

MACAU SECURITY ANALYSIS REPORT

AI-Assisted Open Source Intelligence Assessment

Analysis Period: October 26, 2026 - November 02, 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

Macau's security landscape from October 26 to November 2, 2026, was primarily characterized by a continued emphasis on national security enforcement, robust cybersecurity initiatives, and the efficient management of border traffic. The ongoing closed-door trial of former pro-democracy lawmaker Au Kam San under Macau's national security law remained a significant point of international scrutiny, particularly from the European Union. Concurrently, authorities intensified efforts to bolster cybersecurity resilience, responding to persistent threats and aligning with national strategic plans. Border checkpoints, especially the Hengqin Port, experienced high volumes of crossings, necessitating coordinated management and future expansion plans. Regional geopolitical tensions, particularly the updated U.S. travel advisory for China (including Macau) and new U.S. outbound investment restrictions, indirectly influenced Macau's external security and economic environment.

Key Security Developments

- National Security Trial Continues Behind Closed Doors

The closed-door trial of former pro-democracy lawmaker Au Kam San, accused of subversion under Macau's national security law, continued to be a central security development during this period. The trial, which commenced around September 16, 2026, has drawn condemnation from the European Union, citing concerns over the denial of judicial due process and the erosion of Au's rights. This case underscores Beijing's heightened emphasis on national security within the Special Administrative Region and its intolerance of dissenting voices.

- Enhanced Cybersecurity Measures and Persistent Threats

Macau is actively strengthening its cybersecurity posture, aligning with both China's "15th Five-Year Plan" and Macau's "3rd Five-Year Plan," with a particular focus on AI and data security. The Macau SAR Government's cloud computing center reportedly faces an average of over four million cyberattacks monthly, highlighting a persistent threat landscape. On October 22, 2026, a Knowledge Sharing Event by the Cloud Security Alliance Hong Kong & Macau Chapter discussed AI-powered vulnerability growth, and an "Ethical Phishing Email and SMS Campaign 2026" began on October 20, 2026.

- Aviation Security Exercise at Macau International Airport

In the early morning of October 27, 2026, Macau International Airport conducted an "Exercise on the Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft". This exercise simulated a hijacked passenger aircraft demanding to land, involving 328 participants from various agencies including the Public Security Police Force, Macao Customs, and the Judiciary Police. The drill aimed to test the effectiveness of the airport's emergency plan and enhance response capabilities for aviation security emergencies, successfully concluding with the "arrest" of hijackers and "rescue" of hostages.

- High Volume Border Crossings and Expansion Plans at Hengqin Port

Following the National Day Golden Week holiday (October 1-7, 2026), Macau authorities continued to manage high volumes of border crossings. By the last week of October, the Hengqin Port between Zhuhai and Macau surpassed 20 million crossings, approximately 50 days earlier than the previous year. A lawmaker urged for "seamless" border crossings, and the Guangdong-Macao In-Depth Cooperation Zone in Hengqin unveiled a draft plan to add four new border crossings and four corridors to enhance connectivity with Macau.

- U.S. Travel Advisory Maintained for Macau

The U.S. State Department maintained its "Level 3 - Reconsider Travel" advisory for Macau, originally issued on September 4, 2026, and updated on October 20, 2026. The advisory cites concerns over the arbitrary enforcement of local laws, the use of exit bans, and the risk of wrongful detention, explicitly extending warnings about such risks in mainland China to Macau. It also highlights the limited ability of the U.S. government to provide emergency consular services due to visa requirements for U.S. diplomatic personnel.

- U.S. Outbound Investment Restrictions Impacting Macau

On October 22, 2026, the U.S. Department of the Treasury proposed expanded outbound investment rules under the Comprehensive Outbound Investment National Security Act (COINS Act). This proposed rule includes China, and by extension Hong Kong and Macau, as "countries of concern" for investments in critical technologies such as semiconductors, artificial intelligence (AI), and biotechnology. This development could significantly impact foreign investment and technological collaboration in Macau.

- Diplomatic Engagement with Brazilian Delegation

A delegation of young Brazilian diplomats visited Macau and the Guangdong-Macao In-Depth Cooperation Zone in Hengqin during a four-day visit that ended on October 19, 2026. The visit aimed to explore Macau's role as a "distinctive bridge" connecting China with Portuguese-speaking countries, discussing "one country, two systems" and economic and trade cooperation. This engagement highlights Macau's continued efforts to foster diplomatic ties and support its economic diversification strategies.

- Global Cybersecurity Scare ("Black October")

October 2026 was dubbed "Black October" due to a global cybersecurity scare involving millions of hacking attempts, government websites going offline, and critical vulnerabilities in widely used software, raising concerns over the growing role of artificial intelligence in cyberattacks. While not a direct incident in Macau during the reporting period, this global context underscores the heightened importance of Macau's ongoing efforts to strengthen its cybersecurity resilience and align with national digital security architecture.

Geopolitical Impact and Regional Dynamics

Macau, as a Special Administrative Region (SAR) of China, operates under the "One Country, Two Systems" framework, meaning its defense and foreign affairs are primarily managed by Beijing. Consequently, Macau's security posture is intrinsically linked to China's broader geopolitical strategies and regional dynamics. The continued enforcement of national security laws, exemplified by the Au Kam San trial, aligns with Beijing's directives to strengthen control over SARs and manage perceived threats to national sovereignty. This approach, however, draws international scrutiny, particularly from Western powers like the European Union, which has expressed concerns about the erosion of political pluralism and judicial due process.

The updated U.S. Travel Advisory on October 20, 2026, explicitly extending warnings about arbitrary law enforcement and wrongful detention risks in mainland China to Macau, underscores how international perceptions of legal and security risks in the mainland directly impact the SARs. This could have implications for foreign investment, tourism, and the overall ease of doing business for international entities in Macau, potentially affecting its role as a global economic hub. Similarly, the U.S. Department of the Treasury's proposed expansion of outbound investment rules under the COINS Act, designating China (including Macau) as a "country of concern" for investments in critical technologies, reflects a broader strategic competition between the U.S. and China. These measures aim to curb China's technological advancement and could limit Macau's access to certain foreign capital and expertise in key sectors.

Despite these challenges, Macau continues its diplomatic engagements, such as the visit by Brazilian diplomats in mid-October, to enhance its international standing and support its economic diversification efforts. These interactions also contribute to China's broader soft power initiatives, leveraging Macau's unique historical and cultural ties, particularly with Portuguese-speaking countries. The successful management of massive border crossings during the National Day Golden Week and the ongoing development of the Guangdong-Macao In-Depth Cooperation Zone in

Hengqin further highlight Macau's economic reliance on mainland China and the critical importance of cross-border stability for its prosperity and social order.

Military and Defense Analysis

Macau does not possess an independent military; its defense is the responsibility of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) Macau Garrison. The PLA Macau Garrison completed its 27th unit rotation in August 2026, a routine procedure ensuring fresh troops are trained and familiar with Macau's conditions and relevant laws. Chief Executive Sam Hou Fai has previously lauded the PLA Macau Garrison as a "great wall of iron" safeguarding national sovereignty and a "stabilizing force" for Macau's prosperity and stability, reinforcing its integral role under the "One Country, Two Systems" framework.

During the reporting period, there were no reports of unusual large-scale military exercises or significant shifts in force posture directly attributable to the PLA Macau Garrison. However, an anti-terrorism drill involving local law enforcement and the PLA Garrison near the East Asian Games Dome was planned, indicating ongoing preparedness and inter-agency cooperation for security threats. More concretely, on October 27, 2026, Macau International Airport conducted a significant "Exercise on the Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft," involving multiple local security agencies. This exercise, while not a military drill, demonstrates a robust capability development in responding to aviation security emergencies and potential counter-terrorism scenarios, showcasing inter-agency coordination and readiness. Defense spending trends and major defense acquisitions are not directly applicable to Macau as an SAR, but its security infrastructure and capabilities are enhanced through its integration into China's national security framework and local law enforcement modernization efforts.

Outlook and Forecast

Short-term trends (1-3 months): Macau is expected to continue its intensified focus on national security, with further developments anticipated in ongoing legal cases such as that of Au Kam San. The government will likely roll out more detailed implementation plans for its "3rd Five-Year Plan," particularly concerning cybersecurity and data governance, aligning closely with mainland China's "15th Five-Year Plan". Border security measures will remain robust, especially around upcoming public holidays or major events, with continued coordination between Macau, Hong Kong, and Zhuhai to manage cross-border traffic effectively. The implications of the expanded U.S. outbound investment rules will begin to be felt,

potentially affecting foreign investment flows into Macau's technology sectors.

Critical flashpoints and risk areas: The primary flashpoint remains the erosion of political freedoms and judicial autonomy under the national security framework, as highlighted by the Au Kam San trial and international reactions. This could lead to continued international criticism and potentially impact Macau's standing as an international business hub. Cybersecurity threats are a persistent risk, with government systems facing millions of attacks monthly, necessitating continuous vigilance and investment in advanced defenses, especially against AI-powered threats. While internal public security remains stable, the high volume of border crossings always presents a logistical challenge and potential vulnerability for illicit activities, though current measures appear effective.

Indicators to monitor: Key indicators to monitor include further developments in national security cases and any new legislation or interpretations of existing laws that could impact civil liberties or foreign business operations. The frequency and sophistication of cyberattacks targeting Macau's critical infrastructure and government systems should be closely watched. Changes in international travel advisories, particularly from Western nations, will reflect evolving perceptions of Macau's legal and security environment. Additionally, the implementation and impact of China's "15th Five-Year Plan" and Macau's "3rd Five-Year Plan" on economic diversification and technological development will be crucial, especially in light of U.S. investment restrictions.

Strategic recommendations: Macau should prioritize transparent communication regarding its legal and judicial processes, particularly concerning national security cases, to mitigate international concerns and protect its reputation. Continued investment in advanced cybersecurity infrastructure and talent development is essential to counter evolving threats, potentially through greater international collaboration where politically feasible. Diversifying Macau's economy beyond gaming, as outlined in its "3rd Five-Year Plan," remains a critical long-term security imperative to reduce reliance on volatile sectors and enhance overall resilience. Finally, Macau should continue to leverage its unique position as a bridge between China and Portuguese-speaking countries to foster diplomatic and economic ties, thereby enhancing its soft power and regional influence.

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ANNEX: COLLECTED ARTICLES BY SOURCE

Source: Macau Daily Times

• Disappointing October accounts for the fifth consecutive month in the ‘red’ (2026-11-02 00:46)

Gross gaming revenue (GGR) from local casinos fell sharply in October, continuing the decline since June and marking the fifth straight month of year-over-year declines. Last month’s result (MOP21.68 billion) was 10% lower than the same month last year, when GGR reached MOP24.09 billion. Usually fueled by high visitation during the National Day Golden Week, October has historically been one of the strongest months for casino revenue. Compared with September, October still shows a 20% increase, but it adds to the poor second-half results of 2026, bringing those results closer to the government’s projection, which, at the time of the [⋯]

• Lawmaker urges ‘seamless’ border crossings as Hengqin traffic surges (2026-11-02 00:44)

In a recent spoken inquiry at the Legislative Assembly (AL), lawmaker Lam Lon Wai has called on the government to assess whether the city’s land border crossings can handle rapidly rising vehicle traffic and to coordinate with mainland authorities to achieve fully “contactless” clearance for drivers and passengers. In the written inquiry submitted on 16 October, Lam said that growing exchanges between Macau and Guangdong, together with the development of the Guangdong-Macao In-Depth Cooperation Zone in Hengqin, had pushed cross-border vehicle flows to record levels. Lam cited Hengqin Port handling about 1.25 million vehicle crossings in 2022, rising to roughly [⋯]

• Gastronomy decade offers lessons for other cities, tourism chief says (2026-11-02 00:42)

As the city prepares to mark the milestone anniversary next year, Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) director Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes said that Macau’s decade as a UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy offers lessons that could serve as a reference for other cities seeking similar recognition. “We are working with UNESCO on a research project to examine the results since Macau’s designation and how it can further drive sustainable urban development, hoping to provide a reference for cities interested in applying or already designated,” she said on the sidelines of the official opening of the 2026 Bocuse d’Or Asia-Pacific [⋯]

• CE praises elderly workers as a symbol of Macau’s vitality (2026-11-02 00:40)

Chief Executive (CE) Sam Hou Fai has described elderly residents who remain active and socially engaged as embodying the “Vibrant Macau” vision. He recounted his decades-long relationship with his barber in a shop in an old district as an example of the city’s enduring neighborhood character. In a recent blog post, Sam said he had been going to the same barbershop in an old district for more than 30 years, from his return from studying in Portugal through his time as a judge and as president of the Court of Final Appeal to his current role. “For decades, his careful […]

• Skid resistance to improve on roads following motorcycle crash (2026-11-02 00:38)

The Transport Bureau (DSAT) has pledged to improve the anti-slip performance of road markings, manhole covers, and bridge expansion joints following safety concerns raised by lawmaker Leong Pou U after a motorcycle accident near the artificial island of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge. The bureau issued its response after consulting with the Public Works Bureau (DSOP), as noted in the written response. The inquiry called for a review of road design after a motorcyclist slipped near a bend on the connecting bridge linking Zone A of the New Urban Zone to the bridge’s artificial island. Leong said the accident occurred at […]

• Binance and billionaire founder Zhao victims of largest cryptocurrency heist (2026-11-02 00:36)

Targeted in what looks like the largest cryptocurrency heist in history, Binance and Changpeng Zhao have been front-page news for most of the crypto exchange’s short history, often in unflattering ways. He and his company have been accused of turning a blind eye as the exchange was used by drug traffickers, child abusers, terrorists and money launderers. Zhao himself even went to jail over the charges. On Thursday, a hacking group, possibly from North Korea, turned against the company, allegedly stealing an estimated $6.3 billion in bitcoin and other crypto from its customers. Here’s a look at the fabulously successful […]

• Natural stupidity (2026-11-02 00:34)

We live in an extraordinary moment of paradox. On the one hand, never in human history has information been so abundant, so accessible, and so rapidly disseminated. Yet never has it seemed so difficult to distinguish truth from falsehood, knowledge from ignorance, and credible information from fabricated narratives. The internet was once celebrated as the gateway to an information society, promising a world where knowledge would empower citizens, strengthen democracy, foster intellectual progress, and bring humanity closer to the truth. But is this really happening? Fueled by the misuse of artificial intelligence (AI) tools, the proliferation of fake news, the […]

• Committee backs tougher penalties for collusion in social housing tenders (2026-11-02 00:30)

A new bill under scrutiny at the Legislative Assembly (AL) provides that companies found colluding in tenders for commercial units in social housing buildings would lose their deposits

and could have their contracts terminated. The AL First Standing Committee said it has completed detailed scrutiny of the bill governing the allocation of commercial space in social housing buildings and signed its opinion after four meetings. The bill, which passed its first reading on June 25, aims to reform a regime in place for more than 30 years, the committee said no longer suits current economic and social conditions. It seeks [⋯]

• IAM completes 120-hectare hill forest restoration (2026-11-02 00:28)

The Municipal Affairs Bureau (IAM) completed the second phase of its hill forest restoration program in 2024, restoring 120 hectares over three years by replacing aging trees with native species to rebuild local forest ecosystems. The bureau has since carried out long-term maintenance to improve seedling survival, and said that patrols by forestry staff are routine. The IAM expects to promote more diverse vegetation in the forest to provide more and better wildlife habitats. It also said it will continue to monitor conditions and educate the public.

• First mainland yachts dock in Macau as city counts 220-plus berths (2026-11-02 00:26)

The first four mainland yachts arrived in Macau under the Guangdong-Macau yacht free-travel scheme, in a ceremony marking a new stage of two-way exchanges and connectivity between the two places. The Marine and Water Bureau (DSAMA) said Macau now has more than 220 yacht berths, sufficient to accommodate local and non-local yachts and to support yacht exhibitions and sailing events. The bureau has also established a temporary anchorage area off Hac Sa Beach. Mainland yachts participating in the travel scheme can apply for entry and exit online, with approval completed within 48 hours if documents are complete, and the owner [⋯]

• 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 elevatedwalkways. 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 damages caused by this type of fraud. The new cases include three involving “TikTok” and four involving “MPay.” In the highest loss reported yesterday, a local resident lost up to MOP68,000.

• 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 sincethe end of 2020. The increase is also reflected quarter-over-quarter, with 193 more workersthan at the end of June this year. The overall number of domestic workers peaked in Macau inApril 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 […]