



## Bahrain welcomes ceasefire deal in Syrian province



TDT | Manama

The Kingdom of Bahrain welcomed the announcement by the Syrian Arab Republic government of a ceasefire in the southern province of As-Suwayda, viewing it as a step toward enhancing security, strengthening stability, and preserving civil peace.

In a statement, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs reiterated Bahrain's support for Syria's security and stability, emphasising the importance of preserving its sovereignty, unity, and territorial integrity, while also supporting the aspirations of the Syrian people for peace and sustainable development.

## Israeli forces kill 18 in Gaza

AFP | Gaza City

Gaza's civil defence agency said Israeli forces killed at least 18 people yesterday, including two women who were shot near an aid distribution point in the war-ravaged Palestinian territory.

The war since October 2023 has created dire humanitarian conditions for Gaza's population of more than two million, displacing most residents at least once and triggering severe shortages of food and other essentials.

The civil defence agency told AFP yesterday that its "crews have transported at least 18 martyrs and dozens of wounded since dawn", most of them following Israeli air strikes on the northern Gaza Strip.

One strike hit a tent in Gaza City housing displaced Palestinians, killing six people, according to the civil defence agency.

In the southern area of Rafah, two women were killed by Israeli fire near an aid distribution point, the agency said, adding that 13 people were wounded in the incident.

220 fils (includes VAT)



# HM King returns from France and Italy visit

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His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa returned to the Kingdom of Bahrain yesterday evening following a private visit to the France, which was followed by a working visit to Italy.

During his visit to Italy, HM the King met with Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni.

HM King Hamad and Prime Minister Meloni discussed the long-standing ties between the two countries and explored efforts to further develop and expand cooperation across various sectors, in addition to reviewing regional and international developments of mutual



HM the King with Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni before departing for home

interest.

The talks also covered the situation in the Middle East and ongoing collective efforts to reach a ceasefire in the Gaza

Strip.

Meloni congratulated HM the King on Bahrain's election as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council



for the 2026-2027 term.

Discussions also addressed bilateral economic cooperation in light of the upcoming visit of His Royal Highness Prince

Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, to Rome in September, during which bilateral agreements will be signed.

# Royal Gambit

HRH Crown Prince steers U.S. trade push



HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister is welcomed by senior officials

● Focus on economic collaboration

● Signed deals take spotlight

● Global economy discussions held

Mahir Haneef  
TDT | Manama

A push to strengthen Bahrain's economic ties with the United States took centre stage during an official meeting in Washington between His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, and U.S. Trade Representative Ambassador Jamieson Greer.

During the talks, which formed part of HRH's official visit to the U.S., the Crown Prince

reiterated Bahrain's commitment to expanding bilateral cooperation, particularly in trade and investment, areas that have seen significant momentum in recent years.

Strategic focus

The meeting underscored a shared intent to seize new opportunities created by recently signed bilateral agreements. HRH stressed that these agreements are poised to elevate the



HRH Prince Salman meets with H.E. Ambassador Jamieson Greer

Bahrain-U.S. partnership to a new level, enabling both nations to pursue their mutual economic ambitions more effectively.

His Royal Highness also highlighted the deep historical foundation of the relationship, pointing out that ties between Bahrain and the United States stretch back more than 130 years.

Future outlook

Both sides reviewed recent developments in the global

economy and explored topics of common interest. The meeting served to reinforce the long-standing alliance, with a clear emphasis on economic diplomacy as a driving force for future cooperation.

The visit marks another step in Bahrain's broader strategy to deepen its trade presence internationally while leveraging long-standing partnerships to navigate a shifting global landscape.

Data Revolution

# Bahrain revamps public data access

Mahir Haneef  
TDT | Manama

Bahrain's national data gateway has undergone a sweeping transformation, rolling out artificial intelligence-powered features, real-time statistical tools, and an inclusive interface aimed at making public data more accessible, transparent,

and impactful for everyone.

The Information & eGovernment Authority (IGA) unveiled the upgraded Bahrain Open Data Portal on Wednesday, delivering on directives from His Excellency General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, Minister of Interior and Chairman of the Ministerial Committee for Information



H.E. General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa

Technology and Communication (MCICT), to deepen digital access and transparency across government.

Dr. Khalid Ahmed Al Mutawa, IGA's Deputy Chief Executive of Operations & Governance, said the new features are designed to sharpen government performance and align with national goals to improve service delivery

and data access for all segments of society.

At the centre of the overhaul is an AI-driven search engine that allows users to find specific data points with greater speed and accuracy. The portal's interface has also been redesigned, with easier navigation and more responsive layouts for a smoother user journey.