StarNews

THE DAILY BRIEFING
Monday 2 November 2026

Good morning. Here are the stories shaping Kenya today, from the StarNews newsroom in Nairobi. Tap any headline to read the full story online.

| KES / USD | INFLATION | PETROL (NAIROBI) | FX RESERVES |
|---|---|---|---|
| **129.89** | **6.8%** | **Ksh226.96** | **$14.69B** |
| CBK rate, 16 Oct | September, up from 6.6% | Up Ksh12.93 from 15 Oct | 5.9 months of import cover |

## TODAY'S TOP STORIES

POLITICS

### Sakaja quits UDA for ODM and says he will defend the Nairobi seat on its ticket

ODM says he will still have to win the party's primaries, where Makadara MP George Aladwa is also seen as a contender.

Nairobi Governor Johnson Sakaja has left President William Ruto's United Democratic Alliance (UDA) and joined the Orange Democratic Movement (ODM), saying he will seek a second term in 2027 on the ODM ticket. He announced the move on Monday at ODM's headquarters, Chungwa House, in Nairobi, where party officials including deputy party leader Simba Arati received him, Kenyans.co.ke reported.

**Read the full story on starnews.website ›**

SPORTS

### Chepkirui wins New York Marathon again as Kenyan women take four of the top five places

She won in 2:24:36, six seconds ahead of American Jess McClain. Defending champion Hellen Obiri was third.

Kenya's Sheila Chepkirui won the women's race at the New York City Marathon on Sunday in 2 hours 24 minutes 36 seconds. It is her second New York title, after her first win in 2024. She finished six seconds ahead of American Jess McClain.

**Read the full story on starnews.website ›**

POLITICS

### Ruto says Putin has agreed Russia will stop recruiting Kenyans into its army

Ruto says a Kenyan defence attaché in Moscow will work with Russia on compensation and the return of Kenyans who went to fight.

President William Ruto says Russia will no longer recruit Kenyans into its military, after he held talks with President Vladimir Putin at the Kremlin in Moscow on Friday. Ruto said Putin confirmed that Kenya has been classed as a "non-source country" for recruitment into the Russian army.

**Read the full story on starnews.website ›**

## ALSO THIS WEEK

| | |
|---|---|
| POLITICS | Sifuna opens Linda Mwananchi headquarters as Kalonzo is booed over 2027 flagbearer |
| POLITICS | Court refuses to lift orders blocking TSC rules on teachers' social media use |
| SPORTS | Bayern Munich and Ajax to open Raila Odinga International Stadium on 5 January |
| POLITICS | Mudavadi welcomes UAE candidate for UN chief, but PS Sing'oei says Kenya backs no one yet |
| BUSINESS | Ruto defends Dangote's Kenya Pipeline stake and says any Kenyan can buy the shares |
| POLITICS | Protest victims have until 14 November to file compensation claims, panel says |
| POLITICS | Ruto flies to Moscow for Russia-Africa summit to seek new markets and investment |
| POLITICS | Waititu apologises in court and asks for a lighter sentence in Sh588 million roads tender case |

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