

ARTICLE ALERT 1-15 NOVEMBER 2025

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ART

1. A new film about the Nuremberg trials is gripping but bloodless. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

THE TRIAL of Nazi war criminals at Nuremberg, which began 80 years ago this month, might never have happened. There was little precedent for prosecuting members of a foreign government, no international court and no prior definition of “crimes against humanity”. After Adolf Hitler committed suicide in April 1945, heralding the end of war in Europe, Winston Churchill, Britain’s prime minister, considered shooting the surviving members of the Nazi high command. Other high-ranking German officers were to be imprisoned without trial.

<https://www.economist.com/culture/2025/11/06/a-new-film-about-the-nuremberg-trials-is-gripping-but-bloodless>

2. Renoir’s Surprising Experiments in Perception. New Yorker. 17th Nov 2025.

Colin B. Bailey is the director of the Morgan Library & Museum, and has been for ten years now. Under his stewardship, the adventurous exhibition space has put on a number of utterly fascinating, gorgeous shows, and now with the terrific—and surprising—“Renoir Drawings,” Bailey has curated his first show for the Morgan (through Feb. 8), and it’s a rich one. I say surprising because, of course, when it comes to Renoir, we think almost at once of his paintings: all those apple-cheeked ladies and children living in a kind of bourgeois haze of comfort. But what Bailey shows us here is Renoir’s *process* as an artist, one who was seriously engaged in the personal act of drawing for most of his career.

<http://newyorker.com/culture/goings-on/renoirs-surprising-experiments-in-perception>

3. Nicholas Christopher, Broadway’s Grand Master. New Yorker. 17th Nov 2025.

he actor Nicholas Christopher—brawny, bald, with a perpetually cocked eyebrow that brings to mind Yul Brynner—strode through the aisles of Tashkent Supermarket in Brighton Beach one afternoon. He surveyed the Russian delicacies: beef tongue, Olivier salad, “herring under fur” (shavings of beets and egg). “It feels like a time capsule of Old Russia,” he said. “The grannies walking around—you’d better get out of their way, otherwise they will just knock you over.”

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2025/11/17/nicholas-christopher-broadways-grand-master>

4. Nina Hoss’s Latest Act of Defiance Is “Hedda”. New Yorker. 17th Nov 2025.

A few years ago, the German actress Nina Hoss, who’d already played the title role in “Hedda Gabler” onstage, got a phone call. Hedda, Ibsen’s great antiheroine, is one of the canon’s most enigmatic female characters: a woman hemmed in by men and adept at manipulating them. The filmmaker Nia DaCosta (“Candyman”) had transposed the action from nineteenth-century Oslo to nineteen-fifties Britain, and Tessa Thompson would star. Was Hoss interested in reading for a part? She said yes, hung up, and then remembered her Ibsen. If Thompson was Hedda, who would *she* be?

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2025/11/17/nina-hoss-latest-act-of-defiance-is-hedda>

5. Rian Johnson Is an Agatha Christie for the Netflix Age. New Yorker. 17th Nov 2025.
When the film director Rian Johnson was a child, he picked up the final book that Agatha Christie published before her death, in 1976: “Curtain: Poirot’s Last Case.” The novel was sitting on a shelf in his grandparents’ sprawling home, in Denver. It had a moody black cover that featured an illustration of the mustachioed detective Hercule Poirot. “It felt very adult,” Johnson told me recently. “Very creepy.” The story takes place at a grand country house where the guests have an unfortunate habit of dying, or nearly dying, under seemingly unrelated circumstances. A hunting accident. A poisoning. A bullet to the head.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2025/11/17/rian-johnson-is-an-agatha-christie-for-the-netflix-age>

6. David Byrne’s Career of Earnest Alienation. New Yorker. 17th Nov 2025.
If you spend enough time wandering around downtown Manhattan, the odds are that you’ll eventually encounter the musician David Byrne riding a bicycle. (He owns four: a folding bike, an electric, an eight-speed, and a single-speed, which he recently lent to the pop singer Lorde.) One day this past June, pedalling alongside Byrne from his apartment in Chelsea to the Governors Island ferry, I watched at least a dozen New Yorkers clock his profile, whipping around to squint, softly pinching the arm of their companion and whispering, “Was that . . . ?” By then, Byrne was gone, a tuft of white hair whizzing toward the horizon. Spotting Byrne on two wheels has become a New York City rite of passage, like sussing out the best halal cart in midtown, or dropping something important onto the subway tracks. During the few months that Byrne and I spent together, I never saw him traverse the city via any other mode of transportation, even when the heat index was approaching hellscape and he was overdue for a meeting in Brooklyn.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2025/11/17/david-byrne-profile>

7. The Bad Show-Biz Dads of “Sentimental Value” and “Jay Kelly”. New Yorker. 17th Nov 2025.
When I first learned about the Norwegian director Joachim Trier’s new picture, during a press conference for this year’s Cannes Film Festival, I could have sworn I heard the title, “Affeksjonsverdi,” translated into English as “Sentimental Valium.” It’s actually “Sentimental Value,” which certainly makes more sense, although, now that I’ve seen the movie, the unintended pun seems closer to the truth. Trier’s work often throws off a hyper-caFFEinated energy; “Reprise” (2006) and “The Worst Person in the World” (2021), both portraits of early adulthood, are as winningly mercurial as their protagonists. His latest movie skews older, and it feels zonked out by comparison. Scene by scene, it’s impeccably crafted, flawlessly acted, and emotionally anesthetized. Trier can do restraint beautifully—“Oslo, August 31st” (2012) is an addiction tale of shattering stillness—but “Sentimental Value,” which he wrote with Eskil Vogt, mistakes whispery sedateness for maturity. It sets up understatedly fraught situations, plants meaningful glances and allusive ambiguities everywhere, and assumes our tears will trickle forth.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2025/11/17/sentimental-value-movie-review-jay-kelly>

BIOGRAPHY

8. Dick Cheney divided Americans. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

Should they shoot it down? That was the question. It was 10.15am on September 11th 2001. Two passenger planes had already hit the twin towers. A third had hit the Pentagon. A fourth was still out there. And they did not know where. What they did know was that President George W. Bush was not available—he had been in a primary school, listening to some children read “The Pet Goat”. In the White House bunker, a uniformed aide approached the vice-president. They had, said the aide, found that plane. It was 80 miles out and heading towards Washington, DC. Did they have authorisation to engage?

<https://www.economist.com/obituary/2025/11/06/dick-cheney-divided-americans>

9. Salman Rushdie: stabbed 15 times but still laughing. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

A fading scar punctuates his cheek. A darkened lens obscures where his right eye once was. Yet for a 78-year-old man who has been stabbed 15 times by a frenzied zealot, he is surprisingly chirpy.

<https://www.economist.com/culture/2025/11/04/salman-rushdie-stabbed-15-times-but-still-laughing>

BUSINESS

10. Has Airbnb reached its peak? .Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

When he co-founded Airbnb in 2007, the 26-year-old Brian Chesky was a bright-eyed design-school graduate who wore blue jeans and nondescript t-shirts. The 44-year-old tech boss who greets The Economist dressed in head-to-toe black cuts a rather different figure.

<https://www.economist.com/business/2025/11/02/has-airbnb-reached-its-peak>

11. Why Palantir’s success will outlast AI exuberance. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

Despite what Alex Karp, the boss of Palantir, says, investors are hardly “batshit crazy” to bet against his company. The seller of whizzy analytics tools has a market value of nearly \$450bn, equivalent to 137 times its sales over the past 12 months and 624 times its net profit. Nvidia, the most valuable company in the world and a fellow beneficiary of the artificial-intelligence (AI) boom, is worth a comparatively meagre 28 times its sales and 54 times its net profit.

<https://www.economist.com/business/2025/11/05/why-palantirs-success-will-outlast-ai-exuberance>

12. First, grinning Labubu dolls. Now, a TV show and theme parks. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.
Before the craze for Labubus, few had heard of Pop Mart, the Chinese toymaker behind the mischievously grinning dolls. With customers across the world now lining up to get their hands on one, the company, which saw its sales rocket by 245% year on year in the quarter from July to September, has investors rapt.

<https://www.economist.com/business/2025/11/04/first-grinning-labubu-dolls-now-a-tv-show-and-theme-parks>

13. Should facial analysis help determine whom companies hire?. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

Imagine appearing for a job interview and, without saying a single word, being told that you are not getting the role because your face didn't fit. You would assume discrimination, and might even contemplate litigation.

<https://www.economist.com/business/2025/11/06/should-facial-analysis-help-determine-whom-companies-hire>

14. America's furniture-makers exemplify the folly of tariffs. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

TWICE A YEAR the curtain rises on High Point, North Carolina. Each April and October some 2,000 exhibitors and hundreds of greeters, baristas, policemen and coat-checkers assume their places. When the audience—75,000 wholesalers, retailers and designers—step off their shuttle buses, the show begins.

<https://www.economist.com/business/2025/11/06/americas-furniture-makers-exemplify-the-folly-of-tariffs>

15. Will AI make dating apps better—or even worse?. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

"It's very difficult to find love," Aleksandr Zhadan, a 20-something software developer from Moscow, lamented on social media last year. To speed things up, Mr Zhadan programmed an artificial-intelligence (AI) bot to trawl through endless profiles on Tinder, a dating app, and interact with more than 5,000 lucky girls on his behalf. After some 100 real-life dates, Mr Zhadan proudly announced to the world that he had proposed to his algorithmically ordained other half.

<https://www.economist.com/business/2025/11/03/will-ai-make-dating-apps-better-or-even-worse>

16. China's life-sciences industry is turning American. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

AMERICA's BODY corporate looks, as a whole, to be in rude health. One large company after another is presenting record quarterly results. Bosses are raising profit forecasts left and right. Poke and prod big business, though, and you find pockets of sickliness. On November 4th Pfizer, maker of drugs from covid-19 vaccines to Viagra, reported year-on-year declines in sales and earnings. To add insult to this financial injury, it has found itself in a bidding war against Novo Nordisk, a Danish rival, over Metsera, a developer of anti-obesity drugs for which Pfizer has raised its offer from \$7bn in September to \$10bn this week.

CLIMATE CHANGE

17. Case Remains for 'Common but Differentiated Responsibility' in Climate Mitigation. India Forum. 27th Oct 2025.

The 30th meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) will take place from November 10 to 21 in Belem, Brazil. Progress towards the goals set out in the UNFCCC has been slow, even though these goals were given greater emphasis in the Paris Agreement at COP 2015. There is also mounting evidence that global temperatures are already rising. Given this context, the central task of COP30 is to establish principles that will accelerate both global cooperation and national action.

<https://www.theindiaforum.in/climate-change/global-agreement-climate-mitigation>

18. The climate action that matters is in the global south, argues an architect of the Paris agreement. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

AS WE APPROACH COP30 in Belém, Brazil, we stand at a hinge in history. On the one hand, emissions are still rising, with devastating consequences, and national climate plans are woefully behind where they need to be. But these plans reflect political calculation rather than economic reality—because, on the other hand, the exponential curves of technology, economics and human ingenuity are bending towards a future where affordable, clean energy for all can finally be a reality. Even as the politics have stalled, it is the economy and the hope of people everywhere that keep pulling change forward.

<https://www.economist.com/by-invitation/2025/11/03/the-climate-action-that-matters-is-in-the-global-south-argues-an-architect-of-the-paris-agreement>

19. The world's renewable-energy superpower. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

ONE HUNDRED years from now, the Earth is in the throes of an environmental apocalypse. Mutant spores released by humans—specifically, a hapless former logger called Vick—have led to the planet being overwhelmed by giant pink predatory mushrooms. Drastic action is needed. Happily, two benevolent bears are on hand to tame this excessively fungal future with appropriate high technology: a bio-engineered “spore purification” agent, seed-dispensing drones, and a laser cannon powered by renewables.

<https://www.economist.com/special-report/2025/11/03/the-worlds-renewable-energy-superpower>

20. Why climate change now threatens China's future. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

At first, few were worried about the rains around Taishitun, a scrabbly town in the mountains north of Beijing, in the last days of July. There had not been a flood there since 1890—and that was not a severe one. But over a few hours in the morning of July

28th, torrential downpours caused a nearby river to burst its banks. A two-metre-high torrent of water poured into the town's nursing home. Of nearly 70 elderly residents there at the time, 31 died. Rescuers in the arid northern parts of China are more prepared for earthquakes than floods: the home had not been included in any evacuation plans.

<https://www.economist.com/special-report/2025/11/03/why-climate-change-now-threatens-chinas-future>

ECONOMICS

21. Innovation as Destiny: The Global Life of a Nobel Winning Theory. India Forum. 28th Oct 2025.

What do we really mean when we say that innovation drives progress? That deceptively simple conviction—that prosperity depends on a self-renewing cycle of ideas—has become the central article of faith in modern economics. It underlines everything from national research and development policies and startup incubators to the World Bank's "knowledge economy" reports. When the 2025 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences was awarded to Joel Mokyr, Philippe Aghion, and Peter Howitt "for explaining innovation-driven growth", the committee was not just honouring three scholars. It was consecrating an entire way of seeing history: that human welfare advances when societies lower the barriers to discovery, and that growth once properly organised, can sustain itself indefinitely.

<https://www.theindiaforum.in/public-policy/innovation-destiny-global-life-nobel-winning-theory>

22. The Services Sector. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol. 60, No-45. 8Nov 2025.

The recent Niti Aayog report titled "India's Services Sector: Insights from GVA Trends and State-level. Dynamics" investigates the dynamics of this segment and prescribes policies that can harness its full potential and boost its prospects across the states. What makes the report especially useful is that it discards a one-size-fits-all approach and prescribes state-level policy measures that match its divergent resource base.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2025/45/editorials/services-sector.html>

23. From 25 Years Ago: Outlook for the Indian Financial Sector. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol. 60, No-45. 8Nov 2025.

A plausible contributor to the virulence of the Asian, Brazilian and Russian crises (and the subsequent turmoil), in comparison to earlier ones, is that the global financial system has become dangerously efficient. In response to the Great Depression, the US and many other countries had imposed elaborate regulations on their banking systems, which ended up working mostly for the benefit of the regulates by restricting competition. Unfortunately, while making the banks safe, these regulations may also have made them fat and sluggish. Then came the advent of information and communications technologies. To turn a profit, banks now had to work hard, innovate – and take big risks.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/25-years-ago/25-years-ago-outlook-indian-financial-sector.html>

24. Trade, Sovereignty, and the National Interest. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol. 60, No-45. 8Nov 2025.

The counsel for restraint by India's suborned elites is not only a call for surrender in the face of Trump's bullying but also naïve in terms of its understanding of the long-term costs to India of trading its sovereignty for a dishonourable peace. Sovereignty is the fountainhead of nationhood for a country. If India gives up its hard-earned sovereignty, it will no longer be considered a nation. For a country, there can be a cost to asserting its sovereignty but the consequence of not doing so when necessary is likely to be greater.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/commentary/trade-sovereignty-and-national-interest.html>

25. Democratising Supply-chain Finance for MSMEs. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol. 60, No-45. 8Nov 2025.

The Trade Receivables Electronic Discounting System (TReDS) is an online platform that has been introduced in the Indian financial system as a mechanism to enable micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) to access working capital by discounting their trade receivables.¹ MSMEs have been the backbone of the economy of the country, with significant contributions to the manufacturing process and employment generation. However, they continue to face capital and liquidity constraints. Under TReDS, MSMEs can avail financial assistance based on the invoices raised on large corporate buyers and without providing additional collateral security.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/commentary/democratising-supply-chain-finance-msmes.html>

26. India's RDI Scheme. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol. 60, No-45. 8Nov 2025.

India's major research, development, and innovation scheme aims to catalyse private sector research and development in strategic and sunrise sectors. While addressing critical capital gaps, the loan-centric model of the scheme imposes repayment burdens misaligned with high-risk R&D and lacks grants for early-stage innovation. The scheme's complex governance risks inefficiency and misalignment with deep-tech dynamics. Successful outcomes demand radical governance reform towards a technocratic board, strict timelines, and embedding within a broader ecosystem strategy addressing talent and academia-industry links, measured by patents and commercialisation.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/commentary/indias-rdi-scheme.html>

27. The Nobel Fetish. Eurocentric Foundations for Innovation-driven Growth. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol. 60, No-45. 8Nov 2025.

The recent Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel 2025 was awarded to Joël Mokyr, Philippe Aghion, and Peter Howitt for "having explained innovation-driven economic growth." Mokyr was awarded half of the prize money "for having identified the prerequisites for sustained growth through

technological progress,” and Aghion and Howitt were awarded the other half “for the theory of sustained growth through creative destruction.”

<https://www.epw.in/journal/commentary/nobel-fetish.html>

28. America should not push other countries to adopt the dollar. Economist. 8th Nov 2025. When DONALD TRUMP returned to the White House there was widespread fear that his administration would seek to undermine the international role of the dollar. Today that seems like a distant memory. The administration is hailing dollar stablecoins (a kind of cryptocurrency designed to maintain a stable value) as an opportunity to expand the currency’s realm, because each coin is backed by a dollar-based safe asset. The White House is reportedly weighing whether to encourage other countries to switch to the greenback. The idea goes beyond deeply troubled economies like Argentina—the typical candidates for the policy. Even big, rich countries are becoming nervous. Officials at the Bank of England and the ECB have warned of the dangers of digital dollarisation.

<https://www.economist.com/leaders/2025/11/06/america-should-not-push-other-countries-to-adopt-the-dollar>

29. Nigel Farage’s newfound fiscal prudence is welcome, if unproven. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

Two politicians tried to present themselves this week as the answer to Britain’s economic malaise. One was Nigel Farage, leader of the populist-right Reform UK party, whose previous economic plans were so unrealistic that they would, The Economist calculated, be more expensive than Liz Truss’s catastrophic mini-budget of 2022. The other was Rachel Reeves, the Labour chancellor, whose party was elected on a promise of bringing sense and competence, and which has struggled to supply much of either.

<https://www.economist.com/leaders/2025/11/06/nigel-farages-newfound-fiscal-prudence-is-welcome-if-unproven>

30. Universal child care can harm children. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

Across the rich world, parents of young children face a problem. In America, one of many countries with few subsidies, a household with two working parents and two young children can spend as much on child care as on housing. This pushes families to space out or have fewer children to avoid financial ruin. High costs also keep women out of the labour force, as it can be uneconomical to return.

<https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics/2025/11/05/universal-child-care-can-harm-children>

31. Why Wall Street won’t see the next crash coming. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

Alot of assets, warned Jamie Dimon in mid-October, “look like they’re entering bubble territory”. His voice carries because he runs America’s biggest bank, JPMorgan Chase, but also because it is part of a growing chorus. David Solomon, Mr Dimon’s opposite number at Goldman Sachs, talks of “investor exuberance”; Jane Fraser, Citigroup’s boss, of “valuation frothiness”. The Bank of England recently cautioned that “the risk of a sharp market correction has increased.” The IMF worries about a “disorderly” one, since “risk asset prices are well above fundamentals”.

<https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics/2025/11/02/why-wall-street-wont-see-the-next-crash-coming>

32. Don't blame AI for your job woes. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

Tech bosses are rarely restrained when discussing artificial intelligence. Over the past year they have filled conference halls and social-media feeds with visions of an AI job apocalypse. Sam Altman, OpenAI's boss, has warned that "entire classes of jobs will go away". Dario Amodei, chief executive of Anthropic, predicts that AI could wipe out half of all entry-level white-collar jobs and drive unemployment into the double digits. Elon Musk, never to be outdone, recently proclaimed that "AI and robots will replace all jobs."

<https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics/2025/11/06/dont-blame-ai-for-your-job-woes>

33. The mystery of China's slumping investment. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

Critics of China's economy moan that its investment is excessive and its official statistics flatter its performance. Is that still correct? In recent months investment in infrastructure, manufacturing and construction has been alarmingly weak—so weak, in fact, that some analysts think the numbers are too bad to be true.

<https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics/2025/11/03/the-mystery-of-chinas-slumping-investment>

34. Investors are telling Britain to cheer up a bit. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

Snap up an asset as its price plummets, and you are "catching a falling knife". Chase a series of small profits while risking a big blow-up, and you are "picking up pennies in front of a steamroller". To bet against America's central bank is to "fight the Fed"; to short-sell Japanese government bonds is to attempt the "widowmaker".

<https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics/2025/11/05/investors-are-telling-britain-to-cheer-up-a-bit>

35. What explains India's peculiar stability?. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

An economist with super-hero vision might stand in New Delhi, gaze in every direction and see turmoil. In Nepal, India's neighbour to the north-east, "Gen Z" protests erupted earlier this year over inequality, as the scions of political dynasties flaunt their luxury holidays and designer clothes on Instagram while ordinary Nepalis struggle with unemployment. Further east, Bangladesh's students led a revolution last year to overthrow Sheikh Hasina, who had been prime minister since 2009.

<https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics/2025/11/06/what-explains-indias-peculiar-stability>

36. Nigel Farage bows to the bond market. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

NIGEL FARAGE has made a career of defying the political establishment. There is one force with which he isn't prepared to meddle: the bond markets. In an address in the City of London on November 3rd, Mr Farage, the leader of Reform UK, announced that his populist right-wing party's previous commitments to cut taxes were unfeasible, given

Britain's parlous public finances. If he means what he says, the net effect is probably to increase Mr Farage's chances of making it to Downing Street, at least a little, and reduce the likelihood of him provoking an economic crisis if he gets there.

<https://www.economist.com/britain/2025/11/04/nigel-farage-bows-to-the-bond-market>

37. Solar in China has become too big to fail. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

Given that the industry is built on light, it is surprisingly dim inside this solar factory in Chengdu, a city in south-western China. But the workers do not mind. They are almost all robots, whirring around carrying square slices of a grey crystalline "polysilicon" 16cm across and a hair's breadth thick. As they move through the factory these wafers are heated, lasered, bathed in acid and engraved with silver circuits. They come out as solar cells.

<https://www.economist.com/special-report/2025/11/03/solar-in-china-has-become-too-big-to-fail>

EDUCATION

38. How AI Is Changing Higher Education. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol, 72. No-6. 14th Nov 2025.

The release of ChatGPT in 2022 marked a clear inflection point in the history of higher education. The advent of large language models (LLMs) capable of generating relevant, grammatical responses to any prompt within seconds — as well as related technologies like agentic AI, AI tutors, and automated grading tools — has upended higher ed and raised fundamental questions about originality, expertise, cognition, and even the nature and purpose of education itself.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/how-ai-is-changing-higher-education>

39. AI Has Joined the Faculty. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol, 72. No-6. 14th Nov 2025.

Lane Davis is an unlikely archetype for the AI-using professor. He doesn't teach in business, computer science, or any other field being reshaped by artificial intelligence. And while he admits being "a little nerdy with the tech stuff," he has no interest in living on the cutting edge. Rather, Davis, a religion scholar, turned to ChatGPT for a more-prosaic reason. He needed support.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/ai-has-joined-the-faculty>

40. AI Is the Future. Higher Ed Should Shape It. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol, 72. No-6. 14th Nov 2025.

Critics of generative AI have described it as a threat to higher education, and to the humanities in particular. The critics are right. Large language models (LLMs) perform core educational functions: summarizing documents, reasoning about them, answering students' questions. If colleges and universities start outsourcing tasks like this to tech companies, they could rapidly find that they have outsourced their reason for being.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/ai-is-the-future-higher-ed-should-shape-it>

41. Stop Pretending You Know How to Teach AI. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol, 72. No-6. 14th Nov 2025.

Earlier this year Ohio State University announced an AI Fluency program, promising that, starting with the Class of 2029, every student who graduates from the university will be “fluent in their field of study, and fluent in the application of AI in that field.” Faculty members across the university have been asked to identify applications for generative AI across the disciplines. I thought immediately of the classics: What kind of AI-based task could help students — and perhaps university administrators — investigate Socrates’ paradox from Plato’s Apology: “I neither know nor think I know”?

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/stop-pretending-you-know-how-to-teach-ai>

42. The Post-Plagiarism University. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol, 72. No-6. 14th Nov 2025.

When I arrived at college, late last century, I was herded into a room with my peers to be oriented. There we were, keyed up and finding it hard to focus as the dean gamely worked his way through the minutiae of our new lives at college. The entire event was eminently forgettable, as I can confirm because I have forgotten nearly all of it, with the exception of a single sentence.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/the-post-plagiarism-university>

43. Americans Think Trump Is Overreaching on Higher Ed. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol, 72. No-6. 14th Nov 2025.

With federal funding as its leverage, the Trump administration has mounted a sustained campaign to give the federal government greater oversight of higher education. By a wide margin, the public rejects that effort — including the White House’s most recent foray, its

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/americans-think-trump-is-overreaching-on-higher-ed>

44. What a Governor’s Intervention at LSU Says about Political Oversight and Golden Parachutes. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol, 72. No-6. 14th Nov 2025.

The past week in Louisiana politics has felt like something out of the 1930s: a governor unabashedly inserting himself into the management of Louisiana State University’s football program, which, by the end of the week, had lost its coach and athletic director amid a search for a new president.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/what-a-governors-intervention-at-lsu-says-about-political-oversight-and-golden-parachutes>

45. ‘Featherstone University’ Isn’t Real. But Its Message About Higher Ed Packs a Punch. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol, 72. No-6. 14th Nov 2025.

What’s the secret to success at Featherstone University? “Surrounding yourself with people who pronounce ‘Versailles’ correctly,” its website reads. Admission at FU, the university’s favored acronym, isn’t contingent upon an application. Prospective students

can enroll if they meet a set of “very particular criteria,” like possessing generational wealth, demonstrating equestrian dressage skills, and owning an ancestral portrait.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/featherstone-university-isnt-real-but-its-message-about-higher-ed-packs-a-punch>

46. Pauses in Ph.D. Admissions Are a Blessing in Disguise. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol, 72. No-6. 14th Nov 2025.

In August, the University of Chicago announced it was pausing admissions to most of its arts and humanities Ph.D. programs. Chicago’s decision prompted The Atlantic’s Tyler Austin Harper to ask: “If even Chicago is not willing to support and protect American arts and letters, who will?” The question has only gained urgency. Brown University recently.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/pauses-in-ph-d-admissions-are-a-blessing-in-disguise>

47. The Great Campus Charade. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol, 72. No-6. 14th Nov 2025.

Grades at American universities have been rising for decades, a trend that accelerated during the Covid-19 pandemic. But what happened after that? Using new data collected through the 2023-24 school year, we can see how grades continue to evolve. The Covid spike in grades corrected in the two years immediately after the pandemic, but the drop in grades was short-lived — the decades-long upward trajectory resumed thereafter.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/the-great-campus-charade>

48. Two Champions of Academic Freedom Go to War. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol, 72. No-6. 14th Nov 2025.

When The Chronicle’s Emma Pettit posted a thread on X describing the “burst of debate” around the topic of viewpoint diversity, there was no reason to expect a social-media blowup. Her tweets were dry and informative, a roundup of relevant opinion coverage, in our pages and elsewhere, arguing for and against the notion that many academic disciplines would benefit from an infusion of non-left-wing faculty members.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/two-champions-of-academic-freedom-go-to-war>

49. Life as a Middle Manager: Responsibility Without Authority. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol, 72. No-6. 14th Nov 2025.

One cloudy morning last March, an associate dean for faculty affairs booted up her laptop for a standing meeting. “Elaine” (a pseudonym) was leading an ambitious new project — a core pillar in the college’s strategic plan — to build a stronger faculty by improving hiring, retention, and professional development. The provost had publicly tasked her with “leading the charge,” and campus messaging was clear: This is “Elaine’s initiative.” But there was a catch.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/life-as-a-middle-manager-responsibility-without-authority>

50. Silent Casualties. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol. 60, No-45. 8Nov 2025.

Skill training has been fervently promoted as one of the primary means to prepare for work at increasingly earlier stages of the compulsory formal education system. In a state such as Karnataka, where diverse linguistic cultures exist in schools, skill-based subjects have encroached upon the space of language subjects and teaching.

<https://www.epw.in/index.php/journal/commentary/silent-casualties.html>

51. Higher Education in the Age of Artificial Intelligence. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol. 60, No-45. 8Nov 2025.

The advent of free and powerful artificial intelligence (AI) tools has, inevitably, led to their use in higher educational contexts by students and their teachers. Students are using the tools to summarise readings, polish their presentations and emails, and, not surprisingly, to do their assignments. Faculty are not far behind, using the tools to create lesson plans, teaching aids, quizzes and tests, and, sometimes, even grading their students' submissions.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2025/45/perspectives/higher-education-age-artificial-intelligence.html>

52. Balancing ideology and progressivism: rethinking management in Indian higher education. College Post, July-Sep, 2025.

Management in higher education has increasingly become a political and value-laden arena, shaped by the interplay of global trends, national policies, and institutional priorities (Deem & Brehony, 2005). Universities today operate in contexts defined by globalization, where international mobility, the knowledge economy, and global rankings strongly influence institutional strategies (Bertolin, 2016).

53. Anusandhan National research foundation: strategizing scientific research for nation building. College Post, July-Sep, 2025.

The National Education Policy 2020 (NEP) rightly noted that India does not spend enough on Research and Development. India allocated 0.64 percent of GDP for Research and Development (R and D) in 2020-21 which should be considered to be on the lower side compared to the allocations made by some of the developed countries in the West and a few Asian countries. Further, given India's huge size of the higher education sector, in fact, the second largest in the world, India can leverage R and D not only to spur growth but also to improve quality of growth which is both sustainable and equitable.

54. Academic bank of credit (ABC) implementation: challenges and institutional responses. College Post, July-Sep, 2025.

The success of India's higher education reforms, as envisioned in the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, depends critically on the effective implementation of the Academic Bank of Credit (ABC). At its core, the ABC is not merely a technological repository of credits; it is a structural mechanism for skill reorientation, designed to liberate students from rigid institutional pathways and enable them to craft life trajectories responsive to dynamic labour market demands. This design reflects the logic of human capital theory, which emphasizes perpetual learning as a response to changing socio-economic needs.

55. Internationalization of higher education: new (Trump) us policy- a despair of challenges before India. College Post, July-Sep, 2025.

While there are many aspects to the internationalization of higher education, I would like to focus on the declining admissions to US universities under the current administration and its policies. While Indian students are affected, there seems to be a widespread attack on the higher education system in America. Billions of dollars of funding have been cut from the grants of Ivy League and other universities. This includes student related grants as well as research grants. This has been estimated to be in the range of \$6.9 billion to \$8.2 billion. As far as students are concerned, the primary targets are diversity, equity, and inclusion programs, as well as the admission of foreign students.

56. Growth, direction and disciplinary preferences of inbound international students in India.. College Post, July-Sep, 2025.

The National Education Policy (NEP 2020), provides for extensive as well as deeper focus on internationalisation of higher education. On the higher education import front, India has notified an enabling policy and associated procedure to permit entry and operation of foreign universities in India and many have either already entered or have shown inclination to have their campuses in India.

57. Implement NEP-2020: Government, UGC, and Universities interface- a review. College Post, July-Sep, 2025.

Since 2014, the UGC has issued approximately 70 guidelines, and during 2020-25, 47 Guidelines specifically addressed to NEP 2020 governance and university functions. Fourteen additional Regulations since 2021 focus on management standards in higher education. To understand UGC's support and monitoring of NEP-2020-its mandate to coordinate and maintain standards-we must examine the nature and purpose underlying these guidelines and regulations.

<https://thecollegepost.in/pdffiles/College%20Post%20Jul-Sep%202025.pdf>

ENVIRONMENT

58. Cleaning up a coal-fired mess. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

Last year China burned 4.9bn tonnes of coal. Imagine a black and glistening Great Pyramid of Giza; then imagine, stretched behind it, a line of 1,500 more just the same. Three things combine to make the country's appetite so gargantuan. First, it has a huge economy. Second, a lot more of its final energy demand is met with electricity than in most other places. Those first two factors explain why, in 2024, China generated almost a third of the world's electricity. The third factor is that, in matters electric, China's fossil fuel of choice is cheap and abundant domestic coal.

<https://www.economist.com/special-report/2025/11/03/cleaning-up-a-coal-fired-mess>

59. China's air-quality improvements have hastened global warming. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

CHINA STILL burns a hell of a lot of coal. But since the "air-pocalypse" of 2013 it has worked on doing so in a much less brimstone-y way. A large proportion of the tiny particles that make up air pollution in cities are sulphates which can be traced back to

the sulphur found in coal and fuel oils. When China decided to clean up its filthy air, sulphur was one of the things it sought to suppress. Use of sulphurous fuels was reduced; chemical devices were installed to remove sulphur from the flue gases pumped out by power stations. These steps, along with others, greatly improved air quality in Chinese cities. Its citizens' lungs are much the better for it, and their lives the longer.

<https://www.economist.com/special-report/2025/11/03/chinas-air-quality-improvements-have-hastened-global-warming>

HEALTH

60. The rise and fall of America's model mobile crisis service. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.
DURING A New York mayoral debate in October the front-runner, Zohran Mamdani, said CAHOOTS, "a programme in Eugene, Oregon", could be a model for how New York handles mental-health crises without using police. Many in Eugene were perplexed as, after 36 years, CAHOOTS ended all services in the city on April 7th. Its demise is a strange tale mixing hippies, policing, mental illness and plain mismanagement.

<https://www.economist.com/united-states/2025/11/06/the-rise-and-fall-of-americas-model-mobile-crisis-service>

HISTORY

61. The Longest-Running Newspaper. History Today. Vol.75. No-11. Nov 2025.
The Restoration government needed to manage the news. In 1663 it gave the job to its censor, Roger L'Estrange. It was not a good fit. The news, he wrote, 'makes the multitude too familiar with the actions and counsels of their superiours'. His indifference made him careless. In one issue of L'Estrange's *The Newes*, His Highness the Duke of York, a Catholic, was referred to as 'His Holiness'.

<https://www.historytoday.com/archive/months-past/longest-running-newspaper>

62. The Birth of Spiritualism. History Today. Vol.75. No-11. Nov 2025.
'What hath God wrought?' Perhaps it is a coincidence, but in the spring of 1848 – four years after Samuel Morse tapped out those first words in code and sent them out into the silence – the dead started tapping out messages to the living too.

<https://www.historytoday.com/archive/months-past/birth-spiritualism>

63. How Medieval Scribes Balanced the Books. History Today. Vol.75. No-11. Nov 2025.
At its height Oxford's book trade enjoyed the establishment of Dominican and Franciscan friaries in need of books for university activities and preaching, and an early demand from lay figures for luxury private prayerbooks. From the 13th century, these books were increasingly produced not by monks in monastic scriptoria but by professional craftspeople.

<https://www.historytoday.com/archive/history-matters/how-medieval-scribes-balanced-books>

64. How Has Space Exploration Changed History?. History Today. Vol.75. No-11. Nov 2025.
On 6 May 1970 Dr Ernst Stuhlinger – who had come to the US from Germany with Wernher von Braun's rocket team after the Second World War and worked at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center during the Apollo programme – responded to a poignant letter from Sister Mary Jucunda, a nun serving starving children in Zambia. She asked how he could justify spending on space exploration when there were so many needs on Earth.

<https://www.historytoday.com/archive/head-head/how-has-space-exploration-changed-history>

65. The rise of singlehood is reshaping the world. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.
For most of human history, coupling up was not merely a norm; it was a necessity. Before reliable contraception, women could not control their fertility, and most were far too poor to raise children alone. Hence the centuries-old convention that, whereas a tragic play or saga ends in death, a happy one ends in marriage.

<https://www.economist.com/leaders/2025/11/06/the-rise-of-singlehood-is-reshaping-the-world>

66. Democrats risk drawing the wrong lessons from one good day. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.
Voters have spoken, but what did they say? The elections held on November 4th have consequences for how Minneapolis, New Jersey, New York City and Virginia are run; for electricity prices in Georgia and for the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. They were also the first real test of whether Donald Trump's second term is everything voters hoped for when they chose last November to send him back to the White House. Overall, Democrats did even better than expected. Yet one good night has not solved the party's enduring problems.

<https://www.economist.com/leaders/2025/11/05/democrats-risk-drawing-the-wrong-lessons-from-one-good-day>

67. Make America procreate again: among the MAGA fertility fanatics. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.
Ordinarily Tim Adkinson, a trucker, sleeps in the back of his vehicle. But on a warm night at the end of March, he checked into a hotel in Austin, Texas. He had dressed up smartly: white linen shirt and chinos, hair brushed forward in an attempt to mask his receding hairline. On his wrist he wore a yellow paper wristband. This accessory was meant to signal to the people he'd meet that evening that he was single, open to dating and, most importantly, looking to procreate—a lot.

<https://www.economist.com/1843/2025/11/06/make-america-procreate-again-among-the-maga-fertility-fanatics>

68. What Was the American Revolution For?. New Yorker. 17th Nov 2025.

This past June, at a No Kings rally outside a white clapboard church in a little brick town in the lower right-hand corner of Vermont, Green Mountaineers huddled together in raincoats under a pearl-gray sky. Some ironic anti-royalists wore golden paper crowns from Burger King, but the more sartorially, not to say lepidopterously, dedicated came dressed as orange-and-black butterflies, these being the only monarchs allowed in America. “Rejecting Kings Since 1776” read a sign carried by a woman wearing a rainbow bucket hat. In the matter of handmade placards—Magic Marker on cardboard, duct-taped to wooden yardsticks—there was a certain amount of politico-literary one-upmanship. “Cry My Beloved Country” was clever, but was “Make Orwell Fiction Again” cleverer? Abraham Lincoln was there, grim-faced and sepia on a sign that read “Government of the People, by the People, for the People.” A red-white-and-blue printed poster quoted Thomas Paine’s “Common Sense”: “In America, the Law Is King!”

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2025/11/17/what-was-the-american-revolution-for>

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

69. America’s plans for a Golden Dome are dangerously obscure. Economist. 8th Nov 2025. It has been almost a year since President Donald Trump signed an executive order promising to build what he then called an Iron Dome for America, to shield the country from drones and missiles. The project, whose name has been gaudified to Golden Dome, is not as outlandish as it sounds. Missile threats are multiplying. In recent wars Ukraine, Israel and India have all demonstrated the value of robust anti-missile defences that save lives, protect infrastructure and buy time for leaders to make better decisions. But the scope of Mr Trump’s shield remains dangerously vague. If that does not change, it could simply become a costly and destabilising white elephant.

<https://www.economist.com/leaders/2025/11/06/americas-plans-for-a-golden-dome-are-dangerously-obscure>

70. China places a Hong Kong-sized bet on Western decline. Economist. 8th Nov 2025. AFTER 110 years of existence, the tiny Jamia Mosque in Hong Kong is safe from a developer’s wrecking ball. Declared an official monument in 2022, the landmark can probably thank geopolitics for its protected status.

<https://www.economist.com/international/2025/11/04/china-places-a-hong-kong-sized-bet-on-western-decline>

71. Giorgia Meloni and Nigel Farage compared. Economist. 8th Nov 2025. The entrance to the Britannia International Hotel in Canary Wharf, in London’s Docklands, where the British government housed some asylum-seekers, is blocked by scruffy metal barriers. The copper-coloured structures, the drawn curtains, the locked-up restaurant, the sheer size: the Britannia resembles a Bulgarian hotel in the Warsaw Pact years, the kind Westerners visited in search of news, business or prostitutes. The Britannia International as a migrant hostel: there is irony in the choice. But the Home Office, clearly, didn’t get it.

<https://www.economist.com/britain/2025/10/31/giorgia-meloni-and-nigel-farage-compared>

72. Israel's politicians are taking on its lawyers once again. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.
The legal branch of the Israel Defence Forces (idf) claims to be investigating "hundreds" of allegations against Israeli troops of crimes committed during the war in Gaza. So far these have yielded only a handful of criminal charges. Major General Yifat Tomer-Yerushalmi, the military advocate-general, had overseen these investigations until she resigned on October 31st. Then, on November 2nd, she was arrested.

<https://www.economist.com/middle-east-and-africa/2025/11/05/israels-politicians-are-taking-on-its-lawyers-once-again>

LAW

73. A British legal ruling about AI delights nobody. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.
It was not the verdict artists hoped for. On November 4th the High Court ruled that Stability ai, a technology company, was not liable for copyright infringement despite training its image generator with content from Getty Images, a media firm. The case was an early British attempt to answer questions about whether ai firms should be allowed to train their systems using copyrighted materials generated by people.

<https://www.economist.com/britain/2025/11/06/a-british-legal-ruling-about-ai-delights-nobody>

74. Donald Trump says he may strike Nigeria to save Christians. Really?. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.
"We are shocked that President Trump is mulling an invasion of our country," a spokesperson for Bola Tinubu, Nigeria's president, recently told CNN. And well they might be. Africa's most populous country has done nothing to threaten America, its largest foreign investor. Nigerians are among the most pro-Trump people in the world: a poll earlier this year found that 79% of them had high confidence in America's president to do "the right thing regarding world affairs", the largest share of any of the 24 countries surveyed by the Pew Research Centre, a think-tank and pollster.

<https://www.economist.com/middle-east-and-africa/2025/11/06/donald-trump-says-he-may-strike-nigeria-to-save-christians-really>

75. War looms in Venezuela as Trump tests an "Americas First" doctrine. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.
"WE HAVE deployed US assets and interests all over the planet, but when we do it in our own hemisphere... everyone sort of freaks out." Thus Marco Rubio, the American secretary of state, dismissed alarm about the gathering military campaign against "narco-terrorists". Since September American forces have repeatedly struck alleged drug-running boats. Now they are massing a formidable naval force in the Caribbean and threatening to bomb Venezuela. The effort to overthrow the country's strongman, Nicolás Maduro, is scarcely disguised. Asked if Mr Maduro's days are numbered, President Donald Trump told CBS News: "I would say yeah. I think so, yeah."

<https://www.economist.com/the-americas/2025/11/06/war-looms-in-venezuela-as-trump-tests-an-americas-first-doctrine>

76. An EU-Mercosur trade deal looks close to ratification. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

Like the European Union, Latin America—or at least most of it—is a region of democracy, committed to multilateralism and international law. The two share ties of history, language, culture and trade. And yet the United States and China loom larger than Europe in Latin America and the Caribbean. Now that both regions have felt the rough edge of Donald Trump’s hand in the form of tariffs and other threats, they are making greater efforts to draw closer. On November 9th and 10th the EU will meet the 33 countries that make up the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) in a summit in the Colombian city of Santa Marta. And in coming weeks the Council of the EU and the European Parliament look likely to ratify a trade deal with Mercosur, a free-trade bloc centred on Argentina and Brazil.

<https://www.economist.com/the-americas/2025/11/04/an-eu-mercosur-trade-deal-looks-close-to-ratification>

LITERATURE

77. The New Coast. New Yorker. 17th Nov 2025.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2025/11/17/the-new-coast-fiction-paul-yoon>

78. Modern European. New Yorker. 17th Nov 2025.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2025/11/17/modern-european-declan-ryan-poem>

79. Black Snow. New Yorker. 17th Nov 2025.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2025/11/17/black-snow-kim-addonizio-poem>

POLITICAL SCIENCE & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

80. Ambedkar’s Vision and the Search for Equitable Federalism. India Forum. 31st Oct 2025.

India plans to hold a Census in 2026, followed by a redrawing of parliamentary constituencies, known as delimitation. This move has angered the southern states, as the process could sharply change the balance of political representation between the northern and southern regions in the parliament. If delimitation takes place in 2026, the northern states—especially Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan—

are expected to gain 31 seats in the Lok Sabha. Currently, the Lok Sabha has 543 seats. Meanwhile, the southern states—particularly Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Andhra Pradesh—will lose 26 seats.

<https://www.theindiaforum.in/history/ambedkars-vision-and-search-equitable-federalism>

81. Coercive Federalism and Conditional Welfare. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol. 60, No-45. 8Nov 2025.

Eyeing withheld funds from the union government to the tune of ₹1,158 crore, the Kerala government decided to sign the Pradhan Mantri Schools for Rising India (PM SHRI) scheme earlier last month, in what was a surprise U-turn of the left's consistent opposition to the scheme. The Communist Party of India (Marxist)-led government's decision also sparked a political controversy in the state, with coalition partner, Communist Party of India, accusing the government of having signed the memorandum of understanding (MoU) without cabinet approval. The emergent political fault lines have forced the government to freeze the implementation of the scheme until a cabinet subcommittee examines the MoU and tables its recommendation.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2025/45/editorials/coercive-federalism-and-conditional-welfare.html>

82. Procedural versus Substantive Democracy. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol. 60, No-45. 8Nov 2025.

A new turmoil has erupted in Indian politics over the allegations of duplicity of the “vote” and the inefficiency of the Election Commission of India (ECI), raising concerns about whether elections remain transparent, free, and fair for all stakeholders. Opposition parties, through their campaigns, have cornered the ECI and the ruling government on the issue of “vote theft.” They have raised fundamental questions about the electoral system, asking whether the commission has failed to uphold the democratic electoral procedure. They have further asked whether the ECI has ensured that one person has only one vote, whether the right person has been allowed to vote, whether there has been an addition of fraudulent votes, and whether their votes are safe with the ECI. The existing flaw within the system was demonstrated during a media conference on 7 August 2025, where the leader of the opposition (LOP), Rahul Gandhi, made detailed accusations against the ECI in his presentation. He pointed out that the ECI has been involved in unfair practices, facilitating the ruling party to take undue advantage. After the 2024 Maharashtra assembly elections, he wrote,

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2025/45/alternative-standpoint/procedural-versus-substantive-democracy.html>

83. China's clean-energy revolution will reshape markets and politics. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

The SCALE of the renewables revolution in China is almost too vast for the human mind to grasp. By the end of last year, the country had installed 887 gigawatts of solar-power capacity—close to double Europe's and America's combined total. The 22m tonnes of steel used to build new wind turbines and solar panels in 2024 would have been enough to build a Golden Gate Bridge on every working day of every week that year. China

generated 1,826 terawatt-hours of wind and solar electricity in 2024, five times more than the energy contained in all 600 of its nuclear weapons.

<https://www.economist.com/leaders/2025/11/06/chinas-clean-energy-revolution-will-reshape-markets-and-politics>

84. How Donald Trump can dodge a Supreme Court tariff block. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.
If trade deficits are a national emergency, they are an emergency of a peculiar sort. America began to run them consistently in the mid-1970s. Only five decades later did Donald Trump declare the situation “an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and economy of the United States”. During those crisis decades, America’s inflation-adjusted GDP per head more than doubled.

<https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics/2025/11/04/how-donald-trump-can-dodge-a-supreme-court-tariff-block>

85. Boom times in a British manufacturing town. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.
Politicians and wonks who agree on little else believe that many economic and social ills could be cured by a good dose of manufacturing. The sector pays well, they point out. It provides jobs for people (particularly working-class men) who struggle with formal education. The decline of manufacturing seems to have boosted right-wing populist parties, which suggests that a revival of manufacturing would crush them. It all sounds vaguely plausible, until you consider the experience of Barrow-in-Furness.

<https://www.economist.com/britain/2025/11/06/boom-times-in-a-british-manufacturing-town>

86. If Labour cranks up income taxes, the left will boo loudest. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.
“If we are to build the future of Britain together, we will all have to contribute,” said Rachel Reeves, the chancellor, in a dreary speech from Downing Street on November 4th. “Each of us must do our bit.” It was a predictable centre-left cry from a predictably centre-left politician. Since sweeping spending cuts are politically impossible, broad tax rises, most likely an increase in income tax, are coming. Predictable yelps of protest came from across the right of the political spectrum.

<https://www.economist.com/britain/2025/11/05/if-labour-cranks-up-income-taxes-the-left-will-boo-loudest>

87. Laura Loomer’s Endless Payback. New Yorker. 17th Nov 2025.
Laura Loomer has long believed that she is some sort of modern-day oracle. For years, she would scream in public places, trying to get people to listen to what she knew. Usually they would send in security to remove her. One afternoon in 2018, she was crying in a bathroom at the U.S. Capitol after being hustled out of a hearing room, where she had interrupted a meeting of the House Energy and Commerce Committee to warn its members about a conspiracy to steal the 2020 election from Donald Trump. Her dress had ripped in the scuffle, and her underwear was showing. “Like Cassandra, the Trojan priestess of Apollo in Greek mythology who was cursed to utter true prophecies, I have been given the gift of prophecy,” she later wrote. “But I am a prophet of doom whose warnings of disaster are condemned and ignored.”

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2025/11/17/laura-loomers-endless-payback>

88. Brand Britain has bounced back. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

MARGARET THATCHER worried a lot about Britain's reputation. "As I travel the world", she said in a fiery speech in 1976, three years before she became prime minister, "I find people asking again and again: 'What has happened to Britain?'" Britain held the undisputed title as "sick man of Europe", crippled by industrial unrest, sky-high interest rates, economic decline and diplomatic impotence.

<https://www.economist.com/britain/2025/11/06/brand-britain-has-bounced-back>

89. Tanzania has its Tiananmen moment. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

The inauguration of Samia Suluhu Hassan as president of Tanzania on November 3rd was an incongruently unconfident event for someone who claims to have won 98% of the vote in an election on October 29th. The swearing-in was brought forward and moved from a stadium in the largest city, Dar es Salaam, to a military parade ground in Dodoma, the sleepy capital. The public was banned. Only four other African leaders turned up.

<https://www.economist.com/middle-east-and-africa/2025/11/06/tanzania-has-its-tiananmen-moment>

90. A night of big wins for the Democrats. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

Democrats were bound to have a good election night. The prevailing question on November 4th was more a matter of degree: would it be merely good, or would it be great? The results of the night's four big contests suggest an excellent one indeed for the opposition party.

<https://www.economist.com/united-states/2025/11/05/a-night-of-big-wins-for-the-democrats>

91. The Supreme Court seems sceptical of Donald Trump's tariffs. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

NO SITTING PRESIDENT has ever attended an oral argument at the Supreme Court. That is one precedent Donald Trump chose not to break after flirting with the idea of turning up for the arguments in *Learning Resources v Trump*—the case challenging the legality of his tariffs heard on November 5th.

<https://www.economist.com/united-states/2025/11/05/the-supreme-court-seems-sceptical-of-donald-trumps-tariffs>

92. How the sheriff of St Louis ended up in jail. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

AS ACCUSATIONS go, one levelled at the sheriff of St Louis, the second-largest city in Missouri, in a lawsuit to remove him from office, was outlandish. In late June Andrew Bailey, then the attorney-general of the state, accused Alfred Montgomery of hiring his half-brother as a deputy. This, Mr Bailey alleged, constituted "an outright violation of the Missouri Constitution's ban on nepotism". Yet the deputy, Malik Taylor, was not his

sibling. He was just a man Mr Montgomery, who is black, referred to as “brother” frequently. In August that charge was dropped.

<https://www.economist.com/united-states/2025/11/04/how-the-sheriff-of-st-louis-ended-up-in-jail>

SCIENCE

93. Was the Pacific Palisades blaze a “zombie fire”? Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

IN OCTOBER an Uber driver called Jonathan Rinderknecht was arrested on suspicion of starting what would eventually become the Pacific Palisades fire. One of several big fires that broke out in California in January this year, the Palisades fire killed 12 people and incinerated nearly 7,000 houses and buildings in the western outskirts of Los Angeles.

<https://www.economist.com/science-and-technology/2025/11/05/was-the-pacific-palisades-blaze-a-zombie-fire>

94. Can a dopamine detox reset your brain?. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

NO SOCIAL MEDIA. No gambling, alcohol or junk food. Certainly no masturbation, pornography or sex. Sounds dull? Welcome to your dopamine detox. Popular among Silicon Valley types, the idea is to abstain from quick-hit rewards in the hope of rediscovering simpler pleasures.

<https://www.economist.com/science-and-technology/2025/10/31/can-a-dopamine-detox-reset-your-brain>

SOCIOLOGY

95. All over the rich world, fewer people are hooking up and shacking up. Economist. 8th Nov 2025.

“I don’t date conservative or moderate men,” says Nancy Anteby, a 30-year-old New Yorker who works in social media. “I only date liberal men.” Politics is not her only concern. She is also looking for someone ambitious, with a stable career, who is Jewish and, perhaps most important, shares her desire to start a family. Finding dates who tick all of these boxes is not easy. “Very often a man will disappoint you,” she laments. Then again, she recently realised, “I don’t need to rely on a man to have the life that I dream of.”

<https://www.economist.com/briefing/2025/11/06/all-over-the-rich-world-fewer-people-are-hooking-up-and-shacking-up>

Annexure I- List of Journals and Magazines covered in this Issue.

S.No.	Title	Periodicity	Place of Publication
1	College Post	Q	New Delhi
2	Chronicle of Higher Education	BW	US
3	Economic & Political Weekly	W	Mumbai
4	Economist (A.M.)	W	London
5	History Today	M	London
6	India Forum	W	India
7	New Yorker	W	New York