

MACAU SECURITY ANALYSIS REPORT

AI-Assisted Open Source Intelligence Assessment

Analysis Period: October 25, 2026 - November 01, 2026

This report was produced using open-source intelligence analysis. The assessment is grounded in publicly available reporting and should be cross-referenced with primary sources. RSS feed articles are listed in the annex for reference.

Executive Summary

During the period of October 25 to November 01, 2026, Macau's security landscape was primarily characterized by ongoing efforts to bolster cybersecurity resilience and manage internal security concerns stemming from national security legislation. The closed-door trial of former pro-democracy lawmaker Au Kam San continued to draw international scrutiny, highlighting concerns over judicial transparency and political freedoms. Diplomatic relations were impacted by a renewed U.S. travel advisory warning about arbitrary law enforcement in Macau and China's use of Macau in its sanctions against foreign officials. Concurrently, Macau authorities conducted an aviation security exercise and continued to manage significant border movements, underscoring a focus on operational readiness and public order. These developments collectively point to an Elevated security posture, driven by internal political sensitivities and their broader geopolitical implications.

Key Security Developments

• Ongoing National Security Trial: The closed-door trial of former pro-democracy lawmaker Au Kam San, accused of "subversion of state power" and building ties with foreign groups, continued to be a central security development during this period. The trial, which commenced around September 16, 2026, follows Macau's approval of a national security law in March 2026 that permits such closed proceedings. The European Union has condemned Au's arrest, citing concerns over the erosion of political pluralism and judicial due process.

• Enhanced Cybersecurity Measures and Awareness: Macau continued its focus on strengthening cybersecurity resilience as part of its Third Five-Year Plan. On October 20, 2026, the Macao Post and Telecommunications Bureau hosted a cybersecurity and anti-scam lecture for seniors, emphasizing the importance of real-name registration for SIM cards and prevention of telecommunications scams. This initiative highlights ongoing efforts to raise public awareness and protect citizens from evolving cyber threats.

• Aviation Security Exercise: Macau International Airport conducted an "Exercise on the Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft" in the early morning of October 27, 2026. The exercise simulated a hijacking scenario involving armed individuals and aimed to test the effectiveness of the airport's emergency plan and enhance the response capabilities of participating agencies, including the Public Security Police Force and the Judiciary Police's negotiation team.

• U.S. Travel Advisory Update: On October 20, 2026, the U.S. Department of State updated its Level 2 Travel Advisory for mainland China, explicitly extending warnings to Macau and Hong Kong. The advisory urges increased caution due to the arbitrary enforcement of local laws, the use of exit bans without transparent processes, and the risk of wrongful detention, specifically referencing expansive national security, counter-espionage, and data security laws.

• China's Sanctions Involving Macau: On October 26, 2026, China announced sanctions against Belizean Foreign Minister Francis Fonseca and Paraguayan Communications Minister Gustavo Villate. These sanctions include a freeze of any assets of the ministers in China, Hong Kong, and Macau, as well as restrictions on Chinese firms and individuals conducting business with them, and travel bans to Chinese-controlled cities and provinces. This demonstrates Macau's inclusion in Beijing's broader geopolitical actions.

• Commemoration of Security Services Anniversaries: On October 27, 2026, the Post and Telecommunications Bureau held a press conference to announce the issuance of commemorative stamp sets marking the 25th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Unitary Police Service and the 25th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Macao Customs Service. This event underscores the institutional development and recognition of Macau's local security and border control forces.

• Border Security Management: Following the National Day Golden Week holiday (October 1-7, 2026), Macau authorities continued to manage high volumes of border crossings, which had seen between 5.2 million and 5.4 million movements during the seven-day period. Extensive policing, crowd control measures, and coordination with immigration agencies in Zhuhai and Hong Kong were implemented at major tourist spots and border checkpoints to ensure public order and safety.

• Macau Issues Travel Alert for France: On October 25, 2026, the Macau government issued a Level 1 travel alert for France, citing the current security situation in the European country. This advisory urged Macau residents traveling to or already in France to exercise increased caution and closely monitor official updates, reflecting Macau's proactive stance in safeguarding its citizens abroad.

• Geopolitical Tensions Impacting Travel: The International Air Transport Association (IATA) World Passenger Symposium, held in Macau on October 30, 2026, released a survey indicating that geopolitical tensions are influencing travel decisions, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region. This finding is significant for Macau, whose economy heavily relies on tourism, suggesting that broader regional security dynamics can have direct economic implications.

Geopolitical Impact and Regional Dynamics

Macau's security developments during this period are deeply intertwined with China's broader geopolitical strategies and regional dynamics. The ongoing closed-door national security trial of Au Kam San, a former pro-democracy lawmaker, is a stark illustration of Beijing's tightening grip on national security within its Special Administrative Regions (SARs). This move, while framed as internal security, has significant diplomatic ramifications, as evidenced by the European Union's condemnation and concerns over the erosion of political pluralism. Such actions contribute to a perception of diminishing autonomy, potentially impacting Macau's unique international standing and its role as a bridge for cultural and economic exchange.

The updated U.S. Department of State's Level 2 Travel Advisory for China, explicitly including Macau, further underscores the international community's concerns regarding the arbitrary enforcement of laws and the risk of wrongful detention. This advisory, issued on October 20, 2026, highlights how Beijing's national security and counter-espionage laws can affect foreign nationals, potentially deterring foreign investment and tourism, key pillars of Macau's economy. The inclusion of Macau in China's sanctions against Belizean and Paraguayan officials on October 26, 2026, demonstrates Beijing's willingness to leverage its administrative control over the SARs as part of its diplomatic pressure tactics against countries maintaining ties with Taiwan. This action further integrates Macau into China's foreign policy objectives, reinforcing the "One Country, Two Systems" framework with a clear emphasis on the "One Country" principle.

Regionally, Macau's active participation in international trade and investment fairs, such as the 31st Macau International Trade and Investment Fair (MIF) held from October 21-24, 2026, reflects its continued efforts to diversify its economy and expand its global trade networks, particularly with Portuguese and Spanish-speaking countries and Southeast Asia. However, the IATA survey presented in Macau on October 30, 2026, which noted that geopolitical tensions are influencing travel decisions in the Asia-Pacific region, suggests that broader regional instabilities could indirectly impact Macau's crucial tourism sector. While Macau itself does not possess an independent defense or military policy, its security posture is intrinsically linked to China's regional assertiveness and its relations with major global powers, particularly the U.S. and the EU, which closely monitor developments in the SARs.

Military and Defense Analysis

Macau, as a Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, does not maintain its own independent military forces. Its defense and military affairs fall under the direct responsibility of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) Macau Garrison. Therefore, a traditional military and defense analysis focusing on force posture, modernization programs, or defense spending trends for Macau itself is not applicable. The PLA Garrison's primary role is to safeguard national sovereignty, security, and development interests, and to maintain social order in Macau as stipulated by the Basic Law.

However, the period saw an important internal security exercise that touches upon defense capabilities. On October 27, 2026, Macau International Airport conducted an "Exercise on the Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft". This exercise, simulating a hijacking scenario, involved local security forces such as the Public Security Police Force and the Judiciary Police's negotiation team. While not a military exercise in the conventional sense, it demonstrates Macau's commitment to enhancing its capabilities in responding to critical aviation security emergencies, which could involve elements of national security. The successful execution of such an exercise indicates a level of preparedness and coordination among Macau's internal security organs to address potential threats to its critical infrastructure and public safety. The issuance of commemorative stamps for the 25th Anniversary of the Unitary Police Service and Macao Customs Service on October 27, 2026, further highlights the institutionalization and recognition of these key security and border control entities within the SAR. These local forces are the primary responders to internal security incidents, operating under the broader framework of national security as defined by Beijing.

Outlook and Forecast

Short-term trends (1-3 months): In the immediate future, Macau is likely to continue its dual focus on economic recovery and the reinforcement of national security. The implications of the ongoing national security trial of Au Kam San will likely remain a prominent internal and external issue, with potential for further international commentary and diplomatic friction. Macau's authorities will continue to prioritize cybersecurity enhancements, particularly in areas like AI and data security, aligning with both national and local five-year plans. Border management will remain a critical operational area, especially with ongoing efforts to facilitate travel while maintaining strict security controls, as demonstrated by the recent Golden Week operations. We can also expect Macau to continue its diplomatic and economic outreach, seeking to expand trade ties and attract investment, while navigating the broader geopolitical landscape shaped by China's relations with major powers.

Critical flashpoints and risk areas: A critical flashpoint remains the application of national security laws and their impact on civil liberties and judicial independence within Macau. Any further arrests, trials, or restrictions on freedom of expression under these laws could intensify international criticism and potentially affect Macau's image as an international business and tourism hub. The U.S. travel advisory and China's use of Macau in its sanctions highlight the risk of Macau becoming a collateral point in broader U.S.-China or China-Taiwan geopolitical tensions. Furthermore, the increasing sophistication of cyber threats, particularly those targeting critical infrastructure and data security, poses an ongoing risk that Macau's enhanced cybersecurity measures must continuously address.

Indicators to monitor: Key indicators to monitor include developments in the Au Kam San trial, specifically any verdict or further details released, and the international reactions to these outcomes. Changes in U.S. or EU travel advisories for Macau, or any further diplomatic statements regarding Macau's autonomy and human rights, would also be significant. Domestically, monitoring the implementation of new cybersecurity regulations and the effectiveness of incident response mechanisms will be crucial. Additionally, any shifts in China's broader geopolitical stance that directly involve Macau, such as further sanctions or diplomatic pressures, should be closely watched.

Strategic recommendations: Macau should continue to invest heavily in cybersecurity infrastructure and talent development to protect its critical digital assets and maintain public trust. While adhering to national security mandates, efforts to enhance transparency in legal processes and ensure due process, where permissible, could help mitigate international concerns and protect Macau's international reputation. Proactive engagement in public diplomacy to clarify the application of its laws and highlight its unique "One Country, Two Systems" framework could also be beneficial. Furthermore, diversifying its economic base and strengthening regional partnerships beyond traditional markets could help buffer Macau against the potential economic impacts of geopolitical tensions and travel advisories.

Structured Assessment

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ANNEX: COLLECTED ARTICLES BY SOURCE

Source: Macau Daily Times

• China’s record-breaking exports of clean tech making big dent in emissions (2026-10-30 00:52)

China is exporting a record amount of clean energy technology and equipment as the energy crisis from the Iran war drives surging demand for renewables, and that will help reduce global emissions, according to a report released Thursday. Once installed or deployed, these 2026 exports will likely avert emissions of about 450 million metric tons of carbon dioxide per year, roughly equal to Brazil’s annual emissions, says the analysis by the Finland-based Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air. It’s a small sign of progress as global efforts to curb climate change fall short. In November, Turkey will host [⋯]

• SMEs and community groups turning pink ribbon into action (2026-10-30 00:50)

In Macau, breast cancer awareness is increasingly being advanced not only by hospitals and advocacy groups but also by small businesses, survivors, and community organizations willing to make the issue visible. From Lord Stow’s long-running Pink Ribbon campaign to a local survivor’s account of diagnosis and recovery, and to the International Ladies’ Club of Macau’s (ILCM) educational initiatives, the message is consistent: early detection, open conversation, and practical support can drastically improve outcomes. The Hong Kong Breast Cancer Foundation, which has received donations from Lord Stow’s campaign, advocates regular breast awareness and screening, including monthly self-examinations, clinical breast examinations, and, [⋯]

• A Symphony of Heritage: Reviving the Imperial Feast at Chai Jia Chai (2026-10-30 00:48)

In the heart of modern dining, where fusion often threatens to overshadow tradition, an evening at Chai Jia Chai stands as a resolute testament to the enduring majesty of Chinese gastronomy. Guided by the masterful hands of Chef Tsai Shih Wei, the meal was not merely a dinner, but a profound historical reenactment. Inspired by the Qing Dynasty’s legendary Manchu Han Imperial Feast—a banquet so grand it historically spanned three days and 108 dishes—Chef Tsai has distilled that monumental heritage into a refined, contemporary tasting menu. It is a stunning revival of history, crafted with impeccable modern finesse. The evening [⋯]

• MGM hits Q3 revenue record, market share reaches 17.1% (2026-10-30 00:46)

MGM China reported record third-quarter (Q3) revenue and its highest-ever share of Macau’s gaming market, though earnings growth lagged sales growth. Revenue rose 4.9% year over year

to HKD8.93 billion for the three months ended Sept. 30, 2026, while adjusted earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization (EBITDA) increased 0.9% to HKD2.39 billion. Both were third-quarter records, but not all-time quarterly highs. The operator's market share in Macau reached 17.1%, with MGM Cotai at 10.5% and MGM Macau at 6.6%. The gains contrasted with a 3.8% decline in Macau's quarterly gross gaming revenue to MOP60.22 billion, which the company attributed [⋯]

- SSM evaluates new Taipa health center as lawmaker raises access concerns (2026-10-30 00:44)

The Health Bureau (SSM) said it will continue assessing Taipa's population growth and medical needs and optimize resources in the district in response to lawmaker Leong Hong Sai's concerns about insufficient healthcare facilities and poor walking access in Taipa. In a written reply, the bureau said Macau currently has nine health centers, three health stations, and a health station at Macau New Neighborhood in Hengqin, all providing accessible community medical services. The Taipa and Lago health centers already cover most of Taipa Island, it said, but the bureau will continue to evaluate the district's population growth and medical demand. In [⋯]

- 292-building conditions survey in historic center (2026-10-30 00:42)

The Land and Urban Construction Bureau (DSSCU) announced yesterday that it will launch a building condition survey next Wednesday, with the first phase covering 292 buildings across three zones in the old district around the Ruins of St. Paul's and running for 60 to 90 days. The pilot area covers Rua de Nossa Senhora do Amparo, Rua da Tercena, Rua do Infante, Rua de Cinco de Outubro, and Rua das Estalagens. The authorities said the pilot program is intended to support the government's policy direction and the Third Five-Year Plan by advancing urban renewal and systematically gathering data on shared [⋯]

- Inflation up 1.33% in September due to fuel prices (2026-10-30 00:40)

The Statistics and Census Service (DSEC) reported that the Composite Consumer Price Index (CPI) increased 1.33% year-over-year and 0.14% month-over-month in September 2026. For the 12 months ended September this year, the average Composite CPI increased by 1.03% compared with the previous period (October 2024 – September 2025). In September, the Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages price index rose 1.25% year-over-year, driven by higher charges for dining out and takeout, while the Transport index rose 4.39% due to rising fuel prices, DSEC noted. In addition, the price indices for Miscellaneous Goods & Services (such as personal care products, insurance, jewelry, and [⋯]

- Customs seizes MOP1.48 million in smuggled goods (2026-10-30 00:38)

Macau Customs Service (SA) intercepted 30 suspected smuggling cases in one week, seizing cigarettes, e-cigarettes, silver pellets, and other goods worth an estimated MOP1.48 million as authorities intensified border enforcement under Operation Thunder 2026. The seizures, made

from Oct. 16 to 22, took place at Macau International Airport, the Inner Harbour Ferry Terminal and the Border Gate, according to the bureau. During this period, officers declared confiscating about 157,000 cigarettes and 58,000 e-cigarettes, along with 319 used electronic products, roughly 38 kilograms of suspected silver pellets, 103 cosmetic products and about 120 boxes of medical devices. In this set of […]

• New parking lot at Av. Marginal do Patane opens today (2026-10-30 00:36)

A new public parking lot will open today at Avenida Marginal do Patane. The facility will offer a total of 93 motorcycle parking spaces. The new facility results from a revamp of the existing outdoor motorcycle parking area, which previously offered free parking but was often fully occupied. The lot opens at 10 a.m. today, and the Transport Bureau says it aims to increase parking turnover in the area. To that end, the facility will enforce the 30-minute parking fare and “first 15 minutes free” to facilitate short-term parking.

• CE extends condolences for the death of the former Vice Premier (2026-10-30 00:34)

Chief Executive (CE) Sam Hou Fai expressed deep sorrow at the death of former Vice-Premier Liu Yandong and, on behalf of the Macau SAR, extended condolences to her family. Liu, a former Politburo member and CPPCC vice-chairwoman, died in Beijing on the afternoon of October 28. Sam praised her leadership in education, science, health care, and women’s and children’s affairs, as well as her support for Macau’s development. Liu visited Macau in 2006 and 2009 as deputy leader of the Central Coordination Group for Hong Kong and Macau Affairs. The CE noted that residents will remember her guidance and enduring […]

• NIMBY or pension: Australia pops the data center bubble (2026-10-30 00:02)

Not in my backyard or in my retirement fund. Australia is giving us a chilling preview of how fast the trillion-dollar AI data center buildout can unwind. Builders are planning to add around 23 gigawatts of compute capacity, up from just 6 gigawatts in February, according to the Commonwealth Bank of Australia. The country is seen as a prime destination: It’s priced competitively — rental rates in Sydney are half of those in Singapore — and the biggest cities have more space. But odds are that most of these won’t materialize. Local communities are increasingly vocal, and successful pushback by […]

• Friday, October 30, 2026 – edition no. 5065 (2026-10-30 00:01)

* Clean sweep — China’s record-breaking clean technology exports could avert emissions equivalent to Brazil’s annual output, according to a Finland-based research center * Pink ribbon, stronger community action — A Times investigation finds that SMEs and community groups are joining forces to raise breast cancer awareness and promote early detection * Taste of Edesia * Gaming: MGM China posts record Q3 revenue, lifting its market share to 17.1% despite softer overall gaming demand * SSM weighs another Taipa health center amid concerns over accessibility * City: Gov’t launches a pilot survey of 292 historic center buildings to assess conditions […]

• Revision cuts 2040 population forecast, earmarks land for major projects (2026-10-29 00:42)

Macau's planning population has been revised down to about 783,000 by 2040 under the government's amended Urban Master Plan (2020-2040), which also earmarks land for three major public construction projects. The revised version was presented yesterday to members of the Urban Planning Committee at a special meeting dedicated solely to this topic. The meeting, chaired by Land and Urban Construction Bureau (DSSCU) director Lai Weng Leong, heard the consultant team's revised plan. According to the presentation, the amendment accommodates land needs for major public construction projects and for "1+4" industrial diversification, and updates the plan to reflect higher-level plans, legislation, […]

• SCL prices US$1 billion senior unsecured notes offering (2026-10-29 00:40)

Local casino operator Sands China Ltd. (SCL) priced US$1 billion (MOP8.08 billion) of senior unsecured notes yesterday, according to a press release from its parent company, Las Vegas Sands Corp. (LVS). The offering consists of two tranches, one of US$700 million (MOP5.7 billion) in 6.4% senior notes maturing in 2032 and another of US$300 million (MOP2.4 billion) in 6.7% senior notes maturing in 2033. The transaction is scheduled to close on Nov. 3 (next Tuesday) and is subject to customary closing conditions. According to the same statement, "Sands China intends to use the net proceeds of approximately US$989 million from […]

• Macau pitches itself as ASEAN's gateway to GBA (2026-10-29 00:38)

Macau can bridge ASEAN and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area (GBA) by improving certification services and connectivity, business and diplomatic leaders said during a panel at the 31st Macau International Trade and Investment Fair (MIF). Speaking at the ASEAN Symposium, Kelvin Tan, chairman of the Macau ASEAN International Chamber of Commerce (MAICC), said Macau's future is "increasingly intertwined with ASEAN's." "We are not simply a point of transit; we are a platform. A connector. A place where ASEAN and Chinese businesses can meet, build trust, and grow together," Tan added. The symposium, titled "Macau as the Bridge: Connecting the […]

• Macau still able to reach MOP236B gaming target, CreditSights says (2026-10-29 00:36)

Despite four consecutive months of year-over-year declines, CreditSights said Macau casinos can still meet the government's MOP236 billion (US$29.2 billion) gross gaming revenue (GGR) target for 2026 in its latest report. The financial research firm said it was "too early to conclude" whether recent softer results signal lasting structural weakness or a cyclical slowdown. "For now, we still see room for Macau to reach its 2026 GGR target," analysts Nicholas Chen and David Bussey said. They wrote that Macau needs an average monthly GGR of MOP16.3 billion (US$2.02 billion) in the fourth quarter to reach the annual goal. Missing the […]

• Seac Pai Van chosen as pilot for 15-minute elderly service circle (2026-10-29 00:34)

The Social Welfare Bureau (IAS) continues to build a “15-minute community elderly service circle” in line with its aging-in-place policy, using Seac Pai Van as a pilot site. An information zone will launch on the Macao One Account platform next month, offering an electronic map, activity registration, assistive equipment rental, and smart check-in to encourage more older residents to participate in community activities and access support. Aging in place remains the preference of most older residents and a policy goal the government is pursuing, with the bureau continuing to build community support networks in partnership with organizations. Day centers across [⋯]

• Halal moments need more than a brochure (2026-10-29 00:30)

Macau wants a place on the Muslim travel map, and it should. The city has the hotels, food culture and connectivity to compete. What it still needs, despite a promising start, is the infrastructure and clarity that turn a “Muslim-friendly” label into something travelers can trust. The opportunity is sizable. International Muslim arrivals reached 176 million in 2024, up 25% from 2023, according to the Mastercard-CrescentRating Global Muslim Travel Index. By 2030, arrivals are projected to reach 245 million, with spending hitting US$230 billion. Macau debuted in the 2025 index, ranking 16th among destinations outside the Organization of Islamic Cooperation [⋯]

• Macau green space grows 10.3% over five years, IAM claims (2026-10-29 00:28)

The Municipal Affairs Bureau (IAM) said that over the past five years, greening efforts have expanded green space under its management by 10.3% and increased tree numbers by 8.1% compared with 2020, while planting more than 19,000 mangrove seedlings. Under the Third Five-Year Plan, the bureau will add or improve at least 200,000 square meters of green space, plant about 3,000 trees, and introduce green areas to suitable footbridges and elevated walkways. The bureau said it has invited mainland experts to lead industry talks and courses, with 45 participants.

• ID’s VP retires ahead of merger (2026-10-29 00:26)

The vice-president of the Sports Bureau (ID), Cheang Kai Meng, will retire voluntarily, effective November 1, according to a publication in the government’s official gazette. The vice-president’s retirement coincides with the day the ID completes its merger with the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) to form a single bureau, the Cultural and Sports Bureau (DSCD). Cheang will retire after 30 years of public service. The Executive Council announced the merger’s procedure and timing the previous day at a press conference, noting that it had concluded its analysis of the administrative regulations and would also merge two previous funds into one.

• Another MOP100,000 lost to scams (2026-10-29 00:24)

The Judiciary Police (PJ) revealed yesterday that it had received seven additional reports of telecom fraud, involving the so-called “TikTok Customer Service” scam and the “MPay

scam.” After reporting some 15 cases the day before, with losses totaling over MOP560,000,the PJ said the new cases, all of the same kind, add another MOP100,000+ to the total damagescaused by this type of fraud. The new cases include three involving “TikTok” and fourinvolving “MPay.” In the highest loss reported yesterday, a local resident lost up toMOP68,000.

- Oktoberfest kickoff at MGM Cotai (2026-10-29 00:22)

Oktoberfest Macau at MGM 2026 officially opened yesterday (October 28) at MGM Cotai and will run through November 8. The annual festival transforms the resort’s Roof Terrace into a Bavarian-style celebration featuring authentic German beer, traditional cuisine, and live entertainment. Having drawn over 200,000 attendees over the years, the event continues to celebrate Macau’s cultural diversity and tourism appeal. This year’s highlights include the Macau debut of the German band SAKRISCH GUAT, performing Bavarian tunes, international hits, and Chinese classics. New “Cantopop DJ Nights” on October 30 and 31 will feature Cantomania and Halloween costume contests. Guests can enjoy Paulaner [⋯]

- Thursday, October 29, 2026 – edition no. 5064 (2026-10-29 00:01)

* Population shortfall — Macau’s revised Urban Master Plan cuts its 2040 population projection by 25,000 to 783,000, while reserving land for three major public projects * Gaming | Sands China prices USD1b in new notes to refinance debt * Cooperation | Macau pitches itself as ASEAN’s gateway to the GBA * Gaming: CreditSights says Macau casinos can still meet the MOP236 billion GGR target despite four months of declines * Society: Seac Pai Van selected to pilot 15-minute elderly community service circle * China: Beijing takes Mbappé’s apology seriously after Mao remarks spark backlash, cost sponsorships and trigger broadcast [⋯]

- hello world (2026-10-28 11:46)

hello world, wordpress!

- hello world (2026-10-28 11:45)

hello world, wordpress!

- Culture and sports to merge into new bureau next month (2026-10-28 00:40)

In one of the government’s most significant public administration overhauls, the Executive Council has approved the creation of a Cultural and Sports Bureau and a unified Cultural and Sports Fund, effective Nov. 1, 2026, merging the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC), Cultural Development Fund (FDC), Sports Bureau (ID), and Sports Fund (FD). Secretary for Administration and Justice Wong Sio Chak, the Executive Council (ExCo) spokesperson, said the restructuring is intended to strengthen governance, improve the use of public resources, and support Macau’s economic diversification. “Setting up the Cultural and Sports Bureau is an important step for the Macau SAR government to [⋯]

• Fire bureau warns that blocking escape routes won't be tolerated; 102 fined (2026-10-28 00:38)

The Fire Services Bureau (CB) has completed 102 administrative penalty procedures against residents who blocked building escape routes with motorcycles or other items, with 37 additional cases underway, the bureau informed during its activity report for the first nine months. The CB took the opportunity to warn citizens that it will continue to enforce the law in all cases when initial warnings are ignored. Speaking at a quarterly press conference yesterday, Sheong Wa, acting head of the bureau's Research and Planning Department, said many residents have a habit of parking motorcycles around buildings, blocking escape routes and emergency access routes, […]

• Macau pay rises slow to 1.1%, 2027 outlook improves, survey finds (2026-10-28 00:36)

Average actual salary increases in Macau slowed to 1.1% this year, down from 1.6% last year, with 23 of 38 surveyed organizations saying that they are freezing salaries, the 2026 Greater Bay Area (GBA) Pay and Benefits Survey found. Excluding organizations that froze pay, the average increase noted was 2.5%. For 2027, the average forecast increase is 3.1%. Of the 38 local organizations, 15 said they hoped to raise pay, while the rest said they needed to wait and see. None predicted a freeze. Presenting the Macau findings, Iao Kit U, the chair of the survey's Macau chapter, said staff […]

• Investment flows into Macau dropped by 43.5% in 2025 (2026-10-28 00:34)

Inward direct investment flows to Macau fell 43.5% year over year to MOP6.20 billion in 2025, according to the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC). In a statement, DSEC said this significant drop was due to reduced reinvestment by foreign direct investors and to large loan repayments by some enterprises. According to the same release, inward direct investment in 2025 primarily flowed into Financial Activities (MOP7.81 billion) and the Construction Sector (MOP1.41 billion). Meanwhile, investment flows into Macau came primarily from the mainland (MOP5.62 billion) and from Hong Kong (MOP7.47 billion). Inward direct investment income totaled MOP42.51 billion in 2025, with […]

• Chinese brands cut ties with Mbappé over 'Chinese dictator' remark (2026-10-28 00:32)

French soccer star Kylian Mbappé's face appears in ads across China, from subway stations to elevators, but now at least three companies are cutting ties with the national team captain after he made some comments apparently referring to Mao Zedong, the founding leader of Communist China, as a dictator. Beverage maker Dongpeng, dairy giant Mengniu and cheese maker Milkground announced Tuesday in similarly worded statements that they were ending agreements with the soccer star, each saying they oppose "any words and actions that hurt national sentiment." The companies did not specify what prompted their decisions, but they released their statements […]

• In Suriname’s rainforest, Saamaka woodcarvers face the pull of gold mining and logging (2026-10-28 00:31)

Standing atop a giant block of wood, 63-year-old Alingo Doekoe bent over and swung a traditional pick, skillfully chiseling away shards of timber. Bit by bit, a board for Adji-boto, a traditional Saamaka game with roots in West Africa, was taking shape. Here in Piki Seei — the Saamaka name for the village officially known in Dutch as Pikin Slee — tembe, the Saamaka tradition of woodcarving and decorative art, has long been part of everyday life. The Saamaka are one of six tribal peoples in Suriname whose ancestors escaped slavery during Dutch colonial rule, building independent communities in the [⋯]

• CCAC flags ID’s poor oversight on fitness centers (2026-10-28 00:30)

Macau’s anti-corruption watchdog found negligence and enforcement failures in the Sports Bureau’s (ID) supervision of fitness centers. In a statement issued yesterday, the Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) said ID had failed to exercise its statutory supervisory powers effectively and had misinterpreted procedures for investigating and penalizing administrative offenses. The inquiry followed complaints received over two years alleging that fitness centers operating as sports or fitness clubs were conducting commercial activities without the prior approval required under Decree-Law No. 47/98/M. The CCAC states it initiated sanctioning procedures against nine establishments in mid-July 2024. However, seven establishments received no fine notices, and [⋯]

• Sharp decline in students victimized by scams, police say (2026-10-28 00:28)

The number of students falling victim to scams has fallen by nearly 60% year over year, with overall telecom and online fraud cases down 43.8% in the first three quarters, according to the Judiciary Police (PJ), which called its campus anti-fraud work a staged success. PJ Director Sit Chong Meng said the force relies on the School Safety Liaison Network and a model of proactive prevention, coordinated response, and follow-up support for youth crime. The Campus Anti-Fraud Vaccine Program is now in its third year. While results have been encouraging, some students still need greater awareness, so the force needs [⋯]

• Second batch of central fund payments deposited (2026-10-28 00:26)

The Social Security Fund (FSS) announced that the second batch of approved applicants for 2026 withdrawals from government-managed sub-accounts under the Non-Mandatory Central Provident Fund System received their payments earlier this week. Beneficiaries who applied by paper form in August or September for the 2026 Special Allocation from Budget Surplus, and whose applications were approved, had the allocation and any remaining sub-account balance deposited into designated bank accounts on October 27. The fund reminds residents to stay alert for fraud, stating it does not send text messages with hyperlinks.

• Registration opens for November ecological zone activities (2026-10-28 00:24)

Registration is now open for activities in Macau’s Ecological Zones, with limited spots available on a first-come, first-served basis. The November Open Days, organized by the Environmental Protection Services Bureau (DSPA), will be held on November 14 and 28 at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., offering 120 spots for two-hour guided tours of Ecological Zones I and II. Participants can view plants and birds and learn about the mangrove ecosystem. A family nature workshop on November 14 has 10 places per session, and a wetland birdwatching tour on November 28 offers 50 places. Registration is available on the bureau’s website.

- US futures and Asian stocks advance following a rally on Wall Street (2026-10-28 00:04)

Asian stocks were mostly higher Tuesday after an AI-led rally on Wall Street ahead of major corporate earnings and central-bank decisions. U.S. futures edged higher and oil prices extended losses. South Korea’s Kospi jumped more than 4% and was trading 3.6% higher at 5,667.99 by midday. Computer chipmaker SK Hynix surged 7% and Samsung Electronics gained 4.8%. Tokyo’s Nikkei 225 added 2.2% to 63,542.77. Testing equipment maker Advantest jumped more than 10% and OpenAI investor SoftBank Group climbed 7%. Hong Kong’s Hang Seng gave up early gains, slipping 0.2% to 23,174.44, while the Shanghai Composite edged 0.1% lower to 3,692.58. […]

- Israel’s election is about more than Netanyahu (2026-10-28 00:02)

Israel’s election is widely seen as a referendum on Benjamin Netanyahu, the country’s longest-serving prime minister. Polls suggest a tight race with his main rival, former military chief Gadi Eisenkot. But the vote will also test how Israelis weigh security, military service and accountability after years of war. Israelis vote for parties rather than individual candidates. No party has ever won a majority in the Knesset, so the contest will continue after the polls close, as larger and smaller parties negotiate to assemble a governing coalition. It could be weeks or even months before a prime minister is named. The […]

- Wednesday, October 28, 2026 – edition no. 5063 (2026-10-28 00:01)

* Two in one — Gov’t merges culture and sports into a single bureau and fund from Nov. 1, streamlining administration while keeping existing subsidies and budgets unchanged * Traffic | Escape routes blocked, more than 100 residents fined * Administration | Anti-graft watchdog faults Sports Bureau over fitness centers * Macau salary increases slow to 1.1% this year, but employers forecast a stronger 3.1% rise in 2027 * Foreign direct investment flows into Macau plunged 43.5% to MOP6.2 billion in 2025 * Chinese brands cut ties with French football star Kylian Mbappé after his apparent reference to Mao as […]

- MGM and Chef Nic Welcome the Return of “MGM Chef Nic Gastronomusic Fest 2026” This December (2026-10-27 08:22)

The highly anticipated annual gastronomy and music extravaganza makes its return! Jointly presented by MGM and lifestyle and gourmet brand “Chef Nic”, the fifth “MGM Chef Nic Gastronomusic Fest” will take place on December 5 and 6 at the Roof Terrace of MGM COTAI.

Tickets will go on public sale starting from November 2. Led by multi-talented artist Nicholas “Chef Nic” Tse and his team of top regional chefs, the event brings together MGM’s international culinary team that delivers a diverse range of flavors and acclaimed music acts from the Greater China. Combining global gastronomy, live music, and entertainment, this [⋯]

• Society backs revision, analysis report finds (2026-10-27 00:46)

Public feedback on the first draft amendment to the Urban Master Plan (2020-2040) broadly supports revising the plan to accommodate major public construction projects and future development needs, according to an analysis report released by the Land and Urban Construction Bureau (DSSCU). The DSSCU said it received feedback during the public consultation, which ran from June 29 to August 27, a 60-day period, during which it collected 219 submissions through briefing and consultation sessions, a dedicated website, the Macao One Account platform, email, in-person visits, post, and fax. The total number of opinions and suggestions was 4,091. Respondents focused on [⋯]

• Construction waste dropped by more than 50% in 5 years (2026-10-27 00:44)

The Environmental Protection Bureau (DSPA) said total construction waste has fallen by 50% to 60% since the current regime took effect in 2021, compared with 2020, indicating significant progress in reducing waste at the source. The data was released as the government prepares to tighten its construction waste management regime starting April 1 next year. As the Times previously reported, the new regime will also introduce exhaust-emission standards for non-road diesel machinery starting January 1, 2028, under two administrative regulations aimed at reducing pollution and strengthening waste management. Drawing on more than five years of experience, DSPA said the review [⋯]

• Outer Harbour Terminal to remain open as future use is studied (2026-10-27 00:42)

The government has no plans to close the Outer Harbor Ferry Terminal, with the Marine and Water Bureau (DSAMA) chief saying both ferry terminals still have their own users. However, planning authorities would need to study the terminal’s future use. Speaking to reporters at a public event, DSAMA director Susana Wong said the Taipa and Outer Harbor terminals now handle about 60% and 40% of passenger traffic, respectively, with annual totals of roughly 7 million and 8 million trips. Before the pandemic, combined annual traffic at the two terminals exceeded 10 million. Wong said the Taipa terminal’s larger share likely [⋯]

• MICE sector pivots to zero carbon as AI takes a role in hospitality (2026-10-27 00:40)

Macau’s integrated resort industry is positioning sustainability and artificial intelligence as twin engines for its next phase of growth. Senior executives from SJM Resorts and Wynn Macau told the Global Tourism Economy Forum that technology must strengthen, rather than replace, the human experience. Gerard Walker, chief hospitality officer at SJM Resorts, said the shift toward low-carbon meetings, incentives, conferences and exhibitions is no longer optional for Macau’s tourism economy. “Nice to have” is no longer enough, Walker told delegates. “It

is essential and a competitive edge.” “Event organizers are no longer asking whether you care,” Walker said. “They ask whether [⋯]

• Uber sees strong growth during Golden Week (2026-10-27 00:38)

Uber announced yesterday that ridership grew strongly during its Uber Taxi operation in Macau over the National Day Golden Week holidays. According to the company release, ridership among mainland China users jumped 130% when compared with the week before. “Compared to the eve of Golden Week (Sep. 24 to 30), during Golden Week (Oct. 1 to 7), Uber recorded a 130% increase in active mainland China riders. This reflects mainland users’ high trust in Uber and continued travel habits. It also highlights Uber’s success in leveraging technology to help the local Macau taxi industry capture cross-border tourism opportunities,” Uber noted. [⋯]

• What to know about China’s plenum as Xi seeks stronger Communist Party discipline (2026-10-27 00:36)

China’s political leaders and elites began a four-day meeting Monday to discuss strengthening the ruling Communist Party’s discipline, as Chinese President Xi Jinping pushes for greater loyalty and reliability from officials while deepening his yearslong campaign against corruption. This week’s closed-door gathering, known as the fifth plenum of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, comes roughly a year before Xi is widely expected to secure his fourth five-year term as the party’s leader and personnel changes to key leadership bodies. Xi began the meeting by delivering a work report and speaking about a draft policy decision on advancing [⋯]

• Domestic workers reach post-pandemic high at 29,200 (2026-10-27 00:34)

The number of domestic workers in Macau reached a new post-pandemic high at the end of September, according to data from the Public Security Police Force (PSP). The data show that at the end of last month, Macau had more than 29,200 domestic workers, the highest figure since the end of 2020. The increase is also reflected quarter-over-quarter, with 193 more workers than at the end of June this year. The overall number of domestic workers peaked in Macau in April 2020, when more than 31,000 were registered.

• Andre Couto ends 2026 LSTA in third (2026-10-27 00:32)

Macau racer Andre Couto finished the Lamborghini Super Trofeo Asia (LSTA) season in third overall. Couto closed the season with a last-weekend appearance at the Lamborghini World Finals in Monza, Italy. Joining American Barrett Wolfe at the wheel of the Lamborghini Super Trofeo Huracán Super Trofeo EVO2 from the South Korean team Lamborghini Busan – Racegraph, Couto stepped onto the podium in Race 1 on Saturday but, unfortunately, did not finish Race 2 on Sunday due to engine problems. This was the final time the Huracán Super Trofeo EVO2 cars were seen on track, as they will be replaced by [⋯]

• EASL: Hou Chon receives Nagasaki Velca tomorrow (2026-10-27 00:30)

Macau's Hou Chon team will face Japan's Nagasaki Velca tomorrow (Oct. 28) in the second game of this season's East Asia Super League (EASL). The game will be held at the Tap Seac Multi-sports Pavilion at 8:10 p.m. and is free to attend. This will be the local team's first home game of the year, following a loss to Taiwan's Taipei Fubon Braves (89-103) in Cebu, Philippines, in the season opener earlier this month. Macau Hou Chon plays in Group B of the EASL.

- Name certificate row erupts as bureau clarifies scope following HYROX complaint (2026-10-27 00:28)

The Identification Services Bureau (DSI) said its certificate on the adoptability of association names covers only whether a name may be used, not trademarks, planned events, or other rights. The response came after a listener complained on public broadcaster TDM's radio program that a local group had allegedly used a well-known overseas sports brand without authorization. The bureau said the certificate is part of the association registration process, which focuses on name distinctiveness to avoid confusion with existing associations. During application processing, it found no commercial registration or trademark record in Macau and no identical or similar association name, so [⋯]

- From the 'Brussels Effect' to the 'Beijing Effect' in AI (2026-10-27 00:02)

Legal scholar Anu Bradford argues that, despite its many challenges, the European Union remains an influential superpower capable of shaping the world through what she calls the "Brussels Effect." This phenomenon explains how European regulations influence global corporate practices, determining product design, compliance requirements, and standards far beyond the EU's borders. Unlike traditional geopolitical influence, the Brussels Effect relies neither on military power nor diplomatic coercion. Instead, it exploits the economic leverage of the EU's single market – an integrated, affluent marketplace of approximately 450 million consumers that multinational corporations cannot afford to ignore. European legislation is generally stricter than [⋯]

- Tuesday, October 27, 2026 – edition no. 5062 (2026-10-27 00:01)

* Master rewrite — Gov't plans to revise Macau's Urban Master Plan after collecting 4,091 public opinions and suggestions, with broad support for major projects and new land-use priorities * Environment | Construction waste cut by over half since 2020 * Ferry terminal | Outer Harbour stays, future remains uncertain * Macau's resorts embrace zero-carbon events and AI-powered hospitality, balancing sustainability goals with personalized guest experiences and service * Uber Taxi reports 130% surge in active mainland riders during Golden Week * Xi opens Communist Party plenum to tighten discipline, deepen anti-corruption efforts and consolidate authority before 2027 DOWNLOAD [⋯]

- Visitor arrivals up 15.9% in Sep., 8.5% in the first three quarters (2026-10-26 00:42)

Macau's visitor arrivals last month (Sep.) totaled 3,216,535, up 15.9% from the same month last year, according to a statistical release from the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC). The same release, which also compares data from the first three quarters of this year (Jan. to Sep.), reports that arrivals rose 8.5% year over year to 32,181,272. Among those who visited Macau in September, same-day visitors made up the majority (60.1%), totaling 1,933,257. This number also rose significantly year over year by 23.8%. Overnight visitors (1,283,278) also increased, but by only 5.7%. International visitors grew even more slowly, reaching 180,821 last [⋯]

• MOP20 billion fund opens with MOP9 billion in private backing (2026-10-26 00:40)

The government guidance fund, initially set at MOP20 billion, was formally launched at a signing ceremony at government headquarters on Friday. It comprises MOP11 billion from the government's accumulated fiscal reserve returns and MOP9 billion from six integrated resort operators as the first batch of social capital. Chief Executive (CE) Sam Hou Fai and Zheng Xincong, director of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Macau SAR, witnessed the ceremony, with Che Weng Keong, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Macau Investment Management Company Limited, and representatives of the six operators signing the agreement. The Secretary [⋯]

• Brokerages trim LVS forecasts as high-end weakness (2026-10-26 00:38)

Las Vegas Sands' (LVS) weak third-quarter results have prompted brokerages to cut earnings forecasts, with JP Morgan and CBRE citing a shortfall of high-end gamblers in Macau and Singapore and warning that the timing of their return remains uncertain. JP Morgan lowered its fourth-quarter adjusted property EBITDA forecast for LVS by 4% to US$1.26 billion (MOP10.16 billion) and reduced its 2027 and 2028 estimates by about 2% each, to US$5.06 billion (MOP40.81 billion) and US$5.15 billion (MOP41.54 billion), respectively. JP Morgan said in a note late last week that the company's "downside third-quarter result reflected softness among its high-end players [⋯]

• Trade shows close with 90,000 visits, 140 signed agreements (2026-10-26 00:36)

The 31st Macau International Trade and Investment Fair (MIF), the 2026 Portuguese-Speaking Countries Products and Services Exhibition (PLPEX), and the 2026 Macau Franchise Expo (MFE) closed over the weekend after a four-day run that drew more than 90,000 visitors, including over 17,000 trade visitors, and generated more than 1,100 business-matching sessions and about 140 signed agreements. According to the Commerce and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM), over 80% of the agreements related to the "1+4" industries, with 12% involving Portuguese- and Spanish-speaking countries, further strengthening Macau's role as a "precise connector" between China and those markets. The three events also created [⋯]

• Nearly 80% of drug use happens at home, registry shows (2026-10-26 00:34)

Macau recorded 88 drug users in the first half of the year, up 3.5% year over year, with methamphetamine being the most commonly used substance. According to data from the

central drug abuse registry, revealed at the second plenary meeting of the Narcotics Control Committee for 2026, held on Friday and chaired by Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture O Lam, nearly 80% of use occurred in concealed settings such as their own or friends' homes. Two under-21 users were reported, representing 2.3% of the total. Methamphetamine accounted for 15.5% of cases, followed by heroin at 10.3%. The meeting agenda [⋯]

- As the US and China form AI blocs, countries are increasingly torn between them (2026-10-26 00:32)

With the two leading AI powers, the United States and China, forming their own AI blocs, other countries are maneuvering to harness the strengths of both groupings and avoid losing out. As the rivalry intensifies, experts say the window for countries to be able to choose freely between the two AI superpowers may be narrowing, forcing them to at one point pick between the U.S.-led Pax Silica and the China-inspired World AI Cooperation Organization. That could put many countries in a dilemma: Do they go with the U.S.'s most advanced chips and AI technologies, or join China's more affordable, open-source [⋯]

- SSM sets up e-cigarette disposal boxes at 13 sites ahead of new rules (2026-10-26 00:30)

Ahead of a rule taking effect next July that will allow fines of MOP1,500 for consuming or possessing e-cigarettes outside residences, the Health Bureau (SSM) will place e-cigarette disposal boxes at 13 locations from today through June 30 next year. Locations include health centers in the Peninsula and Taipa; health stations in Zone A of the new landfill and Coloane; Conde S. Januário Hospital; and the tobacco and alcohol control office. The bureau said the measure aims to help residents to dispose of the devices properly. It also reminded the public that, starting next year, the fine for carrying e-cigarettes [⋯]

- Macau-Guangzhou flights to launch on Dec. 10 (2026-10-26 00:28)

A Macau-Guangzhou air route will launch on December 10, with a morning flight to Macau and an evening return, each taking about an hour. At a launch event, China Southern Airlines said the schedule was optimized to connect efficiently with international flights at Guangzhou Baiyun Airport, allowing passengers to reach about 170 destinations under a one-ticket, through-checked-baggage arrangement. The airline aims to make it a shuttle-style air link. The route is also expected to strengthen Macau's bids for international conferences and improve delegate convenience, according to the local exhibition industry association.

- Two balcony fires in a day (2026-10-26 00:26)

About 300 residents evacuated a building in Seac Pai Van, Coloane, after a balcony fire at about 4 a.m. Saturday. No one was injured. The blaze broke out in a sixth-floor unit of Edifício Ip Heng, Block 5, where items on the balcony caught fire and spread to a washing machine and water heater. Firefighters extinguished the blaze, with an overloaded power strip suspected as the cause. In a separate case, a house owner extinguished a balcony fire on Avenida da Ilha Verde before firefighters arrived. Police are treating this case as suspected arson after a burnt

mop was found.

• School program flags myopia and tooth decay (2026-10-26 00:24)

Macau's school health program found that nearly 30% of students were short-sighted, and over 40% of Primary 3 (P3) and P5 students showed suspected tooth decay, the Health Bureau reported. The program covered 97 school sections and more than 49,000 students in the 2025/26 academic year, achieving a 94% participation rate. Data also showed a 13.5% rate of overweight and obesity, while myopia increased sharply with age, from 1.8% among K1 students to over 60% by P6 school level. Starting in the 2026/27 academic year, this program's health summaries will be digitized, allowing parents to view and download records through […]

• Monday, October 26, 2026 – edition no. 5061 (2026-10-26 00:01)

* On the road to 44 million — Macau is heading toward a record 44 million visitor arrivals this year, despite sluggish growth in international markets * Finance | MOP20 billion fund gets private backing from the Big Six * Gaming | High-end slump weighs on LVS forecasts amid VIP weakness * Three major trade shows draw over 90,000 visits and secure 140 agreements, boosting Macau's business networking ambitions * Nearly 80% of reported drug use occurs at home, with methamphetamine leading * Caught between rival US and China AI blocs, countries seek access to both technologies without choosing sides […]