







## **AMER**

North America: Anticipate disruptions over the coming days across portions of northeastern Mexico and the southeastern United States due to Potential Tropical Cyclone Six. The Tropical disturbance is forecast to form a tropical storm on 9 September, before strengthening into a hurricane and making landfall near Texas or Louisiana on 11-12 September. Heavy rainfall and strong winds are expected across portions of Mexico's northeastern states, and Louisiana and Texas states in the United States. There is a heightened risk of flash flooding due to soil saturation caused by recent heavy rainfall. Anticipate short-notice transportation and regional flight disruptions.

Bolivia: Exercise caution over the coming weeks amid a nationwide state of emergency linked to ongoing wildfires. On 7 September, officials announced the measure in response to 72 active wildfires, mainly in the Santa Cruz, Beni, and La Paz departments. There are reported evacuation orders and warnings in place for the affected departments. At least 7,500,000 acres of land have been burned since the beginning of 2024. Wildfires can be expected to persist over the coming weeks, in light of the country's current wildfire peak season that runs through August and September. Follow all official directives and plan journeys accounting for disruption.

Argentina: Expect intermittent flight disruptions through 28 September amid strike action by unionized aviation workers. The strike action has been called by the Asociacion de Pilotos de Lineas Aereas (APLA) and the Asociacion Argentina de Aeronavegantes (AAA) to demand higher wages for Aerolineas Argentinas staff.





Participants carried out the first strike on 6 September from 05:00 – 14:00 (local time), mainly at <u>Jorge Newbery International Airfield</u> and <u>Ezeiza International Airport</u> (Buenos Aires region), causing flight delays and cancellations to Aerolineas Argentinas flights. The initial strike action failed to adhere to the time frame previously announced by organizers, suggesting the strike actions will be held erratically and cause intermittent flight disruptions.

Mexico: Proposed judicial reform puts the domestic business environment at risk and is likely to fuel opposition protests in urban centers over the short term. On 4 September, the lower house of the Mexican Congress passed President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador's judicial reform bill amid an ongoing nationwide strike by judicial workers. The proposed judicial reform, which still needs to pass with a two-thirds majority in the Senate, would make all 7,000 of Mexico's judges electable by popular vote, weaken the Supreme Court, and create a Tribunal for Judicial Discipline empowered to investigate and impeach judges with no appeal process. Although the current administration has argued that reforms are necessary to curb corruption, the move has been criticized as a continuation of policy that erodes judicial independence and consolidates political power.

Furthermore, the reforms have been met with objections from civil society groups, the United States, and foreign companies. Analysts have raised concerns that the reforms would make the Mexican legal system further vulnerable to the influence of cartels and political parties, who could influence the judicial system by installing their own candidates for elections. In turn, the reforms have the potential to strength cartels, solidify the power of the dominant Movimiento de Regeneración Nacional (Morena) party, and create an increased hostile environment for foreign business operations. The proposal has led to a drop in foreign investment into the country and could gradually erode commerce with the United States. The measure







is likely to pass in the coming weeks, with the ruling Morena Party only one seat away from a two-thirds supermajority in the Senate. Currently, protests against the reforms have been large in scale, but remained peaceful, posing minimal risk to bystanders. However, such protests are liable to intensify should the legislation pass.





## **EMEA**

Ethiopia: Tensions are elevated with Somalia over recent military diplomatic rapprochement with Egypt linked to the building of the GERD. In August 2024, Egypt delivered military aid and signed an agreement to deploy at least 1,000 soldiers to Somalia, which was followed by an agreement in September to conduct joint military drills. Heightened tensions have persisted between Ethiopia and Somalia since January 2024, after Ethiopia made an agreement for direct port access with the breakaway region of Somaliland, in exchange for recognizing Somaliland's independence. Meanwhile, Egypt has threatened military action against Ethiopia over recent years in opposition to the building of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD), since 2011, on the Nile River without its consent. The building of the GERD has raised concerns that it could impact Egypt's access to water supply downstream, which supplies the bulk of the country's freshwater supply.

Somalia rejects any diplomatic ties with Somaliland, whose succession from Somalia in 1991 remains unrecognized and opposes Ethiopia's plans as the first state to recognize Somaliland's independence. Concurrently, Ethiopia rejects Egypt's opposition to its GERD project, which its views as key to lifting millions out of poverty and transforming the country's economy. Ethiopia's growing influence on the Nile River and the Red Sea has become an existential threat in the view of Egypt, which considers these critical economic waterways. At the same time, growing military ties between Somalia and Egypt are seen as a threat to Ethiopia. The growing regional tensions risk leading to direct skirmishes or fueling regional conflict through proxy support.





Europe: The shooting attack at the embassy in Munich (Germany) highlights the heightened risk in the vicinity of Israeli institutions related to the fallout from the Gaza war. On 5 September, German police neutralized an armed suspect who had opened fire on the Israeli Embassy in Munich. The incident follows a series of other attacks targeting Israeli Embassies in Europe, including an attack with a crossbow on the embassy in Belgrade (Serbia) on 29 June, in Bucharest (Romania) with a Molotov cocktail on 3 June, and a foiled bomb attack in Stockholm (Sweden) on 31 January. Such attacks carry an underlying risk to bystanders and are likely to persist in Europe due to negative sentiment related to the ongoing conflict in Gaza.

**Israel: Expect heightened security and delays over the coming weeks at land border crossings following a shooting attack**. On 8 September, three civilians were killed by gunfire from the Jordanian side of the <u>Allenby Crossing</u>. Reports suggest that the shooting, carried out by a Jordanian national, was motivated by the ongoing war in Gaza. Security officials are likely to increase security measures at all land border crossings in response, leading to longer than normal waiting queues. Follow all official directives at border crossings.

Morocco: Expect residual disruption over the coming days in southern areas of the country following irregular severe weather. At least 11 people were killed and infrastructural damage was reported across 17 southern prefectures and provinces following recent heavy rainfall. The flooding has damaged at least 93 roads and impacted power supply and potable water. Plan journeys accounting for disruption to transportation in southern provinces.





## **APAC**

Vietnam: Expect residual disruption in northern provinces over the coming days following the passage of Super Typhoon Yagi. On 7 September, the storm system made landfall as the continent's most powerful typhoon of the year. At least 59 people were killed and hundreds injured in storm-related incidents, including flooding and landslides. There are reports of significant damage to buildings and infrastructure, as well as widespread power outages and telecommunications disruptions. This includes the country's capital Hanoi, with the Noi Bai International Airport reopening on 8 August. Several northern highways remain inundated or blocked off by landslides, and there is reported damage to infrastructure and factories at industrial parks. Heavy rainfall is forecast to persist across northeastern regions through at least 11 September, likely leading to flash flooding and further landslides. Thus, disruptions to business operations and domestic transport should be anticipated to persist in northern provinces over the coming days.