



MONTHLY UPDATES



BE INFORMED¹ (May 2024)



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- ★ **“Who’s Afraid of the WHO”**

“Once betrayed, twice shy of the message: “Trust us. We are from the WHO, here to keep you safe.” On March 11, I wrote an article criticising what appeared to be a slow motion coup d’état by the WHO to seize health powers from states in the name of preparing for, conducting early warning surveillance of, and responding to “public health emergencies of international [and regional] concern.” The coup was in the form of a new pandemic treaty and an extensive package of more than 300 amendments to the existing International Health Regulations (IHR) that was signed in 2005 and came into force in 2007.”

* www.theepochtimes.com/opinion/whos-afraid-of-the-who-5651890

ARTICLE: www.theaustralian.com.au/commentary/who-detat-treaty-would-enable-global-health-body-to-overrule-nations-during-pandemic/news-story/f4050c42cc2d91d3c422bcfeb5141c23

REPORT: “Strengthening of the United Nations : an agenda for further change : report of the Secretary-General” digitallibrary.un.org/record/474330?v=pdf

BOOK: Andrew F. Cooper “The Group of Twenty (G20) (Global Institutions)”
www.amazon.com/Group-Twenty-G20-Global-Institutions/dp/0415780888

- ★ **“Reaping the Ignorance We Have Sown”**

“As I, along with millions of other Americans, have viewed with dismay the recent anti-Semitic protests at universities across our land, the question often asked by those who remember the past is, “Don’t these students know anything about history?” Unfortunately, in many cases, the answer is “No”. That is why I wrote my book, “Toward a More Perfect Union: The Moral and Cultural Cases for Teaching the Great American Story”, to warn about the consequences of the lack of America’s historical and civic nation.”

* www.theepochtimes.com/opinion/reaping-the-ignorance-we-have-sown-5649820

- ★ **“Trump Invokes Long-Lost Executive Power to Gut Administrative State”**

“In a campaign speech, former President Donald Trump gave the country a glimpse into the specific method that he’ll use to try and gut the administrative state—if he gets elected again. Essentially, President Trump proposed a new policy centered around a little-known executive power—a power that was used by presidents for over 150 years before being stripped about a half-century ago. However, according to this new proposal, President Trump said that he would work to restore what’s known as the “power of impoundment.”

* www.theepochtimes.com/epochtv/trump-invokes-long-lost-executive-power-to-gut-administrative-state-facts-matter-5650876

- ★ **DOCUMENTARY: “Weapons of Mass Migration”**

“Over 7.2 million illegal immigrants have entered the United States since President Joe Biden came into office. This record border crisis is not organic, behind it are official policies, heavy financing, and agreements between the U.S. government and the United Nations. The world is watching different pieces of this unfold, with video of groups of illegal immigrants crossing into the United States, not trying to evade border patrol, but rather waiting to be arrested. What is being left out of the discussion is: Why? This Epoch Original Documentary “Weapons of Mass Migration” exposes how the United States and

1 – WEBPAGE: canberraforerunners.org/?page_id=7319

United Nations work hand-in-hand to facilitate mass migration, which is being weaponized to destroy America.”

* www.theepochtimes.com/epochtv/weapons-of-mass-migration-5640408

OFFICIAL MOVIE WEBSITE: www.massmigrationfilm.com

- **Q&A: “Weapons of Mass Migration”**
“Join us for a live panel Q&A on the “Weapons of Mass Migration” documentary on Wednesday, May 15, at 7 p.m. ET!”
* www.theepochtimes.com/epochtv/weapons-of-mass-migration-live-panel-qa-5649230
- **“Gold at \$4,000 an Ounce? Geopolitics Pushes Gold to New Record Highs”**
“With multiple wars raging across the world, federal money printing is leading to inflation that’s eating away at the purchasing power of the U.S. dollar. As central banks around the world are in the process of implementing digital currencies, the price of gold has skyrocketed, reaching all-time record highs. And so, in order to get an insider’s look at the industry, what the demand and supply really look like, as well as some possible scenarios for what the price of gold might be in the future—I sat down with Mr. Max Baecker, the president of American Hartford Gold, which is my own personal gold and silver dealer, as well as a long-term supporter of the show.”
* www.theepochtimes.com/epochtv/4k-gold-ounce-geopolitics-pushes-gold-to-new-record-highs-facts-matter-5649921
- **“WHO Pandemic Agreement April Draft: Additional Concerns”**
“The World Health Organization (WHO) negotiating body of the draft Pandemic Agreement to be voted on in late May produced yet another draft. As the previous text was dealt with in detail in a recent article, it seems relevant to provide a brief summary of the additional changes. As before, the document becomes vaguer but adds more activities to be funded, reinforcing the concerns that this process is being rushed without due review.”
* www.theepochtimes.com/opinion/who-pandemic-agreement-april-draft-additional-concerns-5649204
LATEST PROPOSAL: apps.who.int/gb/inb/pdf_files/inb9/A_inb9_3Rev1-en.pdf (22 April 2024)
- **“They want to control the flow of information in order to control what we think and how we vote”**
(Brendan O’Neill in Australia – Why the elites want you to forget)
* youtube.com/shorts/91x2exnGklg
- **“Personal Carbon Tracking Tied to Digital Money That Can Be Turned Off by AI”**
“In order to get a more complete picture of why this is happening, what the true reason is for these globalist policies aimed at pushing out farmers—and to help us figure out why, when you dug into the specific policies, none of them seemed to make any sense—we sat down with Dutch Member of Parliament, Mr. Thierry Baudet. He is the founder of a political party called Forum for Democracy, which is one of (if not the only) party in Europe specifically opposed to the UN’s Agenda 2030. He broke down for us the inner workings of these globalist institutions—and the dangers we all face of being enslaved within a global technocracy.”
* www.theepochtimes.com/epochtv/agenda-2030-destroying-personal-freedoms-to-save-the-planet-facts-matter-e-x-5647921
- **“Gaza Protests Expose the Weakness of Today’s Political Leadership”**
“A member of Parliament is not a delegate. He or she is elected to listen to all the voices in a debate, and bring a considered judgment to the issues.”
* www.theepochtimes.com/opinion/gaza-protests-exposes-the-weakness-of-todays-political-leadership-5646726
- **“Why Communism and Socialism Fail”**
“But what happens when all products and services are provided by one entity, or by the government? What happens when the government owns all the land? Controls every industry? Makes all agricultural and industrial decisions? When there is only one producer, and anything happens that they do not anticipate, the failure is systemic, catastrophic. This isn’t hypothesis or speculation; we’ve seen it happen with regularity in top-down, command-and-control economies. Mao’s “Four Pests” plan to rid the country

of sparrows allowed plagues of locusts to destroy the country's crops. Chávez thought the price of oil would stay high forever. The Khmer Rouge thought they could transplant farmers into hospitals and turn surgeons into farmers.... The lessons from history are clear: Anyone given that control over our economy will destroy it."

* www.theepochtimes.com/opinion/why-communism-and-socialism-fail-5646845

• **"[US] Federal, State Lawsuits Seek Constitutional Clarity on 'Racial Gerrymanders'"**

"It's a fine litigative line: Gerrymandering by a majority party for political purposes is legal because elections have consequences. But if the consequences of gerrymandering predetermine election results by diluting the voting efficacy of racial minorities, then it is illegal. Defining when "racial gerrymandering" is constitutional and when it is not is a nub of contention in dozens of proceeding and pending redistricting lawsuits nationwide. These range from how a Texas county crafted its county commission precincts to a South Carolina case challenging the state Legislature's congressional district map to be heard before the United States Supreme Court in October."

* www.theepochtimes.com/us/in-depth-federal-state-lawsuits-seek-constitutional-clarity-on-racial-gerrymanders-5487404

• **"BOM warns of level G4 geomagnetic storm impacting Earth — here's what that means"**

"At least seven coronal mass ejections from the Sun have been observed, according to a US agency, after a severe geomagnetic storm event was expected to impact Earth. On Friday (10th May 2024), the Bureau of Meteorology warned the event would impact Earth from about 8pm AEST, with power outages possibly occurring and satellite services impacted. The BOM urged governments and critical infrastructure operators to take action to reduce potential impacts on infrastructure and essential services, such as power grids. "

* www.abc.net.au/news/2024-05-10/bom-warns-level-g4-geomagnetic-storm-to-impact-earth/103833576
NASA REPORT: x.com/NASASun/status/1788922548106719238

• **"This Is What Happened After Several Schools Banned Cellphones"**

"Banning cellphones in schools improved academics, reduced bullying, and reduced students' need for counseling, a 73-page Norwegian paper has found. Girls benefited the most from the policies. "Banning smartphones significantly decreases the health care take-up for psychological symptoms and diseases among girls," Sara Sofie Abrahamsson, a postdoctoral researcher and the paper's sole author, wrote in the abstract. "Post-ban bullying among both genders decreases.""

* www.theepochtimes.com/health/this-is-what-happened-after-several-schools-banned-cellphones-5644536

STUDY REPORT: https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=4735240

• **"UN's Funding of Central American Migrants Coming to the US"**

"Unbeknownst to most people, the United Nations is actively helping and supporting the millions of migrants coming up through Central America and making their way to the United States. For those coming to the United States from the huge continent of South America, there are many different paths to take. However, if you look at a map, you'll notice that all of those routes reach a choke point. This choke point is located near the border between Colombia and Panama, and it's called the Darien Gap. It's an area of land so inhospitable, that building roads or infrastructure there is nearly impossible—meaning that it's a lawless area that you really want to avoid at all costs. However, if you're a migrant coming to America, you have to go through this treacherous stretch of land in order to make your way up north—which is exactly why upwards of 10,000 people per day are crossing the Gap. What's truly unexpected though, is what these migrants see after crossing over: the United Nations (and their affiliated NGOs) are waiting there, in Panama, on the other side of the gap, giving out food, prepaid cards, maps, as well as bus rides that'll take them from Panama all the way through Central America, all the way through Mexico—and then, right into the United States via the southern border."

* www.theepochtimes.com/epochtv/uns-funding-of-central-american-migrants-coming-to-us-facts-matter-5647231

• **"Are Government Departments Above the Laws They Pass?"**

"A federal government official has been found liable under Northern Territory (NT) law for damage to a

sacred Indigenous site, in a decision that could set a precedent for how sacred sites are protected. The case centred around damage allegedly caused by Parks Australia while building a walkway close to a sacred men's site near Gunlom Falls in Kakadu National Park in 2019. The cascading waterfall appeared in the movie "Crocodile Dundee." Parks Australia apologised and agreed to redirect the track away from the sacred site, but the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority wanted to establish criminal accountability... However, Parks Australia successfully argued it was a Commonwealth entity and, therefore, protected, and the court ruled it couldn't be held legally responsible for the damage under Territory law. The Authority then appealed."

* www.theepochtimes.com/world/are-government-departments-above-the-laws-they-pass-5645876

- **"The Giant UN Agency Hijacked by Hamas"**

"Following Hamas's Oct. 7 attack on Israel, many of us became aware, for the first time, of UNRWA, the United Nations agency serving Palestinian refugees. It receives hundreds of millions of dollars from the United States every year. "UNRWA has basically transformed itself into an advocacy organization for the Palestinian people—what I would consider to be a case study of where the client has hijacked the service provider. So, where you have an entire apparatus of an agency, but that has the imprimatur of the United Nations, and so gives the illusion of neutrality, integrity, and whatnot," says Asaf Romirowsky, a Middle East historian and co-author of "Religion, Politics, and the Origins of Palestine Refugee Relief"."

* www.theepochtimes.com/epochtv/the-giant-un-agency-hijacked-by-hamas-asaf-romirowsky-5634106

TRANSCRIPT: www.theepochtimes.com/epochtv/the-giant-un-agency-hijacked-by-hamas-asaf-romirowsky-5634106

- **"Truth Behind Hamás; Unmasking Their Violent Intentions"**

"In a groundbreaking episode of Dr. Phil Primetime, Dr. Phil McGraw sits down with Mosab Hassan Yousef, the son of a notorious Hamas leader, to reveal the hidden truths behind one of the world's most notorious terrorist organizations. With exclusive access and unprecedented insight, this interview delves into the heart of Hamas' violent intentions and the personal journey of one man caught in its web."

* www.youtube.com/watch?v=UPomqJz-qYc

- **"Dr. Phil's Audience Goes Silent as Son of Hamás Founder Shocks Palestine Activist w/ Facts"**

* youtube.com/shorts/dT_jA8WQjdA

- **"After FDA Approval, States Move to Ban Lab-Grown Meat From Sale"**

"Aside from the push for people to eat bugs and insects as a viable alternative source of protein, there is actually a second simultaneous push to get people to eat lab-grown meat. The thinking goes that since the world is ending due to climate change, and since the agricultural sector contributes to climate change, we can do away with farms and ranches—and replace that meat with cultivated meat grown in a lab. And unbeknownst to most people, cultivated meat has already gotten the stamp of approval from the U.S. federal government (from both the USDA and the FDA). However, since the United States is an amalgamation of 50 different states, individual states are pushing back. And along that line, five days ago, Florida enacted a new piece of legislation that bans and criminalizes the manufacture and sale of lab-grown meat within the state."

* www.theepochtimes.com/epochtv/after-fda-approval-states-move-to-ban-lab-grown-meat-from-sale-facts-matter-exclusive-5645254

FDA APPROVAL: edition.cnn.com/2023/06/21/business/cultivated-meat-us-approval/index.html

FLORIDA BAN: www.nbcnews.com/science/science-news/florida-bans-lab-grown-meat-adding-similar-efforts-four-states-rcna150386

- **"The Effect of Touch on Depression, Anxiety, and Pain: New Study"**

"Human-to-human touch is a critical factor in maintaining physical and mental health, healing from illness and injury, and emotional well-being."

* www.theepochtimes.com/health/the-effect-of-touch-on-depression-anxiety-and-pain-new-study-5637566

STUDY REPORT: www.nature.com/articles/s41562-024-01841-8

- **"\$33 Million Transferred From Big Pharma to Doctors in Australia"**

"Pharmaceutical companies paid doctors more than \$33 million (US\$21.9 million) over three years in

Australia to promote their products. More than 6,500 doctors across the country received at least one payment from a pharmaceutical company between November 2019 and October 2022. The findings were revealed in a peer-reviewed paper published in the Medical Journal of Australia on May 6.”

* www.theepochtimes.com/world/33-million-transferred-from-big-pharma-to-doctors-in-australia-5644944

MEDICAL REPORT: www.mja.com.au/journal/2024/220/8/pharmaceutical-company-payments-australian-doctors-reported-medicines-australia

- **“Must Government Control the Money?”**

“In the age of sound money, private coinage was common and it produced excellent results. But one of the first big changes in modern times has been the government’s monopoly. This is quickly moving toward a central bank digital currency.”

* www.theepochtimes.com/epochtv/must-government-control-the-money-freedom-first-5644866

- **“The World Health Organization’s Pandemic Treaty Ignores COVID Policy Mistakes”**

“The World Health Organization (WHO) is urging the U.S. government and 193 other governments to commit this month to a new global treaty to prevent and manage future pandemics. Current estimates suggest that more than \$31 billion per year will be needed to fund its obligations, a cost that most lower-income countries cannot afford. But that isn’t the only reason to oppose it. Validating this treaty is a vote for the disastrous policies of the COVID-19 years. Rather than taking time for deep reflection and serious reform, those pushing the pandemic treaty are set on ignoring and institutionalizing the WHO’s mistakes.”

* realclearwire.com/articles/2024/04/30/the_world_health_organizations_pandemic_treaty_ignores_covid_policy_mistakes_1028504.html

- **“In Our New Era of Surveillance, the Inquisition Is Back”**

“The parallels between the response of powerful institutions to the invention of a radical new technology—the printing press in the 15th century and the World Wide Web in the late 20th century—are inescapable. Once those in command realize ideas, which are very powerful things, are spreading without their supervision or permission, they respond.”

* www.theepochtimes.com/opinion/peter-menzies-in-our-new-era-of-surveillance-the-inquisition-is-back-5644076

- **“The Golden Age of Disinformation Has Only Just Begun”**

“Disinformation is all about power, and because of the harmful and far-reaching influence that disinformation exerts, it cannot achieve much without power. As a tool for shaping public perceptions, disinformation can be used by authoritarian regimes and democracies alike. The dissemination of false information is not a new practice in human history. However, over the past few decades, it has become professionalized and has taken on exorbitant proportions at both national and international levels.”

* www.theepochtimes.com/opinion/the-golden-age-of-disinformation-has-only-just-begun-5641933

FRENCH REPORT: www.irsem.fr/rapport.html [needed browser translation into English]

- **“Argentina’s Peso Shows Remarkable Recovery Under Javier Milei’s Leadership”**

“Just four months into his term, Argentina’s President Javier Milei has stabilized the national currency and achieved the country’s first fiscal surplus in 16 years for the first quarter. The Argentine peso, previously facing a rapid decline, has seen a substantial recovery. In the last three months, the black market exchange rate of the peso against the U.S. dollar has increased by approximately 25 percent. This rise has exceeded that of all other currencies tracked against the dollar by Western financial institutions.”

* www.theepochtimes.com/world/argentinas-peso-shows-remarkable-recovery-under-javier-mileis-leadership-5642810

VIDEO REPORT: www.youtube.com/watch?v=qQcGsosMcY8

- **Brendan O’Neill in Australia: “Why the elites want you to forget about lockdowns and Islamic terror”**

“Brendan O’Neill is one of the world’s leading advocates for freedom of speech and civil liberties. As part of his successful Australian tour for the Institute of Public Affairs, Brendan O’Neill called out the practice in the West of forgetting about Covid lockdowns and Islamic terrorist attacks. Brendan was also not afraid to forcefully highlight the widespread anti-Semitism on our streets and in our universities,

stressing how thin the line is between the liberty we enjoy today and the barbarism which threatens our way of life. Chief political writer for sp!ked, Brendan O'Neill has written for publications including The Spectator magazine, The Sun and The Australian. Brendan is also the author of A Heretic's Manifesto: Essays on the Unsayable, a clarion call on the need for dissenting voices to challenge the ideologies of elites and the political class."

VIDEO: youtu.be/Irc2GEyiQck

MORE FROM IPA: ipa.org.au/?s=Brendan+O%27Neill

- **Brendan O'Neill in Australia: "The manipulation of language to manipulate thought is something that comes right out of 1984"**
VIDEO: youtube.com/shorts/vXzVi67K7-8
- **"How Western Europe is Copying Communist China's Policies"**
"How is it possible that the churches, or many churches, decided to close their doors exactly during those times when they were supposed to have their doors open?" Cristian Terhes is a Romanian-Greek Catholic priest and a Member of the European Parliament, representing Romania as a member of the European Conservatives and Reformists Group. Growing up under communism made him vigilant against creeping totalitarianism. "You will have unelected officials, bureaucrats, often unknown bureaucrats, deciding on behalf of your state. And if they decide that something is wrong for the people, they will not be accountable because you don't even know who those people are," says MEP Terhes. In this episode, he shares a warning about the consolidation of power he sees in international bodies like the European Union and the World Health Organization. "We are witnessing the 'Chinafication' of Europe. And I gave the example of the digital COVID certificate, but it did not stop there," says MEP Terhes."
* www.theepochtimes.com/epochtv/how-western-europe-is-copying-communist-chinas-policies-mep-cristian-terhes-5614430
TRANSCRIPT: www.theepochtimes.com/epochtv/how-western-europe-is-copying-communist-chinas-policies-mep-cristian-terhes-5614430
- **"What Lies Behind Student Pro-Hamás, Anti-Israel, and Anti-Semitic Uprisings?"**
"The sudden uprising of university students across North America in support of Hamás and allegedly about the welfare of Palestinians does not result, for most students, from close ties with people on the other side of the world... the vast number of student protesters have no such personal ties. Why have they set aside their studies to take up activism? We know that the reason for the uprising is not that the student activists have studied deeply the history and politics of the Middle East... We know that of the many students chanting "From the river to the sea, Palestine shall be free [of Jews]", a large number cannot name either the river or the sea... By far, the dominant ideology in universities is the far-leftist conception of "social justice". Social justice is based on Marxist class-conflict analysis."
* www.theepochtimes.com/opinion/what-lies-behind-student-pro-hamas-anti-israel-and-antisemitic-uprisings-5637961
- **S3E7 Australia's Future with Tony Abbott: "Misinformation smokescreen for social breakdown"**
"Former Prime Minister and Distinguished Fellow of the IPA, Tony Abbott, and the IPA's Deputy Executive Director discuss the government's proposed internet censorship via its misinformation laws, the shortcomings of the government's Future Made in Australia plan, and Tony shares with us his perspectives on the future on the centre-right in Australia and across the Western world."
* youtu.be/V15toMSmM00
- **"The tradition of Christian persecution seems to be making quite the comeback"**
The World Watch List, an Open Doors' annual ranking of the 50 countries where Christians face the most extreme persecution, soberly noted that some 365 million Christians were being subjected to what they termed "high levels of persecution and discrimination". That's a decent uptick from the 340 million reported back in 2021, in case anyone's counting. Apparently, one in seven Christians globally finds themselves in hot water for their beliefs, with the odds soaring to one in five in Africa. But what of Australia?"
* www.theepochtimes.com/opinion/christian-oppression-makes-a-comeback-5633889
- **"What Happened to Bitcoin?"**

“those who involved themselves in Bitcoin markets after 2017 encountered a different operation and ideal than those who came before. Today, no one much cares about what came before, speaking of 2010–2016. They are only watching the upward price momentum and are thrilled for the increase in the asset valuation of their portfolio. Gone is the talk of separating money and state, of a market-based means of exchange, of genuine revolution that would extend from money to the whole of politics the world over. And gone is the talk of changing the operation of money as a means of changing the prospects for freedom itself. The enthusiasts around Bitcoin have different goals in mind.”

* brownstone.org/articles/what-happened-to-bitcoin/

BOOK: ‘Hijacking Bitcoin: The Hidden History of BTC’

www.amazon.com.au/Hijacking-Bitcoin-Hidden-History-BTC-ebook/dp/B0CTHRQJDX

- **“World Economic Forum Founder Klaus Schwab Stepping Down by 2025”**
“Klaus Schwab, the founder and executive chairman of the World Economic Forum, is stepping down from active leadership of the body that convenes the annual meetings of global executives and politicians in Davos, Switzerland.”
* www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2024-05-21/world-economic-forum-founder-klaus-schwab-stepping-down-semafor
REPORT: www.swissinfo.ch/eng/multinational-companies/wef-founder-schwab-announces-retirement-from-his-leadership-post/78273443
- **“The New IHR Changes Are Merely Cosmetic”**
“For two years, the 196 State Parties to the 2005 International Health Regulations (IHR)—composed of 194 Member States of the World Health Organization (WHO), and Liechtenstein and the Vatican—have been submitting and discussing proposed amendments to update this agreement. Introduced in the 1960s, the IHR are intended to strengthen national capacities and improve coordination among countries in the event of a health emergency. Though a legally binding agreement under international law (i.e., a treaty), most of the provisions have always been voluntary.”
* www.theepochtimes.com/opinion/the-new-ih-r-changes-are-merely-cosmetic-5639809
- **“The WHO Has Changed and Now It is a Threat”**
“The director-general of the World Health Organization (WHO) reassures us that the WHO’s “pandemic accord” (or “treaty”) won’t reduce the sovereignty of its Member States. The WHO trusts that these words will serve as a distraction from reality. Those driving the perpetual health emergency agenda are planning to give it more power, and States less. This will happen whenever the WHO designates a “Public Health Emergency of International Concern” (PHEIC), or considers we may be at risk of one.”
* brownstone.org/articles/the-who-has-changed-and-now-it-is-a-threat/
REPORT: open.who.int/2022-23/contributors/contributor [Specified Funding]
- **US: “Meet the Lawyers Taking Big Government to the Supreme Court – And Winning”**
“As the administrative state implements more regulations on Americans, a team of legal veterans has come together to fight the expansion of unelected government agency power. Sometimes, they even win. The New Civil Liberties Alliance (NCLA), which consists of 27 lawyers and support staff, including former judges, had four of the cases it litigated go before the Supreme Court in 2023. One case was decided in its favor; the remaining three are pending.”
* www.theepochtimes.com/article/legal-team-fights-to-cut-back-the-ever-expanding-administrative-state-5639021
- **“The Scramble for Antarctica”**
“The “scramble for Antarctica” is slowly gathering steam, and it is not unrelated to a new “scramble for the Americas.” The ramifications for the Indo-Pacific and, indeed, for the global strategic balance are also profound. By 2024, Antarctica had at least 82 bases from more than 30 countries. China has five bases, three built within the past decade (the latest in February) and three with year-round manning... What is significant now is the competition of the major powers and others for dominance in Antarctica, and this is not unrelated to interest in the Arctic.”
* www.theepochtimes.com/opinion/the-scramble-for-antarctica-5635996
- **“US Stock Prices Defy Economic Weakness”**

“Various U.S. government agencies announced some surprisingly disappointing economic indicators and other news this week. The data revealed that the U.S. economy is not doing nearly as well as expected... At the same time, with the GDP release came news that the core personal consumption expenditures (PCE) price index (a measure of inflation preferred by central bankers) had blown out, increasing from 2 percent to 3.7 percent in the first quarter... Then, the following day, came the release of PCE price index data for March 2024, which indicated that inflation is getting worse, not better... Markets, however, seem to be listening more to the inflation narrative, fueled by deficit spending and excess liquidity. Having shrugged off the weak GDP data, stock prices quickly rebounded and erased earlier declines.”

* www.theepochtimes.com/business/stock-prices-defy-economic-weakness-5639396

- **“Are You Eating Real Food? The Slippery World of Food Fraud”**

“The bustling industry of food fraud, a veritable empire of deceit is valued at a staggering \$50 billion a year. It’s a world where honey laundering and gel-injected prawns are the norm, and olive oil’s authenticity is as murky as a mobster’s morals. In Australia, the economy bleeds a whopping \$3 billion annually, being victim to culinary crimes involving the likes of veal, wine, fish, and molluscs. These aren’t just foodstuffs; they’re high-stakes commodities in the underhand market of munchables, where every shrimp and shiraz is a potential fake. As the tangled food and beverage supply chain stretches ever global, it’s buffet season for the fraudsters. The geopolitical and environmental pressures cook up a perfect storm, making raw ingredients as scarce as honest labels.”

* www.theepochtimes.com/opinion/are-you-eating-real-food-the-slippery-world-of-food-fraud-5633497

- **“Philadelphia-Based Republic First Bank Collapses in First Bank Failure of 2024”**

“The troubled Philadelphia-based Republic First Bank has imploded, with federal regulators seizing it and arranging for it to be taken over by fellow regional lender Fulton Financial, in the first bank failure of 2024.”

* www.theepochtimes.com/business/philadelphia-based-republic-first-bank-collapses-in-first-bank-failure-of-2024-post-5638892

REPORT: www.fdic.gov/resources/resolutions/bank-failures/failed-bank-list/republicbank.html

- **“New Push Started for Global Digital Currencies”**

“There’s a new global push for digital currencies, and SWIFT is now planning to roll out a new platform that will connect the emerging central bank digital currencies into a single global network. The system is expected to be launched in one to two years. Already, more than 90 percent of the world’s central banks are exploring digital currencies, and the new network shows plans are in place to coordinate these in all parts of the world. In this special discussion, we sit down with Donald Kendal, co-director of the Socialism Research Center at The Heartland Institute, to discuss central bank digital currencies and what the recent developments mean for the free world.”

* www.theepochtimes.com/epochtv/new-push-started-for-global-digital-currencies-5633073

- **IRELAND “Up to 5 Years in Prison for Possession of a Meme?”**

““The Irish government wants to put you in jail for up to five years for possession of a meme ... not even for communicating, but having in your possession a meme, for which the bill doesn’t even define what hatred is ... which would be wide open to judicial interpretation.” In this episode, I sit down with Irish politician Hermann Kelly. He is president of the Irish Freedom Party, which promotes preserving Irish culture and national identity.”

* www.theepochtimes.com/epochtv/up-to-5-years-in-prison-for-possession-of-a-meme-hermann-kelly-on-irelands-new-hate-speech-bill-5633793

TRANSCRIPT: www.theepochtimes.com/epochtv/up-to-5-years-in-prison-for-possession-of-a-meme-hermann-kelly-on-irelands-new-hate-speech-bill-5633793

- **“Misinformation Crackdown ‘The Revenge of the Establishment’”**

“A British commentator has weighed in on the Australian authorities’ push to crackdown on misinformation, calling it the “revenge of the establishment against the disobedient classes.” The campaign against misinformation came in the wake of a terror-inspired Sydney church stabbing attack and the Bondi stabbing spree in early April. Julie Inman Grant, Australia’s eSafety Commissioner, asked X Corp to globally block 65 tweets related to these incidents. However, the social media giant refused,

igniting a legal battle at the federal court. Brendan O'Neill, a British pundit and author, noted that there's "nothing scarier" than the idea that the eSafety Commissioner, an unelected official, is exerting control over what people can and cannot say."

* www.theepochtimes.com/world/misinformation-crackdown-the-revenge-of-the-establishment-british-pundit-5636799

- **"Supreme Court Win for Police Constable Who Refused the COVID-19 Jab"**

"A senior constable in Victoria who faced charges for not taking the COVID-19 vaccine has won his battle in a landmark ruling by the Supreme Court. This decision could set a precedent for others impacted by vaccine mandates in the state and around Australia. The case centered on whether the requirement to provide evidence of vaccination status necessitated receiving a dose of the COVID-19 vaccine."

* www.theepochtimes.com/world/covid-19-vaccine-supreme-court-win-for-police-constable-who-refused-the-jab-5636845

COURT STATEMENT: www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/viewdoc/au/cases/vic/VSC/2024/181.html

- **"The time has come for over-the-counter antidepressants"**

"Anyone can now walk into a pharmacy in the United States and buy oral contraceptives over the counter without a prescription, thanks to the FDA's approval of norgestrel (Opill). This change reflects the drug's safety and the public health imperative to ensure wider access to birth control. But another safe class of medicine that addresses a massive public health need remains unavailable except by prescription: the antidepressants known as selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs). These medications, which have been used in the U.S. for three decades, have repeatedly been shown to be safe and effective for treating major depression and anxiety disorders."

* www.statnews.com/2024/04/08/time-is-right-for-over-the-counter-antidepressants/?_hsmi=301755960

REPORT: www.chip50.org/reports/mental-health-among-young-adults

Laurence

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