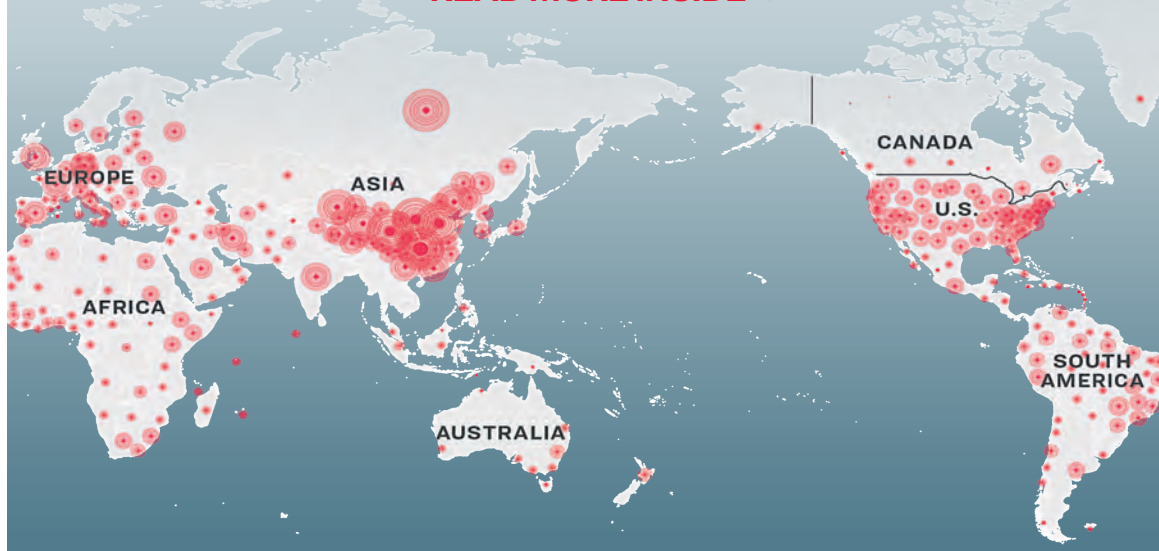


## EXCLUSIVE CCP VIRUS COVERAGE II

# How the Chinese Communist Party Is Endangering Canada and the world

The Beijing regime's coverup led to a deadly pandemic that is an ongoing threat to Chinese citizens, Canadians, and people around the world. What really happened, what lessons can we learn, and how can we be more resilient?

READ MORE INSIDE ▶



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Exclusive: Chinese Regime Knew Virus Was Contagious but Kept Silent

Page 2

DANIEL LEAL-OLIVAS/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES



8 Ways Chinese Regime Is Impacting the Lives of Canadians

Page 6

TIMOTHY A. CLARY/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES



How Canada Helped Chinese Regime Get Where It Is Today

Page 10

NAOHIKO HATTA - POOL/GETTY IMAGES



Beijing's Subversion of WHO Undermined Global Pandemic Response

Page 4

SAM MOOY/GETTY IMAGES



Proactive Stance on Chinese Regime Benefited Australia in Virus Response

Page 14

THE CANADIAN PRESS/SEAN KILPATRICK



Pandemic a Symptom of Beijing's 'Culture of Criminality': Former Justice Minister Cotler

Page 13

## SPECIAL EDITION

## Publisher's Note:

# Why Am I Receiving This?



I hope this finds you and your loved ones well, all things considered.

It's been more than a month since our last special edition. We're honoured by the tremendous response from our readers, including one who thought our content was so

important that he ordered 100 copies for his colleagues.

We hope this new special edition will help Canadians see more clearly the true nature of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and avoid falling victim to its deceit—the same deceit that allowed the coronavirus to spread around the world.

For me, a Chinese-Canadian who fled communist China, the Chinese people's quest for freedom always comes to mind at this time of year.

**I was a university student in Beijing in June 1989 when hope was in the air** and optimistic young people were dreaming of how democracy might finally happen in the world's most populous nation. But instead, the Tiananmen Square massacre happened, claiming thousands of lives and dashing all hope of freedom from communist repression.

I will never forget how state media pumped out propaganda day and night, vilifying the students and civilians and brainwashing people to take that as the truth. I knew it to be lies. It crushed my hope for any future as a young Chinese citizen wishing to live an honest life.

**Later, with \$200 in my pocket, I left my family and friends behind in China and found a new life in Canada.**

Canada healed me. I completed graduate studies at Ottawa U and began working as an engineer for a proud Canadian telecom firm. But years later I realized that I hadn't left the CCP's shadow behind. It had arrived in Canada and had started taking advantage of Canadian goodwill.

It stole our technology, corrupted our systems (political, economic, academic, and more), and gradually eroded our values and prosperity.

For instance, Nortel Networks, once the envy of the world, collapsed thanks in part to years of technology theft by CCP hackers. The company's former senior security adviser was convinced that the beneficiary was Chinese telecom giant Huawei.

I then joined The Epoch Times and found my new calling. Our media was established by Chinese immigrants in North America who had fled the communist regime.

**As a leader of truthful and uncensored China news, we've broken some of the most significant China stories over the past 20 years.**

When SARS broke out in Canada and claimed 44 lives, The Epoch Times was among the first to expose the CCP's coverup. For this we were honoured with a national media award.

When unsuspecting Canadians thought Nortel's demise might have resulted from a variety of common business pitfalls, The Epoch Times alerted them to the CCP's invisible hand.

**It would be naive for Canadians to think that the CCP is synonymous with China and the Chinese people**, like I once did, and shy away from holding it accountable for its crimes. No. The CCP is a tyranny ruled by an elite gang notorious for its unrelenting brutality. The vast majority of the Chinese people are clear-minded about the regime and yearn for the rights and freedoms all human beings deserve.

It would also be naive and even dangerous for Canadians to think the CCP is a benign foreign partner far away on the other side of the world. The regime's aim is to infiltrate and destabilize, control, and conquer. It's targeting Canada in all manner of ways.

**In the pages of this special edition, you will find news you need to know, with insight not available in other newspapers.** We were able to be ahead of the curve in our reporting on the virus outbreak because of our insight into the CCP itself. This special edition illustrates how urgently the world needs to understand the regime—knowledge we are uniquely able to provide.

Lies kill and truth saves. Read The Epoch Times to get the essential information you need to navigate the pandemic stronger and wiser. With clarity of thought and strength of spirit, we'll get through this together as proud and resilient Canadians.

*In Truth and Tradition,*

**Cindy Gu**  
Publisher  
Epoch Times Canada



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See page 11 for special offer

THE  
EPOCH  
TIMES

TRUTH and TRADITION

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ABOUT US

The Epoch Times is a media organization dedicated to seeking the truth through insightful and independent journalism.

Standing outside of political interests and the pursuit of profit, our starting point and our goal is to create a media for the public benefit, to be truly responsible to society.

We endeavour to educate readers about today's most important topics, seeking to broaden and uplift minds. We believe that rational, balanced debate is key for fostering a healthy democracy and a compassionate society.

As an independent media outlet, we use our freedom to investigate issues overlooked—or avoided—by other media outlets. We seek to highlight solutions and what's good in society rather than what divides us.

We stand against the destruction wrought by communism, including the harm done to cultures around the world.

We are inspired in this by our own experience. The Epoch Times was founded in 2000 to bring honest and uncensored news to people oppressed by the lies and violence in communist China.

We still believe journalism is a noble vocation, but only when it genuinely seeks to serve its communities and help them to flourish. In all that we do, we will hold ourselves to the highest standards of integrity.

This is our promise to you.

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Why we call it the CCP virus

Because of the coverup by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), hundreds of thousands around the world have died and economies have been shuttered. In order to place responsibility for this devastation where it belongs, we use the name "CCP virus." In doing so, we distinguish between the CCP and the Chinese people, who have suffered the most, including during the ongoing pandemic, from the CCP's actions.

How to View Our Special Editions Online

To get a free copy of this and our previous special edition in PDF, visit ept.ms/virusreport

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Police officers patrol around Beijing Railway Station on Jan. 30, 2020.

EXCLUSIVE

Chinese Regime Knew Virus Was Contagious but Kept Silent for Weeks: Leaked Documents

Internal documents show how Beijing kept crucial virus details from public

Editor's Note: Leaked documents dated as early as Jan. 3 obtained by The Epoch Times reveal that Chinese authorities knew the virus was contagious weeks before Jan. 20, when it was officially announced that the virus could spread from human to human. The documents show labs were prohibited from disclosing any research conducted on the virus, while at the same time central authorities were secretly providing directives to regional governments on how hospitals should respond to the escalating outbreak.

FRANK FANG
THE EPOCH TIMES

A series of internal Chinese government documents on research lab biosafety guidelines obtained by The Epoch Times reveals that Beijing issued guidelines on how to study the CCP virus and knew of its potential to spread among humans at least weeks before disclosing such risks publicly.

The Epoch Times refers to the novel coronavirus as the CCP (Chinese Communist Party) virus because the Chinese regime's coverup and mishandling allowed it to spread around the world.

The CCP virus emerged in the central Chinese city of Wuhan in late 2019. Beijing officially confirmed that it could be transmitted between humans on Jan. 20 in an announcement by top respiratory expert Zhong Nanshan.

However, the internal documents obtained by this newspaper showed that the regime issued guidelines on how to study the virus as early as Jan. 3.

Chinese health officials were also drawing up internal plans to combat the spread of the virus even as they publicly downplayed the risk of its spreading, according to another set of internal directives obtained by The Epoch Times.

Media have reported that Chinese authorities instructed a genomics company to stop testing virus samples in early January and delayed informing the public that they had mapped the virus's entire genome.

The leaked documents reveal more about the extent of the CCP's coverup: Officials knew of the virus's hazards weeks before Jan. 20 and prohibited labs from disclosing any research conducted on the virus, while at the same time central authorities were secretly providing directives to regional governments on how hospitals should respond to the escalating outbreak.

'Major Sudden Outbreak' Notification

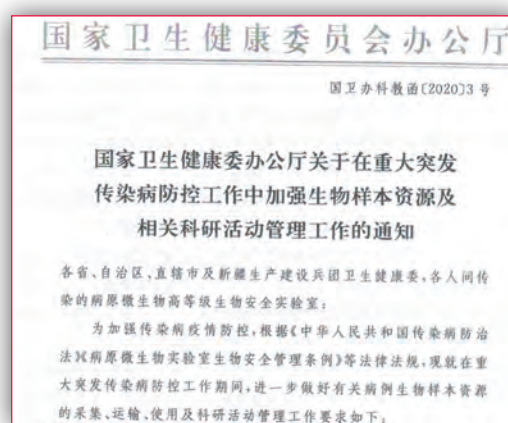
On Jan. 3, China's National Health Commission issued an official notice to all regional health commissions and top-level biosafety labs "that may deal with pathogenic microorganisms that are infectious among people."

Marked "not to be disclosed," the memo set out guidelines to strengthen the management of biological samples and research activities with regard to "the prevention and control of a major sudden outbreak of infectious diseases."

However, no disease was specified. The document, issued days after Wuhan authorities publicly confirmed the virus outbreak on Dec. 31, 2019, specified that biological samples from patients should include blood samples, respiratory fluids, urine, and feces.

Agencies under the supervision of provincial-level health commissions also were "prohibited from providing biological samples, pathogens, and culture samples to any other institutes or individuals."

In addition, the document stated that



A copy of the document issued by China's National Health Commission on Jan. 3, 2020.

PROVIDED TO THE EPOCH TIMES

during the spread of infectious diseases, agencies and individuals weren't allowed to publish papers or information about their research without approval.

In another classified document on lab biosafety issued on Jan. 14, the health commission of Changping district in the capital Beijing stated that it was sharing guidelines from the Beijing municipal health commission about "the prevention and control of a major sudden outbreak of infectious diseases."

The Beijing commission asked the city's pathogenic microbiology labs, including those in health institutes, disease control institutes, third-party testing institutes, government customs departments, and companies that study pathogenic microorganisms to conduct self-evaluations on Jan. 15 and Jan. 16, with health officials scheduled for random inspections of the facilities on Jan. 17-20.

Biosafety Notice Shows Virus's High Risks Known

On Jan. 16, China's National Health Commission issued an internal notice on how to study the virus. Titled "Novel Coronavirus Laboratory Biosafety Guidelines," the notice was sent to regional health commissions and disease prevention and control centres.

The guidelines showed that Chinese health officials were already aware that the virus had high risks. For example, lab researchers were instructed to use protective equipment in accordance with any level 3 biosafety labs while handling uncultured samples (referring to samples that only contain the microorganism, as opposed to cultured samples, where the pathogen is placed in a lab culture so that it can grow).

Level 3 is the second-highest classification for labs studying dangerous pathogens, with level 4 being the highest.

Biosafety level 3 is commonly used for research and diagnostic work involving various microbes that can be transmitted by aerosols and/or cause severe disease, such as the SARS coronavirus and the MERS coronavirus.

Also, staff were directed to be trained and equipped with protective gear to handle waste coming from these labs.

'Super Urgent' Notice to Hospitals on Coronavirus Prevention Measures

Around the same time, health authorities were instructing local hospitals and facilities on how to respond to a new form of pneumonia spreading among patients.

On Jan. 15, the regional health commission in northern China's Inner Mongolia issued

a "super urgent" emergency notice to its municipal counterparts saying that the National Health Commission had implemented treatment and prevention measures for local health agencies to deal with the new disease.

Hospital officials were asked to take measures to prevent the disease from spreading inside their facilities and to train staff on such actions. And administrators were instructed to set up fever clinics and to "pre-screen and triage" anyone experiencing a fever to determine levels of urgency for treating patients.

Hospitals were also told to set up special treatment teams that included infectious disease experts, the notice stated.

This shows that local health commissions were already alerted about virus prevention measures by Jan. 15. But on that day, the Wuhan Health Commission wrote on its website that the "risk of human-to-human infection is low."

On Jan. 18, China's National Health Commission issued a document titled "Diagnosis and Treatment Plan for the New Coronavirus," which stated that cases reported in Wuhan hospitals beginning in December 2019 were confirmed to be "an acute respiratory infectious disease caused by a new coronavirus."

Meanwhile, Beijing began mobilizing organizations affiliated with its United Front agencies, including those in Canada, to buy medical protective equipment in large quantities to ship to China.

Close to 2.5 BILLION

pieces of medical protective equipment were shipped to China between late January and late February.

It also contained a section explaining that medical personnel in hospital departments that treat patients with fever, respiratory problems, and infectious diseases should wear a surgical mask, goggles, and one-time-use protective clothing.

Despite such instructions showing that central authorities knew the virus could be spread among medical staff, a top Wuhan health official who took questions from reporters on Jan. 19 said he couldn't "rule out" human-to-human transmission, "but its risk was rather low."

A day later, respiratory expert Zhong Nanshan publicly conceded that the virus could spread.

A recent report by The Associated Press, also citing a series of internal memos, similarly found that Beijing knew of the virus's transmissibility for six days before the announcement on Jan. 20. Wuhan was locked down on Jan. 23, with no travel to or from the city permitted inside China, but international travel was allowed from Wuhan to the rest of the world.

Meanwhile, Beijing began mobilizing organizations affiliated with its United Front agencies, including those in Canada, to buy medical protective equipment in large quantities to ship to China. The amount of protective equipment processed by Chinese customs agencies was close to 2.5 billion pieces in the period between late January and late February, according to Chinese government data. Canada and other countries have been suffering from a shortage of protective equipment in the meantime.

# Chinese Regime Considers All Virus-Related Data to Be State Secrets, Leaked Documents Show

NICOLE HAO  
THE EPOCH TIMES

Chinese authorities are treating all CCP virus-related information as “state secrets” and have forbidden officials from revealing this data to the public, according to classified Chinese government documents recently obtained by The Epoch Times.

A document from the government of Nanning city in the southwestern Guangxi region, dated Feb. 13 and marked “classified,” laid down requirements for all teams within Nanning’s district and county governments that have been set up to deal with the virus.

Another document, from Heilongjiang Province in northern China, mentioned that pandemic-related documents are to be treated as top secret—meaning that other local governments in China likely received similar notices.

“During the period of combating the virus, all types of urgent documents, urgent notices, emergencies ... internal sensitive information related to combating the virus, and any information that the [government] leaders haven’t approved for disclosure to the public” would be considered state secrets, the Nanning document said.

The pandemic-related “state secrets” are protected under the “law on guarding state secrets” that was released on April 29, 2010, the city government said.

While the document didn’t explain the rationale for classifying pandemic information as “state secrets,” it provided details on how to keep such information confidential. Officials were



STR/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

A medical staff member inside an isolation ward at Red Cross Hospital in Wuhan, China, on March 10, 2020.

The pandemic-related ‘state secrets’ are protected under the ‘law on guarding state secrets,’ the Nanning city government said.

instructed to prepare, edit, and save virus-related “state secrets” only on computers or cellphones that aren’t connected to the internet.

The documents also included instructions stating that virus-related documents can only be transferred by regular mail and all staff are banned from taking photos of the documents and sharing the photos.

Additionally, officials aren’t allowed to share about such information during phone calls, via text messages, or any other internet-based communication channels; they are also forbidden from mentioning the information at home.

Furthermore, officials are barred from bringing virus-related documents, related computers,

external hard drives, and other movable storage media to their homes or public places.

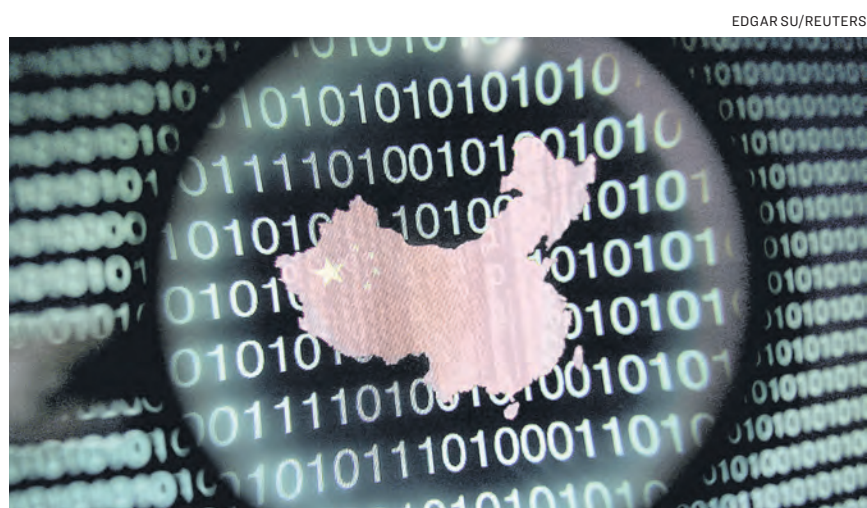
All related documents must be processed at government offices, with windows closed, and if a window must be open, officials must pay closer attention to security, the notice said. During pandemic-related meetings organized by the government, staff should also keep all windows closed. If the meeting goes for an extended period of time and participants need to get fresh air, staff can open the windows but must make sure that information is not leaked, the document noted.

No government officials and employees, medical staff at hospitals, or related personnel are allowed to accept media interviews without a

permit from the city government. Any information that has been approved for public release must be published, according to the city government’s orders.

The Chinese authorities’ lack of transparency surrounding the virus has been documented in previous Epoch Times reporting. In the initial stages of the outbreak, the Chinese regime downplayed the risk of human-to-human transmission in public while internal government documents showed that the authorities were scrambling to contain the virus from spreading.

Local authorities have also consistently under-reported virus infections, keeping internal tallies of diagnostic results that differ from officially released data.



EDGAR SU/REUTERS

Although Chinese citizens are blocked from using Twitter, bots have been swarming the platform to defend the communist regime.

## Beijing Launches Global Disinformation Campaign to Shift Blame for Virus

Regime pushing claim the virus originated from U.S. military, or elsewhere overseas

BOWEN XIAO  
THE EPOCH TIMES

An aggressive disinformation campaign unleashed globally by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP)—sparked by a motley mix of the Party’s own recent failures—intends to upend the narrative surrounding the pandemic.

The propaganda push primarily aims to deflect blame over the Chinese regime’s botched handling of the virus outbreak, sow discord internationally, and portray the image that the regime has contained the outbreak.

China experts say the disinformation campaign points to a bigger issue—Beijing’s global aspirations.

“Deception, disinformation, manipulation, distortion of the facts, obscuring their true intentions, and the patient, steady erosion of the will to resist on the part of others is something that very much feeds into the global ambitions of the Chinese Communist Party to dominate the world,” Frank Gaffney, executive chairman of the Washington-based Center for Security Policy, told The Epoch Times.

Chinese officials and state-run media have

amplified conspiracy theories on social media platforms such as Twitter, most recently pushing claims that the origin of the virus isn’t clear, or came from the U.S. military, or that the CCP’s containment efforts bought time for the rest of the world to prepare.

State-run Chinese outlets, many of which have an English-language website, have pushed these theories almost daily.

Although Chinese citizens are blocked from using Twitter, bots have been swarming the platform to defend the communist regime, attack the United States, and parrot propaganda narratives.

Joseph Bosco, a former China country desk officer in the U.S. Office of the Secretary of Defence, said the aim of the regime’s disinformation campaign is to “shift blame and escape responsibility for its gross negligence and lack of cooperation with international health organizations.”

Bosco said there’s an underlying reason why the United States was specifically targeted.

“Communist China sees the U.S. as the main obstacle to its aggressive global ambitions,” he said. “It seeks to enhance the CCP’s credibility and legitimacy, and to delegitimize the U.S. and the West.”

## What People Are Saying About The Epoch Times

I first learned about damage by the new, aggressive Wuhan virus from The Epoch Times. Kudos to ET for doing what we pay the departments of health billions of dollars to do.

DR. SHAWN WHATLEY  
PAST PRESIDENT OF THE ONTARIO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

Over the years, I have watched with growing admiration, amazement, and awe as The Epoch Times has gone from being a modest niche voice at its beginnings, growing in consequence until it is now Canada’s most important newspaper. That’s not a statement I make lightly. Legacy media are dying, but readership and an increasingly impressive stable of writers are flocking to your standard. And no wonder: week after week, other media repeat the washed-out establishment view, while you present a fresh take, full of the urgency and integrity of those who, having escaped repression, treasure the freedom to speak truth. Because of that commitment, you constantly scoop legacy media and get the story. I’m proud to have been a reader from the beginning. Keep it up and stay true to your mission!

OTTAWA READER

The Epoch Times is one of the world’s foremost experts on China, which is critically important today because the giant communist dictatorship is the foremost threat to the Western free world in the 21st century.

ROBERT GILMOUR  
FORMER REPORTER, EDMONTON

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THE EPOCH TIMES  
TRUTH AND TRADITION

World Health Organization  
Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus (L) shakes hands with Chinese leader Xi Jinping on Jan. 28, 2020. In the background is the WHO logo.



NAOHKHAHTA/AP/WIA GETTY IMAGES

## NEWS ANALYSIS

# Chinese Communist Subversion of WHO Undermined Global Pandemic Response

PETR SVAB  
THE EPOCH TIMES

The World Health Organization (WHO) is facing a flurry of criticism for its response to the CCP virus pandemic, and much of the problem can be attributed to the growing influence the communist regime in China has on the organization.

Critics mainly point out that the WHO was too slow to recommend travel restrictions and some other preventive measures, and also that the agency accepted information from the Chinese regime at face value, despite numerous red flags. While China experts were sounding

alarms about a coverup, the WHO continued to praise the regime's response and never warned the world that the data it was providing was suspect.

WHO, an agency of the United Nations, has long been swayed by Beijing's political preferences. Its current head, Dr. Tedros Adhanom

Ghebreyesus, is a former member of a Maoist group in Ethiopia.

As The Epoch Times previously documented, the Chinese communist regime has been increasing its power over U.N. institutions for years. Beijing's clout has now gone so far that it is undermining the WHO's basic functions, including the critical function of providing timely and accurate information about the world's health situation.

Case in point: the CCP (Chinese Communist Party) virus.

WHO advises against the application of any travel or trade restrictions on China based on the information currently available on this event.

*The World Health Organization in a statement following the outbreak in Wuhan*

## Timeline of WHO Response

The CCP virus, commonly known as the novel coronavirus, broke out in the central Chinese city of Wuhan around November 2019, before spreading across China and the world.

### MAY 19

By May 19, the world has seen nearly 5 million confirmed cases of the virus, which causes the disease COVID-19, and more than 320,000 deaths have been attributed to the disease globally.

The WHO has said that Chinese authorities first informed it about the outbreak on Dec. 31, 2019. While that would have been a golden opportunity to mitigate the spread of the virus worldwide, the WHO conveyed none of its information to the world that day.

It appears that only one country had its ear close enough to the ground at that point to respond meaningfully—Taiwan.

### DEC. 31

By Dec. 31, the island nation off the coast of mainland China had already started monitoring travellers coming on

flights from Wuhan. Taiwan authorities also told the WHO that day that Taiwanese doctors had learned from their mainland counterparts that health-care workers had been falling ill with the mysterious new virus.

That was crucial information, since it indicated the virus was spreading from person to person. The WHO, however, ignored it, Taiwan officials later said.

It was to be expected of the WHO to ignore that warning. The CCP considers Taiwan a breakaway province and has pressed the U.N. to ignore Taiwan's existence as an independent country.

Taiwan has been denied membership in the WHO, whose personnel are prohibited from using documents or even information from official Taiwan sources without prior special permission, according to a leaked 2010 WHO memo.

Such permission would involve "coordination with the Permanent [U.N.] Mission of China in Geneva," the memo stated.

While Taiwan was getting its response to the virus underway, the situation in Wuhan was quickly deteriorating.

FABRICE COFFRINI/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES



WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus attends a daily press briefing on the CCP virus in Geneva on March 11, 2020.

### JAN. 2

On Jan. 2, The Epoch Times reported on the efforts of the CCP to block information about the outbreak and the high levels of anxiety spreading throughout the city.

A Wuhan Health Commission directive prohibited all medical facilities in the city "from publicizing medical information without permission," and online discussions about the outbreak were quickly censored. On Jan. 1, Wuhan police said that they had detained eight locals who had spread "rumours" about the outbreak.

As it turned out, at least some of the suppressed whistleblowers were doctors who had tried to warn colleagues about the new virus.

Panicked locals cleared Wuhan pharmacies of surgical masks and over-the-counter preventive Chinese medicines. China expert and physician Tang Jingyuan warned a government coverup might exacerbate the spread of the virus.

Meanwhile, the WHO remained silent. *Continued on 5*

Continued from 4

**JAN. 3**

By Jan. 3, the WHO was informed by Chinese authorities of 44 cases, 11 of them severe. That was likely the tip of the iceberg.

**JAN. 5**

On Jan. 5, The Epoch Times reported, citing multiple experts, that the CCP had likely been covering up information about the virus, which was detrimental to controlling the outbreak.

That day, the WHO commented for the first time about the outbreak, disclosing that it had known about an outbreak of a “pneumonia of unknown cause” in Wuhan for five days and recommending that it should be “handled prudently.” But the agency didn’t recommend “any specific measures for travellers.”

Instead, it did the opposite.

“WHO advises against the application of any travel or trade restrictions on China based on the information currently available on this event,” it said.

Five days later, the WHO addressed the outbreak again.

“From the currently available information, preliminary investigation suggests that there is no significant human-to-human transmission, and no infections among health-care workers have occurred,” the agency stated, contradicting information that had been provided by Taiwan.

“WHO does not recommend any specific health measures for travellers,” the WHO said. It instead released general information on how to deal with virus infections.

**JAN. 12**

On Jan. 12, WHO said there was “no clear evidence of human-to-human transmission,” slightly adjusting its language.

“Preliminary investigations conducted by the Chinese authorities have found no clear evidence of human-to-human transmission,” WHO announced two days later, never expressing a shadow of a doubt about the Chinese communist regime’s official statements.

At this time, Taiwan had already arranged for its own fact-finding team to travel to Wuhan.

“They didn’t let us see what they didn’t want us to see, but our experts sensed the situation was not optimistic,” Taiwanese government spokesperson Kolas Yotaka told NBC News.

Soon after the team returned, Taiwan initiated testing and reporting requirements for its hospitals.

“Looking after itself, not listening to the WHO in this particular case, I think actually helped,” said Dr. William Stanton, vice president of the National Yang-Ming University of Taiwan and a former U.S. ambassador to China, in a

In a March 20 tweet, Tedros repeated CCP propaganda, saying that ‘for the first time, #China has reported no domestic #COVID19 cases yesterday.’

The WHO has abdicated its responsibility to the entire world population in order to carry water for the Chinese Communist regime.

*Marion Smith, executive director, Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation*



KEVIN FRAYER/GETTY IMAGES

recent interview with Jan Jekielek of The Epoch Times.

The WHO only managed to get its team to Wuhan for “a brief field visit” on Jan. 20.

**JAN. 17**

On Jan. 17, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) sent personnel to screen travellers coming from Wuhan to three major U.S. airports—JFK, Los Angeles International, and San Francisco International—which were getting the highest traffic from the outbreak’s epicentre. More airports were added to the list in subsequent weeks.

**JAN. 20**

On Jan. 20, China confirmed human-to-human transmission.

**JAN. 23**

On Jan. 23, the day the CCP put Wuhan on lockdown, the WHO announced that, despite some internal disagreements, it wouldn’t declare the outbreak a “public health emergency of international concern.”

By then, cases had already started to crop up around the world.

Three days later, Taiwan banned flights from Wuhan and arranged special flights to return its people from the city.

**JAN. 28**

On Jan. 28, while visiting China, the WHO’s Tedros urged the countries of the world “to remain calm and not to overreact,” expressing confidence in the Chinese regime’s epidemic control, Chinese state-run media reported.

**FEB. 3**

On Feb. 3, days after several countries prohibited foreigners who had

recently been in China from travelling to their country, Tedros voiced opposition to travel bans, saying measures that would “unnecessarily interfere with travel and trade” weren’t needed.

**MARCH 20**

In a March 20 tweet, Tedros repeated CCP propaganda, saying that “for the first time, #China has reported no domestic #COVID19 cases yesterday.” While for China experts, the news all but confirmed that the CCP numbers were fake, Tedros touted it as “an amazing achievement, that gives us all reassurance that the #coronavirus can be beaten.”

Statistical modelling, eyewitness accounts, and documents provided to The Epoch Times have shown that Chinese authorities concealed the true scale of the outbreak in Wuhan and other parts of China.

Tedros, however, repeatedly praised the Chinese regime for “transparency” in its response to the outbreak—something experts and government officials around the world have emphasized as being the most lacking.

The Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation, a non-profit established in the 1990s by the U.S. government, published on April 10 a detailed timeline of the CCP’s coverup of the epidemic and of the WHO’s culpability in that coverup. The organization also announced it would be adding the global CCP virus deaths to the historical death toll of communism.

“The WHO has abdicated its responsibility to the entire world population in order to carry water for the Chinese communist regime,” the foundation’s executive director, Marion Smith, said in a press release.

▲ Personnel at Taiwan’s Centers for Disease Control use thermal scanners to screen passengers arriving on a flight from Wuhan, Hubei Province, China, at Taipei’s Taoyuan International Airport in northern Taiwan on Jan. 13, 2020.

## WHO Head Tedros’s Personal Connection With the CCP

While part of the CCP’s influence over the WHO was coming from the U.N., another part of it was played by Tedros himself.

Tedros is a former Politburo member of the Tigray People’s Liberation Front, a Maoist group that had waged a guerrilla war in the 1980s against the Soviet-backed Mengistu regime in Ethiopia.

“The nearest you would put [Tigray’s ideology] to would be North Korea today,” according to Trevor Loudon, an expert on communist movements and front groups.

In the early 1990s, as the Mengistu regime lost financial support from the collapsing Soviet Union, a coalition of Tigray and other groups overthrew it and ruled the country until 2019.

While on the surface, the government embraced market reforms and democratic elections, ideologically it remained socialist, Loudon said, especially in terms of foreign policy.

“They still keep up their foreign communist connections,” he said in a telephone interview with The Epoch Times.

Tedros, a former health and later foreign minister of the African nation, naturally maintained strong

Tedros repeatedly praised China for ‘transparency’ in its response to the outbreak—something experts and government officials around the world have emphasized as being the most lacking.



Tedros Adhanom, Director General of the World Health Organization, (L) shakes hands with Foreign Minister Wang Yi at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse on January 28, 2020 in Beijing, China.

ties with the CCP, embracing projects such as the “Belt and Road” initiative, which serves the CCP to expand its geostrategic influence.

Tedros scored the WHO’s top post in 2017 with strong backing by the Chinese communist regime’s

lobby, despite allegations that he had covered up three cholera outbreaks during his tenure as health minister.

“Chinese diplomats had campaigned hard for the Ethiopian, using Beijing’s financial clout

and opaque aid budget to build support for him among developing countries,” Sunday Times columnist Rebecca Myers wrote at the time.

Tedros denied covering up the cholera outbreaks, saying it was just “acute watery diarrhea.”

He has proven adept at playing into Western sensitivity to accusations of oppression.

When an adviser to his British opponent for the WHO leadership brought up the cholera coverups, he accused him of having a “colonial mindset.”

When Taiwan called him out for ignoring its information about the CCP virus, Tedros accused Taiwan of racist attacks.

That accusation seems to have done little to deflect the criticism; a petition calling for Tedros’s resignation as the WHO’s director-general has garnered more than a million signatures.

“I think we have to take a much harder line in terms of how the WHO has handled this virus,” Stanton said. “Because it’s clearly been simply a mouthpiece, in my view, of the PRC [People’s Republic of China] government.”

## ANALYSIS

# Beijing's Reach: 8 Ways Chinese Regime Is Impacting the Lives of Canadians

OMID GHOREISHI  
THE EPOCH TIMES

The COVID-19 pandemic may be the most visible way in which China has impacted life in Canada, by costing Canadian lives, shutting down businesses, and confining people to their homes. But the Chinese regime has been influencing the way

of life and decision-making in this country for decades, including how Canada initially responded to the outbreak.

The following infographic shows eight ways in which the regime is directly impacting daily life in Canada.

The subsections below the infographic expand on two of the major areas in which Beijing wields its influence and interference activities. For a complete account of all eight areas, please visit [rb.gy/d4ldci](http://rb.gy/d4ldci)

▲ A resident at the Residence Floralties Lasalle in Montreal waves as she speaks by phone to her son outside on the sidewalk on April 15, 2020. Eighteen residents at the facility died over a three-week period in April.



## TACTICS & CONSEQUENCES

The Chinese regime uses a variety of tactics to influence and subvert Canada's political institutions and economy as well as other aspects of the lives of Canadians.



### 1 Influencing Industry and Gaining Leverage

- Pro-Beijing business groups lobby Ottawa to act in the Chinese regime's favour
- Beijing uses access to its markets to force Canadian companies to share their intellectual property and to elicit favourable Canadian government policies
- The regime uses money from Canada's annual trade deficit (which in 2019 was \$50 billion) to build up its foreign reserve coffers

### 2 Subverting Institutions and Politicians, Gaining Influence

- Beijing targets political parties, civil society, and academia to achieve infiltration and influence
- Beijing backs overseas supporters in the diaspora to run for office, or to support campaigns and events that back the regime's positions
- Intelligence officials have warned of Canadian politicians being under Beijing's influence
- Several politicians seemed to adopt pro-Chinese Communist Party positions after visiting China

### 3 Imprisoning Canadians and Pressuring Government

- Michael Kovrig and Michael Spavor remain in Chinese custody following Huawei CFO Meng Wanzhou's arrest in Canada
- A number of other innocent Canadians are detained or imprisoned in China

### 4 Exporting Opioids, Fuelling Addiction and Overdose Deaths

- China is the main source of fentanyl, the opioid that has killed thousands of Canadians
- The Chinese regime has refused to take action to stem the flow
- Intelligence agencies have reported links between Chinese triads (organized crime) and Chinese intelligence agencies

See page 11 for more on the regime and fentanyl.

### 5 Buying Key Assets to Gain Control

- The Chinese regime has bought significant stakes in Alberta's oilsands
- The Liberal government has allowed Chinese companies to buy sensitive high-tech firms
- Chinese firms use control of Canadian companies for further leverage

### 6 Using Increased Strength to Change World Order

- The Chinese Communist Party uses its influence and control to drive a wedge between the United States and Canada
- The regime uses its trade wealth to fund military expansion in Asia, Africa, and Latin America
- The regime is now pursuing an Arctic presence, right in Canada's backyard

### 7 Conducting Espionage to Gain Strategic Advantage

- China uses spies to gather state and commercial secrets in Canada, as well as information on persecuted groups in China
- Chinese hackers have targeted major Canadian corporations for years, causing huge economic loss
- The regime supports Huawei's 5G network-building efforts overseas, which Canada is considering, despite security concerns by allies such as the United States

See page 7 for more on Huawei.

### 8 Co-opting Academia and Controlling Thought Leaders

- Beijing uses incentives to influence scholars to publish papers and talk to media in its favour
- Pro-Beijing scholars have significant impact on government policy, given that Canadian decision-makers often consult with academics on policy development
- Several Canadian universities, colleges, and school districts host Beijing's Confucius Institutes
- The Thousand Talents Program is used to recruit international talent for China as well as steal technology from other countries through spying and intellectual property theft
- Universities depend on tuition from visiting Chinese students, which the Chinese Communist Party also leverages for influence

## Influencing Industry and Gaining Leverage

Beijing uses access to the Chinese market as a way to coerce countries to bend to its will.

For Canada, this was the case as early as the 1960s when Canada and China signed a deal to increase exports of Canadian grain to China. Back then, some politicians cited as a risk the threat of China cutting grain exports if Canada didn't align its stance on Taiwan with Beijing's. The communist regime says the self-ruled island should be under its control.

Today, Beijing incites major corporations and business associations to lobby Ottawa to follow its wishes and threatens to block imports if Canada falls out of line. The latest example is the regime's disruption of exports of canola and other products after Canada's refusal to free Huawei's Meng Wanzhou.

Despite China's lack of adherence to World Trade Organization (WTO) rules, the regime has enjoyed access to Canada's market in a rules-based environment. The trade deficit in China's favour was over \$50 billion last year, similar to the year before. The cumulative trade surplus that China has with Canada and other countries has fuelled the massive foreign reserves of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), giving the regime more power over its own citizens and other countries.

A 2018 report published by the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) that includes views by experts says that "China is prepared to use threats and enticements to bring business and political elites to its side, and motivate them to defend the Chinese perspective on disputes such as the status of Taiwan and the South China Sea."

The business benefits that Beijing promises may only be helping certain players. Research papers show that since China's inclusion in the WTO and the resulting flow of Chinese goods to this country, Canada has lost hundreds of thousands of manufacturing jobs.

In 1978, eight major Canadian corporations and a Chinese state-owned company formed the Canada-China Trade Council, later renamed the Canada China Business Council.



Police officers outside the Canadian Embassy in Beijing on Dec. 20, 2018.

In his 2019 book "Claws of the Panda," journalist Jonathan Manthorpe says the founding members of the organization "became a persuasive lobby for enhanced relations with China, for which the benefits of trade were held to be of paramount concern."

One of the corporations is Power Corp. of Canada. Manthorpe describes the company in his book as "the premier gatekeeper of [Canada's] formal relations with China." Several retired senior Canadian politicians have worked for the corporation or continue to be affiliated with it. Among them are former prime ministers Jean Chrétien and Brian Mulroney.

Chrétien suggested last year that Canada's justice minister should use his authority to block Meng's extradition to the United States, and Mulroney suggested that Chrétien be sent as a special envoy to China to negotiate the release of the arrested Canadians.

The pro-Beijing business lobby has managed to influence government policy even in staunchly China-averse governments.

Former prime minister Stephen Harper famously shunned the 2008 Beijing Olympics and was a vocal critic of China's human rights record and behaviour on the world stage. But later in his tenure, his government eased its tone on China.

"Behind the scenes, a major lobby operation was mounted using the CCP's agents of influence in business and academia to get the Harper government to change its attitude toward China," Manthorpe writes in his book. The lobby operation was successful, he adds.

## Subverting Institutions and Politicians, and Gaining Influence

The Chinese regime uses the United Front Work Department, one of its key organizations, to advance its sphere of influence abroad. CCP founder Mao Zedong called the United Front a "magic weapon" necessary for sustaining the regime's power.

The agency aims to bring the Chinese diaspora and politicians abroad under its control to act in Beijing's interests.

Then-CSIS head Richard Fadden famously said in 2010 that some provincial cabinet ministers as well as municipal elected officials were under the influence of a foreign regime, and mentioned China as the most aggressive country in the pursuit of influence.

Starting around 2005, China initiated a strategy of using members of the Chinese diaspora it trusts to run for public office, according to Clive Hamilton, author and professor of public ethics at Charles Sturt University in Australia. This strategy is most advanced in Canada, he writes in *The Conversation*.

“The Chinese Communist Party uses money ... as a powerful source of influence, creating parasitic relationships of long-term dependence.”

HUDSON INSTITUTE

A 2018 report by Hoover Institution notes that in Canada, Chinese state actors have targeted political parties and politicians as well as civil society and academia to be used as sources of influence.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau stirred much controversy in 2016 for attending cash-for-access fundraisers attended by wealthy people from the Chinese-Canadian community. One of the events was attended by a wealthy Chinese individual who acts as a political adviser to the CCP. Trudeau ended cash-for-access fundraisers in 2017.

The 2019 annual report by the National Security and Intelligence Committee

of Parliamentarians cites an excerpt from a Washington, D.C.-based Hudson Institute publication saying, "With deep coffers and the help of Western enablers, the Chinese Communist Party uses money, rather than communist ideology, as a powerful source of influence, creating parasitic relationships of long-term dependence."

One of the common methods Beijing uses to develop closer relations with politicians is by offering free junkets and treating the guests to lavish dinners and luxury hotels.

Vancouver Mayor Sam Sullivan told the *Vancouver Sun* in 2006, "when I go to China, they treat me like an emperor." Sullivan pursued court action to shut down a long-running protest site outside the Chinese Consulate in Vancouver run by practitioners of Falun Gong, a spiritual practice being persecuted by the Chinese regime.

In 2010, after returning from a trip to China, Ottawa Mayor Larry O'Brien withdrew his support for a proclamation recognizing local Falun Gong practitioners. He reportedly explained to an Ottawa city councillor that his change of heart was the result of a "commitment" he had made while in China.

Beijing also in many cases offers lucrative job offers to politicians and senior civil servants after they leave their official posts.

Shortly before Australia's new anti-foreign interference laws came into effect, two former cabinet ministers and a former premier resigned their posts with organizations with strong links to the Chinese regime. The country's new laws require those acting on behalf of foreign powers to publicly register their names.

The United States has enacted similar laws, but no such legislation exists in Canada.

To read a longer version of this article on how the Chinese regime exerts influence and impacts life in Canada, please visit [rb.gy/d4ldci](http://rb.gy/d4ldci)

Visitors use their mobile phones at a Huawei stand during an event in Barcelona in a file photo.



# How Huawei's Rise Coincided With Telecom Giant Nortel's Demise

OMID GHOREISHI  
THE EPOCH TIMES

**N**ortel Networks was the big success story of Canada's technology industry. At its height, it employed close to 100,000 people worldwide and reached a market cap of \$283 billion.

The failure of the firm has been the subject of academic studies and attributed to multiple factors. But Brian Shields, a former senior security adviser at Nortel, thinks IP theft by Chinese hackers that presumably aided Nortel's competitors was one of them. He alleges the main benefactor of the data would have been Huawei.

"It really hurt a lot of people here, because we had jobs and we lost them," Shields said in an interview. "These were the people who we worked with for many years, and it just hurts."

Shields first learned about the hacking in 2004 and saw it continue through to 2009, when he left the company. At first, the hackers were using accounts of executives—including the CEO—to access files, he said. Once discovered, the hackers changed tactics and instead used accounts of employees based in China, as Nortel had operations there.

Based on the level of sophistication of the hacking operation, it was clear to Shields that it was the Chinese state that was behind the hackings.

"It was very organized what they were doing over there, it was very advanced," he said. "A 16-year-old hacker isn't going to take an electronic document on some diode and its transmissions. ... What is he going to do with that?"

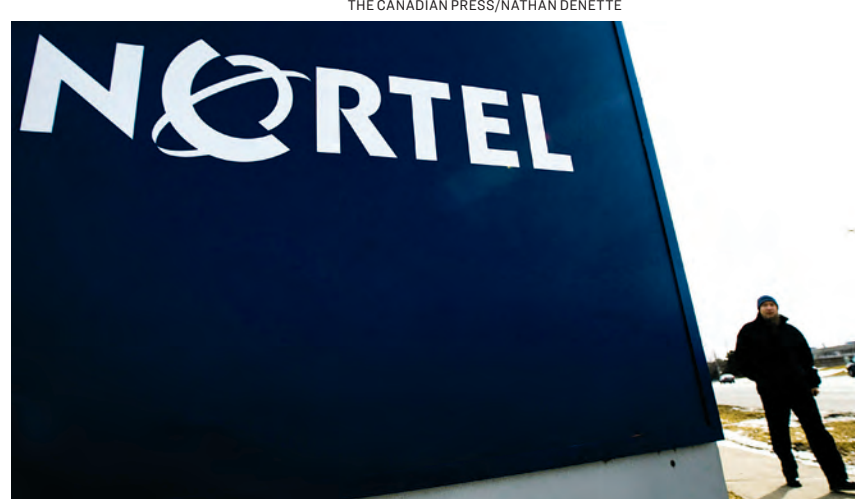
While Shields had no proof that Huawei was receiving the data, he believes that's the obvious conclusion.

"Where was the manufacturer that was reaping the benefits of this? Was it the companies in Russia or France that were suddenly doing real good? No. It was economic espionage, and we lost an industry here in Canada. That's what happened."

Nortel filed for bankruptcy in 2009 and its stock price dropped below \$1, leaving thousands of employees without jobs and pensioners in a state of limbo.

On the other side of the world, Huawei was celebrating its expansion outside of China throughout the 2000s. By 2010, the company was listed among the Global Fortune 500 corporations.

Mark Anderson, a tech guru and CEO of U.S.-based Strategic News Service, which offers research and information at the intersection of technology and economics, said it was no coincidence that Huawei was rising at the same time that Nortel was going down.



A man walks past a company sign at a Nortel Networks office tower in Toronto on Feb. 25, 2009.

It really hurt a lot of people here, because we had jobs and we lost them.

Brian Shields,  
former senior security  
adviser at Nortel

THE CANADIAN PRESS/NATHAN DENETTE

"Huawei took the international telecoms equipment market by storm by charging about an average of 40 percent less than the market rates. They were able to do that because they were a [Chinese Communist] Party-related company," Anderson said in an interview.

Thanks to government subsidies and "gift contracts" from the Chinese military, the company was under no pressure to achieve a profit.

There were other factors in Huawei's success as well, he said.

"It was using stolen IP at the same time, so it didn't have any sunken costs in research and development, and the result was you could charge anything you wanted to."

In Anderson's assessment, Nortel was Canada's best company but IP theft by China "absolutely destroyed the company."

The Epoch Times contacted Huawei Canada for comment, but the company didn't respond.

In a previous interview with The Epoch Times, Scott Bradley, Huawei Canada's vice-president of corporate affairs, who left the company in January 2019, said Huawei is a private company and not a state-owned enterprise.

At a U.S. Senate Intelligence Committee hearing in 2018, FBI Director Chris Wray referred to Huawei and ZTE, another Chinese telecom giant, as companies "beholden to foreign governments," urging against allowing them to "gain positions of power inside our telecommunications networks."

China's national intelligence law enacted in 2017 requires all private companies to support Beijing on issues of national security and intelligence.

## Canadian Operations

Huawei started expanding its operations in Canada in the late 2000s, and has been receiving government support, including over \$22 million in grants from the Ontario government throughout the 2010s, as well as tax credits from the federal government for R&D

expenditures in Canada. The company also invests tens of millions of dollars in academic research in Canada, against the advice of security experts. A report by The Globe and Mail found that in many cases research partly funded by the Canadian public at these universities ends up as intellectual property for Huawei.

Amidst increasing pressure from the U.S. government, Huawei announced late last year that it is moving its entire research centre from the United States to Canada.

Mary Liu, a former high-ranking employee of the company in Toronto, says Huawei's Canadian operation is very profitable compared to its operations in other countries, and the company has negotiated a favourable tax scheme with the government. The Epoch Times is using an alias for the former staff member, who wishes to keep her identity private to avoid retaliation from Huawei and the Chinese regime.

Liu and other former employees The Epoch Times spoke to say that expat staff transferred from China to Huawei Canada, which account for about 10 percent of the personnel at the Toronto headquarters, are required to participate in what is called Chinese Communist Party (CCP) study sessions every Saturday morning.

In addition, all staff, including expats and locals, have to adhere to the company's "wolf culture," promoted by founder Ren Zhengfei, who draws from his background in the Chinese military. The purpose is to have all employees embrace the fearlessness and bloodthirsty nature of hungry wolves when pursuing the business interests of the company, being resilient while operating in harsh conditions as a team.

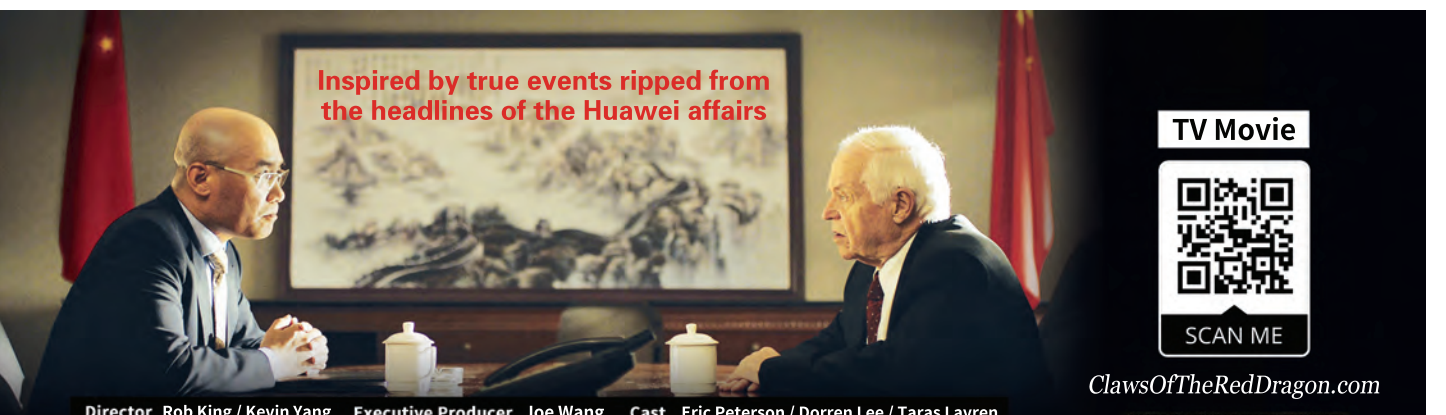
## Security Concerns

Ottawa has yet to make a decision on whether to allow Huawei to participate in Canada's 5G infrastructure, a point of contention with Canada's allies who are concerned their shared data could be compromised if the Chinese telecom giant has access to Canada's network. Washington has warned partners that the United States may limit data sharing if they allow Huawei to be part of their 5G networks.

Three of Canada's allies in the Five Eyes intelligence alliance—Australia, New Zealand, and the United States—have banned Huawei from their fifth-generation wireless networks, and the Telegraph reported that the U.K. plans to reduce Huawei's involvement in the nation's 5G networks to zero by 2023.

A recent Angus Reid survey showed that close to 80 percent of Canadians say Huawei should be banned from being involved in building the country's 5G network, around 10 points higher than late last year.

NOMINEE  
2020  
CLAWS  
OF THE  
RED DRAGON



Director Rob King / Kevin Yang Executive Producer Joe Wang Cast Eric Peterson / Dorren Lee / Taras Lavren

TV Movie



SCAN ME

ClawsOfTheRedDragon.com

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Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian takes a question at the daily media briefing in Beijing on April 8, 2020.



GREG BAKER/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

### TWITTER (Chinese Officials)

Hundreds of Chinese officials—including diplomats and those at embassies and consulates—are working together to push disinformation narratives on verified Twitter accounts.

The accounts, some of which have hundreds of thousands of followers, push conspiracy theories that aim to deflect blame and sow discord.

Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Lijian Zhao wrote in a March 12 tweet: "When did patient zero begin in US? ... It might be US army who brought the epidemic to Wuhan."



A suspected CCP bot on Twitter. SCREENSHOT CHENST3KK VIA TWITTER

### TWITTER (Chinese Bots)

CCP bots are swarming Twitter to defend the regime, and parrot propaganda narratives in concert with Chinese officials. These accounts published "over 32,000 posts related to COVID-19 on several Western social media platforms" between Jan. 9

and March 9, according to one report by Insikt Group.

The U.S. State Department recently discovered a "coordinated" bot network on Twitter designed to disseminate CCP disinformation. They identified thousands of "inauthentic" Twitter accounts used to help Chinese embassies and diplomats spread disinformation.



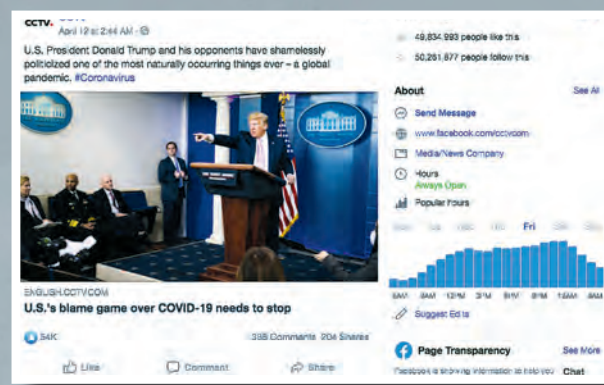
Chinese messaging app WeChat has over 1 billion monthly active users worldwide. IGOR MOSKALENKO/SHUTTERSTOCK

### WECHAT

Censorship on China's most popular social media app WeChat is also affecting Chinese people in Canada and other Western nations.

A report by Citizenlab at the University of Toronto found

that the platform "broadly censored coronavirus-related content (including critical and neutral information) and expanded the scope of censorship in February 2020." According to Citizenlab, the strict censorship rules may "restrict vital communication related to disease information and prevention."



A Facebook news post by Chinese state-run media CCTV. SCREENSHOT CCTV VIA FACEBOOK

### FACEBOOK (State-Run Media)

English-language editions of China's state-run media companies, such as Global Times, Xinhua News, China Daily, and CCTV, are using Facebook to spread articles portraying China's response to the outbreak in a positive light.

Global Times has 53 million followers. Many articles also include anti-U.S. hashtags "#Trumpandemic" and "#TrumpVirus."

For example, an April 12 Facebook post by CCTV stated, "U.S. President Donald Trump and his opponents have shamelessly politicized one of the most naturally occurring things ever—a global pandemic."



A Chinese state-run media ad on Facebook. SCREENSHOT GLOBAL TIMES VIA FACEBOOK

### FACEBOOK (Advertisements)

The CCP is also using its state-run media accounts to spread disinformation through advertisements on platforms like Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Renée DiResta, the technical research manager at Stanford's Internet Observatory, said the ads, which include statements sowing doubt that the virus originated in Wuhan,

marked a sharp turn from 2019, when state-run media advertisements mostly included "friendly images of pandas and kittens ... and amplified feel-good political stories."

"President Trump ... seems impatient when it comes to epidemic controls. He and his team are still misleading American society," one ad in the Global Times stated.

# THE CCP'S VIRUS PROPAGANDA WAR

## The Chinese regime is pushing its propaganda aggressively, using a wide range of channels



A screenshot of a WHO Twitter post that parroted CCP information. SCREENSHOT WHO VIA TWITTER

### INFLUENCING POWERFUL INSTITUTIONS

The World Health Organization (WHO) has faced growing criticism over its slow response to the outbreak, its reluctance to restrict travel to and from China, and its acceptance at face value of information provided by the

communist regime despite numerous red flags.

One example was a Jan. 14 Twitter post in which the WHO repeated Chinese propaganda, writing that "preliminary investigations conducted by the Chinese authorities have found no clear evidence of human-to-human transmission of the novel #coronavirus (2019-nCoV) identified in #Wuhan, #China."

### 'CHARM OFFENSIVE'

The CCP, in an effort to advance itself as a global leader, is sending medical supplies such as masks and testing kits to countries around the globe in an attempt to promote a positive view of the regime.

However, it has received growing backlash from countries that have publicly complained the supplies were shoddy.

"After an initial burst of positive publicity, the narrative about Chinese aid to Europe has soured," Peter Rough, senior fellow at the Hudson Institute, told The Epoch Times.



A number of countries have complained about receiving shoddy medical supplies from China. BJORN WYLEZICH (CARGO PLANE); TUNAROV (FACE MASKS PACKAGE)/SHUTTERSTOCK



A propaganda video shared by the Twitter account of the Chinese Embassy in France. SCREENSHOT AMBASSADE DE CHINE EN FRANCE VIA TWITTER

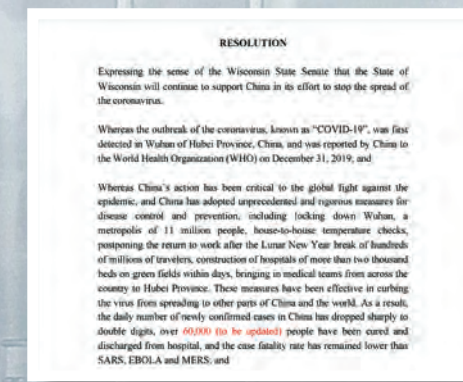
### PROPAGANDA VIDEOS

The CCP is constantly adapting its disinformation efforts to be more viral and effective. One of its tactics now is using meme-like videos that seize on a specific narrative.

One of these videos, posted by the Chinese Embassy in

France, is "Once Upon a Virus," a slickly edited animated short using Lego figures that casts China's efforts in a positive light and the United States' efforts in a negative light. As of May 12, the video had garnered 2.4 million views on Twitter and more than 28,000 likes.

Memetic warfare is the weaponized use of memes to push ideas into a society in a way that allows them to spread quickly.

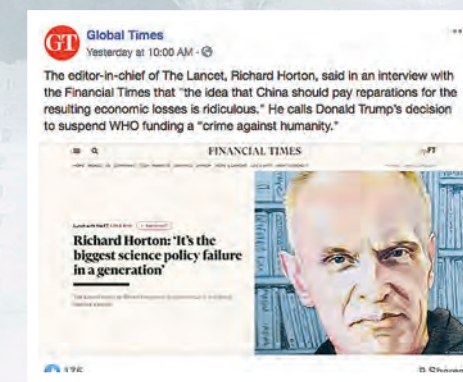


A screenshot of a resolution drafted by an official at the Chinese consulate in Chicago that was sent to Wisconsin state Sen. Roger Roth. The draft resolution touts Wisconsin state's support for Beijing's efforts to combat the outbreak.

### TRADITIONAL DIPLOMACY

Amid the pandemic, the CCP continues to use its usual diplomacy negotiations to try to pressure Western countries. In one example, the Chinese

consulate in Chicago tried to convince Wisconsin state Sen. Roger Roth to voice support for Beijing's CCP virus-containment efforts. In this case, the consulate's prompting backfired, and the lawmaker instead introduced a resolution slamming Beijing's coverup of the outbreak.



A Facebook post by the Global Times linking to an article critical of the United States. SCREENSHOT GLOBAL TIMES VIA FACEBOOK

### EXPLOITING OTHER MEDIA

The CCP highlighted news articles from media companies that helped prop up its image. It has also spread propaganda through paid supplements as one such project called "China Watch" does via inserts in The Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal, and The New York Times.

In one example, the Global Times' Facebook page posted a screenshot of an article in the Financial Times that was critical of the United States, writing in the post: "The editor-in-chief of The Lancet, Richard Horton, said in an interview with the Financial Times that 'the idea that China should pay reparations for the resulting economic losses is ridiculous.'"



## ANALYSIS

## How Canada Helped China Get Where It Is Today

OMID GHOREISHI  
THE EPOCH TIMES

In the early morning of Oct. 8, 1970, as Chairman Mao Zedong got wind that his diplomats had reached an agreement with the Canadian delegation on the terms of establishing diplomatic relations, he reportedly laughed and said, "Now we have made a friend in the backyard of America!"

Thus began a relationship that brought the Chinese communist regime out of isolation, paving the way for other Western governments to establish ties with Beijing and for the regime to secure a seat in the United Nations and other multilateral organizations crucial to its growth.

As the decades have passed, Canada has given more but been respected less—if occurrences such as Beijing's arrest of Canadian citizens and its actions to mislead the world, including Canada, on the COVID-19 pandemic are anything to go by.

The story about Mao's reaction was relayed by Chen Wenzhao, a former Chinese consul-general in Toronto at an event on China-Canada relations in Shanghai in 2010. Chen explained that Mao had dubbed developed countries such as Canada and European nations as "large swathes of middle ground" between the Chinese regime and the United States.

"As China needed to expand the anti-hegemony [anti-U.S.] reunion united front, we had to strengthen the relations with 'middle ground' countries," Chen said.

Almost half a century later and a decade after the speech by Chen, his peers fear no repercussions when lecturing Canada on how it should behave.

In a press conference late last year, China's ambassador to Canada, Cong Peiwu, warned Ottawa not to follow U.S. lawmakers' lead in creating legislation to sanction Chinese officials over the Hong Kong crackdown. He added that Canada should denounce the pro-democracy activists in Hong Kong. Cong's predecessor, Lu Shaye, called Canada and its Western allies white supremacists for asking for the release of Michael Kovrig and Michael Spavor, Canadian citizens who have been detained in China for over a year following Canada's arrest of Huawei executive Meng Wanzhou.

While some have said diplomats making such statements should be expelled, the ambassadors have gone unchallenged by Canada's leaders.

Commenting on China's technological rise and intellectual property theft, U.S. Senator Jim Risch said at the Halifax International Security Forum in November 2019 that the average person can't help but wonder "how did they [China] get here?"

The same question can be asked about the communist regime's rise to become an existential threat to Western democracies, as characterized by former U.S. national security adviser H.R. McMaster in a Munk debate in 2018.

There are many ways that Canada contributed to China's rise.

#### Ottawa's Hand Up

Shortly after winning the federal election in 1968, Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau remarked on the need for world recognition of the People's Republic of China (PRC) multiple times. According to Mei Ping, China's former ambassador to Canada, Beijing took note.

"[The Chinese foreign ministry] sent cables to all our diplomatic missions abroad asking them to watch out and report immediately if they are approached by Canadian diplomats," Mei said at the event in Shanghai in 2010.

In his talk at the same event, Chen made reference to Pierre Trudeau's trip to China as a young man, adding that he was "ideologically leftist and as a result blacklisted and denied entry



Chinese leader Xi Jinping speaks at a United Nations summit in New York in a file photo.



Canadians Michael Kovrig (L) and Michael Spavor, who have been detained in China since December 2018.

As the decades have passed, Canada has given more but been respected less.

by the U.S." The ban was later removed after he made an appeal.

"After taking office, he intended to distance himself from the U.S. on China policy. He made it public that Canada would do something that the U.S. didn't agree or like to do and used the analogy of touching the tail of the tiger," Chen said.

Diplomatic relations between Ottawa and Beijing began after Canada relented on recognizing the PRC as the legitimate government of China and effectively suspended diplomatic relations with the regime's rival, the Kuomintang in Taiwan.

With Canada's help, the PRC got a seat at the United Nations General Assembly in 1971, and many other Western countries started establishing their own relations with the regime.

"The ... list of countries establishing diplomatic relations with China expanded rapidly, and so did the international standing of China," Chen said.

Besides helping the Chinese regime join other major international bodies, Canada went on to help the country's development with foreign aid via both bilateral and multilateral channels. Canadian taxpayers' money poured into China by the millions each year through the Canadian International Development Agency and international agencies such as various U.N. bodies.

In 2001, Canadian taxpayers gave close to \$70 million in aid to China. The same year, the Chinese regime spent close to US\$30 billion on its military, maintaining its position among the top five military spenders in the world. Canada's military spending was about US\$8 billion.

Canada also helped the Chinese regime develop its science and technology programs beginning in the 1980s, bringing Chinese scientists and engineers to Canada for training and sending Canadian specialists to China to help improve the Chinese higher education system. Canada sold the regime nuclear reactors and helped in developing the country's infrastructure.

A critical milestone for the Chinese regime was achieved in 2001 when it joined the World Trade Organization (WTO) with the backing of U.S. President Bill Clinton. This set the regime on the path of maintaining years of trade imbalance in its favour with many countries, including Canada and the United States. It helped the Chinese regime build up its foreign reserves and boost its economy, while costing millions of jobs in the United States and Canada as manufacturers relocated to China to take advantage of cheaper labour.

According to a 2018 study by the Economic Policy Institute, between 2001 and 2017, the United States lost 3.4 million jobs as a result of China's acceptance into the WTO. A 2017 report by the Centre for the Study of Living Standards found that between 2001 and 2011, Canada lost 150,000-170,000 jobs due to increased Chinese imports. Another report in the same year by the Broadbent Institute said Canada has lost close to 550,000 manufacturing jobs since 2000.

Canada also helped the Chinese regime develop its science and technology programs beginning in the 1980s.

Both Clinton and Canada's prime minister at the time, Jean Chrétien, sold the idea of China's inclusion in the WTO on the expressed hope that linking the Chinese regime closer to Western economies would improve the rule of law in China and help turn the regime—which just 12 years earlier had slaughtered pro-democracy protesters in Tiananmen Square—

toward allowing more freedom for the Chinese people.

"WTO accession is part of China's broad agenda of developing the rule of law, to ensure fair and equal treatment before the courts for both people and companies," Chrétien said at the time.

By 2018, the U.S.-China annual trade deficit had soared to nearly US\$380 billion (about C\$530 billion), while the Canada-China deficit was over C\$40 billion.

Although the Chinese regime enjoyed the removal of barriers to world trade by joining the WTO, it didn't afford the same advantage in many cases to foreign players. The 2019 annual report by the American Chamber of Commerce in China said American businesses are still yearning for a level playing field in the country and are asking Beijing to honour investment reciprocity.

In 2017, Canada invested \$250 million in the regime's vanity project, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, a multilateral development bank to rival the Asian Development Fund and the World Bank.

#### The Aftermath

China is now the world's second-largest economy and has the second-highest military spending in the world, after the United States.

Beijing has increased its military presence in its backyard in Asia and as far away as Africa and Latin America, and it's throwing its weight against its smaller neighbours on territorial disputes in the South China Sea.

Kovrig and Spavor remain behind bars, and Beijing continues to block Canada's canola imports against WTO rules, according to Ottawa. Inside China, millions of people, including Uyghurs in Xinjiang, Falun Gong adherents, Tibetans, and Christians continue to face persecution, death, and even forced organ harvesting, and the Beijing-backed government in Hong Kong was violently cracking down on pro-democracy protesters until the pandemic started.

Beijing uses its United Front agency to control Chinese people living in Canada, setting up community groups to uphold its position on issues it deems important, and actively using members of the Chinese diaspora it trusts to run for politics.

And when the CCP (Chinese Communist Party) virus outbreak happened in Wuhan, the Chinese regime kept Canada, like other countries, in the dark, leading to a global pandemic.

For an overview of how Beijing is impacting Canadians' lives, see the story and infographic on page 6.

# China Behind Fentanyl Crisis Killing Thousands of Canadians a Year, Experts Say

OMID GHOREISHI  
THE EPOCH TIMES

The Beijing regime's coverup of the virus outbreak in Wuhan has claimed hundreds of thousands of lives around the world, including thousands in Canada. But the regime is behind another crisis that is directly costing thousands of Canadian lives each year—the opioid crisis fuelled by fentanyl.

Experts say the Chinese regime is deliberately using fentanyl, an inexpensive and illegal drug, to contribute to the downfall of North American society.

"It's not like they're coming to Canada, to the U.S., by accident. This is China's way of drugging North America," Christian Leuprecht, a political science professor at Queen's University and the Royal Military College of Canada, told The Epoch Times.

"This is China fighting the Opium Wars of the 19th century for the 21st century."

Fentanyl is an extremely lethal drug—50 times more potent than heroin and 100 times more potent than morphine. As little as two milligrams of fentanyl is enough to kill most people.

There were close to 14,000 opioid-related deaths in Canada between January 2016 and June 2019, with fentanyl accounting for the majority. The drug is also responsible for more than 30,000 deaths in the United States each year.

"The opioid crisis is one of the most serious public health crises in recent memory," says a May 2019 report by Health Canada.

According to law enforcement agencies, China is the main source of the fentanyl coming into North America.

"There is clear evidence that fentanyl or fentanyl precursors, chemicals used to make fentanyl, is coming from China,"



BENJAMIN CHASTEEN/THE EPOCH TIMES

▲ Paramedics help a man suffering from an overdose in Dayton, Ohio, in a file photo.

“This is China's way of drugging North America.”

CHRISTIAN LEUPRECHT, political science professor, Queen's University & the Royal Military College of Canada

Dr. Andrew Kolodny, co-director of Opioid Policy Research at the Heller School for Social Policy and Management in Massachusetts, told The Epoch Times.

Two commonly used fentanyl precursors are chemicals called NPP and 4-ANPP. In early 2017, journalist Ben Westhoff started researching the chemicals and found many advertisements for them all over the internet from different companies. He later determined that a majority of those companies were under the umbrella of a Chinese chemical company called Yuancheng, according to an excerpt from his book "Fentanyl, Inc.: How Rogue Chemists Are Creating the Deadliest Wave of the Opioid Epidemic."

Washington has used its trade negotiations to compel Beijing to agree to take action to combat the influx of fentanyl. However, the regime has refused to make any promises to Canada to take action

to stop the drug from coming into the country, according to a Global News report, citing multiple sources including one with knowledge of international policing.

"[The United States] has made stemming the flow of fentanyl from China to the United States a part of the trade negotiations. So it's very clear that it is deliberate and intentional by the Chinese government to bring this material to North America," says Leuprecht.

The drug is shipped to Canada mainly via shipping containers and mail, primarily through British Columbia.

Fentanyl operations are also related to illegal gang activity and money laundering, both of which have impacted everyday life significantly in British Columbia.

Dr. Robert J. Bunker, an adjunct research professor at the U.S. Army War College Strategic Studies Institute, says that while not all

opioid-related deaths can be blamed on Beijing, the Chinese regime is "greatly contributing" to the opioid crisis to achieve its greater goals.

Bunker says contributing to "a major health crisis" would serve the regime's long-term plans "to establish an authoritarian Chinese global system as a challenge to Western liberal democracy."

Sen. Vernon White, a former chief of the Ottawa Police Service, says Canada should be implementing punitive trade restrictions on Chinese players involved in the shipment of fentanyl into Canada.

"It seems for China, trade is something that has impact," he said in an interview. "They need to understand that if they're not going to do enough, from a trade perspective it's going to impact them on legitimate trade."

With reporting by Bowen Xiao

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## EDITORIAL

# To Resist the Chinese Communist Party Virus, Say No to the CCP

EDITORIAL BOARD  
THE EPOCH TIMES

The CCP virus (commonly known as the novel coronavirus) spread rapidly this year while the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) concealed the real situation in China, causing incalculable losses to the world.

So far, the virus has spread to most countries in the world, with almost 5 million people infected and 318,525 dead as of May 18—assuming one takes at face value the official Chinese death toll of 4,642. In fact, many Chinese people believe that the real Chinese death toll is at least 10 times higher than the official number reported by the CCP.

Facing a huge loss of life and economic devastation, the governments and peoples of nations around the world urgently need to reflect on the relationship between the plague and the Communist Party and what individuals and countries should do to avoid the pandemic and save themselves.

The Communist Party's dark history is intertwined with war, famine, plague, and death. The Epoch Times editorial series "Nine Commentaries on the Communist Party" states that "the essence of communism is an evil spectre" whose ultimate goal is to destroy humankind. The CCP is the biggest embodiment of this spectre.

The CCP's 70-year tyranny has killed 80 million Chinese people and destroyed traditional Chinese culture and morality. In the past 30 years, from the Tiananmen Square massacre of pro-democracy students in 1989 to the ongoing persecution of Falun Gong adherents that began in 1999, the suppression of and misrule over the Chinese people have brought huge culpability to the CCP and those in the rest of the world who have enabled it or been complicit by turning a blind eye.

For nearly 40 years, the CCP has used globalization and economic incentives to bring other countries under the Communist Party's influence. CCP infiltration beyond China's borders runs deep in the political, economic, cultural, and educational spheres. Overt examples of People's Republic of China influence include the Confucius Institutes programs, the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), and telecom giant Huawei. By trapping people and governments within its system of economic interests, the CCP leads them to accommodate its atheist ideology, tolerate its tyrannical rule, and betray the divine.

Misfortune is certain to befall those countries and regions that have increased their engagement with the CCP and endorsed it. The path of the COVID-19 virus as it has spread around the world goes through the countries, cities, organizations, and even individuals that have close relationships with the CCP.

## New York City the US Hot Spot

According to data from the Johns Hopkins University statistics website, more than 1.5 million confirmed cases and 90,000 deaths have occurred in the United States by May 18. The number of confirmed cases in New York state accounted for one-quarter of the national total, and the number of deaths accounted for nearly a third.

Ever since President Richard Nixon's visit to China in 1972, the United States has provided critical support to the CCP in various forms in the fields of politics, military affairs, diplomacy, economics, finance, education, as well as science and technology. Later, when the United States helped China to become a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO), it gave the CCP access to the international community and caused huge amounts of Western



Police stand guard on a main road in Beijing on Jan. 31, 2020.

wealth to be transferred to China, making it the "world's factory."

Only in the last few years has a general re-evaluation of the U.S.-China relationship begun to take place, as American politicians, officials, and think tanks came to realize the role the country has played in building up mainland China to the benefit of the Communist Party.

## The Communist Party's dark history is intertwined with war, famine, plague, and death.

Without the help of the United States, and without the support of so many multinational companies, high-tech giants, and large financial groups, the CCP could not have quickly developed from a regime on the verge of economic collapse into an emerging hegemon capable of challenging the United States.

As the world's No. 1 metropolis, New York City is the global centre for the economy, finance, commerce, and media. It's also the location of the United Nations headquarters and has a great influence on global politics, education, and entertainment. With its special status and influence, New York City has played a major role in helping the CCP to achieve its agendas and advance its interests.

Wall Street, which represents the financial capital of the United States, has "transfused blood" to the CCP for many years and become the behind-the-curtain financier helping the Chinese communist regime prolong its life.

By infiltrating New York's economy, finance, commerce, media, culture, education, and other fields, as well as the Chinese-American community, the CCP has channelled wealth and technology back to China. While exporting its ideology and abuse of human rights to the world, the CCP has attempted to seize world leadership and challenge the United States.

These factors have made New York a major target of the CCP virus.

## Devastating Situation in Iran

The CCP considers Iran an intimate comrade-in-arms. While the official epidemic figures from Iran aren't as high as those from some other countries, analysts believe Iran's figures of confirmed cases and death toll must be greatly under-reported. Similar to the CCP, Iran's authoritarian regime has likely concealed the true scale in an attempt to "maintain social order."

Many high-ranking Iranian officials have been infected, including Iran's first vice president and the deputy health minister, and many have died as a result.

The CCP has been supporting Iran for years, offering economic aid and weapons. It has even provided key nuclear weapons technology to Iran in order to threaten and constrain democratic countries.

For the BRI, launched by the CCP in 2013 to export communist hegemony, Iran is an important geographical and strategic hub from which the regime can penetrate Europe, Asia, and Africa.

## Countries in Europe

Aside from China and Iran, among the nations with larger numbers of cases (5,000 or more), Spain has the highest relative number (at least 466 per 100,000 people), with more than 278,000 cases and 27,000 deaths. Three close relatives of Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez and the deputy prime minister have been infected.

The severe situation is sending a strong warning to Spain that the government's pro-communist policies have brought misfortune to the country.

Spain was the first EU country to make friendly gestures toward the CCP after the Tiananmen Square massacre on June 4, 1989.

The hardest-hit country in Europe has been Italy, the root cause being the intimate relationship between the Italian government and the CCP.

Italy is a member of the G7 and a developed and democratic country. However, despite opposition from its allies, it formed an alliance with the CCP in March 2019 to "strengthen a comprehensive strategic partnership." It is also the first EU country to sign on to the BRI.

Italy has 74 sister-city relationships with communist China, including in the Lombardy region, which has the highest number of infections and deaths, and cities such as Milan, Venice, and Bergamo.

Major European countries such as the United Kingdom, France, and Germany are now also caught up in the pandemic. People have suffered huge losses, and even the British prime minister became infected and almost died.

One thing these countries have in common is that they've been "close to" the CCP in recent years. For instance, the CCP aims to use Huawei's 5G technology as a means of infiltrating the world, but the United Kingdom, France, and Germany ignored security warnings and gave the company the green light.

The areas with the worst outbreaks in these countries—London in the U.K., Oise in France,

and North Rhine-Westphalia in Germany—have also forged friendly relations with the CCP.

When the pandemic hit the world, the experiences of European countries sounded the alarm to the world.

## Severity in China's Neighbouring Countries Varies

Compared with countries in Europe and North America, the situation in the areas near mainland China more clearly illustrates the relationship between the pandemic and the CCP.

Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong, and Taiwan are all close neighbours of China. The numbers of people infected in Hong Kong and Taiwan are far lower than those in Japan and South Korea. The key difference lies in these countries' attitudes toward the CCP.

Currently, Japan and South Korea have more than 11,000 confirmed infections each. In Hong Kong and Taiwan, both of which have closer trade and economic relations with mainland China, the number of confirmed cases is only 1,056 and 440, respectively. The early cases in Hong Kong were imported from the mainland, and the individuals infected later included riot police and pro-government personnel. The vast majority of cases in Taiwan were imported from abroad.

Since establishing diplomatic relations with the Chinese communist regime in 1992, South Korea has gradually strengthened its economic and trade relations with the CCP. And since coming to power the current government has moved closer to the regime and has increased bilateral investment.

## Misfortune is certain to befall those countries and regions that have increased their engagement with the CCP and endorsed it.

Although the relationship between the Japanese government and the CCP is not close, a large number of Japanese companies have invested in China, thereby relying on the CCP and transferring vital resources to it. In addition, Japan and the CCP have formed 256 ties of friendly provincial and municipal relations. Among them, Hokkaido, Tokyo, Aichi Prefecture, Kochi Prefecture, and other areas are experiencing serious outbreaks of the virus.

Although Hong Kong and Taiwan have extremely close economic and trade relations with the mainland, the people of

Hong Kong and Taiwan haven't been blinded by their financial interests.

In 2019, the people of Hong Kong launched large-scale protests against the CCP's control and even risked their lives to stand up to the CCP. The subsequent brutal suppression of the protests laid bare the true face of the CCP and awakened the Taiwanese people.

Voting this January for a pro-free world president showed the determination of the Taiwanese people to keep their distance from the CCP. The results of the presidential election saved Taiwan.

In Taiwan today, people aren't quarantined at home and the economy hasn't been suspended, yet the number of infections and deaths remains among the lowest in the world. The key to this success lies in Taiwan's distrust of the CCP and its refusal to blindly follow the World Health Organization (WHO), which is controlled by the CCP.

The situations in Hong Kong and Taiwan reveal the secret of success in terms of prevention and self-help during the pandemic: Only by rejecting the CCP can we resist the CCP virus.

## Rejecting the CCP

Major plagues always emerge suddenly and then, at a certain point, disappear without a trace. Historical records show that every plague had a clear target.

The bubonic plague at the end of the Ming Dynasty was a typical example. The transition from the Ming Dynasty to the Qing Dynasty, also known as the Manchu conquest of China, was a decade-long period of battles between the Ming army, the Qing army (established by the Manchu clan in northeast China), and the Li Zicheng army, a rebel peasant force.

The bubonic plague during this period targeted only the Ming army, leaving the Qing and Li Zicheng armies unaffected.

Plagues are not accidental. The pandemic was triggered by the CCP's crimes and spread globally due to the regime's concealment. The spread of the virus shows a clear pattern: It is selectively targeting the CCP and is aimed at eliminating the CCP and those who are pro-communist or who have close ties with the CCP.

All regions hard-hit by the virus outside China are those that have intimate ties with the CCP—those that have supported the CCP via trade or investment or by helping the CCP improve its international image. Likewise, individuals who have been the CCP's supporters often find themselves vulnerable to the CCP virus.

This spreading pattern in fact helps to identify a life-saving path for nations and people around the world. It's a path that directly connects to the spiritual side of all beings.

Conversely, supporting the CCP, endorsing the CCP, or establishing a close partnership with the CCP will likely invite the virus.

Everyone longs for peace and health, particularly amid a global pandemic. Facing this sudden disaster, the limitations of modern technology and management methods have become obvious. Everyone would be well-advised to keep in mind that humanity has been cared for by the divine for thousands of years.

By upholding one's inner goodness, reflecting on one's actions, and rejecting the CCP—which represents the world's greatest evil—one will be protected by the divine.

The pandemic occurred because of the CCP, and the situation will change when people change their attitudes toward the CCP.

Editorial Board  
May 2020

# Pandemic a Symptom of Beijing's 'Culture of Criminality': Former Justice Minister Cotler

COVID-19 is cost of ignoring Chinese regime's crimes for years, says rights lawyer David Matas

JUSTINA WHEALE  
THE EPOCH TIMES

The Chinese Communist Party's continued "suppression of the truth," which has been a fundamental part of widespread persecution in China for decades, is also to blame for the COVID-19 pandemic the world is now suffering from, says former Canadian justice minister Irwin Cotler.

"The pandemic was really generated by the CCP's suppression of the truth, by its arrest and disappearances of those who sought to tell the truth—be they medical doctors or dissidents—and by a global campaign of disinformation to cover up the truth and blame others for what has occurred," Cotler, also a former attorney general, said in an interview.

The global pandemic is the latest symptom of the deep-seated "culture of corruption and criminality" within the Party, Cotler said, pointing to ongoing endemic human rights abuses in China, such as the forced organ harvesting of Falun Gong prisoners of conscience, the repression of Uighur Muslims and Tibetans, and persecution of journalists and democracy activists.

Beijing has faced growing international pressure over its handling of the outbreak, as questions circulate over the transparency and accuracy of official data on COVID-related deaths and infections.

But the fact that COVID-19 reached the level of a pandemic is due in part to the international community's failure to hold China to account for systemic medical abuses for years, said David Matas, a prominent Canadian human rights lawyer.

"If the global system had insisted on transparency and accountability in dealing with organ transplant abuse, and China had come to global pressure for transparency and accountability in its health system in dealing with organ transplant abuse,



SEAN KILPATRICK / THE CANADIAN PRESS

▲ Former justice minister Irwin Cotler in a file photo.

“If the global system had insisted on transparency and accountability ... we wouldn't have this coronavirus now.”

DAVID MATAS,  
International human rights lawyer

we wouldn't have this coronavirus now," Matas said.

"We are suffering the consequences now of turning a blind eye."

Matas was one of the earliest researchers into China's forced harvesting of organs from Falun Gong adherents. The Epoch Times first broke the news in 2006 about the transplant abuse of living Falun Gong prisoners of conscience in China.

#### Accountability

The United States announced in April that it would put a hold on funding to the World Health Organization (WHO) and launch an investigation into the U.N. agency's mishandling of the pandemic, citing its apparent close ties to China. The WHO repeatedly downplayed the risk of the spread of the virus and repeated the Party's infection data as fact, even as evidence of a coverup was emerging.

In ongoing efforts to address the pandemic, the world needs to stop taking information coming from the regime at face value and step up systems to keep it accountable, Matas noted.

"We have to be on our alert about the Chinese government's health system, the Chinese government's narrative—that we can't rely on their data, we can't rely on their pronouncements," he said.

"The CCP is throwing its weight around globally to propagandize, to pressure, to intimidate, using economic and political leverage to cover up, deny, obfuscate, and present a counter-factual narrative. And for too many people around the world, it's just been politically and economically convenient to go along."

China increased the death toll numbers in Wuhan, the epicentre of the outbreak, by 50 percent—to 3,869—on April 17, saying cases were originally missed due to

"overwhelmed medical resources." But widespread skepticism remains as to whether the updated numbers can be trusted.

Several Western countries have openly criticized China's handling of the pandemic. But Canadian officials have largely remained silent.

When Prime Minister Justin Trudeau was asked at a press conference on April 17 whether he felt China's revised death toll was evidence that Beijing has been covering up the full extent of the outbreak, he declined to answer directly. Instead, he said now is "not the time" to focus on "other countries'" management of the outbreak.

Trudeau broke away from his usual mode of avoiding pointing fingers at China in a news conference on May 13. "I think it's clear there are many questions for countries around the origins and behaviour in [the] early days around the COVID-19 situation, particularly questions for China," he said.

His comments came after an Angus Reid poll showed that over 80 percent of Canadians hold a negative view of China.

Cotler said "the least" Canada can do is use the Magnitsky Act to apply sanctions against specific CCP officials who have violated human rights by engaging in a deliberate coverup and the persecution of whistleblowers.

"Those specific individuals should be held accountable for what has tragically now become a global pandemic," he said.

Cotler noted that there are other legal initiatives that can be taken to hold Beijing to account, such as those pursued by some American lawmakers.

"The main thing is that we stand in support with the Chinese people," he said.

With reporting by Danielle Zhu and Limin Zhou

## An Unprecedented Crime:

# China's State-Directed Mass Killing of Prisoners of Conscience for Their Organs

JOAN DELANEY  
THE EPOCH TIMES

It was 14 years ago, in 2006, that The Epoch Times broke the news of allegations that communist China had been systematically harvesting and selling vital organs from thousands of Falun Gong prisoners of conscience and then killing the victims. At the time, it was seven years after Chinese authorities launched a hate propaganda and persecution campaign against the spiritual practice.

The Epoch Times report was based on information from Chinese inside sources who had told harrowing accounts of doctors removing organs from victims who were still alive and selling the organs to fuel a lucrative state-sanctioned transplant business.

"After the live organ removal, some of their bodies were directly thrown into the crematory oven. No trace of their bodies was left," said one of the sources in a testimony, using the alias "Annie" to protect her identity. Her ex-husband, a surgeon, had been one of the doctors tasked with participating in the macabre practice. He told Annie he had removed corneas from around 2,000 Falun Gong adherents between 2001 and 2003.

Later in 2006, the accounts of the inside sources were corroborated in an investigation conducted by former Canadian secretary of state David Kilgour—who worked as a prosecutor for many years—and

David Matas, a Winnipeg-based international human rights lawyer.

In their July 2006 report, Kilgour and Matas concluded that the allegations were true that "there has been and continues today to be large-scale organ seizures from unwilling Falun Gong practitioners" in China, with the organs being sold at high prices.

“David Matas and David Kilgour really shone a light on perhaps the darkest of evils of our current times.”

BORYS WRZESNEWSKYJ  
MP

Falun Gong, also known as Falun Dafa, is a spiritual practice consisting of meditative exercises and moral teachings centred on the tenets of truthfulness, compassion, and tolerance. Its adherents say the practice greatly improves health and well-being, and the Ontario Human Rights Tribunal has ruled that Falun Gong is a "protected creed" under Ontario's Human Rights Code, citing expert evidence that its teachings are "profoundly moral."

However, it was not tolerated by the Chinese communist regime due to its immense popularity and its independence from the state. Since the start of the persecution in 1999, millions of Falun Gong adherents



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have been taken into custody, imprisoned, and tortured, with untold numbers killed.

Matas and Kilgour say that China's transplant industry grew rapidly after the launch of the persecution.

In February 2019, speaking at a parliamentary hearing on a bill aimed at curbing international organ trafficking, Liberal MP Borys Wrzesnewskyj said that since the Second World War, the world hasn't seen such "human horrors on an industrial scale by a state, a government" as the organ harvesting carried out by the Chinese communist regime.

"David Matas and David Kilgour really shone a light on perhaps the darkest of evils of our current times," Wrzesnewskyj said.

In 2016, Kilgour and Matas teamed up with U.S. investigative journalist Ethan Gutmann and released a new report, revealing that the scale of the practice is much larger than originally thought. Their findings showed that 60,000 to 100,000

▲ Falun Gong practitioners meditate in a park in Toronto in 2014.

transplants take place in China every year and most of the organ sources are prisoners of conscience, mainly Falun Gong practitioners, but also Tibetans, House Christians, and Uighur Muslims.

The fact that the regime has been able to continue the forced organ harvesting of Falun Gong adherents with impunity all these years has given it free rein to expand its violations, most recently against Uighurs, Matas said.

On June 17, 2019, the China Tribunal, an independent people's tribunal in London, England, rendered its final judgment, concluding that "forced organ harvesting has been committed for years throughout China on a significant scale and that Falun Gong practitioners have been one—and probably the main—source of organ supply."

The tribunal, which was chaired by Sir Geoffrey Nice QC, who previously led the prosecution of former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic for war crimes at the International Criminal Tribunal, found that the Chinese regime's sustained practice of forced organ harvesting constitutes a crime against humanity.

Both the European Parliament and the U.S. Congress have passed resolutions condemning China's illicit organ harvesting, and some countries have enacted legislation to prevent their citizens from being complicit in these crimes by travelling to China to purchase illicitly sourced organs.

## COMMENTARY

# Proactive Stance on Chinese Regime Benefited Australia in Virus Response

XINYU CHEN  
THE EPOCH TIMES

While many countries remain in COVID-19 pandemic lockdown or are just slowly starting to ease restrictions, Australia began opening up public beaches and relaxing rules in late April and has continued staying ahead of the curve in its efforts to protect its citizens' lives.

As of May 24, with a population of 25.7 million, Australia has seen approximately 7,110 cases of infection and 102 deaths as a result of the CCP (Chinese Communist Party) virus.

In contrast, as of May 24, Canada, with 37.9 million people, recorded over 84,000 cases and more than 6,300 deaths.

By early April, Financial Times journalist John Burn-Murdoch had already taken note: "Australia a rare example of an Anglophone country on a gentle trajectory," he wrote in a tweet.

Now that more businesses are re-opening and more internal travel bans are being lifted, some sense of normalcy is gradually returning.

While no one knows when and how the pandemic will end, it's important to reflect on how a country like Australia managed to beat the odds and what it can do to stay the course as it tackles the complex challenges ahead across all sectors of society.

In this regard, much of Canberra's success appears to stem from its vigilance and determined action when it comes to the Chinese communist regime.

## Protecting National Security

A key move that helped Australia contain the spread of the virus was closing the border to visitors from China on Feb. 1—despite Beijing's protestations and against World Health Organization (WHO) advice.

This was "the right decision" and "one of the most important decisions made by an Australian government in decades," Health Minister Greg Hunt recently told Sky News.

Shortly thereafter, the Chinese regime's hoarding of personal protective equipment in January and February, such as masks, gloves, gowns, and hand sanitizer, led to shortages worldwide. Australia was no exception. As The Epoch Times previously reported, the regime had directed its United Front Work Department to mobilize overseas pro-Beijing groups to buy large quantities of these vital medical supplies and ship them to China.

Greenland Group and Risland, two Chinese-linked companies in Australia, were widely reported by Australian media to have sent large volumes of protective equipment to China. According to Chinese government data, Beijing amassed an estimated 2.5 billion pieces of protective equipment in just two months.

Canberra promptly announced a ban on the non-commercial export of these supplies, stipulating fines and jail terms for violating the ban.

Meanwhile, global concerns arose over foreign takeovers of distressed companies amid the pandemic, especially by authoritarian states like Beijing, that could undermine supply chains and countries' national security.

In response, on March 29, Australia's Treasurer Josh Frydenberg announced changes to the country's foreign investment review policy, requiring every proposed foreign



▲ Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison speaks during a press conference in Canberra, Australia, on May 8, 2020.

Much of Canberra's success appears to stem from its vigilance and determined action when it comes to the Chinese communist regime.

takeover to be reviewed regardless of value.

This was to avoid "predatory behaviour that is not in the national interest" and would be effective for "the duration of the current crisis," he said.

Coincidentally, data from Australia's Health Department indicated a noticeable downward trend of new daily cases shortly after that day, continuing until today.

## Defying Coercion

Then in mid-April, Australian Foreign Minister Marise Payne called for an independent review into the pandemic's origins including Beijing's handling of the initial outbreak in Wuhan. She quickly received backing from shadow foreign minister Penny Wong followed by support from Prime Minister Scott Morrison and others.

The Chinese regime tried to discredit the request by accusing Canberra of politicizing the pandemic and warning that Chinese citizens may boycott Australia in various areas including beef, wine, tourism, and international students.

When Canberra refused to back down, Beijing banned beef imports from four major Australian producers and imposed 80 percent tariffs on Australian barley.

Despite Beijing's disinformation and economic coercion, Canberra remained firm, winning support from over 120 countries for a co-sponsored motion seeking an independent evaluation of the global response to COVID-19 including the source of the virus and its route of transmission to humans. The WHO passed the motion at a virtual assembly on May 19.

## Deterring Foreign Interference and Spying

Australia's vigilant response to the CCP during the pandemic is consistent with Canberra's actions in recent years that clearly show its growing awareness of the urgency and necessity of resisting the threats posed by the communist regime.

These threats are not limited to health and economic consequences but also include significant political interference and espionage activities.

In 2016, Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull commissioned a report on the extent of foreign interference in Australia. The classified report, which was leaked to the media in 2018, found that the CCP had

over the past decade been making attempts to influence Australian political parties and policy-making at every level of government.

In response, Turnbull's government introduced legislation that banned foreign donations to political candidates, broadened the definition of espionage activities, and required all those working on behalf of foreign entities to publicly declare who they are working for.

Australia was also one of the first countries to ban Huawei from its 5G networks on national security grounds. In 2018, Canberra blocked Huawei from providing 5G technology to Australia, while barring ZTE, another Chinese tech company, at the same time.

"The fundamental issue is one of trust between nations in cyberspace," wrote Simeon Gilding, a senior fellow at the Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI), in a commentary in January.

"Over the past decade, the Chinese Communist Party has destroyed that trust through its scaled and indiscriminate hacking of foreign networks and its determination to direct and control Chinese tech companies," added Gilding, who until December 2019 was head of the Australian Signals Directorate's signals intelligence and offensive cyber missions.

Due to concerns about cyber attacks originating from China, Australia had already excluded Huawei from bidding on a project to build out the country's national broadband network back in 2012.

## 'Seek Wider Trade Options,' 'Look to Real Friends'

Canberra's vigilance combined with informed and timely action against the CCP could well be the most significant factor contributing to Australia's much-better-than-expected pandemic outcome thus far. It also attests to the kind of sound China policy and direction that will likely continue to serve the country well in the critical times ahead.

In this context, there is bipartisan backing and broad public support for Canberra's decisions including its Huawei ban and its leadership in pushing for a global inquiry into the pandemic. And Beijing's overt use of coercion and disinformation has damaged its own image and helped to alert Australians to the serious threat that it poses.

"Managing relations with an

assertive China requires Australian patience, consistency and steadfastness on policy over the long term," wrote Richard Maude, executive director of policy at the Asia Society Australia, in an article in May. Maude is also a former Australian deputy secretary of foreign affairs and trade.

"The task is harder because China increasingly is conducting its diplomacy in a manner it would never accept from others. That diminishes China but is the nature of authoritarian power."

Vicky Xiuzhong Xu, an analyst at the ASPI, wrote in an opinion piece that "Australia must not bow to China but seek wider trade options" and "look to our real friends."

## Upholding Values, Strengthened by Faith

A survey conducted in the third week of May shows that 79 percent of Australians believe the country is responding to the pandemic at an appropriate level and that 67 percent believe the government is doing a "good" or "excellent" job. Despite concerns about the economy and jobs, "Australians continue to have strong faith in the performance and actions of government," the survey found.

Australia's prime minister in turn has strong faith in his spiritual belief. In a video published in March on the Eternity News website, Morrison says a prayer for his country and people as well as his government colleagues.

He prayed for God to "give us strength in this country, give us wisdom, give us judgment, give us encouragement, and let your peace reign."

Morrison has also declared that Australia would never "trade away our values" and would deal with other countries "fairly and honestly and openly," reported The Guardian in May.

"We have always been independent ... and we will always stand our ground when it comes to the things that we believe in and the values that we uphold," he said.

*Views expressed in this article are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Epoch Times.*

## A CRISIS IN CHINA AFFECTS US ALL

WHAT CAN BE DONE TO CREATE A POSITIVE CHANGE?

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE COVERUP THAT LED TO A PANDEMIC AND WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW

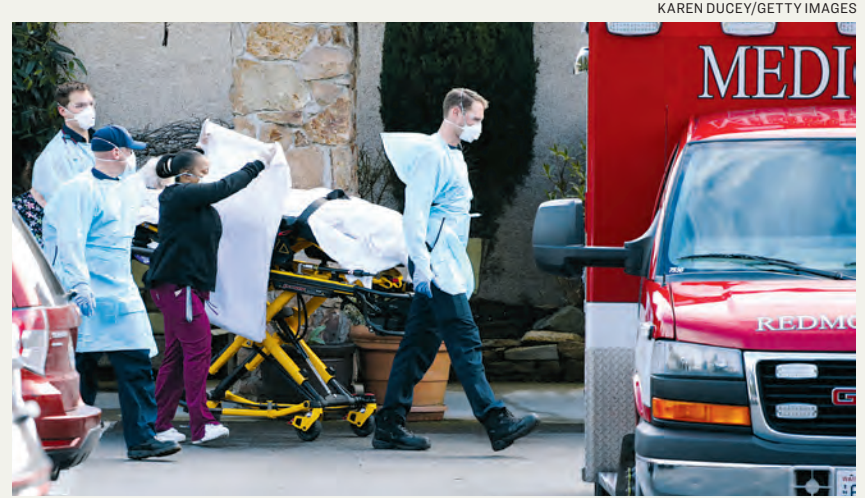
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TRUTH and TRADITION

# Global Response to Beijing's Virus Coverup

A summary of some world leaders' and countries' criticism, lawsuits, and various measures to hold Beijing accountable and seek compensation



A patient is transferred to an ambulance in Kirkland, Wash., on March 7, 2020.

## Australia

Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison has defied Beijing's economic coercion tactics and maintained his call for an independent investigation into the regime's handling of the virus outbreak. His government managed to assemble a coalition of some 120 countries to back a motion to investigate the global response to the outbreak, including the source of the virus and how it was introduced to humans.



Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison.  
ROHAN THOMSON/GETTY IMAGES

After Chinese-backed companies in Australia bought up large quantities of medical protective

equipment such as masks to ship to China, the government imposed a ban on the non-commercial export of such equipment. And facing the risk of Chinese state-owned companies taking over businesses struggling amid the economic crisis caused by the pandemic, Canberra has made all foreign takeover bids subject to review.

Australian Sen. Concetta Fierravanti-Wells has said Australia should lessen its economic dependence on the Chinese regime and should plan to "decouple from China."

## United States

The U.S. administration has spoken out very strongly against the handling of the virus by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), with President Donald Trump even saying "we could cut off the whole relationship," in an interview with FOX Business. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo has said that the Chinese regime will "pay a price" for not sharing information it had, which allowed the virus to spread globally causing enormous loss of life.



U.S. President Donald Trump.  
CHARLOTTE CUTHBERTSON/ THE EPOCH TIMES

the country of its sovereign immunity protection in U.S. courts, which would remove barriers facing lawsuits against it in the United States. Lawmakers have also introduced a bipartisan resolution condemning the regime's role in the pandemic.

In addition, lawmakers have put forward initiatives targeting Chinese tech companies, including a plan to ban federal employees from using tech platforms that the U.S. Department of State determines are under the control of the CCP, such as Tencent, Alibaba, and Baidu. The Trump administration has also initiated measures to block the supply of semiconductors to Chinese telecom company Huawei from global chipmakers.

Separately, Congress has been increasingly vocal in taking a stand against Beijing. A range of bills has been introduced to achieve this, including legislation that would impose sanctions on the Chinese regime, reduce supply chain dependence on China, and strip

## Taiwan



Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen.  
SAM YEH/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Taiwan's performance against the virus has been one of the world's best. It remained vigilant against Beijing throughout the health crisis and did not rely on information from the regime. Meanwhile, the self-governing island is continuing its bid to be included in the WHO, amid strong protests by the Chinese regime.

The Taiwanese government donated millions of masks to other countries hard hit by the pandemic, as part of increased efforts to demonstrate to the world its good global citizenship and the success of its democratic system compared to the authoritarian rule of its communist neighbour.

## Sweden

The Swedish government has joined other world players in calling for an investigation into the origin of the virus, with Health Minister Lena Hallengren saying, "It is both reasonable and important that an international, independent investigation be conducted to gain



Swedish Health Minister Lena Hallengren.  
JONATHAN NACKSTRAND/ AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

knowledge about the origin and spread of the coronavirus."

Sweden's second-largest city, Gothenburg, has cut its sister-city agreement with Shanghai, and the country closed its last Confucius Institute in April.

## Japan

Japan has committed US\$2.2 billion of its economic stimulus package to help Japanese manufacturing companies move their production out of China, reducing their reliance on that country.



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.  
STR/JIJI PRESS/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

"As for those products with high added value and for which we are highly dependent on a single country, we intend to relocate the production bases to Japan," Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said, according to Japan Times.

## European Union

The head of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, has backed calls for an investigation into how the pandemic started. The bloc's Minister of Foreign Affairs Josep Borrell said recently that Europe has been "a little naive" in its relationship with China. He also noted in a recent op-ed in the Sydney Morning Herald that "changes in the EU-China relationship have been accelerating since the outbreak of the coronavirus."



European Commission President Ursula Von Der Leyen.  
OLIVIER HOSLET/EPA/ AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

## UK

On May 23, The Telegraph reported that British Prime Minister Boris Johnson plans to reduce Huawei's involvement in the nation's 5G networks to zero by 2023.

British Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab also had said in mid-April

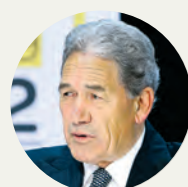


Britain's Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab.  
DANIEL LEAL-OLIVAS/ AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

that China will have to answer questions on how the coronavirus outbreak happened. "There's no doubt, we can't have business as usual after this crisis," Raab said.

## New Zealand

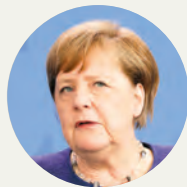
Deputy Prime Minister Winston Peters has said he backs "a totally comprehensive, world-class investigation" into the origin of the virus. Peters has also praised Taiwan's handling of the pandemic and supported the self-ruled island's bid to join the World Health Organization (WHO), rebuffing criticism from the Chinese ambassador.



New Zealand Deputy Prime Minister Winston Peters.  
HAGEN HOPKINS GETTY IMAGES

## Germany

German Chancellor Angela Merkel has joined calls asking Beijing for transparency on the virus outbreak, saying "the more transparent China is about the origin of the virus, the better it is for everyone in the world in order to learn from it." The German government has also rejected requests by Chinese diplomats to praise Beijing's response to the outbreak, Reuters reported.



German Chancellor Angela Merkel.  
OMER MESSINGER-POOL/ GETTY IMAGES

## France

French President Emmanuel Macron has said it is "naive" to say China has done better than other countries in handling the virus crisis. He made the comments during a Financial Times interview in response to being asked whether actions taken by the Chinese authorities to contain the virus has been more effective than those taken by Western democracies.

The French foreign ministry summoned the Chinese ambassador in April to protest comments made by the Chinese Embassy criticizing Western countries' handling of the crisis while praising Beijing's.



French President Emmanuel Macron.  
FRANCOIS MORI/POOL/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

## GLOBAL LEGAL INITIATIVES

Legal action against the Beijing regime for its handling of the virus outbreak has been launched in several countries, including the United States, India, Israel, the U.K., Egypt, Turkey, Argentina, and Nigeria.

In the United States alone, the states of Missouri and Mississippi as well as individuals and businesses in multiple states including Florida, Texas, California, and Pennsylvania have filed lawsuits against Beijing, seeking trillions of dollars in compensation. Meanwhile, a number of American lawmakers are introducing legislation aimed at overcoming the difficulties facing these lawsuits and those seeking legal action against the regime.

The London-based International Council of Jurists and the All India Bar Association have filed a joint complaint to the United Nations Human Rights Council against the Chinese regime, seeking compensation.

Even in China, a growing number of citizens have launched legal challenges against the regime over the pandemic.



STUDIOSMART/SHUTTERSTOCK

## OTHER GLOBAL ACTIONS

The 194 member states of the WHO have unanimously adopted a resolution to investigate the international response to the pandemic. Many countries, including Canada, have also joined an initiative by the United States to support Taiwan's membership in the WHO.

Lawmakers in many countries, including opposition MPs in Canada, have pushed their governments to revisit their China policy.

In April, over 200 China experts and politicians from around the world, including several Canadian MPs, signed an open letter expressing concern over the Chinese regime's coverup of the pandemic, saying that its rule by fear endangers not only Chinese citizens but also the world.

# Canadians Spread Kindness During Pandemic Crisis

LEE HARDING  
THE EPOCH TIMES

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, incidents of kindness have sprung up across Canada. Without fanfare or reward, people and organizations have given not only of themselves but also of their possessions to help others.

In Toronto, one man even took it upon himself to stand at the base of the CN Tower and hand out free hand sanitizer to passersby, holding a sign saying “money can’t buy life.”

Below are some examples of Canadians stepping up to assist others in a variety of ways during the height of the pandemic.

In Paris, Ontario, Collin Bliss has been helping three elderly housebound couples by dropping off groceries at their door.

“They just don’t want to go out and risk it,” Bliss told The Epoch Times. “They are all over 80. They get a cold and it knocks them out for two weeks.”

Although Bliss enjoys great health, his income has diminished. The pandemic sidelined his usual opportunities as a contractor and IT project manager. He has filled the time doing yard work and handyman tasks for seniors and single moms.

“I think this situation will wake a lot of people up and strengthen communities as they should be, now [that] the distractions of entertainment [like] sports and concerts are gone. All a blessing,” he said.

Bliss adds, “What all this single-mom helping has done is inspired me to join the Big Brothers [Big] Sisters program. Plus, I started an application for foster parenting.”

**‘I Feel Absolutely Honoured’**  
Saskatchewan resident Shauna Gutheil, a mother of two who lives on a farm near Weyburn, started making masks on her



JORGE UZON/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

▲ Carolyn Ellis hugs her mother, Susan Watts, using the “hug glove” that Carolyn and her husband, Andrew, created as a Mother’s Day gift in Guelph, Ont., on May 16, 2020. The tool consists of a plastic tarp with four sleeves attached to a clothesline.

“During this crisis I feel it’s very important that we all give what we can.”

SHAUNA GUTHEIL,  
who crafts homemade masks

sewing machine after one of her former high school teachers invited her to do so.

“I feel absolutely honoured that I was reached out to,” Gutheil said. “I love to help and I love to sew, so it really wasn’t hard for me to say yes.”

The mask design comes from a video by Erica Arndt and includes two exterior pieces of cotton, a flannel middle layer, and elastic to go around the ears. Gutheil has already sent 30 masks to Ile-à-la-Crosse in northwestern Saskatchewan, where her former teacher now works in health care.

Gutheil’s more recent masks substitute flannel with a piece of furnace filter. She plans to send 60 more to Ile-à-la-Crosse by the end of the week, with others going to a doctor in Regina.

As Gutheil fights the virus one stitch at a time, she encourages

others to do what they can.

“During this crisis, I feel it’s very important that we all give what we can, whether it’s a smile to brighten someone’s day or a task such as mine, by sewing.”

**Teamwork and Collaboration**

Dentists David Stock and Derek Thiessen of Swift Current, Saskatchewan, have also pitched in to help supply masks—although not the homemade kind. The two consolidated their N95 mask supplies to handle dental emergencies and relieve the strain on hospitals.

“[T]he teamwork and collaboration I have experienced with other Swift Current dentists this past week is unsurpassed!” Stock said in a Facebook post. “Helping our community means so much to all of us.”

But Stock wasn’t done. He learned how to use a 3D printer to produce

face shields for health-care workers. Local companies offered their printers to print coloured frames. Stock reached out for supplies to make more and got responses from friends and strangers alike.

“I am so grateful for the level of support from people all across Saskatchewan that want to help donate face shields during this crisis,” he said.

**‘Compassion for Each Other Is Growing’**

“It has been absolutely wonderful to see the community come together to show care and concern for people that have very little,” said Rene McIntyre, pastor of Trumpet of Truth Christian Ministries in Woodstock, Ontario.

McIntyre’s church dedicates part of its space for The Refuge, a drop-in centre that used to run one day a week. After COVID-19 precautions closed the doors on some public programs for the vulnerable, the centre started opening every weekday.

“So many people from the community have stepped up by donating food, by making meals, and by donating finances in support of us taking care of the homeless during this pandemic,” McIntyre said.

The Refuge tries to meet both personal and practical needs. In addition to meals and laundry facilities, the ministry provides court support, family reconciliation, and personal mentorship to overcome addiction and poverty.

Restrictions by the Ontario government lowered how many people can be inside The Refuge at a time, yet the positive impact continues.

“There’s been an immense impact on our friends that visit The Refuge for care,” McIntyre said. “We are seeing transformation in their character. Compassion for each other is growing where there once was animosity and hatred.”

# Why Truth And Tradition?

THE EPOCH TIMES

TRUTH and TRADITION

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