



# Around the world



The winning band

## Poland Little Amal visits

A giant, animatronic puppet of a 10-year-old Syrian girl traveled to Poland to meet Ukrainian refugees (people who have been forced to flee their homes to escape danger). The puppet, named Little Amal and standing more than 11 feet tall, symbolizes refugee children. She visited three cities, where aid packages were given to Ukrainian children.



Little Amal in Krakow

## Turin, Italy Ukrainian band wins song contest

Kalush Orchestra, a Ukrainian band, won the 2022 Eurovision Song Contest, an annual international songwriting competition featuring contestants representing European countries. This win is Ukraine's third since it joined the competition in 2003. The band won for their song "Stefania," beating 24 competitors. Frontman Oleh Psiuk, who wrote the song, said, "The victory is very important to Ukraine, especially this year."



A McDonald's in Russia

## Russia McDonald's to leave country

McDonald's announced on May 16 that it is exiting Russia. The fast-food company temporarily closed its Russian restaurants in March, after Russia invaded Ukraine. Now it plans to sell all 850 stores. After 32 years in Russia, McDonald's is joining several other companies in leaving the country because of the war in Ukraine. The company said that continuing to operate there during this crisis is not "consistent with McDonald's values."



Ali Sethi (left) and Shae Gill

## Pakistan Pop song goes viral

A song by Pakistani singers Ali Sethi and Shae Gill has become a global sensation. "Pasoori" was released in February, and the YouTube video has been viewed more than 124 million times. It is the first Pakistani song to top Spotify's global viral songs chart. "Pasoori" means "difficulty," and the song is partly about political problems between Pakistan and India, where it is also popular.

## Phnom Penh, Cambodia Government calls for UK to return sacred treasures

The Cambodian government has called on the UK to return treasures taken from temples during a war in Cambodia in the 1960s and 1970s. Some are now in the British Museum and the Victoria and Albert Museum, both in London. Cambodia's culture minister, Phoeurng Sackona, said in a letter that sacred treasures had "wrongfully ended up" in warehouses and museums.



A returned stolen statue

