

## What's News

## Business &amp; Finance

A global agreement to set a minimum 15% corporate tax rate cleared its last major hurdle after Ireland, a low-tax country that is the European headquarters for some of the largest U.S. tech companies, said it would join the overhaul effort. **A1**

◆ **Asia's junk-bond market** experienced another wave of selling Thursday, pushing prices of many Chinese developers' bonds further into distressed territory. **B1**

◆ **Samsung Electronics** is forecasting a 28% jump in third-quarter operating profit, the latest reminder of how the semiconductor shortage has turned out to be a financial boon for chip makers. **B4**

◆ **U.S. stocks** rose after lawmakers reached a deal on a short-term debt-limit extension. The Dow and Nasdaq both gained 1%, while the S&P 500 added 0.8%. **B11**

◆ **The Fed's Brainard** detailed how the central bank is preparing to beef up its assessment of growing threats from climate-related events. **A2**

◆ **Alphabet's Google** will no longer allow digital ads bought on its platform to appear next to online content that denies climate change, a ban that will also apply to YouTube. **B3**

◆ **BlackRock** is giving institutional investors such as pensions and endowments the option to cast shareholder votes tied to their investments. **B10**

◆ **Initial jobless claims** last week fell for the first time in four weeks, as employers continue to eschew layoffs. **A2**

## World-Wide

◆ **The Senate** voted along party lines to raise the U.S. borrowing limit into December, after Democrats struck a short-term agreement with Republican leaders that averts a looming default for now but sets up another showdown within months. **A4**

◆ **Pfizer and BioNTech** have asked the FDA to approve their Covid-19 vaccine for children 5 to 11 years old, setting up the shot to potentially be available to millions of youngsters in a matter of weeks. **A1**

◆ **A U.S. special-operations unit** and a contingent of Marines have been secretly operating in Taiwan to train forces there, part of efforts to shore up the island's defenses amid concerns about potential Chinese aggression. **A1**

◆ **CIA Director Burns** said that he is establishing a major organization within the intelligence agency to focus on China. **A8**

◆ **A Senate panel** released transcripts of interviews conducted with former DOJ officials about their last days in the Trump administration, along with a report that detailed Trump's campaign to push the agency to discredit Biden's victory. **A4**

◆ **Biden will restore** protections for two national monuments in Utah and an undersea monument off New England, reversing actions taken by Trump. **A3**

◆ **Abdulrazak Gurnah**, an African-born writer who has chronicled the effects of colonialism, won the Nobel Prize in literature. **A8**

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## Former NBA Players Accused of Healthcare Fraud



**CHARGED:** Eighteen former National Basketball Association players were charged in an alleged scheme to scam a league healthcare fund out of nearly \$4 million, according to an indictment unsealed Thursday in a federal court. Among those cited, clockwise from left, are Terrence Williams, Tony Allen, Sebastian Telfair and Glen Davis, all shown in their playing days. **A3**

## Global Corporate Tax Clears Hurdle

Minimum rate of 15% wins Ireland's backing a day before meeting of 140 governments

By PAUL HANNON  
AND RICHARD RUBIN

A global agreement to set a minimum 15% corporate tax rate cleared its last major hurdle Thursday after Ireland, a low-tax country that is the European headquarters for some of the largest U.S. tech companies, said it would join the overhaul effort.

The change in Irish policy comes ahead of a Friday meeting of 140 governments and jurisdictions that have for years been negotiating a way of taxing international companies to limit avoidance and divide tax revenue in a way they say is fairer.

The group seems likely to give its backing to a final agreement that would aim for implementation in 2023. Ireland had been one of a small number of holdouts when the outlines of a global

agreement were settled in July. That accord, driven by the U.S., aims to overhaul the way multinationals are taxed, the culmination of a yearslong effort to squeeze tax-avoidance arrangements.

If the needed changes to national law and international treaties are made, it would be the most sweeping change in international taxation in a century. In addition to setting a minimum rate that would likely see a number of the world's largest companies pay more tax, existing tax revenue would

be divided among governments so that countries where businesses have customers would get more revenue. That overturns a longstanding principle of international taxation that taxes profits where value is generated, which traditionally was where businesses had a physical presence.

While small, Ireland plays an outside role in strategies used by companies from the U.S. and elsewhere to lower their global tax bills. Most of the largest U.S. technology

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## The U.S. Set Out To Hobble Huawei And It Succeeded

Chinese maker of telecom gear and phones is short of chips, seeing customers balk

By DAN STRUMPF

**HONG KONG**—When she was detained in Canada nearly three years ago, Meng Wanzhou was crisscrossing the globe as finance chief of all-conquering Chinese tech giant Huawei Technologies Co.

She arrived back home in late September to a very different company, one forced into retreat by American sanctions that have left it fighting for its future.

Huawei is in the midst of a deep slump. As recently as the start of last year, the world's largest maker of telecommunications equipment was increasing market share in 5G rollouts and surging toward the top of the global smartphone market, shrugging off a year of export restrictions imposed by the Trump administration.

Now, its revenue has dropped for three straight quarters. The company has

fallen to No. 9 in smartphone sales, with buyers evaporating from Europe to China. Its global telecom market share is shrinking as it loses out in key markets, a result of U.S. pressure designed to halt the spread of Huawei's 5G technology plus concerns by some customers over its ability to remain technologically competitive.

Components are running scarce for lines of business such as mobile phones, the result of far-reaching rules enacted by Washington that curbed the ability of Huawei—which the U.S. has accused of stealing trade secrets and violating sanctions—to obtain parts and software made using American technology. Huawei has denied the U.S. allegations.

U.S. officials and members of Congress continue to call Huawei a national-security threat, concerned that the Chinese government could use the privately held company

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## Kitchen Appliance Delays Force Buyers to Cook Up Alternatives

Supply-chain issues leave renovators washing dishes in the bathtub

By AUSTEN HUFFORD

When Deric Bradford's delivery of a new clothes washer was delayed for several weeks this September, the 43-year-old banker started hauling his baskets of dirty clothes to John Calderon's place. "Like I was a college student," he said. The two are friends, but the laundry runs are all business. Mr. Calderon is the owner of Los Angeles-based Advanced Building and Remodeling Inc.,

which helped Mr. Bradford buy appliances for the Hollywood Hills home he moved into over the summer.

Mr. Calderon and other remodelers and appliance sellers are trying to keep consumers like Mr. Bradford happy in the midst of delays on many appliances. Manufacturing and supply-chain problems have turned household amenities into hard-to-find trophies, leaving consumers and sales-

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## Tesla Will Shift Its HQ to Texas



Tesla Inc. is moving its headquarters to Austin, Texas, cementing CEO Elon Musk's commitment to the Lone Star state and joining other Silicon Valley firms that have relocated there. **B1**

## Americans Secretly Train Forces In Taiwan as Tensions Increase

By GORDON LUBOLD

**WASHINGTON**—A U.S. special-operations unit and a contingent of Marines have been secretly operating in Taiwan to train military forces there, U.S. officials said, part of efforts to shore up the island's defenses as concern regarding potential Chinese aggression mounts.

About two dozen members of U.S. special-operations and support troops are conducting

training for small units of Taiwan's ground forces, the officials said. The U.S. Marines are working with local maritime forces on small-boat training. The U.S. forces have been operating in Taiwan for at least a year, the officials said.

The U.S. special-operations deployment is a sign of concern within the Pentagon over Taiwan's tactical capabilities in light of Beijing's yearslong military buildup and recent threat-

ening moves against the island. Taiwan and U.S. officials have expressed alarm over nearly 150 flights near Taiwan in the past week by Chinese military aircraft. The Chinese aircraft have included J-16 jet fighters, H-6 strategic bombers and Y-8 submarine-spotting aircraft and have set a re-

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◆ **CIA forms mission center** to focus on China. **A8**

◆ **Long-term worry** over Covid-19 spurs push on boosters. **A6**  
◆ **Health workers' mandate** tested by New York case. **A6**  
◆ **San Francisco** will lift some mask rules. **A6**

## INSIDE



**MANSION**  
Giving over a home for a movie or TV shoot can be lucrative—and disruptive. **M1**

## Natural-Gas Shortage Sets Off a Scramble

Myrina, a tanker chartered by Royal Dutch Shell PLC, set sail to Asia from the west coast of France last month carrying liquefied natural gas. When it was about to enter the Strait of

By Joe Wallace,  
Collin Eaton  
and Benoit Faucon

Gibraltar, the captain received a call, according to people familiar with the matter.

"We have to go to Rotterdam now," his boss in London told him, according to one of the people. The ship made a U-turn

and backtracked up the coast of Spain and France to drop off part of its cargo at the Dutch port. On Thursday, it arrived in Bilbao, Spain, to deliver the rest of its load.

Buyers in Europe, Asia and Latin America are competing for limited supplies of gas, racing to fill tanks and caverns with the fuel before winter hits the Northern Hemisphere.

Natural-gas stocks are alarmingly low around the world, and prices in most places have never been higher after surging to records in Europe and Asia this

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## REPORT PROVIDES IN-DEPTH PICTURE OF TRUMP'S PLOYS

### MOST DETAILED ACCOUNT

#### Justice Officials Held Off Relentless Attempts to Undo Election

By KATIE BENNER

WASHINGTON — Even by the standards of President Donald J. Trump, it was an extraordinary Oval Office showdown. On the agenda was Mr. Trump's desire to install a loyalist as acting attorney general to carry out his demands for more aggressive investigations into his baseless claims of election fraud.

On the other side during that meeting on the evening of Jan. 3 were the top leaders of the Justice Department, who warned Mr. Cipollone, the White House counsel, that they and other senior officials would resign en masse if he followed through. They received immediate support from another key participant: Pat A. Cipollone, the White House counsel. According to others at the meeting, Mr. Cipollone indicated that he and his top deputy, Patrick F. Philbin, would also step down if Mr. Trump acted on his plan.

Mr. Trump's proposed plan, Mr. Cipollone argued, would be a "murder-suicide pact," one participant recalled. Only near the end of the nearly three-hour meeting did Mr. Trump relent and agree to drop his threat.

Mr. Cipollone's stand that night is among the new details contained in a lengthy interim report prepared by the Senate Judiciary Committee about Mr. Trump's efforts to pressure the Justice Department to do his bidding in the chaotic final weeks of his presidency.

The report draws on documents, emails and testimony from three top Justice Department officials, including the acting attorney general for Mr. Trump's last month in office, Jeffrey A. Rosen; the acting deputy attorney general, Richard P. Donoghue, and Byung J. Pak, who until early January was U.S. attorney in Atlanta. It provides the most complete account yet of Mr. Trump's efforts to push the department to validate election fraud claims that had been disproved by the F.B.I. and state investigators.

The interim report, released on Thursday, describes how Justice Department officials scrambled to stave off the pressure during a period when Mr. Trump was getting advice about blocking certification of the election from a lawyer he had first seen on television, and the president's actions were so unsettling that his top general and the House speaker discussed the nuclear chain of command.

"This report shows the American people just how close we came to a constitutional crisis," Richard J. Durbin, Democrat of Illinois and chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, said in a statement. "Thanks to a number of upstanding Americans in the Department of Justice, Donald Trump was unable to bend the department to his will. But it was not due to a lack of

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JULIETA CERVANTES FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

#### Delighted to Be at Carnegie Hall Again

When the words "welcome back" greeted the audience at the concert space after a 572-day closure, people burst into cheers. Page C1.

## World Wants Action as China Gushes Emissions

By KEITH BRADSHAW  
and LISA FRIEDMAN

DONGGUAN, China — On the northern edge of a vast Chinese factory city, welding torches gleam as workers finish construction on a gas-fired power plant to replace one that burned coal and blanketed the surrounding neighborhood in a sooty pall.

It's one of several huge gas-fired plants being built to pump more electricity throughout this sprawling industrial city of about 10 million, where rising demand for power has led to rationing and blackouts that are now rippling across eastern China and threaten international supply chains.

### U.N. Climate Talks Will Press Beijing on Vast Hunger for Energy

This archipelago of power plants underlines an unsettling reality in the global fight to slow climate change. China burns more fossil fuels than any other nation, making it the planet's top source of the greenhouse gases that are warming the earth. And its voracious appetite for electricity is only growing.

President Xi Jinping of China has promised that his country will

start reducing carbon dioxide and other gases generated by burning coal, gas and oil by 2030 and then stop adding them to the atmosphere altogether by 2060. But climate scientists warn that nations must make a sharp turn away from fossil fuels now in order to avert the most catastrophic consequences of climate change.

Just weeks before a critical United Nations climate summit in Glasgow, attention is riveted on China and whether it will do more to cut emissions. The world's top energy agency said last week that China "has the means and capacity" to reduce its pollution. Its actions could be consequential for the planet's climate, already at a

Continued on Page A12

## Schools Seek New Normal In Covid Era

By DANA GOLDSTEIN  
and JACEY FORTIN

When schools fully reopened, the Delta variant drove many worries: Would crowded classrooms run up infection rates? Would outbreaks keep many schools closed? Could there be a normal academic year — the first since the pandemic began?

The news so far has been reassuring: A vast majority of the nation's 50 million public school students have been in classrooms, full time and mostly uninterrupted, this fall — whether students are masked or unmasked, teachers vaccinated or not. In fact, infection rates declined 35 percent nationally through the month of September, as many schools opened their doors.

Students in Miami were excited to be back in class, said Alberto M. Carvalho, the superintendent of Miami-Dade County Public Schools. "Things are fairly normal in Miami," he said, "despite the headlines."

Still, it hasn't always been pretty. Parents protested at school board meetings over mask mandates, or the lack of them. Families had to scramble because of stay-at-home orders. And virus-infected students and teachers prompted worries about the possibility of a spread in schools.

Yet in the sometimes chaotic reopening, there has been dramatic progress. Virus-driven school closures declined steeply from the end of August to late September, from about 240 a week to about 25 a week, according to a survey by Burbio, a company that has moni-

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FAUCUNDO ARRIZABALAGA/EPA, VIA SHUTTERSTOCK

#### 'Uncompromising' Nobel Winner

Abdulrazak Gurnah is the first Black writer to receive the prize for literature since 1993. Page A8.

## Ex-N.B.A. Players Indicted in \$4 Million Fraud

By BENJAMIN WEISER  
and JONAH E. BROMWICH

Greg Smith had been out of the National Basketball Association for about two years in December 2018 when the former power forward for the Houston Rockets and Dallas Mavericks had what appeared to be a long day at a dental office in Beverly Hills. Invoices submitted on his behalf showed that he received IV sedation and

### Claims for Root Canals and Chiropractors

root canals, and had crowns placed on eight teeth. But the invoices, totaling \$47,900, were fake, federal prosecutors in Manhattan said on Thursday.

Mr. Smith was actually thou-

sands of miles from California, playing basketball in Taiwan at the time, the prosecutors said, adding that they had evidence to prove it, including box scores showing he had appeared in games there.

Mr. Smith was one of 18 former N.B.A. players who were charged in what federal authorities portrayed as a brazen conspiracy to defraud a health care program ex-

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## El Salvador Foists Bitcoin on a Skeptical Public

This article is by Anatoly Kurmanov, Bryan Avelar and Ephrat Livni.

SAN MIGUEL, El Salvador — Bitcoin's proponents dream of a financial system largely free of government meddling. But the first time that cryptocurrency became a national currency, it was imposed on an unwilling population by an authoritarian ruler using a secretive state-run system.

### Uncharted Experiment in Currency Test Case

The surprising announcement last month that El Salvador had adopted bitcoin, the world's largest cryptocurrency, as legal tender caught its population by surprise, and made the poor, conservative Central American na-

tion an unlikely bellwether of a global technological transformation.

The outcome of the uncharted experiment could help determine whether cryptocurrency delivers the freedom from regulation that its proponents envision — or whether it becomes another tool of control and enrichment for autocrats and corporations.

"We're now at a turning point in

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BUSINESS B1-8

### France's Bid to Rescue Farming

An unconventional school is attracting a new crowd to agriculture, one that's tech savvy and wants weekends off. PAGE B1

### Tesla Moving HQ to Texas

Elon Musk revealed the change during a shareholders meeting at a factory Tesla is building near Austin. PAGE B1

INTERNATIONAL A4-12

### Polish Court Ruling Tests E.U.

The decision says the country's Constitution trumps the bloc's laws, which threatens to dissolve the glue that unites the union's 27 members. PAGE A9

### The Politics in Iraq's Election

The prelude to parliamentary elections highlights a political system dominated by guns and money and largely split along sectarian and ethnic lines. PAGE A4

### Political Speed Dating

The Social Democrats and two other parties took the first step toward forming Germany's first three-party coalition since the 1950s. PAGE A8

NATIONAL A13-21

### Senate Passes Debt Limit Rise

A handful of Republicans broke with the party to allow the vote, but passage was strictly partisan. The temporary fix now goes to the House. PAGE A14

### Threats of Climate Change

Two dozen federal agencies have flagged the biggest dangers posed by a warming planet. PAGE A13

OBITUARIES A22-23

### A Nazi Hunter in the U.S.

Neal Sher, 74, sought to deport John Demjanjuk, accused of being "Ivan the Terrible," among others. PAGE A22



SPORTS B9-12

### Back on the Field, in Protest

As the National Women's Soccer League resumed play amid an abuse scandal, players paused to make a point. PAGE B11

### Longtime Rivals Square Off

Dusty Baker bested Tony La Russa as the Astros beat the White Sox in Game 1 of their playoff series. PAGE B10

WEEKEND ARTS C1-14

### A Master Class in Storytelling

Ruben Santiago-Hudson uses his voice to bring a boardinghouse and its misfits to life in "Lackawanna Blues." PAGE C1

### Shaken, Stirred and Somber

An inky cloud of grief and loss envelops "No Time to Die." Daniel Craig's final film as James Bond. PAGE C5

OPINION A24-25

### David Brooks

PAGE A24





## COLUMN ONE

### Depths of despair over a marine disaster

The oil platform Elly is a popular Southern California dive site, a teeming wonderland of sea life. Will the spill ruin it forever?

BY DEBORAH NETBURN AND SEAN GREENE

**P**erched high above the waves about nine miles off the coast of Huntington Beach, the oil processing platform known as Elly looks like an industrial eyesore — a tangle of hard metal surfaces, cranes and pipes.

But plunge 30 feet beneath the waves, and you enter a psychedelic wonderland of undulating marine life. Mussels, anemones and brittle stars coat the platform's thick steel pilings, sea lions frolic between its beams and tens of thousands of fish dart between its supports. Neon nudibranchs (small sea slugs) wander among the other life. Sponges, scallops and corals are all part of the mix.

No wonder the Elly platform is one of the most beloved dive sites in Southern California.

"It's my No. 1 favorite dive," said Paige Zhang, a graduate student in marine biology at UCLA who spent a day diving Elly just a few weeks ago.

"And that's why I was so shocked and sad about this spill. It's so crazy to think that this happened on something I dove before."

Details about the seep of the recent oil spill in Orange County are still murky, but officials say as much as 144,000 gallons of crude oil leaked from a 7.7-mile pipeline that runs from the Elly platform to the Port of Long Beach. Exactly where and how this leak occurred is still being determined.

Scientists and environmental groups rushed to protect the diverse animal populations in the region's marshes and wetlands — deploying booms to keep oil from flooding and rescuing birds who are already exhibiting obvious signs of oil damage.

As of now, nobody knows for sure how the oil spill will affect the abundant marine life living on the rig itself.

Oil is lighter than water, so the good news for these creatures, who live tens and hundreds of feet beneath the waves, is that the vast majority of it has probably risen to the surface. But there's bad news too: Even trace amounts of oil can be deadly.

"I don't know if the platform itself or all the organisms that have attached to it have been coated with oil, but we know that even small concentrations of oil in the water can have toxic effects," said Andrea Bonisoli Alquiati, a biologist at Cal Poly Pomona who studied the aftermath of the 2000 Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

"It doesn't take a lot of oil to kill these small organisms."

It's not a surprise that animal life has congregated

[See Elly, A6]



PAIGE ZHANG, a graduate student in marine biology at UCLA, took photos of sea life beneath the oil platform Elly. "It's my No. 1 favorite dive," she says. "And that's why I was so shocked and sad about this spill."

PAIGE ZHANG

## Benefits for rich split Democrats

BY NOAH BIERMAN AND JENNIFER HABERKORN

**WASHINGTON** — Under Democrats' "Build Back Better" plan, a married couple earning a combined \$500,000 a year could get \$10,000 a month from the federal government when taking paid family leave to care for a sick relative or a newborn baby.

The same program would provide a middle-class family with one wage earner much less, about \$3,100 a month.

Such disparities are at

the heart of a difficult conversation over whether programs designed to transform government's role in American life are too generous to the wealthy.

It is a debate that has recast battle lines, in a somewhat ironic way, on how the government should parcel out benefits. Progressive Democrats are arguing that higher earners should also be granted benefits — to make programs more accessible to the people who need them and more popular with a broader swath of the public.

### Senate approves debt ceiling hike

Federal default is temporarily averted. **NATION, A4**

Centrists, on the other hand, say programs should be strictly aimed at poor and middle-class Americans to improve efficiency and fiscal accountability.

Led by Sen. Joe Manchin III of West Virginia, the centrists appear to be winning the debate, as the Biden administration and Democratic leaders attempt to

pare down a \$3.5-trillion spending plan to between \$1.7 trillion and \$2 trillion in hopes of winning the senator's support.

Because Democrats hold narrow majorities in Congress, Manchin and another centrist, Sen. Kyrsten Sinema of Arizona, wield outside influence, even though President Biden and most Democratic lawmakers support the full \$3.5-trillion bill.

Almost all of the Democrats' proposals have some form of means-testing, under which the size of a

[See Democrats, A9]

## Answers will take time in oil spill inquiry

How and when pipe broke and who's to blame are still unclear.

BY THOMAS CURWEN, ANITA CHABRIA AND LAURA J. NELSON

Nearly a week after a 13-inch tear in an undersea pipeline led to a massive oil spill off the Southern California coast, the clues keep piling up, but the mystery of what caused the rupture and who is ultimately responsible remains unsolved.

Like other investigations into mechanical failures that have led to catastrophic results, an understanding of the chain of events that led to the spill is playing out like a twist-filled thriller. Leads are being followed. Some have already resulted in dead ends; others are still unfolding.

It's still unclear how the pipeline ruptured, when the damage was done and what could have prevented it. Even the exact location of the pipe running along the Orange County coast is also the subject of some doubt.

"The frustrating part is that the information is coming at investigators at the speed of light, and they can

[See Mystery, A6]

### Cleanup quickens as storm moves in

O.C. businesses file class-action suit. **CALIFORNIA, B1**



THEARON W. HENDERSON Getty Images

**DODGERS** third baseman Justin Turner tags out the Giants' LaMonte Wade Jr. during a July game, one of the 2,535 played between the teams over 131 years.

## Rivalry second to none

BILL PLASCHKE

They first met 131 years ago in Brooklyn.

They last met a month ago in San Francisco.

"They have played 2,535 games, from sea to sea, through many lifetimes, across three centuries, fighting with bats, brawling with venom, fans chanting, players taunting, cities dancing, cities aching."

It is the greatest rivalry in sports. Nothing compares, nothing comes even close. No other duo can match their enduring animosity, their endless competitiveness, their relentless desire to knock the other

one into the Elysian Park hills or dunk them in McCovey Cove.

The Dodgers. The Giants. And now, for the first time, the postseason.

Hallelujah, hallelujah, heavens to Roseboro, goodness gracious Marichal, it's really happening.

Beginning Friday at San Francisco's Oracle Park, the Dodgers and Giants will meet in the first postseason series between the teams in their history.

They've met twice in regular-season playoffs in 1951 and 1962, but that's not this. They've played countless pennant-race elimination games, but those don't compare.

This is a neighborhood feud gone national. [See Plaschke, A7]



## Eyeing a hole in K-12 mandate for COVID vaccine

Lawmakers worry that a broad exemption for personal beliefs will undermine the effort.

BY MELODY GUTIERREZ

**SACRAMENTO** — When Gov. Gavin Newsom said last week that California would require students to be vaccinated against COVID-19, a critical caveat was tucked within the nation-leading announcement: Parents can opt their children out of inoculation based on personal beliefs.

Newsom did not define the criteria for obtaining those exemptions, leaving the task to state public health officials. Now, lawmakers are expressing concerns that allowing broad exemptions in the mandate will undermine the state's effort to protect schools if too many families decide against vaccination.

Under California law, students are allowed to skip vaccines required for in-person attendance at K-12 schools after a doctor says it's medically necessary to do so. Because the law applies only to previously approved immunizations, the state must offer broader personal belief exemptions for all newly mandated vaccines unless lawmakers and Newsom override that requirement.

Any discussion on vaccine mandates is likely to set off a feverish debate all too familiar in Sacramento. Changes to school vaccine

laws led to intense deliberations, prolonged protests and arrests when California ended exemptions based on religious or philosophical beliefs in 2015 for other shots required for school, and in 2019 when lawmakers created stricter requirements for medical exemptions.

"Personal belief exemptions are a huge loophole, and that's why they were removed six years ago," said state Sen. Scott Wiener (D-San Francisco). "And it's why they should be removed for COVID-19."

Newsom announced Oct. 1 that the state would require students at all public and private schools to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, a mandate that would take effect for grades seven through 12 after the U.S. [See Exemptions, A7]

### Current guidance

#### Grades K-12

Students at all schools will be required to receive a COVID-19 vaccine when the FDA fully approves it.

#### For ages 16+

Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine is fully approved.

#### For ages 12-15

Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine has FDA emergency authorization.

### Gurnah honored with Nobel Prize

Tanzanian novelist explores colonialism and refugees' plight. **PERSPECTIVES, A2**

### U.S., Mexico seek new security pact

Arrangement expected to tackle migrant smuggling and violent drug cartels. **NATION, A4**

### San Francisco easing mask rules

As conditions improve, city is set to lift indoor mandate if all are vaccinated. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

### Weather: Light rain, L.A. Basin: 68/53, B6

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## New light on 2020 Oval Office showdown

Senate details Trump pressure on Justice Dept., mass resignation threats

BY DEVLIN BARRETT

A Senate report on President Donald Trump's efforts to overturn the 2020 election offers new details about an Oval Office confrontation between Trump and the Justice Department, revealing the extent to which government lawyers threatened to resign en masse if the president removed his attorney general.

The interim report by the Senate Judiciary Committee was issued Thursday. While Republicans on the panel offered their counterfindings, arguing that Trump did not subvert the justice system to remain in power, the majority report by the Democrats offers the most detailed account to date of the struggle during the administration's final, desperate days.

The report underscores the gaping political divide that has emerged in this country over one of the most basic functions of government — conducting free and fair elections. Democrats charge Trump nearly provoked a constitutional crisis, but for the steady hands of senior Justice Department officials; Republicans say Trump was "faithful" to his sworn duty as president in seeking assurances about voter integrity.

SEE TRUMP ON A17

Jan. 6 probe: Ex-aides told not to comply by a Trump lawyer. A17

## Tex. abortion providers try to navigate as law is tested

BY CAROLINE KITCHENER, EMILY WAX-THIBODEAUX, ANN E. MARIMOW AND CASEY PARKS

Abortions after six weeks of pregnancy were allowed in Texas on Thursday for the first time since the nation's most restrictive abortion law went into effect there on Sept. 1. Some abortion providers resumed offering the procedure after a federal judge issued an order Wednesday evening blocking enforcement. But many providers said they would keep complying with the ban until the legal issues are resolved.

Less than two hours after U.S. District Judge Robert L. Pitman granted the Biden administration's request for an injunction, Texas said it would appeal to the conservative-leaning U.S. Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit. Regardless of how the appeals court rules, the issue could quickly make its way back to the

SEE ABORTION ON A2

In Florida: Push for Texas-style law tangles DeSantis's 2024 aims. A3



Paige Ruiz, 32, was waiting to get vaccinated out of concern for her baby. She died of coronavirus complications on Aug. 15, two weeks after giving birth to her daughter, Celeste.

## Pregnant, unvaccinated and critically ill

In a tragic paradox, those expecting are more likely to experience severe illness or death from covid-19 and less likely to get the shots

BY BRITTANY SHAMMAS

Over video calls from her bed in a Texas intensive care unit, Paige Ruiz gazed at the newborn girl who had gone home without her.

Taking in baby Celeste's round cheeks, brown eyes and fine hair, she sometimes became so overcome with longing that she started crying, recalled her mother, Robin Zinsou. Then crying would turn to coughing, and Ruiz would have to hang up.

Those calls, painful as they could be, were "how she got to be a mom to Celeste," Zinsou said. Ruiz, a 32-year-old wife and mother of two, died of coronavirus complications on Aug. 15, within days of giving birth on a ventilator.

She spent some of her final days urging others to get the vaccine she was waiting to receive out of concern for the baby she never got to hold.

Ruiz's death came as the delta variant sent infections soaring in the United States and as hospitals reported a spike in critically ill patients like her: young, pregnant and unvaccinated. In a tragic paradox, those who are pregnant are simultaneously more likely to experience severe illness and death from covid-19, and less likely to get the shot capable of preventing such suffering. At least 171 have died, including 22 in August alone, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported this week and in an urgent health advisory recommending vaccination.

Just 26 percent of pregnant Americans have

SEE PREGNANCY ON A6

Keenly awaited: Pfizer and BioNTech ask U.S. regulators to authorize shots for ages 5 to 11. A7

Mask mandates: Florida's school board will fine districts requiring face coverings. A9

## Police defeat qualified-immunity bills

BY KIMBERLY KINDY

In the months after George Floyd's murder, state legislators across the country tried to undo a legal doctrine that makes it virtually impossible to sue police officers for violating a person's civil rights.

Fueled by outrage over the actions of former Minnesota officer Derek Chauvin, the efforts to eliminate "qualified immunity" seemed poised to usher in a new era empowering citizens who felt

Vast lobbying campaigns thwart states' efforts to weaken legal doctrine

wronged by police.

But then, in state after state, the bills withered, were withdrawn, or were altered beyond recognition. At least 35 state qualified-immunity bills have died in the past 18 months, ac-

cording to an analysis by The Washington Post of legislative records and data from the National Conference of State Legislatures.

The efforts failed amid multifaceted lobbying campaigns by police officers and their unions targeting legislators, many of whom feared public backlash if the dire predictions by police came true. Officers said they would go bankrupt and lose their homes. They said their colleagues

SEE POLICE ON A4

## Senate moves to delay a collision on debt ceiling

DEAL WITH MCCONNELL EASES DEFAULT FEARS

New battle would loom in Dec. after a short-term hike

BY TONY ROMM

The Senate late Thursday adopted a short-term measure to raise the country's debt ceiling through early December, a move that could pull the federal government back from the fiscal brink even though it risked reigniting the high-stakes battle at the end of the year.

Lawmakers adopted the proposal strictly along party lines, with Democrats voting to lift the country's borrowing cap by \$480 billion and Republicans maintaining their steadfast opposition to it. The divide persisted even amid repeated warnings from President Biden this week that inaction threatened to plunge the country into a new recession.

Republicans on Thursday did supply some of the votes necessary to advance the measure over key procedural hurdles in the

otherwise deadlocked Senate. But even that task proved to be a significant political undertaking for GOP leaders, including Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.), who faced criticism from his own members simply for making a deal with Democrats.

The resolution would end a tense few weeks of partisan warfare, in which Democrats tried repeatedly to suspend the country's debt ceiling into 2022 — only to falter at the hands of GOP objections. McConnell led the blockade as part of the party's broader campaign against Biden's spending agenda, including a still-forming package of up to \$3.5 trillion in spending that GOP lawmakers vehemently oppose.

But McConnell backed down late Wednesday, offering Democrats

SEE DEBT CEILING ON A20

On the brink of default: Why the Senate blinked. A18



"Why shouldn't we be offering to help these allies of ours?" said Jim Shumard, rector of St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Casper.

## In Wyoming, a cautious push to take in refugees

BY KARIN BRULLIARD

CASPER, WYO. — Jim Shumard, the rector of St. Mark's Episcopal Church here, sent the email to his congregation with some trepidation. The plan it announced could be historic — for the parish and for Wyoming. But he knew it could also be divisive.

"Together, we are exploring hosting an Afghan family here in Casper," the headline said in bold blue letters. Whether that will happen, or even be possible, in this deeply conservative Western state remains in question. Wyoming, overwhelmingly White and Christian, has never formally welcomed refugees. Just a few years ago, debate over refugee resettlement spiraled into anti-Islam protests and a Koran-burning, alarming the state's tiny Muslim population and dashing the

hopes of its most prominent refugee advocate.

And this summer, amid a deluge of support for Afghan evacuees spanning political and faith spectra, the leaders of just two states, Wyoming and South Dakota, said they did not want to take in refugees. Wyoming is the only state that has no refugee resettlement program, nor has it ever had one. That makes the Cowboy State, as it is known, an island in a nation where states red and blue have for decades welcomed refugees.

Bipartisan enthusiasm for helping Afghans who assisted the U.S. war effort and fled the Taliban takeover has waned somewhat, with Senate Republicans last week attempting to curtail evacuees' access to aid and identification cards. Even so, 46 states are now preparing to host the

SEE REFUGEES ON A16

## IN THE NEWS



**Pakistan earthquake** At least 20 were killed in a 5.9-magnitude tremor in Balochistan province in the nation's southwest. A10

**D.C. homeless** The chaotic start of a program to move people from tents into housing has intensified critics' calls for changes. B1

**THE NATION** President Biden, visiting a Chicago-area construction site, doubled down on the push for vaccine mandates as results begin to show. A8

**Under mounting pressure** from the U.S. government, Moderna pledged to build a manufacturing facility in Africa. A9

**The CIA is opening** a mission center to counter Beijing and turn its focus on "an increasingly adversarial Chinese government." A11

**The former special envoy** for Haiti, who resigned in protest last

month, blasted Biden's policies toward the impoverished country. A12

**THE WORLD** A populist cleric and former foe of the United States is likely to emerge as kingmaker in Iraq's elections. A10

**Allegations** that former Afghan president Ashraf Ghani took millions in cash when he fled the country will come under U.S. investigation. A12

**THE ECONOMY** Black women and less-educated Americans are facing high employment even as the country and job market rebound. A14

**A chain of hacks** has exposed some of the Internet's biggest secrets, intensifying a tech war and raising fears that everyday users will be the losers. A15

**Tesla** will move its headquarters from Palo Alto, Calif., to Austin, CEO Elon Musk announced, signaling a major shift. A20

**THE REGION** Virginia Democrats condemned GOP-funded campaign mailings attacking House incumbents as "racist, anti-Semitic garbage." B1

**A Black family** in Virginia Beach has endured racist actions for months, but police say

they cannot stop the neighbor responsible. B1

**Actor Woody Harrelson** was involved in an altercation and struck a man who lunged at him at the Watergate Hotel's bar, D.C. police said. B2

**A Maryland man** who is charged in the killings of two family members and a friend believed his pharmacist brother was poisoning people with the coronavirus vaccine, investigators said. B4

**STYLE** Stagehands' vote to strike could derail the Kennedy Center's return to in-person events, including "Hometown" and the National Symphony Orchestra. C1

## INSIDE



**WEEKEND** Cornucopia of film These 21 fall movies are getting Hollywood's hopes up — and people buzzing. At left, "Sing 2." Think animal karaoke. C1

**STYLE** Shedding no tears They refused the shots. They died. As their stories proliferate online, so does the schadenfreude. C1

BUSINESS NEWS.....A34  
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LOTTERIES.....B3  
OBITUARIES.....B6  
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WORLD NEWS.....A50

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The Washington Post / Year 144, No. 107  
0 70628 211001 3



## Por un piquete en la ruta 2 se complicó el ingreso de turistas a Mar del Plata

Horas antes del inicio del fin de semana extralargo, organizaciones sociales y de izquierda bloquearon ayer por la tarde el acceso a la ciudad; el corte fue total y perjudicó a miles de turistas. **Página 22**



## NOBEL DE LITERATURA PARA UN REFUGIADO QUE HABLA DE REFUGIADOS

—cultura

El tanzano Abdulrazak Gurnah ganó el premio por su "comprensión de los efectos del colonialismo en el abismo entre culturas"; parte de su obra está disponible en español. **Página 24**

# LA NACION

VIERNES 8 DE OCTUBRE DE 2021 | LANACION.COM.AR

## Sobreseyeron a Cristina Kirchner en la causa por el pacto con Irán

**AMIA.** Lo resolvió por unanimidad el Tribunal Oral Federal Nº 8, que también benefició a Zannini y a otros nueve acusados; los tres jueces consideraron que no hubo delito en el acuerdo que había denunciado el fiscal Nisman

**Hernán Cappiello**  
LA NACION

El Tribunal Oral Federal Nº 8 sobreseyó ayer por unanimidad a Cristina Kirchner, Carlos Zannini y otros nueve acusados por el memorándum de entendimiento con Irán, al considerar que no hubo delito en la firma de ese acuerdo. Ese pacto fue

denunciado bajo la premisa de que pretendía dotar de impunidad a los funcionarios y exfuncionarios iraníes sospechados de instigar el atentado contra la AMIA, el 18 de julio de 1994, que dejó 85 muertos y más de 300 heridos.

El fallo, de más de 300 páginas, fue firmado por los jueces María Gabriela López Iñiguez, Daniel

Obligado y José Michilini. La causa había sido iniciada por la denuncia del fiscal Alberto Nisman, que para la Justicia fue asesinado por su trabajo cuatro días después de haber hecho esa presentación judicial, en enero de 2015.

La sentencia puede ser recurrida ante la Cámara de Casación Penal. Continúa en la página 6

### EL ESCENARIO

Justicia y política, bajo sospecha

Claudio Jacquelin

Página 9

## Arroyo Salgado pidió investigar la fiesta en la quinta de Olivos

Página 8

## La selección mereció ganar, pero también sufrió

**deportes—** La Argentina, en un arduo partido, no pudo doblegar a Paraguay en Asunción pese a disponer de varias situaciones claras, aunque también le llegaron con riesgo. Fue 0-0, por la 11ª fecha de las eliminatorias. El domingo será local ante Uruguay.



Messi, que buscó por todos lados pero no pudo sortear la férrea marca paraguaya, no puede ocultar su impotencia

AFP

## Cayeron en agosto la industria y la construcción

**DUDAS.** La actividad industrial y la construcción sufrieron sendas caídas en agosto respecto del mes anterior (0,6% y 2,6%, respectivamente), según el Indec. Analistas creen que el nivel de recuperación habría tocado un techo. **Página 16**

## Washington y Krueger, contra Georgieva

**FMI.** El Tesoro no la apoya y la exdirectiva del Fondo exigió su renuncia. **Página 4**



## Tus puntos Superclub esperando ser canjeados...

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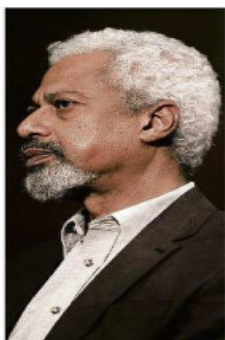
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**Ilustrada C1**  
Romancista  
Abdulrazak Gurnah,  
da Tanzânia, vence o  
Nobel de Literatura

**Ilustrada C4**  
Fenômeno 'Round 6'  
junta nostalgia,  
games e capitalismo  
selvagem

**Esporte B11**  
Brasil bate Venezuela  
por 3 a 1 e chega à  
nona vitória seguida  
nas Eliminatórias



O escritor Abdulrazak Gurnah Beowulf Sheehan/PEN American

## Governo vende 5 de 92 blocos no pior leilão de petróleo

Resultado aquém de 16 rodadas de licitação em 21 anos reflete riscos do setor

O leilão que ofertou ontem 92 blocos para explorar petróleo terminou com a venda de 5, tornando-se o pior em participação e receita desde que o Brasil iniciou as licitações, em 1999. Áreas ecologicamente sensíveis, perto do Atol das Rocas e Fernando de Noronha, encalharam.

O resultado reflete o menor apetite pelo risco no setor, que vem mirando cada vez mais as energias renováveis e ainda não deu conta de explorar as áreas petrolíferas arrematadas em leilões recentes no país, que em 21 anos realizou 17 certames do tipo, afirmam especialistas.

Os cinco blocos vendidos ficam na Bacia de Santos, região considerada menos ariscada, e foram comprados pelas duas únicas empresas que fizeram propostas por um total de R\$ 37,1 milhões: quatro pela anglo-holandesa Shell e o quinto por ela com a colombiana Ecopetrol.

"A melhor definição desse leilão é risco elevado: risco de descoberta, logístico, ambiental...", disse Magda Chambriard, ex-diretora-geral da ANP. Mercado A18

**Análise Edmar de Almeida**  
Brasil precisa de estratégia para ficar entre potências A19



Lalo de Almeida - 13.ago.16/Folhapress

## LALO DE ALMEIDA, FOTÓGRAFO DA FOLHA, RECEBE PRÊMIO POR OBRA NA AMAZÔNIA

Índio no Xingu, com sol encoberto por névoa de incêndio; profissional é 1º brasileiro após Sebastião Salgado a ganhar bolsa W. Eugene Smith Memorial Ambiente B7

## Isolamento de Guedes cresce com crise de offshore

A revelação de que Paulo Guedes (Economia) mantém empresa em paraíso fiscal aumentou a pressão sobre o ministro, que passa por maior isolamento na Esplanada e no Planalto. Interlocutores de Jair Bolsonaro se queixam de dificuldade com a agenda econômica. Mercado A23

## País deve sofrer desabastecimento, diz Bolsonaro

Jair Bolsonaro afirmou que o Brasil deve enfrentar "problemas de abastecimento" em 2022. Segundo ele, a possível falta de produtos está ligada à crise energética na China. Espera-se menos oferta de fertilizantes do país asiático, o que afetaria a agricultura brasileira. Mercado A18

### EDITORIAIS A2

**Labirinto tributário**  
Sobre multiplicação de regras para os impostos.

**Maratona da malária**  
Acerca de primeira vacina contra a enfermidade.

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## Acusado de estupro de Mariana Ferrer volta a ser absolvido

O Tribunal de Justiça de Santa Catarina confirmou por unanimidade a decisão de 1ª instância que absolviu André de Camargo Aranha, acusado de estupro de Mariana Ferrer, 24, em 2018. Ela recorrerá ao STJ. O caso teve repercussão internacional. Cotidiano B4

## Reinaldo Azevedo Meninas pobres e a Dreadnoughts

O que o veto de Jair Bolsonaro à distribuição gratuita de absorventes a estudantes pobres e mulheres em situação de rua tem a ver com a Dreadnoughts Internacional, offshore de Paulo Guedes? Poderosos aliados vivem no mundo em que menina pobre não menstrua. Poder A12

## Paciente da Prevent diz que só foi tratado após ameaça

Em depoimento à CPI da Covid, o advogado Tadeu Frederico Andrade, paciente da Prevent Senior, relatou que médicos chegaram a determinar o tratamento paliativo — para aliviar o sofrimento até a morte —, só voltando atrás após grande resistência da família, que ameaçou ir à Justiça.

"Eu teria meus equipamentos desligados, aplicariam uma bomba de morfina e eu viria a óbito", disse. O ex-médico da Prevent Walter Correa de Souza Neto afirmou que havia ordens e pressão na operadora para prescrever "kit Covid", mesmo sabendo que se tratava de uma fraude. Poder A10

## Presidente veta distribuição gratuita de absorventes B6

**Pfizer pede aval nos EUA para dose em crianças de 5 a 11 anos** Saúde B1

**Reino Unido aceita brasileiro vacinado sem quarentena** Mundo A16

### A pandemia em 7.out

Dados das 20h

#### POPULAÇÃO VACINADA

**No Brasil**  
Ao menos uma dose (dose única ou 1ª dose) **71,8%**  
1º ciclo vacinal completo (dose única ou 2ª dose) **45,6%**  
Dose de reforço **0,9%**

#### ESTÁGIO DA DOENÇA

**Óbitos**  
Média móvel **438** Em 24 h 451  
Total 599.865  
Casos ↓ -55,8%\* (desacelerado)  
\*Variação em relação a 14 dias

**NÃO ENTRE EM FILA PARA COMPRAR SUV.**

VEJA NAS PÁGINAS 5, 6 E 7

**CADA CHERY**  
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Existe temor de que una tardía intervención permita manipular documentos

## Opositores piden a Fiscalía allanamiento de la Comuna



- Salud no recibió insumos que Municipalidad "donó"
- Tributación encuentra incongruencias en facturas
- Ante escándalo, la ANR dio su apoyo a Nenecho

PÁGINAS 2, 4 y 6 a la 9

**Incógnita.** La Municipalidad alega que la compra de 50 saturómetros fue para los vacunatorios, y allí dicen que en esos lugares no los necesitan. Además, solo se tiene constancia de la recepción de 15 dispositivos.

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Desde el 2019 al 2021  
**El IPS bajo la  
lupa de la CGR  
por las compras  
en pandemia**

PÁGINA 27

Empate a 0 en el Defensores  
**La Albirroja  
apenas rescata  
un punto ante  
Argentina**

PÁGINA 62 a la 64

**ULTIMA HORA**  
CUMPLIMOS  
**48** AÑOS  
renovando nuestro  
compromiso con la verdad

**Viene un nuevo golpe al bolsillo:  
El gas subirá en G. 1.200 el kilo**

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**Aumentar el PGN 2022 puede  
obligar a un incremento del IVA**

PÁGINA 20

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**HOMMAGE**  
ÉTIENNE MOUGEOTTE, DE TFI  
AU « FIGARO », LA PASSION  
DU JOURNALISME PAGE 30

**SANTÉ**  
ENFIN UN VACCIN  
CONTRE LE PALUDISME  
POUR LES ENFANTS PAGE 16



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Marine Le Pen,  
sur le terrain  
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catalans boostent  
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**SOCIAL**  
Les retraites  
augmenteront  
moins que prévu  
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**CHAMPS LIBRES**

- 80 ans après, le serment des anciens espions
- Éric Zemmour est-il un Trump à la française ?
- La tribune de Pierre-Henri Tavoillot
- Le bloc-notes d'Ivan Rioufol
- L'analyse de Boris Boichot

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**FIGARO OUI FIGARO NON**

**Réponses à la question de jeudi :**  
Présidentielle : Emmanuel Macron doit-il s'appuyer sur Édouard Philippe pour sa campagne ?

**OUI 60% NON 40%**

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**Votez aujourd'hui sur lefigaro.fr**  
Faut-il lever l'obligation du port du masque dans les lieux clos ?

JEAN-CHRISTOPHE MARMARA / LE FIGARO - JAMES KEV / REUTERS

# 2022: divisée, la gauche craint la marginalisation

Jamais la gauche n'a été aussi faible. Selon notre sondage Odoxa-Backbone, elle ne parvient pas à convaincre les Français. Une nouvelle fois, elle pourrait être exclue du second tour.

Ils ne sont pas moins de sept candidats de gauche, toutes tendances confondues, à vouloir briguer les suffrages. Même si tous ne seront pas au bout du compte candidats le 10 avril, le nombre met en évidence la division de la

gauche dans un début de campagne où les thèmes dominants sont plutôt ceux de la droite. Sondage après sondage, les intentions de vote montrent une réduction du potentiel électoral autour de 25 %, bien trop bas pour as-

surer une place au second tour en 2022. Notre sondage Odoxa souligne que la gauche ne parvient pas à convaincre les Français. Anne Hidalgo fait un début de campagne poussif au point de désespérer jusque dans son camp.

De son côté, Jean-Luc Mélenchon peine à décoller et à franchir la barre symbolique des 10 %. Seul Yannick Jadot bénéficie d'une petite dynamique qui pourrait le mettre en tête des candidats « progressistes ».

➔ LA GAUCHE NE CONVAINC PAS LES FRANÇAIS  
➔ LA MAÎTRE DE PARIS SOUS LA MENACE DU VOTE INUTILE, PAR GUILLAUME TABARD  
➔ JADOT MISE SUR DES RALLIEMENTS POUR RASSEMBLER AU-DELA DE SON CAMP PAGES 4 À 6



**Ces néoféministes qui imposent leur idéologie dans les rues et les écoles**

À Rouen, la statue de Napoléon a été déposée. Avant qu'elle ne soit remplacée par celle de Gisèle Halimi, une parodie de l'Empereur, en livreur à vélo, a été installée. Partout, l'espace public est menacé par ce remodelage. PAGES 10, 11 ET L'EDITORIAL

**ÉDITORIAL** par Laurence de Charette ldecharette@lefigaro.fr

## Mauvais genres

Qui peut croire que déboulonner une statue de Napoléon peut faire progresser la « cause » des femmes ? Voici pourtant l'Empereur otage de néoféministes rouennaises décidées à le détrôner au profit d'une figure féminine - disons Gisèle Halimi... De journées du « matrimoine » en « femmagés », on ne compte plus les hauts faits des pseudo-défenseurs des femmes pour lutter contre les « inégalités de genre ». On aimerait sourire de leurs dernières trouvailles, si leur discours n'était si dangereux. Loin de s'inquiéter des conditions de vie des habitantes des quartiers difficiles ou de lutter contre la marchandisation du corps des femmes, le néoféminisme promeut un récit du monde idéologique et binaire qui dessert leur quotidien et blesse leur humanité. Qu'une forme de surplomb social ait pu exister à travers l'histoire n'autorise nullement à théoriser l'oppression générale des femmes par les hommes, pas plus qu'à faire de la haine du « patriarcat » la matrice de nos sociétés. Ceux qui prétendent célébrer les femmes à coups de nouvelles plaques de rue ou de

« points médians » si disgracieux nient en profondeur la véritable égalité hommes-femmes, ontologique, qui préside à la destinée humaine. Mais ils rabaissent l'histoire et défigurent la littérature, dont notre monde aurait pourtant tant besoin pour façonner les rapports humains. Ceux qui autrefois militaient pour la « libération » des femmes voudraient aujourd'hui les enfermer dans un carcan victimaire. Puisque toute différence leur apparaît non

### Carcan victimaire

pas comme un espace de liberté, lieu privilégié de la rencontre, mais comme l'occasion d'un asservissement, les voici artisans d'une fiction totalitaire dans laquelle les individus n'auraient plus droit de cité qu'à condition qu'ils ne soient plus ni homme ni femme mais « dégenrés » et « déconstruits ». Or l'ivresse de la déconstruction est contagieuse et s'étend vite du néoféminisme au décolonialisme : le système mortifère qui fait du mâle blanc l'ennemi absolu conduit chaque minorité à son tour à réclamer vengeance... Vite, qu'on nous rende la statue de Napoléon ! ■

## Prêts garantis par l'État : une bonne affaire pour les entreprises

Conçus pour aider les entreprises à passer la crise sanitaire, les prêts garantis par l'État (PGE) sont en train de devenir un puissant outil de relance économique. Une grande partie des 690 000 entreprises qui ont décidé d'y recourir (pour un montant total de 120 milliards d'euros) n'en ont en effet pas eu besoin pour survivre. Elles l'utilisent comme un matelas de sécurité ou pour financer des projets d'investissement. PAGES 24 ET 25

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# Let it all out

Tears for Fears on loss, their reunion and a new album

→ Film & Music G2



Barbara Hershey 'Look at my face. I haven't altered it'



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## Coronavirus report in 2016 warned of need for tracing and more PPE

**Exclusive**  
**Robert Booth**  
Social affairs correspondent

Senior health officials who war-gamed the impact of a coronavirus sweeping Britain warned in 2016 of the need for PPE stockpiles, a contact tracing system and screening for travellers, the Guardian can reveal.

The calls to step up preparations in areas already identified as

shortcomings in the government's response to Covid emerged from a previously unpublished report of a planning exercise five years ago that imagined a coronavirus outbreak.

It was commissioned by the then chief medical officer, Dame Sally Davies, who attended alongside officials from NHS England, the Department of Health, Public Health England and observers from the devolved administrations. They imagined cases of Middle East

Respiratory Syndrome (Mers-CoV) arriving in London and Birmingham and spreading rapidly. Like Covid, Mers results in potentially fatal respiratory illness, can spread asymptotically and there were no known treatments.

Ministers have previously stressed pandemic planning focused more on flu and so did not prepare the country for the specific demands of coronavirus. The disclosure of the 23-page report into "Exercise Alice" will

**'Lessons were agreed, but political leaders and NHS England did not implement them'**

**Dr Moosa Qureshi**  
Transparency campaigner

prompt fresh scrutiny. In August the government refused to release the file saying it could "lead to loss of public confidence in the government's and the NHS's Covid-19 response ... based on misinterpretation of the report".

However, it was released yesterday under freedom of information law to Dr Moosa Qureshi, a clinician campaigning for greater transparency on government preparedness for the pandemic, which has claimed more than 2 →

## Power cut risk higher, National Grid says

**Rob Davies**

The risk of power cuts to factories and homes this winter has increased, the National Grid warned yesterday, as the business secretary prepared for a crunch meeting with industry bosses concerned the energy crisis may force them to scale back production.

The price of gas and electricity has soared in recent weeks, leading to the collapse of energy suppliers and prompting warnings of higher costs for consumers, factory shutdowns and increased pollution as plants switch to dirtier but cheaper fuels.

The unfolding energy crisis has coincided with the Grid's annual assessment of Great Britain's resilience to disruption to electricity supplies, with the key "margin" figure falling to its lowest in five years.

The Grid's electricity system operator (ESO) said the amount of reserve supply was expected to be 6.6% of demand, but could fall as low as 4.2%. It said it believed there was enough slack to avoid blackouts affecting households and factories, but warned that conditions 10 →



## Newcastle's £300m deal with Saudis condemned

**Sean Ingle**  
Chief sports reporter

Newcastle United has sold its name and reputation to a brutal government run by a brutal ruler, the organisation founded by the murdered journalist Jamal Khashoggi warned last night, after the club was taken over by a Saudi Arabia-led consortium in a £300m deal.

While there was delight in Newcastle after the Premier League confirmed the deal, with fans hopeful that the new owners would spark a revival in the club's fortunes, many human rights groups condemned the takeover and said it would allow Saudi Arabia to "sportswash" its image on the global stage.

The criticism was led by Democracy for the Arab World Now (Dawn), the group founded by Khashoggi

▲ Newcastle United fans, AKA the Toon Army, gathered outside St James' Park stadium yesterday to celebrate the news of the takeover

before he was murdered in the Saudi consulate in Turkey in 2018. US intelligence agencies have since concluded that the Saudi crown prince, Mohammed bin Salman approved the killing. The Saudi government has denied this. 8 →

PHOTOGRAPH: CHRISTOPHER THOMOND/THE GUARDIAN