

Tragedy of Mariupol, an EU deal, the fall of Saddam and Shylock

A year on from the invasion of Ukraine and there seems little end in sight to a conflict that has, unquestionably, changed the world. Our big story this week outlines five possible routes to peace (some more hopeful than others), but the main focus is a stunning collaboration from Guardian reporters detailing the fate of the port of Mariupol, the battle for which has perhaps been the bloodiest and most shocking chapter of the war to date. **The big story** [Page 12](#) →

The UK government finally agreed a deal with the EU to end a long-running Brexit dispute over customs arrangements and legal oversight in Northern Ireland. Our Brexit correspondent Lisa O'Carroll unpicks the key points of the new agreement and what it means for the region. **Spotlight** [Page 24](#) →

In 2003, when the US army occupied Iraq after the fall of Saddam Hussein, the Guardian writer Ghaith Abdul-Ahad was aged 28 and living in Baghdad. He recounts his front-row view of the fall of the regime, the arrival of the so-called liberators and the unfolding of a sectarian war. **Baghdad memories** [Page 34](#) →

Shylock, the Jewish money lender in Shakespeare's The Merchant of Venice, is English literature's most notorious antisemitic archetype. As a new production of the play opens, set in 1930s East End London, David Jays finds out how - and why - Jewish creatives approach the role. Then, amid controversy over the re-editing of Roald Dahl's books, Gaby Hinsliff says commercial interests should be the focus, rather than culture wars. **Culture** [From page 51](#) →



On the cover Our report on the fall of Mariupol is an extraordinary account of the devastation, partial reconstruction, and Russification of a thriving city. "You learn to only voice your opinions with those you know you can trust," says Darya, a student opposed to the occupation. "Otherwise, you keep your thoughts to yourself." **Photographs:** EPA; Reuters; SOPA; Xinhua/REX/Shutterstock; AP; Ed Ram



6-19 GLOBAL REPORT
Headlines from the last seven days
12 Ukraine Mariupol's destruction documented

20-33 SPOTLIGHT
In-depth reporting and analysis
20 Turkey/Syria Earthquake threatens coexistence
22 Italy Tragedy reopens migration debate
24 UK Northern Ireland gets a Brexit lifeline
28 El Salvador Human rights under threat by gangs
30 Environment A quest to save the giant armadillo
32 US The right seizes upon the Ohio rail disaster

34-44 FEATURES
Long reads, interviews and essays
34 The lawless US liberators of Iraq remembered
By Ghaith Abdul-Ahad
40 Are maggots and leeches the future of medicine?
By Amelia Tait

45-50 OPINION
45 Simon Tisdall
Joe Biden's 20th century democratic world vision
47 Nicholas Barber
The war movie dividing German audiences
48 Margaret Sullivan
Fox News in the dock

51-59 CULTURE
TV, film, music, theatre, art, architecture & more
51 Stage
Tracy-Ann Oberman tackles the role of Shylock
55 Music
How Leon Foster Thomas steals the show
57 Books
How the west was spun

60-61 LIFESTYLE
60 Ask Annalisa
My bed-sharing son



Join the community
Twitter: @guardianweekly
facebook.com/guardianweekly
Instagram: @guardian