

First English Parliament is summoned without royal command, in this instance by Simon de Montfort, Earl of Leicester. It meets in Westminster Hall.

China cedes Hong Kong Island to Britain during the First Opium War



Republic of Turkey is declared from the remnants of the Ottoman Empire

Franklin D. Roosevelt is sworn in for an unprecedented and never-to-be-repeated fourth term as US President

TOP
4
TWEETS

01



Reforming the Security Council is not just important – it is essential. Those who try to cling to privileges today risk paying the price tomorrow. We must all be bold enough to change. The world is not waiting. Neither should we.

[@antonioguterres](#)

02



Went to the airport to welcome my brother, His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE. His visit illustrates the importance he attaches to a strong India-UAE friendship. Looking forward to our discussions.

[@narendramodi](#)

03



I spoke to @SecGenNATO, @EmmanuelMacron, @Keir_Starmer, @bundeskanzler and @GiorgiaMeloni. Together we stand firm in our commitment to uphold the sovereignty of Greenland and the Kingdom of Denmark.

[@vonderleyen](#)

04



If the Russians seriously wanted to end the war, they'd focus on diplomacy—not on missile strikes, blackouts, and even attempts to damage our nuclear power plants.

[@ZelenskyyUa](#)

Disclaimer: (Views expressed by columnists are personal and need not necessarily reflect our editorial stance)

Trump to charge \$1bn for permanent 'peace board' membership

Member countries would be allowed to join for three years -- or longer if they paid

- The board was originally conceived to oversee the rebuilding of Gaza

- Membership would be "limited to States invited to participate by the Chairman"

- Trump would have the power to remove member states from the board

AFP | Washington, United States

US President Donald Trump's government has asked countries to pay \$1.0 billion for a permanent spot on his "Board of Peace" aimed at resolving conflicts, according to its charter.

The White House has asked various world leaders to sit on the board, chaired by Trump himself, including Russian President Vladimir Putin, Hungarian premier Viktor Orban and Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney.

Member countries -- represented on the board by their



Military personnel from the German armed Forces Bundeswehr board Icelandair flight leaving Nuuk airport for Reykjavik

head of state -- would be allowed to join for three years -- or longer if they paid more than \$1.0 billion within the first year, the charter says.

"Each Member State shall serve a term of no more than three years from this Charter's entry into force, subject to renewal by the Chairman," the board's draft charter says.

"The three-year membership

term shall not apply to Member States that contribute more than USD \$1,000,000,000 in cash funds to the Board of Peace within the first year of the Charter's entry into force."

The board was originally conceived to oversee the rebuilding of Gaza, but its charter does not appear to limit its role to the occupied Palestinian territory.

The White House said there

would be a main board, a Palestinian committee of technocrats meant to govern devastated Gaza, and a second "executive board" that appears designed to have a more advisory role.

"The Board of Peace is an international organization that seeks to promote stability, restore dependable and lawful governance, and secure enduring peace in areas affected

or threatened by conflict," the charter says.

'Failed institutions'

It appears to take a swipe at international institutions such as the United Nations, saying that the board should have "the courage to depart from approaches and institutions that have too often failed."

Trump has regularly criticized the United Nations and announced this month that his country will withdraw from 66 global organizations and treaties -- roughly half affiliated with the UN.

Membership of the board would be "limited to States invited to participate by the Chairman," according to the draft charter.

Trump would have the power to remove member states from the board, subject to a veto by two-third of members, and choose his replacement should he leave his role as chairman.

The "Board of Peace" began to take shape on Saturday when the leaders of Egypt, Turkey, Argentina and Canada were asked to join.

Trump also named as members Secretary of State Marco Rubio, former British prime minister Tony Blair, senior negotiator Steve Witkoff and his son-in-law Jared Kushner.

Spain promises answers as high-speed train crash kills 39

AFP | Adamuz, Spain

The Spanish government vowed yesterday to conduct a full investigation into the causes of a high-speed train collision that killed at least 39 people, with officials warning the death toll could rise as rescuers worked among the wreckage.

The crash late on Sunday is Spain's deadliest train accident since 2013, when 80 people died after a train veered off a curved section of track outside the northwestern city of Santiago de Compostela.

The latest happened when a train operated by rail company Iryo travelling from Malaga to Madrid derailed near Adamuz in Andalusia.

It crossed onto the other track, where it crashed into an oncoming train, which also derailed.

"This is a day of sorrow for all of Spain, for our entire country," Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez told reporters during a visit to Adamuz as he declared three days of mourning.

"We will uncover the answer, and once the cause of this tragedy is determined, we will present it with absolute transparency."

The interior ministry said 39 people died.

Over 120 people were injured, with 43 still in hospital, regional emergency services said. Of those, 12 were in intensive care.

Heavy machinery was being



Emergency personnel working after a train accident in Adamuz, southern Spain

deployed to lift the most severely damaged train carriages, the head of the regional government of Andalusia, Juan Manuel Moreno, told reporters.

"Unfortunately, it is quite possible that additional victims will be found beneath the twisted wreckage. The goal is to identify the victims as quickly as possible," he added.

'Extremely strange'

Unlike the 2013 accident, the derailment occurred on a

straight section of track, and the trains were travelling within the speed limit, officials said.

Transport Minister Oscar Puente said the first train to derail was "practically new" and the section of the track where the disaster happened had been recently renovated, making the accident "extremely strange".

Train operator Iryo said the locomotive was built in 2022 and last inspected just three days before the accident. It said it "veered onto the adjacent

track for still unknown reasons".

The company said around 300 people were on board its service from the Andalusian city of Malaga to the capital, Madrid.

Renfe, the operator of the second train travelling to the southern city of Huelva, said it was carrying 184 passengers.

Human error has "been practically ruled out", Renfe president Alvaro Fernandez Heredia told Spanish public radio RNE.

"It must be related to Iryo's rolling stock or an infrastructure

issue," he added.

'Catastrophe'

The stretch of track where the accident happened had a speed limit of 250 kilometres per hour (155 miles per hour), Heredia said.

One train was travelling at 205 kilometres per hour, and the other 210 kilometres per hour, he added.

Spain has Europe's largest high-speed rail network, with more than 3,000 kilometres of dedicated tracks connecting major cities including Madrid, Barcelona, Seville, Valencia and Malaga.

Survivor Lucas Meriako, who was travelling on the first train that derailed, told La Sexta television that it looked "like a horror movie".

"We felt a very strong hit from behind and the feeling that the whole train was about to collapse, break... there were many injured due to the glass," he said.

Residents of Adamuz, which is filled with white buildings and streets lined with orange trees, were grappling with the aftermath of the disaster.

"This is a catastrophe for us," Jose Perez Rojas, an 80-year-old pensioner, told AFP, calling it "really shocking".

Manuel Munoz, 60, an olive oil factory worker, said locals rushed to the centre of the town as word of the accident spread.