

MADURO SEIZURE 'I don't need international law': Trump

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US President Donald Trump said in an interview published Thursday that his "own morality" was the only constraint on his power to order military actions around the world.

Trump's comments to The New York Times came days after he launched a lightning operation to topple Venezuelan leader Nicolas Maduro, and threatened a host of other countries. "Yeah, there is one thing. My own morality. My own mind. It's the only thing that can stop me," Trump told the newspaper when asked if there were any limits on his global powers.

"I don't need international law," he added. "I'm not looking to hurt people." The Republican president then added that "I do" need to abide by international law, but said "it depends what your definition of international law is."



Palestinians collect the bodies of relatives at Nasser Hospital in Khan Yunis, southern Gaza, a day after Israeli shelling killed more than a dozen people, including children. PHOTO: AFP

Take Trump seriously on Greenland

US VP Vance warns Europe

AFP, Washington

US Vice President JD Vance warned Europe on Thursday to take Donald Trump "seriously" on Greenland as the president ramps up threats against the Danish-ruled Arctic territory.

Vance accused fellow Nato member Denmark and the rest of Europe of failing to do enough to protect the strategically-located island from the designs of Russia and China.

European capitals have been scrambling to come up with a coordinated response after the White House said this week that Trump wanted to buy Greenland and refused to rule out military action.

"I guess my advice to European leaders and anybody else would be to take the president of the United States seriously," Vance told a briefing at the White House when asked about Greenland.

Russia fires hypersonic missile at Ukraine

Oreshnik hits Lviv region, near EU, Nato border; 4 killed as barrage damages 20 Kyiv buildings, Qatar embassy

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Russia fired a powerful hypersonic missile at Ukraine near the EU border overnight, in what Kyiv called a new threat to European security that demanded a global response.

Moscow said it had fired the Oreshnik missile in response to what it has described as an attempted drone attack on one of President Vladimir Putin's residences last month, which Ukraine has denied and the United States has said did not happen.

It was only the second time Russia has fired the Oreshnik at Ukraine, and came amid a night of air attacks that Ukrainian authorities said also killed four people in Kyiv, knocked out power in the capital and damaged the Qatari embassy there.

The Oreshnik, designed to project power across Europe and which Moscow says is impossible to intercept, is capable of carrying nuclear warheads although there was no suggestion it had done so.

"A clear reaction from the world is needed. Above all from the



United States, whose signals Russia truly pays attention to," President Zelenskiy said on social media.

Russia fired a total of 242 drones and 36 missiles, including Oreshnik, to hit infrastructure in the western Lviv region and in and around the capital Kyiv, reports Reuters.

Authorities said at least four people were killed and more than 20 injured by the strikes on Kyiv, which knocked out electricity to

more than half a million homes in the capital. Water and heat were cut off, with temperatures around -10 degrees Celsius (14F) and heavy snow.

Kyiv's mayor called on residents to leave the city temporarily to find warmth, reports AFP.

There was no immediate word from Qatar about reports of damage to the building housing its embassy in Kyiv.

Oceans soaked up record heat levels in 2025

Say experts

AFP, Brest

The world's oceans absorbed a record amount of heat in 2025, an international team of scientists said yesterday, further priming conditions for sea level rise, violent storms, and coral death.

The heat that has accumulated in the oceans last year increased by approximately 23 zettajoules -- an amount equivalent to nearly four decades of global primary energy consumption.

This finding -- published in the journal Advances in Atmospheric Sciences -- was the highest reading of any year since modern record keeping began in the early 1950s, researchers said.

To derive these calculations, more than 50 scientists from 31 research institutions used multiple sources including a thousands strong fleet of floating robots that track ocean changes to depths of 2,000 metres.

SYRIAN CITY OF ALEPPO Kurdish fighters defy truce, refuse to leave the city

REUTERS, Aleppo

Kurdish groups in Syria's Aleppo vowed to defend their neighbourhoods from government forces yesterday, rejecting ceasefire terms declared by Damascus that demand Kurdish fighters withdraw from the Syrian city where clashes have raged this week.

The violence in Aleppo has exposed a deep faultline between President Ahmed al-Sharaa's Islamist-led government and Kurdish forces, which have resisted its efforts to bring their fighters under centralised authority.

At least nine civilians have been killed and more than 140,000 have fled their homes. Neither the government nor the Kurdish forces have announced a toll of casualties among their fighters.

The ceasefire announced by the defense ministry overnight demanded the withdrawal of Kurdish forces to the Kurdish-held northeast. That would effectively end Kurdish control over pockets of Aleppo held by Kurdish forces since the early days of the Syrian conflict which began in 2011.

But in a statement, Kurdish councils that run the Sheikh Maksoud and Ashrafiyah districts of Aleppo said calls to leave were "a call to surrender" and that Kurdish forces would instead "defend their neighbourhoods", accusing government forces of intensive shelling.

US to provide \$45m to help implement Cambodia-Thailand truce

AFP, Washington

The United States yesterday announced some \$45 million in aid as it tries to bolster a fragile truce between Thailand and Cambodia.

Michael DeSombre, the top State Department official for East Asia, was visiting Thailand and Cambodia to discuss ways to strengthen the ceasefire, which President Donald Trump has sought to highlight as an achievement.

DeSombre said the United States would offer \$20 million to help both countries combat drug trafficking and cyber scams, which have become a major concern in Cambodia.

He also said the United States would give \$15 million to help support people displaced by the recent fighting as well as \$10 million for demining.

"The United States will continue to support the Cambodian and Thai governments as they implement the Kuala Lumpur Peace Accords and pave the way for a return to peace, prosperity and stability for their people and the region," DeSombre said in a statement.

He was referring to an agreement signed between the two countries in the presence of Trump during an October visit to Malaysia, then head of the Asean regional bloc.



Snow storms pummel Europe Hundreds of thousands without power

AFP, Cherbourg

Fierce winds battered France and Britain yesterday as storms barrelled through northern Europe, snarling train travel, shutting schools and cutting power to hundreds of thousands of homes in plunging winter temperatures.

Forecasters from Britain to Germany urged people to stay inside as they issued weather warnings, including the rare, highest-level red wind alert for the British Isles of

Scilly and Cornwall in southwestern England.

In France, Storm Goretti cut power to some 380,000 homes, most of them in the northern Normandy region, the Enedis power provider said, while Britain's National Grid said 42,000 homes lost electricity in southwest England and thousands more elsewhere.

Overnight, gusts of up to 216 kilometres per hour (134 miles per hour) were registered in France's northwestern Manche region,

authorities said.

The winds felled trees in several regions, with at least one crashing on residential buildings in France's Seine-Maritime region, without injuries, authorities said.

Gusts of up to 160 kph lashed England and Wales with the Met Office forecasting agency warning "very large waves will bring dangerous conditions to coastal areas".

It also issued an amber snow warning in Wales.

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e-Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>). Package information is available in tender notice under e-GP system portal. This is online tender where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.

To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches. Detailed of the Works listed below:

SI No	Name of works	Tender ID	Last Selling Date and Time	Closing Date and Time
1	Providing, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Fire Detection and Alarm System including related works in Old Import Cargo at HSIA.	1209834	25-01-2026 16:30	26-01-2026 12:00

Further information and guidelines are available in the e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

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Memo No: EE/EED/BAG/38 Date: 08/01/2026

e-Tender Notice No: 14/SHED-7016-04-TMED-01/2025-2026

e-Tender is invited to the e-GP Web Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of the following Works. Details are given below:

SL No	ID No	Description of Works	Procurement Method	Last Selling Date & Time	Closing & Opening Date & Time
1	1209838	Construction of Single Storey Academic Building with 4-Storey Pre-cast Pile Foundation including Sanitary, Water Supply & Electrification Works at Khontakata Mofidia Mohila Dakhil Madrasa, Sarankhola, Bagerhat. (FY: 2024-25)	OTM (NCT)	25-Jan-2026 17:00:00	26-Jan-2026 12:30:00
2	1187148	Construction of Single Storey Academic Building with 4-Storey Pre-cast Pile Foundation Including Sanitary, Water Supply & Electrification Works at Kamargram Secondary School, Mollahat, Bagerhat. (FY: 2019-20)	OTM (NCT)	25-Jan-2026 17:00:00	26-Jan-2026 12:30:00
3	1187147	Construction of Single Storey Academic Building with 4-Storey Pre-cast Pile Foundation Including Sanitary, Water Supply & Electrification Works at Naldha M.L. Secondary School, Fakirhat, Bagerhat. (FY: 2018-19)	OTM (NCT)	25-Jan-2026 17:00:00	26-Jan-2026 12:30:00
4	1187146	Construction of Single Storey Academic Building with 4-Storey Pre-cast Pile Foundation Including Sanitary, Water Supply & Electrification Works at Sundarban Secondary School, Sarankhola, Bagerhat. (FY: 2018-19)	OTM (NCT)	25-Jan-2026 17:00:00	26-Jan-2026 12:30:00
5	1187145	Construction of Single Storey Academic Building with 4-Storey Pre-cast Pile Foundation Including Sanitary, Water Supply & Electrification Works at Rasulpur Secondary School, Sarankhola, Bagerhat. (FY: 2019-20)	OTM (NCT)	25-Jan-2026 17:00:00	26-Jan-2026 12:30:00

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