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Why Trump hurts Kushner

Britain's Brexit fiasco

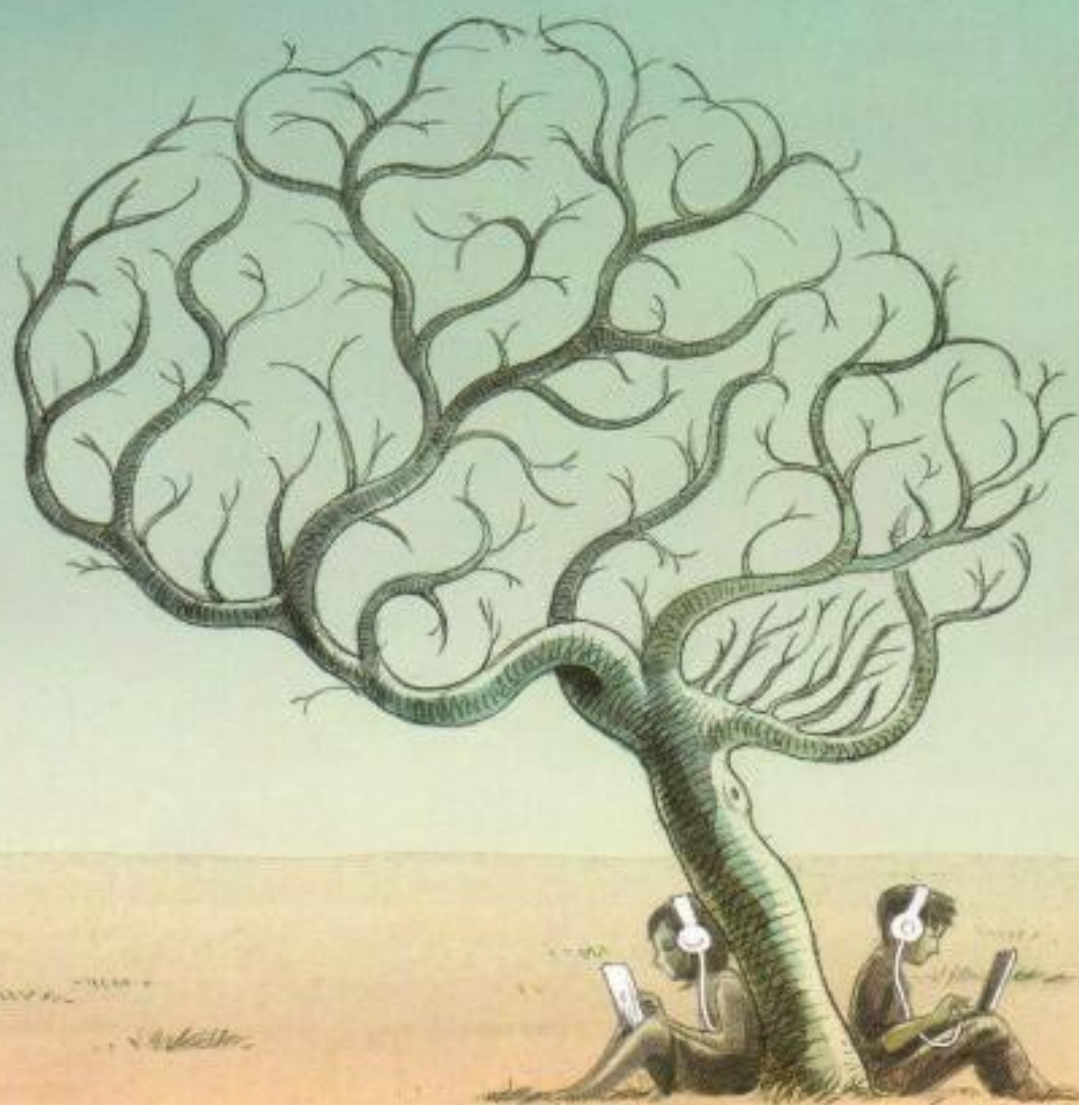
Corporate China: the state strikes back

A special report on India and Pakistan

JULY 22ND-28TH 2017

The future of learning

How technology is transforming education



Australia.....	A\$120 inc GST	Hong Kong.....	HK\$90	Korea.....	₩12,000	New Zealand.....	NZ\$15.00	Sri Lanka.....	Rs1,200
Bangladesh.....	Tk550	India.....	₹150	Malaysia.....	RM30 (inc GST)	Pakistan.....	Rs700	Taiwan.....	NT\$275
Cambodia.....	US\$6.00	Indonesia.....	Rp20,000	Nepal.....	US\$6.00	Philippines.....	₱600.00	Thailand.....	Baht 300
China.....	RMB 80	Japan.....	¥1,200+Tax	Nigeria.....	₦700	Singapore.....	S\$13.00 (inc GST)	Vietnam.....	US\$6.00



On the cover
 Together, technology and teachers can revamp schools: leader, page 9. Education technology is changing what happens when a child goes to school, page 16

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to take part in "a severe contest between Intelligence, which presses forward, and an unworthy, timid ignorance obstructing our progress."

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7 The world this week

Leaders

- 9 **Education technology**
Brain gains
- 10 **Britain and the EU**
Facing up to Brexit
- 11 **American health care**
Revive, don't repeal
- 11 **Economic reform in China**
Unnatural selection
- 12 **Helping fragile democracies**
Why monitors matter

Letters

- 14 **On students, China, Willy Brandt, America, drugs, Taiwan, book titles**

Briefing

- 16 **Edtech**
Machine learning

Asia

- 19 **South-East Asia**
More money, less freedom
- 20 **Religion in Indonesia**
Borneo again
- 21 **Inequality in South Korea**
Degrees of disenchantment
- 22 **Banyan**
Fighting jihadists in the Philippines

China

- 23 **Debt fears**
Cause for optimism
- 24 **Succession politics**
A sudden purge
- 24 **Last rites for Liu Xiaobo**
Stifled laments

United States

- 25 **Congress**
Can't live with or without it
- 26 **Republican ideas**
Re-rediscover
- 27 **Voting laws**
Kris Kobach's crusade
- 28 **California**
Paris-on-sea
- 29 **Cities**
School for mayors
- 29 **Presidential appointments**
The missing government
- 30 **Lexington**
Gerrymander v Terminator

The Americas

- 31 **NAFTA**
Trump's plans for his neighbours
- 32 **Bello**
The long economic squeeze
- 33 **Che Guevara**
Local anti-hero
- 33 **Sex workers in Colombia**
Fleeing Venezuela

Middle East and Africa

- 35 **China in Africa**
A thousand golden stars
- 36 **Nigerian politics**
Who will succeed Buhari?
- 37 **Arab media**
Exodus and the airwaves
- 37 **Syria**
All quiet on the southern front?
- 38 **Drugs in the Middle East**
Captured by Captagon

Special report: India and Pakistan

Hissing cousins
 After page 38



American health care With their replacement plan stalled, Republicans must now make the Affordable Care Act work: leader, page 11. They control every level of government, but can Republicans get anything done? Page 25. The ideology behind the failing health-care bill, page 26



Brexit As long as the government is in denial about Brexit's trade-offs, Britain faces disaster: leader, page 10. Britain cannot expect an à la carte Brexit, page 43. British politics has become scarily bad-tempered: Bagehot, page 46



Election monitoring Foreign observers and local citizen-watchers need respect, encouragement and cash: leader, page 12. New methods and technology can make elections fairer. But it is still hard to dislodge an incumbent who is determined to cheat, page 47

Politics



In one of the most stunning failures of an American governing party to get its signature legislation passed in Congress, the Republican **health-care bill** in the Senate stalled, after more Republican senators said they would not support it. The party has spent seven years vowing to overturn and replace Obamacare with its own health-care plan. Donald Trump's call for his party to go ahead and repeal Obamacare anyway was met with little enthusiasm. The Democrats urged the Republicans to co-operate with them on fixing Obamacare's flaws.

John McCain has been diagnosed with brain cancer. Mr McCain is a widely respected senator on both sides of the aisle. The 80-year-old Republican, who ran as the party's presidential candidate against Barack Obama in 2008, is consulting with doctors about when he can return to work.

The Trump administration announced that it would allow more visas for **foreign workers** in seasonal jobs in order to help businesses that can't fill vacancies. The announcement was seen by some as being at odds with Mr Trump's campaign pledge to put American workers first.

Mr Trump said he intended to nominate Jon Huntsman as America's **ambassador to Russia**. Mr Huntsman is a moderate Republican, a one-time governor of Utah and a former ambassador to China. He ran unsuccessfully for the party's nomination for president in 2012.

The year of living dangerously Makhosi Khoza, an MP from South Africa's ruling African National Congress, called her party's leader, President Jacob Zuma, "a disgrace". She immediately received death threats and has been given round-the-clock security.

The Trump administration cancelled a programme that armed and trained moderate **Syrian rebels** fighting the Assad regime. The programme was introduced in 2013 and was never very effective, but the Russians had always opposed it.

Palestinian youths rioted in East Jerusalem over tighter security measures at Temple Mount. The new measures are a response to the fatal shooting of two **Israeli** policemen, which closed the Temple Mount compound for the first time in decades.

Saudi Arabia and the **United Arab Emirates** watered down a list of demands they are making of **Qatar**, its fellow Gulf state on which it has imposed a partial blockade since last month. The step was apparently aimed at getting out of the crisis they have created.

The Saudi government took in for questioning a woman who had allowed herself to be filmed dressed in a **miniskirt** and crop-top, and with uncovered hair.

The popular vote



More than 75m **Venezuelans**, about a third of the electorate, voted in a referendum organised by the opposition to the authoritarian regime. Nearly 100% of voters rejected a plan

by the president, Nicolás Maduro, to convene a constituent assembly to rewrite the constitution. The government said the referendum was illegal.

The American trade representative, Robert Lighthizer, outlined the Trump administration's goals for renegotiating the **North American Free-Trade Agreement** with Canada and Mexico. He called for a reduction in the American trade deficit with its partners, stronger rules of origin for goods that can be traded duty-free within North America and changes to NAFTA's dispute-resolution process.

A judge in **Peru** ordered the pre-trial detention of Ollanta Humala, a former president, and his wife. A prosecutor has accused the couple of taking a \$3m illegal donation during a presidential election campaign in 2011. The couple, who turned themselves in, deny wrongdoing.

We don't swear allegiance

A court in **Hong Kong** ruled that four pro-democracy lawmakers should be expelled from the legislature for failing to take their oaths in a "sincere and solemn" manner. The court had similarly disbarred two other opposition legislators in November. Their supporters accuse the government in Beijing of orchestrating the cases against them.

The Chinese government arranged a funeral ceremony for **Liu Xiaobo**, a Nobel peace-prize winner who died of liver cancer while serving an 11-year sentence for subversion. Only family members and security agents were allowed to attend. Mr Liu's ashes were deposited at sea. Censors deleted condolences from social media.

The Communist Party boss of the **Chinese** region of Chongqing, Sun Zhengcai, was dismissed and placed under investigation for violating party rules. Mr Sun had been considered as a possible successor to Xi Jinping, who, if he follows convention, will step down as the party's leader in

2022. An ally of Mr Xi, Chen Min'er, took over as Chongqing's party chief.

The government of **Indonesia** used new powers to ban Hizbut Tahrir, a group which advocates the creation of an Islamic caliphate, for undermining the constitution.

A private jet bringing Abdul Rashid Dostum, the vice-president of **Afghanistan**, home from Turkey, was turned away by the authorities when it tried to land in the Afghan city of Mazar-i-Sharif. Mr Dostum, who has fallen out with the president, Ashraf Ghani, is organising a new opposition coalition.

Moon Jae-in, the president of **South Korea**, proposed talks with **North Korea** in order to reduce tensions at the border and reunite families separated by the Korean war.

Legal wrangling



The European Commission hinted it may take action against **Poland** if planned changes to the judiciary go ahead. The ruling Law and Justice party has already put the constitutional tribunal under control of the executive and now plans to overhaul the supreme court. Thousands of Poles took to the streets to protest against the power grab.

General Pierre de Villiers resigned as the head of **France's** armed forces in a very public spat with Emmanuel Macron, the new president, over the defence budget. Mr Macron reminded a gathering of army chiefs that "I am your leader". He described the new army chief, General François Lecointre, as a "hero".

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