

News Digest

SUNDAY . JUNE 28, 2026

The Brief Today's Headlines

01Iran and the USA exchanged missile and drone attacks for a second consecutive night, escalating tensions in the Persian Gulf.

02Romania faces a political crisis as the PACE parliamentary group proposes Patriarch Daniel for Prime Minister.

03The Bank for International Settlements warns that AI investment 'exuberance' risks ending in a lengthy bust.

04Romania's National Bank (BNR) reported a 2.35 billion lei profit for 2025, contrasting with losses at the ECB and Fed.

Romania 4 dispatches

Patriarch Daniel Proposed for Prime Minister by PACE Group

The PACE parliamentary group has proposed Patriarch Daniel as the next Prime Minister to resolve Romania's ongoing political crisis. Senator Clement Sava argues this is the only formula to secure a solid majority and overcome the institutional impasse.

Sources Antena 3

BNR Reports 2.35 Billion Lei Profit While Other Central Banks Lose

The National Bank of Romania (BNR) achieved a profit of 2.35 billion lei in 2025, standing in contrast to losses reported by the ECB and Federal Reserve. This performance highlights the BNR's unique financial position amidst global central bank challenges.

Sources Ziarul Financiar

Related [Official Bank Ranking in Romania After 2025 M&A Wave](#) [International Tourists Spend 1.5 Billion Lei in Romania Q1 2026](#)

Official Bank Ranking in Romania After 2025 M&A Wave

The number of banks in Romania decreased to 29 in 2025 following major mergers, including Banca Transilvania's acquisition of OTP. Banca Transilvania, BCR, and CEC Bank remain the top three by assets as the sector consolidates.

Sources Ziarul Financiar

Related [BNR Reports 2.35 Billion Lei Profit While Other Central Banks Lose](#)

International Tourists Spend 1.5 Billion Lei in Romania Q1 2026

Nearly 391,000 international tourists spent approximately 1.5 billion lei in Romania during the first three months of 2026. Business travelers accounted for the majority of spending, primarily on hotels and meals.

Sources Antena 3

Related [BNR Reports 2.35 Billion Lei Profit While Other Central Banks Lose](#)

Technology 2 dispatches

Chinese AI Model Matches Anthropic in Cybersecurity Tasks

Zhipu AI's GLM-5.2 model has emerged as a competitive alternative to Anthropic's models in cybersecurity scenarios. This development highlights a narrowing capability gap between US and Chinese AI technologies.

Sources ZeroHedge

Related [BIS Warns AI 'Exuberance' Risks Ending in Investment Bust](#)

US Agency Cancels Contract for Warrantless Mobile Device Tracking

The ATF has cancelled its contract for the Webloc surveillance tool following concerns about the legality of warrantless mobile tracking. Lawmakers and judges raised questions about the constitutionality of using bulk commercial location data.

Sources Slashdot

Finance 5 dispatches

BIS Warns AI 'Exuberance' Risks Ending in Investment Bust

The Bank for International Settlements has warned that current AI investment exuberance risks ending in a lengthy bust similar to previous tech bubbles. Financial leaders are urged to monitor the sustainability of valuations in the sector.

Sources Financial Times

Related AI IPO Market Freezes While Nuclear SPACs Run Hot.Chinese AI Model Matches Anthropic in Cybersecurity Tasks

AI IPO Market Freezes While Nuclear SPACs Run Hot

While the IPO market for AI companies has frozen, the nuclear SPAC market is seeing significant activity with companies like NuCube debuting publicly. Investors are shifting focus towards energy security themes driven by AI power demands.

Sources ZeroHedge

Related BIS Warns AI 'Exuberance' Risks Ending in Investment Bust

Aramco Helicopter Crash Kills 14 in Saudi Port

A helicopter operated by Saudi Aramco crashed in the coastal city of Ras Tanura, killing all 14 people on board. The cause of the incident remains unknown as investigations begin into the tragedy.

Sources Biziday.Financial Times

Europeans Leaving Own Countries in Significant Outflow

Many European countries are experiencing a significant outflow of native-born citizens, with only Lithuania and Bulgaria recording net gains. Economic opportunity and housing affordability are driving this demographic shift.

Sources ZeroHedge

ECB Employee Sanctioned After Campaigning for 'Dictator' Role

The European Central Bank sanctioned an employee who campaigned for a 'Supreme Consultative Dictatorship' during internal elections. The bank deemed the campaign's military imagery and hyperbolic language incompatible with ethical standards.

Sources Antena 3

General 5 dispatches

Iran and USA Exchange Attacks for Second Night

Iranian Guards launched rockets and drones at military bases in Kuwait and Bahrain, while the US Central Command expanded strikes on Iranian targets. This marks the second consecutive night of reciprocal military action between the two nations.

Sources Biziday

[Related](#) Putin Says Russia Faces Fuel Shortages After Ukraine Drone Strikes

Putin Says Russia Faces Fuel Shortages After Ukraine Drone Strikes

Vladimir Putin stated that Russia is facing fuel shortages following Ukrainian drone strikes on refineries. The attacks highlight the ongoing impact of the conflict on energy infrastructure.

Sources Financial Times

[Related](#) Iran and USA Exchange Attacks for Second Night

World Cup 2026 Round of 16 Schedule Released

The complete schedule for the World Cup 2026 Round of 16 has been announced, featuring key matchups like Brazil vs Japan and France vs Sweden. England faces a challenging path potentially leading to a quarter-final against Brazil.

Sources Antena 3 BBC News

[Related](#) George Russell Wins Austrian Grand Prix

George Russell Wins Austrian Grand Prix

Mercedes pilot George Russell secured victory at the Austrian Grand Prix, marking his second success of the season. The race results impact the championship standings as teams head into the final stages.

Sources Antena 3

[Related](#) World Cup 2026 Round of 16 Schedule Released

Trump Photo Added to New US Passport Design

A new optional US passport edition featuring President Donald Trump's photo will be available starting July 6. The design includes patriotic themes and marks the first time a US president appears on the document.

Sources Biziday