



**LOCAL**  
 Kuwait and Greece share excellent relations

2

3



**LOCAL**  
 Over 1.2 million expats lived in shared apartments

10

**TRAVEL**  
 South Africa's ten UNESCO World Heritage Sites



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## Consultations continue for consensus on Cabinet

**THE TIMES REPORT**

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah issued an Amiri decree on Tuesday, appointing His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah as Prime Minister, and tasking him with forming a new government. Consultations on forming a new Cabinet are reportedly nearing completion and the ministers could be announced in the next day or so.

On Wednesday morning a swearing-in ceremony was held at the Dar Al-Salwa palace where His Highness the Prime Minister took the oath of office in front of His Highness the Amir. Following



the oath-taking event, His Highness the Amir asked the prime minister-designate to work for the greater good of the people and the country. He also urged the new prime minister to root out corruption and to crack down

on those found to be dishonest. "We have given you responsibility... a big responsibility... fight corruption and the corrupt... Inshallah Allah the Almighty help you for the best interest of the nation and people," said His Highness the Amir.

For his part, the Prime Minister thanked His Highness the Amir for the trust in assigning him in the new post. "I pledge to you, to do all I can to continue the blessed march under the leadership of Your Highness," he said. His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled will head the 36th government in the country's political history and will be Kuwait's eighth prime minister since the nation's independence in 1961.

...CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

### New process for transfer of domestic workers to help curb human trafficking

A circular has been issued by the Ministry of Interior (MoI) aimed at curbing the vile practice of human trafficking and the exploitation of workers.

The directive issued by the Director General of the General Administration of Residency Affairs Brigadier Abdul Qader Sha'ban states that domestic workers can be transferred from one sponsor to another only if the two sponsors, as well as the domestic help, are present in person at the office of Residency Affairs.

The new process is aimed at stopping various abuses related to the transfer of domestic helpers from one sponsor to another, the so-called 'maid-trade', which happens without the knowledge of domestic helpers or their agreement to work for a new sponsor.

The initiative by the Residency Affairs is similar to what is currently being done in the General Directorate of Traffic, where any sale or transfer of ownership of a vehicle requires the presence of both the buyer and seller in front of the traffic department official.

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# Kuwait and Greece share excellent relations



## THE TIMES REPORT

Visiting Greek Minister of Foreign Affairs Nikos Dendias said that Greece and Kuwait enjoy excellent political relations and that he would like to further enhance them through better economic ties between the two nations.

Speaking to the media, the Greek foreign minister said that his country having a great economic recovery with a growth of almost 2.8 percent and there were several opportunities for investment, which Kuwait could take advantage of. He further emphasized that Kuwait was a very important country in the Gulf as its views and leadership were respected and acknowledged throughout the region. Kuwait's perspective on several issues pertaining to the region were important to Greece and to the European Union, where Greece as a member could impress upon.

During his visit to the country, Foreign Minister Dendias met with his Kuwaiti counterpart, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah on Tuesday, shortly before the Deputy Prime Minister was called upon by His Highness the Amir to become the next Prime Minister of Kuwait.

In their meeting, the two foreign ministers discussed the overall close bilateral relations between the two countries, and ways to enhance them on all levels. The two also discussed the latest developments on the regional and international scenes, in addition to other issues of mutual concerns. After the meeting, both sides signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in the agricultural field between the Government of the State of Kuwait and the Government of the Republic of Greece. A MoU was also signed between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the two countries in the field of diplomatic training. The agreement was signed by Minister Nicolas, on behalf

of the Greek side, while Deputy Foreign Minister, Ambassador Khaled Al-Jarallah, represented the Kuwaiti side.

The signing ceremony was attended by Assistant Foreign Minister for European



Affairs Walid Al-Khubaizi, Assistant Foreign Minister for Protocols' Affairs Ambassador Dhari Al-Ajran, Kuwait's Ambassador to Greece Saud Al-Dowaish, Assistant Foreign

Minister for the Deputy Foreign Minister's Office Ambassador Ayham Al-Omar, Acting Assistant Foreign Minister for the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ambassador Saleh Al-Loughani, and other senior officials at the ministry.

Regarding Kuwaiti tourists visiting Greece, Minister Dendias said this number could be greatly enhanced by direct flights between the two countries. Greece is a tourist paradise with almost 20 millions tourists visiting every year. He said he was extremely optimistic that direct flights would begin in the near future and that would give a great boost to the number of Kuwaitis visiting Greece.

Minister Dendias also said that he was extremely impressed by the Greek community in Kuwait who are young and vibrant and participating in the development of Kuwait. He said they have truly been bridging the gap between the two nations with their contributions in different fields.



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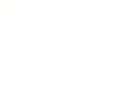

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## MoI launches online renewal of driving licenses

Online service for the renewal of driving licenses was launched on 17 November by the General Traffic Department affiliated to Ministry of Interior (MoI).

Launching the service, the ministry said that those seeking to renew their licenses can visit the MoI website and follow the necessary procedures. After they successfully complete the required procedures, they will be able to

receive their licenses from self-service machines located in various places around Kuwait.

The ministry pointed out that in the early phase of the rollout of this service, vending machines would be installed in the Avenues Mall in Shuwaikh area, Al-Kout Mall in Fahaheel area, service centers at the Ministry of Interior, and at the General Department for Traffic Violations in Capital and Hawally areas.

## Fall in expat numbers in public sector

Latest statistics from the Public Authority for Civil Information (PACI) show that the total number of foreigners working in public sector entities fell from 127,000 at the start of the year, to 123,000 at the end of October.

The statistics revealed the number of expats working in 89 government bodies. The figures show that there was only one foreigner working in the International organizations' Liaison Office, another at the Municipal Council, three at Boursa Kuwait and eight in the Citizens' Service Agency.

Meanwhile, there were zero expatriates employed with the Kuwait Authority for Partnership Projects (KAPP), the Public Authority for the Holy Quran and Sunnah Publication and Propagation and in the Community Development Center.

However, the statistics also showed that 4,425 foreigners continued to work for the Kuwait Flour Mills and Bakeries Company, comprising nearly 97 percent of the workforce of 4570 employees. Around 2,000 foreigners were employed by Kuwait Oil Company, and 531 expats worked for the Public Authority for the Disabled, comprising 35 percent of its workforce.

In addition, there were 5,593 expats working with Kuwait Airways out of a total workforce of 6,835. Expats also accounted for 278 out of the total workforce of 348 working for Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences. Figures also showed, 4,028 expats working in the awqaf ministry, 1,201 in the council of ministers,

586 working in the ministry of social affairs and 330 working for the parliament.

Meanwhile, the report showed that the least number of expat employees worked for the oil ministry with only seven expat employees, one at the Arab Center for Educational Technologies, 11 at the vocational training institute, and 23 in the Kuwait National Fund For Small And Medium Enterprise Development.

On the other hand, the highest number of expat employees work for the health ministry – 33,926 employees, followed by the education ministry with 27,545, defense ministry with 17,990, interior ministry with 7,284, ministry of services with 108, commerce ministry with 116, the finance ministry with 148, the foreign ministry with 347, the housing authority with 450, public works ministry with 515, Amiri Diwan with 839, information ministry with 1,138, justice ministry with 1,138 and electricity and water ministry with 1,177 employees.

The report also showed very low numbers of expats in various government authorities, with only 66 in the manpower authority, 24 in the competition protection authority, 44 in the anti-corruption authority, 74 in the food and nutrition authority, 63 in the Capital Markets Authority, 35 in Kuwait Direct Investment Promotion Authority, 63 in Kuwait Oil Tankers Company, 38 in the national security department, 419 in the Crown Prince Diwan, 112 in Kuwait Investment Authority, 151 in the Central Bank, 37 in the Credit Bank and 171 in Kuwait Ports Authority.



## Belgian Ambassador hosts reception on King's Day

The Ambassador of Belgium to Kuwait H.E. Piet Heirbaut hosted a reception at his residence on 17 November to mark the occasion of his country's King's Day. The Assistant Foreign Minister for European Affairs H.E. Waleed Al Khubaizi was the chief guest at the function, which was attended by members of the diplomatic corps, Kuwaiti officials and media personnel.

Speaking on the occasion, Belgian Ambassador Piet Heirbaut lauded the relations between Belgian and Kuwait as positive, excellent and solid, based on a framework of trust and mutual respect. He stated, "We share historical and developed relations at all levels and in various fields of cooperation, and these relations are under the special patronage of the political

leadership of both countries."

"At the political level, we have many commonalities with Kuwait, in terms of the foreign policy of the two friendly countries, through our belief in dialogue as an effective means of resolving conflicts and bringing peace," he added.

On the regional and international arenas, he underscored Kuwaiti diplomacy efforts are distinguished, and is considered one of the most important players in supporting the stability and achieving balance in the region. Ambassador Heirbaut praised the Kuwait 2035 developmental plan, which he described as ambitious, and emphasized the readiness of Belgian companies to contribute to major projects within it.

For his part, Ambassador Al Khubaizi

remarked that this year marks the 55th anniversary of the establishment of relations between Kuwait and Belgium. He said Kuwait was keen to promote and strengthen existing bilateral trade and investments with Belgium.

He added, "We are working towards increasing the volume of trade between the two countries, which amounted to approximately KD74 million in non-oil derivatives during 2018." Pointing out that Kuwait Petroleum Corporation already owns

over 400 gas stations in Belgium, he revealed that Kuwait intends to increase the volume of investments in Belgium that amounted to US\$823 million last year.

He underscored that there are five agreements signed between the two countries, in addition to three memorandums of understanding, and that Kuwait is looking forward to signing more agreements, in order to contribute to strengthening bilateral relations.

## IDF holds Health Quiz 2019



Tenth iteration of the popular Indian Doctors Forum (IDF) Health Competition for students was held at the Indian Community School Kuwait (ICSK) Senior Branch auditorium on 8 November.

The event was attended by a large number of students, teachers, IDF members and their families.

A written test was held on 8 November to select the six teams that would eventually compete for the coveted trophy.

The quiz competition was inaugurated by Dr. Surendra Nayak, President IDF, who informed the audience about the history and rationale behind holding such a quiz every year.

Following eight closely contested rounds that lasted around 90 minutes, it was Joel George Moozhil and Shervin Chris Philip Jain from Carmel School who brought laurels to their school by emerging as winners of the Health Quiz 2019. The team of Fahaad Ahmed and Harish

Babu from Gulf Indian School and Ayesha Zean and Rudra Patel of ICSK Salmiya came in second and third place respectively.

The trophy, medals and certificates were awarded to the students. Mr. Huzefa Abbasi, assistant marketing manager at Al-Mulla Exchange awarded the gift vouchers (Center Point) to the 2nd place winners and Dr. Mohan Ram, General Secretary IDF awarded the 3rd place winners.

The second segment of this year's educative event consisted of felicitation of fifteen meritorious children of IDF members who had achieved excellent academic results in the recently concluded 10th and 12th standard board exams.



## Over 1.2 million expats lived in shared apartments

Latest figures from the government show that a total of 1.22 million foreigners live in shared accommodation in Kuwait.

Most of those sharing residences are singles living with a family, two or more families sharing a single apartment or several singles living under one roof. Cost of living, loss of job, or other economic hardships compel people to share accommodation with others. The statistics also reveal that most of those sharing residences

are not relatives and there is usually no head of household responsible for those lodging in the residence.

Other details from the data on family residences show that sharing of accommodation is highest among Asians, with a total of 802,000 sharing living space, followed by Arabs totalling 393,000 and Europeans numbering 4,829. North Americans, South Americans, Australians and Africans made up the rest of those sharing accommodation.



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## Tasty Rice Pilaf

**T**hink of rice pilaf as an upgrade to your everyday rice. A simplest rice pilaf consists of white rice cooked with a little flavorful oil and chopped onion, and then simmered with broth. It is one step up from rice cooked in water, but not so elaborate that you cannot pull it together on a weeknight.

Pilafs can also run the gamut from this super-simple version to more complex (and flavorful) side dishes. You can make pilafs that mix other grains and pastas along with the white rice, like wild rice, orzo, broken pieces of vermicelli, and tiny lentils. Along with the onion, you can mix in peas, diced carrots, chopped peppers, or sautéed mushrooms, or even sweet-savory ingredients like golden raisins, dried currants, chopped dried apricots, or nuts. Spice it up with a pinch of saffron, some spices, or even a strip of orange zest.

These additions give the pilaf a medley of both textures and flavors, and make it an easy side dish to customize for any table.

### Make a Simple Rice Pilaf



#### Ingredients

- 1 cup long-grain white rice
- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil or butter
- 1/2 medium yellow onion, diced
- 1/2 teaspoon fine salt
- 1 3/4 cups chicken broth, vegetable broth, water, or a mix of water and broth

#### Directions

**Rinse the rice:** Place the rice in a strainer and rinse it thoroughly under cool water. The water running through the rice will look milky at first, but will then become clearer and only lightly clouded. It's fine if there's still some haze in the water. There is no need to dry the rice before cooking; a bit of moisture on the rice is fine. Set the strainer of rice aside while you cook the onion.

**Cook the onion:** Warm the olive oil or butter in the saucepan over medium heat. Add the onion and cook until the

onion is translucent and soft.

**Toast the rice:** Add the rice to the pan and stir to coat with olive oil or butter. Continue to cook, stirring often, until the tips of the rice turn translucent and the rice smells fragrant and toasted.

**Add the broth or water and boil:** Pour the broth or water and salt into the saucepan and increase the heat to medium-high. Bring to a boil.

**Cover and cook:** As soon as the water comes to a boil, reduce the heat to low and cover the pot. Cook without lifting the lid for 15 to 18 minutes. At the end, check that the rice is tender and has absorbed all the liquid. If not, cover and cook another few minutes, adding a few tablespoons of water if needed.

**Steam the rice:** Remove the pan from heat and let it sit, covered, for another 5 to 10 minutes.

**Fluff and serve:** Remove the lid and fluff the pilaf with a fork. Transfer to a serving bowl and serve.

## Thought for the week

**“ The Paris accord does not victimize the US; on the contrary, the US has a world-beating responsibility to get its house in order.**

**- Jeffrey D. Sachs  
Professor at Columbia University**

## Six foods that burn fat

Ask Mira: Eating Right to Live Happy & Healthy



**M**any nutritionists believe that the type of food you consume plays an important role in burning fat. Hence, I insist that my patients do not skip any of the three main meals during the day, and maintain portion control on the type of foods they eat. In this article, I will tell you what are the best foods that help in burning fat and keeping a flat belly, now that summer vacation is almost here.

**Caffeine:** Studies have shown that caffeine releases fatty acids so that they burn faster. Drink caffeine in the form of coffee and tea. Chocolate, specifically dark chocolate, also contains caffeine and is rich in antioxidants which boosts your metabolism and burns fatter. However, people with high blood pressure should limit their caffeine consumption.

**Raw Nuts and almonds:** They slim your tummy by keeping it full. When eating good sources of fat like omega 3 and Vitamin E fatty acids, you remove the bad body fat especially around your waist. So ten almonds a day satisfies your hunger cravings and does not give you excess calories.

However, you should skip salted nuts as too much sodium raises your blood pressure and retains water in your body.

**Berries:** Berries like raspberries and strawberries contain a lot of filling fiber

in a small portion. Fiber is easily digested and prevents constipation. Berries also contain special kind of antioxidants that keeps your belly flat.

**Avocado:** In addition to containing a lot of heart-healthy monounsaturated fats, avocados are a source of filling fiber



(11 to 17 grams per avocado). They also contain high amount of Vitamin E, which also helps in slimming your waist. As 1/4 avocado has 45 calories, you should include them in your diet.

**Cinnamon:** It is a kind of spice but it doesn't add calories, while helping you burn fat. According to a recent study of

diabetics, cinnamon metabolizes blood sugar levels, so adding two teaspoons of cinnamon a day to your food or even drinking a cinnamon drink, was found to reduce blood sugar levels and cholesterol by 20 percent. You can get your favorite dose of cinnamon by flavoring your coffee with it.

**Oats:** Oats not only can make you feel full, but are easily digestible, and extremely high in fiber, so you feel full for a longer time. Oatmeal is your best option for a healthy fulfilling breakfast.

And of course, drink plenty of water as it flushes all the toxicity out of your body. Decrease your salt and sodium consumption as salt causes water retention and can be the cause of developing cellulite.

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# More accommodation choices for residents as rents fall

Spacious apartments that were once limited to the well-heeled have become more affordable in recent months, as supply continues to exceed demand in the real-estate sector.

Real estate market in Kuwait is said to be caught at the crossroads as new government policies and an economic slowdown have combined to create a slump in the housing and apartment sector of the country.

Government policies that aim to reduce expatriates and gradually assimilate more Kuwaitis into the workforce and prevailing economic conditions, as well as rise in cost of living from new price hikes initiated



by the government on services offered to expatriates, have resulted in a lot of people leaving Kuwait, or at least sending their families away. This has led to a fall in demand for apartments and consequently a fall in rents for a wide range of properties.

Plunge in rentals have given people a sense of affordability in the property market, with more

choices in preferable locations, better facilities and spacious rooms. The drop in rents has provided people with the option of better living at lower costs. Residents have been moving into areas, which were earlier out of their reach due to budget constraints. A significant number of tenants have moved from apartments to villas for more space, ample area for

their children to play, garden and even a pool, eventually allowing them to enjoy a higher quality of life.

A certain percent of people have been locating into newer localities, simply because they are more reasonably priced and offer wider choices. In a few cases, renters have also moved in the same property in the same area for a lower price.

On the other hand, people have taken advantage of the dwindling rental prices and settled into cheaper properties giving them the opportunity to save more money.

While a few landlords defy the drop in rental rates and still offer the same high rates, residents are now



more aware of the decline in the rent value and therefore demand a slash in the rent, otherwise they are willing to move to a cheaper apartment.

Certainly, the diminishing value of the real estate sector is turning into a boon for some of the residents of Kuwait.

## Irish trade delegation concludes tour of Kuwait



Irish Minister of State for Trade, Employment, Business, EU Digital Single Market and Data Protection, Pat Breen, began a five-day tour of Kuwait, United Arab Emirates and Bahrain on 17 November, with his first stopover being Kuwait. It is the first tour by an Irish trade delegation to Kuwait in over 10 years

The trade mission is part of the Irish government's 'Global Ireland' strategy that aims to double Ireland's impact in the world by 2025 through trade, bilateral and multilateral partnerships, and their wider contribution to the world. The 'Global Ireland' strategy stems from the government's realization that with UK's Brexit on the horizon, it is more important than ever for Irish businesses to diversify further into global markets.

"The trade mission is the first of many initiatives to explore the opportunities

open for Irish companies in Kuwait and to build on our existing trading relationships. We look forward to deepening the level of cooperation between our two countries to mutually benefit our economies," said Minister Breen on arriving in Kuwait.

During his visit to Kuwait, the minister and representatives of the accompanying trade delegation explored opportunities and held fruitful discussions with representatives of Kuwaiti companies involved in a wide range of sectors, including in the aviation, FinTech and telecoms sectors.

Among those with whom Minister Breen met with during his brief visit to Kuwait were the representatives of Kuwait Direct Investment Promotion Authority, the Communication and Information Technology Regulatory Authority, and the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce.



## The Times Kuwait holds workshop at GEIS

The Times Kuwait held a workshop at the Global English Indian School (GEIS) on the importance of newspapers in our lives.

Srikanth Reddy, Marketing Manager of The Times Kuwait, spoke to the students on the role of journalists



in society and the responsibility of the editorial board in crafting a newspaper that is respected and trusted by the public.



Enthusiasm was evident everywhere in the hall, as students pried Mr. Reddy with a wide variety of questions about journalism and the makings of a paper.

Mr. Reddy along with the students of Global English Indian School then performed a stage play to better understand the different people who come together to bring out a newspaper. The play also emphasized the importance of newspapers in our lives and the need for reliability in the

news that appears in newspapers and news portals.

The workshop concluded with the distribution of copies of The Times Kuwait, the country's premier news magazine to all the second, third and fourth grade students who attended the workshop.

A special thanks was conveyed to Dr. Shoba Vaddadhi, director of Global English Indian School for her support and presence at the program.

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## Oman embassy celebrates National Day

**H**is Highness Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah congratulated the Sultanate of Oman on its 49th National Day during a ceremony organized by the Omani Embassy

on Tuesday, 19 November.

His Highness Sheikh Nasser said that Oman's national day is a happy day for all GCC countries and peoples, wishing the Sultanate and its people further progress and prosperity in light of

the leadership of Sultan Qaboos bin Said

For his part, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs and Interior Minister Anas Al-Saleh said that the ties between Kuwait and Oman are firmly rooted, and congratulated

the leadership and brotherly people of Oman on this national occasion. In another, Deputy Foreign Minister Khaled Al-Jarallah praised the great achievements of the Sultanate during the reign of Sultan Qaboos at all levels.

## Consultations continue for consensus on Cabinet

...CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Born in Kuwait on 3 March 1953, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Sabah is the son of Khalid bin Hamad Al-Sabah and Mouza bint Ahmad Al-Sabah — the daughter of Ahmad bin Jabir Al-Ali Al-Sabah, Kuwait's ruler from 1921 to 1950. He is the brother of former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, Mohammad Al-Khalid Al-Sabah, and his other brother is the former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense, Ahmad Al-Khalid Al-Sabah.

Sheikh Sabah Al-Khalid is married to Aida bint Salim Al-Ali Al-Sabah, who is the board chairperson of Sheikh Salim Al-Ali Al-Sabah Informatics Award. The couple has two children, Sheikha Al-Jawhara and Sheikh Khalid.

After earning his bachelor's degree in political science from Kuwait University in 1977, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khalid joined the ministry of foreign affairs in 1978 as a diplomatic attache. He worked his way up the career ladder in the ministry occupying various posts, including in the Arab Affairs department from 1978-1983 and serving with the permanent Kuwaiti mission at the United Nations in New York from 1983-1989.

He returned to Foreign Ministry in 1989 to serve as Deputy Director Arab Department until 1992, when he was appointed for a three-year term as Director of the Office of the Under-Secretary of Foreign Affairs. In 1995, he was appointed as Kuwait's ambassador to Saudi Arabia and served in the post until 1998. During this period he was also Kuwait's envoy to the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC). In 1998, he was appointed by a decree as the Chief of National Security Bureau with a ministerial status and served in that post until 2006.

His first appointment to the Cabinet came in 2006, when he was made the minister of social affairs and labor. In October 2007, he was also named as minister of information and then as an advisor in the Amiri Diwan, serving in that post until 2009. In February 2010, he was appointed to the Supreme Petroleum Council. He was also nominated as a member of the National Security Council, Supreme Councils for Planning and Development, and the Environment Public Authority.

In October 2011, he was appointed as minister of foreign affairs and in that post was also the Chairman of the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED). In a Cabinet reshuffle in 2012, he was additionally given the post of minister of state for cabinet affairs. In 2013, he was named deputy prime minister and foreign minister and appointed as first deputy prime minister and foreign minister in 2014.

Sheikh Sabah Al-Khalid continued as foreign minister in consecutive cabinets and ministerial reshuffles in 2016 and 2017. During his tenure as foreign minister, he was known to add a 'personal touch' to Kuwait diplomacy, which was



## Interpellations, hallmark of Kuwait Parliament

**M**ore than 100 interpellation motions have been submitted by parliamentarians over the 58-year history of the National Assembly. Of these so called 'grillings', 57 were filed during the last three sessions of parliament from 2009 to 2019, and 19 of them were tabled during the last legislative term. Here is a look-back on interpellations during the 15th legislative term that began on December 2016.

- The first interpellation was in January 2017, shortly after the legislative term began and was directed against the Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud Al-Sabah. The second and third were against the then Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah, in April 2017.
- The fourth, in October 2017, was against Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs and Acting Minister of Information Sheikh Mohammad Al-Abdullah. The start of 2018 saw an interpellation tabled against Minister of Social Affairs and Minister of State for Economic Affairs Hind Al-Subeeh. This was followed in March by the grilling of Minister of State for National Assembly Affairs Adel Al-Kharafi.
- April 2018 was a hectic month for interpellations, with three motions filed; the first, against Minister of Oil and Minister of Water and Electricity Bakheet Al-Rashidi; the second against the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah; and the third against Minister of Social Affairs, Minister of State for Economic Affairs Hind Al-Subeeh.
- June 2018 witnessed another grilling against the former prime minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah. In September, an interpellation was directed at Minister of State for National Assembly Affairs Adel Al-Kharafi. The year ended with another grilling against the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah in November 2018.
- The new year got off to a good start with Minister of Commerce and Industry, as well as Minister of State for Services Khaled Al-Roudhan being grilled in March, and the Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Anas Al-Saleh facing interpellation in April. The fourth month of the year appears especially attractive for grilling, as there were two more during the month, the first against Information Minister and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Mohammad Al-Jabri, and the second against the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah.
- June 2019 appears to have been less than fortuitous to Minister of Finance Dr. Nayef Al-Hajraf, as he faced two motions against him during the month. In November, he faced yet another interpellation, but by then a 'grilling-fatigued' Dr. Al-Hajraf probably decided to call it quits and exited the Cabinet.
- Midway through November 2019, two more interpellations were filed, against Minister of Public Works and Housing Jenan Ramadan, as well as one against Deputy Premier and Interior Minister Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah. The entire Cabinet then tendered its resignation on 14 November.

reflected in the evident successes he notched on the regional and international levels. In recognition of his meritorious service as the top diplomat of Kuwait, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khalid has been awarded the Saudi Arabian Order of King Abdulaziz in 1998 and the British Order of St Michael and St. George in 2012. He also received the Order of the Two Niles (First Class) from the Republic of Sudan, and is the Grand Officer of the National Order of the Lion by the President of the Republic of Senegal in 2015.

On 18 November, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khalid was ordered to take over temporary responsibility of Ministry of Defense following the incumbent's removal by His Highness the Amir. A day later, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khalid was invited to form the 36th government and to head it as the country's eighth prime minister; he was also accorded the title of His Highness. In the meantime, political circles are awash with rumors that the new government will include at least five new ministers. Among the new ministers likely to be appointed, three ministers to occupy the posts of Ministers of Defence, Interior and Foreign Affairs will in all probability be from the royal family, while two more could be from among sitting parliamentarians.

Some of potential nominees from the royal family are Sheikh Abdullah Nawaf Al-Ahmad as First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense; Sheikh Thamer Ali Sabah Al-Salem as Minister of Interior; and either Sheikh Ahmad Nasser Al-Muhammad or Sheikh Hamad Jaber Al-Ali for the post of Foreign Minister. In addition, the finance ministry is likely to see a new minister while the State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Anas Al-Saleh will most probably retain his post. Other ministers in the incumbent Cabinet are expected to witness a reshuffling of their existing posts. But the question in the minds of everyone is, how likely is the new cabinet to win the trust and support of the National Assembly. In the past, nearly all aborted parliaments have been undone by the threat of a vote of confidence following interpellations against ministers by parliamentarians.

The fate of the yet-to-be formed Cabinet could also rest with lawmakers. Anticipating such an outcome, His Highness the Amir in his speech to the nation last Monday, expressed the hope that the new government would meet the aspirations of the Kuwaiti people, which he added is a matter that required "serious cooperation" between the government, parliament and people.

His Highness the Amir urged the people to "be aware to interests of our dear nation, and protection of its security and stability, stand united against whoever tries to undermine national unity." He added that he was confident the Kuwaiti people were capable of overcoming all hardships and moving towards national unity and achievements.

## Proposal to rename residence department hall for Yousef Al-Shumaimry

A proposal to rename one of the main halls in the new public administration building for residence affairs in Shuwaikh to Yousef Al-Shumaimry Hall has been put forward by MP Abdullah Al-Kandari.

Elaborating on his proposal, Al-Kandari explained that the General Administration of Citizenship, Passports and



Residence Affairs is one of the most important departments since it was established in 1978 in Shuwaikh area. He noted that since 1956, Yousef Alshammari has been working in the residence administration department, and the renaming of a hall was in honor of his role and his sincerity in carrying out his duties.



## Lulu Hypermarket launches 'Discover America 2019'

Lulu Hypermarket, the leading retailer in the Region, launched its 'Discover America 2019' promotion on 20 November, at its Al Qurain outlet.

Chargé d'affaires at the US Embassy in Kuwait, Larry L. Memmott, inaugurated the event in the presence of top officials from Lulu Hypermarket Kuwait and a large gathering of shoppers and well-wishers.



Speaking to the gathering, Chargé d'affaires Larry L. Memmott praised the efforts of the hypermarket in recreating an American setting in Kuwait, particularly lauding the recreation of the

Statue of Liberty. He added, "Lulu hypermarket sells more than 3,500 American products, and many people in Kuwait can discover their favorite American products here, while others can discover new taste sensations!" He further talked about how Lulu Hypermarket has prepared for the occasion of American Holiday Thanksgiving next week with a range of product offerings, including Turkeys imported from North Carolina. The American Chargé d'affaires invited all of Kuwait to visit Lulu Hypermarket to participate in this American food experience.

As part of festivities held to mark the promotion, a cultural program was organized on the opening day featuring a variety of songs and dances highlighting American culture.

The week-long promotion, which runs from 20 - 26 November at all LuLu Hypermarket outlets in Kuwait, showcases high-quality food and other products from the United States at very special prices. Adding further attraction to the Discover America promotion, the entrances and aisles of Lulu Hypermarket branches have been adorned with large cutouts and images of traditional monuments and popular tourist sites in the US.

Special prices are being offered on a range of US branded products during the promotion period, including for leading food brands such as Bolthouse, Califia Farms, Eggo, General Mills, Gerber, Kraft, Lite House, McCormick, Powerful Yogurt, Ragu and Silk among others.

The 'Discover America 2019' promotion underscores Lulu Hypermarket as the destination of choice for discerning shoppers looking for high-quality products from around the world at exceptionally competitive prices.



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## Palestinian ambassador hosts reception on country's Independence Day

The Palestinian Embassy celebrated the 31st anniversary of the Palestinian Declaration of Independence on Monday, 18 November. Deputy Foreign Minister Khalid

Al-Jarallah was the chief guest at the function, which was attended by members of the diplomatic corps, Kuwaiti officials, and media personnel. In his address to the gathering, Palestinian

Ambassador to Kuwait H.E. Rami Tahboub praised the relations between Palestine and Kuwait as moving steadily and confidently towards further progress and strength.

## French embassy organizes conference on property investment



On 20 November, the French embassy organised a conference on the investment potential of properties in France. The conference was held in collaboration with investment experts from two French banks, BNP Paribas and Societe Generale, as well as King & Spalding Law Firm.

The conference was attended by representatives from major investment firms in Kuwait, both



institutional, such as KIA, KFH, Boubyan Bank, GIC, KAMCO and Markaz, as well as private firms such as Action Group, Ahli Capital, Al Qatami-Tesnem, Boukhamseen, Injazzat, KIC and Tamdeen.

Speaking at the conference, the French Ambassador to Kuwait, H.E. Marie Masdupuy said that the vibrant French property market is worth over KD100 billion, and that Paris lies at its heart.

She added that under French President Emmanuel Macron the country had improved its business environment for foreign investors and its economy is set to grow faster in 2019 and 2020 than its immediate neighbors.

Larry Young from BNP Paribas highlighted the key metrics of the French markets and the very good conditions for investing in France (high demand and liquidity, stable prime yields, capital value, major developments on-going), not just in Paris but also in the main French regional cities, such as Lyon, Lille, Bordeaux, Toulouse, Marseille, and Nantes. Charles-Emmanuel de Beauregard from Societe Generale emphasized the competitive financing solutions, conventional and Islamic-compliant, available for foreign investors, both for assets and share deals, brownfield and greenfield investments.

Jawal Ali and Michael Rainey from King & Spalding addressed the key issue of taxation.

On a separate note, Arnaud Boulanger, French embassy economic counsellor, underlined the investment opportunities around the Greater Paris Project, the largest urban development project in Europe. He also stressed the Greater Marseille Euromed Project, the largest urban renovation project in the Mediterranean area, and added that it would reshape the size and reach of Marseille.



## Bangladesh Ambassador holds reception to mark 48th Armed Forces Day

Ambassador of Bangladesh H.E. S.M. Abul Kalam hosted a reception to commemorate the 48th anniversary of his country's 'Armed Forces Day', at the JW Marriott on 21 November.

Chief of Military Education, Kuwait Armed Forces, Major General Walid Eabdal Latif Al Surdii, representing the Chief of Staff, Kuwait Armed Forces, was the chief guest on the occasion. Also attending the event were Defense Attaché of Bangladesh Embassy, Brigadier General Mohammad Abu Naser, as well as guests from the diplomatic and military corps and other dignitaries, in addition to members of Bangladesh community and media personnel.

In his address to the gathering, Brigadier General Naser remarked that the day was significant for Bangladesh Armed Forces for the fact that it began with the glorious



Liberation War in 1971.

Highlighting the relations between Bangladesh and Kuwait, Brigadier General Naser lauded the Kuwait-Bangladesh friendship as deep rooted through supreme sacrifices of 80 Bangladeshi soldiers during liberation and reconstruction phase of Kuwait.

On the contribution of Bangladesh Armed Forces to United Nations, Defense Attaché mentioned that Bangladesh

is one of the largest troop-contributing countries in UN Peacekeeping Operations, with around 6520 Bangladeshi peacekeepers presently deployed in different countries.

Praising the relationship between Kuwait and Bangladesh as strategic partners in different fields, the Ambassador of Bangladesh Abul Kalam stressed these relations and bonds are inseparable and historically connected.

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# Indonesian embassy holds diplomacy seminar

## Ambassador launches Indonesia Digital Diplomacy



The Indonesian Embassy in Kuwait organized a seminar, and launched a tourism campaign, at the Mövenpick Hotel & Resort Al Bida'a in Salmiya on 18 November. Indonesian Ambassador H.E. Tri Tharyat along with the Director General for Information and Public Diplomacy at the Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), Cecep Herawan, opened the Integrated Technical Guidance seminar.

The two-day interactive event saw the participation of representatives from 23 Indonesian Embassies and Consulate Generals in the Middle East and Africa region. The seminar allowed the 46 Indonesian diplomatic personnel to learn more about public diplomacy and strategic issues, as well as share professional experiences.

On the sidelines of the function, Ambassador Tharyat also launched a new outdoor media campaign to raise awareness of Indonesia as a tourism destination and to

encourage more tourist exchanges between Indonesia and Kuwait.

Speaking about the seminar, Ambassador Tharyat underscored the development of digital diplomacy as a very important undertaking for the MoFA in Jakarta. He noted that a paradigm shift in diplomacy was needed to contend with the borderless and fast-moving world of the internet and social media. Pointing out that embassies today have to

move away from old bureaucratic mechanisms, he stressed that they have to adopt new approaches and equip their staff with the knowledge and tools pertaining to the digital medium.

With regard to the new outdoor media campaign, Ambassador Tharyat explained, "In the last three years we have only received 21,000 Kuwaiti visitors, that number is quite low when compared to other Southeast Asian countries."

He expressed hope that the media campaign would successfully result in an increase in the number of Kuwaiti visitors and pointed out that Indonesia has a visa-free policy for citizens of 169 countries for a stay of up to 30 days.

Elaborating on Kuwaiti-Indonesian bilateral relationship, Ambassador Tharyat lauded the excellent political cooperation between the two countries as non-permanent members of the UN

Security Council, and in supporting each other on different issues of common concern, such as the Palestinian issue and the peace and security in the Arab region.

In a similar vein, Director General Herawan stated, "We enjoy an excellent bilateral relationship with Kuwait, especially in the political sphere but we are aiming to strengthen our cooperation in other fields as well such as in our economic relations."



## IIT-IIM alumni associations hold annual quiz competition



The alumni associations of India's premium educational institutions, Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) and the Indian Institutes of Management (IIM), organized a spectacular annual open quiz program titled 'Q8OQ-2019' for the sixth year running on 15 November, at the Cambridge School Auditorium in Mangaf. The event was conducted in collaboration with associate partner Indian Business Promotion Council (IBPC) Kuwait, and event partner, Advanced Technologies Company (ATC).

The quiz was conducted by globetrotting quizmaster Giri Balasubramaniam from India, popularly known across the world as 'Pickbrain'.

Following welcoming of the guests by the compere Miss Astha, the quiz master took over the proceedings.

The contest consisted of three levels — written prelims, followed by a separate semi-finals for students, previously selected by the participating

schools, and for the open category, and then the grand finale.

Peeyush Jain, president of IIT-IIM Alumni Association, then felicitated the chief guest, the Indian Ambassador H.E. Jeeva Sagar, and other honorable guests, sponsors and co-hosts. This was followed by the semi-final rounds and main grand finale of the quiz program.

The top place winner this year was 'The Invincibles' from DPS FAIPS, represented by three brilliant students, Aaron John Thomas, Tarun Sunil M. and Kurian Thomas M., who claimed both School and Overall Category prizes.

The runner-up team, 'Back to the Fusion', from the open category, was represented by Ram Mohan Menon, Ramesh Athreya and Nirmala Prem. The third prize went to another open category team, 'Team with no name', represented by, Ishan Patnaik, Kaushal Bhatia and Mayukh Mukherji.

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# South Africa's ten UNESCO World Heritage Sites

South Africa is home to ten United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage Sites, testifying to the country's wonderful variety across cultural and natural heritage. The UNESCO World Heritage Sites are places of importance to cultural or natural heritage, and with six cultural and four natural UNESCO World Heritage Sites, South Africa is a global hotspot for both cultural and natural treasures.



**Evidence of early humans at the fossil hominid sites of South Africa:** The fossil evidence contained within these sites proves conclusively that the African continent is the undisputed Cradle of Humankind. This site includes the Sterkfontein, Swartkrans, Kromdraai and Environs caves, as well as the Makapan Valley and Taung Skull Fossil Site. They create a network of some of the most important fossils in understanding the evolution of early modern humans over the past 3.5 million years. These fossils have allowed archaeologists to identify a range of early humans from more than 4 million years ago. They also show evidence of the domestication of fire by humans and ancient fauna and flora. Despite so much having already been uncovered, the UN believes there is the possibility of finding even more.



**A melting pot of habitats in Isimangaliso Wetland Park:** This region is where coral reefs, sandy beaches, coastal dunes, lakes, swamps, and wetlands meet and harmonise. The five interlinking ecosystems support a large number of threatened and/or endemic species which continue to adapt and thrive. A few stand-out species include the sea turtles which nest on the sandy shores, and the enormous flocks of flamingos which roost on the edge of the lakes.

**The layered history of Robben Island:** Robben Island's history goes back to the 17th century. It was the final resting place of Hadije Kramat in 1755, once housed a leper colony, was a WWII base, and was also, of course, a maximum security prison under the Apartheid era where Nelson Mandela lived



out his 25-year sentence. Relics of all these eras remain and this layering reflects Robben Island's history. The symbolic value of Robben Island lies in its somber history, as a prison and a hospital for unfortunates who were sequestered as being socially undesirable. This came to an end in the 1990s when the Apartheid regime was rejected by the South African people and the political prisoners who had been incarcerated on the Island received their freedom after many years.



**Relics of an ancient kingdom at Mapungubwe cultural landscape:** This site is where you can find the virtually untouched remains of palaces and villages belonging to the largest kingdom to have existed in Africa. This site holds evidence of more than 400 years of social and political life there before it was abandoned in the 14th century due to a drought. This kingdom was at the crossroads of trade routes into southern Africa, making it the most important inland settlement in the region. Archaeological finds attest to this.



**Forever-changing Fynbos in the cape floral region protected areas:** This site is home to nearly 20% of the continent's flora. Although it is the smallest of the world's 6 Floral Kingdoms, it is relatively the most diverse. With 13 clusters spreading out over 1 million hectares collectively,

**The art and animals of Maloti-Drakensberg Park:** The crannies of this enormous range fostered not only widespread plant species, but also provided a place for human expression. The uKhahlamba-Drakensberg National Park in South Africa and the Sehlathebe National Park in Lesotho is home to the largest and most concentrated group of rock art paintings in sub-Saharan Africa. This diverse collection 'represents the spiritual life of the San people, who lived in this area over a period of 4,000 years.

the Cape Floral Region is made up of national parks, nature reserves, wilderness areas, state forests, and mountain areas. All of this is home to the iconic Fynbos vegetation. This vegetation keeps on changing. It has been recognised for its ongoing adaptation to fire and drought, its continued speciation and the new ways in which insects, bird and mammals disperse pollen and seeds.



**Delving below the earth's crust at Vredefort Dome:** Just south of Johannesburg lies the biggest and oldest known meteorite impact site in the world. It dates back 2 million years and has a radius of 190km. The impact left layers of the middle and upper zones of the earth's crust exposed. This makes for accessible, good-quality geological sites to better our understanding of both the earth and meteorites.



**Harmony in the Richtersveld cultural and botanical landscape:** The Richtersveld Community Conservancy, a communally-owned and managed area, is the only place where the Nama can migrate freely and make sustainable use of the succulent ecosystem. The UN has recognised that the Nama's lifestyle sustains the biodiversity of the area in a time where this landscape is under threat outside of the protected zone.



**Preserving life in the Khomani cultural landscape:** The communal land belonging to the Khomani-San show human adaptation to the desert past and present. This space, part of the Kalahari Gemsbok National Park and Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park, allows them to spread their knowledge of the veld as they see fit. One project has been to record and teach the !UI-Taa languages and the stories, memories and the knowledge it spreads.

**Marvel at the Barberton Makhonjwa Mountains:** Packed into just one mountain range are some of the world's most pristine examples of meteorite impacts, volcanism, continent shifts and the environment of everyday life. This range is one of the world's oldest geological structures.



EXCLUSIVE to THE TIMES KUWAIT

# The Right to Be Seen



**ANNE-MARIE SLAUGHTER AND YULIYA PANFIL**

Anne-Marie Slaughter is CEO of New America. Yuliya Panfil is a senior fellow and Director of New America's Future of Property Rights program.

While much of the developed world is properly worried about myriad privacy outrages at the hands of Big Tech and demanding, and securing, for individuals a 'right to be forgotten', many around the world are posing a very different question: What about the right to be seen?

Just ask the billion people who are locked out of services we take for granted — things like a bank account, a deed to a house, or even a mobile phone account — because they lack identity documents and thus cannot prove who they are. They are effectively invisible as a result of poor data.

The ability to exercise many of our most basic rights and privileges — such as the right to vote, drive, own property, and travel internationally — is determined by large administrative agencies that rely on standardized information to determine who is eligible for what. For example, to obtain a passport it is typically necessary to present a birth certificate. But what if you do not have a birth certificate? To open a bank account requires proof of address. But what if your house does not have an address?

The inability to provide such basic information is a barrier to stability, prosperity, and opportunity. Invisible people are locked out of the formal economy, unable to vote, travel, or access medical and education benefits. It is not that they are undeserving or unqualified, it is that they are data poor.

In this context, the rich digital record provided by our smartphones and other sensors could become a powerful tool for good, so long as the risks are acknowledged.

“Empowering people to use their own data to prove vital facts about themselves, advocate for their own interests, and advance their own goals, upends governments and commercial actors who collect large troves of data to advance their own goals.”

These gadgets, which have become central to our social and economic lives, leave a data trail that for many of us is the raw material that fuels what Harvard's Shoshana Zuboff calls "surveillance capitalism." Our Google location history shows exactly where we live and work. Our email activity reveals our social networks. Even the way we hold our smartphone can give away early signs of Parkinson's.

But what if citizens could harness the power of these data for themselves, to become visible to administrative gatekeepers and access the rights and privileges to which they are entitled? Their virtual trail could then be converted into proof of physical facts.

That is beginning to happen. In India, slum dwellers are using smartphone



location data to put themselves on city maps for the first time and register for addresses that they can then use to receive mail and register for government IDs. In Tanzania, citizens are using their mobile payment histories to build their credit scores and access more traditional financial services. And in Europe and the United States, Uber drivers are fighting for their rideshare data to advocate for employment benefits.

But much more could be done. For example, after homes are destroyed by storms, victims are often unable to qualify for rebuilding assistance because they cannot prove they are the homeowner or occupant.

Yet they could use their Google location history to show authorities that for the last five years they had slept in the very spot on which the home had stood. They could present their mobile payment records to show that they paid to put a new roof on the home or a fence around the yard. Or they could present a series of geotagged Facebook photographs of themselves and their family in the living room of their home.

None of these individual data points is dispositive, but together they weave a rich tapestry of evidence. In places where no alternative record exists, or where the record has been destroyed by conflict or disaster, this digital proof can be life-changing.

The crucial question, of course, is how to balance the risks of a surveillance state against the power of technology to deliver services and protect fundamental rights. Put more simply, it is not as if those who would like to use their data for good want to sacrifice their privacy; they want the power to control that balance themselves, rather than being at the mercy of corporate giants and government agencies.

The answer lies, at least in part, in empowering people to use their own data to prove vital facts about themselves, advocate for their own interests, and advance their own goals. This bottom-up approach upends the traditional power structures in which governments and commercial actors collect large troves of data to advance their own goals. It is a powerful lever.

The Center for Data Innovation has observed that "to take advantage of [data-driven innovations], individuals must have access to high-quality data about themselves and their communities." This

is absolutely true, and it speaks to the problem of data poverty and the social and economic inequalities that result from a lack of collection or use of data about certain groups of people. But we must go a step further: individuals must be empowered to have good data about themselves and also to use that data to advance their own goals.

Privacy advocates are leading important efforts to allow citizens to control who uses their data, for what, and under which circumstances. These endeavors allow us to say "no" to surveillance and over-exposure. But let us also empower communities to say "yes" to using their data as they choose, and reaping the benefits.







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EXCLUSIVE to THE TIMES KUWAIT

# Green Markets for Equitable Growth



**GRACIELA CHICHILNISKY AND PETER BAL**

Graciela Chichilnisky, Professor of Economics and Mathematical Statistics at Columbia University, is Director of the Columbia Consortium for Risk Management, co-founder and CEO of Global Thermostat, and co-author of *Reversing Climate Change*. Peter Bal is co-author of *Reversing Climate Change*.



The climate crisis and the 2008 financial crisis are two sides of the same coin. Both were born of the same toxic feature of the world's prevailing economic model: the practice of discounting the future. Protecting humanity from both environmental and financial ruin requires an entirely new approach to growth — one that does not sacrifice tomorrow at the altar of today.

In a sense, both crises can be traced back to the same event: the creation of a new international order after World War II. The Bretton Woods institutions that underpinned the order — the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund — encouraged rapid globalization, characterized by a sharp increase in resource exports from the Global South to the Global North. The revival in the

economy, assuming massive amounts of risk and reaping huge rewards. That eventually led to the 2008 crisis, which brought the global financial system to the brink of collapse. With the system having undergone little meaningful reform, acute systemic risks persist to this day.

On the environmental front, unbridled resource extraction destroyed developing-country ecosystems, while encouraging rapidly rising consumption, most fundamentally, of energy, in the developed world. Today, despite accounting for only about 18 percent of the global population, the advanced economies consume about 70 percent of the world's energy, the vast majority of which (87%) comes from fossil fuels.

The North-South divide is thus inextricably linked to carbon dioxide emissions. And, in fact, it has reared its head in every United Nations climate negotiation, with the countries that have contributed the most to climate change, beginning with the United States, often standing in the way of effective action.

Resistance usually comes down to a single consideration: current economic prosperity. Thus, the only realistic solution to the climate crisis is to replace fossil-fuel-based energy with renewables quickly and cost-effectively enough to keep the

engines of growth running. Fortunately, we already know that this is possible. The key is a global carbon market.

The 1997 Kyoto Protocol attempted to use a system of tradable quotas to establish a price on CO2 emissions. While several countries ultimately refused to join the protocol — the US signed, but did not ratify it — the carbon market that it created (designed by one of us, Chichilnisky) helped to make clean energy more profitable and dirty energy less so.

Although the Kyoto Protocol collapsed, the world has built upon this work, and some of its largest economies — China, the European Union, and several US states, including California — are now using emissions-trading schemes. The value of traded global markets for CO2 allowances surged by 250 percent last year, and now exceeds \$178 billion annually.

A revived global carbon market would help cut the Gordian knot of economic growth and environmental degradation. Moreover, it would cost virtually nothing to create and operate.

A scheme offering market-based efficiency would appeal to developed economies, while developing countries would support it because mandatory emissions limits would apply only to high- and middle-income economies, as was the

case in the Kyoto Protocol. The potential of a global carbon market continues to grow. Last year, the US National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change reported that "negative emissions technologies" that remove and sequester CO2 from the air could be safely scaled up to capture and store a significant share of total emissions. This process would be so cost-effective that the captured CO2 could profitably be sold in the carbon market.

Of course, CO2 emissions are far from the only contributor to the climate crisis. But other types of green markets can also be created. Even before the Kyoto Protocol, the Chicago Board of Trade launched a private market for rights to emit sulfur dioxide. The UN is now considering using similar markets to protect biodiversity and watersheds.

By enabling actors to buy and sell the rights to use the global commons, such green markets naturally combine efficiency and equity. And yet the enduring North-South divide, and especially the rift between the US and China, is hampering our ability to seize their potential. We have the tools to arrest, and even reverse, climate change. It is time to come together and use them.

“ A global carbon market offering market-based efficiency would appeal to developed economies, while developing countries would support it because mandatory emissions limits would apply only to high- and middle-income economies. ”

late 1970s of neoliberal economic policies, including the removal of trade barriers, wide-ranging deregulation, and the elimination of capital-account controls, accelerated this process.

While this system spurred unprecedented economic growth and development, it had serious downsides. Financial innovations outpaced, or simply escaped regulation, enabling the finance industry to expand its influence over the



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# Losing hair not a generational thing

It is common for young people today to believe that they are losing their hair faster than previous generations. They fear that several conditions, including stress, environment and job competitions are causing their hair to fall out earlier and faster. But then, this is probably what their parents thought too.

The generation that is currently at the typical age when hair loss first becomes apparent are millennials, or adults under the age of 40. The reasons cited by this generation for their presumed hair loss are that life is currently more stressful than before, but often this unneeded stress is caused by holding on to pessimistic, bleak outlooks on their future prospects.

Some research even adds weight

to the suggestion that millennials are losing their hair earlier. But such research could be over-simplifying, especially when they are supported by surveys or other points of self-reported data. Now studies that have been going on for years have confirmed that the actual rates of hair loss of millennials has more to do with their assumptions than reality. The actual rate of hair loss measured by the researchers was found to be far lower than perceived rates.

Without substantive studies to back their claims of a surge in hair loss among their generation, it is evident that it is the fear of hair loss and its potential implications for their future that are to blame for the attitudes and perceptions of millennials.

Nevertheless, this is of little solace

to people who feel they are losing hair. So here are a few things to do if you feel that you are prematurely losing hair.

Remember that being concerned about hair loss and actually losing your hair are two different things. People shed quite a bit of hair every day as part of the natural process, so a person finding a few extra strands clogged in their bathroom drain should not use that as the only source of data when measuring hair loss.

Part of the evaluation is looking at potential underlying causes of hair loss, such as diabetes, high cholesterol, and high blood pressure. People with early or severe androgenic alopecia need to see a primary care doctor who can help them evaluate and manage these issues with lifestyle



modifications, diet, and exercise.

Most commonly, hair loss is often referred to as 'pattern hair loss,' or 'androgenic alopecia'. However, there are many other causes of hair loss that follow a different course, and which needs to be considered and treated very differently. There may also be bloodwork or other evaluations that can help further investigate the root cause of hair loss. There are currently two medications approved by the US

Food and Drug Administration that have been demonstrated to be safe and effective for hair loss: Rogaine (minoxidil) and Propecia (finasteride). However, both come with risks and benefits that should be discussed and reviewed with a physician.

There are also other treatments, such as low-level laser light therapy and platelet-rich plasma, but both need more evidence to prove if they are safe and effective. Many over-the-counter (OTC) hair-loss remedies lack scientific evidence and validity of their so-called 'reported' success.

The first thing to do in dealing with potential hair loss is not to panic. Do not make any drastic changes in lifestyle or habits unless under the guidance or direction of a medical professional.

## Music while driving helps reduce stress in drivers

As any driver will attest, driving in bumper-to-bumper heavy traffic as it edges its way forward at the pace of a snail is a very stressful experience.

There is plenty of evidence to show that if you repeatedly drive in such heavy-traffic and congested routes on your daily commute, or if you are an inexperienced driver, driving could be a stressful experience. Previous research has shown that experiencing frequent psychological stress can be a significant risk factor for cardiovascular disease, a condition that affects almost half of those aged 20 years and older in many parts of the world. Driving has been identified as one source of frequent stress, either due to the stressors associated with heavy traffic or the anxiety that often accompanies inexperienced drivers.

However, researchers now confirm that there is a simple fix for this problem: listening to the right music while driving. A new study by researchers at São Paulo State University in Marília, Brazil, Oxford Brookes University in the United Kingdom, and the University of Parma in Italy, show that encouraging results can be achieved in reducing cardiac stress by listening to music while driving.

For their study, the researchers recruited female volunteers between the ages of 18 and 23 years who were in good health, were not habitual drivers — they drove no more than twice a week — and had received their driver's license 1-7 years before the start of the study.

The researchers asked the volunteers to take part in two different experiments. On one day, the participants had to drive for 20 minutes during rush hour on a 3 kilometer route in one of the busiest parts of the city of Marília. On this day, the participants did not play any music in the car as they were driving.

On another day, the volunteers had to go through the same motions, with one exception: This time, they listened to instrumental music while driving. In both instances, the participants drove cars that were not their own, to make sure that there was no reduction in stress due to the



volunteers being familiar with the cars.

To measure the effect of stress on the heart in each experimental condition, the investigators asked the participants to wear heart rate monitors able to record heart rate variability in real time. The activity of two key systems — the sympathetic nervous system and the parasympathetic nervous system — influences heart rate variability. The sympathetic nervous system is responsible for regulating the flight or flight response, which is the automatic bodily reaction to stressful, anxiety-inducing situations. Meanwhile, the parasympathetic nervous system is responsible for 'rest and digest' processes.

Elevated sympathetic nervous system activity reduces heart rate variability, whereas more intense parasympathetic nervous system activity increases it.

The researchers then analyzed the measurements that they had collected through the heart rate monitors on the two occasions. They found that when the participants had listened to music while driving under stressful conditions, they had higher heart rate variability than when they had driven under stressful conditions without any music. Listening to music appears to attenuate the moderate stress overload the volunteers experienced as they drove," said the research team.

The results of the small-scale experiments, the researchers argued, suggest that listening to relaxing music could, indeed, be an easy way of preventing stress levels from escalating and affecting the heart when someone finds themselves stuck in traffic.

## Bandages that can be sprayed on wound

Patients with a mild or serious wound often require the use of antibiotics and a series of painful bandage changes during the course of treatment. Luckily, this could soon be a thing of the past.

Researchers are working on a new technology that could help eliminate some of the bandaging discomforts associated with wounds. Their device allows patients to 'spray-paint' a bandage loaded with antibiotics or other medications directly onto their wounds.

The team behind the device work at the Montana Technological University in Canada. Their device, which they have called an electrostatic and air driven device (EStAD), is fully portable, and uses a technology called electrospinning.

Electrospinning involves producing



fibers using high voltage electricity on polymers which then produces tiny artificial spider-webs that are thinner than hair. When they spin out, they look like spray paint. The researchers were able to mix antibiotics straight into the polymer before spinning it out into fibers. Since the fibers are biocompatible, they melt and release the antibodies when they come into contact with a change in temperature of the body. The

intriguing technology offers a number of possibilities for wound care and drug delivery. The researchers believe doctors and first responders could use this device, especially those medical personnel working in rural areas where they often cannot transport a person quickly to a hospital.

Another potential application would be as a wound dressing for burn patients, allowing for the immediate application of a conforming protective layer with medication. The spray could form a substrate to promote skin regeneration and healing, often faster and with less scarring than other traditional methods. A handheld electrospinning device also offers the potential practicality of being able to deliver 'spray-on' antibiotics to treat in-home burns or wound care.



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The combination of layering and outerwear are likely at the forefront of your mind when getting dressed in the morning: wool coats are cumbersome, particularly on the commute, while your go-to blazer is nowhere near substantial enough anymore. What you're missing is the outerwear love child of the two: the 'bloat.'

The 'bloat' (or blazer-coat) can be worn with everything from knitwear and dresses all month, proving its versatility. Its most vital property is that it has a much higher wool content than a blazer (it needs to be just as cosy as your traditional winter coat), but looks just like one. Shape-wise, the best are in an oversized 'dad' fit: you should be able to forgo a bigger coat and wear just a chunky knit underneath.

If you're petite, ideally yours will have some kind of waist-cinching element so as not to swamp you: a belt or nipped-in hourglass fit is perfect. Tall figures can get away with more boxy fits which work nicely with chunky knits and slim trousers.

All colors go, but neutrals like camel, dove grey and oat will work the hardest in your



## BLOAT STYLING TIPS

winter wardrobe. If, however, they're not your natural habitat, then don't limit yourself to neutrals. Red, fuchsia or a checked print will modernise last winter's look a treat.

Here are the four reasons a 'bloat' will be a wise winter investment.

**It'll make layering a breeze:** For chilly days when you need to bring out the big guns, a 'bloat' really comes into its own. Layer a fine cashmere knit or a ribbed turtle neck underneath and wear with another coat. A trench in the same color palette will be a chic addition, but when the weather really takes a turn and only wool will do, a clashing tweed print or a bright shade will add interest to a neutral look.

**It smartens up off-duty looks:** Though it looks great with ankle boots, wool trousers and a fine knit, you needn't adhere to a tailored aesthetic when wearing your 'bloat'. It adds a smart, tailored feel to any ensemble, and the casual fit lends itself to weekend-wear and off-duty looks. It works just as well with jogging bottoms and trainers.



To ensure your look is on the right side of casual, stick to the same color palette. If your 'bloat' is black, opt for black accessories to pull your outfit together. The 'bloat' is all about considered layering.

**It's the perfect in-between jacket:** While there's no doubt you'll get tons of wear out of it right now, come spring when the days get brighter and the weather warms up, a 'bloat' will still be a staple. Wear it in the same way you would your beloved trench coat: with a T-shirt and denim, or over a floral midi dress.

Maximising its cost-per-wear means you can justify spending a little more than you would normally on its blazer counterpart.

**It doesn't take away from your outfit:** So often a stylish outfit can be hidden by a so-so wool coat, but the signature shorter style of the 'bloat' allows a printed dress or a great pair of trousers to still take center-stage. Shop for one in the same way you would a blazer: see it as an addition to your look rather than as a separate entity like a coat.

Opt for an oversized one if you're keen on wearing chunky jumpers, or a slim fit one if you'd rather avoid adding bulk. Longer lengths look great with denim and trousers, while smaller busts suit single-breasted styles and bigger busts should go for double-breasted.

## The best dark spot treatments



Dark spots on your face can be brought on from either past breakouts, sun damage, or skin trauma—all of which can happen to just about anyone. Now the good news: These darkened patches are fairly easy to treat, meaning you're not stuck with them forever, if you don't want to be. Follow the tips below and you'll start to fade the dark spots on your face in as little as four weeks, while preventing new spots from popping up, too.

**Do not pick that zit:** If you've given into temptation in the past and picked at your face, you know the ugly aftermath: an inflamed red or brown mark (that can stick around for months) as a result of skin trauma. Instead, keep your hands off and treat your pimples with a one percent hydrocortisone cream. It's an anti-inflammatory, so it'll soothe redness and swelling—and unlike traditional acne spot treatments, it won't dry out or irritate your skin (which can end up creating more hyperpigmentation).

**Use a chemical exfoliant:** Ditch your face scrub and get yourself a chemical exfoliant, instead. Chemical exfoliators include alpha hydroxy acids (like glycolic and lactic acids), beta hydroxy acids (salicylic acid), and enzymes from fruit extracts. All three help dissolve the glue that holds together dead, discolored cells on the surface of your skin leaving you with clearer, brighter, all-around glowier skin. Plus, by sloughing away surface-level dead cells, your skin is better able to absorb any spot treatments or brightening serums you apply afterward, which helps make them more effective.

As a general rule, dark spots from acne can benefit from using a chemical exfoliators with salicylic acid (the ingredient is anti-inflammatory and helps clear excess oil from pores), while dark spots and marks from UV damage are better off exfoliating with an AHA like glycolic acid.

**Invest in a brightening serum:** Dark spots and marks takes weeks to fade, regardless of whether they're from your handiwork or from the sun or old breakouts. It's the worst. But committing to a dark spot correcting serum—look for one with brightening ingredients like vitamin C, retinol, tranexamic acid, and/or kojic acid—can significantly speed up the process and help fade dark spots even faster.

**Make sunscreen an everyday thing:** If there's only one rule that you follow from this entire list, make it this one: Use a broad-spectrum sunscreen with SPF 30 or more every day. Not only does regularly using sunscreen help prevent skin cancer, it also shields your skin from harmful UV rays—the culprit behind most dark spots. In response to the sun's UV rays, cells send out protective pigment (or melanin) to keep your skin from getting burned. You know this process as "getting tan," but it's really your skin trying to protect itself.



## Cream blush tips

Blush is one of those makeup products that has been around since the ancient times — and has remained true to its purpose from the start. While many women love a good powder blush, when you are rocking a full face of makeup, you turn to

cream blushes when trying to achieve that spent-the-day-in-nature glow. It's an easy way to achieve a hint of added rosiness without taking it over the top — which can be easy to do with more pigmented products. Here are some tips:

**Choose the right application method:** Applying cream blushes is simpler than its powdery sister, because you can apply it using a wide variety of beauty tools — including your fingers. Cream blush is much loved for its skin-like finish and ability to look good on anyone, no matter their age. It is particularly good for women with dry or mature skin because it doesn't cling to dry spots like powder products tend to. You can

apply using a stippling brush that blends cream product like a dream. Another tip is to use a damp beauty sponge to achieve the most natural finish.

**Layer your blush to make it last:** Cream blush fades much faster than powder. To combat this, use both powder and cream blush to create a dynamic duo. Here's how: after applying a cream blush, set it with a powder product to lock in the color without losing the natural, rosy hue. Pair with a cream or liquid foundation (if you're wearing foundation). The similar formulas will allow for easier blending. Ditto with highlighter.

**Find the cream blush for you:** Whether you choose a brush, a sponge, or even your hands, it's important to choose a formula that's easy to apply and comes in a range of colors that work for your skin tone. Warm tones for warm skin; cool tones for cool skin. That said, don't be afraid to experiment. Also, don't be afraid to wear cream blush if you have oily skin or if it's hot outside. You may be surprised by the way cream blush helps balance your skin's natural oil production. Also, cheeks tend to be less oily than skin in your T-zone. Start with a light layer: Most cream blush is buildable, so you can always go back and add more as needed. Vary your application for desired effect. For a sweet, youthful flush, focus cream blush on the apples of your cheeks. For a more sophisticated, sun-kissed definition, apply cream blush along your cheekbones.

# Cord cutting grows with high speed internet

High-speed Wi-Fi and smartphones have rendered redundant many of the 'legacy' services, such as telephones, pay TV, home monitoring and other services. If you are watching most of your video content on streaming services, it certainly makes sense not to pay for a TV package, similarly if most of your talking and chatting is on the smartphone, why pay for a telephone line.

With options growing by the day, it is no surprise that 'cord cutting' is becoming increasingly popular among different age groups. Here are some of the services you can replace with newer technology.

Cut cable and satellite television: TV packages can get costly, but fortunately there are many streaming services (and more to come) that use your existing Internet connection to stream to your TV, tablet, laptop, smartphone, or smart display such as an Amazon Echo Show or Google Nest Hub.

If you have a smart TV, it should already have built-in apps for popular services like Netflix, Amazon Prime Video and YouTube, and in many cases, the ability to add more, including new entrants, like Disney+ and Apple TV+.

Alternatively, there are many products that can turn a regular TV into a smart TV, such as

Roku (from \$29), Google Chromecast (from \$35), Amazon Fire TV Stick (from \$39), and Apple TV (from \$149).

While streaming services are called an over-the-top (OTT) solution, TV lovers can also opt for an over-the-air (OTA) option, by picking up an indoor or outdoor antenna. Depending on where you live, you might find many high-quality television stations you can watch for free. Cut the landline: Of course, you know smartphones can replace landlines, but here are a few more additional considerations:

Some (but not all) smart displays such as the Google Nest Hub let you make free hands-free video calls to others. But all of them let you make free phone calls over Wi-Fi. Make free audio calls between Amazon smart speakers, such as the Echo Dot, or even call any 10-digit North American landline or mobile phone, for free over Wi-Fi.

If you already have Wi-Fi at home, you can also use free voice and video calling services, too, such as Skype, FaceTime, Facebook Messenger, WhatsApp, Google Duo, and many others. In most cases, both the caller and recipient need to use the same service. Apps like TextNow also give you a free phone number to call and text from.

Cut dedicated home alarm systems: Many people pay a hefty fee each month for home alarm monitoring system. You can skip paying these fees by buying a smart speaker or display with home monitoring.

If you own a Google smart speaker or display, the optional Nest Aware service, which



now includes all cameras, speakers and displays in your home for one price, has an interesting opt-in feature. Should your Nest Mini, or other Nest speaker or display hear a smoke or carbon monoxide alarm, it could immediately send an alert to your phone.

You then have the option to hear the audio clip or listen live to confirm the alarm, and even call 9-1-1 emergency services closest to your home, even if you are away. Cut the Wi-Fi: Finally, with 4G LTE cellular speeds pretty fast, and 5G around the corner, another round of cord-cutting to consider may be your home Wi-Fi. Provided, your cellular carrier can offer comparable speeds to your home Internet, and it is not too much to pay for an unlimited plan. In which case, you can ditch a wireless plan.

Some cellular providers sell or rent a cellular modem, but expect a new round of cord-cutting to truly take off if 5G truly lives up to the hype.

## Microsoft brings Google apps to Outlook.com

Microsoft is reportedly planning to integrate Google's Gmail, Drive and Calendar into its own web-mail client, Outlook.com.

The integration process is said to be in test phase with some selected accounts already using the integrated services. The integrations is allegedly a straight-forward process and can be accomplished with a few strokes. After a quick setup process, you simply link a Google Account to an Outlook.com account, and Gmail, Drive documents, and Google Calendar will all be automatically displayed inside Outlook.com on the web.

It looks very similar to how Outlook for iOS and Android work, with separate inboxes and side-by-side integration in the calendar. The integration appears to be in early test phase and at this stage can integrate only one Google Account.



Moreover, switching between Outlook and Gmail accounts refreshes the entire page.

Documents and files from Google Drive are supported by the integration, so you can quickly attach them to Outlook or Gmail emails. It is not clear how many Outlook.com users will get access to this, or when Microsoft will roll this out more broadly.

While most people would probably simply visit Gmail for their mail, this new Outlook integration could be useful for those who use a personal Outlook.com account and a G Suite email account for work.

## Help for small businesses from CallJoy

CallJoy, a virtual customer service phone agent launched earlier this year by Google's in-house incubator, could prove a boon for small businesses when it begins rolling out to the public.

The service is capable of performing a number of automated processes, including blocking spammers, answering calls, providing callers with basic business information, and redirecting other requests, such as appointment booking or to-go orders, to SMS.

Last week, CallJoy introduced its first major update to enable the service to have more of a conversation with the customer by asking questions



and providing more information, among other improvements.

Initially, CallJoy could only provide customers with information like the business hours or the address, or could ask the customer for permission to send them a link over text message to help them with their request. With the update, CallJoy's phone agent can answer questions more intelligently.

The interaction with the customer begins with CallJoy asking, "Can I help you?" to which the customer responds. Based on this response, the service offers more relevant information. For example, if a caller asked a restaurant if they had any

vegetarian options, CallJoy would respond, "Yes! Our menu has vegetarian and vegan-friendly choices. Can I text you the link to our online menu?"

This isn't all done through some magical AI, however. Instead, the business owner has to feed-in the sort of customer inquiries it wants CallJoy to be able to respond to and handle. While some, like vegetarian options, may be common inquiries, it can be hard to remember everything that customers ask. That is where CallJoy analytics help.

The service already gathers call data — like phone numbers, audio and call transcripts — into an online dashboard for further analysis. Business owners can tag calls and run reports to get a better understanding of their call volume, peak call times and what people wanted to know. This information can be used to better staff their phone lines during busy times or to update their website or business listings, for example. And now, it can help the business owner understand what sort of inquiries it should train the CallJoy phone agent on, too.

Once trained, the agent can speak an answer, send a link to the customer's phone with the information or offer to connect the caller to the business' phone number to reach a real person. While CallJoy offers a virtual phone number, like Google Voice, it can also ring a "real" phone line as needed to get a person on the line.

The latest update offers businesses even more flexibility. Some business owners may prefer to answer the phone themselves and speak to their customers directly, for example. But they could still take advantage of a service like this at other times — like after hours or when they are too busy to answer. The updated version now allows them to program when CallJoy will answer, including by times of day, or after the phone rings a certain

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EXCLUSIVE to THE TIMES KUWAIT

# The Most Important Story You Missed in 2019



**MARK SUZMAN**  
Chief Strategy Officer and President of  
Global Policy and Advocacy at the Bill &  
Melinda Gates Foundation.

According to the most recent tally, The Washington Post, The New York Times, and The Wall Street Journal publish a combined total of 1,000 stories every day. Although the report didn't say how many people read all of them, it's safe to assume that nobody managed to do so.

Each of us probably overlooks tens of thousands of important news stories every year. But the biggest one that people missed in 2019 happened on October 10 in a conference hall in Lyon, France, where a gathering of government officials, business leaders, and philanthropists pledged \$14 billion to an organization called the Global Fund.

Not many people know what the Global Fund is until they hear its full name: The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria. The Fund was established shortly after the turn of the millennium, when hundreds of thousands of children were dying from preventable diseases. The AIDS crisis was at its height, with news outlets describing the virus as a "malevolent



and disease reduction – and launched the Global Fund to achieve them.

The Fund was designed to be a new kind of multilateral venture, not just a coalition of governments. It also brought in partners from the business and philanthropic sectors, including the newly-formed Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. This inclusive approach enabled the initiative to draw on a wider range of expertise.

Over the last two decades, the Global Fund has transformed the way we fight AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria – the three biggest killers in poor countries. By pooling resources, the Fund created economies of scale for life-saving products such as anti-malarial bed nets and antiretroviral drugs. Then, by working with almost 100 countries, the Fund built a massive supply chain to deliver the goods. In the process, deaths from AIDS have fallen by 50% from their peak, and malaria deaths have decreased by about 50% since the turn of the millennium. Now, the Fund has \$14 billion in new funding to continue this work.

The replenishment is vitally important news, first and foremost because of the sheer number of lives it will help to save. The \$14 billion, the Fund predicts, will be enough to cut the three diseases' death

rates by almost 50% again by 2023. That translates into 16 million lives saved. But what happened on October 10 in Lyon is critical for another reason: it illustrates how we are at a pivotal point in history, from which the world might move in one direction or another. On one hand, the successful recent fundraising effort was a testament to the way the world went about solving humanitarian crises in the early years of this century. Multilateralism, it turns out, worked – and worked extremely well.

That same period also gave rise to organizations like Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, a global alliance of public- and private-sector stakeholders that aims to get vaccines to some of the world's poorest children. Gavi has helped to immunize more than 760 million children to date. And the coverage rate of the diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (DTP3) vaccine in Gavi-supported countries increased from 59% in 2000 to 81% in 2018 – only four percentage points below the global average. (Gavi, too, will need to raise new funding over the next year.)

On the other hand, the fact that no similar multilateral organization has been established since the early 2000s – at least not on such a scale – should give us pause.

The Fund managed to raise the \$14 billion at a time of rising isolationism. Today, many governments seem to prefer to go it alone rather than engage in the expansive problem-solving that worked so well over the last 20 years. Brexit is one example of this. Others include US President Donald Trump's decision to withdraw the United States from the 2015 Paris climate agreement, and his administration's call for deep cuts to US foreign aid (which, thanks to Congress, have yet to be made).

I often wonder what would have happened had the AIDS crisis emerged 20 years later than it did. Would we be able to create the Global Fund today? The answer, I think, is no. It would be very difficult to build support for that kind of initiative in this environment.

Last month's news from Lyon, then, is part of an ongoing story. Will the world realize that multilateral coalitions work and reverse course? Or is the era of multilateralism at an end?

The Global Fund's replenishment may be the best news you hadn't heard about yet in 2019. But unless we halt the slide toward isolationism and start rebuilding a global community, it's the kind of news you may never hear again.

“The Fund was designed to be a new kind of multilateral venture, not just a coalition of governments. It also brought in partners from the business and philanthropic sectors, including the newly-formed Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. This inclusive approach enabled the initiative to draw on a wider range of expertise.”

scythe" cutting across Sub-Saharan Africa. Its unstoppable spread, some predicted, would lead to the collapse of entire countries. This was an international crisis that required an international response.

At the United Nations, then-Secretary-General Kofi Annan rallied the world around the Millennium Development Goals – a set of specific targets related to poverty



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