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# USA OUTLOOK

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Foto: AP News

## Biden urges unity to stem racial hate after Buffalo shooting

President Joe Biden urged unity Sunday to address the “hate that remains a stain on the soul of America” after a deadly mass shooting at a supermarket in Buffalo, New York, while state officials pleaded for federal action to end the “uniquely American phenomenon” of mass shootings.

Addressing an annual law enforcement ceremony at the U.S. Capitol, Biden said he and his wife, Jill, pray for those who were shot “by a lone gunman, armed with weapons of war and hate-filled soul,” and their families.

Authorities say a white 18-year-old male in military gear opened fire on shoppers and workers at the supermarket on Saturday, killing 10 people, including a retired Buffalo police officer, and wounding three others. Most of the victims were Black.

Law enforcement officials said Sunday that the gunman had researched the local demographics while looking for places with a high concentration of Black people.

“We must all work together to address the hate that remains a stain on the soul of America,” Biden said at the 41st annual National Peace Officers’ Memorial Service honoring fallen law enforcement officers. “Our hearts are heavy once again, but the resolve must never, ever waver.”

## Stagflation in US economy is ‘unavoidable,’ famed economist El-Erian says

The onset of debilitating stagflation within the US economy is likely “unavoidable” even if the Federal Reserve manages to avoid a full-fledged recession, famed economist Mohamed El-Erian warned on Wednesday.

El-Erian, the chief economic adviser at Allianz, indicated that stagflation would take hold despite the Fed’s plan to aggressively hike interest rates to bring down decades-high inflation that hit 8.3% in April.

“[A recession] is not unavoidable but unfortunately the probability is going up. What is unavoidable is stagflation,” El-Erian said during an appearance on Bloomberg. “We’ve seen growth coming down and we’ve seen inflation remaining high and the Fed is finally catching up to developments on the ground, but it still has some way to go.”

Stagflation is a term that refers to periods where inflation remains stubbornly high even as economic growth slows or becomes stagnant. Periods of stagflation can also include high unemployment.

El-Erian said US stocks are likely to turn even lower in the days ahead — continuing a lengthy losing streak triggered by investor fears that the Fed won’t be able to engineer a “soft landing” while raising rates.



Foto: New York Post





Foto: CNBC

## The IRS may be missing out on \$50 billion a year in unpaid crypto taxes—and a crackdown is underway

The Internal Revenue Service may be missing out on more than \$50 billion a year from crypto traders not paying their taxes. And the agency is taking notice.

In a new analysis released by Barclays last week, managing director Joseph Abate estimated that the tax gap from crypto trades — the difference between how much tax revenue the IRS collects and how much it is owed — may be as much as \$50 billion per year.

Barclays made its calculation by extrapolating data referenced by the IRS in 2017 to estimate that the current crypto tax gap represents a full 10% of the overall national tax gap.

However, the gap is likely much larger, according to Barclays. That's because "much of the DeFi activity occurring today did not exist four years ago." DeFi, which stands for decentralized finance, aims to recreate traditional financial systems, such as banks and exchanges, with cryptocurrency. Most run on the Ethereum blockchain.

"While all transactions may be visible on the blockchains, if all the counterparties are anonymous, it is difficult for the IRS to figure out who owes taxes," Abate writes. "Without any supporting IRS data, our sense is that the \$50 billion estimate for the crypto tax gap is probably too small."

Fuente

<https://www.cnbc.com/2022/05/18/irs-may-be-missing-out-on-50-billion-dollars-a-year-in-unpaid-crypto-taxes.html>

## Biden invokes Defense Production Act to increase supply of U.S. infant formula

The president also asked government agencies to use the Defense Department's commercial aircraft to pick up products from overseas.

President Joe Biden announced on Wednesday that he was invoking the Defense Production Act to speed up the manufacturing of U.S.-made infant formula, as well as directing government agencies to use the Defense Department's commercial aircraft to pick up products from overseas.

The DPA requires suppliers to send necessary resources to infant formula suppliers before other customers who have requested the goods. The White House also announced "Operation Fly Formula" to speed up imports. The president has asked the Department of Health and Human Services and the Agriculture Department to use Defense commercial aircraft to pick up U.S.-approved, overseas infant formula "so it can get to store shelves faster."

"Bypassing regular air freighting routes will speed up the importation and distribution of formula and serve as an immediate support as manufacturers continue to ramp up production," the announcement said. And in a letter to HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra and Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, Biden said the imports would "serve as a bridge to this ramped up production."



Foto: Internet City Blog

Fuente

<https://www.politico.com/news/2022/05/18/biden-invokes-defense-production-act-to-increase-supply-of-u-s-infant-formula-00033618>



## Retailers just sounded an alarm on inflation. It's worth heeding

Shares of retailers were pummeled on Wednesday as investors dug through the latest earnings results from Target (TGT) and Walmart (WMT), which were flush with signs that the economy is entering a period of deep uncertainty.

What's happening: Inflation is already causing consumers to pull back spending on some items as they look to cut expenses, a shift that will have major consequences for the next phase of America's recovery from the pandemic, the country's top chains revealed.

Target reported a 52% drop in profit for its most recent quarter, stunning Wall Street. The company blamed higher expenses due to ongoing supply chain disruptions, but also said rising prices had encouraged shoppers to pull back spending on non-essential items.

That left it with too much inventory of some products, especially for kitchen appliances, TVs and outdoor furniture. Its shares plunged 25% on Wednesday, their worst day since 1987.

Foto: CNN

### Target's stock gets hammered

The retailer's shares fell 25% on Wednesday, logging their worst day in more than three decades.



The results came one day after Walmart's stock logged its worst day since 1987. The country's largest retailer said its profit dropped 25% last quarter and revised its full-year expectations lower.