

Turmoil in Israel, Odesa de-Russifies and a check on chatbots

The Knesset vote last week to curtail the power of Israel's supreme court deals a blow to the country's status quo.

For months, ordinary Israelis have been on the streets protesting against prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his rightwing government's plans. Now thousands of army reservists are threatening to refuse duty. Our Jerusalem correspondent Bethan McKernan reports on why reservists are hanging up their boots in protest and what acts of civil disobedience mean for Israel's stability and security. And Jonathan Freedland looks at the parallels between Netanyahu and Donald Trump, both strongman leaders facing criminal trials and determined to use political processes to circumvent personal responsibility.

The big story [Page 10](#) →

We return to Odesa after last month's terrible airstrike on the cathedral to discover how Moscow's determination to break the spirit of the historic city has in fact solidified support to de-Russify its culture.

Shaun Walker talks to museum staff considering what to do with the statue of Odesa's founder, Catherine the Great, taken down from its plinth and lying in the museum's store, and he meets the mayor, who was once suspected of being pro-Moscow but has been turned by war into a staunch Ukrainian patriot.

Spotlight [Page 15](#) →

Another figure who changed his mind is the subject of our main feature.

Computer scientist Joseph Weizenbaum created the first chatbot. Eliza was programmed to act like a human psychotherapist, but as he observed how humans interacted with his software, Weizenbaum delved further into understanding the difference between human and artificial intelligence and determined that the line between the two should not be blurred.

And if you are looking for your next read or to discover a new author, our Culture feature on the growing popularity of international fiction will provide inspiration. Translators and publishers talk about the writers who are gaining new English-speaking fans.

Feature [Page 34](#) →; **Culture** [Page 51](#) →



4-14 GLOBAL REPORT
Headlines from the last seven days
10 **Israel** Defiance in the face of Netanyahu's plans

15-33 SPOTLIGHT
In-depth reporting and analysis
15 **Ukraine** Odesa cuts its historical ties with Russia
18 **China** Farm life a step too far for young graduates
23 **UK** Sunak loses his appetite for green issues
24 **Environment** In the footsteps of Gilbert White
29 **Pakistan** The benju player making a mark in his 70s
30 **Science** New drugs to help schizophrenia patients

34-44 FEATURES
Long reads, interviews and essays
34 The computer scientist who helped give life to AI
By *Ben Tarnoff*
40 The many lives of Stormzy
By *Charlie Brinkhurst-Cuff*

45-50 OPINION
45 **Larry Elliott**
It's time to bail out Earth
47 **Hannah Rudd**
Don't panic about sharks
48 **Andrew Anthony**
The influence of Farage

51-59 CULTURE
TV, film, music, theatre, art, architecture & more
51 **Books**
A new generation's love for translated fiction
55 **Books**
The philosophical lives of four visionary women
58 **Photography**
An exile's tribute to Hong Kong's quieter corners

60-61 LIFESTYLE
60 **Ask Annalisa**
A husband's lack of friends
61 **Recipe**
Tomato galette



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

SPOT ILLUSTRATIONS:
MATT BLEASE



On the cover
Conflict over Benjamin Netanyahu's plans to overhaul the judiciary has led to new levels of civil disobedience as society is pulled in contradictory directions. "This is the greatest crisis for Israeli society since the Yom Kippur war," said Yair Golan, a leftwing politician and former major general.

Illustration: Guardian Design