

WNR: World News Roundup for January 2026

Western States Pivot to Developing World for Deals Amid Economic Pressures

Recently, the European Union and Bharat completed a massive agricultural pact, NDTV News reported. The deal has been decades in the making, as the parties have often tabled the agreement due to disagreements on key details. The milestone also follows a major EU deal with Latin America, via the Mercosur compact. Despite protests from local EU farmers the agreement was finalized in January 2025.

The EU, UK and even the US has been on a

blitz if the developing world, seeking resources and partnerships. In 2025, the US was in Nigeria signing a compact for soy animal feeds in its panic after antagonizing its largest soybean buyer, AllAfrica News reported. The US has also initiated commercial agreements with the EU-led, African Union to establish greater business relations. These deals have been astonishingly greenlit, even in the face of abrasive US aid retraction and travel bans and restrictions leveled against nearly half of the states in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Both the Canadian president and his UK counterpart travelled to China for increased cooperation, Guardian News reported in January 2026. While the US has threatened more tariffs against Canada, many Western states recognize their massive limitations in the market. They also recognize the immense quiet power of Beijing in trade, supply chain and value addition. The EU has even inked a trade deal with Vietnam.

While some suppliers complain about tariffs, Western consumer buying is drying up according to a January 2026 Sourcing Journal report. In fact, UPS has determined to layoff 30,000 jobs. The move comes as Amazon winds down its massive offerings, as a post industry American market emerges.

China Repositions for Pending Shift in Finance, and Tech

China continues to reposition itself as post World War II systems unwind. A recent China report noted that the Sino nation has become the world's factory. The state's Central Bank has been increasing liquidity, Bloomberg News reported.

Beijing has stepped onto the forefront in almost every arena. Nvidia has been keen to get its H200 chips into China while the US has planned a China trip, AP News reported.

Increasingly, even the US has been looking to China for tech as its chip fabricators have improved and its AI gains have been impressive. META has sought to acquire China's AI startup, Manus AI, according to an AP news report. The West is seeking another way in to China's massive growth and resilience.

China also hit its 5 percent growth target for 2025 as it has diversified and looked inward for innovation and growth. The Chinese market has also blossomed as its consumers make up one of the most lucrative buyers markets in the World. Coupled with rare earths processing, the West has become hyper focused on China as it seeks to reclaim hegemony and harness growth.

Gulf States Straddles Fences in Eurasia

UAE conducted a high level visit to Russia, not more than 90 days after its counterpart, Saudi Arabia invited Beijing to Riyadh in December 2024, CGTN News reported. Boyh moved have been highly touted as both Western allies get closer to Moscow and Beijing.

The move was a significant visual representation after a recent bombing of UAE cargoes by Saudi Arabia, Al-Jazeera News reported. A Saudi-led operation followed in the southern Yemen region where neo-African people groups have been seeking independence. Hiiraan Online reported that the southern leadership fled to Somalia rather than conduct talks with Northern Yemeni's backed by Saudi Arabia in Riyadh. The move indicates a level of heightened danger and uncertainty in relations.

The sudden shifts have been fomenting for some time as Ethiopia, Eritria and Egypt have seen diplomatic contortions involving both

UAE, US, Turkiye and Saudi Arabia. The complications also underscore increased rhetoric from US quadrants as it builds up a military presence in the region against Iran. Tehran recently put down mass protests incited after its currency suddenly lost value, Reuters News reported. Expansion of Wolfowitz doctrine has been key for the West to maintain control of the region.

US Tours Africa for National Interest with Deep State Visit in Sahel Amid Niger Airport Attack

US official launched an African tour in late January to secure commercial and private interests in the subcontinent, AllAfrica News reported. The tour started in the Horn of Africa where the US has been intensifying pressures against Somalia to Balkanize and recognize its state, Somaliland as a separate country, Hiiraan Online reported that Israel,

the US Proxy in the Levant has gone on record to recognize Somaliland independence. The US trip also underscores the renewal of the AGOA trade deal and a new US-African Union working group set to focus on promoting US business interests and privatization in Africa. Ironically, the compact and tour was inked by the US State Department representatives and not its trade office. The State department oversees the US foreign intelligence, political and diplomatic affairs. The trip also comes as an attack was launched at the Niger Airport in Niamey. US officials earlier visited Burkina Faso, as it continues to push for concessions there and seeks to expand its Africa Military Command across the continent.

Asia Secures Continuity Despite Targeted Chaos

Southeast Asian states have been weathering unusual incursions. In January 2025, it was

reported that a bazooka wielding man in the Philippines attacked the Mayor's facility. The move comes on the heels of catastrophic floods and internal conflicts, and protests regarding the direction of the nation.

Additionally, unusual border skirmishes between Cambodia and Thailand created an unnecessary disruption in local life.

Southeast Asia has experienced the lions share of world poverty elevation and has seen continued growth. Only in recent years with have dubious actors pushed states to counterproductive conflicts. A Bomb threat at SE Asian, Paya Lebar Airport in Singapore also rattled senses. Despite these and others Southeast Asia has stayed the course. Even as Japan has sought to militarize, according Tokyo Today reports. Still SE Asia has stayed the course with the Malaysian Ringgit hitting a five-year high against the dollar, Asia One News reported.

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