

US to block efforts to undermine AI

Says Vice President Vance, warns Europeans that heavy regulation could kill AI

REUTERS, Paris

Hostile adversaries have weaponised artificial intelligence to surveil and censor people, but the United States will block those efforts to undermine AI and will close off ways for them from obtaining capabilities to threaten people, US Vice President JD Vance said yesterday.

Vance, speaking at the AI summit in Paris, did not specify which countries he was alluding to.

He warned Europeans that what he called their excessive regulation of artificial intelligence could strangle the technology, and rejected content moderation as "authoritarian censorship."

Vance, forthright in setting out the Trump administration's America First agenda, said the United States intended to remain the dominant force in AI.

"We believe that excessive regulation of the AI sector



US Senator Elizabeth Warren, Democrat of Massachusetts, attends a protest rally against US President Donald Trump and Elon Musk's anticipated plan to close the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau in front of the CFPB headquarters in Washington, DC, on Monday.

PHOTO: AFP



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Russia, Ukraine trade strikes on energy sites

AFP, Kyiv

Kyiv and Moscow traded long-range attacks on each other's energy infrastructure overnight, officials in the warring countries said yesterday, allegedly sparking a fire at a Russian oil refinery and fresh power restrictions in Ukraine.

The escalating strikes come ahead of a series of meetings between US and Ukrainian officials aimed at determining a roadmap to end Russia's nearly three-year invasion.

Naftogaz, the Ukrainian national gas company, confirmed one of its facilities in the eastern Poltava region had been damaged in the "massive" Russian attack overnight.

It added that it was "taking all necessary measures to stabilise the gas supply situation in the Poltava region."

Local authorities in the region said that nine towns and villages were disconnected from gas supplies.

Power cuts are frequent across Ukraine, the result of waves of Russian attacks targeting the country's power grid.

Ukrainian Energy Minister German Galushchenko said authorities had implemented emergency power supply restrictions after an attack on gas facilities in Poltava.

"In order to minimise possible consequences for the energy system, the transmission system operator is urgently applying emergency power supply restrictions," he said.

The Ukrainian president's chief of staff Andriy Yermak said in response that "missiles from Russia are confirmation that (Russian President Vladimir) Putin is only interested in war."

Russian authorities separately said Ukraine had launched dozens of attack drones at western and southern regions of the country.

600 arrested for working illegally in UK

AFP, London

UK immigration enforcement teams made over 600 arrests in January, a 73 percent increase from the period a year ago, as part of the new Labour government's plan to tackle undocumented migration and people smuggling gangs, officials said Monday.

The 609 arrests, compared to 352 in January 2024, were made at over 800 premises, a government statement said.

The government said Monday that nearly 19,000 failed asylum seekers, foreign criminals and other immigration offenders had been expelled from Britain since the last election.

WHO launches plan for free child cancer medicines

AFP, Geneva

The World Health Organization (WHO) yesterday launched a new platform providing cost-free cancer medicines for thousands of children living in low- and middle-income countries, in a bid to improve lagging survival rates.

The first medicines were being delivered to Mongolia and Uzbekistan, the WHO said, with further shipments planned for Ecuador, Jordan, Nepal and Zambia, as part of project's pilot phase.

The treatments are expected to reach around 5,000 children with cancer this year across at least 30 hospitals in those six nations. "Countries in the pilot phase will receive an uninterrupted supply of quality assured childhood cancer medicines at no cost," the UN health agency said in a statement.

The WHO said that childhood cancer survival rates in low- and middle-income countries were often below 30 percent, compared with around 80 percent in high-income countries. "For too long, children with cancer have lacked access to life-saving medicines," WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said.

Trump blasts 'political judges' as court clash mounts

AFP, Washington

US President Donald Trump yesterday slammed "highly political judges" as his new administration veered closer to a constitutional clash over his plans to radically overhaul the US government.

Trump's remarks on his Truth Social network came after federal judges questioned the legality of some of the cost-cutting measures.

The Republican president asserted in an early morning post that "billions of Dollars of FRAUD, WASTE, AND ABUSE, has already been found in the investigation of our incompetently run Government."

"Now certain activists and highly political judges want us to slow down, or stop," added Trump.

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বন্ধু ও পাট মন্ত্রণালয়ের রাজ্যস্তুতি নিয়োগাদায়ী শুরূপদের প্রিমিয়েটে জাতীয় বেতনক্রেল, ২০২৫-এর ১৩তম, ১৬তম ও ২০তম প্রেস্তুত নির্মোক্ত পদসমূহে অস্থায়ীভাবে সরাসরি জনবল নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে পদের পার্শ্বে বর্ণিত শর্তে বাংলাদেশের প্রকৃত সকল নাগরিকদের নিকট হতে অনলাইনে (<http://motj.teletalk.com.bd> ওয়েবসাইটে) আবেদনপত্র প্রেস্তুত আবেদন করা যাবে।

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