BBC NEWS

April 5, 2025

Hello, I'm Chris Barrow with the BBC News.

Stock markets in the United States have ended their worst week since 2020 as Donald Trump's sweeping tariffs continue to cause turmoil on global markets. There's also sharp falls across Asia and Europe. Mr. Trump has again insisted that taxes on goods entering the U.S. will supercharge the American economy. Michelle Fleury reports.

All three major indexes plunged more than 5% with the S&P 500, which tracks the share prices of the biggest American companies, dropping almost 6%, bringing to an end the worst week for the U.S. stock market since 2020.

Trillions of dollars have flowed out of global stocks over the past two days, with Asian and European indices also sharply down.

In London, the FTSE 100 suffered its biggest daily drop since during the COVID pandemic, closing down 4.9%.

Donald Trump has again extended a deadline for the sale of TikTok allowing the video sharing app to remain available in the U.S. for another 75 days. The platform was hours away from a deadline to be sold by its Chinese owner, ByteDance, or face a U.S. ban. Here's Lily Jamali.

Donald Trump saying that his administration has been working hard on a deal and that they've made tremendous progress, but that a deal, quote, "requires more work to ensure all necessary approvals are signed now." He mentioned that tariffs were a part of this conversation.

The thinking had been that he could somehow use tariffs to compel China to approve a deal, because ByteDance doesn't sell TikTok without China's approval and it doesn't seem to have worked, at least not for now, this idea of offering tariff relief in exchange for China's blessing.

Ukraine says a Russian missile strike on Volodymyr Zelenskyy's hometown of Kryvri hit a residential area, killing 18 civilians. At least six of the victims are reportedly children. President Zelenskyy posted photos of bodies near a playground and damaged apartment blocks. James Waterhouse is in Kyiv.

President Zelenskyy has said this demonstrates that Russia is more interested in war than it is in peace. And we're seeing America starting to lose its patience, it seems, with Moscow over its repeated and ongoing efforts to bring some kind of cease-fire to this war. And President Zelenskyy will be hoping that what we have seen in Kryvri just might nudge Donald Trump towards his most recent threat of imposing further sanctions on Russia.

Syria's government has criticized a report by Amnesty International into sectarian killings last month. The rights group found that massacres in the coastal provinces of Latakia and Tartus could constitute war crimes.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said more than 1,700 people were killed by security forces and allied groups.

The government says the violence began when armed supporters of the ousted president attacked soldiers.

World News from the BBC.

The disgraced former cardinal, Theodore McCarrick, has died in the United States aged 94. He served as archbishop of Washington, D.C. before credible allegations emerged in 2018 that he molested children and adults. A year later, he was removed from office by Pope Francis.

The BBC understands that Instagram's owner Meta and the tech company Pinterest have made secret donations to a charity set up in the name of the British teenager, Molly Russell. The 14-year-old took her own life after being exposed to a stream of suicide and self-harm material on the platforms. Angus Crawford has the details.

The coroner at Molly Russell's inquest decided that the content she saw on Instagram and Pinterest contributed to her death.

BBC News understands that the platforms have now made substantial donations to the charity set up after her death, the Molly Rose Foundation.

The Russell family released a statement saying they would never accept compensation over Molly's death and had decided not to take legal action. Instead, they say they agreed to pursue the aims they share with the platforms through the foundation to ensure young people have a positive experience online.

Meta and Pinterest have declined to comment.

A high-level African Union delegation that visited South Sudan, where there are fears of a return to civil war, has been denied access to the detained vice president, Riek Machar. The visit was intended to diffuse tension between President Salva Kiir and Mr. Machar, who's under house arrest.

The Malian singer, Amadou Bagayoko, who sold millions of albums worldwide with his wife Mariam, has died at the age of 70. Known as the Blind Couple from Mali, Amadou and Mariam began touring together in the 1980s, initially to raise awareness for people living with blindness and disabilities. The pair achieved worldwide success with their album Dimanche á Bamaco.

That's the latest BBC News.