

Global Political Pulse: Key May 2026 Developments in Diplomacy, Conflict, and Trade

World Politics · Answer Key · 12 Questions

1. What was a significant development in the Russia-Ukraine conflict in May 2026, according to recent reports?

A) A temporary ceasefire was announced for May 9-11, coinciding with Russia's Victory Day commemorations.

B) Ukraine launched a full-scale invasion of Russia's western territories.

C) Both sides agreed to a permanent peace treaty.

D) Russia completely withdrew all its forces from Ukrainian territory.

2. Which two entities signed a Modernized Global Agreement (MGA) and an Interim Trade Agreement (ITA) on May 22, 2026, aiming to cover trade in goods and services, investment, and digital trade?

A) The United States and Canada

B) The European Union and Mexico

C) China and Japan

D) The United Kingdom and Australia

3. On May 20, 2026, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution by a vote of 141 in favor, 8 against, and 28 abstentions, which backed a landmark advisory opinion on what issue?

A) The regulation of artificial intelligence.

B) The protection of intellectual property rights.

C) The obligations of states regarding climate change.

D) The reform of the UN Security Council.

4. During the UN Security Council meeting on May 28, 2026, Assistant Secretary-General Khaled Khiari warned that delayed diplomacy was deepening the threat to peace and security in which ongoing conflict?

A) The conflict in the Middle East.

B) The war in Ukraine.

C) The civil war in Yemen.

D) The conflict in Afghanistan.

5. Which of the following trade deals came into effect on May 1, 2026, suggesting a global rebalancing of commerce away from the US?

A) A free trade deal between the EU and the United States.

B) A free trade deal between Mercosur and the EU.

C) A trade agreement between China and South Korea.

D) An updated USMCA agreement.

6. According to an ACLED report, a Ukrainian drone attack on May 13, 2026, targeted which specific facility in Krasnodar, Russia?

- A) The Rosneft oil refinery.
- B) The Tamanneftegaz oil terminal in Volna.**
- C) The Astrakhan gas processing plant.
- D) A military air base in Armavir.

7. On May 28, 2026, Sweden pledged to provide Ukraine with a significant number of fighter aircraft. What type of aircraft was pledged?

- A) JAS 39 Gripen fighter aircraft.**
- B) F-16 Fighting Falcons.
- C) Mikoyan MiG-29s.
- D) Sukhoi Su-57s.

8. China's UN Security Council high-level meeting on May 27, 2026, themed 'Upholding the Purposes and Principles of the UN Charter and Strengthening the UN-centered International System,' was initiated while China held what role?

- A) The Presidency of the UN General Assembly.
- B) The rotating presidency of the UN Security Council.**
- C) The Vice-Presidency of the UN Human Rights Council.
- D) The Secretary-Generalship of the United Nations.

9. In May 2026, the UN General Assembly elected a new President for its 81st session. Who is set to take over as the UN Secretary-General in January 2027, after the conclusion of António Guterres' tenure?

- A) The election of a new Secretary-General is scheduled for January 2027.**
- B) The current Secretary-General will continue his term beyond 2027.
- C) A new Secretary-General is expected to be appointed in late 2026.
- D) The new UN Secretary-General was announced in March 2026.

10. On May 28, 2026, the United States and Mexico concluded the first bilateral round of discussions related to the Joint Review of which trade agreement?

- A) NAFTA.
- B) CAFTA-DR.
- C) USMCA.**
- D) T-MEC.

11. The May 2026 Chief Economists' Outlook, released by the World Economic Forum, indicated a pessimistic global growth forecast. What percentage of chief economists surveyed expected global growth to weaken over the next 12 months?

A) 75%.

B) 89%.

C) 62%.

D) 95%.

12. On May 6, 2026, the White House released a new U.S. Counterterrorism Strategy. Which group was controversially elevated as a core terrorist threat in the strategy's domestic priorities?

A) The Islamic State (ISIS).

B) Al-Qaeda.

C) Antifa.

D) Racially and Ethnically Motivated Violent Extremism (REMVE).