



The Coronavirus Cover-Up: A Timeline

How the Chinese Communist Party Misled the World about COVID-19 and Is Using the World Health Organization As an Instrument of Propaganda

Executive Summary

The People's Republic of China (PRC) and its ruling Chinese Communist Party (CCP) have deceived the world about the coronavirus since its appearance in late 2019. In this situation brief, the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation compares the timeline and facts with China's ongoing disinformation campaign about the coronavirus' origins, nature, and spread. This brief also demonstrates how the World Health Organization (WHO) has promoted and helped legitimize China's false claims.

The consequences of China's deception and the WHO's credulity are now playing out globally. It is normally difficult to assign culpability to governments and organizations charged with ensuring public health in any pandemic, but the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic is materially different. The denial of information, outright fabrications, and disregard for human life—both within and outside of China's borders—is so shocking and pervasive that the contracting of the virus by millions worldwide and the resultant death toll was not only foreseeable but entirely avoidable.

If the Chinese Communist Party had taken early steps to warn the world instead of covering up its spread, and if the WHO had simply questioned or cautioned against China's

assertions, the harm would have been significantly reduced. Instead, the PRC's actions and WHO's inaction precipitated a pandemic, leading to a global economic crisis and a growing loss of human life.

As a matter of justice, and to prevent future pandemics, the PRC must be held accountable through demands for economic reparations and other sanctions pertaining to human rights. China should also be suspended from full membership in the WHO and the WHO, which U.S. taxpayers fund annually, must be subject to immediate investigation and reform. Media organizations reporting on the claims of China and WHO regarding the pandemic without scrutiny or context must be cautioned against misleading the public.

Communist regimes have been responsible for the death of more than 100 million worldwide, according to global experts.¹ The final human toll of the current pandemic cannot yet be determined, but those who have perished and will perish from the novel coronavirus must be included in that count—victims of the Chinese Communist Party and its willful disregard for both human life and its own international legal obligations.

China's Early Deception (November – Mid-January)

The world first learned about a mysterious pneumonia-like virus in Central China in mid-December 2019, when a 57-year-old merchant at a seafood market reported feeling ill and visited a clinic.² On January 9, 2020, the virus was identified by PRC authorities as “a new type of coronavirus” (SARS-CoV-2).

But recent reporting indicates that the first case was recorded in Wuhan, China, on November 17, 2019—a fact still not acknowledged by the PRC. Despite readily available information and a rapidly spreading outbreak, it took more than two months for the PRC to inform the world that the coronavirus was being transmitted among humans, which the regime finally admitted on January 20.^{3,4} The PRC knew about human-to-human transmission by late December, yet ordered the evidence destroyed.⁵ Such information was vital to preventing the global pandemic.

Chinese Communist Party Chairman Xi Jinping stated on February 3 that he “made requests for prevention and control of the new coronavirus pneumonia” in early January, but the evidence indicates that by then, the PRC had delib-

erately prevented the dissemination of knowledge necessary to stop the illness from spreading.⁶ Notably, the CCP took early measures to silence individuals in China's scientific and health communities from publicizing information about the disease.⁷ These actions delayed the world's understanding of—and response to—the novel illness.

The PRC simultaneously prevented outside health experts from the United States and the WHO from independently verifying data about the health situation in Wuhan. The simplest explanation for these actions is that the PRC was covering up a major outbreak which was an embarrassment to the communist leadership. The CCP has a long record of misleading the international community on health matters, most notably with previous outbreaks of SARS and AIDS.⁸

Through the middle of January, Chinese state-run media claimed that the virus was containable.⁹ Yet other actions indicate the PRC already knew otherwise. Beginning that same month, the PRC activated a predatory global campaign to acquire medical supplies and equipment from North America and Europe for urgent shipment to China—a sign that the virus was spreading faster than Chinese authorities acknowledged.¹⁰ Special attention was given to personal protective equipment such as respiratory masks and gloves, meaning the PRC knew that the coronavirus

Timeline of CCP Coverup and WHO Complicity

At every stage of the coronavirus pandemic, PRC and WHO statements have failed to reflect reality. The Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation has compiled a timeline showing these blatant and dangerous discrepancies:

PRC/CCP CLAIMS	WHO STATEMENTS	REALITY
Initial outbreak of virus:		
<p><u>Dec. 21, 2019</u> Chinese Center for Disease Control: “A cluster of pneumonia cases with an unknown cause occur in Wuhan.”³⁸</p> <p><u>Dec. 31, 2019</u> Wuhan Municipal Health Commission announces unknown pneumonia, with warning: “Any organizations or individuals are not allowed to release treatment information to the public without authorization.”³⁹</p> <p><u>Jan. 5, 2020</u> Wuhan Municipal Health Commission: “The earliest onset of the case was December 12, 2019.”⁴⁰</p>	<p><u>Jan. 5, 2020</u> WHO: “On 31 December 2019, the WHO China Country Office was informed of cases of pneumonia of unknown etiology (unknown cause) detected in Wuhan City. [...] On 1 January 2020, WHO requested further information from national authorities to assess the risk.”⁴¹</p>	<p><u>Nov. 17, 2019</u> First reported case of coronavirus (later named COVID-19) in China.⁴²</p> <p><u>Dec. 30, 2019</u> Dr. Li Wenliang warns: Seven patients from a local seafood market had been diagnosed with a SARS-like illness and quarantined in his hospital. He says, “When I saw [screenshots of my messages] circulating online, I realized that it was out of my control and I would probably be punished.”⁴³</p> <p><u>Dec. 31, 2019</u> Taiwan Central Epidemic Command Center alerts WHO of virus. WHO responds simply: “received”.⁴⁴</p>

was spreading between humans, though it refused to publicly acknowledge this fact.¹¹

The WHO was also aware of human-to-human transmission at an early date. Taiwan highlighted this concern to the agency on December 31.¹² The next day the WHO asked China for more information, but on January 14 the WHO was still reporting that “preliminary investigations conducted by the Chinese authorities have found no clear evidence of human-to-human transmission.”^{13,14}

At no point has the WHO criticized China for refusing to let it verify the PRC’s data or for pilfering global medical supplies. Instead, the WHO quickly praised China in glowing terms, even saying they were “reassured of the quality

of the ongoing investigations and the response measures.”¹⁵ The WHO also repeated the PRC’s claim that there was no evidence of human-to-human transmission despite doctors contracting the coronavirus from patients. The WHO maintained its position about the unverified or limited nature of human-to-human transmission until January 23—three days after the PRC admitted the fact.¹⁶

China Creates A Global Pandemic (Mid-January – Mid-March)

By the time Chinese officials acknowledged that the coronavirus spread between humans—a fact they already knew—it had already made its way across Asia and to Europe and North America. The reported number of infected people in the PRC also increased rapidly during this time.¹⁷ But China’s tally of infections and deaths were severely under-counted, as the PRC continued to crack down on free speech and prevent independent medical investigations. This further lulled the world into a false sense of security.

PRC oppression significantly increased beginning in late January. It detained and disappeared independent Chinese journalists, expelled foreign journalists, and shut down the internet in certain areas, according to netizens.¹⁸ State censors were simultaneously given more powers to remove more content from the internet.¹⁹ The CCP made every available effort to hide what was happening not only in Wuhan, but across China.

Many Chinese citizens risked their lives exposing the lies of the Communist regime. In late January and early February, Citizen journalist Chen Qiushi and salesperson Fang Bin published dozens of YouTube videos documenting images



Dr. Li Wenliang who warned the world of coronavirus, was forced to make a self-criticism, and later died from the virus on Feb. 7, 2020.

PRC/CCP CLAIMS

WHO STATEMENTS

REALITY

CCP takes steps to suppress information about the outbreak:

Jan. 1, 2020

“The police call on all netizens to not fabricate rumors, not spread rumors, not believe rumors,” the Wuhan authorities said, adding that they encouraged Web users to “jointly build a harmonious, clear and bright cyberspace.”⁴⁵

Jan. 3, 2020

PRC National Health Commission and Hubei Province Health Commission send working groups and expert groups to Wuhan “to guide the local epidemic response and disposal work.”⁴⁶

Jan. 5, 2020

WHO Director-General Tedros: “Good to receive updated information from China on pneumonia of unknown cause in Wuhan City. WHO remains in close touch with [Chinese] authorities as they work to identify the cause.”⁴⁷

Jan. 1, 2020

Dr. Li Wenliang and seven other doctors summoned to police department and forced to sign a statement acknowledging a “misdemeanor” and promising not to commit further “unlawful acts.”⁴⁸

Jan. 29, 2020

Journalist Chen Qiushi and Wuhan salesperson Fang Bin go viral for dozens of unfiltered videos describing the reality in Wuhan, calling for free speech. Fang is interrogated by authorities on Feb. 2 and disappears Feb. 9. Qiushi disappears Feb. 6.⁴⁹

in Wuhan: long lines outside of hospitals, grieving families, and body bags. “In front of me is the virus. Behind me is China’s legal and administrative power,” Qishi said in one video a week before his disappearance on February 6. Fang described himself as “a person, just an ordinary person, a silly person who lifted the lid for a second.”²⁰ He has not been heard from since his last video, posted February 9.

In conjunction with its domestic cover-up, the CCP began a global disinformation and propaganda campaign. From February onward, Chinese communist officials accused the United States of initially spreading the virus and intentionally planting it in Wuhan. The PRC also began

shipping faulty medical supplies and equipment to foreign countries, including some whose medical resources it had already hoarded.²¹ Despite contributing to the mounting global crisis by withholding vital information about the coronavirus, the PRC nonetheless sought to benefit from it geopolitically and financially.

During this time, the WHO continued to tout Chinese efforts and spread erroneous data. WHO officials praised PRC transparency and cooperation in late January, even though a WHO team was not allowed into Wuhan, the epicenter of the outbreak, until late February.²² Its refusal to question PRC actions likely delayed the WHO’s declaration of a global

PRC/CCP CLAIMS	WHO STATEMENTS	REALITY
Human-to-human transmission:		
<p>Jan. 11, 2020 Wuhan Municipal Health Commission: “At present, <i>no medical staff infection</i> has been found, and <i>no clear evidence of human-to-human transmission</i> has been found.”⁵⁰</p> <p>Jan 14, 2020 Wuhan Municipal Health Commission: “Existing survey results show that <i>clear human-to-human evidence has not been found</i>, and the possibility of limited human-to-human transmission cannot be ruled out, but the risk of continued human-to-human transmission is low.”⁵¹</p> <p>Jan. 20, 2020 CCP acknowledges that human-to-human transmission is occurring.⁵²</p> <p>Jan. 23, 2020 Chinese authorities frantically shut down Wuhan and cancel New Year celebrations. “Strictly implement emergency response requirements, enter into a state of war and implement wartime measures to resolutely curb the spread of this epidemic.”⁵³</p>	<p>Jan. 14, 2020 WHO: “Preliminary investigations conducted by the Chinese authorities have found <i>no clear evidence of human-to-human transmission</i> of the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) identified in Wuhan, China.”⁵⁴</p> <p>Jan. 19, 2020 WHO China office: “<i>Not enough is known to draw definitive conclusions about how it is transmitted</i>, the clinical features of the disease, the extent to which it has spread, or its source, which remains unknown.”⁵⁵</p> <p>Jan. 20, 2020 WHO downgrades number of deaths from previous day’s statement, but admits “<i>at least some human-to-human transmission</i> of #nCoV2019. Infections among health care workers strengthen the evidence for this.”⁵⁶</p> <p>Jan. 23, 2020 Tedros: “This is an emergency in China, but it has not yet become a global health emergency. At this time, there is <i>no evidence of human-to-human transmission</i> outside China.”⁵⁷</p> <p>Jan. 30, 2020 Tedros: “[T]here is no reason for measures that unnecessarily interfere with international travel and trade. WHO doesn’t recommend limiting trade and movement.”⁵⁸</p>	<p>Dec. 25, 2019 Chinese medical staff in two hospitals in Wuhan are suspected of contracting coronavirus and are quarantined, indicating human-to-human transmission occurred just short of one month before WHO admits to human-to-human transmission.⁵⁹</p> <p>Jan. 1-21, 2020 About seven million people leave Wuhan, China during Lunar New Year celebrations. Tens-of-thousands are infected with coronavirus.⁶⁰</p> <p>Jan. 20, 2020 Director of the CDC’s NCIRD: “The key issue we all need to understand is how easily and sustainably the virus is spread from human-to-human.”⁶¹</p> <p>Jan. 20, 2020 Chinese pulmonologist Zhong Nanshan, who discovered the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) coronavirus in 2003: “The current situation is that it is no longer animal-to-human transmission, but human-to-human.”⁶²</p> <p>Jan. 21, 2020 First confirmed case of coronavirus in the U.S.: A man in his 30s from Washington state who traveled to Wuhan.⁶³</p> <p>Jan. 30, 2020 First case of human-to-human transmission of coronavirus in the U.S. confirmed.⁶⁴</p>

pandemic until March 11, 2020, by which point it was far too late for most nations to effectively protect their citizens.

The WHO has continued to accept and repeat China's claims, but others have begun to recognize the truth. On March 26, Peter Navarro, White House Trade Advisor stated that Beijing "did not tell us early to mid-December that there was a crisis of human-to-human transmission with a new novel coronavirus. That has set the world back six weeks."²³ Dr. Deborah Birx of the White House Coronavirus Taskforce stated on March 31 that experts modeling the virus spread "were missing a significant amount of the data" from China, and, most notably, on April 2, *The New York Times* reported that the Central Intelligence Agency had warned the White House since early February that PRC officials had been "lying about infection rates, testing, and death counts."²⁴

China Flouts International Commitments (Ongoing)

China is a signatory to the 2005 International Health Regulations (IHR). Articles 6 and 7 of the IHR specifically require member states to notify the WHO—within 24 hours of assessment—of any events which may constitute a "public health emergency of international concern." Failing to disseminate credible information about infectious diseases is a violation of the IHR.²⁵



President Xi Jinping visits a Beijing neighborhood in early February. (Xinhua via Associated Press)

The PRC is guilty of violating the IHR because it failed to notify the WHO about the outbreak of the virus in November and December. It also silenced Chinese doctors who spoke publicly about it and refused offers from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control to visit Wuhan on January 6 and delayed offers of epidemic investigation assistance from the WHO.²⁶ The Chinese Communist Party refused to cooperate with international partners and willfully perpetrated a cover-up from the start—even though it meant violating its treaty obligations.

PRC/CCP CLAIMS

WHO STATEMENTS

REALITY

PRC/CCP mobilize to urgently acquire medical supplies and ship to China:

No statements made about coordinated efforts

Jan. 23, 2020

Tedros: "China has taken measures it believes appropriate to contain the spread of coronavirus in Wuhan and other cities. We hope that they will be both effective and short in their duration."⁶⁵

Jan. 29, 2020

Tedros: "In [Xi Jinping's] words, the measures they have taken are good not only for China but for the rest of the world."⁶⁶

Jan. 2020

Czech counter-espionage agency discovers Chinese embassy in Prague organized Chinese interests in country to purchase massive quantities of Czech medical materials which were immediately sent to China, indicating virus spread.⁶⁷

Jan.-Feb. 2020

Chinese government-backed global property giant Greenland Group is instructed to halt normal operations and source bulk supplies of essential medical items to ship back to China.⁶⁸

Jan. 31, 2020

Canadian Chinese Association Joint Fund raises funds to "fight the epidemic" in Wuhan. [Over the next few months](#), the United Front continues stockpiling supplies in Canada.⁶⁹



Tedros Adhanom Ghebr... · 1/30/20 ·
Replying to @DrTedros

In many ways, #China is actually setting a new standard for outbreak response. Our greatest concern is the potential for the virus to spread to countries with weaker health systems, and which are ill-prepared to deal with it. #2019nCoV
twitter.com/WHO/status/122...



Director General of the World Health Organization (WHO) Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus (Denis Balibouse/Reuters)

The CCP has continued to undercount—likely dramatically—the number of cases in Wuhan, even claiming no new cases for multiple days in a row during mid-March. Such claims are challenged by a number of eyewitness Chinese accounts of overburdened funeral homes, extrajudicial killings, and the continued crackdown on the free flow of information. Several factors point to continued PRC misinformation:

1. **New cases have not been reported.** Local residents report this, and health professionals have described political pressure to report good news and not to admit new likely COVID-19 patients to hospitals.²⁷
2. **Chinese test kits are notoriously unreliable.** At least three European countries have stopped using imported Chinese tests, which have error rates as high as 80 percent.²⁸
3. **Asymptomatic patients are not counted.** PRC documents say that asymptomatic infection is not considered as a confirmed case, contrary to global standards.²⁹
4. **Medical teams were called back to Wuhan.** A much-touted medical team withdrawal has been quietly paused, without satisfactory official explanation.³⁰
5. **Large numbers of funerary urns.** Local funeral homes are receiving 2,500-plus cinerary caskets a day,³¹ even though the *total* official PRC death count in Wuhan is 2,531.³² Daily incineration volume has been four to five times higher than usual.³³
6. **High volume of untested coronavirus victims.** An unverified number of patients with coronavirus symptoms have died and their bodies incinerated without testing.³⁴

PRC/CCP CLAIMS

WHO STATEMENTS

REALITY

Misinformation praised as “cooperation and transparency”:

Jan. 22, 2020

Vice Minister of China’s National Health Commission: “We will disclose information on the outbreak in a timely, open and transparent manner, objectively reporting outbreak developments.”⁷⁰

Jan. 30, 2020

CCP Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Zhao Lijian quotes WHO: “China is committed to combating the transmission of the virus & has demonstrated cooperation with other countries. Its actions helped prevent the spread of coronavirus to other countries.”⁷¹

Jan. 23, 2020

Tedros: “I would like to thank the Government of the People’s Republic of China for its cooperation and transparency.”⁷²

Jan. 30, 2020

Tedros: “I was in China just a few days ago, where I met with President Xi Jinping. I left in absolutely no doubt about China’s commitment to transparency, and to protecting the world’s people.”⁷³

Jan. 30, 2020

Tedros: “The speed with which China detected the outbreak, isolated the virus, sequenced the genome and shared it with WHO and the world are very impressive, and beyond words. So is China’s commitment to transparency and to supporting other countries. [...] WHO continues to have confidence in China’s capacity to control the outbreak.”⁷⁴

Jan. 6, 2020

CDC Director Dr. Robert Redfield officially offers to send a CDC team into China but is denied permission to enter the country.⁷⁵

Jan. 12, 2020

Shanghai Public Health Clinical Centre publishes the virus’ genome sequence on open platforms. The CCP closes it the next day for “rectification,” hindering its COVID-19 research.⁷⁶

Jan. 26, 2020

Chinese social media platform WeChat enforces CCP Criminal Law Amendment (9): “Those who seriously disrupt the social order shall be sentenced to fixed-term imprisonment, detention or control.”⁷⁷

Feb. 11, 2020

CDC Principal Deputy Director Dr. Anne Schuchat: “We absolutely assume that the reported cases are an underestimate.”⁷⁸

The WHO remains silent on these issues. Nor has it pointed out the PRC's apparent violations of the 2005 International Health Regulations. Instead, the WHO has repeatedly praised the PRC's "transparency"—even though the Chinese Communist Party has deceived and dissembled at every stage and is still doing so. A timeline of pandemic events published by the WHO on April 8, 2020 omits many of the incriminating facts contained in this situation brief and demonstrates the continued efforts of the WHO leadership to participate in the CCP's coverup.

China Lied, People Died

The Chinese Communist Party's deception has had a terrible human cost, with more than 100,000 global deaths and counting. Entire countries are shut down and economies are contracting, pointing to a global crisis that will likely outlive the pandemic itself. According to a study by the United Kingdom's University of Southampton, if Beijing had acted three weeks earlier, the number of COVID-19 cases could have been reduced by 95 percent, and its geographic spread would have been severely limited—thereby preventing a pandemic.³⁵

The CCP has criticized the United States' political system as incapable of having an efficient response, even though the U.S. has been the top single-country donor to China in its efforts to counter the spread of COVID-19 and has provided essential support to the WHO, including a higher level of funding than from any other country. In addition to the \$400 million contributed by the U.S. to the WHO in 2019,³⁶ the United States also made \$274 million of emergency funds available to 64 countries to assist in their pandemic responses.

To counter U.S. leadership, the PRC has attempted to shift blame and shore up its own international standing. Notably, the PRC has also lied about the origin of the virus, with senior CCP officials and state-controlled media outlets claiming that the U.S. Army is responsible for the coronavirus.³⁷



Dr. Anne Schuchat, Chief Deputy Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) admits suspicion of under-reporting from China at a news conference on February 11, 2020. (en.austliia51)

The PRC is also engaged in a global propaganda campaign to provide medical aid to countries suffering from a pandemic that the PRC precipitated. Indeed, the CCP has portrayed itself as the global savior during the pandemic. Yet its so-called "facemask diplomacy" has resulted in the shipment of thousands of defective supplies around the world. Many countries including the Czech Republic, Spain, the Netherlands, Turkey, Australia, and the Philippines have recalled hundreds of thousands of faulty respiratory masks and testing kits imported from China. Far worse, China continues to deprive the international community of its most important asset to respond to and stop the spread of the virus—accurate information.

The World Health Organization has praised China's aid campaign, despite evidence of its delivery of faulty equipment. Once again, it is echoing the PRC's line of propaganda, giving it global credibility instead of the criticism it deserves.

Policy Recommendations

Many experts recommend greater engagement or cooperation with the PRC to address the current pandemic and to prevent similar crises in the future, but this approach

PRC/CCP CLAIMS

Feb. 6, 2020

CCP Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying: "We have noted some rumors and lies on this epidemic, which are worse than the virus itself. You may have noted that even WHO Director-General has repeatedly called on people to not believe in rumors or spread them."⁷⁹

WHO STATEMENTS

Feb. 8, 2020

Tedros: "At WHO, we're not just battling the virus; we're also battling the trolls and conspiracy theorists that push misinformation and undermine the outbreak response."⁸⁰

REALITY

Feb. 7, 2020

Whistleblower Dr. Li Wenliang dies of coronavirus. Chinese social media explodes with demands for official apology and freedom of speech.⁸¹

Free speech crackdown:

ignores the clear record of the Chinese Communist Party as dangerously irresponsible and a threat to U.S. and global health and safety, as well as prosperity. This has been true for more than 40 years; the coronavirus pandemic is merely the latest proof. U.S. policy must be formulated in light of this pattern of behavior.

As for the WHO, it has served as a “useful idiot” that repeats CCP propaganda without question. Not only has this diminished its credibility, it has helped cause the pandemic that is wracking the world. It appears unlikely that the WHO will ever acknowledge China’s culpability in the coronavirus pandemic—much less its own.

The situation demands a strong and principled response. U.S. officials should pursue the following policy objectives:



China’s President Xi Jinping visits patients and healthcare workers in Wuhan. (Agence France-Presse and Getty Images)

- The U.S. should work to suspend the PRC from full membership in the WHO. Treating the PRC as an equal partner in safeguarding world health made the WHO captive to the PRC and less able to accomplish its mission.
- The U.S. should work toward Taiwan’s admission to the WHO as a counterbalance to the PRC. Taiwan has proven to be one of the most responsible countries in responding to the COVID-19 crisis.
- The U.S. and other countries should explore using legal means to hold the PRC accountable for violating its treaty obligations and seek reparations for economic damages incurred as a result of the pandemic.
- The U.S. should enact stronger sanctions on the PRC specifically related to its human rights violations which contributed to the coronavirus’ spread at the very beginning and at every phase of the crisis.
- The U.S. should cooperate with other countries to demand an independent investigation into the outbreak of the virus in Wuhan, China.
- The White House should form an inter-agency office specifically to deal with PRC and CCP propaganda and influence operations.

PRC/CCP CLAIMS

Feb. 19, 2020

Amb. Sun Weidong: “We are doing everything we can, leaving no stone unturned, in our efforts to contain and mitigate this epidemic on the land of 9.6 million square kilometers of China.”⁸²

Feb. 22, 2020

Amb. Liu Xizoming: “I think the whole world should appreciate what China has done.”⁸³

WHO STATEMENTS

Virus containment:

Feb. 19, 2020

Tedros: “Outside China [...] we have not yet seen sustained local transmission.”⁸⁴

Feb. 24, 2020

Tedros: “For the moment, we are not witnessing the uncontained global spread of this virus.”⁸⁵

REALITY

Feb. 7, 2020

U.S. State Department sends 17.8 tons of donated medical supplies and \$100 million to China to “contain and combat” outbreak. Just over 7 weeks later, *The New York Times* reports over 3,400 deaths in the U.S. due to coronavirus.⁸⁶

Feb. 14, 2020

Outbreak of coronavirus in northern Italy worsens, with officials announcing 14 confirmed cases.⁸⁷

Feb. 19, 2020

Number of South Korean coronavirus cases double in a day.⁸⁸

PRC/CCP CLAIMS

WHO STATEMENTS

REALITY

Virus origin blame game:

Feb. 22, 2020

Global Times: “A new study by Chinese researchers indicates the novel coronavirus may have begun human-to-human transmission in late November from a place other than the Huanan seafood market in Wuhan.”⁸⁹

Mar. 5, 2020

CCP Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Zhao Lijian: “COVID-19 is our common enemy. Don’t understand why some think anyone should apologize. The WHO has said many times that stigma is more dangerous than the virus itself.”⁹⁰

Mar. 12, 2020

CCP Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Zhao Lijian: “It might be US army who brought the epidemic to Wuhan. Be transparent! Make public your data! US owe us an explanation!”⁹¹

Feb. 26, 2020

Tedros: “Using the word pandemic carelessly has no tangible benefit, but it does have significant risk in terms of amplifying unnecessary and unjustified fear and stigma, and paralyzing systems. It may also signal that we can no longer contain the virus, which is not true.”⁹²

Feb. 28, 2020

Tedros: “Our greatest enemy right now is not the virus itself. It’s fear, rumours and stigma. And our greatest assets are facts, reason and solidarity.”⁹³

Feb. 9, 2020

Chinese Ambassador to U.S. acknowledges the propaganda war taking place about the origin of the virus. Says in an interview with *Axios*, “How can we believe all these crazy things?”⁹⁴

Feb. 19, 2020

China announces it will expel three *Wall Street Journal* staff members in retaliation for the headline of their column “China is the Real Sick Man of Asia.”⁹⁵

Mar. 4, 2020

CCP state media *Xinhua* threatens U.S., saying if China imposes restrictions on pharmaceutical exports, the U.S. will be “plunged into the mighty sea of coronavirus.”⁹⁶

Mar. 17, 2020

CCP expels journalists from *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *The Washington Post*, and demands detailed operations update from *Voice of America* and *Time* after President Trump expels five Chinese state-run news organizations.⁹⁷

PRC/CCP CLAIMS

WHO STATEMENTS

REALITY

Claims of victory over epidemic:

Mar. 10, 2020

President Xi visits Wuhan to declare victory over the virus.⁹⁸

Feb. 28, 2020

WHO Report: “General Secretary Xi Jinping personally directed and deployed the prevention and control work.”⁹⁹

Mar. 9, 2020

Tedros: “Of the four countries with the most cases, China is bringing its epidemic under control.”¹⁰⁰

Mar. 19, 2020

Local doctor says the number of coronavirus patients in Wuhan was manipulated in preparation for President Xi’s visit.¹⁰¹

Mar. 11, 2020

WHO declares coronavirus a pandemic.¹⁰²

CCP Medical Supplies:

Mar. 18, 2020

CCP Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Geng Suang boasts deliveries of medical supplies from China to various countries: “We also support countries’ procurement of medical supplies made in China. Our local governments, enterprises and civil institutions also made donations to other countries.”¹⁰³

Mar. 25, 2020

Global Times: “The COVID-19 situation in the U.S. is also getting increasingly serious and the demand for China-made medical materials, machines and drugs are increasing as well. China has shown its willingness to provide help to the U.S., but politicians in Washington D.C. continue to pass the buck to China.”¹⁰⁴

Mar. 19, 2020

Tedros: “We have a list of agreed suppliers in China now, and they have permission to export to WHO. We’re now finalizing the arrangements.”¹⁰⁵

Mar. 20, 2020

Tedros: “We have now identified some producers in China who have agreed to supply WHO. [...] WHO can only buy or recommend kits that have been evaluated independently, to ensure their quality.”¹⁰⁶

Mar. 18, 2020

Czech authorities reportedly seize over 700,000 masks and respirators in a warehouse owned by member of United Front Work Department. Some of the boxes were labelled as “aid” from China to Italy. The shell company that owned the masks was attempting to sell to Czech citizens at a premium.¹⁰⁷

Mar. 23, 2020

Hospitals in Czech Republic stop using any of the 150,000 rapid test kits purchased by China after finding they had a failure rate of up to 80%.¹⁰⁸

Mar. 26, 2020

Laboratories in Spain report that the rapid test kits purchased by China only had a sensitivity rating of 30%, far below the minimum requirement of 80%.¹⁰⁹

Mar. 27, 2020

Turkey announces they will stop using test kits recently imported from China after finding they are not accurate.¹¹⁰

Mar. 28, 2020

Dutch Ministry of Health orders a recall of around 600,000 masks out of a shipment of 1.3 million from China after they failed to meet safety standards.¹¹¹



Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus @DrTedros · Mar 16
Heartwarming example of solidarity #Italy #China . We all need to unite and support each other in the fight against #COVID19, a common enemy.



Chen Weihua @chenweihua · Mar 13
Just read that Chinese medical team sent to Italy to fight Covid-19 comprises mostly experienced doctors from Sichuan. Sichuan folks still remember how Italy rescue team during the devastating 2008 Wenchuan earthquake saved many lives. The world needs more help with each other
[Show this thread](#)

PRC/CCP CLAIMS

WHO STATEMENTS

REALITY

China claims no new domestic cases:

Mar. 19, 2020

CCTV: "With no new cases in Wuhan, the Chinese mainland on Wednesday reduced the increase in domestic transmissions to zero, according to the National Health Commission. The mainland now faces a greater threat of infections imported from overseas."¹¹²

Mar. 16, 2020

Tedros: "You cannot fight a fire blindfolded. And we cannot stop this pandemic if we don't know who is infected."¹¹³

Mar. 19, 2020

Tedros: "For the first time, China has reported no domestic cases—an amazing achievement."¹¹⁴

Mar. 20, 2020

Wuhan doctor tells reporters his hospital was under pressure from the central government to report no cases and refuse to admit new virus patients.¹¹⁵

Mar. 23, 2020

Wuhan's health commission announces asymptomatic cases are being isolated in quarantine centers but not included in the public tally of confirmed cases, even if they tested positive.¹¹⁶

Mar. 26, 2020

White House Trade Advisor Peter Navarro: "The Chinese did not tell us early to mid-December that there was a crisis of human to human transmission with a new novel coronavirus. That has set the world back six weeks."¹¹⁷



Delivery of thousands of urns to Wuhan mortuaries calls into question China's coronavirus reporting. (Caixin)

Mar. 26, 2020

China bars entry of all foreigners.¹¹⁸

PRC/CCP CLAIMS

WHO STATEMENTS

REALITY

World demands better data from China:

Mar. 31, 2020

PRC reverses course and says that they will begin counting asymptomatic cases in their official numbers beginning in April.¹¹⁹

Mar. 30, 2020

Tedros: "I sent a tweet with a single word: humility. Some people asked me why. COVID-19 is reminding us how vulnerable we are, how connected we are and how dependent we are on each other."¹²⁰

Mar. 22-27, 2020

Seven Wuhan funeral homes hand out the cremated remains of around 500 people to their families every day, suggesting far more people died than ever made the official statistics.¹²¹

Mar. 31, 2020

U.S. intelligence report concludes China concealed the extent of the coronavirus outbreak.

Deborah Birx, State Department immunologist advising the White House: "The medical community interpreted the Chinese data as: 'This was serious, but smaller than anyone expected,' because I think probably we were missing a significant amount of the data."¹²²

Endnotes

- 1 Panné, Jean-Louis, et al. "The Black Book of Communism: Crimes, Terror, Repression." *Harvard University Press*, Oct. 15, 1999. <https://www.hup.harvard.edu/catalog.php?isbn=9780674076082>
- 2 Page, Jeremy, Wenxin, Fan, & Khan, Natasha. "How It All Started: China's Early Coronavirus Missteps." *The Wall Street Journal*, Mar. 6, 2020. <https://www.wsj.com/articles/how-it-all-started-chinas-early-coronavirus-missteps-11583508932>
- 3 Walters, John P. "China Is Not a Coronavirus Role Model." *The Wall Street Journal*, Mar. 23, 2020. <https://www.wsj.com/articles/china-is-not-a-coronavirus-role-model-11585005002>
- 4 "锤南山：武汉肺炎有人传人现象 [Zhong Nanshan: There is human to human transmission phenomenon regarding Wuhan Pneumonia]." *Takungpao*, Jan. 21, 2020. <http://www.takungpao.com/news/232108/2020/0121/408023.html>
- 5 Gao, Yu, et al. "In Depth: How Early Signs of a SARS-Like Virus Were Spotted, Spread, and Throttled." *Caixin*, Feb. 29, 2020. <https://www.caixinglobal.com/2020-02-29/in-depth-how-early-signs-of-a-sars-like-virus-were-spotted-spread-and-throttled-101521745.html>
- 6 "习近平：在中央政治局常委会会议研究应对新型冠状病毒肺炎疫情工作时的讲话 [Xi Jinping: Speech at the meeting of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee when studying the response to the new coronavirus pneumonia]." *Xinhua*, Feb. 15, 2020. http://www.xinhuanet.com/politics/leaders/2020-02/15/c_1125578886.htm
- 7 Shih, Gerry & Knowles, Hannah. "A Chinese doctor was one of the first to warn about coronavirus. He got detained — and infected." *The Washington Post*, Feb. 5, 2020. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2020/02/04/chinese-doctor-has-coronavirus/>
- 8 Joan, Kaufman. "Policy Case Study: Public Health." *Politics in China: an Introduction*, by William A. Joseph, Oxford University Press, 2019, pp. 399-417.
- 9 "专家称，武汉不明原因病毒性肺炎患者病情多可得到控制 [Experts claimed that patients with Wuhan mysterious viral pneumonia can be controlled]." *Xinhua*, Jan. 10, 2020. http://www.xinhuanet.com/2020-01/10/c_1125445340.htm; "专家称武汉不明原因的病毒性肺炎可防可控 [Experts claimed that Wuhan mysterious viral pneumonia can be prevented and controlled]." *Xinhua*, Jan. 11, 2020. http://www.xinhuanet.com/local/2020-01/11/c_1125448549.htm
- 10 Kundra, Ondrej. "Respekt: Čína Skupovala V Česku Zdravotnický Materiál." *Respekt*, Mar. 24, 2020. <https://www.respekt.cz/agenda/respekt-cina-skupovala-v-cesku-zdravotnicky-material>; "加拿大华人社团联席会募款80万 支援武汉抗击疫情进行中 [Canadian Alliance of Chinese Associations raised 800,000 yuan to support the ongoing fight against the epidemic in Wuhan]." *Dawa News*, Jan. 31, 2020. <http://dawanews.com/dawa/node3/n5/n18/urai28928.html>
- 11 "海关总署解读前2个月我国外贸 [The General Administration of Customs interprets China's foreign trade in the first 2 months]." Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China, Mar. 7, 2020. http://www.gov.cn/xinwen/2020-03/07/content_5488383.htm
- 12 "Taiwan says WHO failed to act on coronavirus transmission warning." *Financial Times*, Mar. 19, 2020. <https://www.ft.com/content/2a70a02a-644a-11ea-abcd-df28cc3c6a68>
- 13 "Pneumonia of unknown cause – China." World Health Organization, Jan. 5, 2020. <https://www.who.int/csr/don/05-january-2020-pneumonia-of-unknown-cause-china/en/>
- 14 Givas, Nick. "WHO haunted by old tweet saying China found no human transmission of coronavirus." *New York Post*, Mar. 20, 2020. <https://nypost.com/2020/03/20/who-haunted-by-old-tweet-saying-china-found-no-human-transmission-of-coronavirus/>
- 15 "Novel Coronavirus — China." World Health Organization, Jan. 12, 2020. <https://www.who.int/csr/don/12-january-2020-novel-coronavirus-china/en/>
- 16 Ghebreyesus, Tedros A. "WHO Director-General's statement on the advice of the IHR Emergency Committee on Novel Coronavirus." World Health Organization, Jan. 23, 2020. <https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-statement-on-the-advice-of-the-ih-er-emergency-committee-on-novel-coronavirus>
- 17 "COVID-19 – Daily new confirmed cases – rolling 3-day average." Our World in Data, <https://ourworldindata.org/grapher/daily-covid-cases-3-day-average?time=-21..66>
- 18 "Chinese journalist Chen Qiushi tops '10 Most Urgent' list of press freedom cases." *Boston Globe*, Mar. 2, 2020. <https://www.boston-globe.com/2020/03/02/opinion/chinese-journalist-chen-qiushi-tops-10-most-urgent-list-press-freedom-cases/>
- 19 Bostock, Bill. "China Enacted a Sweeping New Law That Bars People from Posting Negative Content Online, and It Could Be Used to Suppress Coronavirus News." *Business Insider*, Mar. 2, 2020. <https://www.businessinsider.com/china-internet-ban-criticism-could-suppress-coronavirus-news-2020-3>.
- 20 Wang, Vivian. "They Documented the Coronavirus Crisis in Wuhan. Then They Vanished." *The New York Times*, Feb. 14, 2020. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/02/14/business/wuhan-coronavirus-journalists.html>
- 21 Valášek, Lukáš. "Confiscated face masks imported by an influential Chinese representative in Czechia." *Aktuálně*, Mar. 26, 2020. <https://zpravy.aktualne.cz/domaci/confiscated-face-masks-imported-by-an-influential-representative-r-560650326f661rea842foc-c47ab5f122/>; Kundra, Ondrej. "Respekt: Čína Skupovala V Česku Zdravotnický Materiál." *Respekt*, Mar. 24, 2020. <https://www.respekt.cz/agenda/respekt-cina-skupovala-v-cesku-zdravotnicky-material>
- 22 "WHO Coronavirus Team in Wuhan to Work out next Containment Step." *South China Morning Post*, Feb. 22, 2020. <https://www.scmp.com/news/china/society/article/3051017/who-coronavirus-team-ground-zero-wuhan-work-out-next-containment>
- 23 Palmer, Doug. "China closes border to foreign travelers." *Politico*, Mar. 26, 2020. <https://www.politico.com/news/2020/03/26/china-closes-border-150455>
- 24 Wadhams, Nick and Jennifer Jacobs. "China Concealed Extent of Virus Outbreak, U.S. Intelligence Says." *Bloomberg*, Apr. 1, 2020. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-04-01/china-concealed-extent-of-virus-outbreak-u-s-intelligence-says>; Barnes, Julian E. "C.I.A. Hunts for Authentic Virus Totals in China, Dismissing Government Tallies." *The New York Times*, Apr. 2, 2020. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/02/us/politics/cia-coronavirus-china.html>
- 25 McNeil Jr., Donald G. & Kanno-Youngs, Zolan. "C.D.C. and W.H.O. Offers to Help China Have Been Ignored for Weeks." *New York Times*, Feb. 7, 2020. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/02/07/health/cdc-coronavirus-china.html>
- 26 "States Parties to the International Health Regulations (2005)." WHO, Jun. 15, 2007. https://www.who.int/ihr/legal_issues/states_parties/en/; Taylor, Marisa. "Exclusive: U.S. axed CDC expert job in China months before virus outbreak." *Reuters*, Mar. 22, 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-china-cdc-exclusiv/exclusive-u-s-axed-cdc-expert-job-in-china-months-before-virus-outbreak-idUSKBN21910S>
- 27 "Wuhan denying virus tests to keep numbers down." *RTHL HK*, Mar. 23, 2020. <https://news.rthk.hk/rthk/en/component/k2/1516240-20200323.htm>; Bernstein, Richard. "Why the World's Doing a Double-Take on China's No-New-Infections Claim." *RealClearInvestigations*, Mar. 25, 2020. <https://www.realclearinvestigations.com/articles/2020/03/25/doing-a-double-take-on-chinas-no-new-infection-claim-122944.html>
- 28 "Rychlostest na koronavirus z Číny mají podle krajské hygieničky chybovat až 80 procent." *iROZHLAS*, Mar. 23, 2020. https://www.irozhlas.cz/zpravy-domov/ostrava-rychlostest-koronavirus-2003231414_sot; "Los test rápidos de coronavirus comprados en China no funcionan bien." *El PAIS*, Mar. 26, 2020. <https://elpais.com/sociedad/2020-03-25/los-test-rapidos-de-coronavirus-comprados-en-china-no-funcionan.html>; Soylu, Ragıp. "Coronavirus: Turkey rejects Chinese testing kits over inaccurate results." *Middle East Eye*, Mar. 27, 2020. <https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/coronavirus-turkey-faulty-chinese-kits-not-use>
- 29 "武汉市澄清多例新增新冠肺炎病例传言“复阳”不属新增 [Wuhan City clarified the rumors of many newly added COVID-19 cases, "returned to positive" does not count as a new case]." *Caixin*, Mar. 22, 2020. <http://www.caixin.com/2020-03-22/101532235.html>
- 30 "独家|每天仍检出多例无症状感染者 援鄂疾控工作队暂缓撤离 [Exclusive: Many asymptomatic cases were found everyday, the withdrawal of Disease Control Aiding Hubei Task Force was suspended]." *Caixin*, Mar. 23, 2020. <http://china.caixin.com/2020-03-23/101532575.html>; "读懂“援鄂疾控队缓撤”背后的深意 [Understanding the deep meaning behind "the suspension of Aiding Hubei Disease Control Team"]." *People's Daily*, Mar. 25, 2020. <http://yuqing.people.com.cn/n1/2020/0325/c42925331646986.html>

- 31 “武汉开放骨灰领取 汉口殡仪馆逝者亲属排起长队 [Wuhan allows pick up of ashes, Relatives of deceased formed a long line at the Hankou funeral home].” *Caixin*, Mar. 26, 2020. <http://china.caixin.com/2020-03-26/101534558.html>
- 32 “武汉市新冠肺炎疫情动态 (2020年3月25日) [Wuhan City COVID-19 Situation Update (March 25, 2020)].” 武汉市人民政府 [Wuhan People’s Government], Mar. 26, 2020. http://www.wh.gov.cn/hbgovinfo/zwgk_8265/tzgg/202003/t20200326_307581.html
- 33 “[獨家] 一天燒百具屍體 殯儀館員怒斥狗官 [Exclusive: Hundreds of bodies burned per day, funeral home staff scolded government officers as ‘dog officers’].” *The Epoch Times*, Feb. 9, 2020. <https://www.epochtimes.com/b5/20/2/8/n11853323.htm>
- 34 Zhang, Phoebe & Rui, Guo. “Coronavirus: Why many deaths will never appear in official figures.” *South China Morning Post*, Feb. 12, 2020. <https://www.scmp.com/news/china/society/article/3050311/its-pneumonia-everybody-china-knows-about-many-deaths-will-never>
- 35 “Effect of non-pharmaceutical interventions for containing the COVID-19 outbreak in China.” University of Southampton, Mar. 11, 2020. <https://www.southampton.ac.uk/news/2020/03/covid-19-china.page>
- 36 “The U.S. Role in International Organizations’ Response to COVID-19.” U.S. Department of State, Mar. 31, 2020. <https://www.state.gov/the-u-s-role-in-international-organizations-response-to-covid-19/>
- 37 Zhao, Lijian. Twitter Post. Mar. 12, 2020. <https://twitter.com/zlj517/status/1238110160884625409>
- 38 Tan, Wenjie, et al. “A Novel Coronavirus Genome Identified in a Cluster of Pneumonia Cases — Wuhan, China 2019–2020.” *CCDC Weekly*, Jan. 21, 2020. <http://weekly.chinacdc.cn/en/article/id/a3907201-f64f-4154-a19e-4253b453d10c>
- 39 @Mhandsomem. 2020. “补图, 出处见水印 [Image added, for source see water mark].” Twitter, Dec. 30, 2020, 22:39. <https://twitter.com/mhandsomem/status/1211869441983537153>
- 40 “武汉市卫生健康委员会关于不明原因的病毒性肺炎情况通报 [Situation notice about the mysterious viral pneumonia from Wuhan Municipal Health Commission].” Wuhan Municipal Health Commission, Jan. 5, 2020. <http://wjw.wuhan.gov.cn/front/web/showDetail/2020010509020>
- 41 “Pneumonia of unknown cause – China.” World Health Organization, Jan. 5, 2020. <https://www.who.int/csr/don/05-january-2020-pneumonia-of-unknown-cause-china/en/>
- 42 Walters, John P. “China Is Not a Coronavirus Role Model.” *The Wall Street Journal*, Mar. 23, 2020. <https://www.wsj.com/articles/china-is-not-a-coronavirus-role-model-11585005002>
- 43 Yong, Xiong & Gan, Nectar. “This Chinese doctor tried to save lives, but was silenced. Now he has coronavirus.” *CNN*, Feb. 4, 2020. <https://www.cnn.com/2020/02/03/asia/coronavirus-doctor-whistle-blower-intl-hnk/index.html>
- 44 Zhang, Mingxuan, Chen, Weiting, & Chen, Yixuan. “武漢肺炎 / 台灣 2019 年底示警疫情 陳時中: WHO 僅回收到了 [Wuhan Pneumonia/Taiwan alerted about the epidemic at the end of 2019, Chen Shih-chung: WHO only responded received].” *Central News Agency*, Mar. 24, 2020. <https://www.cna.com.tw/news/ahel/202003240229.aspx>
- 45 Shih, Gerry & Knowles, Hannah. “A Chinese doctor was one of the first to warn about coronavirus. He got detained — and infected.” *The Washington Post*, Feb. 4, 2020. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2020/02/04/chinese-doctor-has-coronavirus/>
- 46 “武汉市卫健委关于不明原因的病毒性肺炎情况通报 [Situation notice about the mysterious viral pneumonia Wuhan Municipal Health Commission].” Wuhan Municipal Health Commission, Jan. 3, 2020. <http://wjw.wuhan.gov.cn/front/web/showDetail/2020010309017>
- 47 Ghebreyesus, Tedros A. (@drtedros). 2020. “Good to receive updated information from #China on #pneumonia of unknown cause in Wuhan City. @WHO remains in close touch with [Chinese] authorities as they work to identify the cause.” Twitter, Jan. 5, 2020, 13:32. <https://twitter.com/DrTedros/status/1213906009439256577>
- 48 Shih, Gerry & Knowles, Hannah. “A Chinese doctor was one of the first to warn about coronavirus. He got detained — and infected.” *The Washington Post*, Feb. 4, 2020. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2020/02/04/chinese-doctor-has-coronavirus/>
- 49 Tenbarge, Kat. “A Chinese citizen journalist who went viral for his reporting on coronavirus from Wuhan has gone missing, and his family says he’s been forcibly quarantined.” *Business Insider*, Feb. 9, 2020. <https://www.businessinsider.com/chen-qiushi-journalist-missing-wuhan-whistleblower-coronavirus-forced-quarantine-2020-2>
- 50 “武汉市卫生健康委关于不明原因的病毒性肺炎情况通报 [Situation notice about the mysterious viral pneumonia Wuhan Municipal Health Commission].” Wuhan Municipal Health Commission, Jan. 11, 2020. <http://wjw.wuhan.gov.cn/front/web/showDetail/2020011109035>
- 51 Wang, Vivian. “They Documented the Coronavirus Crisis in Wuhan. Then They Vanished.” *The New York Times*, Feb. 14, 2020. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/02/14/business/wuhan-coronavirus-journalists.html>
- 52 “鍾南山: 武汉肺炎有人传人现象 [Zhong Nanshan: There is human to human transmission phenomenon regarding Wuhan Pneumonia].” *Ta Kung Pao*, Jan. 21, 2020. <http://www.takungpao.com/news/232108/2020/0121/408023.html>
- 53 Feng, Emily, Cheng, Amy, & Kennedy, Merrit. “Chinese Authorities Begin Quarantine Of Wuhan City As Coronavirus Cases Multiply.” *NPR*, Jan. 23, 2020. <https://www.npr.org/2020/01/23/798789671/chinese-authorities-begin-quarantine-of-wuhan-city-as-coronavirus-cases-multiply>; Salo, Jackie. “China cancels plans for New Year celebrations as coronavirus spreads.” *New York Post*, Jan. 23, 2020. <https://nypost.com/2020/01/23/china-cancels-plans-for-new-year-celebrations-as-coronavirus-spreads/>
- 54 Joseph, Andrew. “WHO declines to declare China virus outbreak a global health emergency.” *Stat News*, Jan. 23, 2020. <https://www.statnews.com/2020/01/23/who-declines-to-declare-china-virus-outbreak-a-global-health-emergency/>
- 55 “New coronavirus ‘preventable and controllable’, China says.” *BBC*, Jan. 19, 2020. <https://www.bbc.com/news/health-51168333>
- 56 World Health Organization Western Pacific (@WHOWPRO). 2020. “It is now very clear from the latest information that there is at least some human-to-human transmission of #nCoV2019. Infections among health care workers strengthen the evidence for this.” Twitter, Jan. 20, 2020, 22:35. <https://twitter.com/WHOWPRO/status/1219478544041930752>
- 57 Ghebreyesus, Tedros A. “WHO Director-General’s statement on the advice of the IHR Emergency Committee on Novel Coronavirus.” World Health Organization, Jan. 23, 2020. <https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-statement-on-the-advice-of-the-ih-er-emergency-committee-on-novel-coronavirus>
- 58 Ghebreyesus, Tedros. “WHO Director-General’s statement on IHR Emergency Committee on Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV).” World Health Organization, Jan. 30, 2020. [https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-statement-on-ih-er-emergency-committee-on-novel-coronavirus-\(2019-ncov\)](https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-statement-on-ih-er-emergency-committee-on-novel-coronavirus-(2019-ncov))
- 59 Wang, Jiaying. “钟南山发话前, 武汉这位医生向附近学校发出疫情警报 [This doctor in Wuhan sent out an outbreak alert to nearby schools before Zhong Nanshan spoke].” *Weixin*, Jan. 28, 2020. https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/lzzCnz4Yr2jElyZepiu_ow
- 60 Wu, Jin, Cai, Weiyi, Watkins, Derek, & Glanz, James. “How the Virus Got Out.” *The New York Times*, Mar. 22, 2020. <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/03/22/world/coronavirus-spread.html>
- 61 Rabin, Roni C. “First Patient With Wuhan Coronavirus Is Identified in the U.S.” *The New York Times*, Mar. 11, 2020. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/21/health/cdc-coronavirus.html>
- 62 “Wuhan virus: China confirms human-to-human transmission, says medical workers infected.” *The Straits Times*, Jan. 20, 2020. <https://www.straitstimes.com/asia/east-asia/wuhan-virus-cases-hit-217-in-china-as-president-xi-jinping-pledges-to-curb-outbreak>
- 63 Rabin, Roni C. “First Patient With Wuhan Coronavirus Is Identified in the U.S.” *The New York Times*, Mar. 11, 2020. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/21/health/cdc-coronavirus.html>
- 64 Howard, Jacqueline. “First case of person-to-person transmission of Wuhan virus in the US confirmed.” *CNN*, Jan. 30, 2020. <https://www.cnn.com/2020/01/30/health/coronavirus-illinois-person-to-person-cdc/index.html>
- 65 Ghebreyesus, Tedros A. “WHO Director-General’s statement on the advice of the IHR Emergency Committee on Novel Coronavirus.” World Health Organization, Jan. 23, 2020. <https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-statement-on-the-advice-of-the-ih-er-emergency-committee-on-novel-coronavirus>

- 66 Ghebreyesus, Tedros A. "Press briefing on WHO Mission to China and novel coronavirus outbreak." World Health Organization, Jan. 29, 2020. <https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/press-briefing-on-who-mission-to-china-and-novel-coronavirus-outbreak>
- 67 Kundra, Ondrej. "Respekt: Čína Skupovala V Česku Zdravotnický Materiál." *Respekt*, Mar. 24, 2020. <https://www.respekt.cz/agenda/respekt-cina-skupovala-v-cesku-zdravotnicky-material>
- 68 McClymont, Kate. "Chinese-backed company's mission to source Australian medical supplies." *The Sydney Morning Herald*, Mar. 26, 2020. <https://www.smh.com.au/national/chinese-backed-company-s-mission-to-source-australian-medical-supplies-20200325-p54du8.html>
- 69 "加拿大华人社团联席会募款80万 支援武汉抗击疫情进行中 [Canadian Alliance of Chinese Associations raised 800,000 yuan to support the ongoing fight against the epidemic in Wuhan]." *Dawa News*, Jan. 31, 2020. <http://dawanews.com/dawa/node3/n5/n18/urai28928.html>; Piping hot Canadian tea (UFWD_YVR). 2020. "We must keep an eye on specific ways the Chinese Communist Party is using the Wuhan Virus pandemic to further infiltrate Canada." Twitter, Mar. 25, 2020. https://twitter.com/UFWD_YVR/status/1242947533757992962
- 70 Cohen, Elizabeth. "CDC advisers concerned about lack of basic information about new Wuhan coronavirus." *CNN*, Jan. 23, 2020. <https://www.cnn.com/2020/01/23/health/wuhan-coronavirus-cdc-advisers/index.html>
- 71 Zhao, Lijian (@zlj517). 2020. "WHO Director-General Tedros: China is committed to combating the transmission of the virus & has demonstrated cooperation with other countries. Its actions helped prevent the spread of coronavirus to other countries. I was very impressed & encouraged." Twitter, Jan. 30, 2020, 2:50. <https://twitter.com/zlj517/status/1222804237525979136>
- 72 Ghebreyesus, Tedros A. "WHO Director-General's statement on the advice of the IHR Emergency Committee on Novel Coronavirus." World Health Organization, Jan. 23, 2020. <https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-statement-on-the-advice-of-the-ih-er-emergency-committee-on-novel-coronavirus>
- 73 World Health Organization (@WHO). 2020. "As you know, I was in #China just a few days ago, where I met with President Xi Jinping. I left in absolutely no doubt about China's commitment to transparency, and to protecting the world's people'-@DrTedros #2019nCoV." Twitter, Jan. 30, 2020, 13:45. <https://twitter.com/who/status/1222969091482361856?lang=en>
- 74 Ghebreyesus, Tedros A. "WHO Director-General's statement on IHR Emergency Committee on Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV)." World Health Organization, Jan. 30, 2020. [https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-statement-on-ih-er-emergency-committee-on-novel-coronavirus-\(2019-ncov\)](https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-statement-on-ih-er-emergency-committee-on-novel-coronavirus-(2019-ncov))
- 75 Taylor, Marisa. "Exclusive: U.S. axed CDC expert job in China months before virus outbreak." *Reuters*, Mar. 22, 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-china-cdc-exclusive/exclusive-u-s-axed-cdc-expert-job-in-china-months-before-virus-outbreak-idUSKBN21910S>
- 76 Zhuang, Pinghui. "Chinese laboratory that first shared coronavirus genome with world ordered to close for 'rectification', hindering its Covid-19 research." *South China Morning Post*, Feb. 28, 2020. <https://www.scmp.com/news/china/society/article/3052966/chinese-laboratory-first-shared-coronavirus-genome-world-ordered>
- 77 "微信散布疫情谣言 将进行限期或永久封禁处理 [Spreading rumors of the epidemic situation on WeChat will be banned [from WeChat] for a limited time or permanently]." *Xinhua*, Jan. 26, 2020. http://www.xinhuanet.com/politics/2020-01/26/c_1125503796.htm
- 78 Zooming in with Simone Gao. "CDC: We Absolutely Assume The Reported Cases in China Are An Underestimate." Filmed Feb. 2020. YouTube video, 4:07. Posted Feb. 2020. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QETvhMgauq8&feature=youtu.be&t=120>
- 79 Hua, Chunying. "Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Daily Briefing Online on February 6, 2020." Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, Feb. 6, 2020. https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/xwfw_665399/s2510_665401/t1741546.shtml
- 80 Ghebreyesus, Tedros A. "Director-General's remarks at the media briefing on 2019 novel coronavirus on 8 February 2020." World Health Organization, Feb. 8, 2020. <https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/director-general-s-remarks-at-the-media-briefing-on-2019-novel-coronavirus--8-february-2020>
- 81 Yeung, Jessie, Marsh, Jenni, Renton, Adam, & Woodyatt, Amy. "Tributes and anger after the death of Li Wenliang." *CNN*, Feb. 7, 2020. https://edition.cnn.com/asia/live-news/coronavirus-outbreak-02-07-20-intl-hnk/h_038465ac1b92a91bce27071200bda40
- 82 Sun, Weidong. "Epidemic War: Unite together Fight together--Remarks by H.E. Ambassador Sun Weidong at the Press Conference on the Prevention and Control of the Novel Coronavirus Pneumonia Epidemic." Embassy of the People's Republic of China in India, Feb. 19, 2020. http://in.china-embassy.org/eng/embassy_news/t1746584.htm
- 83 Liu, Xiaoming (@AmbLiuXiaoMing). 2020. "Q: Do you think it is because President Xi wasn't involved earlier? A: I think the Chinese government, the top leadership, responded very quickly. The central government has adopted very comprehensive, thorough & strict measures. I think the whole world should appreciate that." Twitter, Feb. 22, 2020. <https://twitter.com/AmbLiuXiaoMing/status/1231173647387287554>
- 84 Ghebreyesus, Tedros A. "WHO Director-General's opening remarks at the mission briefing on COVID-19." World Health Organization, Feb. 19, 2020. <https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-opening-remarks-at-the-mission-briefing-on-covid-19>
- 85 Ghebreyesus, Tedros A. "WHO Director-General's opening remarks at the media briefing on COVID-19 - 24 February 2020." World Health Organization, Feb. 23, 2020. <https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-opening-remarks-at-the-media-briefing-on-covid-19--24-february-2020>
- 86 Pompeo, Michael R. "The United States Announces Assistance To Combat the Novel Coronavirus." U.S. Department of State, Feb. 7, 2020. <https://www.state.gov/the-united-states-announces-assistance-to-combat-the-novel-coronavirus/>
- 87 Daniel, Amy C., Morland, Sarah, & Kuber, Shailesh. "Factbox: Latest on coronavirus spreading in China and beyond." *Reuters*, Feb. 20, 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-health-latest-factbox/latest-on-coronavirus-spreading-in-china-and-beyond-idUSKBN20E1BF>
- 88 Lee, Jihye & Pae, Peter. "South Korea Posts Surge in Coronavirus Cases Tied to Church." *Bloomberg*, Feb. 19, 2020. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-02-20/south-korea-reports-spike-in-coronavirus-cases-tied-to-a-church>
- 89 "New Chinese study indicates novel coronavirus did not originate in Huanan seafood market." *Global Times*, Feb. 22, 2020. <https://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1180429.shtml>
- 90 Zhao, Lijian (@zlj517). 2020. "#COVID19 is our common enemy. Don't understand why some think anyone should apologize. @WHO has said many times that stigma is more dangerous than the virus itself." Twitter, Mar. 5, 2020, 5:50. <https://twitter.com/zlj517/status/1235533044796121088>
- 91 Zhao, Lijian (@zlj517). 2020. "2/2 CDC was caught on the spot. When did patient zero begin in US? How many people are infected? What are the names of the hospitals? It might be US army who brought the epidemic to Wuhan. Be transparent! Make public your data! US owe us an explanation!" Twitter, Mar. 12, 2020, 9:37. <https://twitter.com/zlj517/status/1238111898828066823>
- 92 Ghebreyesus, Tedros A. "WHO Director-General's opening remarks at the mission briefing on COVID-19 - 26 February 2020." World Health Organization, Feb. 25, 2020. <https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-opening-remarks-at-the-mission-briefing-on-covid-19--26-february-2020>
- 93 Ghebreyesus, Tedros A. "WHO Director-General's opening remarks at the media briefing on COVID-19 - 28 February 2020." World Health Organization, Feb. 27, 2020. <https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-opening-remarks-at-the-media-briefing-on-covid-19--28-february-2020>
- 94 Swan, Jonathan & Allen-Ebrahimian, Bethany. "Top Chinese official disowns U.S. military lab coronavirus conspiracy." *Axios*, Mar. 22, 2020. <https://www.axios.com/china-coronavirus-ambassador-cui-tiankai-1b0404e8-026d-4b7d-8290-98076f95df14.html>
- 95 Schiefelbein, Mark. "China Expels Three Wall Street Journal Reporters." *The Wall Street Journal*, Feb. 19, 2020. <https://www.wsj.com/articles/china-expels-three-wall-street-journal-reporters-11582100355>
- 96 "理直气壮，世界应该感谢中国 [With reason on our side: the world should thank China]." *Xinhua*, Mar. 4, 2020. http://www.xinhuanet.com/2020-03/04/c_1125660473.htm
- 97 Tracy, Marc, Wong, Edward, & Jakes, Lara. "China Announces That It Will Expel American Journalists." *The New York Times*, Mar. 17, 2020. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/17/business/media/china-expels-american-journalists.html>

- 98 Myers, Steven L. "Xi Goes to Wuhan, Coronavirus Epicenter, in Show of Confidence." *The New York Times*, Mar. 10, 2020. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/10/world/asia/coronavirus-china-xi-jin-ping.html>
- 99 "Report of the WHO-China Joint Mission on Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)." World Health Organization, Feb. 24, 2020. <https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronavirus/who-china-joint-mission-on-covid-19---final-report-1100hr-28feb2020-11mar-update.pdf>
- 100 Ghebreyesus, Tedros A. "WHO Director-General's opening remarks at the media briefing on COVID-19 - 9 March 2020." World Health Organization, Mar. 9, 2020. <https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-opening-remarks-at-the-media-briefing-on-covid-19---9-march-2020>
- 101 "Wuhan's virus patient numbers manipulated for Xi visit: local doctor." *Kyodo News*, Mar. 19, 2020. <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2020/03/b09b868ec468-breaking-news-wuhan-doctor-blows-whistle-on-manipulation-of-virus-patient-numbers.html>
- 102 Ghebreyesus, Tedros A. "WHO Director-General's opening remarks at the media briefing on COVID-19 - 11 March 2020." World Health Organization, Mar. 11, 2020. <https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-opening-remarks-at-the-media-briefing-on-covid-19---11-march-2020>
- 103 Geng, Suang. "Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Geng Shuang's Regular Press Conference on March 18, 2020." Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, Mar. 18, 2020. https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/xwfw_665399/s2510_665401/2511_665403/t1757799.shtml
- 104 Li, Ai Xin & Chen, Qingqing. "China willing to help US." *Global Times*, Mar. 25, 2020. <https://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1183660.shtml>
- 105 Ghebreyesus, Tedros A. "WHO Director-General's opening remarks at the Mission briefing on COVID-19 - 19 March 2020." World Health Organization, Mar. 19, 2020. <https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-opening-remarks-at-the-media-briefing-on-covid-19---19-march-2020> <https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-opening-remarks-at-the-mission-briefing-on-covid-19---19-march-2020>
- 106 Ghebreyesus, Tedros A. "WHO Director-General's opening remarks at the media briefing on COVID-19 - 20 March 2020." World Health Organization, Mar. 20, 2020. <https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-opening-remarks-at-the-media-briefing-on-covid-19---20-march-2020>
- 107 Valášek, Lukáš. "Confiscated face masks imported by an influential Chinese representative in Czechia." *Aktuálně*, Mar. 26, 2020. <https://zpravy.aktualne.cz/domaci/confiscated-face-masks-imported-by-an-influential-representa/r~560650326f6611ea842foc-c47ab5f122/>
- 108 "Rychlostesty na koronavirus z Číny mají podle krajské hygieničky chybovost až 80 procent." *iRozhlas*, Mar. 23, 2020. https://www.irozhlas.cz/zpravy-domov/ostava-rychlostesty-koronavirus_2003231414_sot
- 109 Sevillano, Elena G. "Los test rápidos de coronavirus comprados en China no funcionan bien." *El País*, Mar. 26, 2020. <https://elpais.com/sociedad/2020-03-25/los-test-rapidos-de-coronavirus-comprados-en-china-no-funcionan.html>
- 110 Soyly, Ragip. "Coronavirus: Turkey rejects Chinese testing kits over inaccurate results." *Middle East Eye*, Mar. 27, 2020. <https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/coronavirus-turkey-faulty-chinese-kits-not-use>
- 111 Mukhopadhyay, Ankita. "Coronavirus: Netherlands recalls 'defective' masks bought from China." *Deutsche Welle*, Mar. 29, 2020. <https://www.dw.com/en/coronavirus-netherlands-recalls-defective-masks-bought-from-china/a-52949216>
- 112 Zhang, Jianfeng. "No new coronavirus cases in Wuhan sends encouragement to world." *CCTV*, Mar. 20, 2020. <http://english.cctv.com/2020/03/20/ARTIUOXKdNsGC4gzrWXmaQwx200320.shtml>
- 113 Ghebreyesus, Tedros A. "WHO Director-General's opening remarks at the media briefing on COVID-19 - 16 March 2020." World Health Organization, Mar. 16, 2020. <https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-opening-remarks-at-the-media-briefing-on-covid-19---16-march-2020>
- 114 Ghebreyesus, Tedros A. "WHO Director-General's opening remarks at the Mission briefing on COVID-19 - 19 March 2020." World Health Organization, Mar. 19, 2020. <https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-opening-remarks-at-the-mission-briefing-on-covid-19---19-march-2020>
- 115 Bernstein, Richard. "Why the World's Doing a Double-Take on China's No-New-Infections Claim." *RealClearInvestigations*, Mar. 25, 2020. https://www.realclearinvestigations.com/articles/2020/03/25/doing_a_double-take_on_chinas_no-new-infection_claim_122944.html
- 116 Page, Jeremy. "China's Progress Against Coronavirus Used Draconian Tactics Not Deployed in the West." *The Wall Street Journal*, Mar. 24, 2020. <https://www.wsj.com/articles/the-west-is-misinterpreting-wuhans-coronavirus-progress-and-drawing-the-wrong-lessons-11585074966>
- 117 Palmer, Doug. "China closes border to foreign travelers." *Politico*, Mar. 26, 2020. <https://www.politico.com/news/2020/03/26/china-closes-border-150455>
- 118 Basu, Zachary. "China to temporarily bar entry of foreigners to stop spread of coronavirus." *Axios*, Mar. 26, 2020. <https://www.axios.com/china-foreigners-visas-coronavirus-6e87ee9-73f3-4342-ae2-a171ca742ea5.html>
- 119 "關於新型冠狀病毒無症狀感染者的防控工作答問 [Q&A on the prevention and control work of the COVID-19 asymptomatic patients]." *Xinhua*, Mar. 31, 2020. http://big5.news.cn/gate/big5/www.xinhuanet.com/politics/2020-03/31/c_1125794816.htm
- 120 Ghebreyesus, Tedros A. "WHO Director-General's opening remarks at the media briefing on COVID-19 - 30 March 2020." World Health Organization, Mar. 30, 2020. <https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-opening-remarks-at-the-media-briefing-on-covid-19---30-march-2020>
- 121 Qiao, Long & Lao, Siu-fung. "Estimates Show Wuhan Death Toll Far Higher Than Official Figure." *Radio Free Asia*, Mar. 27, 2020. <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/china/wuhan-deaths-03272020182846.html>
- 122 Wadhams, Nick & Jacobs, Jennifer. "China Concealed Extent of Virus Outbreak, U.S. Intelligence Says." *Bloomberg*, Apr. 1, 2020. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-04-01/china-concealed-extent-of-virus-outbreak-u-s-intelligence-says>