

[WORLDLY NEWS](#)
NPR 24 Hour Program Stream
 On Air Now
[LIVE](#)
[MY PLAYLIST](#)



DONATE

Middle East conflict

Trump reiterates threats to bomb Iran's power plants and bridges

UPDATED APRIL 6, 2026, 4:44 PM ET

Cookie Consent & Sponsorship Choices



Deepa Shivarama
 We and our partners store and access personal data, like browsing data or unique identifiers, on your device. Selecting

Accept All enables tracking technologies to support the purposes shown under we and our partners process data to provide. Selecting Reject All or withdrawing your consent will disable them. If trackers are disabled, some content and ads you see may not be as relevant to you. You can resurface this menu to change your choices or withdraw consent at any time by clicking the Cookie Settings & Opt Out link at the bottom of the webpage. Your choices will have effect within our Website. For more details, refer to our Privacy Policy.

By clicking "Accept All," you agree to the use of cookies, similar tracking and storage technologies, and information about your device to enhance your viewing, listening and user experience, personalize content, personalize messages from NPR's sponsors, provide social media features, and analyze NPR's traffic. This information is shared with social media, sponsorship, analytics, and other vendors or service providers.

We and our partners process data to provide:

Actively scan device characteristics for identification. Store and/or access information on a device. Personalised advertising and content, advertising and content measurement, audience research and services development.

List of Partners (service providers or vendors)

President Trump speaks as Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth (center) and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Dan Caine, look on during a news conference at the White House on April 6.

Alex Wong/Getty Images

[Manage Preferences](#)

Stay up to date with our *Politics newsletter*, sent weekly.

Reject All

Accept All

President Trump repeated his threats against Iran's civilian infrastructure Monday, promising destruction if a deal to end the war is not reached by Tuesday night at 8 p.m. ET.

Negotiations, he said, must include an open Strait of Hormuz.

"Every bridge in Iran will be decimated by 12 o'clock tomorrow night, where every power plant in Iran will be out of business, burning, exploding and never to be used again. I mean complete demolition by 12 o'clock, and it will happen over a period of four hours if we wanted to — we don't want that to happen," Trump told reporters during a White House press conference.

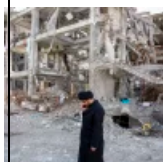
Cookie Consent & Sponsorship Choices

We and our **483** partners store and access personal data, like browsing data or unique identifiers, on your device. Selecting Accept All enables tracking technologies to support the purposes shown under we and our partners process data to provide. Selecting Reject All or withdrawing your consent will disable them. If trackers are disabled, some content and ads you see may not be as relevant to you. You can resurface this menu to change your choices or withdraw consent at any time by clicking the Cookie Settings & Opt Out link on the bottom of the webpage. Your choices will have effect within our Website. For more details, refer to our Privacy Policy.

By clicking "Accept All," you agree to the use of cookies, similar tracking and storage technologies, and information about your device to enhance your viewing, listening and user experience, personalize content, personalize messages from NPR's sponsors, provide social media features, and analyze NPR's traffic. This information is shared with social media, sponsorship, analytics, and other vendors or service providers.

When Trump launched the war with Iran more than a month ago, he gave a rough deadline of six weeks of conflict. Now, six weeks in, the president's timeline on the war and his plan for the U.S. to pull out of Iran are even more muddled. During his briefing room appearance Monday, he suggested for the first time that the U.S. might get involved in rebuilding Iran if he decides on more intensive strikes.

"We may even get involved with helping them rebuild their nation," Trump said, though he did not specify how the U.S. would support those efforts.



MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT

Iran rejects a U.S. ceasefire plan as Trump again threatens to bomb its infrastructure

Also unclear is how Trump wants to handle the Strait of Hormuz. Trump has flip-flopped on his messaging for days. He has demanded that Iran open the strait. He has told allies of the U.S. that it's up to them to open it. And on Easter Sunday, he issued a profanity-laced social media post demanding that Iran open it.

"We have to have a deal that's acceptable to me, and part of that deal is going to be, we want free traffic of oil and everything," he said Monday.

Minutes before, he said he would want the U.S. to charge tolls in the strait.

Cookie Consent & Sponsorship Choices

We and our **483** partners store and access personal data, like browsing data or unique identifiers, on your device. Selecting Accept All enables tracking technologies to support the purposes shown under we and our partners process data to provide. Selecting Reject All or withdrawing your consent will disable them. If trackers are disabled, some content and ads you see may not be as relevant to you. You can resurface this menu to change your choices or withdraw consent at any time by clicking the Cookie Settings & Opt Out link on the bottom of the webpage. Your choices will have effect within our Website. For more details, refer to our Privacy Policy.

By clicking "Accept All," you agree to the use of cookies, similar tracking and storage technologies, and information about your device to enhance your viewing, listening and user experience, personalize content, personalize messages from NPR's sponsors, provide social media features, and analyze NPR's

Asked about his mixed messages about the status of the war and whether it was winding down or ramping up amid his latest threats, he said: "I don't know. I can't tell. It depends what they do. This is a critical period. They have a period of, well, **We and our partners process data to provide.** till tomorrow, at 8 o'clock."

Trump said he can't discuss a potential ceasefire — which was presented by mediating countries to both the U.S. and Iran on Sunday — but added that the U.S. has "an active, willing participant on the other side" of negotiations.

The president was also asked whether he was concerned that the potential U.S. strikes on civilian infrastructure such as bridges and power plants would amount to war crimes under international law. But Trump said he wasn't worried.

"I hope I don't have to do it," he said.

Trump and other administration officials, including Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth and CIA Director John Ratcliffe, led off the press conference by describing the mission to rescue a downed U.S. airman whose plane was shot down by Iranian forces in western Iran last Friday.

Trump called his decision to authorize the rescue as "risky" and "hard."

"But in the U.S. military, we leave no American behind," he said. The president claimed Iran "got lucky" when it downed the U.S. fighter jet.

The news conference comes days after Trump formally addressed the nation from the White House and said the conflict could end "shortly." During that address, he criticized other countries without specifics and said it was up to others to reopen the Strait of Hormuz, the route through which 20% of the world's oil is transported.

Iran's blockade of the strait during the war has led to a jump in gas prices globally, hitting an average of \$4 per gallon last week in the United States.

Cookie Consent & Sponsorship Choices

We and our partners store and access personal data, like browsing data or unique identifiers, on your device. Selecting

Accept All enables tracking technologies to support the purposes shown under we and our partners process data to

provide. Selecting Reject All or withdrawing your consent will disable them. If trackers are disabled, some content and ads

may not be displayed. You can manage your choices in the

menu to change your choices or withdraw consent at any time

by clicking the Cookie Settings & Opt Out link on the bottom of

the webpage. Your choices will have effect within our Website.

For more details, refer to our Privacy Policy.

By clicking "Accept All," you agree to the use of cookies, similar

tracking and storage technologies, and information about your

device to enhance your viewing, listening and user experience,

personalize content, personalize messages from NPR's

sponsors, provide social media features, and analyze NPR's

traffic. This information is shared with social media,

sponsorship, analytics, and other vendors or service providers.

We and our partners process data to provide:

Actively scan device characteristics for identification. Store

and/or access information on a device. Personalised advertising

and content, advertising and content measurement, audience

research and services development.

The president has also been threatening a surge in strikes on Iran on Tuesday, unless the strait is reopened by Tuesday evening.

"Tuesday will be Power Plant Day, and Bridge Day, all wrapped up in one, in Iran," Trump said on social media over the weekend. "Open the F***in' Strait, you crazy bastards, or you'll be living in Hell - JUST WATCH!"

The post came as a trio of countries, including Pakistan, sought to mediate negotiations. They submitted a 45-day ceasefire proposal to the U.S. and Iran on Sunday. On Monday, Trump called the proposal "a significant step."

For weeks, Trump has been moving the goal posts on the administration's goals with Iran, including whether the U.S. will remove Iran's uranium stockpiles. Trump has also suggested that the U.S. could end the war but strike Iran again later if the country aims to build up nuclear defenses.

Polling shows that Americans oppose the war in Iran. Even among Republican supporters of the president, his approval rating has dipped. A CNN poll released last week showed that Republicans who strongly approve of Trump's job performance dropped to 43%, compared with 52% in January.

High costs, including gas prices, remain a top-of-mind concern for voters heading into the midterm elections in about seven months. On Monday, Trump said the high prices might last into the summer.

"We're never going to let them have a nuclear weapon," Trump said of Iran. "If we have to pay a little extra for fuel for a couple of months ... we'll do that."

Cookie Consent & Sponsorship Choices

We and our 43 partners store and access personal data while you browse our website. We use this information to improve our website, personalize our content, and to provide you with targeted advertising. We also use this information to analyze our website usage and to assist in our marketing efforts.

Accept All enables tracking technologies to support the purposes shown under We and our partners process data to provide. Selecting Reject All or Withdrawing your consent will disable the tracking technologies and disable some content and ads you see may not be as relevant to you. You can resurface this menu to change your choices or withdraw consent at any time by clicking the Cookie Settings & Opt Out link on the bottom of the webpage. Your choices will have effect within our Website.

For more details, refer to our Privacy Policy.

By clicking "Accept All," you agree to the use of cookies, similar tracking and storage technologies, and information about your device to enhance your viewing, listening and user experience, personalize content, personalize messages from NPR's sponsors, provide social media features, and analyze NPR's traffic. This information is shared with social media, sponsorship, analytics, and other vendors or service providers.

We and our partners process data to provide:

Actively scan device characteristics for identification. Store and/or access information on a device. Personalised advertising and content, advertising and content measurement, audience research and services development.



Get news alerts

Stay on top of the latest stories and developments.

SIGN UP

[See more subscription options](#)

Cookie Consent & Sponsorship Choices

By subscribing, you acknowledge and agree to NPR's [Terms of Use](#) and [Privacy Policy](#).

We and our 483 partners store and access personal data, like

browsing data or unique identifiers, on your device. Selecting

Accept All enables tracking technologies to support the

purposes shown under we and our partners process data to

provide. Selecting Reject All or withdrawing your consent will

disable them. If trackers are disabled, some content and ads

you see may not be as relevant to you. You can resurface this

menu to change your choices or withdraw consent at any time

by clicking the Cookie Settings & Opt Out link on the bottom of

the webpage. Your choices will have effect within our Website.

For more details, refer to our [Privacy Policy](#).

By clicking "Accept All," you agree to the use of cookies, similar

tracking and storage technologies, and information about your

device to enhance your viewing, listening and user experience

personalize content, personalize messages from NPR's

sponsors, provide social media features, and analyze NPR's

traffic. This information is shared with social media,

sponsorship, analytics, and other vendors or service providers.

We and our partners process data to provide:

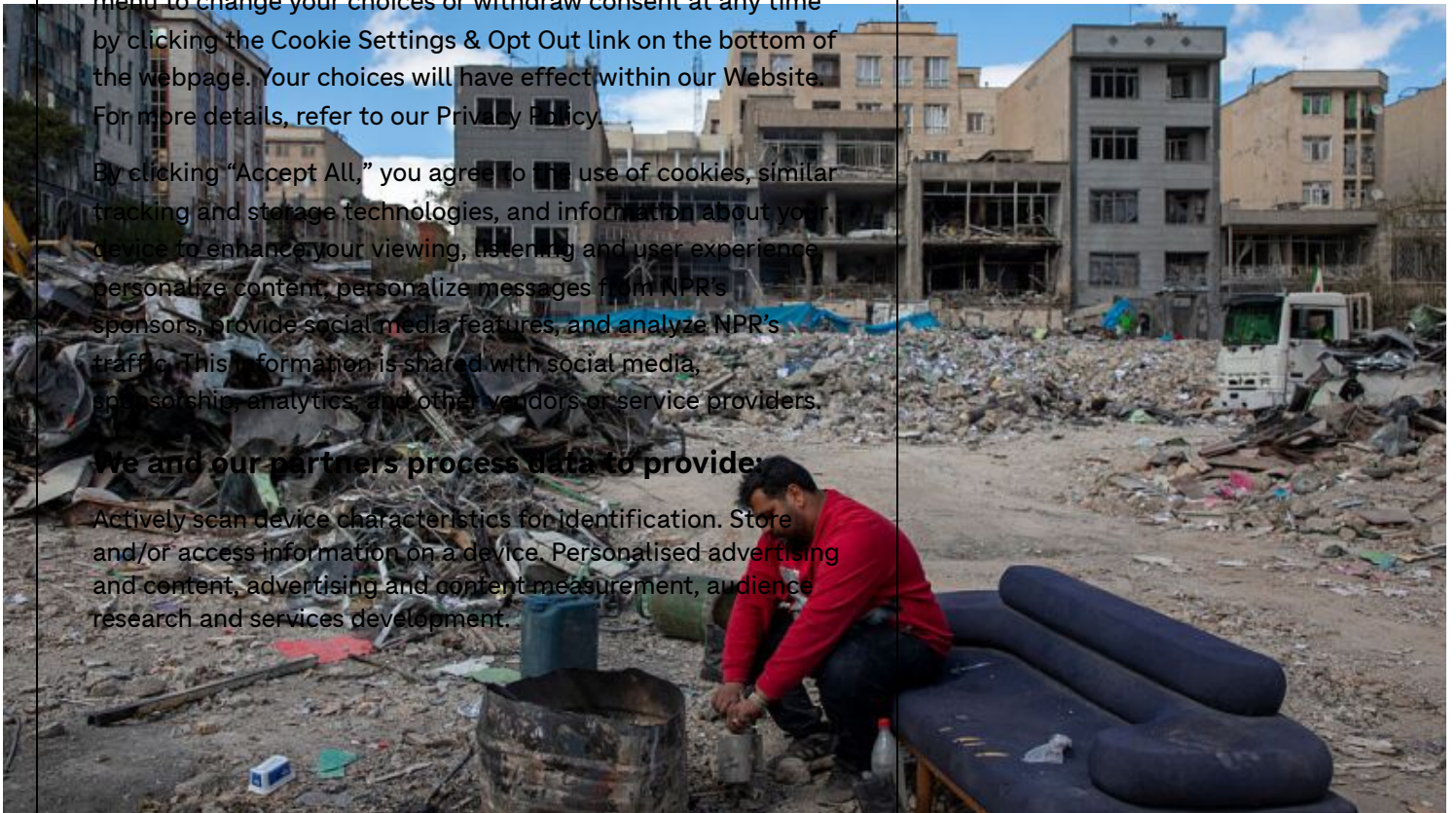
Actively scan device characteristics for identification. Store

and/or access information on a device. Personalised advertising

and content, advertising and content measurement, audience

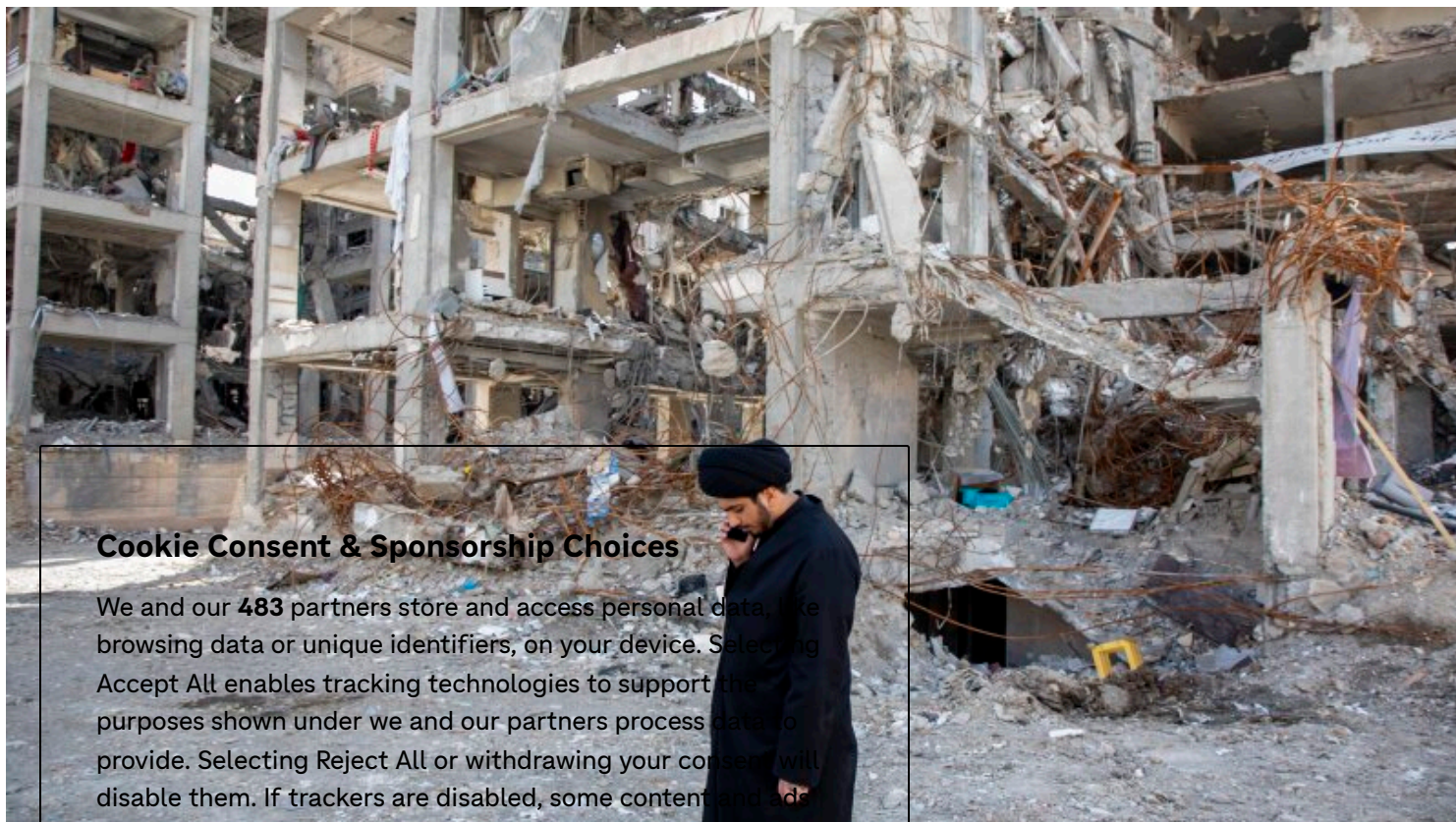
research and services development.

More Stories From NPR



MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT

U.S. and Iran agree to 2-week ceasefire, suspending Trump's threat to annihilate Iran



Cookie Consent & Sponsorship Choices

We and our **483** partners store and access personal data, like browsing data or unique identifiers, on your device. Selecting Accept All enables tracking technologies to support the purposes shown under we and our partners process data to provide. Selecting Reject All or withdrawing your consent will disable them. If trackers are disabled, some content and ads

MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT

Iran rejects a U.S. ceasefire plan as Trump again threatens to bomb its infrastructure

to assist may not be as relevant to you. You can resurface this menu to change your choices or withdraw consent at any time by clicking the Cookie Settings & Opt Out link on the bottom of the webpage. Your choices will have effect within our Website. For more details, refer to our Privacy Policy.

By clicking "Accept All," you agree to the use of cookies, similar tracking and storage technologies, and information about your device to enhance your viewing, listening and user experience, personalize content, personalize messages from NPR's sponsors, provide social media features, and analyze NPR's traffic. This information is shared with social media, sponsorship, analytics, and other vendors or service providers.

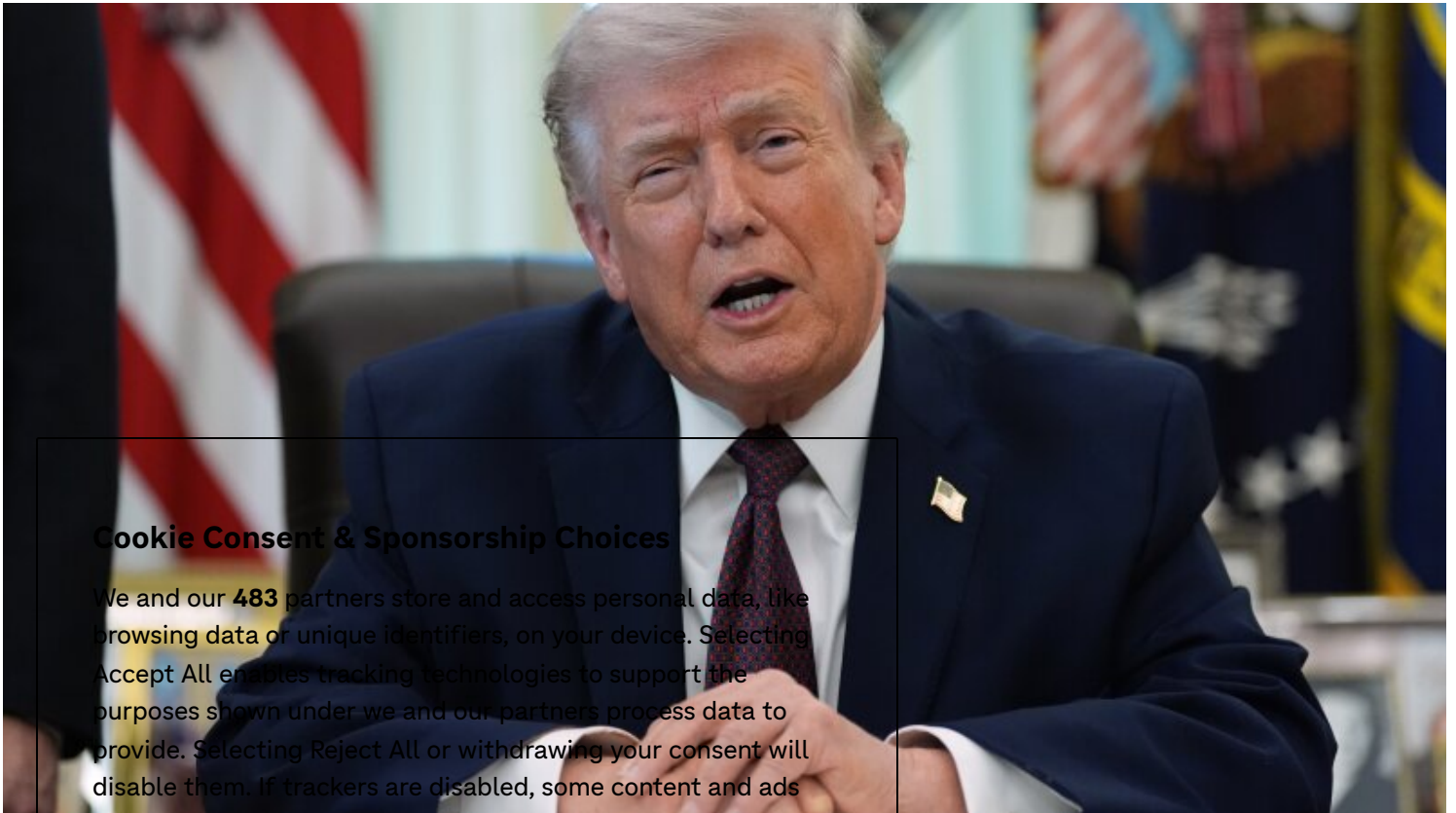
We and our partners process data to provide:

Actively scan device characteristics for identification. Store and/or access information on a device. Personalised advertising and content delivery, performance and content measurement, audience research, and services development.



MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT

In Lebanon, more than 50 medics have been killed by Israel. Some say they're targeted



Cookie Consent & Sponsorship Choices

We and our **483** partners store and access personal data, like browsing data or unique identifiers, on your device. Selecting Accept All enables tracking technologies to support the purposes shown under we and our partners process data to provide. Selecting Reject All or withdrawing your consent will disable them. If trackers are disabled, some content and ads

MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT

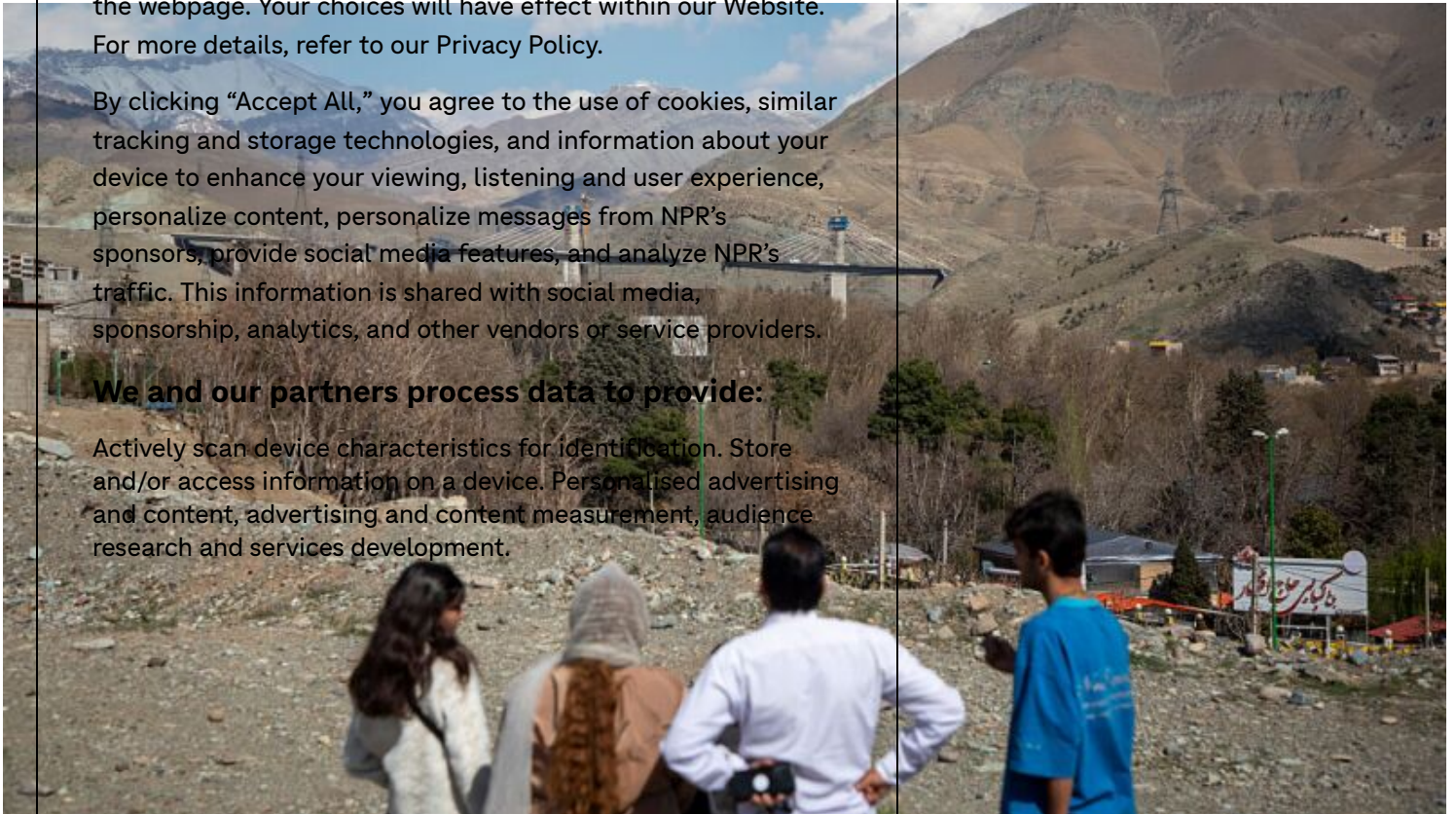
Trump unleashes curse-filled social media rant at Iran after U.S. rescues colonel

to assist you, but may not be as relevant to you. You can resurface this menu to change your choices or withdraw consent at any time, by clicking the Cookie Settings & Opt Out link on the bottom of the webpage. Your choices will have effect within our Website. For more details, refer to our Privacy Policy.

By clicking "Accept All," you agree to the use of cookies, similar tracking and storage technologies, and information about your device to enhance your viewing, listening and user experience, personalize content, personalize messages from NPR's sponsors, provide social media features, and analyze NPR's traffic. This information is shared with social media, sponsorship, analytics, and other vendors or service providers.

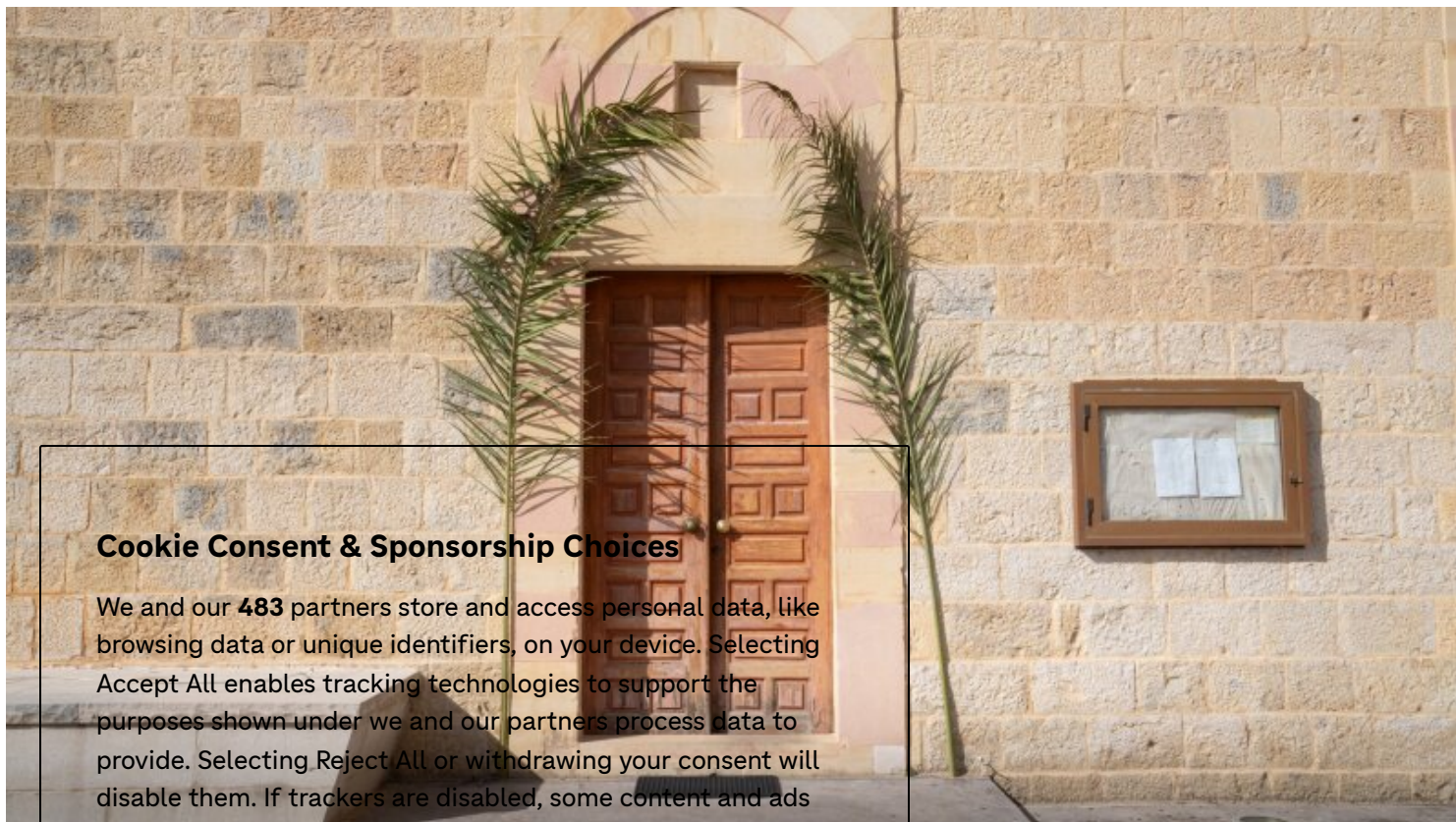
We and our partners process data to provide:

Actively scan device characteristics for identification. Store and/or access information on a device. Personalised advertising and content, advertising and content measurement, audience research and services development.



MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT

Iran war enters its 6th week as military searches for downed jet crew member



Cookie Consent & Sponsorship Choices

We and our **483** partners store and access personal data, like browsing data or unique identifiers, on your device. Selecting Accept All enables tracking technologies to support the purposes shown under we and our partners process data to provide. Selecting Reject All or withdrawing your consent will disable them. If trackers are disabled, some content and ads

MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT

'Not our war' say Christians under siege this Easter, as Israel invades south Lebanon

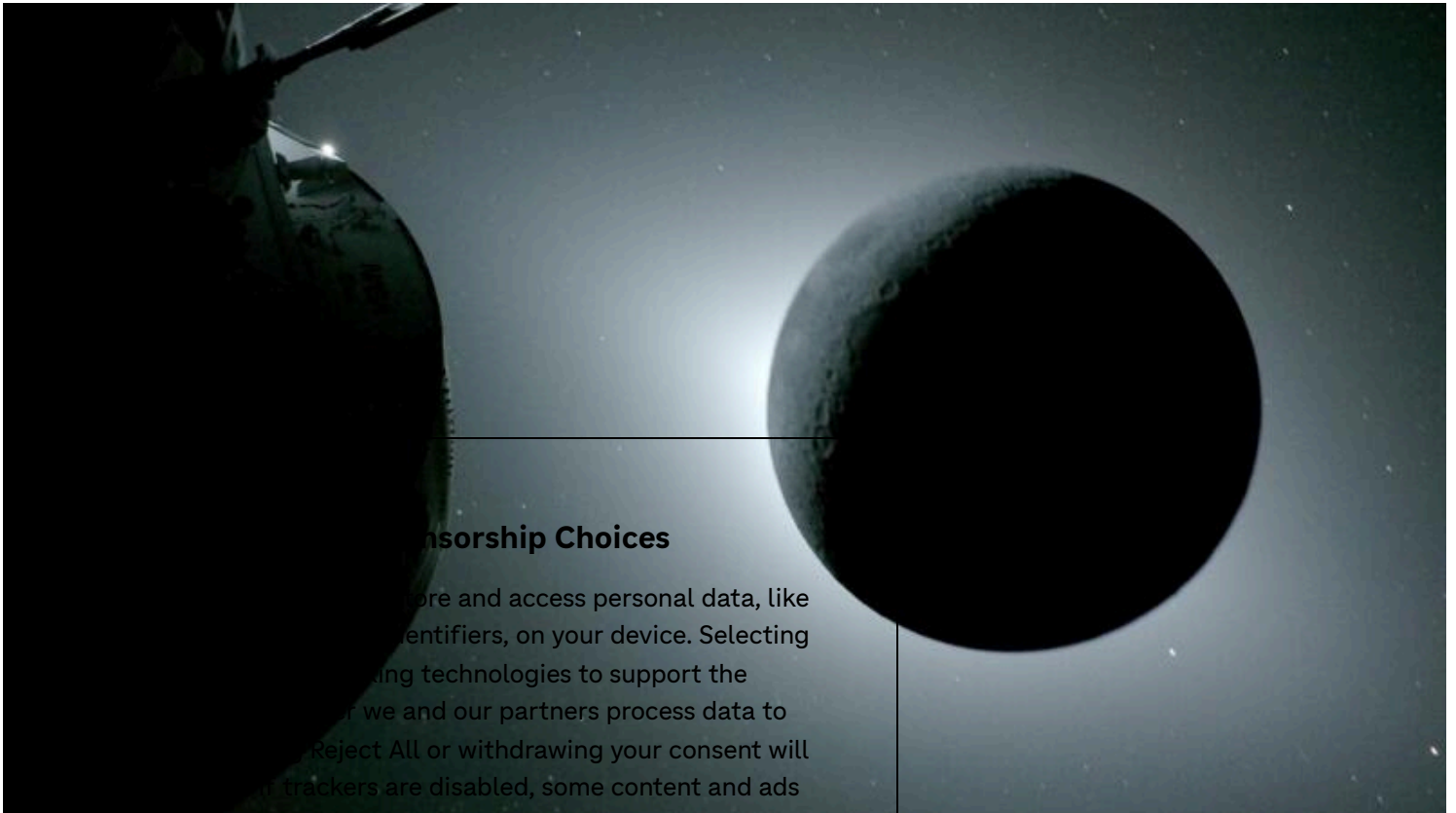
to assist may not be as relevant to you. You can resurface this menu to change your choices or withdraw consent at any time by clicking the Cookie Settings & Opt Out link on the bottom of the webpage. Your choices will have effect within our Website. For more details, refer to our Privacy Policy.

By clicking "Accept All," you agree to the use of cookies, similar tracking and storage technologies, and information about your device to enhance your viewing, listening and user experience, personalize content, personalize messages from NPR's sponsors, provide social media features, and analyze NPR's traffic. This information is shared with social media, sponsorship, analytics, and other vendors or service providers.

We and our partners process data to provide:

Actively scan device characteristics for identification. Store and/or access information on a device. Personalised advertising and content, advertising and content measurement, audience research and services development.

Popular on NPR.org



Sponsorship Choices

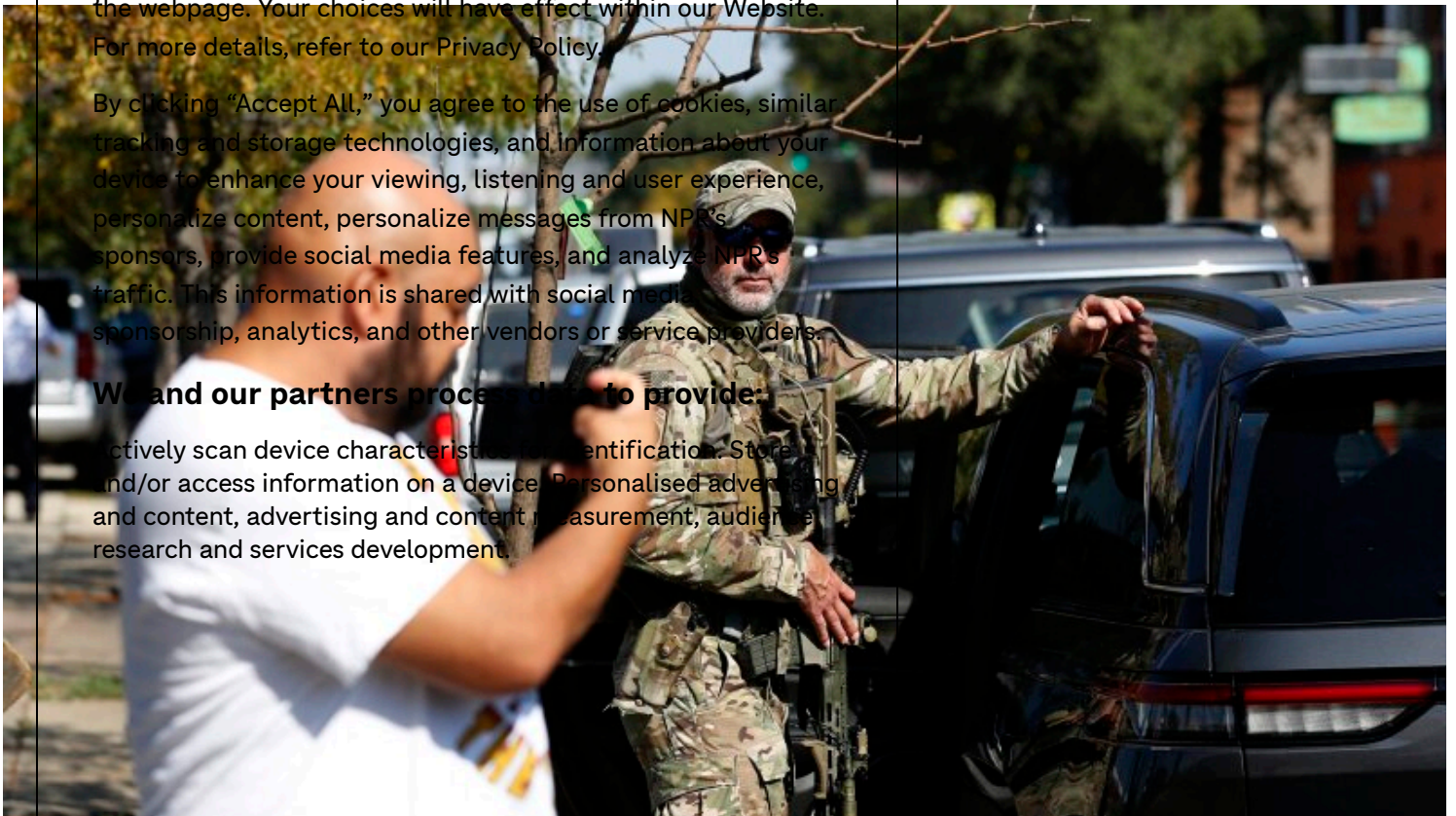
By clicking "Accept All," you agree to the use of cookies, similar tracking and storage technologies, and information about your device to enhance your viewing, listening and user experience, personalize content, personalize messages from NPR's sponsors, provide social media features, and analyze NPR's traffic. This information is shared with social media sponsorship, analytics, and other vendors or service providers.

We and our partners process data to provide:

- Actively scan device characteristics for identification.
- Store and/or access information on a device.
- Personalised advertising and content, advertising and content measurement, audience research and services development.

SPACE you see may not be as relevant to you. You can resurface this menu to change your choices or withdraw consent at any time by clicking the Cookie Settings & Opt Out link on the bottom of the webpage. Your choices will have effect within our Website. For more details, refer to our Privacy Policy.

The Artemis II crew saw parts of the moon never seen before. Here's what they said



TECHNOLOGY

ICE acknowledges it is using powerful spyware



THE PICTURE SHOW
Photos: NASA releases first images from moon flyby

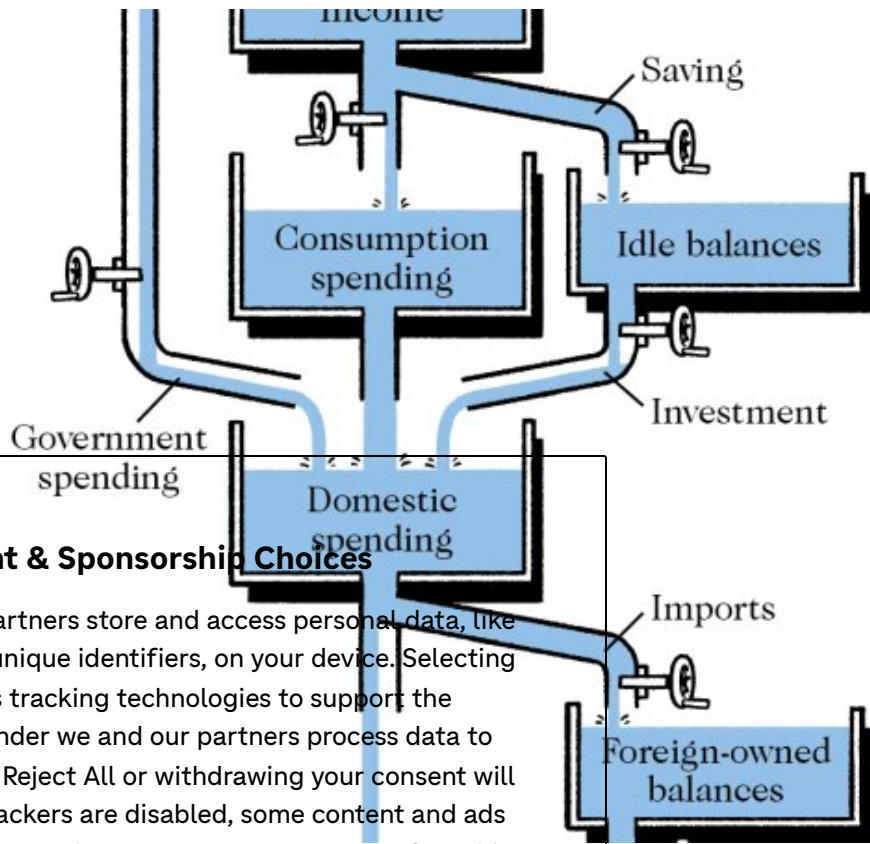
you may be as relevant to you. You can resurface this menu to change your choices or withdraw consent at any time by clicking the Cookie Settings & Opt Out link on the bottom of the webpage. Your choices will have effect within our Website. For more details, refer to our Privacy Policy.

By clicking "Accept All," you agree to the use of cookies, similar tracking and storage technologies, and information about your device to enhance your viewing, listening and user experience, personalize content, personalize messages from NPR's sponsors, provide social media features, and analyze NPR's traffic. This information is shared with social media, sponsorship, analytics and other vendors or service providers.

We and our partners process data to provide:
 Actively scan device characteristics for identification. Store and/or access information on a device. Personalized advertising and content, advertising and content measurement, audience research and services development.



HEALTH
Telehealth abortion will remain available for now, after a federal judge's ruling



Cookie Consent & Sponsorship Choices

We and our 483 partners store and access personal data, like browsing data or unique identifiers, on your device. Selecting Accept All enables tracking technologies to support the purposes shown under we and our partners process data to provide. Selecting Reject All or withdrawing your consent will disable them. If trackers are disabled, some content and ads

PLANE MONEY NEWSLETTER

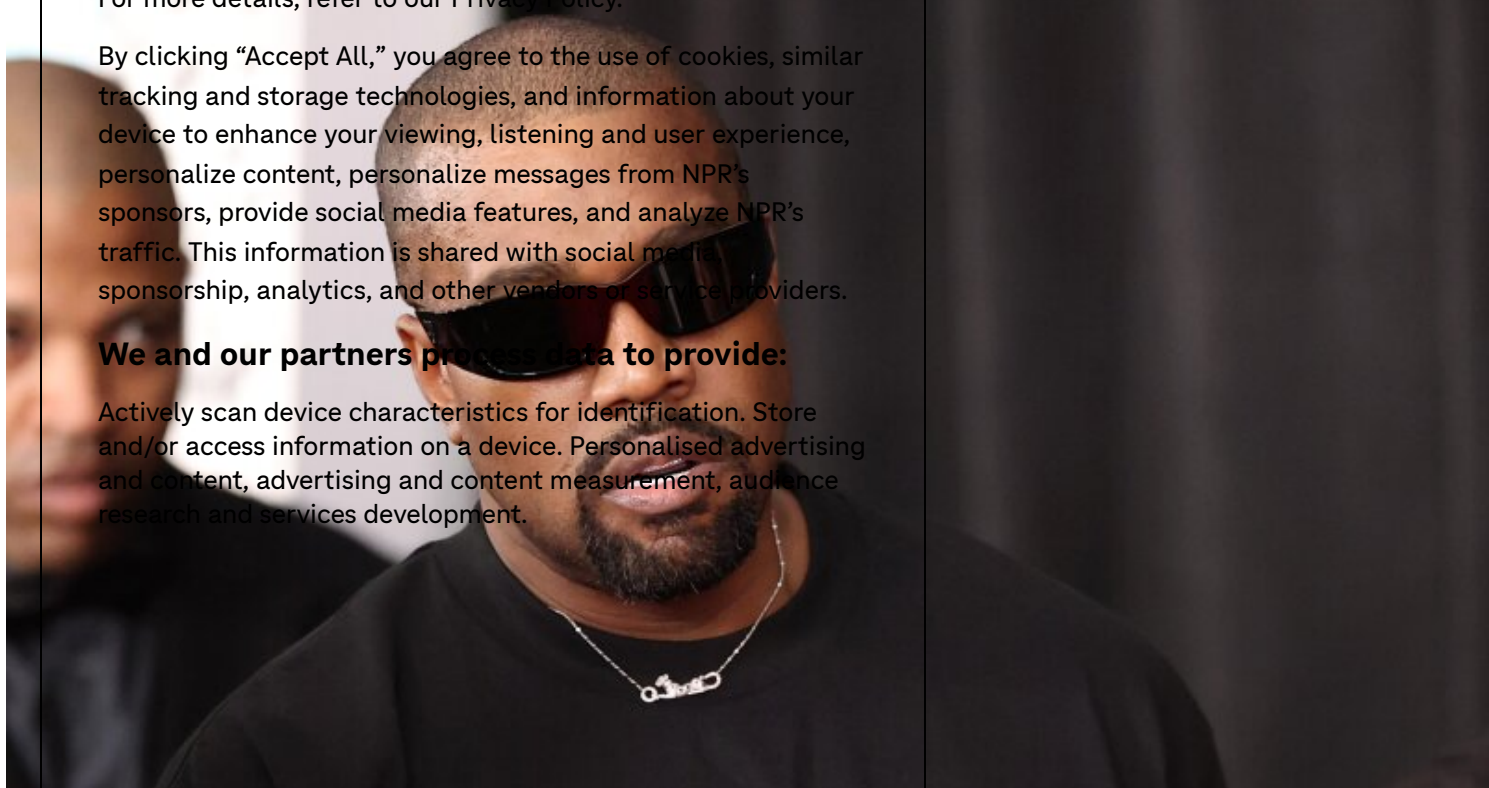
How Bill Phillips used flowing water to model the economy

may be relevant to you. You can resurface this menu to change your choices or withdraw consent at any time by clicking the Cookie Settings & Opt Out link on the bottom of the webpage. Your choices will have effect within our Website. For more details, refer to our Privacy Policy.

By clicking "Accept All," you agree to the use of cookies, similar tracking and storage technologies, and information about your device to enhance your viewing, listening and user experience, personalize content, personalize messages from NPR's sponsors, provide social media features, and analyze NPR's traffic. This information is shared with social media, sponsorship, analytics, and other vendors or service providers.

We and our partners process data to provide:

Actively scan device characteristics for identification. Store and/or access information on a device. Personalised advertising and content, advertising and content measurement, audience research and services development.



MUSIC

U.K. issues Ye travel ban over antisemitism, leading to festival cancellation

NPR Editors' Picks



Cookie Consent & Sponsorship Choices

We and our **483** partners store and access personal data, like browsing data or unique identifiers, on your device. Selecting Accept All enables tracking technologies to support the purposes shown under we and our partners process data to provide. Selecting Reject All or withdrawing your consent will disable them. If trackers are disabled, some content and ads you see may not be as relevant to you. You can reset these choices by clicking the Cookie Settings & Opt Out link on the bottom of the webpage. Your choices will have effect within our Website.

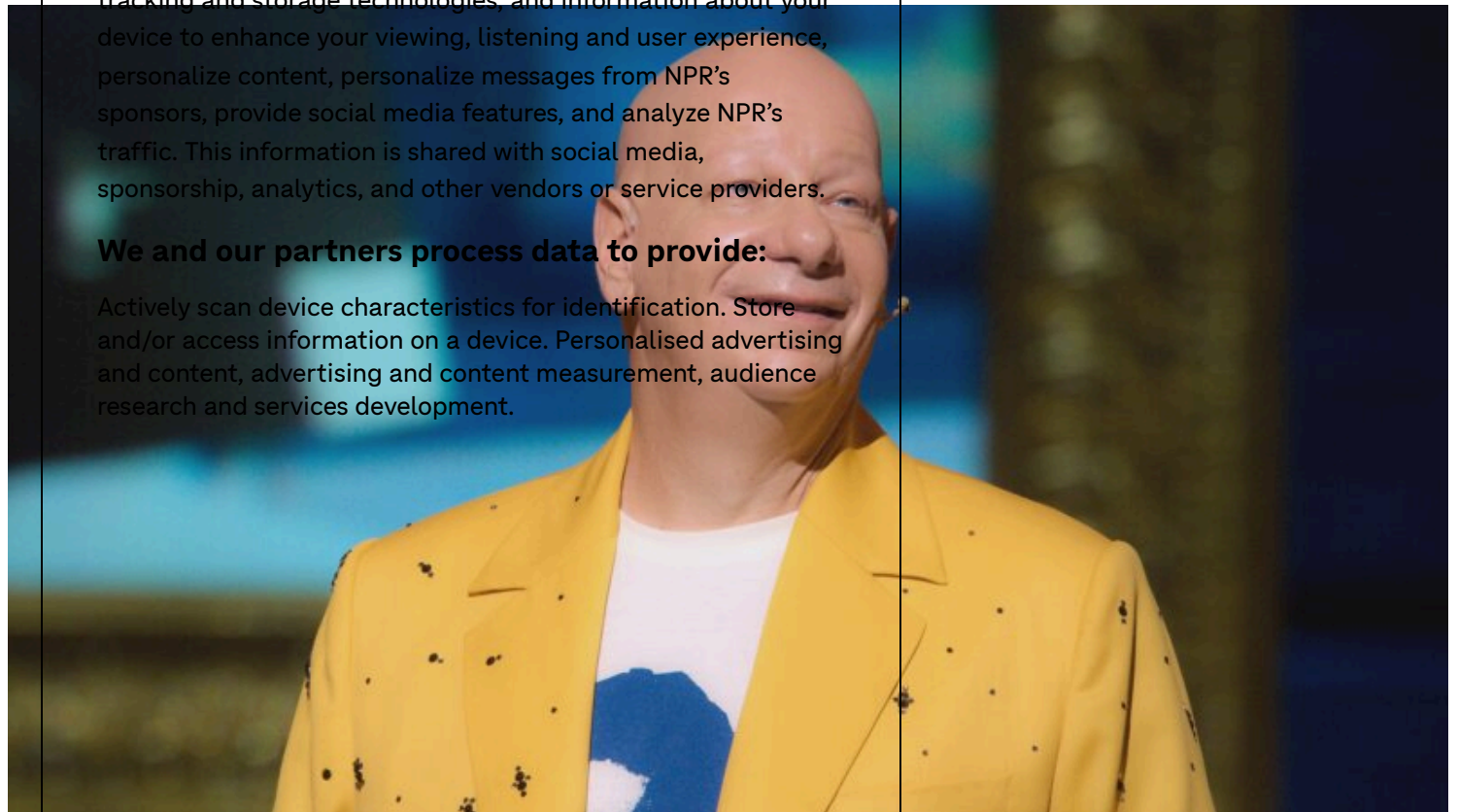
POLITICS For more details, refer to our Privacy Policy.

Congressional Democrats raise alarm over Trump's comments on Iran

By clicking "Accept All," you agree to the use of cookies, similar tracking and storage technologies, and information about your device to enhance your viewing, listening and user experience, personalize content, personalize messages from NPR's sponsors, provide social media features, and analyze NPR's traffic. This information is shared with social media, sponsorship, analytics, and other vendors or service providers.

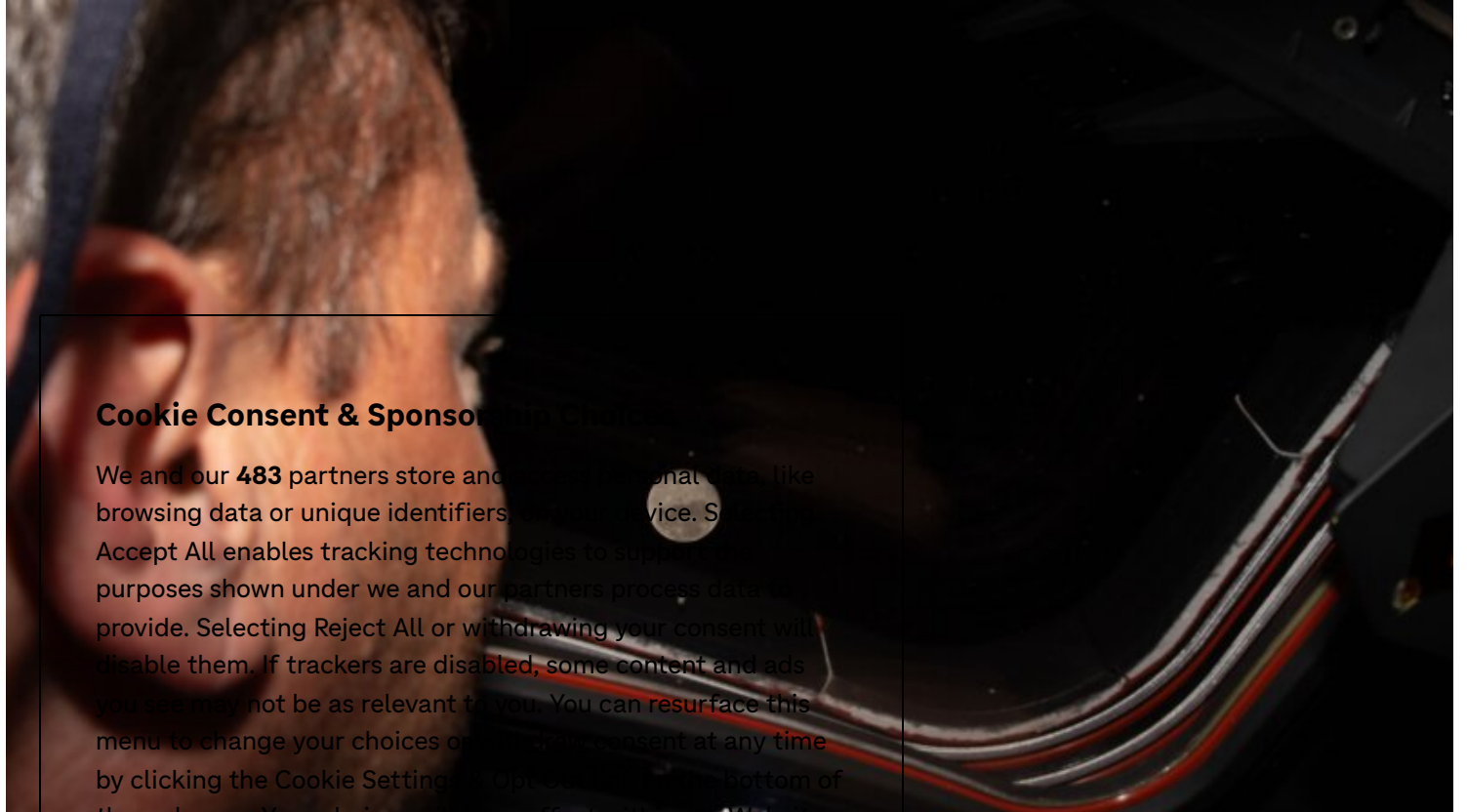
We and our partners process data to provide:

Actively scan device characteristics for identification. Store and/or access information on a device. Personalised advertising and content, advertising and content measurement, audience research and services development.



TELEVISION

Now cancer-free, 'Roastmaster' comic Jeff Ross still finds humor in loss



Cookie Consent & Sponsorship Controls

We and our **483** partners store and process personal data, like browsing data or unique identifiers, on your device. Selecting Accept All enables tracking technologies to support our business purposes shown under we and our partners process data to provide. Selecting Reject All or withdrawing your consent will disable them. If trackers are disabled, some content and ads you see may not be as relevant to you. You can resurface this menu to change your choices or withdraw consent at any time by clicking the Cookie Settings or Opt Out link at the bottom of the webpage. Your choices will have effect within our Website.

SPACE

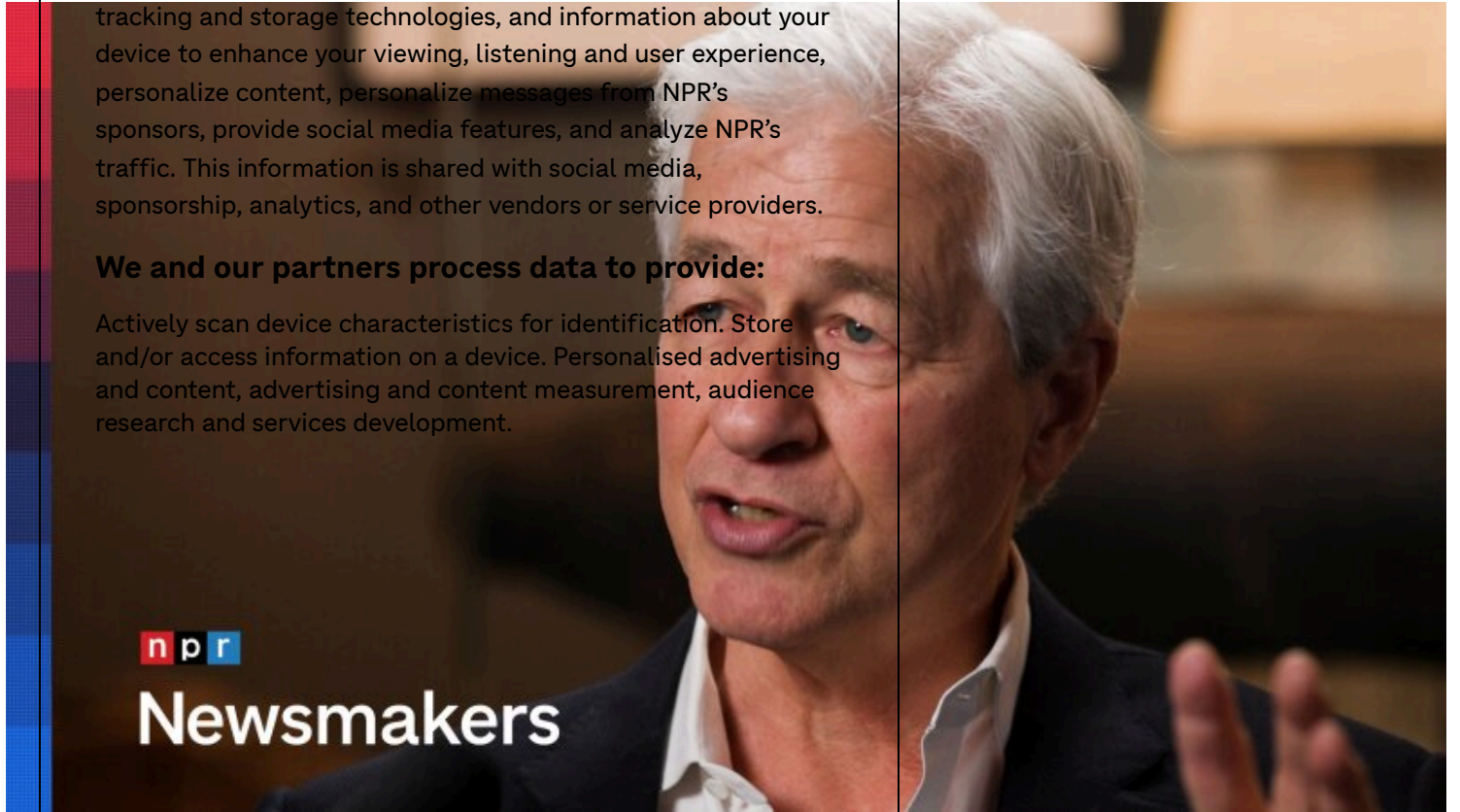
For more details, refer to our Privacy Policy.

Astronauts suggest naming a moon crater 'Carroll' after their commander's late wife

By clicking "Accept All," you agree to the use of cookies, similar tracking and storage technologies, and information about your device to enhance your viewing, listening and user experience, personalize content, personalize messages from NPR's sponsors, provide social media features, and analyze NPR's traffic. This information is shared with social media, sponsorship, analytics, and other vendors or service providers.

We and our partners process data to provide:

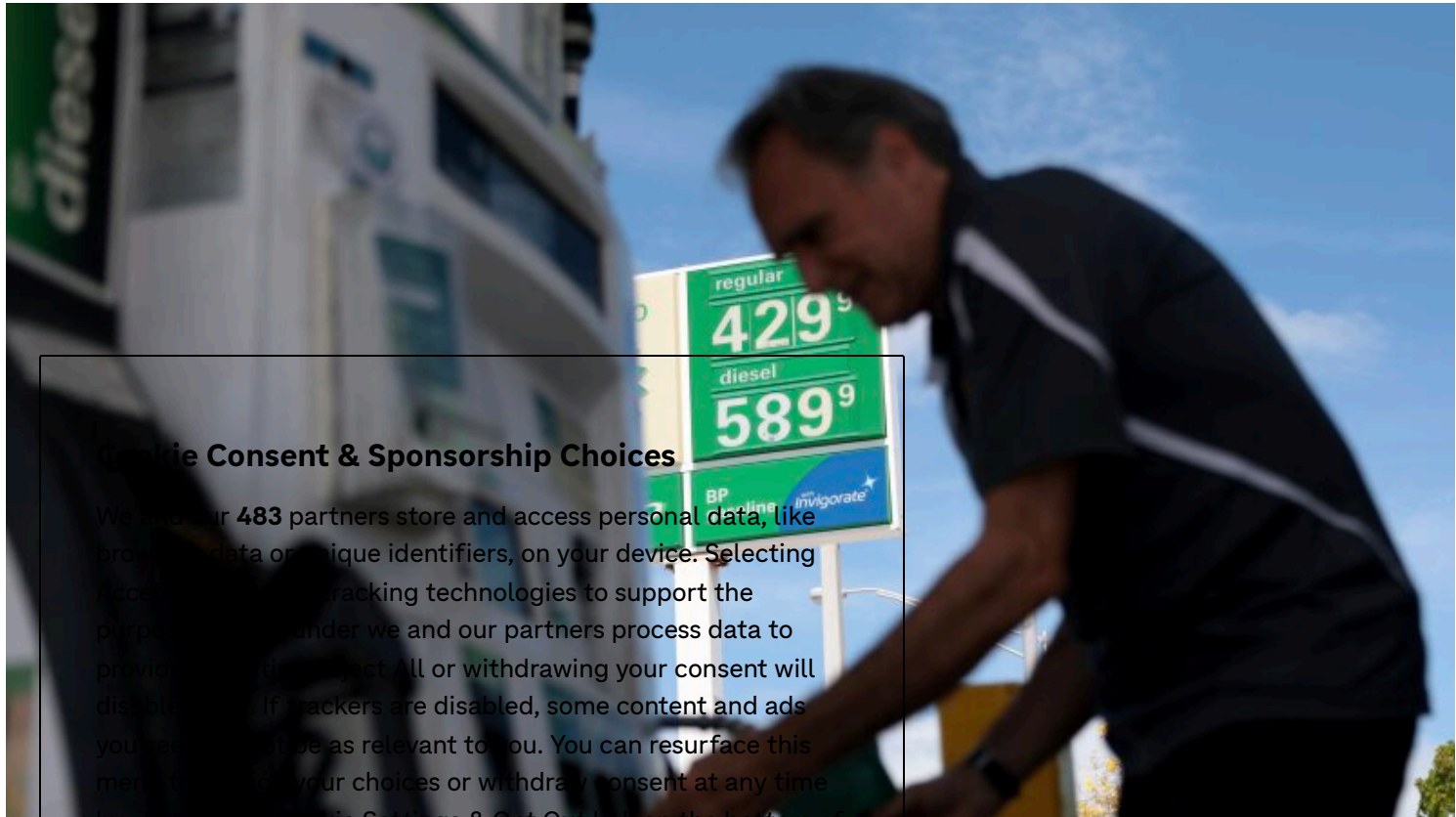
Actively scan device characteristics for identification. Store and/or access information on a device. Personalised advertising and content, advertising and content measurement, audience research and services development.



Newsmakers

NPR'S NEWSMAKERS

CEO of nation's largest bank says Iran war raises risk of 'bad economic outcomes'



Cookie Consent & Sponsorship Choices

We and our **483** partners store and access personal data, like browser data or unique identifiers, on your device. Selecting "Accept All" allows tracking technologies to support the purposes listed below. Under we and our partners process data to provide content that is relevant to you. All or withdrawing your consent will disable these trackers. If trackers are disabled, some content and ads you see may not be as relevant to you. You can resurface this message to review your choices or withdraw / consent at any time

BUSINESS

Drive slower, go electric, don't drive at all? Americans weigh options for saving gas

by clicking the Cookie Settings & Opt Out link on the bottom of the webpage. Your choices will have effect within our Website. For more details, refer to our Privacy Policy.

By clicking "Accept All," you agree to the use of cookies, similar tracking and storage technologies, and information about your device to enhance your viewing, listening and user experience, personalize content, personalize messages from NPR's sponsors, provide social media features, and analyze NPR's traffic. This information is shared with social media, sponsorship, analytics, and other vendors or service providers.

We and our partners process data to provide:

Actively scan device characteristics for identification. Store and/or access information on a device. Personalised advertising and content, advertising and content measurement, audience research and services development.



ASIA

Australia charges ex-soldier with 5 war-crime murders in Afghanistan

READ & LISTEN

CONNECT

Home

Newsletters

News

Facebook

Culture

Instagram

Music

Press

Podcasts & Shows

Public Editor

Cookie Consent & Sponsorship Choices

Corrections

We and our **483** partners store and access personal data, browsing data or unique identifiers, on your device. Selecting Accept All enables tracking technologies to support the purposes shown under we and our partners process data to provide. Selecting Reject All or withdrawing your consent will disable them. If trackers are disabled, some content and ads you see may not be as relevant to you. You can resurface this menu to change your choices or withdraw consent at any time by clicking the Cookie Settings & Opt Out link on the bottom of the webpage. Your choices will have effect within our Website. For more details, refer to our Privacy Policy.

Transcripts

Contact & Help

ABOUT NPR

GET INVOLVED

Overview

Support Public Radio

Diversity

Sponsor NPR

NPR Network

NPR Careers

Accessibility

NPR Shop

Ethics

NPR Extra

Finances

We and our partners process data to provide:

Actively scan device characteristics for identification. Store and/or access information on a device. Personalised advertising and content measurement, audience research and services development.

privacy

your privacy choices

text only

© 2026 npr