

## Prophecy Update

<https://asean.org/asean-and-russia-mark-35-years-of-relations-with-renewed-commitment-to-strengthen-strategic-partnership/>

### ASEAN and Russia Mark 35 Years of Relations with Renewed Commitment to Strengthen Strategic Partnership

The 22nd ASEAN-Russia Senior Officials Meeting (ARSOM) convened today in Kazan, Russia, as ASEAN and Russia mark the 35th year of their relations, with a Commemorative Summit scheduled to be held in June 2026 in Kazan. The Meeting reviewed progress under the ASEAN-Russia Comprehensive Plan of Action (CPA) for 2021-2025 and noted the ongoing consideration of a successor document for the term 2026-2030. The 22nd ARSOM was co-chaired by Permanent Secretary and ASEAN-Myanmar SOM Leader, Hau Khan Sum, and Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and SOM Leader of the Russian Federation, Andrey Rudenko, and attended by ASEAN SOM Leaders or their representatives, the Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Political-Security Community, and their respective delegations.

<https://www.semafor.com/article/04/23/2026/russia-deepens-defense-ties-in-west-africa>

### Russia deepens defense ties in West Africa

Russia is expanding its military presence across West Africa, aiming to fill a vacuum left by the breaking of ties between the region and the US and Europe.

An investigation by The Sentry showed that Moscow was using its shadow fleet to transport heavy equipment to its African allies, bypassing Western sanctions. Experts have warned regional countries against cozying up to the Kremlin, which often extracts major economic concessions in exchange for assistance.

Meanwhile, the security situation in the region has deteriorated further: The Islamist militia Boko Haram killed dozens in Nigeria on Wednesday, adding to the hundreds of people murdered there so far this year. And Niger said it may introduce military conscription as it looks to combat armed groups.

<https://news.fiu.edu/2025/the-world-in-focus-quick-guide-to-the-u.s-eu-relationship>

World in Focus: What's next for the U.S.-EU relationship?

Markus Thiel is a professor of politics and international relations at the Steven J. Green School of International & Public Affairs and an expert on the European Union, which is the overarching framework in which 27 member states cooperate with each other. He heads FIU's Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, established in 2001 with support from the European Commission to promote teaching, research and outreach activities relating to the EU.

Thiel recently spoke in a video about the shifting dynamics in the U.S.-EU relationship that are reshaping the global geopolitical order. He discusses Europe's move to rearm the continent, the future of NATO and nuclear proliferation. A lightly editing transcript follows.

<https://www.jpost.com/opinion/article-892983>

Europe at a crossroads between denial and reality - opinion

Across Europe, rising unrest and policy hesitation are exposing cracks in governance, identity, and state authority.

European countries are now facing one of the most significant turning points since World War II. If a collapse occurs, it will not happen in a single day but through a gradual process of erosion, step-by-step, decision by decision, with a consistent preference for denial over courageous confrontation.

What began as hesitation has turned into policy. Europe today appears to struggle to defend itself, not from external enemies but from a deep internal weakness. Countries such as Sweden, France, Belgium, Spain, and the United Kingdom are showing a series of troubling trends, including loss of control, erosion of identity, and weakening of the principles on which modern Europe was built.

At the center of this process is the issue of immigration. For years, immigration, particularly from Muslim countries, has been presented as a moral necessity and an expression of humanitarian values. There is no doubt that many immigrants seek to integrate and build new lives. At the same time, however, centers of extremism, cultural isolation, and at times hostility toward the values of the host society have also developed.

Play Immigration Videos

<https://www.reuters.com/world/india/india-digital-currency-push-targets-its-leaky-welfare-system-2026-04-23/>

India's digital currency push targets its leaky welfare system

In the western Indian village of Phulenagar, Samadhan Sonawane set up a drip irrigation system on his small onion farm using digital currency issued directly from the central bank.

The funds come from a pilot programme that is part of India's efforts to boost its e-rupee, a central bank digital currency (CBDC), and tighten its \$80 billion welfare payment system, which has historically suffered from corruption and inefficiency.

While India's early efforts are modest compared with those of China, where more than 200 million people use the e-yuan, the world's most populous nation could in theory become its biggest CBDC issuer if the system gains traction.

For now, Indian authorities are working to establish use cases in the farm and subsidised food distribution sectors, where welfare often struggles to make it to the right recipients.

"Where we are right now is looking for some kind of killer use case that differentiates CBDC ... I think that's what India's trying to do, to find those kinds of killer applications," said John Kiff, an independent digital currency adviser who formerly worked with the IMF and Bank of Canada.

<https://www.coindesk.com/policy/2026/04/21/bank-of-korea-s-new-governor-signals-cbdc-and-bank-token-push-skips-stablecoins-in-key-address>

Bank of Korea's new governor signals CBDC and bank token push, skips stablecoins in key address

The BOK will increase scrutiny of crypto markets and non-bank finance, and will also modernize currency markets for 24-hour foreign exchange trading, he said.

Bank of Korea's new governor Shin Hyun-song prioritized a CBDC and bank-issued deposit tokens in a key address, centering them in Korea's digital money strategy. He omitted stablecoins from his remarks during the Digital Asset Basic Act debate, despite previously supporting a limited, competitive role.

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Bank of Korea Governor Shin Hyun-song used his first address in office to prioritize central bank digital currencies (CBDCs) and bank-issued deposit tokens, while leaving out any mention of stablecoins as South Korea weighs new crypto rules.

<https://www.americanbanker.com/payments/news/tether-rain-moneygram-add-stablecoin-services>

Tether, Rain, MoneyGram expand stablecoin game

Key insights: Tether, Rain and MoneyGram all make moves to expand their digital asset businesses.

What's at stake: Stablecoins and other digital assets are drawing a lot of attention from payment companies.

Forward look: Tether plans to expand its digital wallet in the coming months.

Tether, the largest stablecoin issuer by volume, has launched a self-custodial digital wallet that allows users to hold Tether's stablecoins, including U.S. dollar-denominated USDT, its U.S.-regulated, USD-denominated stablecoin USAT, and its gold-denominated stablecoin XAUT.

<https://www.piie.com/blogs/realtime-economics/2026/global-economy-slow-2026-and-outlook-clouded-war-other-uncertainties>

Global economy to slow in 2026, and outlook clouded by war, other uncertainties

The global economy continues to expand, supported by the artificial intelligence (AI) boom, even as high energy prices, trade tensions, policy uncertainty, and structural challenges weigh on activity. Real global GDP growth is projected to slow from 3.3 percent in 2025 to 3.0 percent in 2026 before picking up to 3.1 percent in 2027 (see figure below), according to analysis presented at the Peterson Institute for International Economics Spring 2026 Global Economic Prospects event.

The disruptions associated with the Iran war—including to energy markets and supply chains—have lowered expected GDP growth, pushed up inflation, and made the outlook more uncertain. A two-week ceasefire announced earlier this week has eased tensions and brought energy prices down from their recent peaks, but they remain sharply elevated—still roughly 30 to 40 percent above pre-war levels. Markets remain highly sensitive to developments in the region, and uncertainty is high about whether the pause in fighting will endure.

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<https://www.nytimes.com/2026/04/22/technology/anthropics-mythos-ai.html>

## Anthropic's New A.I. Model Sets Off Global Alarms

Mythos has triggered emergency responses from central banks and intelligence agencies globally, as Anthropic decides who has access to the powerful model.

When Anthropic told the world this month that it had built an artificial intelligence model so powerful that it was too dangerous to release widely, the company named 11 organizations as partners to help mount a defense.

All were from the United States.

Within two weeks, the model, called Mythos, had set off a global scramble unlike anything yet seen in the A.I. era. Mythos, which Anthropic has said is uncannily capable of finding and exploiting hidden flaws in the software that runs the world's banks, power grids and governments, had become a geopolitical chip — and a U.S. company held it.

World leaders have struggled to figure out the scale of the security risks and how to fix them, with Anthropic sharing Mythos with only Britain outside the United States. The Bank of England governor warned publicly that Anthropic may have found a way to “crack the whole cyber-risk world open.” The European Central Bank began quietly questioning banks about their defenses. Canada's finance minister compared the threat to the closure of the Strait of Hormuz.

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<https://www.investors.com/news/technology/palantir-stock-department-defense-budget-request-maven/>

Palantir Stock: DOD Seeks 'Massive' \$2.3 Billion Funding For Maven System

The Department of Defense has put in a "massive" \$2.3 billion funding request for Palantir Technologies' (PLTR) Maven Smart System (MSS), said a William Blair

analyst in a Wednesday report. Palantir stock rose amid other news involving a three-year, \$300 million program with the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

In March, the DOD announced plans to make Palantir's Maven digital battle-management system an official program of record, a move that locks in long-term use of the technology across the U.S. military. Palantir's Maven Smart System provides intelligence, target recognition, battle space awareness and decision-making capabilities.

<https://fortune.com/2026/04/22/palantir-alex-karp-mini-manifesto-national-security-defense-tech-ai/>

Palantir published a mini manifesto calling some cultures 'harmful' and 'middling' and said Silicon Valley has 'a moral debt' to the U.S.

Palantir published a mini manifesto over the weekend based on a book by its CEO that made the company's position clear on a range of topics, from reinstating the military draft to Silicon Valley's moral duty to help the U.S. defend itself.

<https://cascadeinstitute.org/dark-enlightenment/>

In an era of polarized politics and rapid technological change, a little-known far-right philosophical movement known as the Dark Enlightenment has quietly gained influence among certain circles in the United States. As this esoteric and obscure ideology becomes more popular – and as its influence on U.S. politics grows, albeit in a limited way – it becomes increasingly important for Canadians to understand it.

The loose collection of ideas that comprise Dark Enlightenment thinking emerged in the late 2000s through blogs and online forums popular among the Silicon Valley set. The two intellectual leaders of this movement, American software engineer Curtis Yarvin and British philosopher Nick Land, have written numerous essays that

reject core Enlightenment principles such as democracy, egalitarianism, and universal liberty.

Beyond democracy, Dark Enlightenment thinkers are highly critical of other modern institutions, such as the media, civil service and academia. The movement collectively refers to these institutions as “the Cathedral” and advocates for them to be torn down. For years Mr. Yarvin has called for a “RAGE” (retire all government employees) plan to “reboot” the U.S. government.

The Dark Enlightenment’s relevance lies in its growing influence among certain segments of the U.S. elite, especially in the technology sector. For example, a recent biography of influential tech billionaire Peter Thiel described Mr. Yarvin as the “house political philosopher” for a network of technologists called “the Thielverse.” Mr. Yarvin himself has said claimed Mr. Thiel is “fully enlightened.” And leading American venture capitalist Marc Andreessen called Mr. Yarvin “a friend of mine.”

<https://protestia.com/2026/04/20/bishop-says-we-need-a-third-testament-because-the-first-two-are-problematic-and-not-the-word-of-god/>

Bishop Says We Need a ‘Third Testament’ Because The First Two Are ‘problematic’ And ‘not the word of God’

Yvette Flunder is the senior pastor of the City of Refuge United Church of Christ (UCC) in Oakland, California, as well as the Presiding Bishop of The Fellowship of Affirming Ministries.

An avowed “womanist” and proponent of liberation theology, she is “gay-married” to another woman and is about as progressive and liberal as they come.

During a recent message for the Center for Public Theology & Public Policy, Flunder shared:

“This a very dangerous thing that I’m about to say now... a bit dangerous. I’m of the opinion that we need a Third Testament. because the Bible has become problematic.

<https://protestia.com/2026/04/22/ted-shuttlesworth-jr-returns-to-preaching-circuit-months-after-adultery-sexting-scandal/>

Ted Shuttlesworth Jr. Returns To Preaching Circuit Months After Adultery, Sexting Scandal?

Disgraced pastor and evangelist Ted Shuttlesworth Jr. appears poised to return to public ministry, just months after admitting to a sexual affair and after multiple women accused him of engaging in lewd sexting that dates back more than 15 years.

Shuttlesworth served as the co-pastor of Miracle Word Church in West Palm Beach, Florida, alongside his wife. The author of nearly 20 books, he co-founded Miracle Word Ministries in 2010. The organization grew into a multi-faceted ministry that included a physical church of about 200 congregants, online media outreach, travel crusades, and educational programs.

As founder of Miracle Word University, Shuttlesworth spent more than a decade crisscrossing the country holding revival tours. He stepped down earlier this year and shuttered the church after it was discovered he had been cheating on his wife.

Despite these allegations, Shuttlesworth is listed as a speaker at Mark Hankins’ upcoming Camp 265 meeting, scheduled for this summer.

<https://thedissenter.substack.com/p/mike-pence-says-loving-your-neighbor>

Mike Pence Says Loving Your Neighbor Means Protecting Their Right to a Sex Change if They're an Adult

<https://endtimeheadlines.org/2026/04/another-daytime-fireball-streaks-across-3-states/>

Another daytime fireball streaks across 3 states

A bright meteor streaked across the daytime sky over parts of the United States, surprising residents and prompting a surge of reports during what experts say is a particularly active period for meteor activity.

According to AccuWeather reporting, the fireball was seen in at least three states, with witnesses describing a sudden, intense flash followed by a fast-moving streak of light. Because the event occurred during daylight hours, sightings were especially striking and somewhat unusual.

Observers flooded reporting networks with accounts of the phenomenon. Many described the object as unusually bright, with some noting a glowing trail that lingered briefly after it passed. One witness said the fireball was “incredibly bright, even with the sun out,” while another described it as “a fast, glowing streak that disappeared in seconds.

<https://www.zmescience.com/science/news-science/something-is-happening-around-earth-inside-2026s-massive-fireball-surge/>

Something Is Happening Around Earth: Inside 2026's Massive Fireball Surge

Earth is facing an unexplained surge of massive, booming daytime fireballs in early 2026.

On a Saturday afternoon this past March, a piece of the solar system plummeted toward a home in north Houston.

The one-ton space rock broke apart nearly 30 miles above the city, unleashing a violent sonic boom equivalent to 26 tons of TNT. A dark, jagged fragment smashed through a residential roof and even ricocheted around a bedroom like a cosmic pinball.

This would have been stunning in itself, except there were more such meteor strikes. During the first three months of 2026, our planet waded through an unusually dense shooting gallery. The American Meteor Society (AMS) has tracked a staggering wave of large, bright meteors — known as fireballs — lighting up skies from California to Germany.

Earth sweeps up tons of space dust every day. Usually, this material is the size of a grain of sand and burns up harmlessly in the upper atmosphere. But right now, we are colliding with much bigger rocks. And scientists are scrambling to figure out why.

Mike Hankey, a researcher who manages fireball reporting tools for the AMS, analyzed data stretching back to 2011. He shared his findings in a recent AMS report, noting this meteorite season is distinctly visible.

“After years of stable baseline activity, something appears to have shifted,” Hankey wrote in the AMS report. “The signal is consistent across multiple metrics.”

<https://www.ign.com/articles/trump-teases-impending-release-of-very-interesting-ufo-documents>

Donald Trump has said a UFO review has turned up “many very interesting documents,” which his administration would release “very soon.”

The U.S. president teased a UFO reveal at a rally in Phoenix, one that would let people “go out and see if that phenomena is correct.”

"We found many very interesting documents, I must say, and the first releases will begin very, very soon, so you can go out and see if that phenomena is correct. You'll figure it out. Let me know," Trump said.

In February, Barack Obama clarified comments he made in an interview in which he said aliens were "real," insisting he saw "no evidence" that extraterrestrials had made contact with us while he was president. Obama had set the internet alight when he told American podcast host Brian Tyler Cohen that aliens were "real but I haven't seen them" during a quickfire "lightning" round of questions.

"They're not being kept in Area 51," Obama continued. "There's no underground facility unless there's this enormous conspiracy and they hid it from the president of the United States." Obama then admitted his first question after becoming president in 2008 was, where are the aliens?

Obama later clarified: "Statistically, the universe is so vast that the odds are good there's life out there. But the distances between solar systems are so great that the chances we've been visited by aliens is low, and I saw no evidence during my presidency that extraterrestrials have made contact with us. Really!"

However, Trump soon ordered the release of government files on UFOs and aliens, saying there was strong public interest. At the time, Trump accused Obama of revealing classified information when he said aliens were real on the podcast. "He's not supposed to be doing that," Trump said. "He made a big mistake."

Asked if he thought aliens were real, Trump replied: "Well, I don't know if they're real or not."

<https://www.newsnationnow.com/space/ufo/government-ufo-trump-rep-burchett/>

America's ready for the government to release UFO info: Burchett

Congressman Tim Burchett of the UAP Caucus believes “America’s just ready” to hear what the U.S. government knows.

In a one-on-one interview with NewsNation’s Joe Khalil, Rep. Burchett, R-Tenn., discussed recent briefings he’s received on UFOs and unexplained aerial phenomena, aka UAPs, saying the public would be “alarmed at why the government won’t allow” certain information to be released.

Burchett believes President Donald Trump needs to get heavily involved in order for the appropriate information to come out: “It’s going to take the president of the United States to step up and say, ‘This has gone on long enough, we’ve got to get to the bottom of this.’”

Despite public interest in the subject, Burchett said some members of Congress “don’t want the truth” and noted a level of “arrogance” among his peers.

#### Trump’s UFO disclosure plan

At a Turning Point USA event in Phoenix last week, Trump said documents related to UFOs and UAPs will be released “very soon.” The announcement comes shortly after Rep. Anna Paulina Luna, R-Fla., said the Pentagon had missed an April 14 deadline to release 46 videos of unidentified aerial phenomena requested in a March 31 letter.

Burchett says he hopes the president will release the documents in a timely manner but added he’s been in meetings where “an unelected bureaucrat tells us that the president is on a need-to-know basis.”

Burchett discussed the string of missing individuals with ties to national security secrets, which he said Americans are “finally starting” to take notice of, because it “all fits in.”

Nearly a dozen researchers or people with links to aerospace or defense programs have disappeared or died in circumstances that some observers have deemed suspicious, including retired Air Force Maj. Gen. William McCasland, who is said to have overseen classified government programs that intersected with UAPs.

Burchett explained Naval officers have observed “very large objects on sonar traveling at a very high rate of speed” that hover above the ocean for what he describes as “hours on end.”

“We have nothing with that capability,” Burchett said. “And I just don’t see any reason why our government should be hiding it.”

Burchett added that he recently saw “some pretty incredible photos” at a briefing, which he said the public should “have the right to see” as well.