QUOTES OF THE DAY

Sun Oct 18, 2026

Window **12:00 AM - 5:45 PM ET**
Screened **22** · Eligible **13** · Ranked **10**
Categories **4** · X calls **21** · Web calls **12**

#	SCORE	SPEAKER	QUOTE / TIME ET / VENUE	CONTEXT	AFFECTS	VERIF.	SRC
1	19 5/5/5/4	**Donald Trump** U.S. President POLITICS/GEOPOLITICS	**"If Israel has the wrong Leader, which would be anyone other than Bibi, America will have to do this work ourselves, and I am not inclined to do so."** ~11:07 AM (Truth Social) · Truth Social post; Axios phone interview same day	First explicit U.S. presidential endorsement in an Israeli election (Axios). Labels Netanyahu Great Warrior PM; Iran finish-the-job threat. Oct 27 vote; oil/Iran risk premium still open-dependent.	**BZ/CL, Hormuz risk premium, ILS, defense Israel/U.S., midterm Iran narrative**	2+ OUTLETS	1,2,3,4
2	18 4/4/5/5	**Volodymyr Zelensky** President of Ukraine POLITICS/GEOPOLITICS	**"If the United States will take, officially take the side of Russia, of course if these two countries will be together, of course, of course we will not prevail and we will not be able to stand. ... It's historic mistake and big tragedy."** ~9:30 AM (Meet the Press) · NBC Meet the Press exclusive interview	Sunday ally-risk line: U.S. siding with Russia would leave Ukraine unable to stand. Also says intel sharing was blocked three days then restored; Starshield still capped at 161 km/h.	**defense Europe (LMT, RTX), EUR, BZ/CL, HO, Starlink narrative (TSLA/SpaceX private)**	PRIMARY	5,6,7,8
3	17 4/3/5/5	**Scott Bessent** U.S. Treasury Secretary ECONOMY/MARKETS/FED	**"So this is an energy shock. We will get to the other side of the Iran conflict, and those prices will come down."** ~10:00 AM (Meet the Press) · NBC Meet the Press with Kristen Welker	Weekend inflation framing: CPI 3.7% as Iran-driven energy shock; core/food/rents down. Gas relief tied to Hormuz/Iran path into Monday open.	**CL/BZ, HO, XLE, UST 2Y/10Y, CPI path into Oct 28 FOMC**	PRIMARY	5,9,10,11
4	16 5/3/4/4	**Elon Musk** CEO, Tesla / SpaceX / xAI TECH/AI	**"Optimus and Cybercab will be the vast majority of Tesla's value. The only things that will scale to incredible size (K2 and beyond) economically are super intelligence, robots, solar power and mass to space."** 1:01 AM · X reply @elonmusk (widely amplified Sunday)	Weekend Tesla valuation thesis ahead of Wed earnings: robots and robotaxis as majority of value. Roadster kept as cool exception. TSLA prices Monday/Wednesday.	**TSLA, robotaxi narrative, AI robotics peers, SpaceX private**	PRIMARY	12,13
5	15 4/3/4/4	**Scott Bessent** U.S. Treasury Secretary POLITICS/GEOPOLITICS	**"The Europeans have given Russia and Vladimir Putin more money than they've given the Ukrainians. They continue to gorge on Russian energy... Why should the U.S. go at it alone?"** ~10:00 AM (Meet the Press) / 10:07 AM (clip) · NBC Meet the Press; @RapidResponse47 clip	Sanctions-waiver defense: Europe energy purchases as war financing. Diesel embargo lift vs Graham bill 60-day clock.	**EUR, European energy importers, HO/BZ, Russia sanctions complex**	PRIMARY	14,5,15
6	14 4/3/4/3	**Volodymyr Zelensky** President of Ukraine POLITICS/GEOPOLITICS	**"Had a conversation with the American President's envoys, Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner. Peace comes only through strength and cooperation built on trust. We are doing everything on our part to make this happen, and to ensure that America's position is strong and helps bring peace closer. Peace that everyone, except Russia, has been waiting for over the past four and a half years."** 10:55 AM · X post @ZelenskyyUa	Sunday diplomacy after MTP: Florida team talks, nonstop channels, Russian strikes and air-defense needs. Next steps still open into the week.	**defense Europe, EUR, HO/BZ narrative, UST risk premium**	PRIMARY	16,5
7	14 4/3/4/3	**Benjamin Netanyahu** Prime Minister of Israel POLITICS/GEOPOLITICS	**"President Trump, my friend Donald - thank you for your extraordinary endorsement. Israel has never had a greater friend in the White House. Together we will never let Iran's regime get nuclear weapons."** 12:50 PM · X post @netanyahu	Thanks Trump endorsement nine days before Oct 27 vote. Pairs White House friendship with Iran nuclear vow. Election and Iran risk into the week.	**BZ/CL, ILS, Iran risk premium, defense**	PRIMARY	17,1,3
8	13 5/2/3/3	**Elon Musk** CEO, Tesla / SpaceX / xAI BUSINESS/CEOS	**"The new Tesla Roadster accelerates faster than a fighter jet taking off from an aircraft carrier"** 11:16 AM · X post @elonmusk	Roadster marketing flex into earnings week. Fun product, not the Optimus/Cybercab thesis. Watch TSLA into Wed print.	**TSLA**	PRIMARY	18
9	12 3/3/3/3	**Mark Cuban** Entrepreneur; Cost Plus Drugs BUSINESS/CEOS	**"It's really simple. Our Robots and AI vs their Robots and AI. If we can catch up on robotics/software, and can stay ahead on AI, there is zero reason manufacturing won't come back, or initiate here."** 10:28 AM · X post @mcuban	Reshoring thesis: robotics+AI close Asia cost gap; Cost Plus Drugs held back by fees not capability. Follow-up: drug line shrunk to tractor-trailer pod size.	**industrial robotics, pharma generics, onshoring narrative, AI hardware**	PRIMARY	19,20

#	SCORE	SPEAKER	QUOTE / TIME ET / VENUE	CONTEXT	AFFECTS	VERIF.	SRC
10	12 4/3/3/2	**Emmanuel Macron** President of France POLITICS/GEOPOLITICS	**“Ceux qui ont cherché à faire tomber la République auront à en répondre.”** 3:35 PM · X post @EmmanuelMacron after Adresse aux Français	Post-riot address: those who sought to topple the Republic will answer for it. EUR/France political risk; no official English version located.	EUR, CAC, French banks	PRIMARY	21,22

Score axes P/N/R/M = Speaker power / Novelty / Reach / Market relevance, 1-5 each. Ties: market, then power, then novelty, then earlier time.

UNCONFIRMED, NOT RANKED · Matthew McConaughey: Mediaite/Yahoo/Parade report Sunday video; no primary transcript URL with verified verbatim quote captured in gather. Listed unconfirmed for category variety screening; Paul George: Trending summary; no primary transcript URL with verbatim quote captured. Category fill candidate if verified later; Seyed Abbas Araghchi: Trending only; need primary English post for eligibility

SOURCES

1. Axios: Trump tells Axios why he endorsed Netanyahu's reelection in Israel. https://www.axios.com/2026/10/18/trump-endorses-netanyahu-israel-election-iran
2. Times of Israel: Trump gives warrior Netanyahu complete and total endorsement for reelection. https://www.timesofisrael.com/liveblog_entry/trump-gives-warrior-netanyahu-complete-and-total-endorsement-for-reelection/
3. DW: Israel: Trump endorses Netanyahu ahead of elections. https://www.dw.com/en/israel-trump-endorses-netanyahu-ahead-of-elections/a-79693698
4. AP via NBC: Trump endorses Benjamin Netanyahu ahead of pivotal Israeli election. https://www.nbcnews.com/world/israel/trump-endorses-benjamin-netanyahu-israeli-election-rcna604140
5. NBC Meet the Press transcript: Meet the Press – October 18, 2026. https://www.nbcnews.com/meet-the-press/transcripts/meet-press-october-18-2026-rcna604150
6. NBC News: U.S. taking Putin's side would be a historic mistake, says Zelenskyy. https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/trump-administration/us-taking-putins-side-historic-mistake-says-zelenskyy-rcna604111
7. The Guardian: Zelenskyy thanks Trump for resumed intelligence sharing after US Starlink message. https://www.theguardian.com/world/2026/oct/18/killed-injured-russia-ukraine-strikes-power-infrastructure
8. NPR: Ukraine and the U.S. are at odds over Starshield. https://www.npr.org/2026/10/18/nx-s1-6007382/ukraine-us-starshield-starlink-what-to-know-trump
9. @USTreasury on X: Bessent: energy shock / Iran conflict. https://x.com/USTreasury/status/2111840260455866725
10. NBC News: Treasury secretary refuses to say if the U.S. sees Ukraine as an ally. https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/trump-administration/treasury-secretary-bessent-refuses-us-ukraine-ally-starlink-rcna604129
11. @RapidResponse47 on X: Bessent energy shock clip. https://x.com/RapidResponse47/status/2111822698171007099
12. @elonmusk on X: Optimus and Cybercab vast majority of Tesla value. https://x.com/elonmusk/status/2111683964721037767
13. X News trending: Musk: Optimus Robots and Cybercab to Drive Tesla's Main Value. https://x.com/i/trending/2111704360396947739
14. @RapidResponse47 on X: Europeans gorge on Russian energy. https://x.com/RapidResponse47/status/2111821461736636448
15. Rolling Out: Will gas prices fall? Scott Bessent ties relief to Iran conflict. https://rollingout.com/2026/10/18/gas-prices-fall-scott-bessent-iran-war/
16. @ZelenskyyUa on X: Conversation with Witkoff and Kushner. https://x.com/ZelenskyyUa/status/2111833578707313034
17. @netanyahu on X: Thank you for your extraordinary endorsement. https://x.com/netanyahu/status/2111862377163407395
18. @elonmusk on X: Roadster faster than fighter jet. https://x.com/elonmusk/status/2111838943016833235
19. @mcuban on X: Our Robots and AI vs their Robots and AI. https://x.com/mcuban/status/2111826805980099057
20. @mcuban on X: Cost Plus Drugs tractor-trailer pods. https://x.com/mcuban/status/2111914022585180509
21. @EmmanuelMacron on X: Ceux qui ont cherché à faire tomber la République. https://x.com/EmmanuelMacron/status/2111904110693810595
22. @EmmanuelMacron on X: Adresse aux Français. https://x.com/EmmanuelMacron/status/2111880065088975333

Compiled from public sources; quotes verified as noted.

Prepared for Brad Wolff · Built 2026-10-18 17:50 ET

Commentary: Quotes of the Day, Oct 18, 2026