers to the most vulnerable victims the risk that should be transferred through the insurance mechanism," Coutinho said.

Coutinho said his office had handled numerous cases in which insurers told victims they would receive compensation only after completing treatment and being discharged from the hospital. For people with limited financial resources, this could mean delaying care when it was most needed, he said.

Coutinho also cited instances in which insurers were alleged to have refused to pay workplace compensation before a court ruling, leaving some cases unresolved for more than two years. Civil proceedings, he said, have no overall deadline for completion, making litigation a lengthy route to financial relief.

The lawmaker therefore urged the government to establish a fund to advance medical expenses for traffic accident victims or require insurers to make such payments before liability is settled. He said the current compulsory insurance framework requires coverage but does not oblige insurers to advance urgent treatment costs while responsibility remains unclear.

The consequences are particularly serious for older people and financially vulnerable residents, he said, with some having had surgery postponed.

Coutinho noted that he had raised the need for advance payments in 2014, when the Monetary Authority of Macao indicated it would submit a legislative proposal.

"The current system therefore presents a structural failure to guarantee victims' fundamental right to health," he said.

WORKPLACE ACCIDENTS AND OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES

For workplace accidents and occupational diseases, Macau's compensation framework provides for biweekly payments of specified medical benefits and temporary disability compensation, calculated from receipt of the relevant supporting documents. These provisions are contained in Decree-Law No. 40/95/M.

Coutinho said the existing payment deadlines had failed to prevent persistent delays. He also questioned the effectiveness of complaint-handling guidance that, he said, calls for responses within seven days and resolution within 30 days.

"It is therefore important to know how many complaints AMCM has received in the last three years regarding delays in the payment of compensation for work-related accidents and in how many cases the violation of the 15-day deadline of Decree-Law No. 40/95/M was confirmed," he said.

He also called for consideration of punitive interest or administrative sanctions to hold insurance companies accountable for unjustified delays.

Coutinho also sought judicial statistics on the actual average duration of civil compensation proceedings, particularly those involving workplace and traffic accidents.

ANIMAL WELFARE

Stray animal adoptions fall nearly 30% in two years

LYNZY VALLES



THE number of stray dogs and cats adopted has declined for a second consecutive year, with municipal authorities reporting fewer adoptions despite continued efforts to manage the city's stray animal population.

A total of 327 stray dogs and cats found homes between January and September, down 20% from 410 during the same period last year and 28.6% from 458 in the first nine months of 2024, according to figures released by the Municipal Affairs Bureau (IAM) in response to a written inquiry by lawmaker Leong Hong Sai.

Full-year adoptions totalled 523 in 2025 and 614 in 2024.

Leong's inquiry focused on complaints about stray dogs gathering in residential areas, particularly Chun Su Mei and Rua do Cunha in Taipa. He said groups of dogs had been seen chasing pedestrians during the early morning and late evening, with some attacks resulting in hospitalisation. Similar incidents had also been reported near Taipa Municipal Market, he said.

The IAM said it had established a coordination mechanism with the Public Security Police and the Islands District Residents Association to improve monitoring, public education and measures to control stray animals.

Between January and September, authorities captured 420 stray dogs, of which 6% had microchips. They also removed more than 4.5 tonnes of food waste from 89 locations identified as hotspots for stray animals.

The bureau warned that feeding stray animals in public spaces violates public cleanliness regulations and can attract more animals. It urged residents and businesses to remove food sources and avoid leaving food or containers in public areas. Offenders who leave rubbish or utensils while feeding stray animals can face a MOP600 fine.

In response to Leong's proposal to increase penalties, the IAM said it would study the feasibility of raising fines, taking into account public opinion, social developments and the deterrent effect of existing sanctions.

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報 ®
Times
MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

EXHIBITION

CE urges Macau to carry forward Sun Yat-sen's spirit on 160th birth anniversary

YUKI LEI



MACAU is marking the 160th anniversary of Sun Yat-sen's birth with an exhibition, commemorative stamps, a symposium and cultural tours exploring his ties to the city, with Chief Executive (CE) Sam Hou Fai saying the best way to remember him is to carry forward his legacy and ideals.

"The best way to commemorate Dr. Sun Yat-sen is to inherit his precious spirit and strive unremittingly for the revitalization of China," Sam said Thursday.

The government-organized exhibition, "From Macau to the World – In Commemoration of the 160th Anniversary of the Birth of Dr. Sun Yat-sen," is being held at the Macau Cultural Centre. It features more than 100 historical documents and photographs, alongside video, audio and interactive installations across five sections covering his life, revolutionary ideals and relationship with Macau.

One section focuses on Sun and his family's links to Kiang Wu Hospital, while visitors can listen to a recording of Sun speaking in Cantonese through interactive receivers.

Sam noted that Sun "set out from Macau and looked out at the world." He said the government, together with associations and organizations, had arranged the series of activities to help different sectors learn about Sun's life and contributions from multiple perspectives and "deeply appreciate the importance of national prosperity and stability to Macau's development." Macau should carry on its tradition of patriotism and love for Macau and take an active part in national development and the practice of 'One country, two systems,' he said.

The program also includes commemorative stamps, guided cultural tours, a themed book fair and activities for young people. The new stamp issue takes Sun's historical connection with Macau as its design theme, combining images of Kiang Wu Hospital, the Chinese and Western Pharmacy, A-Ma Temple and Lou Lim Ieoc Garden. A miniature sheet features Nam Van as it appeared in 1900.

In a blog post, Sam noted that the Kiang Wu Hospital Charitable Association had long organized commemorative activities to carry forward Sun's spirit of "the world as a common good, patriotism for the people." He expressed hope that the association would continue the tradition of Sun's medical practice and service to Macau residents and work with all sectors to advance the city's health care.

Sam said Macau could leverage its advantages as a connector between China and the world and its role as a window for cross-cultural exchange to "tell Macau's story and China's story well" and contribute to national development and rejuvenation.

The exhibition runs at the Macau Cultural Centre's ART Space until Nov. 27.

AD



MacauDaily 澳門每日時報 ®
Times
MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

ECONOMY

MACAU FACES SLOWER GROWTH AS GAMING REVENUE AND SPENDING WEAKEN

LYNZY VALLES


MELISSANDRE DENIZE

THE city's economic growth forecast for 2026 has been cut almost in half by researchers at the University of Macau (UM), as weakening casino revenue and tighter mainland restrictions on capital outflows weigh on the city's recovery.

The university's latest projection puts real GDP growth at 3.5%, down from its previous estimate of 6.3%.

The revised outlook reflects mounting pressure on the city's tourism-dependent economy, where visitor growth has yet to translate into stronger spending.

The slowdown has become increasingly apparent in recent economic data. The city's gross domestic product (GDP) increased just 0.1% year over year in the third quarter to MOP106.06 billion, leaving output at 91.3% of its pre-pandemic level. Growth had reached 7.1% in the first quarter before easing to 0.3% in the second.

For the first three quarters, the economy recorded a 2.9% expansion, below the 4.7% growth achieved in 2025.

The deterioration in gaming performance has added to the pressure. Gross gaming revenue (GGR) fell 10% year over year in October to MOP21.68 billion, extending its losing streak to five months. The decline was the steepest since June, although cumulative casino revenue for the first 10 months remained 1.6% higher than a year earlier at MOP208.8 billion.

UM researchers identified several factors behind the weaker gaming environment, including the FIFA World Cup in June and July, which they said diverted consumer attention. They also pointed to mainland China's July introduction of stricter rules governing outbound investment, which could limit the movement of funds overseas and affect spending in Macau.

VISITOR NUMBERS OUTPACE SPENDING

The gap between tourism volume and economic returns has become another concern for the city's recovery. Visitor arrivals climbed 8.5% in the first 10 months, but growth in service exports - a measure that captures spending by tourists and gamblers - slowed from 12.8% in the first quarter to 1.6% in the second.

UM has consequently reduced its full-year service-export growth projection to 4.7%, from 6.3%. The sector is expected to account for 3.95 percentage points of overall GDP growth, down from the previously anticipated 5.15 percentage points.

The researchers also cautioned that external conditions could complicate the outlook. Mainland China's economic performance remains uneven, with export activity providing support while household demand and fixed-asset investment remain weak. Geopolitical uncertainty and inflationary pressures in the United States add to the risks facing the global economy, they said.

CONSUMPTION MOVES BEYOND THE CITY

Household spending has provided some support, but its composition suggests that local businesses are not capturing all the benefits.

UM's assessment found that expenditure outside Macau accounted for much of the increase in private consumption. While overall private consumption grew 3.4% in the first quarter and 2.1% in the second, residents' spending abroad rose 13% and 4.2%, respectively. By comparison, consumption within Macau increased by only around 1.7% to 1.8%.

The university nevertheless raised its full-year private consumption growth forecast to 2.6%, from 0.8%, with household spending expected to add 0.77 percentage points to GDP growth.

Investment presents a less consistent picture. Gross fixed-capital formation, which measures spending on fixed assets, fell 21% in the first quarter before recovering by 4% in the second. UM now expects the indicator to contract 3.1% for the year, reversing its previous projection of 1.2% growth. The fluctuations were partly linked to the timing of major residential development projects.

LABOR MARKET REMAINS STABLE

Despite the weaker growth outlook, the university expects employment conditions to remain relatively steady. It maintained its unemployment projections at 1.8% for the overall workforce and 2.3% for local residents, while forecasting a 2.3% increase in median monthly earnings.

Consumer prices are expected to rise 1.1%, slightly above the previous 0.8% estimate. Meanwhile, projected government current revenue was reduced to MOP117.7 billion from MOP123.7 billion.

The revised forecast places UM's growth outlook close to that of the International Monetary Fund, which expects Macau's economy to expand 3.3% in 2026, followed by annual growth of 3.1% in 2027 and 2028.

CORPORATE BITS

Galaxy donates MOP700,000 to Tung Sin Tong for 23rd year



Galaxy Entertainment Group (GEG) has donated MOP700,000 to local charity Tung Sin Tong for the 23rd consecutive year, supporting the organization's community services and charitable programs.

Representatives of Tung Sin Tong, led by chairman Chui Sai Peng, visited GEG to receive the donation from GEG chairman Francis Lui. The two sides also exchanged views on the development of the city's charitable sector and social services.

GEG has donated more than MOP11 million to Tung Sin Tong since 2004. Beyond financial contributions, the gaming operator has supported the charity through cultural, sports and educational activities for its students, teachers and service users.

Recent initiatives included a music workshop co-organized with the Macao Orchestra at Escola Tong Sin Tong, as well as invitations to attend entertainment performances and sporting events, including the ITTF Men's and Women's World Cup Macao 2026.

The integrated resort said it would continue working with local charitable and social service organizations to support different community groups and promote an inclusive community.

Sands China to stage inaugural a cappella festival in December



Sands China will stage its inaugural Sands China A Cappella Fest 2026 at The Parisian Theatre on Dec. 12, featuring five vocal groups from the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and Xiamen.

The festival will bring together CKppella from Macau, Kentopella and Boonfaysau from Hong Kong, City Singers from Xiamen and Guangzhou's WOW Vocal Band. The groups have competed in regional and international contests, including the Vocal Asia Asian Cup, Voice-Jam Awards and vokal.total.

The performances will feature pop hits, reworked classics and original compositions, showcasing vocal arrangements that use only the human voice to create melodies and rhythms.

Ahead of the main event, the five groups will stage pop-up performances on Dec. 5 at The Venetian Macao, The Parisian Macao and The Londoner Macao, including holiday-themed songs.

The Dec. 12 concert starts at 8 p.m. Tickets are priced at MOP/HKD200 for VIP seating, MOP/HKD150 for Zone A and MOP/HKD100 for Zone B, and are now on sale.

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報 ®
Times
MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER



INTEGRATING CULTURE AND THE ARTS

ANALYSIS
LEANDA LEE, MDT

THE Sixth Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Culture and Arts Festival opened in Shenzhen 31st October and will continue across the GBA until the closing ceremony scheduled for 3rd December, positioning Guangzhou and Shenzhen as the international performing arts centers of the GBA.

This year's festival opened in Shenzhen with designated landmarks in 11 GBA cities lighting up simultaneously. The Guangzhou Symphony Orchestra in collaboration with the Shenzhen Opera and Dance Theater Chorus performed an original symphonic suite. The "Pearl River Suite," composed by Shu Nan and Chen Si'ang, celebrates the central waterway, the commercial and connective historical lifeline and home for the people of the GBA. The themes tell of the natural landscapes and cultural heritage – including the core Cantonese heritage of the region - building towards the expression of economic and social reform and the opening up of the regions within the GBA, to each other, and internationally.

The expansive festival consists of 75 productions of which 36 are GBA debuts. The sheer number and distribution of the 148 performances and 25 exhibitions present opportunities for local residents to appreciate a broad range of creative experiences. Artists are drawn from across the globe, from Chinese cultural centers within and beyond the GBA and from the rich creative landscape of local communities. Hong Kong and Macau performing arts institutions and cultural organisations from the represented GBA regions and abroad have come together to continue the high-quality development of a shared artistic creativity.

Key Takeaways

- The festival brings 75 productions, 148 performances and 25 exhibitions to audiences across the Greater Bay Area, with 36 productions making their regional debuts.
- Guangzhou and Shenzhen collaborate on both the opening and closing performances, while international artists feature in nearly a third of the productions.
- A free Cantonese opera programme in Hong Kong gives young performers a stage, while a separate funding initiative supports new work by artists under 45.

CANTONESE OPERA MAKES ROOM FOR YOUNG PERFORMERS

Locally, Cantonese Opera gets an entry-free fiesta day on the 29th November in Hong Kong. The program supports both youth and child performers, encouraging a pipeline of artists. Busking, Cantonese Opera workshops on stylised movements and postures, and family activities demonstrate support for this traditional cultural heritage. Other domestic highlights are far too numerous to present here, but centrepiece stage event is the marathon nine-hour trilogy of the hit "Blossoms". Adapted from Jin Yucheng's novel, from which a television series was produced, the trilogy will be played out across two theatres in Guangzhou.

International stars from across the artistic spectrum constitute nearly one-third of the productions. Grammy Award-winning Canadian jazz singer Diana Krall will start her Asian tour from the GBA in Hong Kong on the 13th November, heading to Guangzhou two days later. In a rare opportunity for GBA audiences, Russian operatic soprano, Anna Netrebko, together with baritone Artur Rucinski and bass Alexander Köpeczi, headlined a pre-festival event in Shenzhen Concert Hall performing Verdi, Donizetti and Tchaikovsky in the middle of October. Nicholas Kenyon of The Telegraph said of Netrebko, "She has transformed herself into the leading dramatic soprano of our time. Hers is still a voice to conjure with, and her command of the stage…is unequalled." In yet another cross-border collaborative event, Chinese-born virtuoso pianist Yuja Wang will perform in Xinghai with the Mahler Chamber Orchestra.

The closing event also celebrates the ability for art and music to bring a diversity of collaborators together: baritone Leo Nucci will sing La Traviata with the Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra and choral experts from the Xinghai Conservatory of Music under the baton of Jing Huan, currently serving as Permanent Conductor of the China National Symphony Orchestra and as the music director of the Guangzhou Symphony Youth Orchestra – book-ending the festival with another Shenzhen-Guangzhou collaboration.

Jing is well known for her development of young musicians. In her capacity as the music director of the youth orchestra, she took the orchestra on their first European tour in 2013 and since then to cities across Oceania and Asia, returning to other destinations in Europe.

These repeated embedded themes of international, cross-regional, inter-disciplinary and youth involvement play out in the underlying support programs as well as the line-up of performers and artists.

FUNDING BACKS A NEW GENERATION OF ARTISTS

The Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Culture and Arts Festival is just one of the initiatives jointly presented by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the People's Republic of China, the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and the Government of the Macao Special Administrative Region. In support of the event were other funding and competitive initiatives to encourage, in particular, youth involvement in the arts. In March, the Youth Literary and Art Creation Support Project was launched for artists under the age of 45. The chosen proposals across music, dance, drama opera and other stage arts received project funding, publicity and promotional support. History, the culture of southern China and folk customs of the GBA, artistic innovation and cultural depth were included in the assessment criteria indicating the importance of a shared cultural heritage. Big "C" culture continues to be integral to GBA integration

Purpose can also be ascertained from the uplifting message in the festival's promotional video. The images bring together daily life and artistic expression, exhorting us to incorporate the discipline of excellence and beauty of creativity to elevate the prosaic. The verbal message in the video suggests as society moves forward, we can also elevate our normal existence through mutual awareness of creative aesthetics: "We remember an autumn for a melody. We remember a city for an exhibition. We make new friends by inviting them to enjoy the same music… dancing to the rhythm of life."

The imagery is one of sharing experiences across generations in poetic synergy, enhancing and deepening a shared meaning across the GBA. Ouyang Han, a young baritone, who performed at the official opening, explained the purpose behind the performance he was part of - "So that audiences across GBA can feel a deeper connection."



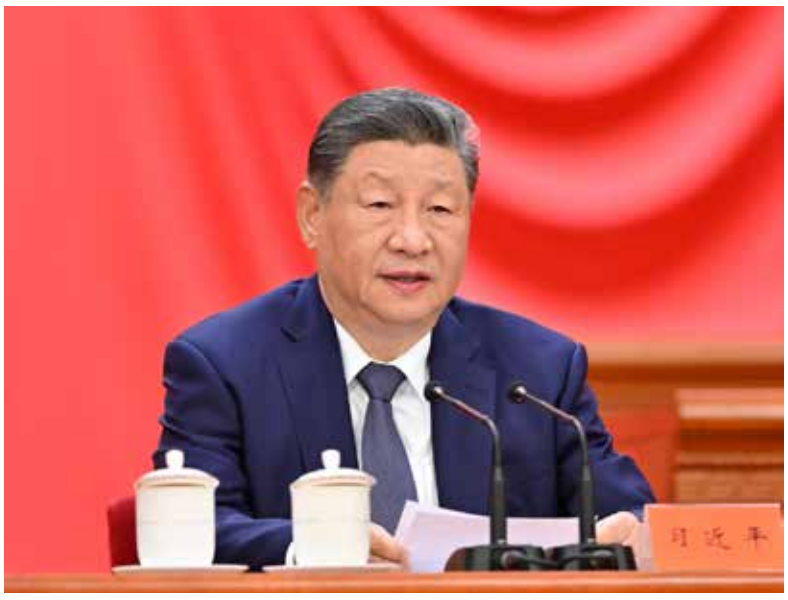
MacauDaily 澳門每日時報 ®
Times
MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

MEMORY

Xi calls for carrying forward Sun Yat-sen's legacy in national rejuvenation drive

XINHUA

XINHUA



PRESIDENT Xi Jinping on Thursday called for carrying forward the legacy of Sun Yat-sen, one of the nation's revered revolutionary forefathers, to make joint efforts for national rejuvenation and turn into reality the great dream of all Chinese people since the advent of modern times.

Xi, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, made the remarks at a gathering held in Beijing to commemorate the 160th anniversary of Sun's birth.

Born in 1866, Sun led the Revolution of 1911 more than a century ago to abolish the absolute monarchy that had ruled China for thousands of years. Sun died in 1925.

Addressing the event in the Great Hall of the People, Xi hailed Sun as a great national hero, a great patriot and a great pioneer of China's democratic revolution.

Xi noted that Chinese Communists are the most steadfast supporters, loyal collaborators, and faithful successors to the revolutionary cause initiated by Sun.

For more than 100 years, the CPC has led the Chinese people in writing the most magnificent chapter in the history of the Chinese nation, Xi said.

"The best way for us to remember Dr. Sun is to emulate, inherit and carry forward his invaluable spirit, steadily advancing our endeavors to build a great country and rejuvenate our nation," Xi said.

Highlighting Sun's lifelong devotion to the country, Xi called on all Chinese people to learn from Sun and promote patriotism to strive for a strong and prosperous China.

He also lauded Sun's dedication to the people, underscoring the imperative of always putting the people first and serving them wholeheartedly.

On the new journey, it is essential to make solid headway in promoting well-rounded personal development and common prosperity for all, Xi stressed.

Noting that Sun devoted his life to the pursuit of truth, Xi stressed the need to learn from Sun's example, advance theoretical exploration and innovation with courage, and continue to write new chapters in adapting Marxism to the Chinese context and the needs of the times.

Xi called on the Chinese people to carry forward Sun's unyielding determination, rise to challenges ahead and break new ground in the country's development.

"We must carry forward the fighting spirit, build up our ability, be ready to withstand high winds, choppy waters, and even dangerous storms, and overcome all the risks and challenges we face on the way forward," Xi said.

Calling on people to learn from Sun's commitment to unity, Xi also emphasized adhering to the united front and strengthening the great unity among all the sons and daughters of the Chinese nation.

Highlighting Sun's global vision, Xi called for vigorously promoting the common values of humanity and actively advancing the building of a community with a shared future for humanity.

"Dr. Sun always upheld national unity and ethnic solidarity, and resolutely opposed any word or act attempting to split the country and divide the nation," Xi said.

Resolving the Taiwan question and realizing the complete reunification of the motherland is an unwavering historical mission for the CPC, the shared aspiration of all Chinese people, and a natural requirement for the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, Xi stressed. **MDT/XINHUA**

AD

律师事务所
C&C LAWYERS & NOTARIES
SINCE 1996



資深合 SENIOR PARTNERS
官樂怡 Rui José da Cunha °
山度士 Álvaro Rodrigues °
馬天龍 Nuno Sardinha da Mata °

合夥人 PARTNERS
馬傑安 João Nogueira Marques
白穎怡 Icília Berenguel
冼玲鳳 Mariana Afonso Esteves
安東尼 António Manuel dos Santos
顏曉蓉 Teresa Xiaorong Yan
康靜雅 Viviana Hong

資深大律師 SENIOR ASSOCIATES
高文軒 Adelino Correia °
陶義德 António Isóo de Azeredo
馬秀文 Sofia Mendes Martins
飛嘉華 Carlos dos Santos Ferreira °
莫永誠 Rui Velez de Moura

資深大律師 SENIOR ASSOCIATES
斐彥德 Gonçalo Figueiredo
巴慧雅 Vera Bastos
歐文傑 Miguel Evaristo
陳芷喬 Joana Chan
諾瑪莉 Maria Noras
黃瀚賢 Frederico Vong

大律師 ASSOCIATES
吳霆鋒 Ng Teng Fong
楊詩婷 Si Teng Ieong
郭嘉敏 Kuok Ka Man

法律顧問 OF COUNSEL
羅善齡 Zelina Rodrigues

實習律師 TRAINEE LAWYERS
吳佩愉 Ng Pui U
陳子健 Kimi Chan

法律專家及外地註冊律師
JURISTS AND LAWYERS QUALIFIED IN OTHER JURISDICTIONS
林思潔 Jessie Lin

法律專家 JURISTS
伍福賢 Domingos Ng
許栢桓 Rui Fernandes Brás
黎海衡 Patrício Lai
胡駿然 Jimmy Vu

WWW.CCADVOG.COM
TEL: (853) 2837 2642/ 2837 2623

° 私人公證員 Private Notary





THE 1ST SILVER "DEIGNAN AWARD FOR RESPONSIBLE ENTREPRENEURSHIP" IN MACAU (2023)

"THE MACAU ESG AWARD" BEST SME 2024



MacauDaily 澳門每日時報 Times
MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

ASEAN

Mongolia protests Malaysia's handling of a 20-year-old murder case

EILEEN NG, KUALA LUMPUR

MONGOLIA has lodged a diplomatic protest with Malaysia over the handling of the murder case of a Mongolian woman, urging authorities to ensure a fair legal process and provide answers to her family 20 years after her killing.

Altantuya Shaariibuu was shot dead and blown up with military-grade plastic explosives in a jungle outside Kuala Lumpur in October 2006. Her killing touched off a scandal linked to former Prime Minister Najib Razak, who has repeatedly denied any involvement.

Two members of an elite police unit who were Najib's bodyguards were convicted of killing Altantuya. Her lover Abdul Razak Baginda, a close aide to Najib, was tried but acquitted of abetting the crime. Who ordered the killing was never established. Altantuya was 28 and pregnant at the time of her death.

Former Mongolian Prime Minister Zandanshatar Gombojav said Thursday that Mongolia "profoundly regret the decision" in January by Malaysia's Court of Appeal that removed the Malaysian government's liability in a civil suit brought by Altantuya's family and reduced the damages awarded.

AP PHOTO



Former Mongolian Prime Minister Zandanshatar Gombojavyn speaks during a press conference in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Thursday

Zandanshatar is Mongolia's special envoy and a member of a high-level government task force to support Altantuya's family.

He said Mongolia had sent a diplomatic protest note on Tuesday with four requests: including a fair review of the court ruling, the return of one of a convicted officer who escaped to Australia so he can testify in the civil suit, an examination of potentially new evidence and an official written response to Mongolia.

"Twenty years have passed, and her family has endured unimaginable loss without ever hearing the words 'I am sorry.' A fair and final resolution of this case matters greatly to the trust between our two countries," Zandanshatar told a news conference in Kuala Lumpur.

There was speculation that Altantuya, who was also working as a translator for Abdul Razak, was silenced to prevent her from exposing alleged corruption involving the purchase of submarines from France when Najib was deputy premier and defense minister.

The two policemen were sentenced to death. One fled to Australia while appealing his conviction, while the other had his sentence commuted to 40 years in prison in 2024.

Najib later became prime minister, but his party lost power in a 2018 general election and he was imprisoned for graft in a financial scandal. The new government reopened investigations into Altantuya's death following appeals from her family, but there was no clear outcome.

The family then filed a civil suit against the government, the two policemen and Abdul Razak for the shock and trauma they suffered in connection with her death. In 2022, a Malaysian high court ruled that the defendants were liable for damages and awarded the family 5 million ringgit ($1.2 million).

But the decision was overturned in January by the Court of Appeal, which reduced the damages to 1.4 million ringgit ($343,000) and said the defendants were not liable as the conduct of the two policemen fell outside the scope of their official duties. Altantuya's family has challenged the appellate ruling.

Zandanshatar said the two policemen's testimony was crucial to obtaining justice. He urged Malaysia to step up talks with Australia to secure the return of the policeman still there. The officer's death sentence is a major obstacle to extradition from Australia.

The policeman imprisoned in Malaysia had reportedly made a statutory declaration in 2019 alleging that Najib had ordered the killing. The other officer in Australia has also made statements suggesting the killing was carried out on orders from higher authorities. Najib has denied the allegations, which have not been established in court. **MDT/AP**

AUSTRALIA

Missing teen found alive after six days in the woodlands

ROD MCGUIRK, MELBOURNE

A 17-year-old boy with autism was found alive Thursday after six days lost in eastern Australian woodlands.

The boy, whom police identified only as William, had begun camping with a teenage friend when he disappeared last Friday near Walhalla, a former gold-mining town 185 kilometers east of Melbourne, police said.

A police helicopter crew found him surrounded by wilderness lying asleep on a flat rock beside a creek, and he was later reunited with his mother. William was in good spirits and mostly in good health, the police statement said.

Video shot from the rescue helicopter showed he was shirtless and sunburned. He was wearing shorts and boots and was using towels as blankets.

"I'm just over the moon that he's alive," his mother, Elizabeth, told reporters. The AP has decided not to provide her family name to avoid identifying her son.

"And he's never leaving the house again. He's grounded for life. He's not going anywhere ever again," she joked.

William was later taken to a hospital for his health to be monitored, police said.

William's family have said he has Level 2 autism. That requires "substantial support," according to the Australian advocacy group Autism360.

Such a person may have marked deficits in verbal and non-verbal social communication and rely heavily on routines and predictable activities. Disruption can cause significant distress.

The Southern Hemisphere spring weather had been mild for the past week in the alpine region where William was lost and there had been little rain.

Elizabeth had dropped off her son and his friend last Friday for a weekend of camping. William walked a short distance from the campsite to the drop-off location to collect more camping equipment but never returned to his friend, police said.

After becoming lost, William trekked for days up and down "some very steep terrain," Acting Police Inspector Jason Benbow said.

He spent the last two days where he was found at the creek, trapped by the steepness of his surrounds 2 kilometers (1.2 miles) from the his camp site, Benbow said.

ABC NEWS



Australian teen with autism found alive after six days missing in wilderness as police helicopter rescues 17-year-old near Melbourne

"He woke up to the sound of the helicopter, gave them a thumbs up and they winched him to safety," Benbow told reporters.

The extensive police search for him involved more than 100 emergency services personnel and volunteers. **MDT/AP**

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報 ®
Times
MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

AP PHOTO



The Aughinish refinery in Aughinish

IRELAND

Dublin pressured to stop sending Russia an ingredient vital to war on Ukraine

SAM MCNEIL & JILL LAWLESS, AUGHINISH

THE Karin, a 400-foot-long cargo ship, sat moored this week on Ireland's boggy River Shannon estuary. Soon it set sail for Russia laden with a white powder that can be forged into weapons vital to Moscow's war on Ukraine.

Alumina, a key ingredient in aluminum, goes into everything from toothpaste and lipstick to missiles and drones. A Russian-owned plant in southern Ireland is Europe's biggest alumina refinery and regularly sends shiploads of the substance directly to St. Petersburg and other Russian ports.

Almost five years into Moscow's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, alumina has escaped European sanctions intended to hobble Russia's economy. That leaves the refinery in Aughinish free to send its product to Russia, where some ends up in weapons, experts say.

"The material is clearly ending up in military supplies," said Irish lawmaker Ivana Bacik, who leads the opposition Labour Party. "It would be unthinkable for Ireland to be contributing, even in that indirect way, to Putin's war machine."

Ireland is facing calls to stop the shipments as dozens of European leaders gather in Dublin this week to discuss support for Ukraine. A summit of the 47-nation European Political Community on Thursday is being followed by a meeting of European Union leaders.

Irish government minister Niall Collins told The Associated Press that "there's absolutely no evidence" the material is ending up in military supply chains, though the government has declined to make public the findings of its investigation into the alumina shipments.

Aughinish Alumina said in a statement its product "has no connection to the Russian military supply chain" and that it hired an independent company to provide monthly audits to Irish authorities for "enhanced traceability."

Alumina is a chemical compound refined from bauxite, a red ore mined primarily in Guinea, Australia and China. The chalky white substance can be smelted into aluminum, which is then forged with other, rarer elements to make strong, heat-resistant and flexible alloys used in missiles and aircraft; aluminum is also used in the manufacture of rocket fuel and explosives.

The Aughinish plant in County Limerick was built in the 1970s and bought in 2007 by Rusal, a Russian aluminum producer. The company was founded, and is still part-owned, by Oleg Deripaska, a sanctioned oligarch with ties to Russian President Vladimir Putin. Rusal makes virtually all of Russia's aluminum, according to the U.S. and Australian governments.

While many cargo ships leave Aughinish bound for Europe and beyond, a steady stream of them heads straight to the port of St. Petersburg, according to data from MarineTraffic analyzed by AP.

The activist group Alumina 22, which is lobbying to sanction the trade in alumina to Russia, estimated that between March and October some 491,307 metric tons of alumina from Ireland was shipped to Russia.

These shipments have grown in importance. Since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022, two alumina factories — one in Australia, the other in Ukraine — stopped exporting to Russia, crimping its supplies by about 40%, according to a 2026 report by the Economic Security Council of Ukraine, or ESCU.

Roughly 17% of Rusal's alumina supply now comes from Ireland, according to ESCU.

An investigation by the Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project and the Irish Times published earlier this year found that alumina from Aughinish is smelted in Russia into aluminum, with some of it sold to a metals trading company that supplies Russian defense contractors.

"Virtually everything that comes from Rusal is with a high probability ending up in the hands of Russian military enterprises," said Olena Yurchenko, director of analytics, research and investigations at the ESCU.

Standing next to Irish Prime Minister Micheál Martin in Dublin in June, Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said "Unfortunately, there are companies in Europe that are owned or effectively controlled by Russia and its sanctioned oligarchs. They keep supplying the aggressor with essential materials, even now."

Martin acknowledged that "we do not want to be in a position where material emanating from a plant in Ireland goes to support the Russian war machine."

Ireland has not found evidence that is happening — but also no proof it isn't, said Enterprise Minister Peter Burke, who is in charge of the country's sanctions enforcement. He said in July it had been impossible to prove Rusal's assertion that alumina from Ireland is only used to make aluminum for export from Russia.

The Irish government hasn't published its findings, but it handed them to the European Commission, which drafts EU sanctions packages.

EU sanctions envoy David O'Sullivan said there is little doubt that "the alumina goes to smelters in Russia who produce stuff which undoubtedly goes at least in part to the military-industrial complex."

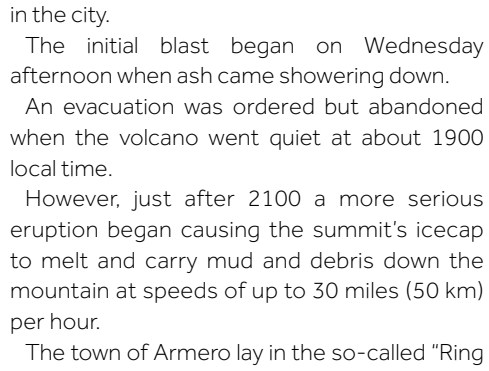
"I've read the government report. Personally, I think there's no doubt the investigative journalists got it right," he said last month in Dublin at a meeting organized by the Institute of International and European Affairs.

The European Parliament in July passed a non-binding motion calling for a ban on alumina exports to Russia. But alumina was not included in the EU's 21st sanctions package against Russia that month.

MDT/AP

this day in history

1985 Volcano kills thousands in Colombia



About 20,000 people are feared dead after a volcanic eruption in northern Colombia.

Four towns in the Andes region are reported to have been buried when ash spewed out of the volcano, Nevado del Ruiz, causing a mudslide.

The worst-affected was Armero, the province of Tolima's second largest city, about 50 miles from the Colombian capital, Bogota.

Armero, which lay in a valley below the 16,200-foot high (4,937m) volcano, was virtually destroyed - buried by mud and rubble swept down on to it.

The fatal eruption happened during the night when most of the town's 27,000 residents were in bed.

Nevado del Ruiz, known locally as "the Sleeping Lion", had not erupted for nearly 150 years.

Even though it is located only 310 miles (500 km) from the equator, the volcano's summit is covered with snow.

It had given some warning of increased activity - in recent months there had been some rumblings from the crater - but the authorities had told Armero residents it was safe to remain in the city.

The initial blast began on Wednesday afternoon when ash came showering down.

An evacuation was ordered but abandoned when the volcano went quiet at about 1900 local time.

However, just after 2100 a more serious eruption began causing the summit's icecap to melt and carry mud and debris down the mountain at speeds of up to 30 miles (50 km) per hour.

The town of Armero lay in the so-called "Ring of Fire", an unstable area of the earth's crust encircling the Pacific Ocean which includes most of the world's active volcanoes.

The Colombian government has appealed to the United Nations for help.

However, rescue efforts are being hampered by fallen bridges and impassable roads.

Courtesy BBC News

In context

The final death toll was estimated at 23,000.

It was the second most deadly eruption in the 20th century after the 1902 eruption of Mont Pelee on the Caribbean island of Martinique which killed 29,000 people.

Following the 1985 eruption, Nevado del Ruiz remained active for several more years, culminating in eruptions in 1991 and 1992.

It was not the first time the volcano had caused deaths.

In 1595, 636 people were killed after a mudflow swept down the mountainside. Another eruption in 1845 led to 1,000 deaths.

Around 50 years later settlers began to build the city of Armero directly on top of the hardened mudflow deposits. After the 1985 disaster the government declared the site of the buried city to be "holy ground".

YOUR STARS

ARIES
Mar. 21-Apr. 19

It's the perfect time to explore exciting new things, meet new people and discover new romance. Push yourself out of your comfort zone and let yourself discover exciting new ways to enjoy your day.

TAURUS
Apr. 20-May. 20

This is a super positive day! Specifically, you can negotiate financial deals or have helpful discussions about shared property, favors or gifts that could benefit your home and family.

GEMINI
May. 21-Jun. 21

Grab every opportunity to explore romantic connections and subtle flirtations. Love is in the air today. However, it will also promote warm exchanges with siblings, relatives and neighbors.

CANCER
Jun. 22-Jul. 22

This is certainly a positive day for those of you who are working, because relations with customers and co-workers will not only be friendly, they could lead to ways for you to boost your income now.

LEO
Jul. 23-Aug. 22

You have lots of positive energy today to enjoy socializing with others, especially children, siblings and relatives. Look for ways to express your creativity. You're in the zone!

VIRGO
Aug. 23-Sep. 22

People are energized, alive and full of ideas. Be open to discussions about moneymaking opportunities. Although it's a great day to socialize, some of you might enjoy relaxing at home.

LIBRA
Sep.23-Oct. 22

This is a winning day for you. Your interactions with friends and groups will be energized and positive. Because you feel so good about yourself, this is also a great day to buy wardrobe items.

SCORPIO
Oct. 23-Nov. 21

This is a friendly, sociable, upbeat day, and most people are in a great mood. Because of this, you can explore financial opportunities, especially if you have to pitch an idea to a boss.

SAGITTARIUS
Nov. 22-Dec. 21

Today the Moon is in your sign dancing beautifully with Mars and Jupiter, which makes you feel sympathetic, generous and genuinely concerned for others. Grab opportunities to travel.

CAPRICORN
Dec. 22-Jan. 19

This is a popular time for you, and today in particular is a feel-good day. You might explore fun times with friends and groups, or you might choose to seek out your own privacy in a rewarding, relaxing way.

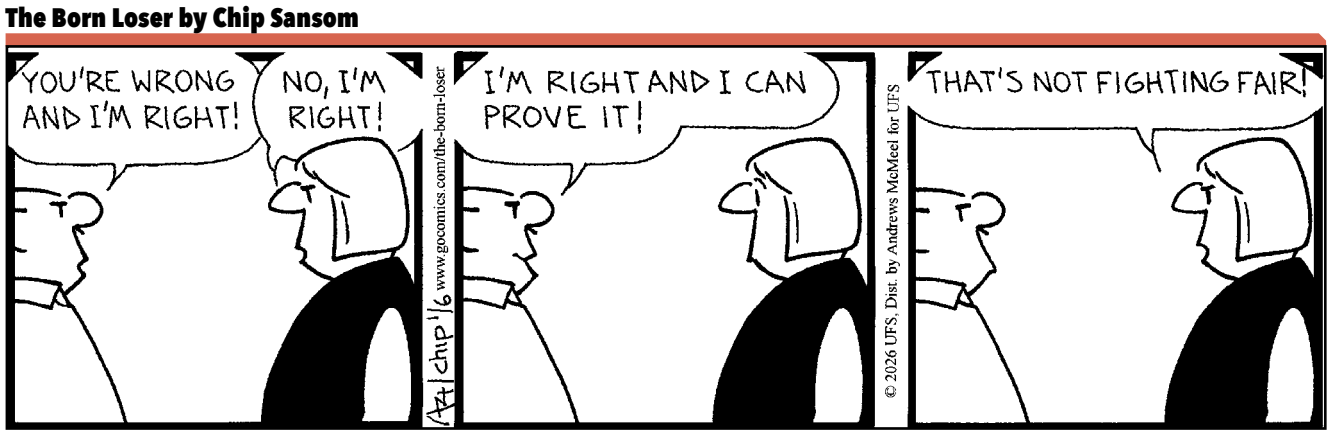
AQUARIUS
Jan. 20-Feb. 18

You enjoy your friends, and today is the perfect day to accept invitations from others. Interactions with groups, clubs and organizations, as well as individual friends, are all excellent choices.

PISCES
Feb.19-Mar. 20

People notice you today, and fortunately, it's in a positive way! You project an image of being proactive, confident and generous. Keep your pockets open, because money and favors from others can come to you.

The Born Loser by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

EASY

		9			1	4		6
4	2	6	7		8			
3		5		9				2
	3	2					8	9
				6				
9	4					6	1	
5				4		1		8
			8		2	5	6	3
2		8	1			9		

EASY+

	6		4		8			7
1					2	4		
7			6		5	3		
				3		7		2
	1			5			9	
5		7		4				
		4	1		3			6
		9	5					1
8			7		9		4	

MEDIUM

			6		1			
			5					7
1		7					2	
	5			6	3	1	4	
4			2		9			8
	9	1	4	5			7	
	1					8		3
8					7			
			1		5			

HARD

	6				2		1	8
			3				4	
			9			6		3
				8				9
		4	6		1	5		
9				3				
4		8			7			
	9				3			
7	2		8				3	

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	1	16	fine
Changchun	1	6	cloudy
Chengdu	11	19	cloudy
Chongqing	14	17	overcast
Fuzhou	19	26	overcast
Guangzhou	18	25	rain
Guiyang	9	16	overcast
Haikou	23	27	rain
Hangzhou	13	18	cloudy
Harbin	-4	6	cloudy
Hefei	9	18	rain
Nanjing	11	18	rain
Shanghai	15	21	overcast
Taipei	19	26	overcast
Wuhan	11	16	rain
Hong Hong	21	26	rain
WORLD			
Moscow	1	5	cloudy
Frankfurt	0	9	sunny
Paris	-1	11	sunny
London	-2	9	sunny
New York	3	6	rain

CROSSWORDS

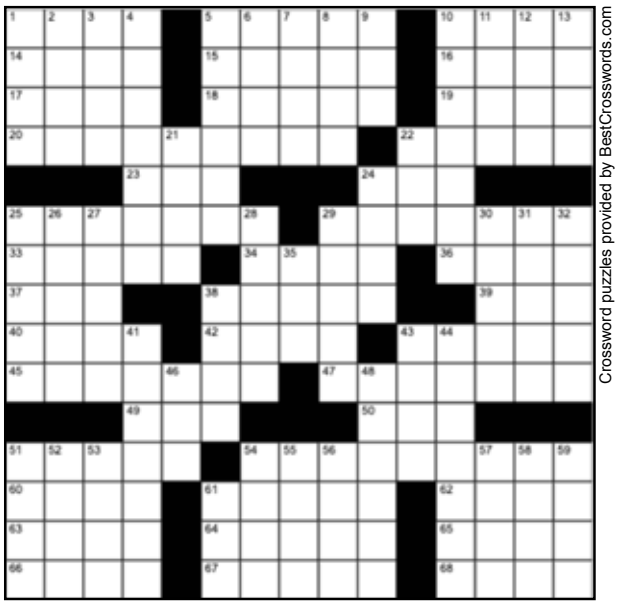
ACROSS 1- Tailless amphibian; 5- Chilled soup; 10- ___ soup yet?; 14- The King ___; 15- Tibet's capital; 16- Relocate; 17- Some DVD players; 18- Kind of kitchen; 19- "Not guilty," e.g.; 20- Patterns; 22- Like non-oyster months; 23- Claiborne of fashion; 24- Carnival site; 25- Stronghold; 29- Makes sorrowful; 33- Green-lights; 34- Auction site; 36- Bad to the bone; 37- Switch positions; 38- Bridge positions; 39- Good hole card; 40- Trent of the Senate; 42- Ask for divine guidance; 43- Assisted; 45- Add sugar; 47- Las Vegas outfit; 49- Future fish; 50- Prefix with angle; 51- Stop on ___; 54- Dimness of sight; 60- Delhi dress; 61- Beach, in Baja; 62- Slant; 63- Narrow strip of wood; 64- Camp sights; 65- ___ never work!; 66- Fork part; 67- Item having exchange value; 68- What you do to a joint, prior to a heist;

DOWN 1- Fruit-filled pie; 2- On a single occasion; 3- According to the Bible, he was the first man; 4- Show; 5- Vulgarity; 6- FDR's fireside _____; 7- Loathe; 8- Garage sale sign; 9- Covered vehicle; 10- Burst inward; 11- Boot bottom; 12- Singer Burl; 13- Afternoon affairs; 21- Eye covers; 22- Clear (of); 24- Sunbathers catch them; 25- Loses heat; 26- Tell me about it!; 27- Sample; 28- Discover; 29- Nymph chaser; 30- Elude; 31- More pleasant; 32- Vehicles with runners; 35- Youth org.; 38- Sporting blade; 41- White ant; 43- Breezy; 44- Stupid; 46- Foot digit; 48- Finally!; 51- Type of D.A.; 52- Surrealist Salvador; 53- Rafsanjani's home; 54- Pub orders; 55- ___ best friend; 56- Memory unit; 57- Pocket bread; 58- Woes; 59- Salt tree; 61- Mom-and-pop org.;

Yesterday's solution

A	S	P	E	N		A	S	A	P		M	P	A	A
L	A	R	V	A		S	A	L	E		A	R	T	Y
A	D	I	E	U		T	S	A	R		G	O	R	E
S	I	D		G	R	A	S	S	H	O	P	P	E	R
T	E	E	T	H	E	R			A	R	I	S	E	S
			A	T	A		T	E	P	E	E			
S	C	A	M		M	O	R	E	S	O		L	E	E
T	I	M	E	D		P	A	L		S	H	E	E	T
T	D	Y		E	L	A	P	S	E		T	I	E	S
		R	E	E	L	S		A	N	T				
A	S	S	E	R	T			P	R	E	P	A	R	E
B	A	L	L	E	T	O	M	A	N	E		T	E	D
O	N	E	A		E	L	I	S		D	E	B	U	G
R	A	P	T		R	E	N	T		E	R	A	S	E
T	A	T	E		S	A	G	E		D	A	T	E	S

Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com



USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Emergency calls 999
Fire department 28 572 222
PJ (Open line) 993
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
PSP 28 573 333
Customs 28 559 944
S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
IAM 28 387 333
Tourism 28 333 000
Airport 59 888 88
Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
Water Supply – Report 2822 0088
Telephone – Report 1000
Electricity – Report 28 339 922
Macau Daily Times 28 716 081

AD



MacauDaily 澳門每日時報 ®
Times
MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

AD

澳門特別行政區政府
Governo da Região Administrativa Especial de Macau
文化體育局
Direcção dos Serviços de Cultura e Desporto

Barrier installation schedule for the 73rd Macau Grand Prix

"The 73rd Macau Grand Prix" will be held from 19th to 22nd of November. Due to the event barriers will be installed and traffic will be suspended in the locations of the streets below starting from 16th November. These barriers will be progressively removed upon the conclusion of the racing on the 22nd November and until the morning of the 23rd November. The Macau Grand Prix Organizing Committee asks for the understanding of motorists and residents and appeals for the respect of temporary traffic signage and instructions of Traffic Authorities.

Date	Barrier Installation Time	Road	Location
16th November (Monday)	15:00	Av. da Amizade	Exit of World Trade center
			Exit of Amizade building
		Est. de Cacilhas	Depósito de Pólvora (Ramp)
		Est. D. Maria II	Entrance and Exit of the garage at Communications Museum
		Rua dos Pescadores	Entrance and Exit of Macao Water
17th November (Tuesday)	10:00	Av. da Amizade	Entrance and Exit of the garage at Jubilee Court Building (Next to petrol station)
		Est. de Cacilhas	Entrance and Exit of the garage at Cheng Pak Kok Building
	15:00	Est. dos Parses	Exit of the garage at the Monetary Authority of Macao
		Av. da Amizade	Junction of the crossing point from Rua de Nagasaki to Av. da Amizade (Next to Jardim San On Building)
		Est. D. Maria II	Entrance and Exit of Car Workshop (Next to Communications Museum)
18th November (Wednesday)	10:00	Av. da Amizade	Junction of the crossing point from Amizade Bridge to Av. da Amizade

AP PHOTO



Miles Teller, left, and Adam Driver in a scene from "Paper Tiger" (Neon)

DRIVE IN

James Gray delivers a milestone crime drama in 'Paper Tiger'

LINDSEY BAHR,
MDT/AP FILM WRITER

THE American Dream has seldom looked so bleak as in "Paper Tiger," James Gray's beautifully punishing tragedy about a middle-class family in Queens. With operatic grace and 35 mm grit, "Paper Tiger" shrewdly and authentically explores ideas about wealth, worth, the cost of family and the price of wanting more.

In 1986 New York, Wall Street might be booming in its "greed is good" era, but across the East River — where the grass still grows tall and the twin towers look small and distant on the skyline — Irwin Pearl (Miles Teller) is up early making storm windows for the winter.

Irwin is married to Hester (Scarlett Johansson), a practical but spirited woman who has started to fantasize about life in the suburbs. They live in a modest house where you can practically feel the texture of real life. It's a home of laughter, love and schoolwork — both parents dream of their boys going to Ivy League schools and doing better than they did.

The boys get glimpses of the rich life in their uncle Gary (Adam Driver), a former police officer who now does quite well as a security consultant. He has the suit and car, and the grand gestures he makes seem casual.

Gary proposes an idea to his brother, an engineer with a specialty in risk assessment: There's a project in the works to clean up the Gowanus Canal, and they might be able to help. The businesses, once controlled by the mafia, are being taken over by Russian immigrants.

The offer of a windfall comes as a relief for Irwin, stressed by the looming cost of college. Irwin wonders if there is something shady beneath it all, but Gary reminds him that "we've never played in the dirt."

It's only a matter of time before things start going very wrong.

Gray, who finds new notes in a genre he's already put his mark on with films like "Little Odessa," "The Yards" and "We Own the Night," is masterful at slowly, methodically building tension and dread to an almost unbearable crescendo. The decisions these brothers make, first together, then separately, take on the grandeur and weight of a classic tragedy.

Hester, meanwhile, becomes a physical manifestation of the polluted canal as she endures her own secret health crisis. It's a beautiful performance from an actor who often gets lost in franchise and spectacle.

But it's Driver who really steals the show as a man doomed by the responsibility he feels for his brother. Beneath Gary's easy smile, charm and flash festers a different kind of heartbreak and loneliness. He can also be shockingly violent.

The whole grimy affair is agonizing, as everyone tries in vain to do the right thing. The morbid joke is that it was rigged from the beginning — not just the job, but the entire system, the false promises of capitalism, the ways in which corruption is enabled, and the paradox of honest wealth.

"Paper Tiger" may be set 40 years ago, but in the most fundamental way, it's not a movie about our past. [Abridged]

"Paper Tiger," a Neon release in select theaters Friday and nationwide on Nov. 20, is rated R by the Motion Picture Association for "language and some violence." Running time: 115 minutes. ★★★½






TASTE OF EDESIA

Three chefs. One horizon. Six Michelin stars

IRENE SAM, MDT

THERE are moments when separate culinary philosophies align so precisely that the result transcends mere menu-making. At **Chef Tam's Seasons**, Wynn Palace, three two-Michelin-starred titans—each ranked among Asia's 50 Best Restaurants 2026—briefly share one kitchen. Chef Tam Kwok Fung (No. 7), Chef Fu Yueliang of Ru Yuan, Hangzhou (No. 10), and Chef Yusuke Takada of La Cime, Osaka (No. 13) offer not a parade of signatures but a genuine dialogue: Cantonese precision, Zhejiang heritage, French-Japanese artistry.

The overture announces the ambition: a Suckling Pig Duo—shattering crackling, unctuous flesh—alongside a Watercress and Dried Tangerine Peel Soup Dumpling that distills hours of slow-simmered broth into a delicate pouch. Domaine Atsushi Suzuki's Yoichi Blanc 2025 sets a crisp tone, carrying into Turnip, Ebi-Imo Taro, and Caviar, where earthy roots meet oceanic salinity.

Then fire. A Hot Courses Duo culminates in a spectacular display of wok hei: Catch of the Day stir-fried with preserved olives and Indian almonds, freshness countered by briny umami, followed by Kombujime Tilefish Tempura—kelp-cured fish in a whisper of batter. The Max Xing Guang Secret Pinot Noir 2024 weaves through both.

Heritage arrives via Ru Yuan's Southern Song-Style Crab-Stuffed Orange—a scholarly reimagining of the past—before Deer Tendon and Dried Abalone Braised in Chicken Broth, paired with Domaine Takahiko's Nana-Tsu-Mori Pinot Noir 2024. Dongpo Style Braised Pork Belly, lacquered and melt-in-the-mouth, centers the feast, while Amami Oshima Style Chicken Rice grounds the luxury in soulful satisfaction.

The Three-City Dessert Platter closes proceedings with Domaine Franco-Chinois Petit Manseng 2018—a poetic wine born of French ambition and Chinese soil, echoing the dialogue that animated every course. What lingers is the insight: true collaboration isn't addition but alchemy. Three horizons, one table—each chef's voice audible, none diminished.

The Twelve25 × La Vie exchange

THIS culinary exchange between Twelve25 and La Vie by Thomas Bühner is a study in precise, cross-cultural dialogue. The menu alternates deftly between the two kitchens, creating a seamless Franco-Asian narrative.

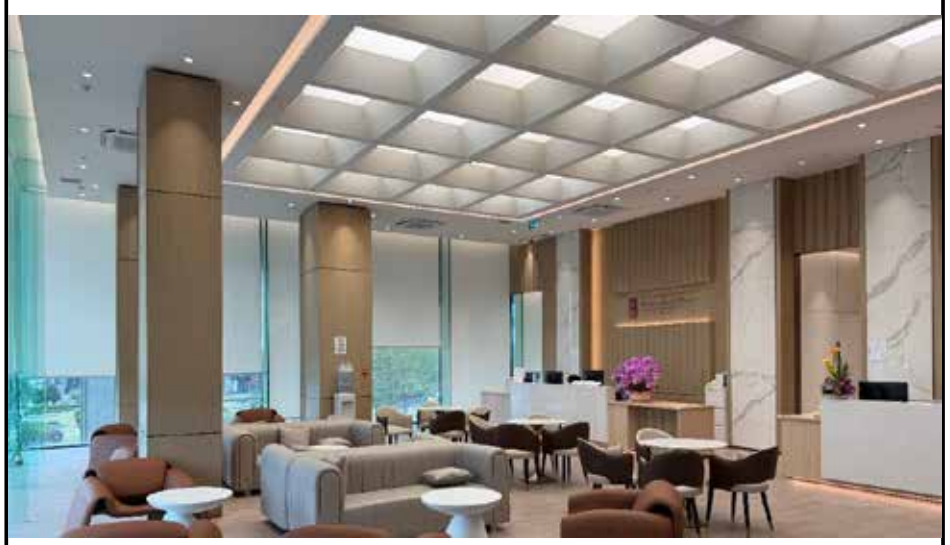
Twelve25 contributes grounded elegance with a rich Veal Sweetbread Pavé and a beautifully executed French Racan Pigeon, balancing char-grilled thigh with pistachio crumble. La Vie counters with coastal brilliance: a perfectly seared Brittany Scallop elevated by piment d'espelette, and a Japanese Kinmedai stuffed with carabineros, swimming in a deeply savory bouillabaisse coulis.

From the opulent "Kristal" Caviar opener to the inventive Vin Jaune ice cream finale, this collaborative menu showcases two distinct voices in perfect harmony. **IS**



AD

仁德 CENTRO MÉDICO PEDDER
• 仁 德 醫 療 中 心 •



General Surgery：Dr. Fok Manson, Dr. Lai Cheuck Seen Edward, Dr. Kwong Man, Dr. Nie Fu Zhong, Dr. U Chong San, Dr. Lei Chin Chong, Dr. Leong Iat Lun
Obstetrics & Gynaecology：Dr. Luo Yifan, Dr. Fong Kuan Io
Cardiology：Dr. Jin Chun, Dr. Leong Man Kin
Otorhinolaryngology, Head & Neck Surgery：Dr. Cheng Zheng Ang, Dr. Liu Shuiming, Dr. Luo Junji
Orthopaedics：Dr. Lam Kun Kuan
Plastic Surgery：Dr. Lam U Lin
Dermatology：Dr. Chan Pou San
Urology：Dr. Lo Kwong Yin, Dr. Zhao Yun Qiao
Paediatric Surgery：Dr. Yeung Chung Kwong
Paediatrics：Dr. Zhang Zhiqin
Ophthalmology：Dr. Lai Iat Fan
General Medicine：Dr. Ng Kam Hong, Dr. Lam Weng Chio
Psychology：Angela Desiree Yao
Dietitian：Chan Lai U

Em Macau, Avenida Dr. Sun Yat-Sen no. 1567, The Carat Res-Do-Chao R & 1F
T. 2832 2229 Website: www.peddermacau.com
Opening Hours: Mon - Fri 09:00 - 19:30 Sat 09:00 - 14:00 Sun & PH closed

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報 ®
Times

OPINION



Business Views

Shuli Ren, Bloomberg

Forget Nvidia. Anthropic is the AI trade's litmus test

For an industry that needs to spend at least $30 billion just to build a data center that handles one gigawatt of computing power, access to financing is key.

Two forces are pulling the trillion-dollar artificial--intelligence trade in opposite directions, creating a tension that comes at a critical time for the industry. Nvidia Corp., the sector's most valuable company, is embroiled in a leadership crisis after co-founder Jensen Huang admitted to having an affair with a woman that US officials reportedly believe to be a Chinese spy. Meanwhile, optimism is in the air as Anthropic PBC is looking to raise as much as $90 billion from an initial public offering next week. Bankers are weighing plans to increase the price and the order book is already multiple times oversubscribed. The maker of the Claude chatbot is expected to start trading next Thursday.

Huang's possible removal from the helm of Nvidia is sending shockwaves across the AI supply chain. He is the biggest advocate of vendor financing, pulling forward chip demand by providing support to nascent AI labs as well as data-center developers. Just two months ago, Anthropic signed a $35 billion cloud-computing deal with Nvidia-backed neocloud Lambda; Nvidia — instead of Anthropic, which has a shorter credit history — is holding the lease on the data center.

Asian suppliers are particularly wary. Some of the region's largest semiconductor firms, including South Korea's SK Hynix Inc., Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co., and Japanese test-equipment maker Advantest Corp., rely on Nvidia for a substantial portion of their sales. If the company's pace of deal-making slows and financing for compute hits a snag, there's a real danger they will have to slash their earnings outlook.

For now, global investors are giving the AI trade the benefit of the doubt, with chip stocks stabilizing after last week's brutal selloff. Traders are betting that a successful Anthropic debut can drown out all the negative headlines surrounding Nvidia and Huang.

The hope is that a new financing channel will open for the ultimate customers of semiconductor products: the AI labs. Anthropic will soon no longer need Nvidia to backstop its computing deals, which bodes well for the sector's entire supply chain.

Anthropic is tapping into the world's deepest and most liquid pool of capital — and an IPO is just the start. Like Alphabet Inc. and Meta Platforms Inc. before it, the Claude chatbot maker can launch an at--the-market offering, which gives it the option to sell shares into the open market from time to time, or do private placements now that its valuation is determined by public investors. Convertible bonds, a hybrid debt security that pays low coupon rates, are also on the table. While Anthropic may not receive an investment-grade rating immediately after going public, it will get more leeway with loan bankers if its stocks trade alongside the other mega-caps.

Being a publicly listed business comes with many privileges. US-based tech firms have raised at least $220 billion from follow-on equity offerings so far this year, according to data compiled by Bloomberg. Companies have been selling convertible bonds throughout 2026; the likes of CoreWeave Inc. as well as more established firms from the dot-com era, such as Akamai Technologies Inc., have been active issuers.

The AI industry will no longer need its own central bank if the US stock market welcomes a major pure--play frontier lab with open arms. But before the baton is passed, Anthropic needs a smooth public debut first.

Courtesy Bloomberg/Shuli Ren

A Romanov sapphire bracelet sells for $4.9 million at a Geneva auction

THE BUZZ

A Romanov sapphire weighing nearly 198 carats on a diamond-covered bracelet sold for more than 4.1 million Swiss francs ($4.9 million) at auction, vastly higher than the expected price range, Sotheby's said.

The cushion-shaped sapphire attributed to onetime ownership of Russia's imperial family was billed as a very rare stone, and had been expected to fetch between 850,000 and 1.7 million francs ($1 million and $2 million) at the Geneva auction yesterday (Macau time).

The buyer, a private collector, wasn't identified.

The 197.80-carat Ceylon sapphire likely came from the Mughal Empire in south Asia, made its way into Russia's imperial jewels in the 19th century and is one of the most important surviving gemstones from the Russian court.

Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna, Czar Nicholas II's mother, wore the sapphire at the Winter Palace Ball of 1903 — "widely regarded as the last great spectacle of Imperial Russia and immortalized in some of the most iconic images of the Romanov court," the auction house said.



AP PHOTO



AP PHOTO

KENYA

For displaced Ethiopian mothers, safety brings a struggle to feed their children

DESMOND TIRO, MOYALE

ETHIOPIAN mothers who fled fighting into Kenya have found safety but are struggling to feed their children, relying on communal meals and sleeping on floors as more families cross the border seeking help.

The families are fleeing fighting between Somali and Oromo communities in southern Ethiopia. The violence stems from a longstanding territorial dispute between Ethiopia's Oromia and Somali regional administrations and has driven tens of thousands of people across the border into Kenya.

"We came here on foot late in the night, running for our lives, and arrived with very little," said Shukria Dalacha, 26, whose daughter, Sijra Bonaiyo, was five days old when they crossed the border. "We do not have the means to sustain our families."

For Dalacha, reaching safety has meant sleeping on the floor and relying on rice and beans provided to families awaiting registration. She said she was struggling to produce enough breast milk and worried about feeding her newborn.

The border violence adds to Ethiopia's wider instability, including renewed fighting in Tigray and an insurgency in Amhara. Seven opposition groups formed an alliance in September seeking to remove Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed's government.

The 2020-2022 war in northern Tigray caused about 500,000 civilian deaths from violence, famine and the collapse of health services, according to researchers at Ghent University in Belgium.

Conflict has also left communities less able to withstand drought. A September assessment by regional and federal disaster authorities and humanitarian partners estimated that 3.9 million people in Tigray would need emergency food assistance through December. It said displacement, restricted access to farmland and disrupted livelihoods were compounding the impact of poor rains.

A ROOM TO SHARE, LITTLE TO SPARE

Families continued arriving during a visit to Moyale by The Associated Press. Hundreds crowded registration areas at reception points, waiting to be counted and gain access to household rations and basic supplies. In one Kenyan host's home, 30 displaced people shared a single room for sleeping.

Kerko Mohammed, 70, said she fled with her family after gunfire struck the walls of their home during fighting between Somali and Oromo communities in Ethiopia.

"We had no choice but to escape, and in the process, we suddenly became homeless," she said.

A Kenyan host had provided food and water, Mohammed said, but the household had limited money.

The arrivals have added pressure in Kenya's Marsabit County, where local leaders had already warned that food and water shortages could leave communities struggling to accommodate those fleeing Ethiopia.

At the Al-Huda temporary camp, aid workers registered arrivals and distributed basic supplies. Families of six ate together from a single round aluminum tray. Others lay on the floor. **MDT/AP**



AP PHOTO

Netherlands Dutch Prime Minister Rob Jetten's minority coalition faced possible collapse yesterday after two governing parties struck a tax deal with opposition lawmakers. The right-wing VVD rejected the agreement, which raises taxes on wealthy residents, warning it violated the coalition's original governing pact.

AP PHOTO

Russia U.S. envoys Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner met Russian President Vladimir Putin yesterday following negotiations between Moscow and Kyiv in Abu Dhabi. Those talks produced an agreement on a major prisoner exchange but no breakthrough toward ending the war in Ukraine.



AP PHOTO

USA Democrat Scott Colom defeated Republican incumbent Cindy Hyde-Smith in Mississippi's U.S. Senate election Wednesday (yesterday, Macau time), becoming the state's first Black senator since Reconstruction. The victory comes as Democrats prepare to take control of Congress and pursue investigations into President Donald Trump's administration.



AP PHOTO

Mexican journalists say a federal protection program fails to keep them safe from threats and violence. Eight journalists enrolled in the program were killed between 2017 and 2022, while advocates cite delayed risk assessments, unreliable safeguards and inadequate coordination with prosecutors.



AP PHOTO

Chilean mother Teresita de Jesús Padilla reunited in Santiago with two sons taken from her during Augusto Pinochet's dictatorship and adopted in the United States. Judicial reports identify approximately 20,000 forced or criminal adoptions during the regime's 17 years in power.