

## What's News

## Business &amp; Finance

The Fed approved a rare half-percentage-point rate increase—the largest since 2000—and a plan to shrink its \$9 trillion asset portfolio as officials kicked into higher gear a campaign to slow inflation.

▲ U.S. stocks rallied after Powell put to rest investors' fears that the central bank might be considering bigger rate increases. The S&P 500, Nasdaq and Dow surged 3%, 3.2% and 2.8%, respectively. Treasury yields fell. **B1, B11**

◆ Some U.S. companies are warning that Covid-19 lockdowns in Shanghai and elsewhere in China are denting sales, disrupting operations and putting added strain on supply chains. **A1**

◆ Uber's revenue more than doubled in the latest quarter as demand for rides rebounded and the company's food delivery grew. **B1**

◆ VW said it is accelerating a push into key U.S. markets where it expects little impact on growth from the Ukraine war or China's lockdowns. **B1**

◆ Intercontinental Exchange agreed to buy mortgage-data firm Black Knight in a deal valued at \$13.1 billion. **B11**

◆ Executives at Cerebral told its clinicians that the company will pause prescribing controlled substances such as Adderall to treat ADHD in new patients. **B4**

◆ Moderna said that its first-quarter revenue and profit tripled on higher sales of its Covid-19 vaccine. **B3**

## World-Wide

◆ Ukrainian forces are ousting Russian troops from a string of villages that were used to strike the country's second-most populous city, Kharkiv, regaining strategic terrain that could blunt Russia's attempt to conquer the eastern Donbas region. **A1, A8-9**

◆ Europe is racing to stock up on oil and natural gas before it imposes tighter sanctions on Russian energy, showing the dash to reorganize global energy supplies in the wake of the war in Ukraine. **A9**

◆ Democratic and Republican leaders are weighing their next political steps on abortion after a leaked draft opinion suggested that the Supreme Court was poised to overturn the landmark Roe v. Wade decision. **A7**

◆ Primary elections for a U.S. Senate seat from Ohio reinforced the power Trump holds over the Republican Party and set up a general election in which both major candidates are placing emphasis on blue-collar voters. **A4**

◆ Biden would be on shaky legal ground if he were to pursue broad-based student debt cancellation by executive action, Obama's former top Education Department lawyer wrote in a legal analysis. **A3**

◆ Venture capitalist John Doerr and his wife, Ann Doerr, are giving Stanford \$1.1 billion to launch a new school focused on tackling challenges of climate change and sustainability issues. **A3**

## JOURNAL REPORT

C-Suite Strategies: Starting a business with your spouse. **R1-10**

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## Fed Rate Rise Is Biggest Since 2000

Plan to shrink portfolio kicks inflation fight into higher gear; stocks rise on reassurances

By NICK TIMIRAS

The Federal Reserve approved a rare half-percentage-point interest-rate increase—the largest since 2000—and a plan to shrink its \$9 trillion asset portfolio as officials kicked into higher gear a campaign to slow inflation that is running at a 40-year high.

The moves, approved unanimously at the end of a two-day policy meeting Wednesday by the Fed's rate-setting committee, will raise the central bank's benchmark federal-funds rate to a target range between 0.75% and 1%.

Fed Chairman Jerome Powell said at a news conference that officials broadly agreed that additional half-point increases could be warranted in June and July given current economic conditions. That would lift the rate to a range last seen in 2019, before the pandemic prompted the central

bank to open its monetary spigots, and would represent a policy tightening pace as aggressive as any since the 1980s.

Bond and stock prices rallied Wednesday after Mr. Powell said officials aren't considering an even larger increase of three-fourths of a percentage point, or 75 basis points, at the

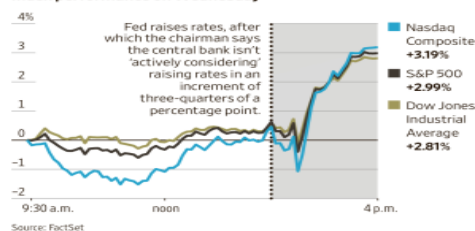
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◆ Stocks soar as worries over steeper rate hikes abate..... **B1**

◆ Treasury yields fall after Powell's remarks..... **B11**

◆ Heard on the Street: Fed still isn't the market's friend..... **B12**

## Index performance on Wednesday



Ukrainian soldiers in Kharkiv on Wednesday. The nation's second-largest city has seen far less Russian shelling in recent days.

## Ukrainians Reclaim Villages, Easing Pressure on Kharkiv

By YAROSLAV TROFIMOV

KHARKIV, Ukraine—Ukrainian forces are ousting Russian troops from a string of villages that were used to strike the country's second-most populous city, Kharkiv, regaining strategic terrain that could blunt Russia's attempt to conquer the eastern Donbas region.

The recent Ukrainian gains, to the north and northeast of Kharkiv, build on previous successes in forcing Russia's military from the immediate outskirts of the city, a major

industrial and transportation hub with a prewar population of 1.4 million.

Another setback for Russia came when the European Union proposed on Wednesday a ban on Russian crude and refined oil products, and prepared to impose sanctions on Russian military figures whom EU officials accuse of war crimes. With the tighter restrictions pending, Europe stocked up on oil and natural gas. Brent crude futures for July delivery on Wednesday gained \$5.17 per barrel, or

4.93%, to \$110.14.

On the battlefield, Ukrainian troops captured on Friday the village of Ruska Lozova just north of Kharkiv, according to residents and the Ukrainian military. In the following days, a separate group pressing northeast expelled Russian forces from the village of Kutuzivka. The group has now reached the town of Staryi Saltiv, some 25 miles away, Ukrainian officials said. Pursuing the offensive farther east of Staryi Saltiv would threaten Russian supply lines

toward Izyum, the staging ground of Moscow's main military effort to seize Donbas.

While some Russian units remain on the edge of Kharkiv, these offensives have led to a dramatic decrease in the shelling of the city, said Oleh Synyubov, the head of the Kharkiv

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◆ As Russians bury their dead, they blame the U.S..... **A8**

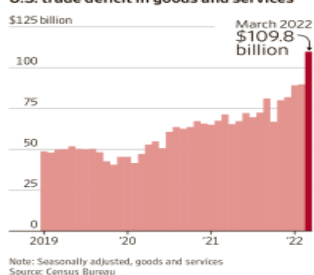
◆ Europe imports energy before it cuts Moscow off..... **A9**

◆ Finland holds war drill ahead of NATO application..... **A9**

## Trade Deficit Climbs to Record

Inflation, supply imbalances and strong demand for imported goods widened the U.S. trade deficit by 22.3% to a record in March, with clothing, computers, and vehicles driving the increase. Imports rose 10.3%. **A4**

## U.S. trade deficit in goods and services



## China's Covid-19 Lockdowns Reignite Supply-Chain Woes

By THOMAS GRITA

Some U.S. companies are warning that Covid-19 lockdowns in Shanghai and elsewhere in China are denting sales, disrupting operations and putting added strain on supply chains that could be felt well into the summer.

Apple Inc. said it could take a sales hit of as much as \$8 billion in its current quarter, primarily because of the Shanghai lockdowns. Indus-

trial giant Honeywell International Inc. said the Covid measures had curbed production at half of its Chinese plants. J.B. Hunt Transport Services Inc. said the freight carrier's customers are worried about deliveries scheduled for July.

Since the emergence of the virus, China generally has stuck to a zero-tolerance approach to dealing with flare-ups, using mass testing and travel restrictions along with widespread lockdowns. The

latest wave in Shanghai started in early March, closing factories of companies including electric-car maker Tesla Inc. and consumer-products maker Procter & Gamble Co.

Much of the rest of the developed world has adopted a strategy of minimizing Covid infections and managing waves while avoiding severe disruptions to business and daily life. Given China's role as a key supplier to the world, the pol-

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## Who Are the Best Lawyers? They're Arguing About It

Awards for those in legal profession are proliferating; 'dopest'

By JACOB GERSHMAN

In a country with more than a million licensed lawyers, it isn't easy to distinguish the best among them. There's no gold-dipped Oscar statuette or Olympic medal awarded to attorneys. Instead, validation often takes the form of small wooden plaques, which are plastered all over the office walls and websites of the legal

profession.

Demand for these plaques is considerable—at least judging by the array of companies offering them. Among them are the "Best Attorneys of America," "America's Top 50 Lawyers," "America's Top 100 Attorneys" and "America's Best Advocates."

So heated is the industry of professional superlatives in the legal sector that even the

phrase "best lawyers" is entangled in litigation.

Washingtonian magazine found itself in federal court this spring after publishing a directory of the "Best Lawyers" practicing in the nation's capital. A Georgia-based company called Best Lawyers, which rates attorneys based on peer reviews, sued the magazine for trademark in-

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## INSIDE



**BUSINESS & FINANCE**  
Uber's revenue more than doubled last quarter as demand for rides rebounded. **B1**



**SPORTS**  
Ime Udoka beat long odds in his playing career to become Celtics head coach. **A14**



## Lessons from Blair

Today's UK Labour party still has a lot to learn — ROBERT SHRIMSLEY, PAGE 17

## Eastern front

Has Nato's response to Putin made Europe safer? — BIG READ, PAGE 15



## Theatre of Twitter

Social media site is like a dystopian open-mic night — JEMIMA KELLY, PAGE 16

Missile strike  
EU doubts on  
Russia oil ban

Vehicles burn at an oil depot after missile strikes yesterday on an area controlled by Russian-backed separatist forces in Makiivka, east of Donetsk, Ukraine.

The EU has said it will phase out all Russian oil supplies to the bloc by the end of the year. But in a sign of how difficult some eastern European countries will find it to source alternative oil, Hungary said it would reject Brussels' proposal unless there was an exception for pipelines that import Russian crude via pipelines.

Brent oil climbed as much as 2.5 per cent to a high of \$107.58.

War in Ukraine page 2

Russian sanctions page 8

Oil price impact page 10

Karina Robinson page 17



## Fed ramps up inflation battle with first half-point rate rise since 2000

Plan to slim \$9tn balance sheet • War adds to price pressures • Further moves expected

COLBY SMITH — WASHINGTON

The US Federal Reserve has raised its benchmark policy rate by half a percentage point for the first time since 2000 and unveiled plans to shrink its \$9tn balance sheet as it embraces a more aggressive approach to tackling high inflation.

At the end of its two-day policy meeting yesterday, the Federal Open Market Committee lifted the target range of the federal funds rate to a range of 0.75 per cent to 1 per cent. It is the first time since 2006 that the bank has implemented rate increases at back-to-back meetings.

At its March meeting, the Fed raised rates a quarter of a percentage point from the near-zero level where they had hovered since the onset of the pandemic.

Since then, top officials have backed a much more rapid withdrawal of the pandemic-era stimulus in light of one of the tightest labour markets in history and signs that price pressures are becoming entrenched.

In a statement released yesterday, the US central bank said it expected that "ongoing increases in the target range will be appropriate", suggesting the Fed will implement multiple half-point rate rises this year.

The committee said it was "highly attentive" to soaring inflation but warned of further upward pressure on prices stemming from supply chain bottlenecks caused by the war in Ukraine and Covid-19 lockdowns in China.

The decision marks the latest step by the Fed to move monetary policy to a so-

called neutral position that neither speeds up nor slows down economic activity.

Officials have suggested a neutral fed funds rate is between 2 and 5 per cent but many economists believe it is much higher, given how much inflation has overshoot the Fed's 2 per cent target.

Core inflation, as measured by the central bank's preferred personal consumption expenditures price index, reached 5.2 per cent in March compared with the previous year.

Additional half-point rate rises are now expected, with further adjustments likely in June and July. If the Fed then raises rates by just a quarter-point at each of the remaining meetings in September, November and December, the fed funds rate would hover between 2.5



The Fed says it is "highly attentive" to soaring inflation and warns of upward pressure on prices from supply chain bottlenecks.

and 2.75 per cent by the end of the year.

Fed officials argue the US economy is strong enough to withstand much tighter monetary policy without falling into a recession, an outcome that Treasury secretary Janet Yellen said was possible but would be tricky to pull off.

At an event yesterday, the former Fed chair said the central bank would need to be "skilful and also lucky" to achieve a so-called soft landing.

The Fed confirmed its plans to shrink its portfolio of Treasuries and agency mortgage-backed securities, which has ballooned since early 2020 as it hoovered up bonds to support the economy. It will begin reducing its holdings in June through a process called run-off whereby it stops reinvesting the proceeds of maturing securities.

## Briefing

## Multinationals warn of China blow

Starbucks and Yum China, the local owner of the KFC and Pizza Hut brands, have warned of the hit to sales from lockdowns confining millions to their homes in the biggest consumer market. — PAGE 4

## Abramovich allies set to stay at Chelsea

Chair Bruce Buck and director Marina Granovskaia have been offered the option to retain their jobs running the football club if a consortium led by US financier Todd Boehly, lead bidder, prevails. — PAGE 6

## SEC probe into Didi listing disaster

The Chinese ride-hailing giant has disclosed that the US watchdog is examining last June's IPO that was hit by a Beijing crackdown two days later. The news weighed on Hong Kong's tech sector. — PAGE 6

## Trump-backed Vance wins Ohio primary

Author and venture capitalist JD Vance has won the race to be the Republican candidate for the Senate. The win highlights the influence of ex-president Donald Trump. — PAGE 5



## New blow takes Tiger fund to 40% loss

April's 15 per cent loss for Tiger Global's flagship hedge fund means it is down more than 40 per cent this year, in the latest sign of how star tech investors have been wrongfooted by a reversal. — PAGE 10

## Moderna plans launch of Omicron jab

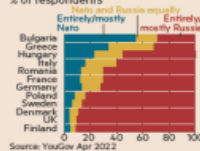
The US drugmaker has scheduled an autumn release for its "bivalent booster" that will target two antigens, the original strain of Covid-19 as well as the mutations in the Omicron variant. — PAGE 8

## US takes aim at China surveillance group

Washington has lined up sanctions on Hikvision, the surveillance camera group accused of enabling human rights abuses, in a decision that is set to hit cities including New York and London. — PAGE 4

## Datawatch

## Who is responsible for the war in Ukraine?



Eastern Europeans, with the exception of Poles, are more likely to believe NATO is partly to blame for the Russian war against Ukraine. Most Europeans believe the responsibility lies entirely or mostly with Russia.

Source: YouGov Apr 2022



## Scholz's voice emerges from the fog of war

Olaf Scholz has gone on the offensive after weeks of what critics label 'procrastination and timidity' over Ukraine. Hampered by a speaking style in which 'my message is clear' is often followed by convoluted sentences, the German chancellor has faced fire over his initial resistance to sending heavy weapons and his refusal to visit Kyiv. But he used a television interview this week to set out his stall and there were signs his message was clarifying.

Calling the shots — PAGE 2

## VW sold out of this year's electric cars in Europe and US as supply chains clog

JOE MILLER — STUTTGART

ALEXANDER VLADKOV — FRANKFURT

Volkswagen, the world's second-largest electric vehicle manufacturer by volume, has "sold out" of battery-powered models in the US and Europe this year as persistent supply chain bottlenecks hit global production.

The German group, which includes brands such as Porsche, Audi and Škoda, sold more than 99,000 electric models worldwide in the first three months of this year as it was hit by a shortage of semiconductors and wiring harnesses made in Ukraine. Market leader Tesla delivered more than three times that number in the same quarter.

However, VW boss Herbert Diess said that because demand had remained robust, the company had an order backlog in western Europe of 300,000 elec-

tric cars. He added that customers now placing orders in Europe and the US would not get their electric models delivered before 2023.

"We have very high order books and... order intake on electric vehicles," Diess said, adding that all models from Audi to Škoda were "extremely well received in the markets".

He said: "We are basically sold out on electric vehicles in Europe and in the United States. And in China, it's really picking up."

VW is targeting a total of roughly 700,000 electric vehicle sales for 2022 as it attempts to catch up with Tesla. However, production has been hampered, particularly in China, VW's largest market, where it sold just 28,800 electric cars in the first quarter amid coronavirus lockdowns.

While that sales figure is four times

higher than the same period last year, it complicates VW's target of selling at least 140,000 electric cars in China this year. VW also missed its electric sales targets in the country last year.

The auto industry's overall sales forecasts for the year have been reduced in recent weeks, as the global economy continues to suffer from rising raw material prices and the war in Ukraine.

Bosch, Europe's largest auto supplier, said yesterday that its previous estimate of 88mm cars being sold worldwide this year "probably won't be met" because of "adverse effects from the coronavirus pandemic in China and the ongoing chip shortages".

VW warned that there was "a continued risk" that the war and lockdowns in China would "have a negative impact on... business activities in the current year".

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## World Markets

STOCK MARKETS					CURRENCIES					INTEREST RATES				
	May 4	prev	%chg		Pair	May 4	prev	%chg			price	yield	chg	
S&P 500	4163.70	4175.48	-0.28	\$ per £	1.055	1.054	£ per \$	0.948	0.949	US Gov 10 yr	90.78	2.98	0.05	
Nasdaq Composite	12434.16	12563.78	-1.03	\$ per €	1.250	1.251	€ per \$	0.800	0.799	US Gov 10 yr	120.92	1.96	0.01	
Dow Jones Ind	35110.39	35128.79	-0.06	€ per £	0.844	0.842	£ per €	1.185	1.187	Ger Gov 10 yr	91.02	0.97	0.01	
FTSE 100	1729.56	1747.37	-1.06	¥ per \$	129.980	129.915	\$ per ¥	1.371	1.369	Jpn Gov 10 yr	99.76	0.23	0.00	
Euro Stoxx 50	3728.05	3761.19	-0.88	₹ per \$	162.495	162.536	\$ per ₹	60.301	60.479	US Gov 30 yr	95.12	3.01	0.02	
FTSE 250	7483.45	7561.33	-0.90	S\$ per \$	1.037	1.031	\$ per S\$	1.228	1.224	Ger Gov 2 yr	99.51	0.26	0.00	
FTSE All-Share	4146.05	4196.77	-0.97											
2x42-40	6285.61	6475.18	-2.24											
Xetra Dax	13070.82	14026.47	-0.49											
Nikkei	29618.53	29847.90	-0.71											
Hang Seng	20989.52	21101.89	-1.50											
MSCI World \$	2620.82	2706.37	-1.68											
MSCI EM \$	1089.24	1072.56	0.31											
MSCI ACWI \$	666.13	663.57	0.39											
FT Mibex 2500	5443.59	5417.09	0.48											
FT Mibex 1000	42517.58	42306.06	0.50											

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Ukrainian armored vehicles in the eastern city of Kharkiv on Wednesday, with the smoke of Russian incendiary rocket blasts nearby.

## Rate Increase Is the Largest In 2 Decades

By JEANNA SMIALEK

The Federal Reserve ramped up its attack on rapid inflation on Wednesday, approving its biggest interest rate increase since 2000, detailing a plan to shrink its massive bond holdings and signaling that it will continue working to cool the economy as it tries to tamp down the fastest price increases in four decades.

Yet investors found a reason for relief. While the Fed raised interest rates half a percentage point and its chair, Jerome H. Powell, said similarly large increases would be "on the table" at the Fed's upcoming meetings, he shot down the idea that policymakers were considering an even larger move, as some investors had feared.

That reassurance helped to send stock indexes soaring. The S&P 500 rose 3 percent, the biggest jump since May 2020.

Many on Wall Street have been nervously eyeing the Fed's path as it tries to beat back inflation, worried that officials might slow demand so much that the economy will tip into a painful recession. While the Fed is withdrawing monetary help at the fastest pace in decades, Mr. Powell's comments showed that the central bank was trying to chart a brisk course, but not a drastic one.

"Markets took it as: The Fed is not overdoing it," said Priya Misra, head of global rates strategy at TD Securities.

Still, the Fed's suite of policy changes underscored that the central bank is serious about cooling down the economy and the job market. Officials have grown increasingly nervous that price increases, which have lasted longer than many economists had expected, could become more permanent. By lifting rates and shrinking its nearly \$9 trillion in bond holdings, the Fed will push borrowing costs higher across the economy, moves aimed at slowing demand.

"Inflation is much too high and we understand the hardship it is causing, and we're moving expeditiously to bring it back down," Mr. Powell said during a news conference on Wednesday. "We have both the tools we need and the resolve it will take to restore price stability."

Policymakers spent most of 2021 hoping that inflation would ease on its own as supply shortages faded.

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## U.S. Helped Kyiv in Targeting Russian Generals

This article is by Julian E. Barnes, Helene Cooper and Eric Schmitt.

WASHINGTON — The United States has provided intelligence about Russian units that has allowed Ukrainians to target and kill many of the Russian generals who have died in action in the Ukrainian war, according to senior American officials.

Ukrainian officials said they have killed approximately 12 generals on the front lines, a number that has astonished military analysts.

The targeting help is part of a classified effort by the Biden administration to provide real-time battlefield intelligence to Ukraine. That intelligence also includes anticipated Russian troop movements gleaned from recent American assessments of Moscow's secret battle plan for the fighting in the Donbas region of eastern

## Aid to Ukraine Includes Real-Time Battlefield Intelligence

Ukraine, the officials said. Officials declined to specify how many generals had been killed as a result of U.S. assistance.

The United States has focused on providing the location and other details about the Russian military's mobile headquarters, which relocate frequently. Ukrainian officials have combined that geographic information with their own intelligence — including intercepted communications that alert the Ukrainian military to the presence of senior Russian officers — to conduct artillery strikes and other attacks that have killed Russian officers.

The intelligence sharing is part of a stepped-up flow in U.S. assistance that includes heavier weapons and tens of billions in aid, demonstrating how quickly the early American restraints on support for Ukraine have shifted as the war enters a new stage that could play out over months.

U.S. intelligence support to the Ukrainians has had a decisive effect on the battlefield, confirming targets identified by the Ukrainian military and pointing it to new targets. The flow of actionable intelligence on the movement of Russian troops that America has given Ukraine has few precedents.

Since failing to advance on Kyiv, the capital, in the early part of the war, Russia has tried to regroup, with a more concentrated push in eastern Ukraine that so far has moved slowly and unevenly.

Continued on Page A6



Evacuation buses heading to Ukraine's Donbas region, where fighting has recently intensified.

## As a Holiday Nears, Fears of Escalation by Putin

By ANTON TROIANOVSKI  
and MICHAEL LEVENSON

With the Russian military still struggling, Western officials and Ukraine's traumatized residents are looking with increased alarm to Russia's Victory Day holiday on May 9 — a celebration of the Soviet triumph over Nazi Germany — fearing that President Vladimir V. Putin may exploit it as a grandiose stage to intensify attacks and mo-

## E.U. Proposes Oil Ban, Adding to Pressure

While Russia has inflicted death and destruction across Ukraine and made some progress in the east and the south over the past 10 weeks, stiff Ukrainian resistance, heavy weapons supplied by the

West and Russian military incompetence have denied Mr. Putin the swift victory he originally appeared to have anticipated, including the initial goal of decapitating the government in Kyiv.

Now, however, with Russia about to be smacked with a European Union oil embargo, and with Victory Day just five days away, Mr. Putin may see the need to jolt the West with a new escalation.

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## LEAK INTENSIFIES VIEW THAT COURT IS TOO POLITICAL

### Once Allies, Roberts and Alito Embody Growing Divide

By ADAM LIPTAK

WASHINGTON — There was a time when Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr., the author of the leaked draft opinion on abortion that rocked the nation on Monday night, was Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr.'s closest ally on the Supreme Court. The two men are both products of the conservative legal movement, and they were named to the court by President George W. Bush within months of each other. Their voting records were initially indistinguishable. Indeed, when the chief justice had a particularly difficult case, he would often assign the majority opinion to Justice Alito.

For their first decade on the court together, the chief clearly generally viewed Justice Alito as a colleague upon whom he could rely to craft the kind of narrowly reasoned opinions for the court necessary to maintain a bare five-justice majority," said Richard J. Lazarus, a law professor at Harvard. "And the chief rewarded Alito with prime opinion assignments in some of the court's biggest cases, notwithstanding Alito's formal status as a junior justice."

But the dynamics and alliances at the court have shifted, especially after the death of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and her replacement by Justice Amy Coney Barrett.

Once partners, Chief Justice Roberts and Justice Alito are now emblems of a stark divide at the court as it confronts a crucial choice: whether to eliminate the constitutional right to abortion entirely in a case challenging a Mississippi law that bans the procedure after 15 weeks of pregnancy.

Justice Alito now appears to have concluded he no longer needs the chief to receive coveted opinion assignments. Professor Lazarus said. "And, buoyed by a five-justice conservative majority to the right of the chief, Justice Alito has apparently concluded, as underscored by his first draft opinion in the Mississippi abortion case, that he can now swing for the fences using the broadest language possible."

The two men have been moving

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### A Concern That the Law Isn't Justices' Primary Guide

By SHAWN HUBLER  
and MICHAEL WINES

The revelation of a Supreme Court draft opinion that would overrule Roe v. Wade has caused many Americans to express doubts about whether the justices are guided by the law rather than by their political beliefs.

In interviews across the country, even some opponents of the abortion expressed unease with the way that a majority of the court had coalesced behind the sweeping draft written by Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr. that would undo nearly 50 years of legalized access to abortion nationwide.

Rebekah Merkle, an author and mother of five in Moscow, Idaho, said she thought that Supreme Court justices would be "vindicated as the heroes" if they struck down Roe v. Wade. But although she approves of the composition of the court, she does not dispute that it finds itself deeply enmeshed in politics.

"It certainly seems more politicized to me than it used to be," Mrs. Merkle said. "And part of it is because politics have gotten so ugly recently. And that seems to have definitely impacted the court, as well."

Jenny Doyle, a neonatal nurse practitioner and mother of two in Boulder, Colo., was so distressed by the Roe news that she considered whether she should leave the country: "I think Iceland sounds good," she said.

But she was on the same page as Mrs. Merkle in seeing the court as an increasingly political actor. "I absolutely believe in term limit on the Supreme Court," she said, of justices who can choose to serve until they die. "They are losing touch with the real America and the real issues of Americans."

Scholars and political experts have regularly debated whether the court's steady march to the right, exacerbated by increasingly contentious confirmation fights and disputes like the Senate's refusal to even hold a hearing on President Donald Trump's nomination of Merrick B. Garland, was sapping public faith in the court as fundamentally a legal forum. Also, perhaps straining that faith was the now-familiar rit-

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## At Lone Clinic on the Border, 'It Took Me a Lot to Be Here'

By EDGAR SANDOVAL

McALLEN, Texas — The colorful murals outside the storefront clinic a few miles from the Mexican border celebrated "dignity, empowerment, compassion, justice." Inside, there was a reminder posted on the wall for anyone who had begun to doubt it: "Abortion Is Legal in Texas!"

A 28-year-old woman peered anxiously at the sign and gently caressed a necklace with an image of St. Jude, the patron saint of lost causes and hopeless situations.

Her situation indeed felt difficult: three young children at home, a husband in prison, an unfinished college education. Another baby, she told herself, would send her struggling family straight over the edge. "I never thought I would be here," said the woman, who before coming in had driven past a few anti-abortion protesters demonstrating outside and had to stop her car to throw up. "It took me a lot to be here to-



Dr. Blair Cushing at Whole Woman's Health in Texas.

day. I have not been able to sleep for a week, running this day over and over in my head. I just know I can't have this baby."

The reminder that some early-term abortions remain legal in Texas comes as the state's remaining clinics navigate a recent law that threatens punitive lawsuits for anyone aiding abortions

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NATIONAL A12-24

### Face-Off Over a Tent City

Eight protesters were arrested as the N.Y.P.D. cleared an encampment near Tompkins Square Park.

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### Behind Vance's Win in Ohio

A Trump endorsement was decisive, but a cable news megaphone and a huge infusion of spending helped.

PAGE A13

INTERNATIONAL A4-11

### Japan's Nuclear Power Divide

A push to restart the country's idled energy plants is fraught with emotions and political calculations, 11 years after the Fukushima disaster.

PAGE A4

### 'A Conflict That Never Ends'

In the Mexican state of Michoacán, communities tied to the agricultural trade have been caught in the middle of the drug cartels' turf war.

PAGE A9

### Voters Get a Say on Johnson

Local elections this week could pose a big test for Britain's scandal-prone prime minister, Boris Johnson, and his Conservative Party.

PAGE A11

BUSINESS B1-5

### 'An Affordability Emergency'

Electricity rates have jumped because of a surge in natural gas prices, and they could keep rising rapidly for years as utilities invest in the grid.

PAGE B1

### An End to Cheap and Plenty?

As supplies of goods come up short and prices jump, economists warn that the changes could persist.

PAGE B1

THURSDAY STYLES D1-8

### Dressed to Thrill

Some had thought the fashions at the Met Gala might be more understated this year. That wasn't the case.

PAGE D6



ARTS C1-8

### Alice Walker Has 'No Regrets'

She has tackled thorny issues and taken troubling stances. She's now giving readers a window into her life.

PAGE C1

### Reviving Venetian Synagogues

An effort to restore decaying temples will help preserve Venice's history of harboring European Jews.

PAGE C1

SPORTS B7-10

### The W.N.B.A.'s Russia Crisis

Women have long supplemented their relatively low pay by playing in Russia. That, of course, may change.

PAGE B7

### Stunning Win for Real Madrid

All but beaten in its Champions League semifinal, Real Madrid scored three times after the 90th minute.

PAGE B7

OPINION A26-27

### Tressie McMillan Cottom

PAGE A27







**THE KILLINGS** of Ukrainian civilians during Russian occupation were concentrated in the more densely populated areas but also occurred in outlying hamlets. Above, a body in Bucha, a suburb of Kyiv, in April.

## Forest that became a grave

Ukrainians continue to find bodies, some bearing signs of torture, in a rural area outside Kyiv after Russian troops left

By Laura King

**VYSEHRAD, Ukraine** — The Russian troops left weeks ago. But the little forest that lies between this Ukrainian village and a neighboring hamlet keeps yielding bodies, one by one.

The latest was a man with holes in his socks.

On a spring day of fitfully alternating clouds and sunshine, tattered red-and-white police tape marked off the shallow depression into which the body had been dumped and covered with a thin layer of dirt.

A villager stumbled onto it late Tuesday, and by the next morning, after de-miners had swept the area for explosives, black-clad police in white gloves were crouched at the graveside, brushing aside clumps of soil.

In this patch of woods, less than a 40-minute drive from the capital, Kyiv, five bodies have been unearthed in recent weeks, scattered amid what were once Russian fortifications. All were shot. Some bore obvious signs of [See Forest, A4]



**AN OIL DEPOT** in Makiivka, in eastern Ukraine, is among those hit by missiles. Russia has also targeted infrastructure in western areas.

### Kremlin faces more pressure as war intensifies

The European Union is looking to ban Russian oil as Moscow steps up its assault on Ukraine and tries to disrupt Western aid. **WORLD, A4**



**CROWDS** of abortion rights supporters and opponents have descended on the Supreme Court since a leak indicated justices are ready to overturn Roe vs. Wade.

## Many red states already living in a post-Roe reality

Abortion rights dismantled ahead of likely reversal

By Molly Hennessy-Fiske and Jenny Jarvin

This week's leak of a draft opinion that would overturn Roe vs. Wade came as more than half of the states in the U.S. are poised to outlaw abortion if the Supreme Court does strike down the 1973 decision. In those states, many in the South and Midwest, it already feels like the landmark decision is

being overturned bit by bit as restrictive new laws have been taking effect.

"This is a region of the country where it's not just an abortion desert — it's a healthcare desert," said Rebecca Tong, co-executive director of Trust Women, which runs clinics in Kansas and Oklahoma. "Many of these states did not expand Medicaid. These states have terrible maternal and infant mortality. It's two separate countries."

At least 26 states are expected to ban abortion if Roe vs. Wade falls — 13 of them "trigger" states like Oklahoma, with bans set to take effect as soon as the justices rule against Roe. But red state lawmakers have not been waiting on the nation's highest court to pass stricter abortion laws.

On Tuesday, Oklahoma's Republican Gov. Kevin Stitt signed a law banning abortion after embryonic cardiac [See Abortion, A6]

**NEWSOM WARNS VOTERS:** At a downtown L.A. Planned Parenthood office, the governor urges voters to wake up or more rollbacks will follow. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

## How California mask contracts ended in failure

Lawsuit reveals state controller privately pushed hard for one \$600-million deal.

By Melody Gutierrez

**SACRAMENTO** — In the first weeks of the COVID-19 pandemic, three companies promised California officials that they could secure millions of protective masks in exchange for \$1.6 billion in no-bid government contracts. Each effort ended badly for the state.

Two years later, lawsuits stemming from the failed contracts provide a glimpse into the deal-making — including how California Controller Betty Yee, a two-term Democrat with no formal role in the contracting process, worked behind the scenes to help a pair of political operatives land a deal that turned out to be one of the state's most flawed.

The \$600-million contract with Blue Flame Medical, a healthcare supplies startup, was later flagged as a case of possible fraud, and the state was forced to claw back its massive upfront payment. But Yee's involvement with the effort never became public, even after the deal collapsed and state lawmakers demanded a full accounting of what had happened.

Over the course of a pivotal week in March 2020, Yee provided Blue Flame's co-founder with private advice on how to negotiate an advance payment and discouraged him from disclosing how much the company

would pocket from the deal, according to text messages documented in a lawsuit involving the contract.

"I will see to it that the wire happens first thing this morning," Yee wrote to John Thomas, a longtime Republican strategist who founded Blue Flame with GOP fundraiser Mike Gula, in a text message on March 26, 2020. Hours later, the state wired Blue Flame a down [See Masks, A12]

## U.S. RATE HIKE IS LARGEST SINCE MID-2000

Fed's half-percentage-point increase will leave borrowers feeling the pinch.

By Don Lee

**WASHINGTON** — For the first time in 22 years, the Federal Reserve on Wednesday pushed up interest rates by a full half-percentage point — a significant escalation of its efforts to get control of troublingly high inflation.

The Fed action will raise costs for new borrowers and increase interest payments that many households, already stressed by higher prices for food and gas, are making on existing home equity lines, credit cards and some other loans.

And that's probably just the beginning, Fed Chair Jerome H. Powell said Wednesday that additional half-point rate hikes were expected to be on the table at the central bank's next two policy meetings, in mid-June and late July.

It's part of a likely year-long campaign to cool the economy after what now looks like too much monetary and fiscal stimulation during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The goal, more easily stated than achieved, is to slow growth without triggering a recession.

In addition to raising rates, its main lever, the Fed plans on June 1 to put its bond-purchase stimulus program in reverse, further tightening financial conditions by adding upward pressure on long-term yields and mortgage rates.

Many economists doubt the Fed can avoid a recession, but Powell argued that the U.S. economy was sturdy [See Fed, A9]

## Donated art lost in wildfire helped to ignite CSU scandal

By Robert J. Lopez and Colleen Shalby

Sonoma State University President Judy Sakaki and her husband often tell the harrowing story of how they escaped with their lives amid choking smoke and burning embers as flames destroyed their home and all their possessions during the 2017 Tubbs fire.

Sakaki recounted the experience again last week in a video presented to the Academic Senate before it decided to push ahead with a motion of no confidence in her leadership amid a cam-

pus sexual harassment and retaliation scandal involving the president and her husband, lobbyist Patrick McCallum.

What Sakaki didn't say in the video — and has not discussed widely — is that nearly \$85,000 in artwork donated to the university for public viewing and educational purposes was among the items destroyed when the massive wildfire burned her home to the ground.

The destruction of the artwork and the push by McCallum to hang additional art from the university's collection in their [See Artwork, A7]

### Biden sharpens criticism of GOP

With midterm elections on the horizon, the president assails Republicans' "extreme" policies. **NATION, A5**

### Dave Chappelle attacked onstage

A man carrying a replica weapon tackles the comic during a set at the Hollywood Bowl. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

**Weather**  
Mostly sunny.  
L.A. Basin: 82/57, B6



### KINGS GET HAMMERED

The Kings' Alex Iafallo is checked by Oiler Darrell Nurse during their playoff game Wednesday. The Oilers won 6-0, tying the series. **SPORTS, B10**

**BUSINESS INSIDE:** Long Beach fails to find bidders to preserve Queen Mary lifeboats. **A8**



# The Washington Post

Papers may vary in areas outside metropolitan Washington



Mostly sunny 69/58 • Tomorrow: Some rain 63/53 B6

Democracy Dies in Darkness

THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2022 • B2



LORENZO TUGOLU FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

## The drug trade now flourishing in Afghanistan: Meth

BY SUSANNAH GEORGE  
AND JOBY WARRICK

BAKWA, AFGHANISTAN — Afghanistan's fastest-growing drug industry operates from desert outposts in plain view.

One of its most bustling hubs, some five hours west of Kandahar, can only be reached by miles of dirt tracks that lead to a row of dusty shops topped with Taliban flags. Wholesalers like Abdulwadood work openly here, moving dozens of kilos of methamphetamine every week.

In the middle of his crowded shop, he casually tosses a half-kilo bag of long glassy shards onto the carpet. Its street value in Europe is tens of thousands of dollars. Abdulwadood will sell it for about \$250.

"Every year, sales and production just increase and increase," he said, speaking on the condition that only his first name be used to discuss the illicit drug industry. Behind him the rest of his stock was piled in a corner. He expected to sell the roughly 20

Experts worry the country, already a hub for opium production, could be fueling a new global crisis

Afghan drug traffickers have been harnessing a native plant called *ephedra*, which is a natural source of meth's key ingredient. *Ephedra* powder is boiled with chemicals to produce the drug, as seen above.

kilos of shisha — the Afghan term for meth — in just a few days.

For decades, the country has been a global hub for opium production, estimated to supply 80 percent of the world's opiate users. Now its meth industry is growing at breakneck speed, stoking fears among Western experts and officials that, under the Taliban, Afghanistan could become a major supplier as demand rises globally.

Hundreds of meth labs have appeared in Afghanistan over the past six years, according to independent experts, former government officials and drug traders. And more are being built each month as the country's economic crisis forces Afghans to find new sources of income. The vast majority of meth produced is for export, but an increasing number of Afghans are turning to it as their drug of choice.

The sudden boom in meth production came after drug traffickers discovered a potential bonanza in a native plant called

SEE AFGHANISTAN ON A8

## In draft abortion ruling, Democrats see minority rule

CRITICS SAY COURT IS AT ODDS WITH VOTERS

Blowback echoes familiar Republican judicial critique

BY MICHAEL SCHERER

For nearly half a century, Republicans have railed against "unelected judges" making rulings that they claim disenfranchise voters from deciding for themselves what laws should govern hot-button issues. But since the release this week of a draft Supreme Court opinion that would overturn the long-standing constitutional right to abortion, Democrats have been the ones embracing that complaint, flipping the script as the party vents its frustration with elements of the U.S. system that

have empowered a minority of the country's voters to elect lawmakers who have successfully reshaped the high court.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) and Senate Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer (D-N.Y.) denounced the apparent conservative majority behind the draft opinion as "in no way accountable to the American people." Rep. Jamie B. Raskin (D-Md.) described them as "handpicked and gerrymandered by theocrats and autocrats." Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) cast the document as the

SEE ABORTION ON A4

Antiabortion groups energized — but cautious

BY HANNAH KNOWLES,  
RACHEL ROUBIN  
AND BRITANNY SHAMMAS

Minutes after reading that the Supreme Court was prepared to gut *Roe v. Wade*, Kristan Hawkins joined a conference call to plan.

The antiabortion activist had rearranged her life for this moment, even selling her house last year and moving her family into a camper to travel the country advocating for abortion restrictions. Now a leaked majority opinion said *Roe* "must be overruled."

But it was only a draft. On their call, Hawkins and fellow activists at Students for Life of America scrambled to respond. "We got to get folks at the court tomorrow,"

SEE ACTIVISTS ON A2

Pills by mail

Popular and difficult to police. A15

Phone can reveal past abortion

Apps, data leave digital trail. A18

At White House, panic followed by sober realizations

BY YASMEEN ABUTALEB  
AND TYLER PAGER

In the hours after a leaked Supreme Court document signaled the court was poised to overturn *Roe v. Wade* in the coming weeks, President Biden vowed to fight to protect access to abortion.

"We will be ready when any ruling is issued," Biden said in a statement Tuesday.

But in marathon meetings and phone calls among White House officials, government lawyers, outside advisers and federal agency officials, a sobering reality settled in: There's little the White House can do that will fundamentally alter a post-*Roe* landscape. While officials have spent months planning for the possibility the court

SEE BIDEN ON A4

Hogan limits abortion training

Md. governor withdraws funds. B1

Significance of the story

A battle to shape the narrative. C1

## Federal Reserve raises rates in effort to address inflation

Increase of half a percentage point is steepest since 2000

BY RACHEL SIEGEL  
AND ABHA BHATTARAI

The Federal Reserve raised interest rates Wednesday by half a percentage point and scaled back other pandemic-era economic supports, strengthening its efforts to fight the highest inflation in 40 years and vowing to keep up the pressure as Americans continue to struggle.

"Inflation is much too high," Fed Chair Jerome H. Powell said at a Wednesday news conference. "We understand the hardship it is causing, and we are moving expeditiously to bring it back down. We have both the tools we need and the resolve that it will take to restore price stability on behalf of American families and businesses."

The rate increase is the sharp-

est since 2000 and the second of seven hikes forecast for this year. Powell added that additional interest rate hikes as high as 0.5 percentage points are "on the table" in the coming months but said policymakers had not seriously discussed even sharper increases. Major financial markets edged higher during his remarks, as investors signaled relief that the Fed wouldn't move more aggressively.

Faced with soaring prices and a hot job market with record numbers of job openings, the Fed is betting that a steady series of hikes will slash inflation, cool the economy and get the coronavirus recovery on more sustainable footing, at a time when much uncertainty looms in the global economy. Russia's invasion of Ukraine has driven up energy prices, and covid-19 shutdowns in China have triggered a new wave of supply chain snarls, both threatening to make the Fed's job much harder.

Powell said he understood that the stakes are high for

SEE INTEREST RATES ON A17

## Ukrainian villages hear whispers of collaboration

'The war showed who is who': When the Russians came, some people seemed to help them



SERHEY MORGUNOV FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Vitaliy Minenko, shown in Yahidne last month, said Russians damaged his cars. He and his wife are considered wealthy in the Ukrainian village and think the soldiers had inside information on them.

BY ROBERT KLEMKO  
AND ISABELLE KHURSHUDYAN

IVANIVKA, UKRAINE — Olena peered out from her bedroom window to see what looked like her neighbor, a tall man nicknamed Girovka, step out of a car with Russian markings and begin sending flares into the night sky from the side of the road. The next day, Russian tanks and armored vehicles emerged from the woods in a long column, descending on this small village about 60 miles south of the Russian border, along the same road. Days later, after the Russian retreat from northern and central Ukraine, four investigators from the Security Service of Ukraine filed into 66-year-old Olena's living room. She told them what she'd seen and showed them the

SEE UKRAINE ON A11

Infrastructure: Russia is targeting resupply capacity, officials say. A12

Culture crackdown: Artists in Russia now face dark times. A13

## IN THE NEWS

**An emotional return**  
The District's Burke School reopened for the first time since a shooting near the campus left four injured. B1



ROBB HILL FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

**THE NATION**  
Candidates aligned with President Biden and former president Donald Trump prevailed in Ohio's primaries, bolstering their party holds. A3

**THE WORLD**  
Plummeting public opinion of British Prime Minister Boris Johnson could cost his party. A7

**Mexico has agreed to** take back more Cuban and Nicaraguan migrants expelled from the United States, possibly clearing a hurdle for deportation to their home nations. A14

**THE ECONOMY**  
U.S. plastics recycling rates fell below 6 percent in 2021, a report found. A22

**THE REGION**  
A Maryland police

officer has been found guilty of assault after a 2019 traffic stop that left a man paralyzed. B1  
**D.C. mayoral candidate** Robert C. White Jr. said he wants to open more public boarding schools in the city. B1  
**The first day's talks** between striking D.C. Circulator drivers and the bus system's operator were unsuccessful, making a long outage more likely. B1

## INSIDE



**LOCAL LIVING**  
**Effective affirmations**  
Psychologists' tips for positive self-talk that can boost one's self-worth and relieve stress.

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## deportes

## Boca ganó en La Paz y se acomoda en la Libertadores

Se impuso 1 a 0 ante Always Ready con un penal de Salvio; se encamina hacia la clasificación.

Otra remontada épica  
El Real Madrid doblegó al Manchester City

Es finalista de la Champions: le ganó 3 a 1 con dos goles de Rodrygo sobre el final y un penal de Benzema; lo mismo había hecho ante el PSG. Página 8



## LA NACION

JUEVES 5 DE MAYO DE 2022 | LANACION.COM.AR

## La oposición logra avanzar con el debate para implantar el sistema de boleta única

**CONGRESO.** Llegó a un acuerdo con el oficialismo para incluir el tema en la sesión de hoy

El Frente de Todos y Juntos por el Cambio arribaron ayer a un acuerdo que permitirá incluir la discusión sobre la boleta única de papel en la sesión programada para hoy en la Cámara de Diputados. Es un paso significativo para avanzar con esa reforma electoral, luego de la fuerte resistencia que mostró el ofi-

cialismo a debatir la iniciativa en el recinto. Lo que se prevé votar hoy es el giro a comisión para su discusión, ya que la oposición carece de los votos suficientes (dos tercios) para aprobar la iniciativa sin dictamen previo de comisión.

Este paso permitirá iniciar el tratamiento del proyecto, que

apunta a transparentar el sistema de votación y evitar las trampas tradicionales, como el robo de boletas. Cuando vuelva al recinto con dictamen, se podría aprobar por mayoría simple.

El acuerdo contempla que como primer tema de la sesión de hoy se aborde el pedido opositor para

iniciar el tratamiento de la boleta única de papel y, posteriormente, se les dé media sanción a iniciativas de consenso propiciadas por el oficialismo. Se trata, básicamente, de los proyectos de regulación del cannabis medicinal y una prórroga del incentivo a la actividad de la construcción. Página 12

## Más de US\$9 millones por una camiseta que hizo historia

**deportes**— Aunque se dudó de su autenticidad, un grupo inversor de Abu Dabi se quedó con la camiseta que usó Diego Maradona ante Inglaterra en México 86, subastada en Londres por US\$9.200.000. Estuvo a punto de quedársela un coleccionista argentino. Página 4



La camiseta que Maradona usó ante Inglaterra en 1986 estaba en manos del exfutbolista inglés Steve Hodge, que la cambió con el 10 DPA

## Con un embargo petrolero, acentúan sanciones a Rusia

**EUROPA.** Se aprobó otro paquete de medidas punitivas

**Luisa Corradini**  
CORRESPONSAL EN FRANCIA

PARÍS.— Después del carbón, el petróleo. Tras largos debates, la Comisión Europea (CE) propuso ayer un embargo total y progresivo al petró-

leo ruso en el marco del sexto paquete de sanciones de la Unión Europea contra Rusia por la invasión a Ucrania. La iniciativa también incluye medidas punitivas contra el jefe de la Iglesia Ortodoxa, aliado de Vladimir Putin. Continúa en la página 2

## Violencia narco. Fiscales rosarinos, bajo amenaza

Recibieron mensajes mafiosos durante un juicio

La violencia en Rosario parece subir un escalón cada día. Apenas horas después de que se conociese la decisión de la Corte Suprema de reunirse en esa ciudad para llamar la atención sobre los efectos de la criminalidad narco, fueron ame-

nazados ayer los fiscales que llevan adelante el juicio contra Máximo Cantero, fundador de Los Monos. "Si el Viejo Cantero no sale en libertad, habrá plomos para todos. Fierros y balas nos sobran", fue el mensaje recibido en el 911. Página 26

## EL ESCENARIO

## Un golpe blanco no deliberado

**Carlos Pagni**  
—LA NACION—

Las declaraciones de Cristina Kirchner y del ministro de Desarrollo de la Comunidad de la provincia de Buenos Aires, Andrés "Cuervo" Larroque, agravaron el enfrentamiento interno que agita al oficialismo. De cuestionar la orientación económica del Gobierno, personificada en Martín Guzmán, pasaron a poner en duda la legitimidad del Presidente.

La vicepresidenta recordó a través de las redes sociales una conversación que mantuvo cuando su esposo llegó al poder. Esa caprichosa evocación le permitió consignar que la legitimidad puede fundarse en el origen del poder, es decir, en los votos, o en el ejercicio adecuado del poder, es decir, en la buena administración. Continúa en la página 10

## Fracasó una gestión para acercar al Presidente con Cristina

**TENSIÓN.** Antes de que la vicepresidenta Cristina Kirchner haga, mañana en Chaco, una reaparición pública, en el oficialismo se intentó ayer una gestión para acercar posiciones entre ella y el presidente Alberto Fernández. Voceros de ambos lados confirmaron que no tuvo éxito. La fallida mediación estuvo a cargo del titular de Diputados, Sergio Massa. Página 8

## Obligan al Ejército a entregar tierras a los mapuches

**BARILOCHE.** La Justicia rechazó una apelación de las autoridades militares. Página 15



## independência, 200

### Entenda o Brasil em 200 livros

Motivado pelo bicentenário da independência, o projeto 200 anos, 200 livros reuniu sugestões de 169 intelectuais, como historiadores e sociólogos, para eleger as obras mais relevantes para entender o Brasil. Lançado em 1960, "Quarto de Despejo", de Carolina Maria de Jesus, encabeça a lista. Especial p. 1

## Esporte B7

### Milagre em 2 minutos

Tirado do banco no segundo tempo, brasileiro Rodrygo se torna o primeiro jogador a marcar duas vezes nos acréscimos, vira a partida contra o Manchester City e empurra o Real Madrid à final da Champions contra o Liverpool.

### Nova pró-reitora não vê espaço para tirar cotas da USP

A historiadora Ana Lucia Duarte Lanna, que chefiará a nova pró-reitoria da USP focada em inclusão e diversidade, afirma que não há espaço para que as cotas sejam removidas da universidade atualmente. "[As cotas] têm mostrado resultados positivos e importantes", diz. Cotidiano B3

## SABATINA FOLHA/UOL

### Rodrigo Garcia endurece discurso sobre segurança

Durante sabatina promovida ontem por Folha e UOL, Rodrigo Garcia (PSDB), pré-candidato a governador de São Paulo e atual ocupante do cargo, evitou tratar João Doria (PSDB) como candidato à Presidência e declarou que a polícia vai reagir e atirar em criminosos. Política A13

### Vinicius Poit critica STF e prega fim da era PSDB em SP

Política A13

### PF apreende ouro em avião escoltado por PMs

A Polícia Federal apreendeu ontem 78 kg de ouro em uma aeronave escoltada por agentes da Polícia Militar paulista, em Sorocaba. A PF suspeita de origem ilegal do material, avaliado em R\$ 23 milhões. B1

## EDITORIAIS A2

### Querelas inúteis

Acerca de intervenção de Bolsonaro na Petrobras.

### A trilha do dinheiro

Sobre empreiteiras obscuras e obras da Codevasf.



A escritora Carolina Maria de Jesus, em 1960 UH/Folhapress

# Mais pessimistas, Brasil e EUA esticam escaladas de juros

Copom eleva Selic para 12,75% ao ano e prevê novas altas em ritmo menor; taxa do Fed tem maior salto em 22 anos

Pessimistas com as pressões do cenário global sobre a economia e a inflação, os bancos centrais do Brasil e dos Estados Unidos anunciaram ontem mais uma alta em suas respectivas taxas básicas de juros, estendendo um ciclo iniciado em março de 2021, no caso brasileiro, e há dois meses no americano.

Em Brasília, o Copom elevou a Selic em 1 ponto, para 12,75% ao ano, maior patamar desde 2017, e prevê mais aumentos.

Em comunicado, o comitê citou a incerteza da conjuntura internacional e a inflação acima do esperado — o IPCA, que mede os preços ao consumidor, acumula alta de 12,03% em 12 meses.

Nas últimas dez reuniões, o órgão elevou a taxa em 10,75 pontos, o ciclo mais longo de aumentos desde que o sistema de metas inflacionárias foi criado, em 1999, e a taxa básica saltou de 25% para 45% ao ano.

O prolongamento da Guerra da Ucrânia, que onera os preços de combustíveis e alimentos, e o temor de novas quarentenas na China com a Covid também afetaram as expectativas nos EUA, onde a inflação é a maior em 40 anos. A alta de 0,5 ponto na taxa, que flutua entre 0,75% e 1%, é inédita no século. Mercado A17 e A19

**Maior taxa em cinco anos torna investimento em renda fixa atraente** A18

### Taxa básica de juros no Brasil (Selic)



Fontes: Bloomberg e Banco Central

## Vinicius Torres Freire

### Arrocho de juros vai longe

Para quanto vai a Selic? Para começar, provavelmente a 13,25% no mês que vem e a 13,75% em setembro. No mínimo. O próximo governo vai começar com peso nas costas. A20

### Vice em obras da Codevasf usa laranja e cresce sob Bolsonaro

Com sócio oculto, a construtora maranhense Construservice, vice-líder em licitações da estatal federal Codevasf, tem utilizado laranjas para participar de concorrências públicas na gestão Jair Bolsonaro (PL). Política A4

### Atual ministro da Educação tentou nomear pastor lobista

### Verba pública banca show de Mercury em apoio a Lula

A cantora Daniela Mercury recebeu R\$ 160 mil para cantar em um evento de centrais sindicais pelo 1º de Maio, palco para apoio a Lula (PT). O contrato foi fechado com a produtora que organizou a festa e pago com recursos da prefeitura paulistana. Segundo Ricardo Nunes (PSDB), a verba veio de emenda parlamentar de vereadores, e o caso será alvo de sindicância. Política A7

### Zelenski também tem culpa, diz petista à Time

Em entrevista de capa para a revista americana Time, Lula (PT) declarou que considera o presidente da Ucrânia, Volodimir Zelenski, tão responsável quanto o russo Vladimir Putin pela guerra no país. A6

### Eduardo Bolsonaro é alvo de ação na Câmara

O Conselho de Ética da Câmara instaurou processo contra Eduardo Bolsonaro (PL-SP) por ter ironizado a tortura sofrida pela jornalista Miriam Leitão, do jornal O Globo, durante a ditadura militar. A10

**DIA DAS MÃES PEDE**

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GELADEIRA MIDEA 425 LITROS POR APENAS **R\$ 119,00** MENSAIS

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COMPRA HOJE E RECEBA AMANHÃ





**Privilegiados legisladores aprueban que reuniones de comisiones sean virtuales**

## Diputados raboneros quieren ir lo menos posible al Congreso

Otra patética sesión se registró ayer en la Cámara Baja. No solo hubo peleas a gritos, sino que sus miembros se autoadjudicaron más beneficios para hacer proselitismo y descuidar su función institucional.

PÁGINAS 2 y 3

Más de 300 empresas pueden beneficiarse  
**Corte declaró inconstitucional la presentación de DDJJ para firmas proveedoras del Estado**

PÁGINA 10

En Junta piden frenar expansión descontrolada  
**Mercado saturadísimo: Solo en este año se habilitarán otros 27 servicentros en Asunción**

PÁGINA 17

**Arranca hoy en Itá Enramada la Expo CU Rodados con buena oferta**

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**Central ya es gran foco de distribución y procesamiento de cocaína**

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Se trata de Delcia Karjallo y Emma González  
**Fiscalía sigue sin investigar a esposa y a abogada de RGD, salpicadas en esquema ilegal**

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**Resurrección**

**Mal paso**

**Libertadores.** Cerró perdió 2-1 ante Colón en Santa Fe, pero sigue en la punta. Olimpia, en Asunción, derrotó a Peñarol 1-0 y queda tercero.

PÁGINA 46 a la 48

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« Sans la liberté de blâmer, il n'est point d'éloge flatteur » Beaumarchais



**RÉCIT**  
L'AFFAIRE JUBILLAR,  
ENTRE PASSION MÉDIATIQUE  
ET BOURBIER JUDICIAIRE **PAGE 14**

**ALEXIS KOHLER**  
LES CONFIDENCES  
DU « VICE-PRÉSIDENT »  
D'EMMANUEL MACRON **PAGES 4 ET 5**



**FIGARO LITTÉRAIRE**

Le roman se met à l'heure espagnole

NOTRE SUPPLÉMENT

## UKRAINE

En Transnistrie, les habitants craignent d'être rattrapés par la guerre voisine

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## GRANDE-BRETAGNE

Boris Johnson, « chef de guerre » en campagne électorale

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## EUROPE

Budapest freine l'embargo sur l'or noir russe

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**CHAMPS LIBRES**

- Les chroniques de Jacques de Saint Victor, de Charles Jaigu et de Luc Ferry
- Un entretien avec Jean-Louis Bourlanges
- La tribune de Samuel Fitoussi
- L'analyse de Fabrice Nodé-Langlois

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FIGARO OUI  
FIGARO NON

Réponses à la question de mercredi : Législatives : êtes-vous favorable à une entente entre Reconquête ! et le RN ?

**OUI 59%** **NON 41%**

TOTAL DE VOTANTS : 193 296

Votez aujourd'hui sur lefigaro.fr

Le programme de l'Union populaire est-il d'extrême gauche ?

JEAN-CHRISTOPHE MARMARA / LE FIGARO; BATARD PATRICK / ABACA

# Mélenchon soumet les Verts et le PS à la gauche extrême

Pour éviter de faire de la figuration aux législatives, le PC, EELV et le PS ont décidé d'accepter les conditions des Insoumis. Chez les socialistes, les réfractaires organisent déjà la dissidence.

Jean-Luc Mélenchon est parvenu à ses fins. En position de force après son score à la présidentielle, il a fait plier en début de semaine à la fois le PC et EELV. Mercredi, le PS céda à son tour.

Ces nouveaux alliés de gauche sont désormais unis dans la Nouvelle Union populaire écologique et sociale. L'accord sera soumis au vote du conseil national du PS jeudi soir. Le rendez-

vous s'annonce tendu. Car les négociateurs n'ont obtenu que 70 circonscriptions, laissant des territoires entiers sans le moindre candidat PS. Des concessions sur le programme ont aussi

été faites : la plus grande se trouve sans aucun doute dans l'idée de « désobéir » aux traités européens. Cette stratégie, fer de lance de LFI, était dénoncée depuis des années par le PS et

EELV, qui n'y voyaient qu'un Frexit déguisé. D'autres divergences, sur les dossiers économiques ou sur la laïcité, ont également été reléguées au second plan.

→ LES DISSIDENTS SOCIALISTES S'ORGANISENT → DES VISIONS OPPOSÉES SUR LA LAÏCITÉ ET LA SÉCURITÉ → LFI RÉUSSIT À IMPOSER LA DÉSŒBBÉSSANCE AUX TRAITÉS EUROPÉENS → UNE RADICALISATION QUI ARRANGE AUSSI MACRON → UNE « SOVIÉTISATION » DE L'ÉCONOMIE FRANÇAISE À PLUS DE 300 MILLIARDS D'EUROS PAR AN **PAGES 2, 3 ET L'ÉDITORIAL**



**L'Inde démunie face à une canicule historique**

Le sous-continent indien affronte une vague de chaleur exceptionnelle, avec des températures jamais vues au printemps depuis 1900. Des conditions qui s'approchent, par endroits, des limites supportables pour le corps humain. **PAGE 11**

**Pourquoi le patron français de Frontex a été lâché par l'Europe**

En voulant rendre l'agence de protection des frontières plus opérationnelle, Fabrice Leggeri s'est heurté à des barrières politiques qui l'ont conduit à démissionner. « La pression des élus pro-migrants et des ONG, qui mènent le bal à Bruxelles contre la ligne Leggeri, était trop forte, et la Commission européenne, présidée par Ursula von der Leyen, était à la manœuvre », confie un agent de Frontex au Figaro. Un coup dur pour la France, en pleine présidence tournante de l'UE. **PAGE 9**

**ÉDITORIAL** par Vincent Trémolet de Villers vtremolet@lefigaro.fr

## Bienvenue en mélenchonnie

**R**alliements de circonstance, conversions sonnantes et trebuchantes, ententes obliques... Ces contorsions auxquelles il nous est donné d'assister depuis le 24 avril ne sont certes pas le propre de la gauche radicale, mais le spectacle avilissant donné par les socialistes et les écologistes extirperait tout optimisme du cœur du citoyen le plus exemplaire.

« Tout cela n'est pas neuf », rétorqueront les Homais de plateau de télévision. Sans doute, mais de Catilina à Jean-Luc Mélenchon, on peut écrire, sans risque, que le niveau s'est effondré. Les grossiers appétits écrasent, sans aucune gêne, toute autre considération. Fabien Roussel lâche tout pour un steak aux lentilles, Olivier Faure montre qu'il a les dispositions pour ouvrir un stand à la grande braderie de Lille. Le plus fascinant reste que les mêmes conservent ce je-ne-sais-quoi de supérieur qui caractérise l'homme de gauche. Quand la droite rase les murs, baisse les yeux, de crainte d'être assimilée au Rassemblement national avec lequel elle ne compose pas et qui, tranquillement, la dépêche, la gauche négocie avec Philippe Poutou, Sandrine Rousseau, inves-

tit Taha Bouhafs et Aymeric Caron en invoquant le Front populaire et François Mitterrand. C'est pourtant le soleil bolivarien sur une piscine municipale envahie de burkinis que promet cette Nouvelle Union populaire. Redistribution sans production, souverainisme social, fiscalité délirante, sans-frontiérisme trénu, écologie apocalyptique, communautarisme tranquille :

**Le triomphe de Nuit debout sur « Charlie Hebdo »**

européens, c'est cet islamo-gauchisme assumé, ce triomphe de Nuit debout sur Charlie Hebdo, qui consomme la rupture avec la gauche républicaine. Le ver était dans le fruit depuis cette fameuse note de Terra Nova qui, en 2011, théorisait l'abandon de la classe ouvrière au profit des minorités. À l'heure des conséquences, François Hollande et Bernard Cazeneuve s'affligent d'un processus qu'ils ont enclenché, dont ils ont profité, avant d'en être, comme dans un conte moral, les victimes. ■

bienvenue en mélenchonnie ! Plus encore que la retraite à 60 ans, que l'ambiguïté sur les traités

**LIONS de Suduiraut**

**LIONS de Suduiraut**

l'abus d'alcool est dangereux pour la santé. À consommer avec modération.



**'A hell of a scary time'**  
Women react to the **Roe v Wade** bombshell

→ G2



**Read all about it** **Emeli Sandé** on music, love and finding happiness

→ G2



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# The Guardian

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## Tory candidates distance themselves from Johnson

Leaflets for today's elections refer only to 'Local Conservatives'

**Heather Stewart**  
**Jessica Elgot**  
**Vikram Dodd**

Hundreds of Tories are distancing themselves from Boris Johnson by standing as "Local Conservatives" in today's council elections, with rebel

MPs saying they would gauge support over the weekend for a move against the prime minister.

Election leaflets seen by the Guardian show candidates across England playing down their Tory affiliations, eschewing pictures of Johnson and styling themselves "Local Conservative" on ballot papers.

Conservative Central Office registered "Local Conservative" as an alternative title in early 2019, when Theresa May's unpopularity was at its height. It is being widely used in this week's polls as Conservatives

weigh up the electoral costs of the Partygate scandal. The Metropolitan police are expected to make an announcement on the inquiry into lockdown law-breaking in Downing Street soon after the elections, the Guardian has learned, with expectations of further fines.

More than 5,000 seats are being contested in today's vote. In Hartlepool, candidates are urging voters: "This Thursday, please don't punish local Conservatives for the mistakes made in Westminster. We are local, and proud of where we live."

The deputy Labour leader, Angela Rayner, said: "It speaks volumes that Boris Johnson's own Conservative candidates are ashamed to be associated with him and trying to pull the wool over voters' eyes."

A senior Tory source insisted: "CCHQ [Conservative campaign headquarters] does not direct local associations' campaigns. There are a range of options available to local campaigners and some choose to use the Local Conservatives brand."

Tory MPs who have been organising against the

## Mercenaries from Russia linked to Mali killings

**Exclusive**  
**Jason Burke** Johannesburg  
**Emmanuel Akinwotu** Lagos

Russian mercenaries in Africa have been linked to massacres in which several hundred civilians have died, raising fears about the impact of Moscow's interventions on stability and security across the continent.

Western officials have so far largely steered clear of naming the killers, but witnesses, local community leaders, diplomats and local analysts blamed many of the deaths on fighters deployed by the Wagner group, a network of private companies run by a close ally of Vladimir Putin.

The incidents have occurred in Mali, where Wagner arrived last year after striking a deal with its new military rulers. Internal Malian army documents seen by the Guardian reveal Wagner members were on "mixed missions" with soldiers and gendarmes during operations in which many civilians were killed.

According to data compiled by the NGO Armed Conflict Location and Event Data Project (Acled), as many as 456 civilians died in nine incidents involving Malian forces and Wagner between January

22 →



## Maradona's 1986 'Hand of God' shirt sold for £7.1m

The Argentina shirt worn by Diego Maradona in an incident that still sends chills down the spines of England fans - the Hand of God goal in the 1986 World Cup - has been sold for £7.1m. **News Page 15** →

## Ukraine Fierce fighting at steelworks

Troops locked in 'bloody battles' at Azovstal plant, while civilians continue to flee after weeks of bombardment

**News Page 16** →