

CrisisWatch 2024 – July Trends and August Alerts

North America

▶ United States (Internal) Would-be assassin injured Republican candidate Donald Trump, and President Biden ended his re-election bid.

Trump survived assassination attempt at campaign rally. Lone gunman 13 July shot at former president and Republican party nominee Donald Trump during campaign event in state of Pennsylvania. Shooter, whose motives remain unclear, pierced Trump's right ear, killed one spectator and injured two others before being killed by snipers. Trump steered clear of escalatory rhetoric in immediate aftermath of attack, 14 July saying "it is more important than ever that we stand united", but subsequently resumed confrontational attacks on his opponents; President Biden, meanwhile, 14 July urged country to "lower the temperature" amid deepening polarisation ahead of Nov presidential election.

Biden abandoned his presidential campaign. Biden 21 July announced he was withdrawing from presidential race and immediately endorsed VP Harris as his successor. Announcement followed weeks of mounting pressure to step down amid concerns about his fitness for another term. In 24 July address, Biden said move was "the best way to unite our nation", while vowing to see out his term.