



Gaza's bleak outlook, was this a good Cop, and reasons to read on

Israel's troops reached the heart of Khan Younis early this week, as the focus of its relentless war on Hamas shifted to the south of Gaza. Peter Beaumont reports, detailing bleak scenes in the city. Then, opinion writer Jonathan Freedland argues that if Israel is hoping to slay the Hamas monster, its lethal bombardment of Gaza is merely feeding it.

The big story [Page 12](#) →

With closing statements at the Cop28 climate conference expected this week, Jonathan Watts sets the scene by reminding us what might happen if the 1.5C target for global heating is missed. And Colombia's president, Gustavo Petro, tells Patrick Greenfield why he thinks fears that green policies that lead to reduced living standards are driving the rise of the far right across the world.

Spotlight [Page 17](#) →

Our 2023 Christmas appeal has launched, helping charities that support refugees to rebuild their lives in safety. It's the timeliest of appeals, given the controversies surrounding the Rwanda bill in the UK, and also alongside an investigation revealing more than a thousand unmarked graves along migration routes in the EU.

Charity appeal [Page 24](#) →

Finally, as the year nears its end and the holiday season approaches, our entire Culture section is devoted to the best books of 2023. Whether it's fiction, food, politics or people, you'll find great reading to keep you or a loved one happily engrossed into the new year.

The best books of 2023 [From page 51](#) →



On the cover The horror of life in Khan Younis under Israeli bombs is captured by Belal Khaled's arresting cover photograph. As many wonder when will it all end, for Jonathan Freedland a more pertinent question might be: "Why is the fighting still going on more than two months after the massacre by Hamas? As those demanding a ceasefire might put it, surely Israel ... has made its point?" *Photo: Belal Khaled/Anadolu/Getty*



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