

ARTICLE ALERT 16-31 MAY 2025

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1. Anna Politkovskaya knew that tyranny respects no borders. Economist. 17th May 2025.

"The entrance is well adapted for murder," Anna Politkovskaya wrote in 2003, "with dark corners in which you are your own rescue service." She was describing the building in which a fellow journalist had been bludgeoned, but also foretelling her own assassination three years later. The shooting in her apartment block is the inexorable ending of "Words of War", a new film about her life and fate. Politkovskaya's story and warnings are vital even now, amid the carnage in Ukraine. Especially now.

<https://www.economist.com/culture/2025/05/13/anna-politkovskaya-knew-that-tyranny-respects-no-borders>

2. A Secret Trove of Rare Guitars Heads to the Met. New Yorker. 26th May 2025.
In 2007, Jayson Dobney, an Iowan with a master's degree in the history of musical instruments, from the University of South Dakota, moved to New York to be a curator in the department of musical instruments at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. For decades, there had been whispers in guitar circles of a vast trove of twentieth-century guitars, in private hands, somewhere in the tri-state area—an El Dorado of coveted Strats and Les Pauls and Martins of impeccable provenance. Even in Vermillion, South Dakota, Dobney had heard the rumors. Coming east, he wanted to learn more, especially because the Met's instruments department, for all its heirlooms (the world's oldest piano, three Stradivarius violins, a Mayan double whistle), possessed almost nothing from the twentieth century.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2025/05/26/a-secret-trove-of-rare-guitars-heads-to-the-met>

3. Production Meeting. New Yorker. 26th May 2025.
Before filming each episode of "Curb Your Enthusiasm," we held a production meeting. These are similar in format to a Presidential Cabinet meeting. The heads of each department, the producers, and the cast would sit around a big conference table and make comments on any and all things regarding the show. Only one of those meetings was taped. The transcript:

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2025/05/26/production-meeting>

4. Pavement Inspires a Strange, Loving Bio-Pic. New Yorker. 26th May 2025.
I once assumed that Pavement would be forgotten by later generations, just as the knowing, sarcastic wit of the nineteen-nineties came to seem passé in the two-thousands. The band's music was ragged and dry, the work of self-referential pranksters scavenging for meaning at the tail end of rock's imperial era. Their catalogue features a spoof of fifties lounge jazz but no dance remixes or stunt cameos; there are ramshackle songs about architecture, tennis, and the band R.E.M. but little mention of sex or rebellion. Their style became synonymous with their bandleader, Stephen Malkmus, who sang with a kind of deadpan cool, unimpressed by the world around him, including the hooky songs the group churned out. This was music about being bored by everything but language itself.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2025/05/26/pavement-inspires-a-strange-loving-bio-pic>

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

5. Brazilian supercows are taking over the world. Economist. 17th May 2025.
The master of ceremonies at ExpoZebu, a cow gala in the state of Minas Gerais in south-east Brazil, could see the dilemma. One animal had “elliptical eyes” and an “excellent mammary apparatus”. The other had a delicate neck and a curvaceous rump. The judges faced “a difficult decision”. When he finally announced the winner of the contest (they plumped for the rump), cowhands shed tears of joy and the crowd erupted with a riotous “yeehaw”.

<https://www.economist.com/the-americas/2025/05/14/brazilian-supercows-are-taking-over-the-world>

BIOGRAPHY

6. José “El Pepe” Mujica became the antithesis of a caudillo. Economist. 17th May 2025.

It is not a flashy country and José Mujica, who died on May 13th aged 89, became its epitome. As Uruguay’s president from 2010 to 2015 he continued to drive a battered sky-blue Volkswagen Beetle and to lunch in workaday bars on the main street of Montevideo, the capital. Foreign dignitaries or journalists who sought an audience with “El Pepe” usually had to trek to his scrabbly farm with its three-roomed concrete house where he lived for the last 40 years of his life. He often dressed in a tracksuit and fleece. He gave away much of his presidential salary. If it was partly a theatrical act, almost a caricature, it was one he lived to the full. He had a deep and genuine hatred of pomp and flummery, which he saw as inimical to the egalitarian principles of a democratic republic.

<https://www.economist.com/the-americas/2025/05/14/jose-el-pepe-mujica-became-the-antithesis-of-a-caudillo>

7. Mark Twain was a literary celebrity with a moral compass. Economist. 17th May 2025.

THE OCTAGONAL study overlooks the green of Elmira College in upstate New York. In it, Mark Twain wrote “Adventures of Huckleberry Finn”, “The Adventures of Tom Sawyer”, “A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court”, along with umpteen other stories, articles and speeches. Twain spent his most productive summers on his wife’s family’s farm in Elmira, writing by day and reading his work to his wife and children on the porch in the evening. The unusual shape notwithstanding, the study is small, austere and unremarkable—three words that are in every way the opposite of Twain’s life.

<https://www.economist.com/culture/2025/05/15/mark-twain-was-a-literary-celebrity-with-a-moral-compass>

8. Álvaro Mangino survived a plane crash by eating his companions. Economist. 17th May 2025.

The first bite was the hardest. They had laid the meat—it was whitish, cut in slivers as thin as matchsticks—on a makeshift aluminium tray. Later, the boys would find that if they cooked it, it tasted better: like beef, but softer. But on that first day they just ate it raw, almost frozen. Some swallowed it like medicine. One ate it with snow, to mask the taste. He still gagged. One joked that it was like a fine delicatessen ham. Álvaro could not eat it at all.

<https://www.economist.com/obituary/2025/05/15/alvaro-mangino-survived-a-plane-crash-by-eating-his-companions>

9. Hilton Als on the Visionary World of Alva Rogers. New Yorker. 26th May 2025.
I met Alva Rogers years ago, through a mutual friend, and her various incarnations—actress, singer, artistic director, writer, puppeteer—have always been remarkable to me. As a young woman, Rogers posed for the artist Lorna Simpson, and is the subject of Simpson’s photograph-based piece “Waterbearer” (1986), along with other early works, and, of course, she was the nominal star of Julie Dash’s film “Daughters of the Dust” (1991), a fascinating evocation of Gullah culture in South Carolina. All of these works—all of these genres—that have been supportive of Rogers being looked at have informed her own work: she knows what the experience of being *in* a narrative feels like and uses that knowledge as a creator of her own projects.

<https://www.newyorker.com/culture/goings-on/hilton-als-on-the-visionary-world-of-alva-rogers>

10. Sam Amidon Visits Vanished Spaces. New Yorker. 26th May 2025.
Sam Amidon is a folk musician whose albums test the limits of his job title; they feature fiddle tunes and clawhammer banjo as well as synthesizers and improvisations with such musicians as the late drummer Milford Graves. Amidon lives in London but the other day was in town for a gig at Public Records, in Brooklyn, for his new LP, “Salt River,” a collaboration with Sam Gendel, an L.A.-based saxophonist, that features covers of tunes by musicians Amidon views as influences. “I grew up with, like, no pop,” he said. “We had one Cyndi Lauper cassette, ‘True Colors’—loved that—and one Talking Heads tape, and everything else was fiddles and contra-dance music.”

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2025/05/26/sam-amidon-visits-vanished-spaces>

11. Mark Singer on John Bainbridge’s “The Super-Americans”. New Yorker. 26th May 2025.
In 1974, a staffer at *The New Yorker* whom I’d met once called to say that the magazine’s editor, William Shawn, wanted to see me. This was unexpected. I was twenty-three, living in Connecticut, working for another publication. I’d grown up in a family that nobody would’ve described as bookish, and I’d been reading *The New Yorker* for months, not years. On the train to Grand Central, I crammed James Thurber’s “The Years with Ross,” unable to fathom why I’d been brought in. Mr. Shawn, it turned out, had liked a lengthy Norman Mailer parody that I’d inserted into my college thesis, to pad it out; I’d shared it with someone who’d shared it with Shawn. He offered me a job as a Talk of the Town reporter. Afterward, panic leached into my elation. Hadn’t Mr. Shawn considered that an aptitude for parody might indicate (as I knew to be the case) that I lacked a voice of my own?

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/takes/mark-singer-on-john-bainbridges-the-super-americans>

12. Titans. TIME. Vol.205, No-17-18. 26th May 2025.
Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
Global- health Architecture
As director- general of the world health organization (WHO), navigating uncertainly is part of Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus’ job. Health threats don’t warnings, and the viruses and pathogens responsible for them aren’t always predictable.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279664/tedros-adhanom-ghebreyesus-2/>

Kristin Peck

Preventing Animal Disease

Kristin Peck wants to change how you think about treating and preventing animal disease. Not only is their welfare an ethical obligation, it's also inseparable from the environment, economics, and our own health. "Animals can help humans live longer," says Peck, who is CEO of the global animal health company Zoetis. She helped launch Zoetis in 2012 because animal health "spoke to me personally," after growing up with a family raising horses, dogs, cats, and birds. Her passion for protecting animals has translated into major achievements, including 25 million doses of Zoetis' innovative arthritis medication given to dogs, starting in 2021 through the present. Zoetis has developed a new vaccine to protect chickens from the currently circulating Avian Influenza H5N1 virus that has infected 168 million birds in the U.S. since early 2022, decimating the poultry industry. In Feb. 2025, the U.S. government issued a license for the vaccine, though it has yet to be distributed for use in poultry farms. This followed the government's use of Zoetis' H5N1 vaccine in 2023 to protect endangered California condors.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279594/kristin-peck/>

Sumbul Desai

Merging tech and health

Dr. Sumbul Desai's job is to think creatively about the different ways that technology can improve health. As Vice President of Health at Apple, she starts with strong data from studies the company conducts with academic institutes, the American Heart Association, and the World Health Organization to understand which metrics give the best window into overall health. Apple received approval in 2024 to turn the iPhone into a professional-grade hearing test, and AirPods Pro 2 got the go-ahead to function as hearing aids with just a few in-app adjustments.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279658/sumbul-desai/>

David Ricks

Speeding Drug Development

When David Ricks became CEO of Eli Lilly, he faced the usual pressures of making the right, albeit risky, bets on the next big pharmaceutical breakthrough. But he also faced a unique challenge—the Midwest-based company's culture of "Lilly nice" that led to very little dissent and conflict among leadership. To Ricks, those habits inhibited productive discussion, and risked losing Lilly's edge as an innovator known for developing new drug classes, as it had with human insulin and the antidepressant Prozac. So he's pushed to increase not just speed but also communication with researchers and scientists outside of the company to ensure that Lilly stays on top of the next big thing.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279659/david-ricks/>

Alice Walton

Enriching Medical Education

As the richest woman in the world, Alice Walton could turn her resources to any cause.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279654/alice-walton/>

Marty Makary

Disrupting Regulation

Before being confirmed as the head of the U.S. Food and drug administration in March, Dr. Marty Makary was an influential critic of the medical establishment.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279643/marty-makary/>

Vas Narasimhan

Accelerating Change

Early in Vas Narasimhan's career as a physician scientist, he worked on programs for treating HIV/AIDS in Africa and saw the impact of medicine in places that need it most. The experience inspired Narasimhan to lead development of drugs and vaccines for more than two decades. But treatments didn't always reach the neediest, and he "dreamed of having a much bigger impact on the world," he says.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279600/vas-narasimhan/>

Michelle Xia

Breakout Leader

Akeso Biopharma, based in Zhongshan, China, has become one of the country's biggest breakout innovators this year. Led by co-founder and CEO Michelle Xia, the company has surged onto the international scene with drugs focused on cancer and immunology. In March, a phase 3 study published in *The Lancet* showed Akeso's ivonescimab outperformed Merck's blockbuster cancer drug Keytruda (pembrolizumab) pushing the FDA to fast-track its approval review of ivonescimab. And in April, the FDA approved Akeso's drug candidate penpulimab-kcq—its first approval in the U.S.—for some types of head and neck cancer, four years after it was approved in China.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279640/michelle-xia/>

Michael Dowling

Fostering Innovation

It's been a busy spell for Michael Dowling, president and CEO for Northwell Health. Although the healthcare company mainly operates in a handful of U.S. states, its innovations are now reaching far beyond. In 2023, Dowling oversaw the development of a double neural bypass, in which microchips were implanted in the brain of a paralyzed patient, allowing two-way communication between his brain and his arms, restoring mobility that had been lost in a diving accident in 2020. Then, the Northwell team launched an AI-powered system that prophylactically analyzes CT scans and MRIs, looking for signs of cancer even if the patient was having the imaging done to treat a completely unrelated condition. The goal: to catch cancer early, well before it has the time to spread. Dubbed iNav, the system can, Northwell says, slash the time it takes to begin treatment by 50%. Dowling may lead Northwell, but he credits its achievements to the 104,000 people the company employs. "We refuse to accept the status quo," says Dowling. "Our ambition is to innovate relentlessly, setting new standards to enhance the lives of every individual we serve."

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279615/michael-dowling/>

Nancy Brown
Spreading Heart Health

Nancy Brown has been CEO of the American Heart Association since 2008. She was instrumental in starting the group's Go Red for Women Venture Fund in 2024, which aims to invest \$75 million in companies focused on health solutions specifically for women—since they often have different heart-disease symptoms than men. Only 2% of health care venture funding in 2023 went to women's health, Brown says. Now, the American Heart Association is funding researchers who are studying ways to better spot high-risk women. Under Brown's leadership, the fund will make its first investments in two start-up companies that help diagnose and treat neurological conditions and high blood pressure in women. "I predict that care will change in the not distant future because of the funding that we've been able to provide and the real dedication of these scientists."

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279621/nancy-brown/>

Paul Offit
Vaccine Champion

Dr. Paul Offit knows a thing or two about public health and vaccines—and what he's been seeing lately deeply troubles him. As director of the Vaccine Education Center at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and member of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) vaccine advisory committee, Offit has long been a vocal proponent of robust vaccine programs. Having Robert F. Kennedy Jr., a vocal vaccine skeptic, in the top health job in the federal government "couldn't be worse," Offit says. Already, measles is spreading dangerously among pockets of unvaccinated children—even killing some of them, an unheard-of situation in recent history—while the government's message to get vaccinated is muted, at best. The FDA also canceled its meeting to plan for next year's flu shot.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279613/paul-offit/>

Karen Desalvo
Harnessing AI for health

As Google's first chief health officer, Dr. Karen DeSalvo says she invented the job as she went. There was a lot to create. Since arriving at Google in 2019, she has capitalized on health applications of technology like generative AI, and in 2024 Google Health launched the latest version of AlphaFold, an revolutionary modeling tool that helps biomedical researchers predict the shape of proteins as they develop new drugs and treatments for human diseases.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279636/karen-desalvo/>

Melinda French Gates
Improving Women's health

One of the particular characteristics of the Gates Foundation is its focus. It doesn't try to solve all the world's problems, but it attempts to be very comprehensive about the issues it addresses. After Melinda French Gates left the foundation she took that focus to her now 10-year old enterprise Pivotal Ventures, which looks for ways to improve women's welfare. In October, she announced she would distribute \$250 million to organizations that have innovative ideas about improving the mental and physical health of women and families, part of a bigger \$1 billion thrust to advance women's rights and wellbeing on several fronts. One of the biggest challenges in women's health is a lack of data—not just about health issues that only strike women, like family planning, maternal mortality and menopause, but also about issues that show

up differently in women than in men, such as auto-immune disease and digestive disorders. Gates wants to fund research and solutions to address these gaps, and hosted an open call for enterprises to pitch for some of that \$250 million. But it's not just about medicine.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279610/melinda-french-gates/>

Jay Bhattacharya

Shaking up research funding

As the new head of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Dr. Jay Bhattacharya is now in charge of disbursing \$35 billion a year, the largest amount of funding for biomedical research in the world. That is, if he continues the NIH's support of the research that has been behind many medical breakthroughs, including mRNA COVID-19 vaccines. Bhattacharya emerged during the pandemic as a critic of the government and its response, and gained notoriety for claiming that federal health officials were assessing the risk of the pandemic all wrong.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279662/jay-bhattacharya/>

Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

Upending health care

Already controversial because of his skepticism about vaccines, Robert F. Kennedy Jr. has proven a lightning rod since he was sworn in as secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) on Feb. 13. Pledging to "Make America Healthy Again," he is overseeing a massive reorganization of HHS that includes downsizing its head count from 82,000 to 62,000 and slashing billions in grants that fund medical research. As the CDC worked to contain a measles outbreak which has infected more than 700 and killed two young children and one adult—the first such deaths from the disease in the U.S. in years—Kennedy has both endorsed the measles, mumps and rubella vaccine and also claimed that it was "not safety tested," despite decades of scientific consensus that the vaccine is safe and effective.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279603/robert-f-kennedy-jr-2/>

Karen DeSalvo

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<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279636/karen-desalvo/>

Nicaise Ndembi

Public health for Africa

More than 21,000 people in Africa contracted mpox in 2024—a bad number that could have been much worse without the help of Nicaise Ndembi, then senior adviser to the director-general of the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and now the deputy director general of the International Vaccine Institute (IVI). In his time at Africa CDC, Ndembi helped manage the continent-wide response to mpox—strengthening surveillance and screening and providing

vaccines and medicinal therapeutics—and the Partnerships for African Vaccine Manufacturing, which created a framework for regional vaccine manufacturing and self-reliance. In his new role at the IVI, he will work to establish home-grown vaccine research and development, accelerating vaccine availability and distribution across Africa's 54 countries.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279617/nicaise-ndembi/>

Emma Walmsley

A novel antibiotic

Antibiotics are the workhorses of the medical world, critical for controlling infections and saving lives but rarely grabbing the attention that blockbuster treatments often do. Dame Emma Walmsley, CEO of the pharmaceutical company GSK, admits they have become “unfashionable.” But a new antibiotic for treating urinary tract infections (UTIs) might change that. In March, her team at GSK received approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for a new type of antibiotic, Blujepa, that interrupts the ability of UTI-causing bacteria, *E. coli*, to replicate. The drug targets two enzymes that *E. coli* use to untangle their genetic material in order to proliferate. And because Blujepa works through a novel approach, scientists hope the drug will make it harder for the bacteria to develop resistance against it.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279657/emma-walmsley/>

Steve Beard

Diversifying medicine

Steve Beard knows that diverse health care is better health care. The belief drives his efforts as CEO of Adtalem Global Education, a corporation that operates institutions for higher learning including Chamberlain University, Walden University, and Ross University School of Medicine. “Science shows the benefits of a diverse health care workforce, and no one makes a larger contribution to that goal than Adtalem’s institutions,” Beard says.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279601/steve-beard/>

13. Innovators. TIME. Vol.205, No-17-18. 26th May 2025.

Reshma Kewalramani

Landmark drug development

Dr. Reshma Kewalramani says she was destined to love science and medicine, raised by parents who always dreamed she would become a doctor and who immigrated to the U.S. from India to give her the best opportunities to make that happen. Fortunately for her, she loved the discipline and curiosity that are prerequisites for being a good scientist, and quickly found her calling in drug development.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279637/reshma-kewalramani-2/>

AmirAli Talasaz and Helmy Eltoukhy

A more appealing screening option

Despite rising rates of colon cancer, two-thirds of Americans say they'd rather file their taxes than get a cancer-detecting colonoscopy, a national survey finds. AmirAli Talasaz and Helmy Eltoukhy aim to offer a more appealing screening option. Their company, Guardant Health, co-founded in 2012, developed the first-ever blood test for colon cancer, which was approved by the FDA in 2024.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279587/amirali-talasaz-helmy-eltoukhy/>

Richard Lowenthal

An easier way to treat anaphylaxis

For decades, people suffering life-threatening allergic reactions had to quickly and correctly give themselves an injection using an EpiPen. That changed in August, when the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved neffy, a nasal spray that treats severe allergic reactions, including anaphylaxis—making it the first needle-free option for those over age 4.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279620/richard-lowenthal/>

Robert Wood

Spreading peace of mind

Living with severe food allergies clouds every day with fear. When the tiniest smidge of peanuts or wheat could kill you, everything revolves around managing that risk.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279618/robert-wood/>

Andrew Miller

A novel approach to mental health

Developing a new treatment for any psychiatric condition is already a formidable challenge, but finding one for schizophrenia comes with added complexity. In 2024, a new drug Andrew Miller helped to develop, Cobenfy, was approved to treat schizophrenia, the first new medication using a novel approach for the condition in decades. Existing drugs target the dopamine system of brain chemicals, while Cobenfy focuses on the muscarinic system, which avoids many of the side effects of existing medications that lead 60% or more of patients to stop taking them. Miller tested over 7,000 compounds before discovering that combining one that targeted the muscarinic system with a drug for treating overactive bladders could effectively work on just the muscarinic receptors in the brain to control schizophrenia symptoms and avoid activating them in other parts of the body. Since the bladder treatment had “nothing to do with psychiatry, it was a pretty out-of-the-box approach,” says Miller. But it worked.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279631/andrew-miller/>

Samarth Kulkarni

Pushing gene therapy forward

Gene therapy has had a rocky history in moving from bench to bedside, especially after a young patient died in one of the first gene-therapy trials in 1999. But the discovery of a more refined way to manipulate genes, called CRISPR, has for the past decade renewed interest in developing ways to modify genes responsible for a number of diseases.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279635/samarth-kulkarni/>

Daniel Timms

Heart builder

As a kid growing up in Australia, Daniel Timms shared a passion with his father, a plumber, for building fishponds behind their house, tinkering with how to recycle the water. Years later, his father needed a heart transplant and was

struggling with a mechanical valve prone to breaking down while waiting for one. Father and son—who was by then a bioengineering student—realized a better implant design was sitting in their backyard. “The pond pumps are basically spinning discs,” Timms says—a simpler, more resilient machinery to circulate blood than most implants use. They built prototypes of their improved implant—which they called an artificial heart—on their kitchen table, and Timms continued to improve the design over his career as an engineer. Since mid-2024, people have reaped the benefits through an early FDA-approved study based in the U.S. and simultaneous studies in Australia. In March, an Australian man lived a record 105 days with Timms’s device, called the BiVACOR Total Artificial Heart, before receiving a heart transplant.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279593/daniel-timms/>

David Nussbaum

A more realistic virtual visit

Communications startup Proto Hologram could have stuck with broadcasting holograms of celebrities into places like concerts and airports; instead, founder David Nussbaum brought the technology to health care. The Los Angeles-based company now beams holograms of real doctors to clinics in rural areas, helping cut down on travel time while ensuring patients get a more realistic image of their provider during virtual appointments. Nussbaum is the driving force behind Proto, touted as the world’s first holographic communications platform, which was certified HIPAA compliant this spring. “Nothing is more important than connecting with your doctor in person to create that emotional, physical connection, especially when you're talking about something as important as cancer or Parkinson's or some life altering news,” he says.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279602/david-nussbaum/>

Huji Xu

Autoimmune treatment breakthrough

As many as 1 in 10 people worldwide are affected by autoimmune diseases. The disorders arise when rogue immune cells release antibodies that attack the body’s own tissue. There is no cure, and most treatments only focus on managing symptoms and trying to mitigate further damage. Huji Xu and his team have now developed a cell therapy to target the root cause of autoimmune diseases. His 2024 landmark study, published in *Cell*, showed that their treatment led to unprecedented long-term remission in three patients with serious treatment-resistant autoimmune diseases. Within days of treatment, all study participants showed significant positive changes in their conditions, including regained mobility and improved organ function. While further study is needed to establish the long-term safety and efficacy in a broader population of patients, Xu’s research marks a huge step forward in treating autoimmune diseases.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279586/huji-xu/>

David Liu

Next-generation gene editing

In 2021, David Liu couldn’t sleep after the U.S. Food and Drug Administration cleared the first clinical trial based on his research. Just five years earlier, he’d developed the technique that rewrites disease-causing DNA one letter at a time—with more precision and fewer side effects than previous tools that cut into the DNA, disrupting genes. Liu realized, with excitement and some trepidation, that his research was reaching patients much faster than the typical timeline. But the

past year has brought plenty of reassurance. No fewer than 17 clinical trials are applying his research to various conditions including sickle-cell anemia and high cholesterol. “The power is that it’s programmable,” he explains. “The same editing machine can treat all of these diseases.” Four trials have reported positive results since January 2024, including one in March that helped people with a rare lung and liver disease.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279592/david-liu/>

David Fajgenbaum

Repurposing drugs

Dr. David Fajgenbaum was a third-year medical student when he “got critically ill out of nowhere.” After taking an important exam, he walked down the hall to the hospital’s emergency room and underwent blood tests. “The doctor looked at me and said, ‘David, your liver, your kidneys, your bone marrow, your heart, and your lungs are all shutting down. We have to hospitalize you right away.’”

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279645/david-fajgenbaum/>

Tahmeed Ahmed

Fighting malnutrition

When Dr. Tahmeed Ahmed began seeing patients fresh from graduating medical school in his native Bangladesh, he saw one problem over and over again that all of his medical training could do little to change. “I took care of patients suffering from diarrhea and malnutrition, and it was very frustrating for me especially to take care of children, some of whom would die,” he says. “There were not many things we could do despite all of our best intentions and efforts.”

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279651/tahmeed-ahmed/>

Tomas Cihlar and Wesley Sundquist

Preventing HIV

Decades into the fight against HIV, there is still no vaccine against the virus, though antiretroviral drug treatments have fundamentally transformed it from a deadly disease into a chronic condition that can be effectively managed. Now, thanks to Tomas Cihlar’s and Wesley Sundquist’s contributions, the world is a step closer to preventing infections altogether.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279660/tomas-cihlar-wesley-sundquist/>

Andre Esteva

Harnessing AI to improve cancer care

Andre Esteva is pioneering a future where AI can personalize therapies to improve health. “Doctors are the first to tell you they could use help with this,” Esteva says. The company he co-founded and leads as CEO, ArteraAI, has created an AI tool that predicts which prostate cancer treatment will work best for a patient. Prostate cancer is the second-most common cancer in men, and Esteva’s efforts became personal last year when his co-founder died of cancer at age 48. The AI is trained on images of tumors—detailed at the cellular level from more than 100,000 patients—and compares these patterns to an individual patient’s images to choose the right treatment option. The AI uses some additional patient information, but “98% of the signal comes from the tumor images,” Esteva says.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279595/andre-esteva/>

Bobby Reddy Jr.

Predicting sepsis

Every year in the U.S., about 6% of emergency room visits are due to sepsis, an extreme immune system reaction to infection that can lead to organ failure and death in a short period of time. Anywhere from 30% to 50% of hospitalizations that end up in death can be traced to sepsis. But doctors have few tools to predict which patients should be tested for sepsis, since sepsis shares many symptoms with other conditions.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279656/bobby-reddy-jr/>

Shiv Rao

A paperwork fix

Much of what inspires people to go to medical school or nursing school is the opportunity—the "privilege," as Dr. Shiv Rao sees it—to serve patients while building strong relationships with them. But the reality of the job often means being consumed with paperwork for hours after the last appointment of the day.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279624/shiv-rao/>

Aparna Hegde and Aparna Taneja

Reaching out to women

Dr. Aparna Hegde founded India-based non-profit ARMMAN in 2008 after working in an overcrowded Mumbai maternity clinic where she saw new mothers and their babies die of avoidable complications. Her solution is a "tech plus touch model" which provides targeted preventive care information to enrolled women through free voice calls.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279670/aparna-hegde-aparna-taneja/>

Beth Shapiro

De-extinction scientist

Beth Shapiro, chief science officer of Dallas-based Colossal Biosciences, might be most famous for the company's current controversial mission to de-extinct the woolly mammoth in 2028. Colossal made news in April with the announcement that it had used genetic engineering to bring back the ancient dire wolf, and it intends to do the same for other species, including the dodo and the Tasmanian tiger. But Shapiro, who specialized in ancient DNA research at Oxford University, Penn State University, and elsewhere, also uses her gene-editing skills to help protect endangered species like the red wolf and the Asian elephant. The same genetic engineering tools behind the de-extinction of vanished species can be used to breed hardiness or greater genetic variety into existing ones threatened with extinction.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279644/beth-shapiro/>

Alvin Luk

Eyes on the rare disease prize

Alvin Luk, CEO of HuidaGene, is using his experience in big pharma to lead the small Shanghai and New Jersey-based biotech on a path towards creating one-time CRISPR gene-editing treatments for rare medical conditions.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279668/alvin-luk/>

14. **Pioneers. TIME. Vol.205, No-17-18. 26th May 2025.**

Andrea Cercek

Mobilizing the immune system

Cancer therapy evolves every year, and the latest efforts focus on harnessing the body's immune system to fight the disease. But these approaches have generally been used together with traditional strategies like surgery, chemotherapy, or radiation. Until now.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279647/andrea-cercek/>

Robert Montgomery

Transplant innovator

Figuring out how to save the lives of people waiting for an organ transplant requires taking some chances—and Dr. Robert Montgomery, director of the NYU Langone Transplant Institute, has been setting a number of new standards in the field. In his latest milestone, he transplanted a pig kidney into a woman with kidney failure, and the organ worked for a record four months. The donor pig was specially bred to contain certain genetic changes that made its kidney less pig-like and more human, which reduced the chances it would be rejected by the patient's immune system. While the patient still ended up rejecting the organ, the fact that she was able to come off of dialysis for four months (which she has now resumed) is an encouraging advance, says Montgomery.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279634/robert-montgomery-2/>

Dean Ornish

Slowing down disease naturally

For decades, Dr. Dean Ornish has been talking to anyone who will listen about the power of lifestyle changes to avoid some of the chronic diseases that lead to the most drastic health-care costs and consequences: heart disease, diabetes, obesity, and cancer. In 2024, he extended his work to show that a vegan diet, daily aerobic exercise, a meditation and stress-reduction practice, and social engagement can together slow the progression of another increasing health concern as the population ages—Alzheimer's disease.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279632/dean-ornish/>

Kenneth Savin

Fueling science from space

One of the coolest science labs on the planet is, in fact, off the planet—250 miles up, aboard the International Space Station. Few people are making more intriguing use of it than Kenneth Savin, chief scientist of Redwire, a bioengineering company specializing in manufacturing protein crystals and human tissue in the microgravity environment of the station. Savin, a PhD chemist who once worked at the Center for the Advancement of Science in Space (CASIS)—the team that runs the U.S. National Lab on the International Space Station—knows that there's a lot of work that can be done in space that simply can't be duplicated on Earth. Near-zero-g frees protein crystals from the forcing factor of gravity, allowing them to assemble themselves into larger and higher quality configurations. The hope is that these can then be used on Earth to make drugs to battle cancer and other diseases—though no such drugs have yet been manufactured.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279611/kenneth-savin/>

Scott Stanslaski

Calming Parkinson's symptoms

There is no cure for Parkinson's disease—yet—but doctors can help patients manage the most debilitating symptoms of involuntary muscle tremors. In Feb. 2025, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved BrainSense Adaptive deep brain stimulation, a new pacemaker-like device for the brain that can respond more effectively to a Parkinson's patient's changing brain-signaling patterns, giving people better control of their muscle movements. Previous versions could only be left on continuously, meaning nerve cells were stimulated even when patients weren't experiencing involuntary movements, such as after taking medications, which most patients do to control their symptoms.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279633/scott-stanslaski/>

Christian Happi

Understanding infectious diseases

Christian Happi's journey to become a biochemist began in the rainforests of his native Cameroon, where his mother carried him on her back to receive medical care when he was stricken with malaria as an 8-year-old. His two older siblings had died from the disease, and Happi promised his mother that if he survived, he would find a cure. After graduating from university in Nigeria, he was convinced that DNA and genetics held the secret to curing malaria, and was a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard's T.H. Chan School of Public Health. True to his promise, Happi returned to Nigeria and in the late 2000s established the first molecular lab in the country to help scientists test for Lassa fever virus; the testing program helped to dramatically reduce deaths from the disease—from 90% mortality to almost 24%—by catching and treating cases earlier. He's since expanded on that work by founding the African Centre of Excellence for Genomics and Infectious Disease, which now houses the first cutting-edge genomics research lab of its kind in Nigeria to sequence and evaluate viruses responsible for infectious diseases, and work with health officials to intervene.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279652/christian-happi-2/>

Richard Finkel and Kelly Hennings

A prenatal first

In 2015, Kelly Hennings got the devastating news that her infant son had a severe form of spinal muscular atrophy (SMA), a disease that causes progressive muscle loss starting before birth. There were no treatments, and he passed away before his second birthday. Hennings and her husband were both carriers of SMA, meaning that there was a 25% chance any future biological children would also be affected. When Hennings got pregnant again years later, she learned via amniocentesis that this child, too, had SMA.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279665/richard-finkel-kelly-hennings/>

Christian Angermayer and Aron D'Souza

Testing human limits

The Enhanced Games is closer to becoming reality: an Olympic-style sporting event co-founded by investors and entrepreneurs Aron D'Souza and Christian Angermayer, it would permit athletes to use performance-enhancing substances currently banned by the World Anti-Doping Agency in an experiment to test the limits of the human body. Expect Enhanced Games executives to soon announce the timing and location of the debut event, which will likely include swimming,

track and field, and a weightlifting competition. Organizers have also added more political muscle to their endeavor recently: in February, Donald Trump Jr.'s 1789 Capital announced it was investing in the project. The International Olympic Committee has dismissed the Enhanced Games as a competitor, saying the idea "does not merit any comment." But D'Souza and Angermayer are promising more than just a new athletic spectacle. "We're not in the business of sports, we're in the business of science and cultural change," says D'Souza. "And the cultural change that will be the most profound will be a view that medicine is not just about making sick people less sick. Medicine is also an important tool to elevate human performance."

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279604/christian-angermayer-aron-dsouza/>

Zhenya Lindgardt

Preventing preterm births

Each year in the U.S., 400,000 babies are born prematurely, which can cause breathing challenges, infections, and developmental delays, and some premature babies don't survive. Now there's a blood test, PreTRM, that can alert doctors and expectant moms about who is likely to deliver early. For those women, low dose aspirin, progestin, and regular nurse calls can dramatically lower their probability of delivering early, and in turn reduce the chance of some of the health risks linked to premature birth.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279655/zhenya-lindgardt/>

Dennis Charney

Revolutionizing depression treatment

When Dr. Dennis Charney, now dean of the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, began researching the phenomenon of resilience, he could not have predicted the work would end up generating a breakthrough treatment for depression. Charney studied prisoners of war to better understand how the human mind copes with mental and physical trauma and found a common theme key to their survival: the prisoners described focusing on a mental task to distract themselves from their difficult reality. Some built a dream house in their head, while others mentally penned their future memoir. Still others practiced multiplying 12 numbers at a time.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279649/dennis-charney/>

Anthony Albanese

Protecting young minds

The toll on kids of relentless, dopamine-driven scrolling on social media is largely beyond dispute. In the decade following the proliferation of mobile internet services in 2010, youth depression, anxiety, and self-harm spiked across the developed world, including Australia, where mental health hospitalizations soared 81% for teen girls and 51% for boys. To protect his nation's most valuable resource, Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese in November decided to ban under-16s from platforms such as Snapchat, TikTok, Facebook, Instagram, and X. The world-first legislation comes into force in December 2025, and directly targets some of the world's most influential companies run by its richest and most powerful people. While it has fallen to Albanese—who was returned by a landslide in federal elections on May 3—to show bold leadership on this global issue, today governments from France to Singapore are mulling similar moves.

“These are developing minds, and young people need the space to be able to grow up,” Albanese told TIME in February.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279642/anthony-albanese/>

Victor Ambros and Gary Ruvkun

Decoding cell development When Victor Ambros and Gary Ruvkun first met in the lab of Robert Horvitz at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, none of them could have known that each would go on to earn a Nobel Prize. Horvitz's came first in 2002, for discovering the genes that instruct organs how to develop, and in 2024, Ambros and Ruvkun together earned the Prize for discovering microRNA—work that began in Horvitz's lab.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279650/victor-ambros-gary-ruvkun/>

Stephanie Chang

Modernizing lung transplants

As surgical director of the lung transplantation program at NYU Langone Health, Dr. Stephanie Chang made history when she performed the world's first fully robotic double lung transplant in October. Unlike in a traditional double lung transplant operation—during which a surgeon cuts a massive incision across the patient's chest and breaks the breastbone to gain access to the area—Chang and her team used a robotic surgery system to give a 57-year-old woman new lungs using a handful of incisions no larger than two inches each, drastically reducing her recovery time and the overall trauma on her body. Chang has repeated the feat at least three times since, and within the next decade, expects the technique to transform double lung transplantation, a surgery the NYU Langone Transplant Institute performs more than 70 times per year.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279580/stephanie-chang/>

Shelley Hwang

A radical idea for breast cancer

As a surgeon at the Duke Cancer Institute, Dr. Shelley Hwang is trained to perform the most delicate yet common procedure for treating breast cancer: removing tumors, and often much of the breast itself, to give women the best chance of avoiding recurrence and having the cancer spread to other parts of the body. But with better screening and detection of the disease, she became uncomfortable with the drastic approach for some of her patients. The earliest stage of breast cancer, known as ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS), often does not spread beyond the breast or cause serious disease. So about a decade ago, she proposed a radical idea: asking these women whether they would rather avoid surgery and instead monitor their cancer very closely with more regular mammograms. They could always turn to surgery if their disease worsened.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279630/shelley-hwang/>

Mark Hyman

Personalizing care

Your blood holds a lot of secrets. Some you find out too late. Dr. Mark Hyman co-founded Function Health, a personalized health testing platform, to protect against that outcome. “Health care is missing the boat on a lot of really important things,” says the preventive medicine guru, who founded the Cleveland Clinic

Center for Functional Medicine. “There are things you can manage yourself that will help you feel better and live longer.”

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279625/mark-hyman/>

Daniel Nadler

Spreading knowledge

Daniel Nadler launched OpenEvidence—a medical information platform that's like ChatGPT for doctors—because of a happy problem in medicine. In 1950, the rate of medical knowledge doubled every 50 years. Today, it doubles every five years.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279622/daniel-nadler/>

Anish Bhatnagar

Taming a relentless symptom

Prader-Willi syndrome—a rare and complex genetic condition—affects 1 in every 20,000 to 30,000 people. It causes a range of behavioral, developmental, and intellectual difficulties, but one of the most excruciating symptoms is hyperphagia, or feeling hungry all the time.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279623/anish-bhatnagar/>

Abasi Ene-Obong

Expanding genetics

Abasi Ene-Obong, founder and CEO of the global genomics company Syndicate Bio, thinks genetic testing in Africa is the most pressing issue in health care today. To understand why, consider that African populations have the most genetic diversity—Africa is where modern humans evolved and the starting place for the migration of our species around the entire globe. Researchers have plenty to learn from focusing on African genetics, but “the world is not structured that way,” Ene-Obong says.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279596/abasi-ene-obong/>

15. Leaders. TIME. Vol.205, No-17-18. 26th May 2025.

Emmanuelle Soubeyran

Tracking bird flu

Each year, pathogens passed between animals and humans cause more than one billion illnesses and millions of deaths globally. Last year, Emmanuelle Soubeyran took the helm at the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) as one such pathogen was making headlines the world over: H5N1, otherwise known as bird flu, which has so far sickened millions of birds, dozens of species of mammals, and dozens of people around the world, and threatened global food supplies. Under Soubeyran's leadership, WOAH has played a key role in monitoring the spread and evolution of the avian flu virus in the intergovernmental organization's 183 member states. In January, WOAH announced that U.S. poultry had been sickened by a specific type of avian influenza for the first time.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279581/emmanuelle-soubeyran/>

Placide Mbala
Demystifying mpox

Placide Mbala has been monitoring patients with the mpox virus in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo, for over 15 years. Now the head of epidemiology and global health at the National Institute of Biomedical Research, he suspected something important had changed when cases suddenly began surging across central Africa in 2024. Instead of seeing young children, who'd previously been most impacted by the disease, Mbala noticed an increase of infections among adults with localized lesions in the genital area. Through genomic analysis, Mbala discovered that the spike of new cases was not part of the clade IIb strain that was the origin of the 2022 epidemic, but a different sub-variant often transmitted sexually. This new strain was also more virulent.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279585/placide-mbala/>

Younis R. Awadallah
A heroic vaccination campaign

Younis R. Awadallah, a doctor who was once UNICEF's top public health specialist in Gaza, had worked through four previous Israeli military campaigns from 2008 to 2021 before retiring. But after the October 7, 2023 Hamas attack and Israel's subsequent assault, he returned to work in January 2024 to lead critical health operations. "This war is like no other," he says from Gaza, pausing mid-call as bombs fell nearby. "There's a shortage of supplies, movement, monitoring—everything."

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279579/younis-r-awadallah/>

Elisha Dunn-Georgiou
Defending global health

When the Trump Administration ordered USAID to cease critical foreign-aid payments, the nonprofit advocacy organization Global Health Council pushed back. Council president and executive director Elisha Dunn-Georgiou in March put her organization forward as a plaintiff in a case resulting in the Supreme Court letting a lower court order stand, and the U.S. was required to resume payments.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279597/elisha-dunn-georgiou/>

Richard Sever
Spreading science

When Richard Sever co-founded a medical research preprint site—where scientists can share early versions of their research with the public for free—called medRxiv in 2019, he couldn't have foreseen what was coming. By March 2020, the site was getting hundreds of new research paper submissions every week—first from China, then Italy, then the UK and US, mirroring the spread of COVID-19 cases around the world. Sever and his team were working 14-hour days, 7 days a week to screen each paper to verify the science, catch plagiarism, protect patient privacy, and eliminate misinformation.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279639/richard-sever/>

Rachel Sweet

Fighting for reproductive rights

In November, Missouri voters made history: for the first time since the U.S. Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade*, voters approved a citizen-initiated ballot measure that effectively repealed a state's near-total abortion ban. Rachel Sweet led the campaign.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279609/rachel-sweet/>

Allison Sesso

Relieving medical debt

Healthcare costs are the leading cause of bankruptcy in the United States, with a new survey revealing that 12% of Americans were forced to borrow money to cover medical expenses in 2024, despite having health insurance. Allison Sesso leads one of the largest efforts to relieve this burden as the president and CEO of Undue Medical Debt. "The majority of healthcare debt today is for insured folks," she says. "Deductibles, copayments and out-of-pocket costs are simply out of alignment with most families' means."

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279588/allison-sesso-2/>

Peter Anevski

Protecting IVF

More than 40% of American adults say they've used fertility treatments or know someone who has, according to the Pew Research Center. But only just over a quarter of American companies with more than 200 employees offer benefits for in vitro fertilization (IVF). This coverage became even trickier to navigate after the Supreme Court overturned the constitutional right to abortion in 2022, threatening access to other reproductive care like IVF.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279590/peter-anevski/>

Ladidi Kuluwa Bako-Aiyegbusi

Fortifying a staple food

When nearly half of the children under five who die in your country do so because of malnutrition, standard food programs just won't do. That's why Ladidi Kuluwa Bako-Aiyegbusi, director-head of the nutrition department of the Nigerian Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, turned to a combination of partners. Working with Nigeria's Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control as well as companies in the private sector, she oversees an innovative program that takes a common staple of many Nigerian kitchens—bouillon cubes—and fortifies them with micronutrients to nourish children even if they can't always get enough to eat. The cubes are boosted with everything from iron, vitamin B12, and folic acid to zinc. Even if families can't afford protein and fresh vegetables, they can afford the much less expensive bouillon, and Bako-Aiyegbusi hopes to see rates of malnutrition, stunting, and developmental disorders related to malnutrition start to decline.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279663/ladidi-kuluwa-bako-aiyegbusi/>

Francesco Rubino

Redefining obesity

With obesity medications like Wegovy and Zepbound dominating social media and conversations in doctors' offices, you might think that doctors at least have a good idea about what obesity is. But there really isn't a conclusive definition of the condition, with some clinicians maintaining it's a chronic disease, like high

blood pressure or diabetes, while others say it's not a disease itself, but a risk factor for other diseases. "There isn't a description in medical history, because historically, obesity has been recognized as a spectrum," says Dr. Francesco Rubino, chair of metabolic and bariatric surgery at King's College London.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279648/francesco-rubino/>

Evan Masingill
Reproductive Access

Evan Masingill had been working at GenBioPro, a leading manufacturer of the medications used for abortion, for about a decade before he took on the role of CEO in 2022— two weeks before the U.S. Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade*. Leading the pharmaceutical company at that time only further solidified "that I was doing exactly what I was supposed to do," Masingill says.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279607/evan-masingill/>

Paul Muller
Stopping suicides

In 2024, a stainless-steel net was added to the length of the Golden Gate Bridge to deter people from leaping to their death. Research has long shown that erecting barriers at suicide hot spots saves lives, and various groups have for decades argued that the bridge is too easy to jump from. "But none of them were able to really stick with it and really push hard," says Paul Muller, a retired marketing professional who co-founded Bridge Rail Foundation nearly 20 years ago.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279667/paul-muller/>

Julie Burkhart
Preserving care

In May 2022, about a month before Julie Burkhart and her team planned to open Wyoming's only full-service abortion clinic, an arsonist set fire to the building. But that didn't stop Burkhart, who has run abortion clinics in several states for years. She and other advocates challenged the state's near-total abortion ban and started rebuilding. In April 2023, Wellspring Health Access finally opened, and the next year, a judge sided with Wellspring, declaring Wyoming's ban unconstitutional.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279608/julie-burkhart-2/>

Adrian Dybwad
Tracking community air quality

It pays to know what you're breathing day to day. Everything from smokestacks to dust storms to, increasingly, wildfires foul the air and threaten health. Air quality sensors exist, but reliable ones can be about the size of a suitcase and might set you back \$2,000. That's why Adrian Dybwad founded PurpleAir, a company that sells home sensors no bigger than a coffee mug for roughly \$200.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279614/adrian-dybwad/>

Peter Lurie
Fighting for safer food

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) banned Red Dye #3 in January 2025—an act that was a long time coming for the federal government, the

American public, and Dr. Peter Lurie. Back in 1984, during a gap year from medical school, Lurie helped a public interest group called Public Citizen advocate against harmful synthetic chemicals in food, including Red Dye #3. Research has linked Red Dye #3 to cancer and ADHD-like symptoms in children.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279599/peter-lurie/>

Ronita Nath

Validating LGBTQ+ youth

As the vice president of research at the Trevor Project—a nonprofit that focuses on suicide prevention among queer youth—Ronita Nath collects and uncovers data that can be used to inform public policy. “It guides life-saving interventions that help shape supportive environments for LGBTQ+ young people in every community,” she says. “This work is particularly hard, especially in the current political climate we’re in, where trans and nonbinary youth are under constant attack.”

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279627/ronita-nath/>

Muhammad Ali Pate

Shaping Nigeria’s health systems

Growing up in Nigeria, Dr. Muhammad Ali Pate had a childhood friend paralyzed from the waist-down due to polio. The boy couldn’t go to school because of his condition, and one day, sitting in the road because he couldn’t stand, a car struck and killed him. Since learning of the life-and-death consequences of insufficient health care firsthand, Pate has traveled to more than 100 countries, examining how they deliver health services. “I’m a nomad at heart,” Pate says, but he returned home in 2023 to become Nigeria’s Minister for Health and Social Welfare.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279598/muhammad-ali-pate/>

Joanna Strober

Spotlighting menopause care

“It all started because I was trying to solve my perimenopause problems,” says Joanna Strober. “I was in my mid 40s and my life was spiraling because of hot flashes and night sweats, but I was also feeling depressed, anxious and angry all the time. And I was going through marriage therapy to talk about my not wanting to have sex.” She saw a number of doctors, but none mentioned perimenopause, and instead prescribed her everything from weight loss medications to SSRIs and sleeping pills. It wasn’t until she finally found a hormone specialist who prescribed hormone therapy that her symptoms began to resolve, and Strober knew she couldn’t be alone. So she founded and became CEO of Midi Health, now the largest virtual health platform for women in midlife.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279653/joanna-strober/>

16. Catalysts. TIME. Vol.205, No-17-18. 26th May 2025.

Damar Hamlin

A powerful voice for cardiac care

After Buffalo Bills safety Damar Hamlin suffered cardiac arrest during an NFL game in early 2023—his life hanging in the balance before millions of horrified television viewers, until emergency responders saved him—he resolved not only to play football again, but also to make a name in public health. Within months of his recovery, he traveled to Washington, D.C., to lobby on behalf of the Access to AEDs Act, which ensured government funds to supply elementary and

secondary schools with Automated External Defibrillators. He also fought for the Cardiomyopathy Health Education, Awareness, Research and Training in Schools (HEARTS) Act, which was signed into federal law in December, equipping all schools in the U.S. with cardiac-emergency response plans.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279606/damar-hamlin/>

Vinod Balachandran

Testing a cancer vaccine

Despite dramatic advances in cancer therapies over the last two decades, pancreatic cancer remains the third-leading cause of cancer death in the U.S. Even with the best available treatments, about 90% of diagnosed patients die from the disease. Immune therapies that have shown success against other cancers seemed to have little effect.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279583/vinod-balachandran/>

Catriona Bradshaw

Reframing a “women’s issue”

Most women have experienced, or at least heard of, bacterial vaginosis (BV). One in three women of reproductive age is affected by the condition, which was previously viewed as an imbalance in the vaginal microbiome. BV—which can increase a woman's risk of miscarriage in all trimesters of pregnancy, of preterm birth, and of acquiring and transmitting other STIs—is typically treated with antibiotics like metronidazole or clindamycin for affected female patients, and is notorious for having a high recurrence rate of 60% to 80%. Most men, though, are not familiar with the condition.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279638/catriona-bradshaw/>

Brooke Eby

Documenting ALS

Brooke Eby was just 33 when she was diagnosed in 2022 with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis—ALS, otherwise known as Lou Gehrig's disease. For a couple months, she hid in bed eating M&Ms. Then, even though she really didn't want to go, she emerged to attend a close friend's wedding with her trusted pals. But she and the bride's grandmother were using identical walkers. Eby remembers telling her friends, “We gotta go. I can't do this. This is way too embarrassing,” she says. “At that point, I would just burst into tears because I was not ready to talk about it.”

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279626/brooke-eby/>

Barbara Kingsolver

Turning fiction into addiction treatment

In the years leading up to the publication of her Pulitzer-Prize winning 2022 novel *Demon Copperhead*, Barbara Kingsolver spent time in Lee County, Va., the drug-ravaged southern Appalachian region where it's set (about an hour and a half from her home). She sat down with people in active addiction, as well as those in recovery, and listened to their stories. “I gained so much compassion, and I wanted to do something,” she says. “I thought, ‘Lee County gave me a story—I'm going to give something back that really makes a difference.’ I mean, how could I not?”

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279628/barbara-kingsolver/>

Bill Nye

Scientific evangelist

Bill Nye did not have much to do with politics during the 1990s, when he was making his celebrated *Bill Nye the Science Guy* TV series on PBS. But Nye has grown increasingly vocal in his objections to changes, budget cuts, and firings at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Institutes of Health, NASA, and elsewhere under the Trump Administration. Now he's using his millennial celebrity to speak out.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279616/bill-nye/>

Ara Darzi

Sparking reform

Honorary consultant surgeon at Imperial College Hospital NHS Trust, Ara Darzi, was commissioned by the British government to review the state of the National Health Service. What he found was damning: crumbling facilities, equipment shortages, chronically long waits for treatment and outdated technology.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279584/ara-darzi/>

Colin Farrell

A voice for special needs

Parenting a child with intellectual disability can come with untold challenges. When that child grows up, what little support that may exist often disappears.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279666/colin-farrell/>

Lorenzo Guglielmetti

Treating TB

Tuberculosis is an especially cruel disease—literally choking the life out of the people it strikes. That fact is particularly so for people who suffer from what's known as rifampin-resistant TB, a form of the disease that does not respond to the leading medicinal treatment. Enter Dr. Lorenzo Guglielmetti. As co-principal investigator for the public health group endTB, Guglielmetti was lead author of a 2025 paper in the *New England Journal of Medicine* that established three new oral drug regimens that can successfully treat the 410,000 people who develop the rifampin-resistant strain of TB each year, all while shortening treatment time and minimizing side effects. Guglielmetti and his colleagues did their work in collaboration with Harvard Medical School, Partners In Health, Médecins Sans Frontières, and Interactive Research and Development—and they consider it more important now than ever. “The extensive cuts to foreign aid by the U.S. government are estimated to lead to a 30% increase in TB cases and to emergence of further drug resistance,” says Guglielmetti. “This is dangerous for the world and for U.S. people.”

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279612/lorenzo-guglielmetti/>

Kate Middleton

Leading with her story

Royals are famously seen, not heard, but Kate Middleton, Princess of Wales, reversed that trend in March 2024 when at 42, she announced she had been diagnosed with cancer. In a frank video she spoke directly to the public, emphasizing that she and her family needed time to process the surprising

diagnosis as she began chemotherapy. Her disclosure came a month after her father-in-law, King Charles, also revealed he had cancer following a procedure to address an enlarged prostate. (Neither shared what type of cancer they were diagnosed with.)

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279661/kate-middleton/>

Suresh Ramalingam

A breakthrough against lung cancer

Last summer, Dr. Suresh Ramalingam, executive director of Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University, received a standing ovation at the annual meeting of the American Society of Clinical Oncology. What stirred the audience were the striking results he had just presented for a drug that could become the primary treatment for a type of advanced lung cancer.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279582/suresh-ramalingam/>

Seth Rogen and Lauren Miller Rogen

Supporting caretakers

Best known for making people laugh, Seth Rogen and his wife, Lauren Miller Rogen, released a more serious film in 2025: *Taking Care*, a short documentary, follows their experience navigating Lauren's late mother's struggle with early-onset Alzheimer's. The intimate footage gives rare insight into the emotional, physical, and financial toll that caretaking has on families. "We want to make these stories visible and human, and show that caregivers are everywhere, often quietly doing this incredibly important and difficult work," Miller Rogen says. The film also serves as a call to action, encouraging people to talk more openly and demand better systems that support caregivers and brain research.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279589/seth-rogen-lauren-miller-rogen/>

Stephen Graham and Jack Thorne

Sparkling a conversation

One of the most popular shows on Netflix in 2025 is *Adolescence*, a British drama about a 13-year-old boy named Jamie who is arrested because he's suspected of stabbing a female classmate to death after he felt she was cyberbullying him online.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279641/stephen-graham-jack-thorne/>

Scott LoMurray

Helping teens thrive

Suicide is the second-leading cause of death for teens and young adults in the U.S. A peer-led program called Sources of Strength aims to change that—and research suggests it's working. According to a study published in the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine* in January, the program's model reduces suicide attempts among high-school students by 29%.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279646/scott-lomurray/>

Ilona Maher

A show of strength

If you want to offend Ilona Maher, slinging the word “big” at her isn’t going to cut it. The wildly popular rugby player—who won bronze at the 2024 Paris Olympics—is 5’10” and 200 pounds (most of which is lean muscle mass). “We don’t think of the word ‘big’ as derogatory,” she says of her rugby team. “We need the big players. We need the powerful players. I have a big personality, I have a big body—it’s just who I am.”

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279629/ilona-maher/>

Mary McCormack

A change of pace

Novel drugs are desperately needed in the fight against cancer. But what if we could improve survival with older, less expensive drugs—just by changing how and when they’re given? This question inspired Dr. Mary McCormack to spend more than two decades studying adjustments to chemotherapy and radiation therapies for patients with advanced cervical cancer. The idea is that shortening and eliminating gaps in treatment can improve outcomes. Scientists last tried these experiments in the 1990s, but drug companies lacked the profit motive to pursue them. So McCormack, a clinical oncologist at the University College London, did her research on a tighter budget, focusing on already available chemo drugs and compressing the chemo treatment into just six weeks—leaving cancer no time to grow back between rounds—followed immediately by chemoradiotherapy. Her small study in 2008 suggested a better survival rate compared to previous patients who’d received the standard treatment. A larger trial with 500 patients to validate the results took 10 more years. Many questioned if McCormack, hampered by a lack of resources for outreach, coordinators, and patient support outside the U.K., would ever recruit enough patients. “Please, please don’t pull the plug on this,” she remembers urging Cancer Research UK, a group funding her work in 2018. McCormack herself wondered if she could complete the study and felt like quitting but “had to see this through to the end for the patients,” she says.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279591/mary-mccormack/>

Hyman Scott

Preventing STIs

Sexually transmitted infection (STI) diagnoses have been rising steadily across the U.S. But over the last decade, there’s barely been any innovation to improve prevention or treatment. “There’s been a desperate need for something—or many things—to change the trajectory,” says Dr. Hyman Scott, a medical director at the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279619/hyman-scott/>

Dwyane Wade

Pushing preventative care

Dwyane Wade won a trio of NBA championships, and an Olympic gold medal, during his Hall of Fame basketball career. Now Wade, 43, is inspiring hoops fans—and the public at large—to pay closer attention to their health. During a check-up a few years back, he told his primary care doctor that although he felt healthy overall, he was experiencing some stomach pain and noticed changes in his urination. Further imaging revealed a mass on his kidney: Wade underwent surgery in December 2023, and doctors discovered the lesion was, in fact, Stage

1 cancer. Recovery from the procedure was painful. But the immediate scare is now over. Most kidney cancer diagnoses, according to the Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa, Fla., result from screenings from other health issues. So Wade has begun preaching a simple but life-saving message: Book a doctor's visit, even if you're doing just fine. And if you feel something, say something.

<https://time.com/collections/time100-health-2025/7279605/dwyane-wade/>

BUSINESS

17. Nvidia's original customers are feeling unloved and grumpy. Economist. 17th May 2025.

MOST COMPANIES like to shout about their new products. Not Nvidia, it seems. On May 19th the chip-design firm will release the GeForce RTX 5060, its newest mass-market graphics card for video gamers. PR departments at companies like AMD and Nvidia usually roll the pitch for such products by providing influential YouTubers and websites with samples to test ahead of time. That allows them to publish their reviews on launch day.

<https://www.economist.com/business/2025/05/15/nvidias-original-customers-are-feeling-unloved-and-grumpy>

18. The myths of corporate innovation. Economist. 17th May 2025.

If innovation has an iconography, it involves a genius, a breakthrough and a dash of serendipity. Alexander Fleming notices mould growing on a plate of bacteria and discovers penicillin. John Snow produces a map of the victims of a cholera outbreak in 19th-century London and traces the outbreak to a single water pump. A German chemist called August Kekulé falls asleep, dreams about snakes eating their tails and realises upon waking that the benzene molecule has the shape of a ring.

<https://www.economist.com/business/2025/05/12/the-myths-of-corporate-innovation>

19. Will OpenAI ever make real money?. Economist. 17th May 2025.

BEING SAM ALTMAN is a glamorous gig. Since the launch of ChatGPT in November 2022 the boss of its creator, OpenAI, has turned into a global business superstar. He is the darling of both the starch-collared Davos set and Silicon Valley's dishevelled techno-Utopians. He hangs out with everyone from Katy Perry to Donald Trump, whom he accompanied on a visit to Saudi Arabia this week. It would shock no one if by its next funding round his startup, currently worth \$300bn, overtook SpaceX and ByteDance to become the world's most valuable unlisted firm. The AI wunderkind recently told the Financial Times that he has the "coolest, most important job maybe in history". No kidding.

<https://www.economist.com/business/2025/05/15/will-openai-ever-make-real-money>

20. How the Chinese Communist Party learnt to love villages. Economist. 17th May 2025.

From a distance Xiaotao looks like any other village. But stroll down its main path and a café comes into view, with baristas manning an espresso machine. Next door is a tiny bakery with a wood-fired oven. Nearby, a farm-house pottery studio and an artist's gallery. In a country where rural areas remain poor, Xiaotao stands out. It is part of a state project to revitalise China's countryside with businesses, industry and youngsters. A university campus has been built close

by. There are new eateries and hotels. “The hope is that young people can find something to do and end up staying,” says a local art professor.

<https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics/2025/05/15/how-the-chinese-communist-party-learnt-to-love-villages>

ECONOMICS

21. Stop-gap deals do not mean Donald Trump's trade war is over. Economist. 17th May 2025.

FOR WEEKS what was in effect an embargo between America and China had the world economy teetering on the brink. Now a headlong plunge has been postponed. On May 11th the two countries agreed to slash tariffs on each other for 90 days while they talked further. Investors are rejoicing. Those who see Donald Trump's tariffs as mere preludes to deals are jubilant; the president's more level-headed advisers appear to have muscled out the cranks.

<https://www.economist.com/leaders/2025/05/14/stop-gap-deals-do-not-mean-donald-trumps-trade-war-is-over>

22. Lifting sanctions will catalyse Syria's recovery, says its central-bank governor. Economist. 17th May 2025.

AS WELL AS the enormous human suffering, Syria's conflict has exacted an extremely heavy economic toll—wrecking infrastructure, hollowing out institutions and isolating the country from global capital markets. Yet amid devastation, a new opportunity is emerging: to rebuild the economy on sounder foundations, freed from the shackles of crippling international sanctions. That begins with monetary and financial stabilisation.

<https://www.economist.com/by-invitation/2025/05/14/lifting-sanctions-will-catalyse-syrias-recovery-says-its-central-bank-governor>

23. The crypto industry is suddenly at the heart of American politics. Economist. 17th May 2025.

IN LATE APRIL Fr8Tech, a logistics firm based in Texas with a market capitalisation of about \$3m, initiated an unusual investment. It said it was borrowing as much as \$20m to buy \$TRUMP coins, a cryptocurrency Donald Trump had launched three days before beginning his second term as president. (“Join my very special Trump Community. GET YOUR \$TRUMP NOW,” he urged on social media.) The company managing \$TRUMP had just announced that the biggest investors in the meme coin would be invited to dine with the president in late May. Javier Selgas, Fr8Tech's CEO, said buying the coin would be “an effective way to advocate” for the sort of trade policies Fr8Tech wants.

<https://www.economist.com/briefing/2025/05/15/the-crypto-industry-is-suddenly-at-the-heart-of-american-politics>

24. Prabowo Subianto's economic policy is weakening Indonesia. Economist. 17th May 2025.

How would Prabowo Subianto grade his first six months in office? Indonesia's president recently said he would give himself six marks out of ten. His administration has certainly been busy. It has launched an expensive school-lunch programme and created a sovereign wealth fund. It has given teachers a pay rise, enacted economic stimulus and junked a plan to increase value-added tax.

<https://www.economist.com/asia/2025/05/15/prabowo-subiantos-economic-policy-is-weakening-indonesia>

25. China is celebrating victory against American trade warriors. Economist. 17th May 2025.

“China was being hurt very badly.” According to Donald Trump, the 90-day trade truce between America and China is a win for his administration and its tactics of kamikaze trade escalation. A common view inside China is the exact opposite: America, faced with tanking markets and upset consumers, blinked. The truce is seen as a national triumph that has secured concessions, confirmed America’s low pain tolerance, raised gdp forecasts and made China a hero in the global south.

<https://www.economist.com/china/2025/05/13/china-is-celebrating-victory-against-american-trade-warriors>

26. Republicans have a plan to add trillions to the national debt. Economist. 17th May 2025.

MUCH AS he may wish to, Donald Trump cannot govern through imperial decree alone. Congress is drafting legislation to remake the tax system and alter federal spending—something only it can do. On May 12th Republicans unveiled their new plan. Unfortunately, it is a mess. Congressional Republicans need to act for a few reasons. First, many of the tax cuts passed in 2017 under the first Trump administration are due to expire this year. Second, the president made a series of generous campaign pledges that he wishes to see enacted quickly. Third, the spending cuts that Mr Trump has unilaterally made across the federal government are of questionable legality and would be much more defensible if endorsed by Congress. To avoid the filibuster in the Senate, Republicans are seeking to accomplish all three goals in an omnibus bill passed using a procedure called reconciliation (which imposes strict limits on its contents). They would like to get it to the president’s desk by July 4th. The hard deadline is August, when America must raise its debt ceiling or risk a partial default.

<https://www.economist.com/united-states/2025/05/13/republicans-have-a-plan-to-add-trillions-to-the-national-debt>

27. The Medicaid calculus behind Donald Trump’s tax cuts. Economist. 17th May 2025.

HOW REPUBLICANS will find enough budget savings to pay for tax cuts is the political maths question of 2025. One of the most important calculations involves Medicaid, a government health programme for poor and disabled Americans. The problem is that Donald Trump has promised not to touch it, and on May 12th, he also vowed to lower prescription-drug prices. His populism on health benefits complicates the work of congressional Republicans. A proposal from a committee that oversees Medicaid steers clear of the deepest cuts that had been debated in Washington, but it nonetheless seeks large savings by imposing work requirements on Medicaid recipients who are unemployed.

<https://www.economist.com/united-states/2025/05/12/the-medicaid-calculus-behind-donald-trumps-tax-cuts>

28. Why some tycoons are speeding up their charity. Economist. 17th May 2025.

Earlier this month Bill Gates announced that the Gates Foundation will close its doors in 2045, earlier than expected. Since it was established at the turn of the millennium the foundation has become the world’s largest, spending \$100bn to fight disease and poverty. The plan is to dish out another \$200bn in the next 20

years. That is virtually all of Mr Gates's fortune. It is the latest example of a trend towards speedy giving.

<https://www.economist.com/united-states/2025/05/15/why-some-tycoons-are-speeding-up-their-charity>

29. The chimera of private finance for development. Economist. 17th May 2025.
Ten years ago world leaders agreed on 17 sustainable development goals (sdgs), from ending hunger to ensuring decent work for all. An ensuing conference in Ethiopia's capital, Addis Ababa, had the harder task of working out how to pay for them. The World Bank and other multilateral lenders talked of turning "billions to trillions". One idea was that small dollops of public money could spur much larger flows of private capital. The pensions and insurance premiums of the rich would build roads and power plants for the poor.

<https://www.economist.com/middle-east-and-africa/2025/05/15/the-chimera-of-private-finance-for-development>

30. Cheap petrol offers a small respite for squeezed households. Economist. 17th May 2025.
Given the state of the country, no sane minister would boast like Harold Macmillan, a post-war prime minister, that "most of our people have never had it so good." But for motorists, life is cheaper than it has been for years. A litre of unleaded petrol now costs £1.32 (\$1.75), on average, according to government data released on May 13th. That is the lowest price at the forecourt since July 2021 and a plunge from the peak of £1.92 in July 2022, after Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine. Adjusted for inflation, filling up is now cheaper than at any point since 2003.

<https://www.economist.com/britain/2025/05/15/cheap-petrol-offers-a-small-respite-for-squeezed-households>

31. How Walmart became a tech giant—and took over the world. Economist. 17th May 2025.
Doug McMillon began his career at Walmart as a teen in the 1980s loading trucks in an Arkansas warehouse. Back then Walmart warehouses were small, noisy, chaotic places. Staff hauled crates off trailers and sorted items by hand. How things have changed. The newest Walmart warehouses are vast hangars filled with conveyor belts, computer screens and robotic arms that silently pick and pack products. Artificial-intelligence (AI) tools ensure pallets are loaded onto trucks in such a way that they can be unloaded in stores with ease: fragile items at the top, urgent products at the front and things that go in the same aisle together. A few people lend the machinery a hand. If it sounds familiar—a lot like one Seattle-based tech giant—it should.

<https://www.economist.com/business/2025/05/15/how-walmart-became-a-tech-giant-and-took-over-the-world>

32. Donald Trump is throttling America's oil industry. Economist. 17th May 2025.
"IF I'M NOT president, you're fucked." So Donald Trump reportedly told a roomful of oil bosses gathered at Mar-a-Lago after his re-election. During the campaign Mr Trump positioned himself as the oil industry's only hope against the supposedly hydrocarbon-hating Democrats—brushing aside the fact that domestic oil production rose sharply during Joe Biden's time in office. Mr Trump has since set about rolling back environmental rules and expedited permitting in an effort to get America's oilmen to "drill, baby, drill".

<https://www.economist.com/business/2025/05/11/donald-trump-is-throttling-americas-oil-industry>

33. Big pharma's jumbo profits are under threat in America. Economist. 17th May 2025.

For America's politicians there are few easier bogeymen to rail against than pharma bosses. Only a fifth of the country has a positive opinion of the industry, according to Gallup, a pollster—meaning its executives rank below even estate agents in the public's esteem. The lofty prices of many drugs in America have created the impression of a greedy industry that exploits the sick.

<https://www.economist.com/business/2025/05/13/big-pharmas-jumbo-profits-are-under-threat-in-america>

34. Why the MAGA economy is thriving. Economist. 17th May 2025.

Imagine the perfect morning. After sleeping between sheets from MyPillow—a company established by Mike Lindell, a conspiracy theorist—you drink some Black Rifle Coffee, which “serves coffee and culture to people who love America”. You shave with Jeremy's Razors (“built for rugged jawlines....not feelings”). Then you eat some bacon from Good Ranchers, which pledges to “make the American farm strong again”, before going for a spin on your Harley-Davidson.

<https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics/2025/05/13/why-the-maga-economy-is-thriving>

35. Is the market up or down? Republicans and Democrats disagree. Economist. 17th May 2025.

Although experts say that hypnosis can make broccoli taste like chocolate, it is unlikely to make someone jump out of a window. There is, however, something able to induce self-harm: partisanship. Investors have every incentive to make smart decisions regardless of their party affiliation. Yet a recent YouGov poll—conducted on behalf of The Economist from May 2nd to 5th, when the stockmarket was down by an average of 8% since its peak on February 19th—indicates they nevertheless struggle. The polling suggests that partisanship coloured trading decisions and perceptions of the market in the wake of President Donald Trump's recent tariffs.

<https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics/2025/05/15/is-the-market-up-or-down-republicans-and-democrats-disagree>

36. America has given China a strangely good tariff deal. Economist. 17th May 2025.

After a busy weekend of trade negotiations in Geneva, an impatient reporter asked when the results would be revealed. Li Chenggang, a Chinese official, replied with a wry smile and an old saying: “Good food is never too late.” The dish, when it at last arrived on Monday May 12th, was surprisingly tasty. America had agreed to cut the “reciprocal” tariff it inflicted on China last month from 125% to a more digestible 10% for at least 90 days. China has agreed to do the same. It will also suspend other retaliatory measures, such as restrictions on 17 American companies deemed “unreliable entities”.

<https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics/2025/05/12/america-has-given-china-a-strangely-good-tariff-deal>

37. China has got lucky with Trump. Can the rest of the world?. Economist. 17th May 2025.

As Scott Bessent, America's treasury secretary, negotiated with China in Switzerland late into the evening on May 11th, trade negotiators from the rest of

the world found themselves at a loose end. Many had arrived in Washington for talks, desperately seeking trade deals, only to find America's negotiators abroad and their meetings delayed or cancelled. One official, who expected to present painstakingly crafted positions on bovine-vaccination rules and currency manipulation, took the chance to visit the newly refurbished Air and Space Museum. He then left "about as empty-handed as before".

<https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics/2025/05/15/china-has-got-lucky-with-trump-can-the-rest-of-the-world>

38. Poland: the ignored stockmarket superstar. Economist. 17th May 2025.

Europe's bourses have not shone so brightly in years. Speak to those who analyse them for a living and you will still detect a note of disbelief—they can hardly remember the last time foreign investors were paying them as much attention. Why that should be is no mystery. Measured in dollars, Europe's Stoxx 600 index has risen by 16% in 2025, compared with 3% for the MSCI World.

<https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics/2025/05/14/poland-the-ignored-stockmarket-superstar>

39. Economists are as confused as Trump about taxing the rich. Economist. 17th May 2025.

IF YOU want to put a policymaker on the spot, ask them what the top rate of income tax should be. The question befuddles everyone. On May 8th President Donald Trump broke with decades of Republican convention when he reportedly urged Mike Johnson, the speaker of the House of Representatives, to increase America's highest federal levy on incomes from 37% to 39.6%, where it stood before the president's own reforms in 2017. Mr Trump then took to social media to announce that although he would "graciously accept" such a change "in order to help the lower and middle income workers", Republicans in Congress "should probably not do it". He is nevertheless "OK if they do".

<https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics/2025/05/15/economists-are-as-confused-as-trump-about-taxing-the-rich>

40. 'Fragility' and an Upward-sloping Phillips Curve. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol. 60, No-20. 17th May 2025.

The intellectual capital of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) as fructifying in working papers seems disconnected from the role of the IMF in the world. True, that institution has softened its hard line on laissez-faire after the debilitating consequences of free capital movements, but from adding its considerable weight to pushing out the money multiplier as a concept that explains the monetary process to student-friendly elaborations of the actual monetary process that originates in central bank reserves policy, IMF scholars have inadvertently blurred the distinction between orthodox and heterodox in money matters. In the case under consideration, three economists seek to overturn the Phillips curve for developing economies at least. The timing is providential. Hard critics are convinced that the curve is gone. Softer sceptics observe that it is visible but misshapen and slippery. The shape being entertained here is clear.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2025/20/h-t-parekh-finance-column/fragility-and-upward-sloping-phillips-curve.html>

41. A Green Taxonomy Can Boost Financing to Meet India's Sustainability Goals. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol. 60, No-20. 17th May 2025.

Following the budget 2024–25 release, India's finance minister, Nirmala Sitharaman, proposed the establishment of a green taxonomy to promote climate finance to enhance investments (Shastri et al 2024). To achieve its nationally determined contributions (NDCs), India requires an investment of \$160 billion per year in its energy sector, between 2022 and 2030 (IEA 2022; GoI 2024), which is almost \$1.5 trillion. However, the International Energy Agency (IEA 2024) estimated the sector's investment spending at around \$68 billion in 2023, implying an investment gap of \$92 billion.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2025/20/commentary/green-taxonomy-can-boost-financing-meet-indias.html>

42. The Infrastructure of Digital Capitalism. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol. 60, No-20. 17th May 2025.

In a major blow to Google, the United States (US) Department of Justice (DOJ) has demanded that the tech giant break apart key parts of its online advertising empire. A federal judge recently found that Google held an illegal monopoly on two ad tech markets, prompting the DOJ to propose a sweeping remedy: the forced divestiture of Google's ad exchange (AdX) and DoubleClick for Publishers (DFP) ad server. The trial is set for September. The DOJ has argued that behavioural fixes will not suffice. Google's dominance stems from vertical integration—controlling both the buying and selling of online ads while running the auction in between. This structure gives it unmatched visibility and power over the digital advertising ecosystem, leaving smaller players at a severe disadvantage. Google's response has been swift. Its vice president of regulatory affairs, Lee-Anne Mulholland, dismissed the DOJ's proposals as "extreme," warning they would hurt both publishers and advertisers. But this is not Google's first regulatory stand-off. In 2023, it floated the idea of selling AdX to quell an investigation by the European Union, only to be rebuffed by publishers who saw the offer as too little, too late.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2025/20/letters/infrastructure-digital-capitalism.html>

EDUCATION

43. What has Culture to do with Mathematics?. India Forum. 20th May 2025.

We live in a world that is perceived to be governed as well as shaped by mathematics. It is often said that mathematics is the language of nature or that the laws of nature are coded in mathematics. That we are able to use our understanding of nature to control it only gives credence to the belief that "the book of nature is written in the language of mathematics," a quote attributed to Galileo Galilei.

<https://www.theindiaforum.in/education/what-has-culture-do-mathematics>

44. The Faculty Salary Squeeze. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol.71, No-19. 23rd May 2025.

Living expenses have ballooned in the 14 years since Robert Gallagher, a professor of sociology, psychology, and human services, started working at Broward College. His monthly car insurance bill has doubled from about \$125 to \$250. His annual homeowners insurance has grown from about \$2,500 to \$4,500. For Gallagher, that means his primary paycheck has only grown from \$56,000 to \$67,000. When adjusted for inflation, it has effectively declined by 15 percent. "Homeowners insurance, car insurance, cost of living — everything

goes up and up and up and up,” said Gallagher, 51. “The only thing that doesn’t go up is our pay.”

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/the-number-that-wont-budge>

45. The Edge. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol.71, No-19. 23rd May 2025.

I’m Scott Carlson, a senior writer at The Chronicle covering higher ed and where it’s going. This week, I look at the complicated relationship that the Johns Hopkins University has with Baltimore, and what the university means to the future of that city and to American research. In many ways, Baltimore is a city of contrasts: Black and white, wealthy and poor, highly educated and underserved. An early proving ground for redlining and segregation, Baltimore has carved its socioeconomic contrasts into the design of the city. You can still see those lines if you travel through the estates of Guilford, with its private-security cars and manicured tulip gardens, and then cross York Road into the largely Black and poor neighborhood of Pen Lucy, where Tupac Shakur lived as a teenager. (It’s easiest to walk between those two neighborhoods, because walls and one-way roads block your entrance to Guilford by car.)

<https://www.chronicle.com/newsletter/the-edge/2025-04-30>

46. ‘Nothing Will Be the Same’. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol.71, No-19. 23rd May 2025.

One morning in January, Marcus Ziemer sat in his office at Sonoma State University, working on travel plans for the men’s soccer team’s upcoming fall season. Ziemer, the team’s head coach, was absorbed in his paperwork, so he missed an email when it flashed across his screen.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/nothing-will-be-the-same>

47. A New Normal Looms in College Athletics. Can Trump Help Shape It?. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol.71, No-19. 23rd May 2025.

College-athletics programs are poised to enter a new reality. They have been for some time. A major settlement that would upend colleges’ relationship to their players — and commit millions of dollars to those athletes, their successors, and their predecessors — sits unsigned on a judge’s desk. Players who have already been cut by their teams as a consequence of that settlement are waiting to find out if they’ll be welcomed back. And federal lawmakers are working on legislation that could introduce yet more changes, though its passage is far from certain.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/a-new-normal-looms-in-college-athletics-can-trump-help-shape-it>

48. 3 Big Questions at the Heart of Harvard’s Legal Battle With Trump. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol.71, No-19. 23rd May 2025.

Harvard University, targeted by the Trump administration, is fighting back in court. The nation’s oldest college has filed a federal lawsuit to preserve billions of dollars in contracts and grants that were frozen over allegations it responded insufficiently to antisemitism on its campus.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/3-big-questions-at-the-heart-of-harvards-legal-battle-with-trump>

49. Tributes to Krishnaswamy Kasturirangan: Architect of Indian Education and Space Exploration for Viksit Bharat@2047-Part-II#. University News. Vol.63, No-20, 19th-25th May 2025.

Teachers have always been regarded as the backbone of an educational system. In the vision of Dr. K Kasturirangan, the National Education Policy(NEP) 2020 architect, teachers occupy a central , transformative role. NEP 2020 redefines the role, training, empowerment, and status of teachers in India, in direct alignment with Kasturirangan's belief that the success of any education reform is intrinsically tied to the quality, dignity, and empowerment of its teachers (Ministry of Education,2020).

[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/391809538 Tributes to Krishnaswamy Kasturirangan Architect of Indian Education and Space Exploration for Viksit Bharat 2047-Part-I](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/391809538_Tributes_to_Krishnaswamy_Kasturirangan_Architect_of_Indian_Education_and_Space_Exploration_for_Viksit_Bharat_2047-Part-I)

50. Facing New Protests and Political Pressure, Colleges Are Taking a Harder Line. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol.71, No-19. 23rd May 2025.

Pro-Palestinian protests at three colleges in the past several days led to more than 100 arrests for trespassing or destruction of property. Several students were also suspended for violating their college's policies and protest restrictions. The mass arrests at Columbia University, Swarthmore College, and the University of Washington may signal a shift in how college leaders are responding to protests, experts say. Since last spring's widespread protests over the war in Gaza, college leaders have drawn fierce criticism for being too slow to dismantle disruptive encampments or call in police to arrest those violating the law. Now, they're eager to show federal authorities that they're serious about stopping antisemitism and unruly protests.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/facing-new-protests-and-political-pressure-colleges-are-taking-a-harder-line>

51. Indiana Required Colleges to Accept Complaints Against Instructors. Here's How Many They Got. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol.71, No-19. 23rd May 2025.

Last year, Indiana enacted a law requiring public colleges to set up a complaints system that students could use to report professors who fail to "foster a culture of free inquiry, free expression, and intellectual diversity," among other things. The legislation touched off fears about whether it would, paradoxically, hinder academic freedom and freedom of speech.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/indiana-required-colleges-to-accept-complaints-against-instructors-heres-how-many-they-got>

52. Left and Right Agree: Higher Ed Needs to Change. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol.71, No-19. 23rd May 2025.

Earlier this year, I was asked to testify before the Ohio Senate about an article I had written in these pages last November. In it, I described how universities' identification with partisan politics, in part due to actions and statements by swollen administrations, had put their public support at risk. After summarizing my article, and expressing support for the elements of the Ohio bill that would commit public universities to institutional neutrality and promote a greater diversity of perspectives, I concluded, "Restoring public confidence in higher education should be a bipartisan aim. No one — no matter what one's politics — benefits from the status quo."

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/left-and-right-agree-higher-ed-needs-to-change>

53. The Pendulum Has Swung Away From Social Justice. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol.71, No-19. 23rd May 2025.

Back in the mid-1960s to the 1970s, institutions of higher education were dragged — sometimes willingly, more often not — into the unfinished project of removing the structural barriers keeping Black and other minority students off their campuses and out of their classrooms. It was a time of student protests, rhythmic chants, impassioned denouncements of administrators, and the sound of feet marching toward a transformed future they were determined to bring into being.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/the-pendulum-has-swung-away-from-social-justice>

54. Cyber Security and Data Privacy in Higher Education Institutions. University News. Vol.63, No-20, 19th-25th May 2025.

Cybersecurity and data privacy have become critical concerns of higher education institutions (HEIs) in an era of rapid digital transformation, Universities manage vast amounts of sensitive data, including students records, faculty information, and research assets, making them prime targets for cyberattacks. This article explores the growing cyber threats faced by HEIs, including phishing ransomware, and insider threats, while highlighting unique institutional vulnerabilities such as open-access policies, Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) risks and resources constraints.

55. What Is Academe's Problem With Pregnancy?. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol.71, No-19. 23rd May 2025.

I recently woke up to an email in my inbox that caught my attention. On the electronic mailing list for English department at the City University of New York Graduate Center, my mentor, Tanya Pollard, shared an “alarming and demoralizing” Guardian article that reported the Graduate Center had “rolled back protections” for pregnant students, as per the administration’s executive orders around Title IX. “A bad sign,” Pollard wrote.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/whats-academes-problem-with-pregnancy>

56. Artificial intelligence in higher education with bibliometric and content analysis for future research agenda. Spring Nature. Vol.6, No-401, 14th May 2025.

This study investigates the integration of artificial intelligence in higher education, aiming to identify trends, key contributors, highly cited papers, collaboration, and thematic areas in research published between (2016–2025) for future research direction. A bibliometric and content analysis was employed, combining quantitative descriptive methods and network analysis with qualitative content analysis of the most-cited articles. Data was extracted from Scopus, yielding 276 refined documents after excluding duplicates, editorials, and notes. Analytical techniques included co-word analysis, citation analysis, co-authorship analysis, and bibliographic coupling, supported by VOSviewer for visualization. Key findings include Symbiosis International Deemed University and Bucharest University of Economic Studies as leading affiliations, with China, India, and the UK as top contributing countries.

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s43621-025-01086-z>

57. 6 ‘Superpowers’ Every Leader Needs. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol.71, No-19. 23rd May 2025.

Leading in higher education used to require less courage — it was mostly about upholding a college’s core missions of education and research. Today a

leadership post in academe is equally likely to be about coping with divisive politics, financial instability, and geopolitical crises. In fact, many of the crises that consume leaders' time and energy have little to do with their organization's purpose. Consider the hundreds — perhaps thousands — of hours devoted to developing return-to-work strategies in the pandemic, deciding whether to make public statements on Gaza or climate change, and resolving political and social tensions on the campus.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/6-superpowers-every-leader-needs>

58. How Faculty Pay and Tenure Can Change Depending on Academic Discipline. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol.71, No-19. 23rd May 2025.

It's no secret that faculty members are effectively earning less than they did 20 years ago, and fewer of them are on the tenure track. But a new analysis from the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources sheds light on how these dynamics play out by discipline. The report charts pay, growth, and hiring trends across 29 academic disciplines over a 20-year span. The Chronicle focused on 10 of the largest disciplines for this analysis.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/how-faculty-pay-and-tenure-can-change-depending-on-academic-discipline>

59. Use of Drone Technology for Farming: Avenues for Aspiring Students. University News. Vol.63, No-20, 19th-25th May2025.

Climate change majorly influences agriculture and food security. India is aimed to address the climate change-free from carbon emission, reduce fossil fuels and carbon footprint through net-zero targets. This could be achieved with the digital systems linked with emerging digital technologies, The digital transformation technologies have paved the way and become the game changer in many potential applications.

60. 'Every Revenue Source Is at Risk': Under Trump, Research Universities Are Cutting Back. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol.71, No-19. 23rd May 2025.

The University of Oregon, the University of Washington, and Michigan State University are among the latest institutions to announce belt-tightening measures amid uncertainty about the potential scope of the federal government's efforts targeting some of higher education's major revenue sources. Those efforts include a proposal to increase the endowment tax, caps on indirect costs for research grants, and the cancellation of grants related to diversity, equity, and inclusion, although some of these measures have been challenged in the courts. For some colleges, these attacks have been coupled with cuts in state funding and enrollment challenges.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/every-revenue-source-is-at-risk-under-trump-research-universities-are-cutting-back>

61. Republicans' Plan to Tax Higher Ed and Slash Funding Advances in Congress. Chronicle of Higher Education. Vol.71, No-19. 23rd May 2025.

Republicans in Congress — and the White House — are hoping to pay for big tax cuts in part by imposing levies on wealthy colleges and slashing funding for a wide swath of higher education. Lawmakers took a key step toward doing so on Thursday morning, passing a major budget bill through the House of Representatives. The bill, widely seen as the primary legislative vehicle for enacting President Trump's agenda this year, takes yet another shot at so-called elite higher ed — namely, Ivy League institutions and other private colleges with large endowments. Many institutions in that group are already reeling from

Trump's directives to freeze and even terminate billions of dollars in research grants.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/republicans-plan-to-tax-higher-ed-and-slash-funding-advances-in-congress>

EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

62. How to handle the AI manager. Advice from our new podcast. Economist. 17th May 2025.

Artificial intelligence ought to improve a manager's lot. Administrative tasks and grunt work take up almost a full working day of a middle manager's week, according to a survey by McKinsey. Anything that cuts down on the drudgery of fielding holiday requests and writing up meeting minutes is welcome. Tools that make it easier to match employees to internal job opportunities, or help plug skills gaps, ought to help firms and workers.

<https://www.economist.com/leaders/2025/05/13/how-to-handle-the-ai-manager-advice-from-our-new-podcast>

63. How to build tram lines quickly and cheaply. Economist. 17th May 2025.

"It took us four weeks to build what you are about to see," says Jim O'Boyle, a Coventry city councillor. The sight is not exactly spectacular. Behind a fence in the city centre, a small team of workers have constructed a short tram line. The tracks begin abruptly outside an estate agent, run gently downhill, turn a corner, then stop after a mere 220 metres. But the humdrum nature of the project is the exciting thing about it.

<https://www.economist.com/britain/2025/05/15/how-to-build-tram-lines-quickly-and-cheaply>

ENVIRONMENT

64. Beyond Lifestyle for Sustainable Development. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol. 60, No-20. 17th May 2025.

Addressing the intensifying environmental crisis requires a fundamental shift in societal functioning and the adoption of a lifestyle that prioritises sustainable development. Recognising this, India introduced the Lifestyle for Environment initiative at COP26. Under India's G20 presidency, the LiFE initiative gained momentum and expanded to "Lifestyle for Sustainable Development." The paper introduces a model extending beyond this concept, termed "Lifestyle for Holistic Sustainable Development," supported by a case study of Dayalbagh, Agra—a community that served as the inspiration for this model.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2025/20/special-articles/beyond-lifestyle-sustainable-development.html>

HEALTH

65. For the first time, a CRISPR drug treats a child's unique mutation. Economist. 17th May 2025.

WITHIN DAYS after KJ was born in Philadelphia in August 2024 it was clear that something was wrong. He was not eating and slept too much. Blood tests revealed sky-high levels of ammonia, a toxic substance the body usually expels. Genome sequencing confirmed that he had a rare genetic disease called carbamoyl-phosphate synthetase 1 (CPS1) deficiency, which often kills in infancy, and for which no good neonatal treatment exists. Then one of his doctors suggested something radical: a gene-editing drug designed specifically for him.

<https://www.economist.com/science-and-technology/2025/05/15/for-the-first-time-a-crispr-drug-treats-a-childs-unique-mutation>

66. Are juice shots worth the price?. Economist. 17th May 2025.

ADVERTS FOR ginger shots line the walls of London's underground network. Companies like MOJU and Suja juice, an American brand, tout the immunity-boosting properties of the daily dose. Plenish advertises similar such products as "Turmeric Recovery" and "Berry Gut Health", which it says are nutrient-packed, providing "100% of the recommended daily intake" of various vitamins. Are these trendy tonics a shortcut to good health?

<https://www.economist.com/science-and-technology/2025/05/09/are-juice-shots-worth-the-price>

67. The Pandemic Effect. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol. 60, No-20. 17th May 2025.

The Sample Registration System based Abridged Life Tables 2017–21, brought out by the Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India, has brought out rather unusual numbers. It shows that the life expectancy of the population reduced by 0.2 years to 69.8 years in 2017–21. Such a fall is happening for the first time since the five-year moving average series was introduced 32 years ago. While the fall in life expectancy levels was largely anticipated, given the surge in mortality rates during the pandemic, the extent of the fall across various social groups and different geographies was rather uncertain. So, it is in this context that the life expectancy of the gender groups, in the rural and urban areas and in the states, estimated in the new life tables, gains prominence.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2025/20/editorials/pandemic-effect.html>

68. R.F.K., Jr., Anthony Fauci, and the Revolt Against Expertise. New Yorker. 26th May 2025.

The Cabinet confirmation hearings have been agonizing for congressional Democrats, who have watched in horror as Donald Trump has pushed through one outlandish candidate after another. Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., the vaccine skeptic nominated for Secretary of Health and Human Services, was among the most hair-raising. "Vaccinating children is unethical," he has written. Unable to prevent Kennedy from becoming the country's top health official, Democrats could only use his hearing to showcase their values. Liberals stand for science. The G.O.P. stands for drinking bleach, freaking out about Satanist pedophiles, and blaming wildfires on Jewish space lasers.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2025/05/26/rfk-jr-anthony-fauci-and-the-revolt-against-expertise>

69. A Wealth of Good Health. TIME. Vol.205, No-17-18. 26th May 2025. Page No-3-4.

Japan is one of the healthiest nations on Earth, with a renowned public health system and a famously nutritious diet that supports world- leading life expectancy rates. This reputation stems from an ingrained dedication to

improvement and wellbeing found in traditional culture, cuisine and medical research.

70. Innovation and a patient-centric approach have made quality care India limited a leader in health and wellness. TIME. Vol.205, No-17-18. 26th May 2025. Page No-20.

Quality care India limited (QCIL), a prominent network among India's top five hospital groups, is undergoing a transformative journey under the leadership of group managing director Mr. Varun Khanna. QCIL represents the collective strength of CARE Hospitals. The network is united by a mission to provide accessible healthcare through clinical excellence and exceptional talent.

HISTORY

71. Kashmir's uncertain future. Economist. 17th May 2025.

WHAT'S NEXT for Kashmir? Since India blamed Pakistan for backing a terrorist attack in Pahalgam on April 22nd, thousands of Kashmiris have been displaced from their homes. Pakistani shelling has killed nearly two dozen people in Indian-administered Kashmir. Two days after a ceasefire Narendra Modi, India's prime minister, announced a "new normal": terrorist attacks will be treated as acts of war. Many Kashmiris fear that this new normal will entrench old problems.

<https://www.economist.com/asia/2025/05/15/kashmirs-uncertain-future>

72. Why the best time to be a dad is now. Economist. 17th May 2025.

Our forefathers had some odd ideas about fatherhood. In ancient Athens, a baby was not legally a person until its father said it was. At a ceremony called the amphidromia, the patriarch would hold up the newborn for inspection and either welcome it into his household or abandon it on a hillside to face near-certain death. Typical reasons for rejecting an infant included deformity or the mere fact that it was a girl.

<https://www.economist.com/culture/2025/05/15/why-the-best-time-to-be-a-dad-is-now>

73. What Donald Trump has in Common with Colonial-Era Indian Thinkers. India Forum. 16th May 2025.

With his tariff blitzkrieg, President Donald Trump of the United States has put into practice two of his most cherished beliefs: that globalisation has not worked well for his country, and that the global economy often works as a zero-sum game of winners and losers. Commentators have drawn historical comparisons with the Gilded Age, particularly the protectionist views of William McKinley, the American president deeply admired by Trump. But there is another striking comparison: colonial India. Despite emerging from a vastly different political milieu, many Indian economic thinkers in the 19th and early 20th centuries would have agreed with Trump about the pitfalls of globalisation. They, too, regularly saw the global economy as composed of winners and losers, exploiters and the exploited. Indians therefore saw a real value in tariffs, a tool for national development which would blunt the inherent unfairness of economic relationships.

<https://www.theindiaforum.in/history/what-donald-trump-has-common-colonial-era-indian-thinkers>

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

74. Is Donald Trump a good dealmaker?. Economist. 17th May 2025.

Donald Trump wants to use his second term to revolutionise America and its relationship with the world. He is engaged in an astonishingly wide range of international crises and negotiations, in Europe, Asia and the Middle East. It is perhaps the most intense bout of White House diplomacy for a generation. So it offers clues as to whether Mr Trump is as skilled a dealmaker as he says. The answer so far is that he is good at catalysing negotiations, but bad at closing them.

<https://www.economist.com/leaders/2025/05/14/is-donald-trump-a-good-dealmaker>

75. Tanvi Madan on the geopolitical shifts revealed by the India-Pakistan crisis. Economist. 17th May 2025.

LAST WEEK, in the midst of the India-Pakistan crisis, J.D. Vance, America's vice-president, noted: "We're not going to get involved in the middle of [a] war that's fundamentally none of our business." A few days later, however, as tensions escalated, so did American involvement, which helped lead to a ceasefire on May 10th. The Trump administration discovered what its predecessors and other countries have: they might not want to get involved in India-Pakistan crises, but such crises inevitably involve them.

<https://www.economist.com/by-invitation/2025/05/12/tanvi-madan-on-the-geopolitical-shifts-revealed-by-the-india-pakistan-crisis>

76. Why India is annoyed by its ceasefire with Pakistan. Economist. 17th May 2025.

NARENDRA MODI, India's prime minister, sounded as defiant as he did triumphant in speaking to the nation two days after a ceasefire with Pakistan. India's four-day military operation, he said on May 12th, established a "new normal" for responding to terrorist attacks, such as last month's one in Kashmir. India had only paused that operation and would carefully monitor Pakistan's actions in the coming days. In future, India would not differentiate between terrorists and the government that supports them. Nor would it bow to nuclear blackmail.

<https://www.economist.com/asia/2025/05/13/why-india-is-annoyed-by-its-ceasefire-with-pakistan>

77. Xi Jinping has Vladimir Putin over a barrel. Economist. 17th May 2025.

As president xi jinping stood shoulder to shoulder with his Russian counterpart, Vladimir Putin, watching Russian and Chinese soldiers marching across Red Square on May 9th, they could have been mistaken for equals. The commemorations of the 80th anniversary of Nazi Germany's defeat in the second world war painted a picture of the two Eurasian neighbours locking arms against the West and the international order that followed that victory. Mr Putin boasted that their strategic co-operation was built on the "unshakeable principle of equality". China's president praised their "everlasting" friendship.

<https://www.economist.com/china/2025/05/12/xi-jinping-has-vladimir-putin-over-a-barrel>

78. Trump resets America's Middle East policy in surprising ways. Economist. 17th May 2025.

THE SAUDIS put on plenty of pomp for Donald Trump when he visited Riyadh, their capital, this week: f-15 fighter jets to escort his plane, riders on Arab horses to accompany his motorcade, lunch in a palace with chandeliers the size of cars. But the most enduring image came from a nondescript antechamber, where on May 14th he shook hands with Ahmed al-Sharaa, Syria's president, a former jihadist who not long ago had a \$10m American bounty on his head.

<https://www.economist.com/middle-east-and-africa/2025/05/12/trump-resets-americas-middle-east-policy-in-surprising-ways>

79. Donald Trump bypasses Israel on the path to peace in Gaza. Economist. 17th May 2025.

The release on May 12th of Edan Alexander, an American-Israeli soldier held in Gaza for 19 months, ended the 21-year-old's ordeal but left many questions unanswered. Was this a one-off gesture by Hamas, the Islamists in Gaza, for an American president about to arrive in the region? Could it be the start of diplomacy by Donald Trump to force an end to the war? For Mr Alexander, his family and the many Israelis who have been campaigning for the hostages in Gaza, his release brought relief and joy. For Binyamin Netanyahu, Israel's prime minister, it was a moment of diplomatic embarrassment.

<https://www.economist.com/middle-east-and-africa/2025/05/15/donald-trump-bypasses-israel-on-the-path-to-peace-in-gaza>

80. Trump's decision to lift sanctions is a triumph for Syria's president. Economist. 17th May 2025.

The beaming portrait of Donald Trump in central Damascus was a tribute to the Syrian revolution's most unlikely hero. His face filled a giant billboard. Fireworks painted the sky behind. Celebratory gunfire provided the soundtrack. It was reminiscent of the scenes five months ago, when rebels swept into the capital and toppled Bashar al-Assad. The revelries this time were to celebrate Mr Trump's declaration on May 13th that he would lift sanctions against Syria. It would, Mr Trump said, give Syria "a chance at greatness".

<https://www.economist.com/middle-east-and-africa/2025/05/14/trumps-decision-to-lift-sanctions-is-a-triumph-for-syrias-president>

81. Peace talks are starting in Istanbul, but who will be there?. Economist. 17th May 2025.

AFTER A WEEK of brinkmanship, Volodymyr Zelensky departed for peace negotiations in Turkey still unsure who he would be talking to. Vladimir Putin stayed silent for nearly four days, before turning down the Ukrainian's dare of a face-to-face meeting. Pressure on the Russian leader seemed to be mounting even at the eleventh hour, with Donald Trump hinting that he would attend if Mr Putin did, and allies like the Brazilian president, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, urging him to "go to Istanbul and negotiate, dammit."

<https://www.economist.com/europe/2025/05/15/peace-talks-are-starting-in-istanbul-but-who-will-be-there>

82. China and Russia are deploying powerful new weapons: ideas. Economist. 17th May 2025.

SIXTY LUCKY students got the chance to train as journalists last year at African Initiative, a new press agency in Bamako, Mali's capital. Trainees were given online and in-person lessons in reporting, with the promise that three of them would eventually be hired as full-time staff at the agency. The catch, as reported

by Forbidden Stories, a network of investigative journalists, was that African Initiative is run by Russian intelligence.

<https://www.economist.com/international/2025/05/15/china-and-russia-are-deploying-powerful-new-weapons-ideas>

83. Why Donald Trump is a globalist. Economist. 17th May 2025.

FOR A SELF-STYLED America Firster, President Donald Trump is strikingly keen on solving other countries' problems. Even as Mr Trump began a business-focused tour of Arab states on May 13th, geopolitical disputes on several continents had a claim on his attention. In the few days before he flew to the Middle East, Mr Trump suggested that he is just the man to end conflicts in Ukraine and in Gaza, halt Iran's nuclear ambitions and broker a solution to India and Pakistan's decades-old contest over Kashmir. For good measure, he hailed a 90-day pause of the highest US-China tariffs as great for "unification and peace". Alas, that promptly set nerves a-jangling in Taiwan, since "peaceful reunification" is China's euphemism for conquering that democratic island.

<https://www.economist.com/international/2025/05/13/why-donald-trump-is-a-globalist>

84. Can Apple extricate itself from China?. Economist. 17th May 2025.

THE WHIPLASH of Donald Trump's trade war has been dreadful for thousands of American companies: including, most prominently, Apple. Rapid escalation between America and China in early April threatened to hit the smartphones it makes in China and sells in America with 145% tariffs. Then, on May 12th, a preliminary deal was reached, sending tariffs for most Chinese imports down to 30% for 90 days. No one knows what will happen next. But Apple has reportedly scrambled to move some iPhone production from China to India. The uncertainty about its future has wiped hundreds of billions of dollars off its market value. Despite the deal, on May 13th Apple's share price was still down by 13% since the start of the year.

<https://www.economist.com/culture/2025/05/13/can-apple-extricate-itself-from-china>

85. Kashmir Crisis. TIME. Vol.205, No-17-18. 26th May 2025. Page No-15.

Ukraine agreed to hand over half of its future oil, gas and mineral wealth to the U.S. in a landmark deal signed April 30. While the agreement does not offer Ukraine the explicit security guarantees it had long sought, it does, in effect, give President Donald Trump and his allies a tangible, economic rationale for maintaining U.S. aid.

86. Israeli reserves: for new Gaza offensive. TIME. Vol.205, No-17-18. 26th May 2025. Page No-16.

Israel's government confirmed what many in Gaza had feared: its military will seize the territory indefinitely, calling up tens of thousands of reserve soldiers to significantly expand operations. Israel's new plan, announced on May 5, marks a turning point in the nation's war strategy- one that NGOs and human-rights groups warn will only escalate the humanitarian catastrophe inside Gaza. While Israeli forces have previously advanced deep into Gaza during the war, a sustained military presence has largely been confined to a 1-km buffer zone along the border.

87. Germany's border controls are annoying the neighbours. Economist. 17th May 2025.

“WHAT CAN you do?” shrugs Ryszard Noryskiewicz, zipping along the A12 motorway in his old Chrysler on a bright spring morning. “The Germans are going to do what they do.” Mr Noryskiewicz, a Berliner originally from Warsaw, has been driving back and forth between his two countries since the early 1980s. In 2007 Poland’s accession to the eu’s Schengen passport-free zone changed everything. What had been a fraught border crossing marked by intrusive inspections and suspicious guards became as simple as slipping from Berlin into Brandenburg.

<https://www.economist.com/europe/2025/05/15/germanys-border-controls-are-annoying-the-neighbours>

LAW

88. Violent crime is falling rapidly across America. Economist. 17th May 2025.

Take the subway to Upton, a station on Pennsylvania Avenue in West Baltimore, and when you emerge onto the street, you may think you have arrived in a scene of *The Wire*, an old hit HBO show. Young men hang around, a few hawking drugs. Speak to Malik, a 40-year-old man selling knock-off Ray-Bans from a bin bag, however, and you will quickly be disabused of the idea that nothing has changed. “Where you are standing, try about ten years ago, you couldn’t hear yourself think,” he says. “It was all guys shouting ‘red top’, ‘red top’, ‘yellow top’, ‘yellow top’.” Now, he says, “it is all cleared out. I don’t know what’s going on. It’s gentrifying I think. Shit looks nicer, know what I mean?”

<https://www.economist.com/united-states/2025/05/15/violent-crime-is-falling-rapidly-across-america>

89. Why a vote dispute in North Carolina should worry Americans. Economist. 17th May 2025.

IT WAS almost a normal concession. On May 7th Jefferson Griffin, a Republican candidate for a North Carolina Supreme Court seat, thanked his family for giving “a lot to this campaign” and said he would pray for his opponent’s success. But the timing of the statement was unusual. It came a full six months and two days after election day.

<https://www.economist.com/united-states/2025/05/15/why-a-vote-dispute-in-north-carolina-should-worry-americans>

90. Britain’s police are restricting speech in worrying ways. Economist. 17th May 2025.

THE POLICE arrived at Maxie Allen’s door at midday on January 29th. None of the six officers seemed to know much about why they were there, recalls Mr Allen. But they read out a list of charges and searched the house, before arresting him and his partner and taking them to the police station, where they were held for eight hours. The couple’s alleged crime? Disparaging emails and WhatsApp messages about their daughter’s primary school.

<https://www.economist.com/britain/2025/05/15/britains-police-are-restricting-speech-in-worrying-ways>

91. Outcome of Women’s Reservation in Panchayati Raj Institutions in Bihar. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol. 60, No-20. 17th May 2025.

While the modernisation of society requires strong leadership and planning at the central level, it cannot succeed without engaging grassroots units of self-government. These units ensure active involvement, contribution, and participation of citizens—both male and female. Recognising the significance of

democratic decentralisation, Article 40 was introduced in the Constitution of India. This article mandates that the state take measures to establish village panchayats and empower them with the necessary powers and authority to function as units of “self-government.”

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2025/20/commentary/outcome-womens-reservation-panchayati-raj.html>

92. Impossible Justice. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol. 60, No-20. 17th May 2025. It has been a year since Kalakshetra, a premier cultural institution, reverberated with cries of “We want justice!” (Stalin and Roy 2023). Putting their dancing careers on the line, these students replaced the sounds of ankle bells with cries for change, their disciplined bodies becoming non-compliant, protesting bodies that demanded justice against a culture of sexual harassment. Fighting institutional gag orders and resisting an ineffective and biased Internal Complaints Committee (ICC)—the statutory body responsible for adjudicating matters of sexual harassment in India—student protests sent shock waves through the art world. The Kalakshetra demonstration showed how the processes and procedures undergirding the laws, policies, and guidelines meant to protect students in higher education institutions fall short of upholding both the letter and spirit of the law.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2025/20/notes/impossible-justice.html>

LITERATURE

93. For the Retrieval of Ramayana. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol. 60, No-20. 17th May 2025.

The Ramayana continues to evoke lay and scholarly interest and passion, as it has done for centuries. The deceptively slender books under review offer a range of insights, helping us understand and even appreciate their enduring fascination. What is more, they are complementary in a sense. Robert P Goldman is one of the most remarkable contemporary scholars who has worked and continues to work extensively and intensively on the text. He has spent several decades examining it and its complex commentarial tradition. This scholarship is reflected in the meticulous translation of the critical edition of the Valmiki Ramayana, a painstaking work, undertaken patiently over several years by Goldman and his dedicated team of Sanskrit scholars (now available in a single volume, Goldman and Sally J Sutherland Goldman (eds), The Complete English Translation of the Ramayana of Valmiki, translated by Goldman, Sutherland Goldman, Rosalind Lefebvre, Sheldon I Pollock and Barend A van Nooten, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2021). Additionally, Goldman’s familiarity with the other Sanskrit epic, the Mahabharata, as well as with Greek and Latin epics, enables him to engage in cross-cultural comparisons with felicity. In addition, he brings to his analyses a wide reading of major (and minor) Sanskrit texts, enabling us to trace out intertextual connections and allusions that would elude a casual reader.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2025/20/review-article/retrieval-ramayana.html>

94. The Macrons’ Familial Macarons. New Yorker. 26th May 2025.

An immemorial theme of French literature, la montée à Paris—the ascent to Paris—doesn’t come off as an overly recommendable move. “It is always the same old story, year after year,” the grizzled journalist Lousteau warns Lucien de Rubempré, Balzac’s striving poet, freshly arrived from Angoulême. “The same

eager rush to Paris from the provinces; the same, not to say a growing, number of beardless, ambitious boys,” staking their savings on success in the capital, only to finish “in some trench where failures lie.” Rubempré’s Paris career ends in the Conciergerie, where he hangs himself from a window with a fashionable black silk tie.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2025/05/26/the-macrons-familial-macarons>

95. Fairy Pools. New Yorker. 26th May 2025.

As soon as she touched down in Scotland, she believed in fairies. No, as soon as the rock and velvet of Inverness rushed up to her where she was falling, a long way through the hagstone hole of a cloud, and she plunged down into the center of the cloud and stayed there. You used to set a child out for them, she thought, and was caught in the arms and awoke on the green hillside.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2025/05/26/fairy-pools-fiction-patricia-lockwood>

96. Phillips, Rowan Ricardo

Last Exit. New Yorker. 26th May 2025.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2025/05/26/last-exit-rowan-ricardo-phillips-poem>

97. Hayes, Terrance

Make the Audiobook before the book is made. New Yorker. 26th May 2025.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2025/05/26/make-the-audiobook-before-the-book-is-made-terrance-hayes-poem>

MILITARY SCIENCE

98. Chinese weapons gave Pakistan a new edge against India. Economist. 17th May 2025.

India’s four-day military showdown with Pakistan set several new precedents. For military officials from outside the region, the most intriguing one was Pakistan’s use of advanced Chinese fighter jets and missiles in aerial combat with Western-made counterparts. What’s more, Pakistan claims that its Chinese J-10C fighters and their PL-15 air-to-air missiles prevailed. It says they shot down five of India’s fighters, including three French Rafales and two older Russian ones, on May 7th. And the dogfight of more than an hour involving 114 aircraft was conducted entirely beyond visual range, according to Pakistan’s air force.

<https://www.economist.com/asia/2025/05/15/chinese-weapons-gave-pakistan-a-new-edge-against-india>

POLITICAL SCIENCE & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

99. Crypto has become the ultimate swamp asset. Economist. 17th May 2025.

WHEN OFFERED a Boeing 747 by the government of Qatar to replace Air Force One, President Donald Trump responded: why not? Only someone dumb would turn down free money. No presidency has generated so many conflicts of interest

at such speed in modern history. Yet the worst self-dealing in American politics is found not on a runway but on blockchains, home to trillions of dollars in cryptocurrencies.

<https://www.economist.com/leaders/2025/05/15/crypto-has-become-the-ultimate-swamp-asset>

100. Europe's free-speech problem. Economist. 17th May 2025.

When America's vice-president accuses Europe of failing to protect free speech, the obvious retort is that he is a hypocrite. The White House in which J.D. Vance serves is an energetic foe of speech it dislikes, deporting students for their political views, harassing critical media and bullying universities. But just because he is a hypocrite does not mean he is wrong. Europe really does have a problem with free speech.

<https://www.economist.com/leaders/2025/05/15/europes-free-speech-problem>

101. Mexico's government is throttling the rule of law. Economist. 17th May 2025.

On the face of it, Claudia Sheinbaum has had a fine year. She won a landslide victory in June 2024, took office as Mexico's president in October and has enjoyed sky-high approval ratings ever since. She has won praise for deftly handling Donald Trump's trade belligerence. Her security policies, which stress better intelligence and detective work, are an improvement on those of her predecessor and mentor, Andrés Manuel López Obrador.

<https://www.economist.com/leaders/2025/05/15/mexicos-government-is-throttling-the-rule-of-law>

102. After the revolution, Bangladesh is hoping to reform. Economist. 17th May 2025.

For 16 years Bangladesh has been shuddering from a continuous "earthquake", says Muhammad Yunus. The microcredit pioneer and Nobel peace laureate is referring to the authoritarian regime of Sheikh Hasina and her Awami League party, which was ousted by a massive uprising in August 2024. Now, as the country's interim leader, Mr Yunus is trying to "fix everything that has been destroyed", he says. "We're moving in the right direction, and the people are with us. We are hopeful," he adds.

<https://www.economist.com/asia/2025/05/15/after-the-revolution-bangladesh-is-hoping-to-reform>

103. Are American Catholics ready for an American pope?. Economist. 17th May 2025.

Pope Benedict XVI held a synod in 2012 to discuss evangelisation in an increasingly secular world. One of the most dynamic speakers was an American priest named Robert Prevost. The then-leader of the Augustinian order delivered a brief but profoundly countercultural speech, criticising "Western mass media" for fostering sympathy with anti-Christian practices like "abortion, homosexual lifestyle, euthanasia". With time the future pope evolved. "Doctrine hasn't changed," he told Catholic News Service after Pope Francis made him a cardinal in 2023. "But we are looking to be more welcoming and more open."

<https://www.economist.com/united-states/2025/05/15/are-american-catholics-ready-for-an-american-pope>

104. Mexico will be the only country that elects all its judges. Economist. 17th May 2025.

On June 1st Mexicans will vote to elect judges to 850 federal posts, nine Supreme Court seats, 22 powerful tribunal jobs and thousands of roles in lower courts. In 2027 a second vote will see the rest of Mexico's judiciary filled. A few countries elect a handful of judges, mostly to lower courts. Mexico will become the first country in the world where every judge on every court is chosen by popular vote.

<https://www.economist.com/the-americas/2025/05/15/mexico-will-be-the-only-country-that-elects-all-its-judges>

105. Africa's oldest surviving Catholic church is under threat. Economist. 17th May 2025.

Its survival down the centuries is a miracle worthy almost of Francis Xavier, its patron saint. The tiny chapel in Malindi, an ancient port on Kenya's Indian Ocean coast, is believed to date to the turn of the 16th century, when Vasco da Gama, a Portuguese explorer, arrived on his way to India. He left some of his crew behind to establish a trading post there. They built their small, vulnerable Christian settlement in what was a Muslim city. In the centuries that followed, the chapel withstood invasions, economic decline and the sea itself.

<https://www.economist.com/middle-east-and-africa/2025/05/15/africas-oldest-surviving-catholic-church-is-under-threat>

106. Europeans are becoming less free to say what they think. Economist. 17th May 2025.

Should the Finnish Lutheran church sponsor the Pride parade, a festival of rainbow flags and sexual inclusivity? Many might argue that a staid institution would do well to show prospective parishioners that it has kept up with the times. Paivi Rasanen is not among them. A staunch conservative, mother of five and member of parliament since 1995, she questioned on social media whether the church endorsing Pride was compatible with the Bible's teachings on sin and shame. An accompanying picture of some of the book's less tolerant passages made clear her own conclusions. That was in 2019. The temerity of her questioning has resulted in six years of police investigations, prosecution, trials and the threat of a hefty fine.

<https://www.economist.com/europe/2025/05/15/europeans-are-becoming-less-free-to-say-what-they-think>

107. Why so much is riding on Poland's presidential elections. Economist. 17th May 2025.

FANS OF POLAND'S main opposition party, the nationalist Law and Justice (PiS), called it a PR coup big enough to swing the country's presidential election. Two weeks ahead of the vote, set for May 18th, Karol Nawrocki, the PiS-backed candidate, surfaced alongside Donald Trump in the White House for a photo op. "You will win," Mr Trump told him, according to Mr Nawrocki.

<https://www.economist.com/europe/2025/05/15/why-so-much-is-riding-on-polands-presidential-elections>

108. Leo XIV will pose some tricky problems for Giorgia Meloni. Economist. 17th May 2025.

FROM TIME to time, Charlemagne comes face to face with a pope. The first occasion was in the year 800 when Leo III placed a crown on his head and proclaimed him emperor of a reborn Roman Empire. More recently, it has

become a ritual for a new pope—the latest is another Leo—to thank the scribes who have covered his election, this time including your columnist. Since 2005 the death of a pope has also been marked by a new ritual. Barely is the poor man's body cold than articles appear in Italian newspapers arguing that the chances have never been better of a return to normality (John Paul II had been the first non-Italian pope for 455 years) and predicting that the next pope will be an Italian. When lists are published of cardinals deemed papabile (literally, pope-able), half or more are invariably Italians. Non-Italian commentators, who assume their Italian counterparts have an inside track, repeat these names until, by the time the cardinals are locked into the Sistine Chapel, it has become a near-certainty they will choose an Italian. It happened again this time. The odds on Pietro Parolin becoming pope had shrunk to 6 to 4 on; but it was an American who emerged onto the balcony of St Peter's.

<https://www.economist.com/europe/2025/05/15/leo-xiv-will-pose-some-tricky-problems-for-giorgia-meloni>

109. Britain's experiment with liberal immigration policies is over. Economist. 17th May 2025.

In april britain's prime minister gave a forceful speech about immigration. Migrants should be celebrated, he said, for they make a "huge contribution". Far from being a burden on public services, they are often the very people delivering those services. Almost all migrants follow the rules. Those who claim that migration is out of control are "simply wrong". That was Sir Tony Blair, in April 2004. The current occupant of 10 Downing Street, Sir Keir Starmer, speaks differently. Britain has conducted "a one-nation experiment in open borders", he argued while unveiling a new immigration policy on May 12th. Unrestrained immigration has caused "incalculable" damage to the country. His government will "close the book on a squalid chapter for our politics, and our economy, and our country."

<https://www.economist.com/britain/2025/05/12/britains-experiment-with-liberal-immigration-policies-is-over>

110. When levelling-up comes to town. Economist. 17th May 2025.

Trevor Wainwright pauses for a second, totting up the new building projects that dot Great Yarmouth, in Norfolk. "I mean, we're talking about millions...probably 80, 85 million. Then we got the new bridge, that was 100 million." Not bad for a seaside town with fewer than 70,000 inhabitants. However you slice it, the local councillor concludes, Yarmouth (as locals call it) astutely navigated the post-Brexit years, when successive governments had a rush of enthusiasm for getting cash to "left-behind" parts of the country.

<https://www.economist.com/britain/2025/05/15/when-levelling-up-comes-to-town>

111. A world without Nigel Farage. Economist. 17th May 2025.

Nigel Farage's eulogy has already been written. "Nigel was so full of promise and energy," begins the vicar in St Mary the Virgin in Downe, Mr Farage's hometown. "Everyone liked him. At the pub, the golf club and at least one church fete, he talked to everyone with such ease and understanding." In his autobiography, Mr Farage recalls conjuring this scene while prone in hospital after a Volkswagen Beetle left the then 21-year-old crumpled like a "sort of fractured swastika".

<https://www.economist.com/britain/2025/05/14/a-world-without-nigel-farage>

112. West Asia: Geopolitical Shifts amid the Genocide. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol. 60, No-20. 17th May 2025.

There are portents of shifts even though continuities mark the geopolitics of the West Asian region as President Donald Trump met with leaders of Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and the Gulf Cooperation Council in Riyadh. Unlike past United States (US) diplomatic forays in this region, Israel was absent from Trump–Arab engagements. The most pressing issue of genocide and serial violations of international humanitarian laws in Gaza was not spoken of as Arab leaders transacted with the Americans but lost the opportunity to press for a ceasefire, halt the mass starvation and ethnic cleansing of the Palestinian people.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2025/20/comment/west-asia-geopolitical-shifts-amid-genocide.html>

113. From 25 Years Ago: Civil Society and the Realm of Freedom. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol. 60, No-20. 17th May 2025.

I want to bridge this gorge by starting a conversation that joins northern and southern discourses about civil society. I take as my departure empirical accounts dealing with society and politics in South Asia. These accounts raise significant theoretical questions about the positive relationship between democracy and civil society. The discourses I would like to challenge feature undifferentiated conceptions of associational life, treat all associations as if they were the same, and advance arguments that suggest their consequences for democracy are uniformly positive. A more fine-grained and complex taxonomy of associations, and a more critical perspective on their impact on democracy might generate more subtle evaluations of the meaning and consequences of civil society. What follows is an effort to move the discussion in this direction.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2025/20/25-years-ago/25-years-ago-civil-society-and-realm-freedom.html>

114. Beyond Citizen Oversight: Problems with the Trade-off between Transparency and Privacy. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol. 60, No-20. 17th May 2025.

The amendment to the Right to Information Act, 2005, introduced under the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023, presents a disharmonious trade-off between privacy and transparency. By discarding existing safeguards that allowed access to personal information in public interest, the amended proviso grants greater secrecy to the government under the guise of protecting privacy. This shift threatens to deprive citizens of their constitutional right to access information in cases involving corruption, human rights violations, and police atrocities.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2025/20/commentary/beyond-citizen-oversight.html>

115. Debating Bureaucratic Apathy. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol. 60, No-20. 17th May 2025.

The significance and irreplaceability of bureaucracies in modern societies is a well-established fact. While bureaucracy as an institution has a deep and larger history, in the modern context, it was the writings of G W F Hegel and Max Weber who brought to the fore, in different ways, the criticality of this institution in the making and maintenance of the modern state units (Nah 2021). Bureaucracy is also one of the most important pillars of modern governance. As studies have shown, competent bureaucracy has a direct correlation with higher economic

growth and prosperity in developing countries (World Bank 1993). And, yet in the Indian context, it is probably one of the most understudied of institutions.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2025/20/commentary/debating-bureaucratic-apathy.html>

116. Why Does Injustice Matter in the Discourse on Justice?. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol. 60, No-20. 17th May 2025.

A word is more than just a tool for expression and communication; it also carries concepts that influence our attitudes, perspectives, beliefs, and values, which in turn affect the meaning that word conveys. Take “justice” and “injustice,” widely used to denote the presence or absence of “justness” in distribution, recognition, representation, procedure, and practices. Considering their opposing nature, it is commonly believed that upholding justice eliminates or ameliorates injustice. For instance, several justice demands are being made by various communities and groups across India to put an end to the injustices that they and their communities endure (Kumar 1993; Baviskar 2004; Nilsen 2012). Recently, farmers near the Delhi border, women in Manipur, and the people of Ladakh have made these demands. The prevailing sense of injustice that the affected population feel lies at the root of all these demands for justice. In actuality, they are all engaged in a struggle for justice to put a stop to the relevant injustices. However, the “fight against injustice” targets specific wrongs, such as the Dalit movement opposing caste discrimination, whereas the “fight for justice” proactively seeks to establish fairness, as seen in the right to information (RTI) campaign for transparency. The former responds to existing issues, whereas the latter aims to build an equitable system, though both often intersect.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2025/20/perspectives/why-does-injustice-matter-discourse-justice.html>

117. Unravelling Labour Migration from Jharkhand. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol. 60, No-20. 17th May 2025.

As part of evolving evidence, informed policymaking on the welfare of migrant workers under the Safe and Responsible Migration Initiative anchored by the Government of Jharkhand, a state-level migration survey (Jharkhand Migration Survey) was carried out during January–March 2023. The survey which followed the Kerala Migration Survey model canvassed a sample of 10,674 households across all districts. Findings from JMS estimate that 45 lakh persons from Jharkhand migrated to various places for livelihoods. The JMS also estimate that the state received a monthly remittance of ₹2,549 crore in 2023, which primarily contributed to the subsistence of some of the most marginalised.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2025/20/special-articles/unravelling-labour-migration-jharkhand.html>

118. Energy Transition in Irrigation. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol. 60, No-20. 17th May 2025.

Energy transition in agriculture driven by solarisation of irrigation will have several spillover benefits such as improved food security, income from livelihoods, and can also contribute to building climate resilience. The government and many international development agencies in India have experimented with different strategies and schemes for upscaling solar-powered irrigation in the past decade. The evolution of public policy associated with energy transition in irrigation in the last decade is traced, synthesising the critical techno-socio-economic insights from the most notable experiments that have shaped the energy transition discourse in irrigation in the country.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2025/20/special-articles/energy-transition-irrigation.html>

119. How to Crowd an Election Rally. India Forum. 19th May 2025.

In early April, the storied political consultant Prashant Kishor's new party was in the news – it had failed to fill Patna's Gandhi Maidan with supporters for a rally that was said to be the launch of the campaign for the Bihar assembly elections later in 2025. For any leader hoping to announce his or her arrival on Bihar's political stage, packing Gandhi Maidan with supporters has become a rite of passage. From Jayaprakash Narayan in the 1970s, through Lalu Prasad Yadav and Nitish Kumar in the 1990s, to Narendra Modi in 2013, this expanse of open land in the middle of the capital is *the* place for a show of political strength.

<https://www.theindiaforum.in/politics/how-crowd-election-rally>

120. The Stakes of the Birthright-Citizenship Case. New Yorker. 26th May 2025.

An hour into the oral arguments in the birthright-citizenship case at the Supreme Court last Thursday, Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson offered a tart summary of the Trump Administration's playbook in what will surely be its losing bid to end the constitutional guarantee. "Your argument," Jackson told D. John Sauer, the Solicitor General, would "turn our justice system" into a " 'catch me if you can' kind of regime," in which "everybody has to have a lawyer and file a lawsuit in order for the government to stop violating people's rights." Jackson kept going: "I don't understand how that is remotely consistent with the rule of law."

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2025/05/26/behind-the-birthright-citizenship-case>

121. This Is Your Priest on Drugs. New Yorker. 26th May 2025.

In October, 2015, Hunt Priest, then a minister at Emmanuel Episcopal Church on Mercer Island, in Washington State, was flipping through *The Christian Century*, a progressive Protestant magazine, when an advertisement caught his eye: "Seeking Clergy to Take Part in a Research Study of Psilocybin and Sacred Experience." Psilocybin is a hallucinogenic compound found in certain mushrooms; researchers at Johns Hopkins University and N.Y.U. wanted to administer it to religious leaders who had "an interest in further exploring and developing their spiritual lives."

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2025/05/26/this-is-your-priest-on-drugs>

122. Is Jeff Bezos Selling Out the Washington Post?. New Yorker. 26th May 2025.

On a cold evening in March, a month and a half into the second Trump Administration, a crowd gathered in the Terrace Theatre at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, in Washington, D.C. Warren Buffett, the billionaire C.E.O. of Berkshire Hathaway, was hosting a screening party for "Becoming Katharine Graham," a new documentary celebrating the career of the Washington Post's legendary publisher. Guests included Bill Gates, Bill Murray, the former Secretary of State Antony Blinken, the Democratic senator Amy Klobuchar, and Bob Woodward, who, along with Carl Bernstein, broke the stories of Richard Nixon's Watergate scandal that came to define the paper's golden age.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2025/05/26/is-jeff-bezos-selling-out-the-washington-post>

123. Power Moves. TIME. Vol.205, No-17-18. 26th May 2025. Page No-2
Thirty minutes into our interview with president Donald Trump in the oval offices on April 22, an aide opened the door to tell the President that India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on the line, She gave Trump a typed note, and he picked up the phone on his desk.
124. The Brief. TIME. Vol.205, No-17-18. 26th May 2025. Page No-8-13.
Addressing an ecstatic crowd gathered in St. Peter's square as the newly anointed leader of the Roman Catholic Church, American Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost used the world's most famous pulpit to promote a vision that, of late has been more wish than reality. "To all people be with you," he said, in fluent Italian.
125. Trump moves to bring the Saudis even closer. TIME. Vol.205, No-17-18. 26th May 2025. Page No-23.
On May 12, U.S. President Donald Trump will open the first multi country foreign trip of his second term with a stop in Saudi Arabia, underscoring that ties with Riyadh remain a Trump priority. (He'll also visit Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.) While a hoped-for diplomatic breakthrough normalizing Saudi- Israeli relations will have to wait-at least until the Gaza war ends- plenty of other opportunities will allow Trump and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, known as MBS, to leave their meeting claiming diplomatic victory.
126. President Donald Trump emerges through a pair of handsome wooden doors on the third floor of the white house. TIME. Vol.205, No-17-18. 26th May 2025. Page No.30-36.
On his way down the wide, carpeted staircase, he passes portraits of his predecessors, Nixon is opposite the landing outside the residence. Two flights down, he has swapped the placement of Clinton and Lincoln, moving a massive painting of the mansion. "Lincoln is Lincoln, in all fairness," he explains, 'And I gave Clinton a good space .

SCIENCE

127. Embrace the woo woo. Economist. 17th May 2025.
Nothing in this column is meant to suggest vaccines are hazardous. Nor should it be read as implying all doctors are quacks. You should, in any event, consult a medical professional, probably a psychiatrist, before taking health advice from Lexington. That said, amid the chaos, crowing and lamentation enveloping the second term of Donald Trump, it might be good for everyone to take some time to marvel at how he is making the Republican party a home for people who ask trees for help with their love lives, dabble with psychedelics, bemoan consumerism, long for European-Union-style regulation, and turn for insight to the poet Sylvia Plath and the Disney movie "Moana".

<https://www.economist.com/united-states/2025/05/15/embrace-the-woo-woo>

128. The race to build the fighter planes of the future. Economist. 17th May 2025.
"THERE'S NEVER been anything even close to it—from speed to manoeuvrability...to payload," gushed Donald Trump, as he announced on

March 21st that America's future fighter jet, the F-47, would be built by Boeing, an aerospace giant. The jet is one of several so-called sixth-generation aircraft on drawing boards around the world. In December China showed off what was believed to be a prototype of the J-36, an imposing plane with stealthy features and a large flying-wing design. Britain, Italy and Japan are co-developing their own plane, in Britain provisionally called the Tempest, which is due to enter service in 2035. France, Germany and Spain hope that their Future Combat Air System (FCAS) will be ready by 2040. Together, these represent the future of aerial warfare.

<https://www.economist.com/science-and-technology/2025/05/14/the-race-to-build-the-fighter-planes-of-the-future>

129. Britain is now the biggest funder of solar-geoengineering research. Economist. 17th May 2025.

Solar gEOENGINEERING is a heated topic. The core idea is to deliberately interfere with the environment in order to cool the climate, thus averting the worst consequences of the unintentional interference caused by rampant fossil-fuel combustion. Most of the potential methods involve reflecting sunlight back into space, thereby stopping that energy being trapped in the atmosphere as heat. Those in favour of researching them point to their potential to cheaply and substantially reduce global temperatures. Critics, meanwhile, highlight the risk of altering weather systems and disrupting atmospheric chemistry (with global and ungovernable consequences) while distracting countries from the hard but necessary work of cutting carbon emissions.

<https://www.economist.com/science-and-technology/2025/05/14/britain-is-now-the-biggest-funder-of-solar-geoengineering-research>

130. From 50 Years Ago-Electronics: Empire-Building. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol. 60, No-20. 17th May 2025.

Chronologically, the Department of Electronics is among the newest in the government, having been established in 1971. The Department has been different from others in the sense that it does not 'rule' over an empire. Most of the research and development in electronics is carried on in laboratories that are run by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, the Department of Atomic Energy, the Department of Space or the Defence Research and Development Organisation. The Department of Electronics also has no production unit under it since the public sector companies in electronics are controlled by other departments, such as those of Atomic Energy, Communications, Defence and, of late, Science and Technology. The Annual Report of the Department of Electronics for 1974-75, which has just been released, indicates that these 'shortcomings' are soon proposed to be made good. Though young, the Department is clearly learning fast.

<https://www.epw.in/journal/2025/20/50-years-ago/50-years-ago-electronics-empire-building.html>

SOCIOLOGY

131. India's broadcast media wage war on their audience. Economist. 17th May 2025.

EVEN THOSE who closely followed the recent nightly air battles between India and Pakistan might have missed some of the most earth-shattering developments. They may not know that the Indian navy launched strikes on

Karachi's port; that India's army crossed the international border; that Pakistan's prime minister fled to a bunker; that its army chief was deposed in a coup. These events were nowhere to be found in India's newspapers or even in supposedly reliable Western journals. Why?

<https://www.economist.com/asia/2025/05/15/indias-broadcast-media-wage-war-on-their-audience>

132. How to prevent drunken punch-ups. Economist. 17th May 2025.
SATURDAY NIGHT on St Mary Street in Cardiff is a sight to behold. The thoroughfare is thronging with inebriated revellers, some stumbling semi-naked, others dancing and singing, venturing from one bar to the next. Nearby Caroline Street (aka "Chippy Lane") is strewn with drunkards and discarded kebabs. But the alcohol-fuelled violence often associated with British nightlife is absent.

<https://www.economist.com/britain/2025/05/15/how-to-prevent-drunken-punch-ups>

133. Fact-checkers forecast which dodgy claims will do most damage. Economist. 17th May 2025.
Correcting the gigabytes of digital gibberish that circulate at high speed online is a never-ending task. YouTube removed more than half a million channels last year for broadcasting misinformation. Facebook and Instagram deleted 27m falsehoods about covid-19 at the height of the pandemic. The doughty fact-checking organisations that try to keep the internet honest face more claims than they can handle. How should they prioritise?

<https://www.economist.com/international/2025/05/15/fact-checkers-forecast-which-dodgy-claims-will-do-most-damage>

134. Travel buddies are out; solo trips are in. Economist. 17th May 2025.
INTREPID YOUNGSTERS have long ventured abroad in search of edification and excitement. In 1608 Thomas Coryat, an Englishman sometimes called "the world's first backpacker", embarked on a Grand Tour of Europe. Friendless and on foot, Coryat discovered foreign delicacies ("frogs used for food") and newfangled technologies ("forks used in feeding").

<https://www.economist.com/culture/2025/05/12/travel-buddies-are-out-solo-trips-are-in>

135. Escape from Khartoum. New Yorker. 26th May 2025.
Like most civilians in Sudan, Wanis and his wife, Intisar, were unprepared when war broke out in Khartoum. The first day of fighting, April 15, 2023, was a Saturday. They'd planned to visit a cousin of Wanis's who was undergoing treatment for diabetes at a hospital in Bahri, a neighborhood on the eastern side of the sprawling capital. Intisar and Wanis lived in Ombada, a western suburb; to visit the cousin, they'd have to cross the Nile, which bisects the city.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2025/05/26/escape-from-khartoum>

136. The Dissonant Howl of "Salome". New Yorker. 26th May 2025.
The Biblical figure of Salome, Princess of Judea, who dances before Herod Antipas and demands the head of John the Baptist as a reward, infiltrated late-nineteenth-century culture as an agent of extreme decadence—"the goddess of immortal Hysteria," as the novelist Joris-Karl Huysmans called her. In Oscar Wilde's play "Salomé," written in French in 1892, the princess goes so far as to kiss the prophet's lifeless lips. In 1905, Richard Strauss used Wilde's play as the

basis for his opera “Salome,” which titillated audiences all over Europe and horrified the board of the Metropolitan Opera. To a degree, the character exemplifies the misogynistic fin-de-siècle trope of women as vampiric beasts. Yet Wilde’s implicit identification with Salome complicates matters. Hedwig Lachmann, the German poet whose incisive translation of “Salomé” became the libretto for Strauss’s opera, saw the princess as an “ethereal being” who feels “alienated from the raw corruption of her surroundings.” The true villain is Herod, who, in his hypocritical mixture of slobbering lust and grandstanding moralism, is a model man of power.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2025/05/26/the-dissonant-howl-of-salome>

137. Despair, and a gun in the house. TIME. Vol.205, No-17-18. 26th May 2025. Page No.24-25.

On the morning of my dad’s death. It took me 10 minutes to choose what to wear, toast a blueberry waffle, and pour chai into a thermos. It took 10 minutes to drive myself to school and choose a spot in the parking lot designed for high school seniors, a cohort that I finally belonged to, within the next 10 minutes, I opted to leave my umbrella in my car and arrived at calculus class with damp hair. Each of these quick decisions unfolded in the same amount of time if likely took my dad to plan and execute his suicide.

SPORTS

138. The WNBA will soon be the most valuable league in women’s sport. Economist. 17th May 2025.

WHEN THE Dallas Wings tip off against the Minnesota Lynx on May 16th, it will mark the start of the most anticipated season of women’s sport in history. The schedulers of the Women’s National Basketball Association (WNBA) have picked a game with muscle. The Lynx have won four titles, a joint record. The Wings, meanwhile, have snapped up this year’s most exciting recruit in Paige Bueckers, a 23-year-old point guard. Thanks to her, the Wings’ ticket sales so far are up almost 350% from last season.

<https://www.economist.com/culture/2025/05/15/the-wnba-will-soon-be-the-most-valuable-league-in-womens-sport>

139. ‘This kid’s just a walking definition of confidence:.. TIME. Vol.205, No-17-18. 26th May 2025. Page No.40-43.

Basketball, however, was an early favorite. When she was 6 Bob took his daughter to a Minnesota Lynx- Los Angeles Sparks game: Candace Parker was a rookie for the sparks and would go on to win both Rookie of the year and league MVP that 2008 season.’ When I get to the league, I want to be her team mate ,’ Bueckers told her dad. (So close. Parker retired right before last season.)

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

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