

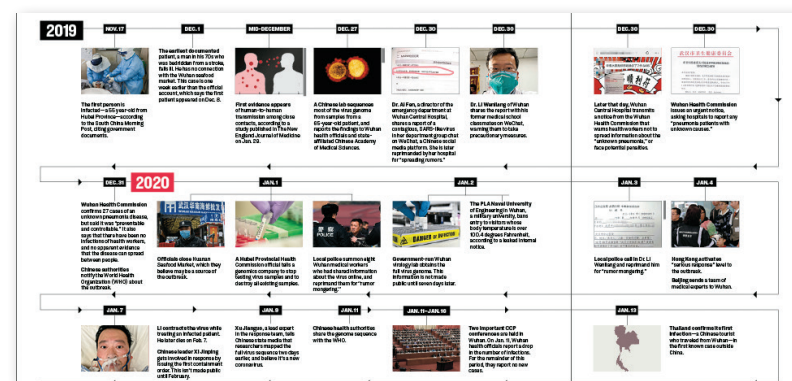
How the Chinese Communist Party Endangered the World

EMERGENCY MEDICAL WORKERS prepare to transport a gravely ill patient with COVID-19 symptoms from his home in Yonkers, New York, on April 6, 2020.

The Chinese Communist Party's coverup led to a pandemic that now threatens the lives of people around the globe. What really happened, and what lessons can we learn?

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Timeline on page **4**



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The Epoch Times is a media organisation dedicated to seeking the truth through insightful and independent journalism.

Standing outside of political interests and the pursuit of profit, our starting point and our goal is to create a media for the public benefit, to be truly responsible to society.

We endeavor to educate readers about today's most important topics, seeking to broaden and uplift minds. We believe that rational, balanced debate is key for fostering a healthy democracy and a compassionate society.

As an independent media outlet, we use our freedom to investigate issues overlooked—or avoided—by other media outlets. We seek to highlight solutions and what's good in society rather than what divides us.

We report respectfully, compassionately, and rigorously.

We stand against the destruction wrought by communism, including the harm done to cultures around the world.

We are inspired in this by our own experience. The Epoch Times was founded in 2000 to bring honest and uncensored news to people oppressed by the lies and violence in communist China.

We still believe journalism is a noble vocation, but only when it genuinely seeks to serve its communities and help them to flourish. In all that we do, we will hold ourselves to the highest standards of integrity. This is our promise to you.

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Editor's Note

We hope this finds you and your loved ones well. We live in challenging times right now, and this special edition is intended to explain the reasons behind why we find ourselves in such a situation.

Daily life in Australia has been upended, as governments seek to stop the spread of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) virus (see “Giving the Right Name to the Virus Causing a Worldwide Pandemic” below). The virus is highly transmissible, and in some cases, deadly.

Businesses have been shuttered and large numbers of people have lost their jobs with almost no notice. While the federal government is scrambling to provide aid, many households are suddenly facing economic uncertainty, if not hardship.

Some of the businesses that have closed may not be able to reopen. With the stock market responding to the pandemic with a devastating plunge, many people's retirement savings may be threatened.

These are times that test us. In normal times, we tend to focus on the day-to-day. In abnormal times such as these, we may find our thoughts turning to what is fundamental.

Ultimately, character and morality count. If our encounter with the CCP virus pushes us to look within and ask ourselves how we can become better people, then perhaps we will have found a blessing in this chaos.

The immorality and corruption of the Chinese regime helps explain the fundamental way in which we must look at the pandemic.

If the CCP had shown compassion for the Chinese people and if it had acted honestly and openly, much of China, and the world, could have been spared this calamity.

A recent study by the University of Southampton found that if “non-pharmaceutical interventions—such as early detection, isolation of cases, travel restrictions and cordon sanitaire ... could have been conducted one week, two weeks, or three weeks earlier, cases could have been reduced by 66 percent, 86 percent and 95 percent, respectively—significantly limiting the geographical spread of the disease.”

In fact, the CCP, out of concern for its power, censored knowledge of this new, highly transmissible, SARS-like illness for six weeks, allowing millions to travel from the epicentre in Wuhan to the rest of China. The virus quickly spread across China and around the world.

Now, the CCP is waging a propaganda campaign claiming it has been a model in fighting the disease. The same campaign has been disseminating the lie that the virus originated in the United States.

This special edition sets the record straight. If the world understands why the CCP virus has wreaked such havoc, then it will understand the need to reject the CCP and its contagion of lies, selfishness, and lust for power.

EDITORIAL

Giving the Right Name to the Virus Causing a Worldwide Pandemic

EDITORIAL BOARD

There has been controversy recently about what to call the virus that has unleashed a worldwide pandemic. The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) prefers “novel coronavirus.” Others have referred to it as the “Wuhan virus,” after its place of origin, as is common in naming diseases.

The Epoch Times suggests a more accurate name is the “CCP virus,” and calls upon others to join us in adopting this name.

The name holds the CCP accountable for its wanton disregard of human life and consequent spawning of a pandemic that has put untold numbers in countries around the world at risk, while creating widespread fear and devastating the economies of nations trying to cope with this disease.

After all, CCP officials knew in early December that the virus had appeared in Wuhan, but they sat on the information for six weeks. They arrested those who tried to warn of the danger, accusing them of spreading “rumors,” and employed the regime’s rigorous censorship to prevent media coverage and to delete any mentions of it from social media.

What might have been contained was allowed silently to spread, showing up in all of China. Individuals who might have protected themselves became victims, in numbers far greater than the CCP has admitted. By late January, there were reports that all of the crematoria in



Medical staff move a patient infected with the CCP virus from an ambulance to a hospital in Seoul, South Korea, on March 9, 2020.

Wuhan were operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week to deal with the crush of dead bodies.

Meanwhile, the measures taken to quarantine and treat the population of Wuhan were grotesquely inhumane. Apartment buildings were welded shut. Temporary “hospitals” were created that actually served as jails for those believed to be sick with the virus. Locked into these places with no medical treatment and little food, the unfortunates were trapped there until death.

In lying about the danger facing China, the CCP was acting according to its usual script. The CCP’s dominant narrative is that the Party is “great, glorious, and correct.” The presence of the deadly CCP virus in Wuhan, or, in 2003, of the SARS virus,

doesn’t fit the script. As with SARS, the first response was denial.

But in dealing with this virus, denial is not acceptable. The world needs to know its origin, and the CCP has refused to cooperate. Outside experts have not been allowed into Wuhan.

And there is understandable concern about the activities of the Wuhan Institute of Virology, China’s only P4 lab, one meant for working with easily transmitted pathogens that can cause fatal illness. As the official narratives offered for the source of the virus have been disproven, questions have been raised about whether the CCP virus leaked from the institute.

In any case, as questions about the origin of the virus have gone unanswered, the CCP has begun

throwing out wild charges that the United States is responsible. This will be met around the world with perplexity, if not ridicule. President Donald Trump has pushed back by referring to the “Chinese virus.”

But the CCP likely intends these charges of U.S. responsibility for its domestic audience. The CCP has victimized the Chinese people in its first denial of the virus and now seeks to victimize them again by shifting responsibility for its actions to others.

And this points out why the name “CCP virus” is needed, to distinguish the victims from the victimizer. The people of Wuhan and of China are the victims of the CCP’s arrogance and incompetence, expressed in this viral pandemic.

The name CCP virus also sounds a warning: Those nations and individuals close to the CCP are the ones suffering the worst effects from this virus, as is seen in the raging infections in the CCP’s close ally Iran and in Italy, the only G-7 nation to sign onto the Belt and Road Initiative. Taiwan and Hong Kong, which have rejected the CCP—Taiwan in a recent landslide national election and Hong Kong in months of massive demonstrations—have had relatively few infections.

Finally, the CCP virus reminds the people of the world that the source of the virus is itself evil. This is a communist virus, and with the name CCP virus, The Epoch Times reminds the world of the cure: ending the CCP.

THE EPOCH TIMES

TRUTH and TRADITION

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HELP ALL AUSTRALIANS SEE THROUGH THE CCP'S DECEPTION

Due to budget restraints, this special edition was only sent to a limited number of Australian households. Therefore, we ask you to share **CCPVirusTruth.com** with at least 5 friends.

HELP US TO SPREAD THE TRUTH TODAY

Interviews With Residents of Virus-Hit Chinese City Reveal Realities of Second Outbreak

NICOLE HAO

In the northern Chinese city of Harbin, where a second wave of the CCP virus outbreak has occurred, one family described how six members became infected after attending a big family dinner in early April.

In March, city authorities had lifted lockdown measures and allowed social gatherings. At the time, Harbin, as was the case with the majority of Chinese cities, declared themselves to be free of any new virus cases.

But when cluster outbreaks began to surface, authorities had no choice but to announce a lockdown once more.

Local residents told The Epoch Times that the city has forced many to be quarantined at home, without permission to go outside, even if they haven't been in contact with diagnosed patients, nor exhibited symptoms.

A Family Dinner

One Harbin native with six infected relatives spoke to the Chinese-language Epoch Times about how the virus spread in the family. The Epoch Times has chosen to use pseudonyms in order to protect their identities.

Lin Jun is originally from Harbin but has been working and living in the south of China. His family still lives in Harbin, but his mother, Wang Hong, was staying with him from January to April 9.

That day, "my grandma was discharged from the hospital [for non-virus-related disease], so my mom went back to take care of her at home," Lin said.

In China, families traditionally

have a big dinner gathering when a member returns after a long trip. So, on the evening of April 9, Lin's grandparents organized a big party at home with 11 family members.

Because the government did not announce new infections in Harbin until April 10, Lin's family was not aware of any risks of exposure to the virus. They thought it was safe to gather again.

On April 11, the Harbin government announced one new infection in the city, a patient who was being treated at the same hospital as Lin's grandma.

Because all 11 family members were in close contact, they all had to take the virus diagnostic test. They were sent to the hospital in three groups.

"The son of my uncle entered the hospital after [testing positive in] the first nucleic acid test. My uncle and my grandpa were diagnosed during the second test," Lin said. "My aunt was the last one who entered the hospital. She didn't take the nucleic acid test due to lack of diagnostic kits at the hospital. But the CT scan results and her symptoms showed that she was infected." Lin's aunt had ground-glass opacity in her lungs, indicating inflammation—a common symptom of COVID-19, the disease caused by the virus.

Lin's mother and grandmother were also diagnosed and sent to the hospital. Both are in critical condition and are being treated at the intensive care unit.

In the infection cases announced by the Harbin government, Lin's family members do



Police officers in protective suits are seen at an airport in Harbin, capital of Heilongjiang Province, China, on April 11, 2020.

not match the descriptions; thus, it is likely those cases were not counted in authorities' official toll.

Forced Quarantine

On April 17, the Heilongjiang provincial government punished 18 Harbin officials for mishandling the outbreak. Since then, the city government has launched tight measures to prevent the virus from spreading.

However, locals complained that the forced quarantine rules were inhumane.

Mr. Xiao's wife works on the kitchen staff at the Harbin Daoli District People's Hospital. About seven days ago, Mr. Xiao was asked to be isolated at a quaran-

tine center for 24 hours as a precaution. He was released from the quarantine center after testing negative.

Meanwhile, his wife has been quarantined at the hospital, not allowed to return home.

But because his wife works at the hospital, he was also quarantined. "They locked my home from the outside... I am locked inside the house," Xiao told the Chinese-language Epoch Times on April 23.

Mr. Ning is a buyer for the Daoli District hospital's kitchen. He usually goes to a local wholesale market early morning to buy the vegetables, then drops them off at the hospital before 7 a.m. The workers in the kitchen

start work at the hospital at 8 a.m. Thus, Ning said he does not have any contact with people working inside the facility.

But authorities have forcibly locked him in at home.

"They locked my door from the outside four days ago. In fact, I didn't come into contact with anybody from the hospital," Ning said.

Mrs. Su told The Epoch Times that her husband visited the hospital to get treatment for his blood circulation on April 16, and then was quarantined at the hospital. She did not go to the hospital herself, but was also forcibly locked down at home by city authorities on April 19.



THE EPOCH TIMES

Stay informed and keep safe
All Australians deserve the TRUTH

The Chinese Communist Party's (the CCP) coverup led to a pandemic that now threatens the lives of people around the globe. The CCP relies critically on the control of information to uphold its power.

As a fearlessly independent media, The Epoch Times was MONTHS AHEAD of other news outlets in covering the pandemic.

Join us in exposing the CCP's systematic propaganda campaign and control of vital information. For you, your family and future generations.

WHY SUPPORT US?

Since our founding in 2000, the Chinese Communist Party, with its multibillion-dollar lobbying and overseas propaganda budget, has tried relentlessly to stop The Epoch Times.

We've been fighting a long battle against the CCP's systematic lies and fake news operations, and standing up to the world's biggest dictatorship.

At the time of the CCP virus outbreak, the CCP is flooding the world with deceptive propaganda, and The Epoch Times is at the forefront of exposing the truth.

Similarly, The Epoch Times was among the first to report on the SARS epidemic in 2003. We are truly independent and not afraid of honest reporting on the Chinese Communist Party and the threat it poses to the world.

See through the deception, stay informed, support us in combating the CCP's lies and control of information.

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Timeline of CCP Coverup

THIS TIMELINE CHRONICLES the early stages of the viral outbreak in China and the Chinese regime’s coverup. Despite the evidence, Chinese authorities played down the severity of the outbreak for weeks, while suppressing vital information about COVID-19, the disease caused by the virus. By the time authorities implemented the first

2019

NOV. 17

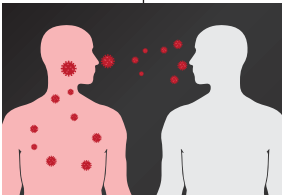


The first person is infected—a 55 year-old from Hubei Province—according to the South China Morning Post, citing government documents.

DEC. 1

The earliest documented patient, a man in his 70s who was bedridden from a stroke, falls ill. He has no connection with the Wuhan seafood market. This case is one week earlier than the official account, which says the first patient appeared on Dec. 8.

MID-DECEMBER



First evidence appears of human-to-human transmission among close contacts, according to a study published in The New England Journal of Medicine on Jan. 29.

DEC. 27




A Chinese lab sequences most of the virus genome from samples from a 65-year-old patient, and reports the findings to Wuhan health officials and state-affiliated Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences.

DEC. 30



Dr. Ai Fen, a director of the emergency department at Wuhan Central Hospital, shares a report of a contagious, SARS-like virus in her department group chat on WeChat, a Chinese social media platform. She is later reprimanded by her hospital for “spreading rumors.”


DEC. 30



Dr. Li Wenliang of Wuhan shares the report with his former medical school classmates on WeChat, warning them to take precautionary measures.


DEC. 31

2020



Wuhan Health Commission confirms 27 cases of an unknown pneumonia disease, but said it was “preventable and controllable.” It also says that there have been no infections of health workers, and no apparent evidence that the disease can spread between people.

Chinese authorities notify the World Health Organization (WHO) about the outbreak.




Officials close Huanan Seafood Market, which they believe may be a source of the outbreak.



A Hubei Provincial Health Commission official tells a genomics company to stop testing virus samples and to destroy all existing samples.



Local police summon eight Wuhan medical workers who had shared information about the virus online, and reprimand them for “rumor mongering.”



Government-run Wuhan virology lab obtains the full virus genome. This information is not made public until seven days later.



The PLA Naval University of Engineering in Wuhan, a military university, bans entry to visitors whose body temperature is over 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, according to a leaked internal notice.

JAN. 1



A Hubei Provincial Health Commission official tells a genomics company to stop testing virus samples and to destroy all existing samples.

JAN. 2



Government-run Wuhan virology lab obtains the full virus genome. This information is not made public until seven days later.


JAN. 7



Li contracts the virus while treating an infected patient. He later dies on Feb. 7.

Chinese leader Xi Jinping gets involved in response by issuing the first containment order. This isn’t made public until February.

JAN. 9



Xu Jianguo, a lead expert in the response team, tells Chinese state media that researchers mapped the full virus sequence two days earlier, and believe it’s a new coronavirus.

JAN. 11




Chinese health authorities share the genome sequence with the WHO.

JAN. 11–JAN. 16



Two important CCP conferences are held in Wuhan. On Jan. 11, Wuhan health officials report a drop in the number of infections. For the remainder of this period, they report no new cases.

JAN. 14



The WHO says that Chinese authorities had found no clear evidence of human-to-human transmission. It also notes “limited human-to-human transmission, potentially among families” is possible.


JAN. 15



The person who will become the first confirmed U.S. patient, a man from Washington state, returns from Wuhan.


Chinese officials say that the risk of human-to-human infection is low.

JAN. 16



Japan reports its first case—a Chinese national from Wuhan—becoming the second country outside China to confirm an infection from the virus. The man tested positive between Jan. 10 and Jan. 15.

JAN. 18



Local officials hold a large annual potluck banquet in Wuhan’s Baibuting community for 40,000 families, despite a request by committee staff to cancel it.

Beijing dispatches a second panel of health experts to Wuhan.

JAN. 20




Famed Chinese doctor Zhong Nanshan, who is part of China’s response team, confirms that the disease can be spread from human to human. He notes that one patient had infected 14 health workers.



By the end of the month, more than **3,000 health workers** will be infected in Hubei Province, as revealed by a Chinese official on March 6.

JAN. 21



The United States, the first country outside of Asia, confirms its first case. The Seattle man tested positive on Jan. 20.

JAN. 23



Wuhan imposes a lockdown. By then, around **5 million** people had left the city without being screened for the virus. A study published in Science magazine on March 16 estimates **86 percent** of all infections were undocumented prior to the Jan. 23 travel restrictions.



JAN. 24



Thirteen other cities in Hubei Province (whose capital is Wuhan) are placed under lockdown.

Hubei authorities announce a bid to build a temporary hospital in days.

Chinese Lunar New Year festivities begin. Prior to that, hundreds of millions of Chinese travel around the country to celebrate the occasion with family.

JAN. 27




Authorities in Hubei Province say they will free up 100,000 hospital beds for patients.

Wuhan Mayor Zhou Xianwang concedes that disclosures of the outbreak were not timely, but attempts to shift blame to the central government, saying he needed permission from higher-ups before releasing information.


Beijing extends the New Year holiday to Feb. 2 and closes schools indefinitely.



JAN. 30 ONWARDS



Countries around the world start imposing border closures and travel restrictions.



Medical staff treat CCP virus patients at a hospital in Wuhan on March 19, 2020.



A nurse wearing a protective mask and gear comforts another as they change shifts at the Cremona hospital, in Italy’s northern Lombardy region, on March 13, 2020.

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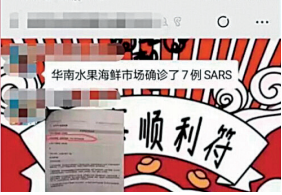
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containment measures on Jan. 23, it was too late. The disease had already spread around the country and overseas.

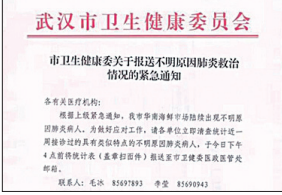
Less than two months later, the outbreak has morphed into a pandemic, spreading to more than 185 countries and territories.

DEC. 30



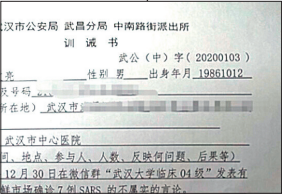
Later that day, Wuhan Central Hospital transmits a notice from the Wuhan Health Commission that warns health workers not to spread information about the “unknown pneumonia,” or face potential penalties.

DEC. 30




Wuhan Health Commission issues an urgent notice, asking hospitals to report any “pneumonia patients with unknown causes.”

JAN. 3




Local police call in Dr. Li Wenliang and reprimand him for “rumor mongering.”

JAN. 4




Hong Kong activates “serious response” level to the outbreak.
Beijing sends a team of medical experts to Wuhan.

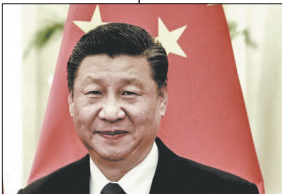
JAN. 13



Thailand confirms its first infection—a Chinese tourist who traveled from Wuhan—in the first known case outside China.




South Korea reports its first case, a 35-year-old Chinese woman who traveled from Wuhan.




Chinese leader Xi Jinping makes his first public remarks about the disease, calling on authorities to take swift action to combat the outbreak, in a speech reported by Chinese state media.

JAN. 28




U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar says Beijing declined an offer to send a team of health experts to China. On Feb. 7, he says the United States had been offering for more than a month.

JAN. 30



The WHO declares the outbreak a global health emergency.



Patients lie in bed inside the new coronavirus intensive care unit of the Poliambulanza hospital in Brescia, Italy, on March 17, 2020.

ALL IMAGES BY GETTY IMAGES & SHUTTERSTOCK EXCEPT WHERE NOTED

COMMENTARY

Time Has Come to Remove the Cancer of the CCP

DIANA ZHANG

It’s always been a mystery to me as to why America dealt with the Soviet Union as an evil communist regime, but treated China as a mild one that could be bought with money and a good lifestyle.

We thought we were rich enough, powerful enough, and attractive enough to change China into a normal society such as one in the free world. Instead, the business and investment from the United States have made the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) stronger. The CCP is like a cancer that sucks nutrition from a healthy organ to become a bigger threat to the whole body.

The spread of the CCP virus around the world shows us how dangerous the CCP is. It is contagious. It is invisible. It is deadly. It is a threat to everyone on this planet.

When The Epoch Times published the editorial series, “Nine Commentaries on the Communist Party,” which lays bare the history of the CCP, readers wrote to us asking, “Where was The New York Times when this was happening?”

When the Great Leap Forward happened and millions were killed, we thought it was a China issue. When the Great Famine happened and 40 million people starved to death, it was a remote problem. When the Tiananmen Square massacre happened, we continued to do business with the CCP. When the persecution of the spiritual practice Falun Gong happened, we tried to please the CCP by looking away.

In some ways, the CCP has changed. It actually has grown. It has slicker packaging and understands the West better—so it can do a better job of taking advantage of the West. Its propaganda always uses the United States as a negative example, telling the Chinese people that the CCP is better.

In many ways, the CCP has never changed—its nature has never changed. During the Great Famine, CCP officials blockaded many villages, not allowing people to go out to beg for food. It was more important to the CCP to hide the truth.

Sixty years later, when the coronavirus spread, some villages were sealed off, some homes were locked from the

outside. Some children starved to death.

The CCP says there have been 3,259 deaths from the virus, but this doesn’t match what we have seen happening in China. We know cremation centers in Wuhan were operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Outside some villages, bodies were burned in open-air pits. Forty mobile furnaces were shipped to Wuhan. Each can burn five tons of “medical waste and dead animal bodies” (animal bodies or human bodies?) each day.

Insiders say the death toll from the CCP virus has surpassed 1 million. We have no way to prove or disprove that number. Recent reports of the remaining number of cellphone users in China suggest the number of deaths may be far higher than previously suggested.

China has three cellphone carriers. China Mobile reported that it lost roughly 7.25 million users in February, while China Telecom lost 5.6 million users in February. The relatively small China Unicom hasn’t released its February report. But in January, it lost about 1.19 million users.

Supposing that China Unicom kept all its users in February, the entire Chinese market still lost about 12.85 million cellphone users that month. How many of those people died in the past month?

With the CCP concealing information about the virus, the world has been caught unprepared. Now, we have become victims, as the virus has crossed borders. Should we continue to deal with the CCP like we are dealing with a group of gentlemen? We have lost our manufacturing jobs; we have lost intellectual property. Now, are we are going to lose our family members, and maybe our own lives?

When a cancer continues to grow, what is the end result?

Fortunately, we are still strong as a country. However, when good cells fight off cancer, it’s a life-and-death struggle. If we don’t see this clearly, if we don’t take out the CCP as soon as possible, a more deadly virus might come. This CCP virus should be lesson enough for us.

Eliminating the CCP doesn’t require World War III. If we cut our ties to it, it will starve to death quickly, like a cancer separated from its host.



A Chinese paramilitary police officer guards an underground tunnel in Beijing on Oct. 1, 2015.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Chinese Communist Subversion of WHO Undermined Global Pandemic Response

PETR SVAB

The World Health Organization (WHO) is facing a flurry of criticism for its response to the CCP virus pandemic, and much of the problem can be attributed to the growing influence the communist regime in China has on the organization. Critics mainly point out that the WHO was too slow to recommend travel restrictions and some other preventive measures, and also that the agency accepted information from China at face value, despite numerous red flags.

While China experts were sounding alarms about a coverup, the WHO continued to praise China’s response and never warned the world that data coming from the regime was suspect.

WHO, an agency of the United Nations, has long been swayed by Beijing’s political preferences. Its current head, Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, is a former member of a Maoist group in Ethiopia.

As The Epoch Times previously documented, China has been increasing its power over U.N. institutions for years. Beijing’s clout has now gone so far, it undermines WHO’s basic functions, such as providing timely and accurate information about the world’s health situation.

Case in point: the CCP virus.

Timeline

The CCP virus, commonly known as the novel coronavirus, broke out in the central Chinese city of Wuhan around November 2019, before spreading across China and the world.

As of April 14, there are some 2 million confirmed cases of the virus, which causes the disease COVID-19. Almost 130,000 deaths have since been attributed to the disease worldwide.

The WHO has said that Chinese authorities first informed it about the outbreak on Dec. 31, 2019. While that would have been a golden opportunity to mitigate the spread of the virus worldwide, the WHO conveyed none of its information to the world that day.

It appears that only one country had its ear close enough to the ground at that point to respond meaningfully—Taiwan.

By Dec. 31, the island nation off the coast of mainland China had already started monitoring travelers coming on flights from Wuhan. Taiwan authorities also told the WHO that day that Taiwanese doctors had learned from their mainland counterparts that health care workers had been falling ill with the mysterious new virus.

That was crucial information, since it indicated the virus was spreading from person to person. The WHO, however, ignored it, Taiwan officials later said.

It was to be expected of the WHO to ignore that warning. The CCP considers Taiwan a breakaway province and has pressed the U.N. to ignore Taiwan’s existence as an independent country.

Taiwan has been denied membership in the WHO, whose personnel are prohibited from using documents or even information from official Taiwan sources without prior special permission, according to a leaked 2010 WHO memo.

Such permission would involve “coordination with the Permanent [UN] Mission of China in Geneva,” the memo stated.

While Taiwan was getting its response to the virus underway, the situation in Wuhan was quickly deteriorating.

On Jan. 2, The Epoch Times reported on the efforts of the CCP to block information about the outbreak and the high levels of anxiety spreading throughout the city.

A Wuhan Health Commission directive prohibited all medical facilities in the city

WHO advises against the application of any travel or trade restrictions on China based on the information currently available on this event.

The World Health Organization in a statement following the outbreak in Wuhan

In a March 20 tweet, Tedros repeated CCP propaganda, saying that ‘for the first time, #China has reported no domestic #COVID19 cases yesterday.’

World Health Organization (WHO) Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus attends a daily press briefing on the CCP virus at the WHO headquarters in Geneva on March 11, 2020.

(Foreground) World Health Organization Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus (L) shakes hands with Chinese leader Xi Jinping on Jan. 28, 2020. (Background) The logo of the World Health Organization.

“from publicizing medical information without permission,” and online discussions about the outbreak were quickly censored. On Jan. 1, Wuhan police said that they had detained eight locals who had spread “rumors” about the outbreak.

As it turned out, at least some of the suppressed whistleblowers were doctors who had tried to warn colleagues about the new virus.

Panicked locals cleared Wuhan pharmacies of surgical masks and over-the-counter preventive Chinese medicines. China expert and physician Tang Jingyu-an warned a government coverup might exacerbate the spread of the virus.

Meanwhile, the WHO remained silent.

By Jan. 3, the WHO was informed by Chinese authorities of 44 cases, 11 of them severe. That was likely the tip of the iceberg.

On Jan. 5, The Epoch Times reported, citing multiple experts, that the CCP had likely been covering up information about the virus, which was detrimental to controlling the outbreak.

That day, the WHO commented for the first time about the outbreak, disclosing that it had known about an outbreak of a “pneumonia of unknown cause” in Wuhan for five days and recommending that it should be “handled prudently.” But the agency didn’t recommend “any specific measures for travelers.”

FABRICE COFFRINI/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES





Personnel at Taiwan's Centers for Disease Control use thermal scanners to screen passengers arriving on a flight from Wuhan, Hubei Province, China, at Taipei's Taoyuan International Airport in northern Taiwan on Jan. 13, 2020.



CHEN CHI-CHUAN/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

“Looking after itself, not listening to the WHO in this particular case, I think actually helped,” said Dr. William Stanton, vice president of the National Yang-Ming University of Taiwan and a former U.S. ambassador to China, in a recent interview with The Epoch Times’ Jan Jekielek.

The WHO only managed to get its team to Wuhan for “a brief field visit” on Jan. 20.

On Jan. 17, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) sent personnel to screen travelers coming from Wuhan to three major U.S. airports—JFK, Los Angeles International, and San Francisco International, which were getting the highest traffic from the outbreak’s epicenter. More airports were added to the list in subsequent weeks.

On Jan. 20, China confirmed human-to-human transmission.

On Jan. 23, the day the CCP put Wuhan on lockdown, the WHO announced that, despite some internal disagreements, it wouldn’t declare the outbreak a “public health emergency of international concern.”

By then, cases had already started to crop up around the world, including in the United States.

Three days later, Taiwan banned flights from Wuhan and arranged special flights to return its people from the city.

On Jan. 28, while visiting China, the WHO’s Tedros urged the countries of the world “to remain calm and not to over-react,” expressing confidence in the CCP’s epidemic control, Chinese state-run media reported.

On Feb. 3, three days after President Donald Trump prohibited foreigners who had recently been in China from traveling to the United States, Tedros voiced opposition to travel bans, saying measures that would “unnecessarily interfere with travel and trade” weren’t needed.

In a March 20 tweet, Tedros repeated CCP propaganda, saying that “for the first time, #China has reported no domestic #COVID19 cases yesterday.” While for China experts, the news all but confirmed that the CCP numbers were fake, Tedros touted it as “an amazing achievement, that gives us all reassurance that the #coronavirus can be beaten.”

Statistical modeling, eyewitness accounts, and documents provided to The Epoch Times have shown that Chinese authorities concealed the true scale of the outbreak in Wuhan and other parts of China.

Tedros, however, repeatedly praised China for “transparency” in its response to the outbreak—something experts and government officials around the world have emphasized as being the most lacking.

The Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation, a nonprofit established in the 1990s by the U.S. government, published on April 10 a detailed timeline of the CCP’s coverup of the epidemic and of the WHO’s culpability in it. The organization also announced it would be adding the

global CCP virus deaths to the historical death toll of communism.

“The WHO has abdicated its responsibility to the entire world population in order to carry water for the Chinese Communist regime,” the foundation’s executive director, Marion Smith, said in a release.

A Personal Connection

While part of the CCP’s influence over the WHO was coming from the U.N., another part of it was played by Tedros himself.

Tedros is a former Politburo member of the Tigray People’s Liberation Front, a Maoist group that had waged a guerrilla war in the 1980s against the Soviet-backed Mengistu regime in Ethiopia.

“The nearest you would put [Tigray’s ideology] to would be North Korea today,” according to Trevor Loudon, an expert on communist movements and front groups.

In the early 1990s, as the regime at the time lost financial support from the collapsing Soviet Union, a coalition of Tigray and other groups overthrew it and ruled the country until 2019.

While on the surface, the government embraced market reforms and democratic elections, ideologically it remained socialist, Loudon said, especially in terms of foreign policy.

“They still keep up their foreign communist connections,” he said in a telephone interview with The Epoch Times.

Tedros, a former health and later foreign minister of the African nation, naturally maintained strong ties with the CCP, embracing projects such as the “Belt and Road” initiative, which serves the CCP to expand its geostrategic influence.

Tedros scored the WHO’s top post in 2017 with strong backing by the CCP’s lobby, despite allegations that he had covered up three cholera outbreaks during his tenure as health minister.

“Chinese diplomats had campaigned hard for the Ethiopian, using Beijing’s financial clout and opaque aid budget to build support for him among developing countries,” Sunday Times columnist Rebecca Myers wrote at the time.

Tedros denied covering up the cholera outbreaks, saying it was just “acute watery diarrhea.”

He has proven adept at playing into Western sensitivity to accusations of oppression.

When an adviser to his British opponent for the WHO leadership brought up the cholera coverups, he accused him of having a “colonial mindset.”

When Taiwan called him out for ignoring its information about the CCP virus, Tedros accused Taiwan of racist attacks.

That accusation seems to have done little to deflect the criticism; a petition calling for Tedros’s resignation has garnered nearly a million signatures.

“I think we have to take a much harder line in terms of how the WHO has handled this virus,” Stanton said. “Because it’s clearly been simply a mouthpiece, in my view, of the PRC [People’s Republic of China] government.”

KEVIN FRAYER/GETTY IMAGES



Chinese police officers at Beijing Railway Station in Beijing on April 4, 2020.

Instead, it did the opposite. “WHO advises against the application of any travel or trade restrictions on China based on the information currently available on this event,” it said.

Five days later, the WHO addressed the outbreak again.

“From the currently available information, preliminary investigation suggests that there is no significant human-to-human transmission, and no infections among health care workers have occurred,” the agency stated, contradicting information that had been provided by Taiwan.

“WHO does not recommend any specific health measures for travelers,” WHO said. It instead released general information on how to deal with virus infections.

On Jan. 12, WHO said there was “no clear evidence of human-to-human transmission,” slightly adjusting its language.

“Preliminary investigations conducted by the Chinese authorities have found no clear evidence of human-to-human transmission,” WHO announced two days later, never expressing a shadow of a doubt about the Chinese communist regime’s official statements.

At this time, Taiwan had already arranged for its own fact-finding team to travel to Wuhan.

“They didn’t let us see what they didn’t want us to see, but our experts sensed the situation was not optimistic,” Taiwanese government spokesperson Kolas Yotaka told NBC News.

Soon after the team returned, Taiwan initiated testing and reporting requirements for its hospitals.

The WHO has abdicated its responsibility to the entire world population in order to carry water for the Chinese Communist regime.

Marion Smith, executive director, Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation



The United States is heavily reliant on medical supplies from China, the world’s largest producer of active pharmaceutical ingredients, according to a November 2019 U.S. congressional report.

Retired U.S. Air Force Brig. Gen. Robert Spalding in Washington on May 29, 2019.

Chinese Regime Using Pandemic to Advance Global Ambitions, Expert Says

EVA FU & JAN JEKIELEK

As the world grapples with a sprawling health crisis, the Chinese Communist Party is using the pandemic to expand its global influence, according to China expert Robert Spalding.

The Chinese regime has seized upon the fallout from the pandemic as an opportunity to extend its control on the global supply chain and to deflect responsibility for having created the disaster, the retired U.S. Air Force brigadier general and author told The Epoch Times in an interview.

He describes it as “unrestricted warfare” in full force.

A strategy crafted by Chinese military officials in the late 1990s, unrestricted warfare—as he explained in his book, “Stealth War: How China Took Over While America’s Elite Slept”—refers to using a series of unconventional warfare tactics designed to accomplish the goals of war without engaging in actual combat.

In playing out this campaign, the regime has combined different elements of warfare—economic, trade, political, information—to “create a convergence of challenges” for the United States and other Western democracies, Spalding said.

“It’s hard for people to grasp how powerful this new type of warfare is, because we’re so used to the traditional type of warfare, with planes and ships and bombs and tanks,” he said.

On the information warfare front, Chinese diplomats and state media have recently peddled conspiracy theories speculating about the virus’s origin and putting the blame on the United States, while fake accounts linked to Beijing have flooded Twitter to act as “cheerleaders for the government.”

“They’re covering up the actual truth while essentially creating a new truth on the ground and new facts on the ground,” Spalding said. “Because they control all the data coming out about the coronavirus or the CCP virus, then it’s all according to the narrative that they themselves control.”

Profiting Amid a Crisis

As the outbreak strains the global health system and weighs on medical supply chains, there are concerns that China is using the much-sought-after supplies for its own gains. White House economic adviser Peter Navarro told Fox Business last month that China had been stockpiling the N95 face masks by imposing an export restriction.

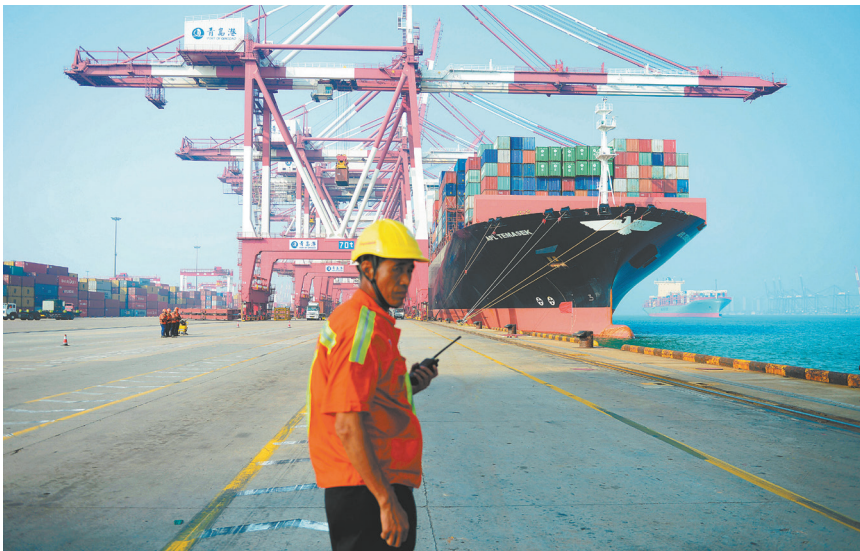
In the meantime, millions of the masks are flowing to European countries from China as part of aid packages.

“They see the coronavirus as an opportunity to do that, particularly because countries are going to be relying on them for medical supplies because they’re going

It’s hard for people to grasp how powerful this new type of warfare is, because we’re so used to the traditional type of warfare, with planes and ships and bombs and tanks.

Retired Air Force Brig. Gen. Robert Spalding

A Chinese worker looks on as a cargo ship is loaded at a port in Qingdao, Shandong Province, China, on July 13, 2017.



to have the only factories open,” Spalding said. “They’re trying to essentially make it look like the Chinese Communist Party is the savior of Western Europe.”

The United States is heavily reliant on medical supplies from China, the world’s largest producer of active pharmaceutical ingredients, according to a November 2019 U.S. congressional report; the spreading pathogen only exacerbated the problem. While Chinese officials denied there were official export bans in place, from late January to February, protective equipment manufacturers were asked to sell their products internally. China also produced half of the world’s masks prior to the outbreak.

China’s state-run news agency Xinhua, in an implicit threat in early March, said the United States would “plunge into the mighty sea of coronavirus” if China chooses to retaliate by controlling medical supply exports.

“We’ve offshored it, we don’t have it anymore. We can’t even produce for our own selves,” Spalding said.

A number of countries, among them Spain, Turkey, and the Netherlands, recently complained about defects in Chinese exports of medical supplies for combating the virus.

Meanwhile, Beijing has been outlining policy measures since February to bolster its economic ambitions, Horizon Advisory, a U.S.-based independent consultancy, said in a report.

“Beijing intends to use the global dislocation and downturn to attract foreign investment, to seize strategic market share and resources—especially those that force dependence [on China],” according to the report.

The municipal government of Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan Province, told a local newspaper that it’s “possible to turn the crisis into an opportunity—to increase the trust and the dependence of all countries around the world of ‘Made in China.’”

The State Council, a Cabinet-like agency, also highlighted 5G technology and artificial intelligence—the signature tools for China’s pervasive surveillance state—as two

of its top strategic objectives to showcase.

“In times of fear, it seems attractive, but what you allowed them to do is essentially insinuate themselves even deeper into the veins of your society,” Spalding said. “Their goal is to be able to have this coercive power over the world, and they’re using the CCP virus to basically perpetuate, accelerate, and deepen that.”

Rewriting History

Throughout the outbreak, Beijing’s response can be characterized as a web of coverup, denial, and lies that make it the unmistakable culprit, according to Spalding.

“What we can say with certainty, with absolute 100 percent certainty, is that the Chinese Communist Party created the global pandemic,” he said.

On at least on two occasions—Jan. 1 and Jan. 3—Hubei and national health officials told Chinese labs to stop testing and to destroy existing evidence, according to reports by Chinese media outlet Caixin.

While U.S. federal health authorities repeatedly offered to send researchers to China since Jan. 6, only two were eventually allowed into the country—more than a month later.

By the time Wuhan imposed a drastic lockdown on Jan. 23, more than 5 million locals had left without undergoing a health screening, carrying the virus to other parts of the world. Then, as the outbreak became severe in the United States in March, Chinese diplomats began an aggressive disinformation campaign that accused the U.S. Army of bringing the virus to Wuhan.

A central tenet about the nature of the regime is its need for control, Spalding says.

“When it saw this virus come out, it was worried about its legitimacy.”

Internal documents obtained by The Epoch Times, as well as insider accounts, indicate that Chinese officials have made a top priority to control the outbreak narrative, both inside and outside of China.

Spalding is critical of the World Health Organization’s name for the disease caused by the virus. The name COVID-19—which the WHO says stands for “coronavirus disease 2019”—doesn’t clearly designate its origin in China, allowing the Chinese regime to whitewash its bungled response to the outbreak, he said.

“We, in some ways, are still perpetuating Chinese Communist Party propaganda because we allow them to name things,” he said. “Naming things is very powerful.”

This crisis, he says, also demonstrates the limitations of global trade and the importance of being self-sufficient in the manufacture of crucial supplies.

“We shouldn’t be reliant on a regime that repudiates everything that we stand for, and uses ... that supply chain tie to coerce us into abandoning our own principles,” he said.