

BBC NEWS

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BBC News with Danielle Jalowiecka.

Investigators say a train involved in Wednesday's deadly crash in Spain was traveling at up to 195 kilometers an hour when it hit the back of another stationary train. Sixty-nine people died, dozens are missing. The government has pointed to human error, with audio recordings suggesting operators knew the Madrid to Seville line was blocked before the collision. Sarah Rainsford reports from Toledo.

The investigation has only just begun and some warn against pointing fingers so publicly and so soon. For the families caught up in all this, though, there are more urgent questions.

Dozens of people are still officially missing and their relatives are still searching hospitals and morgues looking for news. Some have taken to social media, posting names and photos of the missing and asking for help, refusing for now to give up hope.

The leader of the main opposition bloc in Israel, Gadi Eisenkot, and Arab-led party leaders have denounced the Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for alleging foreign interference in Tuesday's election. Mr. Eisenkot accused Mr. Netanyahu of attempting to delegitimize the result, which saw Arab parties perform well and the prime minister's coalition lose its majority. Hugo Bachega reports from Jerusalem.

After an election that resulted in no clear winner, Arab Israeli parties have emerged as possible kingmakers. One possibility is of a deal between those parties and the opposition bloc led by Gadi Eisenkot, either to form an unprecedented coalition or to support a minority government. But given the divisions here, it's far from clear if they can cooperate. Still, in what some see as an attempt to prevent an agreement, Benjamin Netanyahu has turned his focus to the Arab parties, accusing them of stealing the election.

Ukrainian officials say Russia launched ballistic missiles at Kyiv late on Thursday, targeting warehouses and residential buildings and killing one person. Earlier, 14 people were killed in a drone strike on a railway station in Dnipro. President Zelenskyy called that attack "horrific."

The British actor Patrick Stewart, known to millions of Star Trek fans as Captain Jean-Luc Picard, has died. He was 86. During his career, he ranged from Shakespeare on the stage to science fiction on the big screen. He later won a legion of new fans as Professor Charles Xavier in the X-Men franchise. David Sillitoe reports.

Captain's log, stardate 41153.7...

When Patrick Stewart took on the role of Captain Jean-Luc Picard, he didn't bother unpacking his suitcase. The idea of a bald English Shakespearean actor doing a reboot of an old American TV show was, he felt, doomed to failure. "Would you mind identifying..." How wrong he was?

Born near Dewsbury, his childhood was tough, but what changed everything was the theater. Acting was his escape.

BBC World News.

The Republican governor of Alaska has ordered an investigation into an alleged scheme which led to two men named Dan Sullivan standing in the state's U.S. Senate race. Mike Dunleavy said he was responding to a New York Times story alleging that Democratic Party operatives recruited a spoiler candidate.

El Salvador's president has insisted his decision to deploy more than 2,000 soldiers to Haiti does not amount to an invasion. Nayib Bukele said he only wanted the return of four Salvadoran men who were kidnapped by a criminal gang. The aviation technicians were part of a U.N.-backed security force.

An Australian woman who murdered three relatives and tried to kill another by serving them a meal containing death cap mushrooms has lost an appeal against her conviction. Erin Patterson will also be re-sentenced after an appeal by the prosecution was upheld. She was jailed for life last year.

The guitar played by George Michael in the 1987 video for his hit single "Faith" has sold for more than \$240,000 at auction. The sale took place despite a row over whether the auction should go ahead. It belonged to his long-time personal assistant Siobhan Bailey who died 12 years ago. Her family say she would have been horrified. Our Culture correspondent Katie Razzall reports.

The vintage acoustic guitar George Michael used in the video for "Faith" had a guide price of up to £120,000. It sold for £180,000 alongside other George Michael memorabilia collected by the singer-songwriter's trusted PA of 20 years, Siobhan Bailey. It was put on sale by her estranged husband Ian Belcher. The couple's divorce had not been finalized when she died unexpectedly in 2014 and he inherited her belongings.

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