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Makana 360 Daily Insights: Global News & **Digital Trends** 16 APR. 2025



Inform, Analyze, Empower

The Makana 360 Daily Monitor Report aims to provide timely and insightful updates on the most significant global news and top events, offering a concise overview of key developments that impact businesses, politics, and society. By curating and analyzing major trends, the report enhances awareness, facilitates informed decision-making, and supports strategic planning for our audience.

church service in South Africa found after shoot-out

An American pastor, Josh Sullivan, who was kidnapped during a church service in South Africa last week, has been rescued after a high-intensity shoot-out that left US pastor taken during three people dead. Sullivan, 45, was found unharmed in Gqeberha township in the Eastern Cape, where he had been abducted last Thursday. Authorities have not yet released details about the kidnappers but suspect they were familiar with the victim's movements. The incident highlights South Africa's growing kidnapping crisis, with police reporting a 264% rise in such cases over the past decade. The rescue operation brought relief amid increasing concerns over violent crime in the region.

Ecuador 'would love to have US forces' helping in gang crackdown, president says

Ecuador's President Daniel Noboa confirmed discussions with the U.S. for support in battling criminal gangs, calling it a "transnational war." In his first interview since winning the election, Noboa told CNN that plans are in place and a post-election meeting is needed to finalize them. While expressing interest in U.S. military cooperation, he emphasized that American troops wouldn't patrol streets but assist in intelligence and monitoring. Ecuador has long sought international aid and is building a new naval base in Manta, expected to host U.S. forces. However, control of all operations will remain with Ecuador's military and police.

This Summer

China is set to open the world's tallest bridge, the Huajiang Grand Canyon Bridge, in Guizhou province by mid-2025. Spanning 2,051 feet above the canyon floor— China Set to Open the 947 feet taller than France's Millau Viaduct-it will drastically cut travel time World's Tallest Bridge across the "earth crack" from two hours to just one minute. The steel truss suspension bridge stretches 9,482 feet and weighs about 22,000 tons, equal to three Eiffel Towers. Construction began in January 2022 and is now 95% complete. Once open, the bridge will showcase China's engineering power and improve transportation in one of its most mountainous, underdeveloped regions.



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Top Global Events

Event	Mentions & Engagement	Most Reached Media Coverage
Champions League	4.8M	PSG survive thriller at The Villa
IPL	1.2M	Punjab Kings Seek Redemption Against Kolkata Knight Riders
Summer Solstice	150K	Grand Rapids sister cities 'Summer Solstice' celebration

Understanding daily mentions and engagement provides a real-time pulse on public sentiment, helping to shape narratives, anticipate trends, and make informed decisions in an ever-evolving digital landscape.

<u>Makana 360</u> is a leading political studies, and social media listening company dedicated to providing in-depth analysis and strategic insights. Through advanced monitoring and data-driven research, we help organizations navigate complex political and social landscapes.