

MACAU SECURITY ANALYSIS REPORT

AI-Assisted Open Source Intelligence Assessment

Analysis Period: October 30, 2026 - November 06, 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 during the period of October 30 to November 06, 2026, was primarily shaped by significant developments in its national security legal framework and ongoing efforts in cybersecurity and border management. The most prominent event was the conviction of former lawmaker Au Kam San on November 6, 2026, marking the first national security trial under Macau's expanded laws, which signals a tightening of political control and heightened emphasis on state security. Concurrently, authorities continued to reinforce cybersecurity measures, particularly concerning AI and data security, while also managing high volumes of cross-border traffic with advanced surveillance and coordination. Regionally, Macau remains integrated into China's broader geopolitical strategies, including its stance on the South China Sea, and is subject to international scrutiny regarding its national security legislation.

Key Security Developments

- National Security Conviction of Former Lawmaker

On November 6, 2026, former lawmaker and democracy campaigner Au Kam San was sentenced to 12 years and six months in prison for subversion and other offenses by a Macau court. This conviction represents the first under Macau's expanded national security laws, which were widened in 2023 and further amended in March 2026 to allow for closed-door trials. The case, which concluded its closed-door trial in September, highlights Beijing's continued efforts to assert control and suppress dissent in its Special Administrative Regions, drawing international condemnation from entities like the European Union.

- Emphasis on Cybersecurity and Data Security

Macau authorities continued to prioritize strengthening cybersecurity rules, especially regarding Artificial Intelligence (AI) and data security, as part of its Third Five-Year Plan. On October 20, 2026, the Macao Post and Telecommunications Bureau hosted a lecture on "Cybersecurity, Real-Name Registration of SIM Cards and Prevention of Telecommunications Scams" for seniors, aiming to raise public awareness and enhance defense against cybercrime. This proactive approach underscores the government's recognition of increasing cyber threats, which are seen as posing risks to social order, public interest, and national security.

- Advanced Border Security and Management

The Public Security Police Force (PSP) implemented comprehensive measures to manage the anticipated 5.2 million to 5.4 million border crossings during the Chinese mainland's "Golden Week" holiday (October 1-7, 2026). This involved close coordination with the Macao Customs Service, Zhuhai General Station of Exit and Entry Frontier Inspection, and the Hong Kong Immigration Department, including real-time data sharing and dynamic deployment of police manpower. Furthermore, as of November 6, 2026, all 250 joint-inspection self-service channels at Macau's cooperative border checkpoints have been utilizing facial recognition clearance for one year, streamlining and enhancing border control efficiency.

- Beijing's Directive on National Development Alignment

On November 4, 2026, China's central authorities urged Macau and Hong Kong to align their development plans with the country's 15th Five-Year Plan. An article in the People's Daily by the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office emphasized strengthening governance under the law and upholding the "patriots governing Macau and Hong Kong" principle, underscoring Beijing's strategic integration of the SARs into national development and security frameworks.

- US Travel Advisory Update

The U.S. Department of State updated its Level 2 Travel Advisory for mainland China on October 20, 2026, explicitly extending warnings to Macau and Hong Kong. The advisory urged increased caution due to concerns about arbitrary enforcement of local laws, the use of exit bans, and the risk of wrongful detention, specifically referencing expansive national security, counter-espionage, and data security laws.

- Aviation Security Exercise

On October 27, 2026, just outside the reporting period but highly relevant, Macau International Airport conducted an "Exercise on the Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft." This drill simulated a hijacking scenario to test the effectiveness of the airport's emergency plan and the response capabilities of various agencies, including the Public Security Police Force's Special Duty Unit, which successfully apprehended four simulated hijackers and rescued hostages.

- Local Crime Incident

On November 5, 2026, the Public Security Police (PSP) announced the arrest of two men in the Ilha Verde district for the theft of a bicycle. This incident, which occurred on October 26, 2026, involved the use of city surveillance system (CCTV) footage to identify and apprehend the suspects, highlighting routine law enforcement activities and the role of surveillance in maintaining public order.

- Regional Geopolitical Tensions (South China Sea)

On November 5, 2026, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi warned his Philippine counterpart to be cautious in words and deeds regarding the South China Sea dispute,

citing "malicious interference" by certain Filipino politicians. While not directly involving Macau, this development reflects ongoing regional tensions that influence China's broader security posture and, by extension, the strategic environment in which Macau operates as an SAR.

Geopolitical Impact and Regional Dynamics

Macau's recent security developments, particularly the national security conviction, underscore its deepening integration into mainland China's political and legal systems. The sentencing of Au Kam San on November 6, 2026, under expanded national security laws, sends a clear message about Beijing's resolve to maintain stability and eliminate perceived threats to its authority within the Special Administrative Regions. This move aligns Macau more closely with the mainland's approach to national security, potentially diminishing its distinct legal autonomy and further solidifying the "patriots governing Macau" principle.

The tightening of national security legislation and its enforcement in Macau, as highlighted by the US Department of State's updated travel advisory on October 20, 2026, has implications for international perceptions of the SAR. Concerns about arbitrary law enforcement and the risk of wrongful detention could affect foreign investment, tourism, and the ease of doing business for international entities, potentially impacting Macau's role as a global economic hub. This also reflects a broader trend of increased scrutiny from Western powers regarding China's human rights record and its actions in Hong Kong and Macau.

Regionally, Macau's security posture is inextricably linked to China's overall strategic landscape. While Macau itself does not play an independent role in defense or major diplomatic initiatives, its stability and adherence to Beijing's directives are crucial for China's narrative of successful governance under the "One Country, Two Systems" framework. The ongoing tensions in the South China Sea, as evidenced by China's warnings to the Philippines on November 5, 2026, illustrate the complex geopolitical environment in which China operates. These regional dynamics, while seemingly distant, indirectly influence Macau by shaping China's national security priorities and resource allocation, which in turn affect the SAR's internal security policies and its relationship with the central government.

Military and Defense Analysis

As a Special Administrative Region of China, Macau does not possess its own independent military or defense forces. Its defense is the responsibility of the People's

Liberation Army (PLA) Garrison in Macau. Therefore, direct military activities, defense acquisitions, or significant defense spending trends specific to Macau are not typically reported. The PLA Garrison maintains a presence primarily for defense and to assist in maintaining public order if requested by the Macau SAR government.

During the reporting period, there were no specific reports of military activities or exercises conducted by the PLA Garrison within Macau. However, the "Exercise on the Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft" conducted at Macau International Airport on October 27, 2026, involved the Public Security Police Force's Special Duty Unit, demonstrating local capabilities in responding to high-stakes security threats, albeit in a civilian-led context. This exercise, coordinated by the Public Security Police Force, included various government entities and aviation operators, highlighting a multi-agency approach to aviation security.

Modernization programs and capability developments within Macau's security forces primarily focus on enhancing law enforcement, border control, and cybersecurity capabilities. The implementation of facial recognition clearance at border checkpoints and the ongoing efforts to strengthen cybersecurity rules for AI and data security are examples of these modernization efforts. These initiatives are aimed at improving efficiency, combating crime, and safeguarding national security in an increasingly digital and interconnected world, aligning with China's broader national security objectives.

Outlook and Forecast

Short-term trends (1-3 months): In the immediate future, Macau is likely to experience a continued emphasis on national security enforcement following the conviction of Au Kam San. This will likely involve further scrutiny of activities perceived as challenging Beijing's authority and a reinforcement of the "patriots governing Macau" principle. Cybersecurity will remain a high priority, with ongoing efforts to implement and strengthen regulations concerning AI and data security. Border security measures, including advanced technology like facial recognition, will continue to be refined, especially in anticipation of any upcoming holiday periods or major events that could lead to increased cross-border traffic.

Critical flashpoints and risk areas: The primary flashpoint remains the interpretation and application of national security laws. Any further arrests, trials, or restrictions on civil liberties could trigger increased international criticism and potentially impact Macau's economic standing and international relations. The cybersecurity landscape presents a continuous risk, with the potential for sophisticated cyberattacks targeting critical infrastructure or government systems. While the terrorist threat level remains low, as stated in previous assessments, the aviation security exercise highlights a

proactive stance against potential high-impact, low-probability events. Regional geopolitical tensions, particularly in the South China Sea, could indirectly affect Macau by influencing China's domestic security priorities and potentially leading to tighter controls or increased surveillance.

Indicators to monitor: Key indicators to monitor include further judicial proceedings under national security laws, any new cybersecurity legislation or major cyber incidents, and public reactions or international responses to these developments. Changes in border control policies or significant shifts in cross-border traffic patterns would also be important. From a broader geopolitical perspective, any escalation or de-escalation of tensions in the South China Sea and the nature of diplomatic exchanges between China and Western nations regarding human rights and autonomy in SARs will be crucial.

Strategic recommendations: Macau should continue to invest in robust cybersecurity infrastructure and talent development to mitigate evolving digital threats. Proactive public awareness campaigns on cybersecurity and anti-scam measures are essential. While adhering to national security imperatives, the Macau SAR government should strive for transparency in legal proceedings and ensure due process to alleviate international concerns and maintain its reputation as a stable international hub. Continued coordination with mainland Chinese authorities on border management and intelligence sharing is vital for maintaining internal security and stability.

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ANNEX: COLLECTED ARTICLES BY SOURCE

Source: Macau Daily Times

• Au Kam San sentenced to 12 years and six months in city’s first national security case (2026-11-06 04:46)

Former lawmaker Au Kam San was sentenced to 12 years and six months in prison today after being convicted of subversion, two counts of establishing links with organizations outside Macau to commit acts endangering national security, and breach of professional secrecy in the city’s first case involving alleged violations of the National Security Law. The Court of First Instance announced the sentence following hearings on Sept. 16 and 18. The case marks the first prosecution involving violations of the National Security Law since the establishment of the Macao Special Administrative Region. According to a statement issued by the court, […]

• Survey finds demand for stronger housing, childcare and parental leave support (2026-11-06 00:46)

Local residents want stronger support for starting and raising families, with housing assistance, stable employment and more flexible childcare arrangements emerging as main concerns in a new survey. Most respondents want parents to have more flexibility in managing childcare, with 67% calling for dedicated leave and 55.9% backing stronger paternity leave provisions. According to a survey by the Macau Federation of Trade Unions’ Women’s Committee and the Macau Dual Career Women Association, nearly half of residents want substantive housing support to help them have children, while more than eight in 10 see stable income and job security as central to […]

• Nearly 85% of local concertgoers travel abroad for live shows, report finds (2026-11-06 00:44)

Nearly 85% of residents surveyed who have attended concerts in the city have also traveled abroad or to other regions to watch live performances, according to a new industry report. The findings come from The Concert Travel Effect in Asia, jointly released by Trip.com Group and Live Nation Asia at a media briefing in Singapore Wednesday. More than 80% of Macau respondents also identified concerts and live performances as an appealing reason to travel. The lineup appears to carry more weight than the destination itself for many fans. About 69% of respondents said the performers or festival lineup mattered more […]

• A fiery milestone: Feng Wei Ju’s 20th anniversary tribute to Starworld Macau (2026-11-06 00:42)

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of the iconic Starworld Macau, a special commemorative dinner was hosted at its crown jewel, Feng Wei Ju. Holding two Michelin stars, this esteemed restaurant is celebrated for its fiery yet refined take on Hunan and Sichuan cuisine. For this milestone occasion, the kitchen delivered a masterful "Michelin Appetizer" tasting menu that harmoniously blended regional spice with premium global ingredients, all perfectly paired with exceptional Chinese wines. The evening began with a spectacular array of cold appetizers that teased the palate with vibrant flavors. Highlights included the Marinated Razor Clams with Peppercorns and Chili, which [⋯]

• Melco's Q3 profit drops to almost zero as revenue falls 10% (2026-11-06 00:40)

Melco Resorts & Entertainment Limited saw profitability collapse in the third quarter (Q3) of this year, with net income attributable to shareholders plunging from USD74.7 million (MOP603.5 million) a year earlier to just $34,000 (MOP274,703), effectively erasing its quarterly earnings. The company presented the results during its quarterly earnings call on Wednesday night (Macau time). Melco reported a deterioration in its unaudited financial results, with operating revenue down 10.4% year over year to $1.17 billion (MOP9.45 billion), compared with $1.31 billion (MOP10.58 billion) in the corresponding quarter of 2025. More significantly, the company reported a consolidated net loss of $9.1 [⋯]

• Summit puts medical tourism and preventive healthcare at center of growth plans (2026-11-06 00:38)

Macau's tourism industry should expand into preventive healthcare and longevity services, medical and business leaders said Thursday at the inaugural Greater Bay Area Health and Longevity Summit. Melco chairman and CEO Lawrence Ho linked the initiative to Macau's "1+4" economic diversification strategy, which identifies healthcare as a growth industry alongside the city's tourism base. "We believe the future of premium travel lies where world-class hospitality meets cutting-edge wellness," Ho said in his opening remarks. He also pointed to the newly launched iRad Hospital at Studio City as an example of combining diagnostic imaging, health assessments and longevity services with resort [⋯]

• Gov't recovers another four land parcels for temporary parking lot (2026-11-06 00:36)

The Land and Urban Construction Bureau (DSSCU) announced that the government had carried out a joint interdepartmental operation to reclaim four state-owned plots of land along Estrada do Canal dos Patos in northern Macau. The reclaimed plots are part of a group of 39 parcels previously designated for temporary-use projects. In this case, the land parcels will be handed over to the Public Works Bureau (DSOP) to build a temporary parking lot, DSSCU added. The plots are located at the intersection of Estrada do Canal dos Patos, Travessa do Canal dos Patos and Travessa do Narciso. They comprise three plots [⋯]

• Gov't moves to remove more than 100 road manhole covers (2026-11-06 00:34)

The government has set up a working group to reduce the number of manhole covers on the city's roads, with eight projects so far adopting measures expected to eliminate more than 100 covers, the Central District Community Service Consultative Committee heard on Thursday. The committee held its 11th regular meeting of the year, at which it invited representatives from the Public Works Bureau (DSOP), Transport Bureau (DSAT), Environmental Protection Bureau (DSPA) and Post and Telecommunications Bureau (CTT) to brief members on progress. The Northeast Avenue elevated walkway project, which is now undergoing sewer connections and road restoration, is expected to [⋯]

- MUST smart campus platform wins international communication award (2026-11-06 00:32)

The Macau University of Science and Technology (MUST) has won first place in the Excellence in Digital Community Engagement category at the 2026 Sharjah Government Communication Award for its internally developed WeMust Smart Campus platform. The awards ceremony was held Nov. 2 in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates. MUST said it was the first institution in China to receive the award. Vice president Tong Ka Lok, who oversees the project's strategic planning, accepted the award on behalf of the university. Organized by the Sharjah Government Media Bureau, the awards recognize projects in government communication and public engagement. This year's edition received [⋯]

- Facial recognition clearance reaches 19.7 million uses in first year (2026-11-06 00:28)

All 250 joint-inspection self-service channels at Macau's cooperative border checkpoints now use facial recognition clearance, marking the first anniversary of the measure yesterday, the Public Security Police Force (PSP) said. As of the end of last month, 664,000 people had registered for smart clearance at Guangdong-Macau checkpoints, with 19.66 million uses recorded in total – 10.28 million at Hengqin, 9.15 million at Qingmao and 228,000 at the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge's Zhuhai-Macau hall. Facial recognition clearance for the joint one-stop vehicle lane at Hengqin began on May 7, with 32,000 registrations and 1.43 million uses, accounting for nearly 71.6% of all [⋯]

- Trump has defied political consequences for years. The midterms changed that (2026-11-06 00:02)

For more than a decade, Donald Trump defied the rules of politics that applied to everyone else. Tuesday's elections changed that. Voters categorically repudiated a president who imposed unilateral tariffs that undermined the economy and started a war that raised fuel prices and angered Americans opposed to another Middle East conflict. His outside investments and Washington renovations reinforced perceptions that he showed little empathy for people struggling financially. Having survived scandals, impeachments and a criminal conviction, Trump approached the midterms as another hurdle he could clear through personality, insisting the economy was fine and war with Iran was necessary to [⋯]

- Friday, November 6, 2026 – edition no. 5069 (2026-11-06 00:01)

* Baby blues — Residents demand stronger housing assistance, job security and parental leave as mounting financial pressures weigh on decisions to start families * Fans on the move | 85% of Macau concertgoers travel outside the city for performances * Taste of Edesia * Profit wipeout: Melco's third-quarter earnings plunge to near zero as gaming weakness drives revenue down 10% and debt pressures mount * Macau eyes medical tourism and preventive healthcare as new growth engines * Bomb scares: Multiple flights across Europe face diversions, emergency landings and fighter jet escorts following another wave of threats DOWNLOAD PDF [⋯]

- Multiple flights in Europe diverted because of bomb threats after earlier hoaxes (2026-11-05 13:27)

MILAN — Multiple flights in Europe were targeted by bomb threats on Thursday, forcing emergency landings, searches and in several cases military escorts, in fresh disruptions following hoax threats earlier this week. More than a dozen flights from cities including Copenhagen, Dublin, Helsinki, Madrid, Milan and Warsaw were confirmed to have been targeted with bomb threats, most diverted to other airports for emergency landings while others landed safely at their destinations. So far inspections have not turned up hazardous or suspicious materials. Such threats are not new, but the latest incidents come at a time of increased geopolitical tensions and [⋯]

- Delivery riders consider return to petrol bikes over EV reliability concerns (2026-11-05 00:56)

Several riders working for food and goods delivery platforms are considering returning to petrol-powered motorcycles, the Times has learned. According to a rider who switched to electric vehicles (EVs) less than a year ago, the new vehicles have experienced reliability issues that are jeopardizing his business and reducing his earnings. He also said other riders are facing similar problems. Speaking to the Times, Viktor Chan, one of the riders affected, said, "I bought the [EV] bike less than 8 months ago, and it has already broken down twice." Chan noted that, beyond reliability, riders face another issue: the manufacturer's refusal [⋯]

- Woman in critical condition after bus hits wheelchair user (2026-11-05 00:54)

A woman in her 90s who uses a wheelchair was struck by a bus and trapped underneath it at a signalized pedestrian crossing on Rua do Guimarães Wednesday morning. As of approximately 5 p.m. yesterday, the injured woman was conscious but suffered multiple fractures and required surgical intervention, according to the Public Security Police (PSP). Officers said it received a report at 10:53 a.m. They found the local woman injured and pinned beneath the bus. Firefighters freed her before she was taken to Conde S. Januário Hospital. The local male bus driver, in his 30s, tested negative [⋯]

- Bus operators renewed for six years with LRT transfer requirements (2026-11-05 00:52)

Macau's two bus operators have been granted six-year contract extensions, with new terms requiring greener fleets and greater coordination with the Light Rapid Transit (LRT) system, following the expiration of their existing contracts at the end of the year. Under the new contracts, effective January 1, all newly registered operational vehicles must be new-energy vehicles with low-floor designs and step-free boarding at the doors. Vehicles with more than two doors may have additional steps at the rear door. By January 1, 2030, the operators – Sociedade de Transportes Colectivos de Macau, S.A. (TCM) and Transportes Urbanos de Macau S.A.R.L. (Transmac) [⋯]

- LVS chief Dumont and wife take controlling 69% stake in Mavericks (2026-11-05 00:50)

Las Vegas Sands chairman and CEO Patrick Dumont and his wife, Sivan, have acquired Miriam Adelson's shares in the Dallas Mavericks, giving the couple a controlling 69% stake in the NBA franchise, which played in Macau last month, according to ESPN. The transaction, reported Tuesday, shifts ownership within the family that bought control of the team from Mark Cuban in December 2023 at a $3.5 billion valuation. Adelson, Sivan's mother and Dumont's mother-in-law, previously led the ownership group, while Dumont became the Mavericks' governor and representative on the NBA's board. ESPN's Tim MacMahon reported that the purchase took place in [⋯]

- DSAL reports 3,897 workplace accident victims, four deaths (2026-11-05 00:48)

The city's cultural and recreational services sector and its hotel and restaurant industry accounted for more than half of all workplace accident victims recorded in the first nine months of the year, as authorities reported nearly 3,900 workers injured and four fatalities. A total of 3,897 workers suffered occupational accidents between January and September, a 0.85% increase from the same period last year, according to figures released by the Labour Affairs Bureau (DSAL). Four workers died, while seven sustained permanent disabilities. The latter figure marked a sharp decline from the 71 cases recorded in the first nine months of 2025, [⋯]

- Democrats win House and Senate as voters rebuke Trump and Republicans (2026-11-05 00:46)

Democrats won control of both chambers of Congress, delivering a decisive rebuke of Republican governance and ushering in a new era of congressional resistance to President Donald Trump. Tuesday's midterm (yesterday, Macau time) elections laid bare voters' frustrations over high prices, the Iran war and government corruption. Democrats flipped states that have voted Republican for decades and that Trump won by double digits two years ago. James Talarico won a stunning Senate victory in Texas, where no Democrat had won statewide office in more than 30 years. Annie Andrews upset Sen. Darline Graham in South Carolina. Trump had thrown his [⋯]

- Two passport stories, one question of belonging (2026-11-05 00:44)

Two stories about Macau passports have surfaced in recent weeks, and together they raise something more interesting than either does alone: who gets to decide what a Macau document – or a Macau identity – means? The first is bureaucratic. A Macau Special Administrative Region (SAR) passport holder was refused boarding at Beijing airport while transiting to Mexico, despite a valid visa-free arrangement. Ground staff cited an internal WeChat message saying Macau passports were now treated as Chinese ones. The Identification Services Bureau checked with the Mexican consulate in Hong Kong, which confirmed that the policy was unchanged and found [⋯]

• Four universities improve in QS Asia rankings (2026-11-05 00:42)

All four local universities included in the QS World University Rankings: Asia 2027 improved their positions, according to the latest rankings released by global higher education research organization Quacquarelli Symonds (QS). The University of Macau climbed six places to 96th, while Macau University of Science and Technology rose 21 places to 190th. Macau Polytechnic University recorded the largest improvement among the four institutions, moving up 96 places to 306th. City University of Macau advanced 63 places to 370th. The University of Hong Kong retained the top position, followed by Peking University and Tsinghua University in second and third place, respectively. [⋯]

• IAS increases number of family mediators to 57 (2026-11-05 00:40)

The SAR now has 57 family mediators following the appointment of 12 additional professionals by the Social Welfare Bureau (IAS), the bureau said. The second batch of appointees all hold valid social worker registration certificates and have extensive experience in family services. Before taking up their roles, the mediators completed professional training covering family mediation laws, report writing, procedural guidelines, judicial practices and practical case-sharing sessions.

• Elderly man loses MOP2 million in online investment scam (2026-11-05 00:38)

A local elderly man reported losing about MOP2.03 million in an online investment scam after being persuaded to invest in stocks by a woman he met on social media, the Judiciary Police said. The victim met the woman in September and downloaded an investment app at her instruction. Between September and Oct. 28, he transferred a total of RMB575,000 to designated mainland bank accounts. He also handed over HKD1.3 million in cash to a man designated by the scammer in three separate meetings outside his North District residence over three consecutive days from Oct. 28. The victim later discussed the [⋯]

• Thursday, November 5, 2026 – edition no. 5068 (2026-11-05 00:01)

* Charged Down — Less than a year after switching to electric bikes, some delivery riders are considering a return to petrol-powered bikes over reliability concerns, the Times has learned * Ponte 16 Crossing | Woman critical after being struck by bus in wheelchair * Transport | Bus operators renewed for six years, with LRT transfer requirements * Las Vegas Sands CEO Patrick

Dumont and wife Sivan acquire 69% stake in the Mavericks, which played in Macau last month, ESPN reports * Macau records nearly 3,900 workplace accident victims, four deaths * USA: Democrats seize control of Congress, flipping Republican [⋯]

• Over 80% of full-time carers want to work but face barriers, survey finds (2026-11-04 00:50)

More than 80% of full-time family carers want to return to work but find it difficult, according to a Women's General Association survey on balancing family and career, which found that nearly 40% of women spend more than four hours a day on caregiving and more than half bear the main caregiving responsibility. The survey, which combined questionnaires and in-depth interviews conducted between September and October, collected 672 responses and included interviews with 16 women, mostly aged 26 to 45 and with tertiary qualifications. Nearly 45% of respondents said they had chosen jobs with stable hours but fewer opportunities or [⋯]

• Casinos Gaming growth to stall below 1% as high-end demand weakens (2026-11-04 00:48)

Macau's gaming revenue is expected to grow by less than 1% in 2026, according to separate brokerage assessments, with weaker high-end demand prolonging the market's downturn. Seaport Research Partners forecasts annual gross gaming revenue (GGR) growth of 0.9%, following October's 10% year-over-year decline to MOP21.68 billion. Its outlook, issued Sunday, anticipates further weakness in November before conditions improve toward year-end. "We forecast November to remain soft with GGR down 6.1 percent year-on-year, while fourth-quarter GGR is expected to be down 5.2 percent year-on-year," senior analyst Vitaly Umansky wrote. The annual forecast implies revenue of approximately MOP249.6 billion, based on 2025's [⋯]

• Hengqin university project drives Macao Foundation grants to MOP1.93 billion (2026-11-04 00:46)

Two universities developing a joint campus in Hengqin accounted for most of the Macao Foundation's (FM) more than MOP1.93 billion in grants distributed in the third quarter, as funding for the project pushed the quarterly total to nearly 16 times its level a year earlier. The Macao University of Tourism and Macao Polytechnic University each received MOP885.32 million to purchase land for the planned campus, according to the foundation's latest grant disclosures. The combined allocations accounted for the vast majority of the quarter's funding. The total was also more than 10 times the MOP190.22 million distributed in the second quarter [⋯]

• Preliminary figures point to GDP growth of 2.9% in the first nine months (2026-11-04 00:44)

The local economy grew steadily in the first three quarters of this year, with preliminary figures showing gross domestic product (GDP) expanding by 2.9% year over year in real terms to MOP316.13 billion, according to the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC). DSEC said overall

economic output was 89.8% of the level recorded in the same period in 2019 (pre-pandemic). Service exports grew 3.4% year over year in the first three quarters, driven by rising visitor arrivals, DSEC noted, attributing this growth to government efforts to boost visitation and a succession of large-scale themed events. Meanwhile, gross fixed capital formation grew [⋯]

• Union Hospital takes on larger share of public healthcare workload (2026-11-04 00:42)

The Islands Healthcare Complex is taking on a growing share of the public healthcare workload, performing nearly three in 10 public-sector surgeries and handling more than 15% of emergency services by August, according to the Health Bureau (SSM). The data shows a gradual transfer of patient care to the facility, which opened in September 2024 to ease capacity at Conde de São Januário Hospital and increase treatment access. In a written reply to lawmaker Ngan Iek Hang, the bureau said the Macau Union Medical Center had conducted 44,000 specialist outpatient consultations and 32,000 diagnostic imaging examinations between January and August. [⋯]

• Seven children placed in foster families since scheme launch (2026-11-04 00:40)

Seven children and young people have been placed in foster families since Macau’s foster care service began, with figures standing at June 2026, the Social Welfare Bureau (IAS) said, adding that recruitment continues even though no children are currently awaiting placement. Applications opened on the Macao One Account platform in mid-May with no deadline. Foster families receive MOP2,000 upon the first placement, MOP5,438 a month for the child’s expenses and a MOP7,690 monthly allowance for the foster parents. In response to public concern that some might be drawn by subsidies rather than genuine care, the bureau said it conducts strict [⋯]

• Macau passport holder denied boarding to Mexico despite valid visa-free arrangement (2026-11-04 00:38)

A Macau special administrative region (SAR) passport holder was refused boarding on a flight to Mexico despite being eligible for visa-free entry, prompting the Identification Services Bureau (DSI) to confirm with Mexico’s consulate in Hong Kong that the policy remains unchanged. The resident wrote on social media that they had spent six months preparing for a trip to Mexico’s Day of the Dead festival, but were turned away by Hainan Airlines staff while transiting through Beijing. “At the counter in Beijing Capital, the ground staff glanced at our passports and said Macau passports don’t qualify for visa-free entry to Mexico [⋯]

• Macau, Hengqin add 61 remote government services (2026-11-04 00:36)

Macau residents can now access 61 additional government services through remote service counters linking the SAR and the Hengqin Cooperation Zone. Announced Tuesday, the new services cover social security, immigration, driving, taxation, education, sports, intellectual property and pharmaceutical affairs. Counters in Hengqin added 47 Macau services, while counters in Macau added 14 Hengqin services, bringing the total to 353. The SAR government

said it would continue working with the Hengqin Cooperation Zone to improve the userexperience and introduce additional services through different channels, allowing Macauresidents to “handle their affairs more conveniently.”

• Gov’t to survey building conditions in historic district (2026-11-04 00:34)

Macau will begin surveying building conditions around St. Paul’s Ruins on Nov. 4, starting with properties in the Rua dos Ervanários and Rua da Palha areas, as part of efforts to support targeted urban renewal. The Land and Urban Construction Bureau will conduct on-site inspections and photograph building structures, utilities and maintenance conditions. The survey will later expand to other areas, prioritising older districts. The data will help the government assess building conditions and formulate renewal measures, the Urban Renewal Committee said yesterday.

• Beijing urges Macau, Hong Kong to align five-year plans with national development (2026-11-04 00:32)

China’s central authorities have urged Macau and Hong Kong to align their development plans with the country’s 15th Five-Year Plan, strengthen governance and contribute more actively to national development. In an article published in the People’s Daily, the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office said the two cities should leverage their strengths to meet national needs, while implementing their own five-year plans. It also stressed the importance of upholding the “patriots governing Macau and Hong Kong” principle and improving governance under the law.

• The hidden cost of artificial intimacy (2026-11-03 00:02)

Artificial intelligence promises something human relationships rarely deliver: attention without interruption, companionship without inconvenience and reassurance on demand. For someone who feels lonely, misunderstood or rejected, that promise can be powerful. But the growing appeal of artificial intimacy raises a question we cannot leave to technology companies: what happens when our need for connection becomes a business model? The feelings involved may be entirely real. A person can develop affection, trust or even love for a chatbot. The system, however, offers no demonstrated emotional experience in return. Its language can suggest concern, remember personal details and imitate tenderness. None of […]

• 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 [⋯]