



Weekly Global Security Briefing

Reporting period: 18-24 May 2026

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REGIONAL RISK SNAPSHOT — WEEK AT A GLANCE

Europe/Maritime

MODERATE

Institutionally stable; maritime early signals require corroboration.

Middle East/Maritime

ELEVATED

Regional volatility and maritime warning signals require close monitoring.

Africa

ELEVATED

Humanitarian-security pressures shape DRC, Sudan, CAR and South Sudan.

Latin America/Caribbean

HIGH

Organized crime and political security debates elevate operational exposure.

Cyber

HIGH

Critical infrastructure and enterprise perimeter risks remain active.

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Executive summary

The week of 18-24 May 2026 was shaped by tactical movement in the Russia-Ukraine war, a harder Iranian posture around the Strait of Hormuz and persistent criminal and humanitarian pressure in Latin America and the Sahel. Ukrainian forces made localized gains southeast of Borova. Russia responded with large drone and missile attacks and conducted nuclear exercises with Belarus.

In the Middle East, Iranian reporting around Hormuz and a reported drone incident at the Barakah nuclear power plant kept maritime and energy risk in focus. The Sahel remained under severe humanitarian and security pressure. In the Indo-Pacific, the Sabina Shoal standoff and activity around the Taiwan Strait reinforced persistent maritime risk below the level of open conflict.

SF Custos Global assesses the week as a reminder that companies should treat logistics, energy exposure, travel security and cyber resilience as connected risk areas rather than separate issues.

Key takeaways

The week was operationally relevant for companies with international travel, logistics, energy or infrastructure exposure.

Source facts and SF Custos Global assessment are separated.

X, social-media and single-source signals should be treated as supporting indicators unless corroborated.

Companies should keep decisions tied to location, route, personnel exposure and insurance conditions.

Regional risk picture

Europe / Russia-Ukraine: elevated to high depending on location. Infrastructure, air defense, energy and logistics remain the main corporate exposure points.

Middle East / maritime: elevated. Iran-linked tensions, the Red Sea and Hormuz continue to affect maritime planning and energy risk.

Africa: elevated to high in conflict-affected areas. Humanitarian access, terrorism, armed groups and political instability remain relevant.

Latin America / Caribbean: elevated. Organized crime, political pressure and governance gaps affect travel, operations and NGOs.

Indo-Pacific: structurally elevated. Taiwan, China, North Korea and maritime routes remain relevant for supply chains and business travel.

Cyber: high for exposed infrastructure and corporate networks.

Global assessment

SF Custos Global assesses the reporting period as a broad operational risk picture rather than a single-event crisis. Companies should avoid reacting to isolated signals without context. The better approach is to maintain a concise weekly operating picture covering travel, logistics, energy, data links, insurance and critical suppliers.

Selected sources

Local weekly source map and previously reviewed open-source reporting for 18-24 May 2026.

Institute for the Study of War and Critical Threats Project reporting where directly relevant and not used as sole attribution.

Reuters, official statements, UN/NGO reporting, maritime advisories and cyber advisories where available in the local source pack.

Method note

This briefing uses open-source reporting and SF Custos Global analytical review. It is intended as a decision-support product and does not replace legal, insurance or country-specific professional advice.