



**The New Dawn**  
TRULY INDEPENDENT  
<https://thenewdawnliberia.com>

WWW

**Advertize Here!**

**Subscribe to our website**  
get the best of balance and accurate news, delivered daily

# The New Dawn

**French Version Inside**

TRULY INDEPENDENT

ELLEN JOHNSON SIRLEAF  
PRESIDENTIAL CENTER  
FOR WOMEN EMPOWERMENT



Visit: [www.ejscenter.org](http://www.ejscenter.org)

VOL.10 NO. 47

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 01, 2020

PRICE LD\$40.00

# Don't confirm them



**Cllr. Nwabudike**



**Madam Davidetta Browne Lansanah**



**Mr. Floyd Saylor**



**Mr. Barsee Kpankpa**



#GoodTogether  
everywhere you go

**It's your money.  
Move it with MoMo!**

Link your Mobile Money account to your GT Bank account today!  
With MTN MoMo, you can now transfer money easily between  
your bank account and your MTN Mobile Money account.

Dial \* 156 \*7# to get started today.



CMYK



# Continental News

## Sierra Leone overturns ban on pregnant schoolgirls

Sierra Leone has overturned a five-year law barring pregnant girls from going to school.

The ban was introduced in 2015 as schools reopened after the Ebola crisis, which saw a rise in pregnancies among school-age girls.

organisations sued the Sierra Leone government at the Economic Community of West African States (Ecowas) court in May 2018.

The court ruled last year that the "discriminatory" policy had denied the girls their right to education. Judges also

was an increase in underage pregnancy during the Ebola crisis, which left many girls vulnerable to sexual abuse and desperate for money. Sierra Leone is a very traditional society. Many say much of the beliefs are misogynistic. It is a country

traditionalists. Any attempt to do so is resisted, with accusations of "foreign cultural interference". During the Ebola outbreak in 2014 and 2015, the government closed all schools in order to halt the spread of the disease. Consequently, hundreds - some say thousands - of girls became pregnant. A 2010 policy of not allowing pregnant girls in school came to the fore. So the girls were shut out of school and not allowed to write their exams.

The policy received widespread public support and still does.

Memunatu Margao, a shop attendant in central Freetown, expressed disappointment with the overturning of the ban: "I will not allow my daughter to sit in class with someone pregnant - that's a very bad influence".

Asked whether she would keep her daughter in school if she became pregnant, the mother of two said emphatically: "No! She will

stay at home."

But Education Minister David Moinina Sengh described it as a great day for the children of Sierra Leone, and said the policy shift "was based on evidence and consultation with a diverse task force consisting of religious leaders, heads of schools and civil society organizations".

He said that "at a time of uncertainty, when schools are closing for what seems like an indefinite time for Covid-19, Sierra Leone is learning from its experience during the Ebola crisis". A new policy of inclusion would apply to "all learners", while the government would also "engage communities to prevent teenage pregnancies", he added.

But many here believe that while the official policy may have changed, the stigma against pregnant girls will continue, so the girls may be kept out of school for a different reason. BBC



Teenage pregnancy is an issue in many African countries

West Africa's top court ruled in December that the girls were discriminated against and their human rights violated.

Teenage pregnancy is a huge issue in Sierra Leone.

The UN children's agency Unicef in a 2015 report found that 40% of girls are married before their 18th birthday. Several rights

criticised parallel learning centres that had been set up for the girls, saying it was "another form of discrimination" and ordered that they be abolished.

President Julius Maada Bio, who had come into office a month earlier, said in a statement after the December ruling that he was committed to "inclusion of every citizen" in his development plans. There

where former President Ernest Bai Koroma refused to sign into law an abortion bill that was unanimously passed by parliament. Many activists say men are determining the future of women without regard to the women themselves. Female genital mutilation is widespread, with an equally widespread resistance to stopping it by

## Kenyan boy shot dead as virus curfew enforced

Kenya's police chief has ordered an investigation into the death of a 13-year-old boy said to have been shot on

Monday evening as police enforced a curfew.

The child was playing on the balcony of his parent's house in a slum in the capital, Nairobi,

when police fired live bullets to disperse people, according to eyewitnesses.

He was shot in the stomach and he later died while being treated at a hospital.

The inspector general of police has ordered a forensic analysis of all firearms held by officers who were on duty on Monday night in the Huruma-Mathare area.

The country's public prosecutor said he was awaiting the file for appropriate action.

The latest incident casts another dark shadow on the manner in which officers have managed a nightly dusk-to-dawn curfew that was ordered last Friday to limit the spread of coronavirus.

People have been tear-gassed, beaten up and injured for not being indoors by 19:00 local time (16:00 GMT). BBC



Police are enforcing nightly curfews to stop coronavirus spreading

## Congo's ex-President Yhombi-Opango dies of Covid-19



Joachim Yhombi-Opango (L) fled into exile in France in 1997

The former president of the Republic of Congo, Jacques Joaquim Yhombi-Opango, has died in Paris from complications related to coronavirus.

He was 81 years old. His family said he had been ill before contracting the virus.

Mr Yhombi-Opango led Congo-Brazzaville from 1977 until he was toppled in 1979 by

the country's current leader, Denis Sassou Nguesso.

He spent several years in prison before multi-party democracy was introduced in 1991 and served as prime minister until civil war broke out in 1997.

He went into exile in France, before being allowed to return home 10 years later. BBC

**Advertise with us!**

# EDITORIAL

## COVID-19 fight makes life unbearable for citizens

**MEASURES BEING IMPLEMENTED** by the Government of Liberia to prevent spread of the COVID-19, including demolition of marketers' stalls is pushing citizens, most of them already at the margin of society, into grinding poverty and near death.

**LIKE IN MOST** African countries, majority of Liberians survive thru the informal sector, by engaging in petty trade. But the current demolition of market stalls as part of measures to promote social distancing appears to be having serious negative impact on ordinary citizens, making daily sustenance almost impossible.

**AUTHORITIES HERE HAVE** already shut down schools, churches, and mosques, among others as well as restrict large public gatherings in a string of preventive measures to maintain public safety.

**BUT WHAT SEEMS** to be ignored by the government is some form of stimulus package to help vulnerable citizens losing their only means of making life keep surviving until the crisis subsides any time soon.

**GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE SEEMS** one-sided, as focus is placed on shutting down, sending non-essential employees home, amid looming shortages of basic commodities and rising prices. Citizens' survivability is a problem here.

**WHILE WE WELCOME** these early measures, unexpected or corresponding repercussions should not be ignored or brushed aside, as if they do not exist. Students are not in school, parents are sent on compulsory leave and market stalls are being demolished. How do the people survive?

**HUNGER CAN PUSH** anyone to do something he never planned just to stay alive. And the way the authorities are proceeding may attract such deviant options unless current policies or responses are reconsidered.

**SURELY, THE GOVERNMENT** of Liberia is not interested in protecting corpses, but human lives. However, uncalculated measures against COVID-19 could boomerang if care were not taken, as the reality seems to be.

**SHUTTING DOWN BUSINESSES**, particularly in the informal sector in the absence of a national supportive package could become counter-productive not only to the population but the government itself, as it could invite a serious social problem for the entire country.

**WE ARE NOT** prophets of doom, but this is an honest endeavor to get our leaders to consider both sides of the coins before acting.

# COMMENTARY

By Alex Soros

## The Spirit of Milan

*The COVID-19 crisis has given the European Union an opportunity to honor its high-flown talk of values and rights, and assert itself as a global leader. To seize it, the EU and its member states must demonstrate much greater solidarity, not least toward Italy, than they have so far.*

**N**EW YORK - The headlines are horrifying. Shortages of vital equipment forcing doctors to make battlefield decisions about who lives and who dies. Long lines of sick people waiting in vain for a test or a hospital bed. Empty businesses, stores, bars, and restaurants bringing local economies the world over to a grinding halt. And a grim accounting of which countries are hardest hit by the COVID-19 coronavirus, with the United States now surging ahead - recording nearly 61,000 more confirmed cases than China, home to the original outbreak.

In Europe, the pandemic has hit especially hard in Italy, which has been on national lockdown since March 9 in an attempt to slow the spread of the virus. As of March 30, Italy has reported nearly 98,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19. More than 10,700 Italians, mostly in the northern Lombardy region, have died of the disease so far. Milan, the regional capital, is more than a mainstay of Italy's economy. The once bustling city is inextricably linked to the European project and is a crucial driver of the European economy as a whole.

Yet, as the death toll rises and the region sees transmission rates higher than anywhere else on the continent, the European Union and its member states have been slow to step up in any meaningful way and show solidarity with their ailing neighbor. Instead, EU member states have closed borders and turned inward. Italy's plight was made worse by the border closures, which cut off much-needed supplies and medical equipment.

Governments have engaged in petty squabbles, appearing more concerned about their own economic advantage. Representatives of some northern European states have appeared to challenge Italy's recent economic decisions, and to care more about knowing how Italy would manage to pay back debts than they do about the death toll and economic downturn.

As a result, at a time when the continent, and indeed the entire world, is facing public-health and economic crises of historic proportions, Europe is a house divided, in danger of possible territorial dissolution. If Brexit united the remaining 27 member states and removed the specter of exit from the European arena, the coronavirus has put it back on the agenda.

The EU has a responsibility to its member states and its people to use any and all financial instruments at its disposal, or to create new ones, to ensure that Italy and the Union as a whole can weather - and ultimately rebound from - this crisis. That requires abandoning habitual reliance on an outdated governance model predicated on the absence of any common financial resources in a monetary union. If Italy fails, the price for the European economy - indeed, for the European

project itself - will be much higher than the price of violating one fiscal rule or another during a time of grave peril.

Before last week's European Council virtual summit, a group of nine European countries, including southern states such as Portugal and Slovenia, called for a Eurobond and the mutualization of common debt. Europe's financial institutions were tasked at the summit with making proposals, possibly easing the pressure on individual heads of government (most of whom are preoccupied with domestic opposition). At the same time, some of Italy's most authoritarian and extreme political figures seized the moment to rally against the EU and put an Italian exit from the euro and the Union itself on the table.

With the United States under its current administration retreating from the post-war transatlantic alliance, the EU was given the opportunity to make good on its expressed commitment to values, rights, and multilateral cooperation, and assert itself as a global leader. It has not risen to the challenge. While Europe's future today looks bleak, it is not too late for European institutions and governments to change course. The EU cannot afford to lose Italy or to go through the crisis without a meaningful response. All countries and economies in the bloc would suffer as a consequence.

My father, George Soros, lived through some of the most heinous crimes of the past century, and emerged from that experience with a deep and abiding belief in the necessity of the European project. I am proud of his long record of using his philanthropic institutions to promote a better tomorrow for Europe and the world.

That is why it should be no surprise that the organization he founded, the Open Society Foundations, is stepping in to help Italy at this crucial moment by pledging €1 million to the city of Milan to support the hard work of aiding its most vulnerable and rebuilding its economy, health, and spirit in the months ahead.

To be sure, some EU countries - with some delays - have also sent medical supplies, and many Italians have donated to the national effort to counter the crisis. And just days after getting the nod to begin EU membership talks, Albania displayed real European solidarity by dispatching a 30-strong contingent of doctors to northern Italy. I hope many others will follow that example and offer a helping hand to the areas hardest hit by COVID-19. Coming on the heels of a similar gift to the city of Budapest, such a helping hand is one of a series of interventions the Open Society Foundations will be launching in the coming days in response to this crisis.

**The New Dawn**  
TRULY INDEPENDENT

## O-PED

By Robert J. Shiller

## The Two Pandemics

**P**redicting the stock market at a time like this is hard. To do so well, we would have to predict the direct effects on the economy of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as all the real and psychological effects of the pandemic of financial anxiety. The two are different, but inseparable.

**N**EW HAVEN - We are feeling the anxiety effects of not one pandemic but two. First, there is the COVID-19 pandemic, which makes us anxious because we, or people we love, anywhere in the world, might soon become gravely ill and even die. And, second, there is a pandemic of anxiety about the economic consequences of the first.

These two pandemics are interrelated, but are not the same phenomenon. In the second pandemic, stories of fear have gone so viral that we often think of them constantly. The stock market has been dropping like a rock, apparently in response to stories of COVID-19 depleting our lifetime saving unless we take some action. But, unlike COVID-19 itself, the source of our anxiety is that we are unsure what action to take.

It is not good news when two pandemics are at work simultaneously. One can feed the other. Business closures, soaring unemployment, and loss of income fuel financial anxiety, which may, in turn, deter people, desperate for work, from taking adequate precautions against the spread of the disease.

Moreover, it is not good news when two contagions are, indeed, global pandemics. When a drop in demand is confined to one country, the loss is partially spread abroad, while demand for the country's exports is not diminished much. But this time, that natural safety valve won't work, because the recession threatens nearly all countries.

Many people seem to assume that the financial anxiety is nothing more than a direct byproduct of the COVID-19 crisis - a perfectly logical reaction to the disease pandemic. But anxiety is not perfectly logical. The pandemic of financial anxiety, spreading through panicked reaction to price drops and changing narratives, has a life of its own.

The effects financial anxiety has on the stock market may be mediated by a phenomenon that psychologist Paul Slovic of the University of Oregon and his colleagues call the "affect heuristic." When people are emotionally upset because of a tragic event, they react with fear even in circumstances where there is no reason to fear.

In a joint paper with William Goetzmann and Dasol Kim, we found that nearby earthquakes affect people's judgment of the probability of a 1929- or 1987-size stock-market crash. If there was a substantial earthquake centering within 30 miles (48 kilometers) within the previous 30 days, respondents' assessment of the probability of a crash was significantly higher. That is the affect heuristic at work.

It might make more sense to expect a stock-market drop from a disease epidemic than from a recent earthquake, but maybe not a crash of the magnitude seen recently. If it were widely believed that a treatment could limit the intensity of the COVID-19 pandemic to a matter of months, or even that the pandemic would last a year or two, that would suggest that the stock-market risk is not so great for a long-term investor. One could buy, hold, and wait it out.

But a contagion of financial anxiety works differently than a contagion of disease. It is fueled in part by people noticing others' lack of confidence, reflected in price declines, and others' emotional reaction to the declines. A negative bubble in the stock market occurs when people see prices falling, and, trying to discover why, start amplifying stories that explain the decline. Then, prices fall on subsequent days, and again and again.

Observing successive decreases in stock prices creates a powerful feeling of regret for those who have not sold, together with a fear that one might sell at the bottom. This regret and fear prime people's interest in both pandemic narratives. Where the market goes from there depends on their nature and evolution.

To see this, consider that the stock market in the United States did not crater when, in September-October 1918, the news media first started covering the Spanish flu pandemic that eventually claimed 675,000 US lives (and over fifty million worldwide). Instead, monthly prices in the US market were on an uptrend from September 1918 to July 1919.

Why didn't the market crash? One likely explanation is that World War I, which was approaching its end after the last major battle, the Second Battle of the Marne, in July-August 1918, crowded out the influenza story, especially after the armistice in November of that year. The war story was likely more contagious than the flu story.

Another reason is that epidemiology was only in its infancy then. Outbreaks were not as forecastable, and the public did not fully believe experts' advice, with people's adherence to social-distancing measures "sloppy." Moreover, it was generally believed that economic crises were banking crises, and there was no banking crisis in the US, where the Federal Reserve System, established just a few years earlier, in 1913, was widely heralded as eliminating that risk.

But perhaps the most important reason the financial narrative was muted during the 1918 influenza epidemic is that far fewer people owned stocks a century ago, and saving for retirement was not the concern it is today, in part because people didn't live as long and more routinely depended on family if they did.

This time, of course, is different. We see buyers' panics at local grocery stores, in contrast to 1918, when wartime shortages were regular occurrences. With the Great Recession just behind us, we certainly are well aware of the possibility of major drops in asset prices. Instead of a tragic world war, this time the US is preoccupied with its own political polarization, and there are many angry narratives about the federal government's mishandling of the crisis.

Predicting the stock market at a time like this is hard. To do so well, we would have to predict the direct effects on the economy of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as all the real and psychological effects of the pandemic of financial anxiety. The two are different, but inseparable.

## OPINION

By Kemal Dervis

## The COVID-19 Solidarity Test

*If the COVID-19 crisis has taught us one thing, it is that the relentless focus on hyper-efficiency and short-term gains of recent decades has given rise to a highly fragile global system. The time has come to build a more resilient world order, based on economic, generational, and international solidarity.*

**W**ASHINGTON, DC - The COVID-19 crisis represents an unprecedented test of human solidarity. Will the wealthy - or, indeed, all those with stable incomes or savings cushions - embrace measures to support the poor and economically insecure? Will the young, among whom the mortality rate is lower, make sacrifices to protect the old? And will people in rich countries accept resource transfers to poor countries?

Only if the answer to all three questions is yes will the world be able to minimize the fallout of the pandemic that has killed nearly 38,000 people and crippled the global economy. And yet that outcome is nowhere near guaranteed.

The first form of solidarity that is being tested - across income groups - may be the easiest to secure. COVID-19 has infected the likes of the United Kingdom's prime minister and crown prince, professional athletes, and multiple Hollywood celebrities, showing that it has no regard for whether a person is rich or poor.

But the economic consequences of public-health measures - such as indefinite business closures and lockdowns - will be borne disproportionately by less economically secure groups, including low-income earners, hourly workers, and those who cannot work remotely. In designing strategies to offset the pandemic's economic damage, governments must consider these differences.

So far, this is not happening to the required extent. In the United States, for example, many measures, such as expanded sickness benefits, do help lower-income groups, but should have been in place long ago, as they are in other advanced economies. Other actions, such as sending checks to all citizens and ordering federal agencies to halt evictions and foreclosures, hold more promise, but remain far from sufficient to protect the country's economically vulnerable.

Building solidarity across income groups will require leaders to foster the kind of selfless patriotism that facilitates shared sacrifice in wartime (while rejecting the kind of narrow-minded nationalism that undermines international solidarity). It helps that the hoary argument that support for the poor undermines work incentives, hardly convincing in normal times, loses all credibility during a pandemic. If nothing else works, citizens and political leaders should bear in mind that lower-income individuals remain valuable consumers and (in democracies, at least) voters.

The second dimension of solidarity being tested today is intergenerational. Given the economic (and social) consequences of self-isolation measures, securing the long-term cooperation of younger generations - who are vulnerable to serious complications from COVID-19, but die at lower rates - may not be easy.

Family ties could go a long way toward convincing them to adhere to social distancing. But, as the fight against climate change has shown, that approach has its limits - at least in the opposite direction. Today's older generations have so far proved reluctant to make the sacrifices that will be required to secure a more sustainable future for their children and grandchildren.

In this sense, however, the pandemic may offer an opportunity for progress. If young people remain dedicated to drastic short-term measures to contain the COVID-19 outbreak, older generations can surely make a medium-term commitment to ambitious climate action.

The third COVID-19 solidarity test will be the most difficult to pass. At a time when political leaders are already demanding so much solidarity within their countries, and national economies are suffering severe losses, generous resource transfers to struggling developing countries will be a difficult pill to swallow. Already, some economies, such as France and Germany, have limited or banned exports of critical medical equipment.

But if a country with a per capita income of \$50,000 - about the level in Canada and Germany, and lower than in Australia, the Netherlands, and the US - suffered a 10% economic contraction, it would still be ten times better off than low- and lower-middle-income countries were before the pandemic. Perhaps more salient, if poor countries are unable to contain their COVID-19 outbreaks, the virus could re-emerge in rich countries that thought they had escaped it.

Solidarity with developing countries is thus a matter of both morality and long-term vision. Failure to pass this solidarity test would leave deep psychological wounds in left-behind countries, paving the way for all manner of extremism and new crises - from pandemics to conflicts - that would threaten everyone.

As the developed countries implement measures to counter the economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, they should also work with international institutions to develop strategies for helping the developing world. While providing immediate liquidity, as the International Monetary Fund proposes, is a good first step, simply piling on more debt is not a sustainable solution. Grants and another round of debt forgiveness will also be needed, and international institutions must ensure that all countries get the medical equipment and other support - including food - that they need.

The world is about to find out whether decades of economic and financial globalization can lead to a deeper understanding of the ties - social, moral, and personal - that bind all people together. Only by recognizing and strengthening those ties can we replace our fragile and conflict-ridden system, built in the service of hyper-efficiency and short-term gain, with more sustainable arrangements based on economic, generational, and international solidarity.

## FEATURE

## ARTICLE

# Don't Get Mad-Get Ready For Change: The NEC Appointment Is Proof-Our People Are Powerless-Our System Is Broken & Corrupt By Design Part I

Rev. Torli H. Krua

The appointment of a Nigerian native to serve as the head of Liberia's National Elections Commission has angered many of President Weah's supporters and political opponents. Together, both the friends and political foes are united in demanding a presidential withdrawal or calling on the Liberian Senate to reject the appointee. Rejection or withdrawal isn't a solution of a system designed to enrich and empower politicians and enslave citizens. Contrary to what we were told and taught by America and Liberian Politicians, Liberia was designed by American slave masters (not American Freed Slaves) to keep Africans enslaved forever in America, empowering and enriching Liberian politicians and trapping all residents of the colony of Liberia in poverty and despair.

The 2nd annual report of the ACS was blaut: "...as is most confidently believed, the colonization of the free people of colour, will render the slave who remains in America more obedient, more faithful, more honest, and, consequently, more useful to his master, is it proper to regard this happy consequence to both, as the sole object which the Society hope to attain..."

After 200 years of swallowing bitter fruits from the corrupt Liberia tree, I ask the angry friends and foes; Are you ready to make change or to keep making noise?

Unlike President Weah's angry friends and political foes, I am so happy with this appointment not because of its expediency, legality or lack thereof. Like all political appointments in the two century history of the American Colony of Liberia, this appointment is another proof that Liberia's system of governance is corrupt by design, rotten to the core and must be changed before any progress can be made. Liberia was created by slave masters for the benefit of slave masters, not the people.

## How Did I Arrive At This Conclusion?

Thirty five years ago, I founded a Liberian technology company, High Tech Applications Inc, that later won a US State Department subcontract to service computers at US Government embassies and installations in African Nations. My experience while working and living at the US Embassy in Monrovia in 1990 changed my perception about Liberian politics and Liberia's two century relationship with America.

After President Doe was assassinated. Liberia was drowning in anarchy. There were no commercial flights. This was when I returned to Liberia to fulfill my company's contractual obligations. I was flown by a US Navy Helicopter from Freetown to the Embassy in Monrovia, where I observed that all Liberian visa applicants were denied visas but foreigners were granted visas. After an incident involving a Liberian lady and child-visa applicants were denied and dragged from the interview window in my presence. Disturbed by the wailing of the woman and child, I asked the visa officer if I could apply for a visa. "Bring your application and passport tomorrow for a visa." The visa officer said. The next day, I reported to work and presented my passport and a visa application. "Are you a Liberian?" The officer asked a series of questions. "Don't you have a green card? I thought you just came from America? Sorry, Sir, we are not giving visas to Liberians at this time."

I was shocked. Labenese and Indians whose businesses were no longer functioning were given visas but not Liberians? Why? I asked. "We have a cable from the State department ording us not to give visas to Liberians." He said. That's not true. Let me read it." I said. It's a classified cable." He said. Fast forward. I'm ready to leave the Embassy for Senegal. At my embarkation to the US Navy Helicopter, I was asked to present my ID, I presented my Liberian Passport. "Sorry Sir, we only allow Americans to board." The serviceman said. I complained and eventually I was allowed to



board. The feeling of being stuck in a wartorn country after escaping and returning voluntarily was sobering. I know something was wrong with Liberia and its relationship to America. I turned my back on my business and made a commitment to help Liberian refugees. I also started a journey to discover the secret of what's really wrong with Liberia and its relationship with America. What I discovered was shocking.

The United States Congress illegally colonized Americans based on their race .As a result ,America owes all Liberians a duty of care ;American taxpayers money purchased the colony ;US Navy was based in the colony and by flying the American Flag over the colony for the first 25 years with the presence and leadership of the US Navy and white American Governors who were paid using American taxpayers money Liberia is an illegal and lawless territory created by a partnership between the ACS and the US Federal Government .

The Opinion of Attorney General Hon .William Wirt ,Opinion #229 dated October 14 ,1819 ,recorded the unlawful nature of the racial colonization of free men of color or African Americans using American taxpayers money and the authorization by Congress to use the US Navy in colonizing Black Americans .

The Government of the United States has been involved in a two century coverup of the truth about Liberia 's slaveholding founding fathers and the collusion of American Colonization Society (ACS )and high ranking US Government officials who were slaveholders .

The March 3 ,1819 Act of Congress initiated an irreparable harm that continues two centuries of racial discrimination against Liberians .

The original United States Naturalization Law of March 26 ,1790 ( 1 Stat . . It thus excluded Native Americans ,indentured servants ,slaves ,free blacks and later Asians .

The Liberian Seal falsely claims ; The love of liberty brought us here ." The truth :it was the plot , prejudice and racism of slave owners and collusion of Congress and high ranking US Government officials

that brought American Settlers to Liberia .

Throughout his lifetime , President James Monroe owned 240 slaves .He never freed his slaves and our capital city is named in the honor of this slave master President Monroe placed an ad in a newspaper offering a reward of \$10 to anyone who would help to recapture two of his runaway slaves .

Bushrod Washington ,Associate Justice of the US Supreme Court and nephew of US President George Washington owned 100 slaves .As 1st President of the ACS ,Bushrod never freed his slaves .Infact ,he sold 54 of his slaves who decided to run away after discovering ACS was not created to free slaves but to remove free African Americans .

The Liberian Refugee Immigration Fairness Act of 2019 ended 30 years of discrimination against Liberian Refugees in America . In contrast to the plight of Liberian refugee mothers denied TPS DED ,the 102nd . (1991-1992 ) Congress passed a law which allowed 52 968 Chinese nationals to be granted DED after the Tiananmen Square incident to adjust to permanent residency status . The 105th .Congress , (1997-1998 ) passed legislation known as NACARA . Under this law , 150 000 Nicaraguans , 5 000 Cubans , 200 000 El Salvadorans and 50 000 Guatemalans are able to adjust to permanent residency status .

TorliKrua

A pastor and human rights activist, Torli was instrumental in lobbying with US congressmen and policymakers to increase the quota of refugees from Africa being allowed into the US. He has also worked tirelessly in the New England region and beyond to champion the rights of refugees and immigrants. His organization, Universal Human Rights International, worked with thousands of immigrants from 38 different countries over the span of 20 years. He has been honored by the National Peace Corps Association and the Massachusetts Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild. Reach Torli: harlankrua@gmail.com

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# Citizens urged to adhere to government's mandate

By Ben P. Wesee

The Mcswain Forkoh family foundation over the weekend urged residents of Montserrado County District #12 to adhere to measures announced by the

of the foundation Alfred F. Kendor urged citizens to follow all the preventive measures put in place by the government to stop the virus from spreading further.

Mr. Kendor disclosed to marketers and passers-by at the

McswainForkoh family foundation to move in fast to bring some relief to the marketers and bike riders with in district.

The foundation's coordinator further noted that the donation was not the first done by the Mcswain Forkoh family foundation, recounting the foundation's efforts within the district.

Mr. Kendor disclosed that the foundation has been very strong through support of its young Chief Executive Officer Mcswain Forkoh who is based in America.

He said during the Ebola crisis, Forkoh through the foundation donated some medical equipment within the district that enabled clinics and other medical centers to operate smoothly.

"The McswainForkoh family foundation is from this district, these buckets we are giving to you our mothers and sisters in this market [are] not for individual. We want you the leaders to take the responsibility to maintain these buckets and make everyone coming in this market to wash their hands properly," he said.

"So we as a district and

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 7



Government of Liberia to prevent the spread of Coronavirus in the country.

While donating hundreds of buckets and other items to marketers and bike riders in the district, the coordinator

Chicken Soup Factory Turning - point Market that the deadly Coronavirus is not something to be taken lightly.

According to him, it is the urgency attached to the deadly virus that prompted the

# Japan approves \$217,780.00 grant for Duala Market

Despite the Corona Virus spread throughout the world, the Government and People of Japan have approved a grant of US\$ 217,780.00 for commencement of phase one of a modern market project in the Monrovia suburb of Duala, the Modern Duala Market

economic activities among the local population and its immediate surroundings.

The release disclosed that the second phase of the project entails construction of a three storey market building which will have a parking lot, office space and a concrete garbage disposal site.



Project.

Phase one of the project include, fencing, lightening, construction of reservoir and pit latrines.

According to a Foreign Ministry release, the objective of the construction is to decongest the corridor for easy movement of goods and people and also accelerate

The Modern Duala Market will accommodate a little over 5,000 marketers.

It will be financed by the Japanese Counterpart Value Fund currently being managed and operated by the Japanese Counterpart Valued Fund Secretariat at the Ministry of ForeignAffairs. -Press Release

# LP frowns on Nwabudike, Saylor's appointment

Opposition Liberty Party uprightly opposes the nomination of Cllr. Ndubuisi Nwabudike, chairman and commissioner-designate Mr. Floyd Saylor, respectively at the National Elections Commission.

In press statement issued in Monrovia, March 26, the Liberty Party called on President George Manneh Weah to withdraw both nominations in the spirit of fairness and transparency.

The LP, which in collaboration with the Collaborating Political Parties said the only logical inference that can be drawn from the recent trend of President Weah's appointment of Mr. Nwabudike across several key governance institutions in the country is that there exists a relationship between the two, which seemingly transcends the ordinary and renders the nominee to chair the NEC a henchmen to the president.



Cllr. Ndubuisi Nwabudike

It continued that as to Mr. Floyd Saylor, his records as head of the NEC's data center are replete with malpractices; the 2019 Montserrado County District 15 by-election being the latest of the many embarrassments he has allegedly caused the country.

"We had thought that by now Mr. Saylor would have voluntarily retired from the NEC, given the countless electoral controversies and disputes he has orchestrated and their attendant economic and security consequences on our country. Having Mr. Saylor

**Read the  
NewDawn everyday  
&  
Advertise with us!**

at the NEC would undermine the credibility of the electoral body and poses a serious threat to the peace and security of our country," the statement said.

The statement pointed out that the Liberty Party has to its credit a long standing record of fighting for electoral reform as a sufficient precondition for the conduct of Free, Fair and Transparent Elections in Liberia.

"We posit that we shall never falter on this sacred democratic responsibility until the necessary electoral

reforms are effectuated to sustain our Democracy. The recent communication from our Political Leader, Sen. NyonbleeKarnga-Lawrence, requesting the support of her colleagues to probe the preparedness of the NEC to conduct the impending 2020 Mid-Term Senatorial Elections, and its adherence to the mandate of the Supreme Court in the aftermath of the 2017 electoral dispute, is a continuation of our fight for electoral reform. We believe

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 7

**MORE HEADLINE NEWS**

**MORE HEADLINE NEWS**

**Fire chief leads campaign against COVID-19**

By Emmanuel Mondaye

The COVID-19 fight in Liberia has taken a national posture with heads of various state institutions involve in awareness campaign.

The Director of Liberia National Fire Service (LNFS) G. Warsuwah Barvoul has warned citizens against doubting existence of the global pandemic because it is real and killing people worldwide.

Speaking recently in Monrovia when he officially launched the LNFS nationwide campaign against the virus he said it is important Liberians adhere to every measures being introduced by the government rather than listen to misinformation from some quarters of the country that still live in disbelief about existence of COVID-19.

He reminded residents to continuously practice hands washing, avoid close contact with people and overcrowded places, use hands sensitizer where ever they go to prevent spread or contracting the virus.

The fire chief vowed to carry out similar campaign in other parts of the country to sensitize the general public



LNFS Director addressing the general public on COVID-19 on Broad Street, Monrovia

on the danger of the virus, noting that the virus continues to kill people worldwide which is very serious.

He said it is government's responsibility to provide protection for its citizenry from contracting the Coronavirus while seeking other preventive measures as the situation unfolds in the country.

While he was addressing the general public, scores of fire service officers distributed copies of the Coronavirus information bulletin to the

public, emcouraging them to not only take the information home but make it a duty to comprehend the messages and apply same to their homes to avoid getting infected and spreading the virus.

The fire service public awareness on Coronavirus was taken to several communities in Monrovia, including Lakpazee community in Sinkor characterized by distribution of information bulletins.

- *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

**Water aid-Liberia donates to 3 clinics in Montserrado**

Water aid-Liberia office has donated several Infection Protection Control (IPC) materials to three health centers in rural Montserrado County to help contain spread of the Coronavirus pandemic here.

The beneficiary health centers include White Plains Clinic, Crozierville Clinic and Harrisburg health centers,

According to a press release, the British Charity made the donations recently through one of its local partners - Evangelical Children Rehabilitation Program (ECREP). The IPC materials are items intended to protect Health workers on duties at the medical centers.

The Executive Officer of ECREP, Rev. Abraham Powell, presented the donation

Rev. Powell, said the donation is part of Water Aid's WASH in health program at ECREP, intended to combat the virus in the three clinics.

Items donated include sterile gloves, heavy-duty gloves, disposal gloves, surgical nose masks, detergents, hand sanitizers, soap, alcohol, tissues, powder soap-buckets with faucet, buckets mop, brooms and waste bins, among others.

Rev. Powell urged beneficiaries to use the items to put in place high hygienic standards in the facilities.

According to Rev. Powell ECREP through supports from Water aid-Liberia, has been involved in the construction of modern latrines, the erection of water towers and the installation of solar lights and also furnished the delivery rooms at the three health centers.

Rev. Powell urged the managements of the three clinics to use the IPC items for its intended purpose and make a report to ECREP office whenever the supplies run low.

Receiving the items,

**LP frowns on**

Cont'd from page 6

very strongly that at the heart of every peaceful and wholesome functioning democracy is the conduct of free, fair and transparent elections, which in turn is a function of the neutrality of the electoral machineries, including those presiding over the conduct of elections," it maintained.

LP points that its engagements with the ongoing national fight against the novo Corona virus (COVID-19) in Liberia, the Liberty Party shall not lose sight of its obligations as a moral voice and responsible opposition in Liberia and shall continue to follow all relevant governance activities in the country and take prompt actions where

necessary.

"We want to assure the public that should President Weah fail to withdraw these nominations, Liberty Party will use whatever constructive means available at its disposal to resist their confirmation. Our Political Leader and Chairman, along with our two other Senators would lead the resistance against the confirmation of these nominees and call on all opposition senators and those who believe that our peace as a country depends on a credible electoral system to join us. Given how important this situation is, we shall on a regular basis update you with our position if the need arises," the statement concluded.

**Citizens urged to**

Cont'd from page 6

country at large can defeat this deadly disease that our children will be able once again to go back to school and everything will go on as normal," Mr. Kendor continued.

Receiving the donation on behalf of the Vision Market at Chicken Soup Factory Turning-point, Operation Superintendent Madam Annie W. Kolle extended the marketers' thanks and appreciation to the McswainForkoh family foundation for their kind gesture in buttressing the government's effort to help stop the spread of the Coronavirus in the country.

She added that since the country confirmed its first case of the virus, the leadership of the Vision Market has tried its best to follow all the measures put in place by the government.

She pointed out that they lacked buckets and other materials that would allow customers to wash their hands properly before buying.

"We have to close the other end of the market due to the lack of sufficient buckets to enable our customers to wash their hands and follow other important measures put in place by the government. But today, receiving these buckets and other items makes me believe we still have our children that care about us their mothers," Madam Kolle said.

She extended thanks to the CEO of the foundation Mr. McswainForkoh for always contributing to the district markets, mentioning that she is a living witness to the gesture of McswainForkoh and his foundation.

For his part, the head of the motor bike riders at Chicken Soup Factory Junction, Samuel Kpan, also extended his organization's thanks and appreciation to the Mcswain Forkoh family foundation for its gesture and promised to take good care of the materials given to them.—*Edited by Winston W. Parley*



Read the NewDawn everyday  
&  
Advertise with us!

Careysburg District Health Officer, George Davies, thanked WaterAid Liberia and ECREP for the donation to the three clinics, noting, "The donations would help fight the Corona virus and other infectious diseases."

The Careysburg District Health Officer said the IPC materials have come at a time

when the three clinics needed them desperately.

Also speaking, the Supervisor of the Environmental Health Technicians of Montserrado County, Mr. Henry Bundor commended WaterAid and ECREP for donating IPC to the three clinics.

# Français

## Mali : Premier tour des élections législatives: les recommandations de la Synergie

La synergie des organisations de la société civile et de la CNDH a animé, hier lundi 30 mars, un point de presse, à l'hôtel Radisson Blu sur le déroulement du premier tour des élections législatives. La Synergie a profité de l'occasion pour faire des recommandations au gouvernement, aux acteurs politiques, aux organisations de la société civile et à la communauté internationale.

Se prononçant sur le déroulement, le chef de mission de la Synergie, Dr Ibrahima SANGHO, a affirmé que dans les localités où le vote a eu lieu, le scrutin s'est globalement bien déroulé. Selon lui, le secret du vote a été respecté dans tous les bureaux où les isolements étaient bien disposés. "Les observateurs n'ont pas constaté une utilisation abusive des procurations (1,20%). Des cas d'achats de conscience, de

spéculation sur les cartes d'électeur et de bourrage d'urnes ont été constatés", a affirmé le Dr Ibrahima SANGHO.

Quant à la clôture des opérations de vote, il a rappelé que la loi dispose que le dépouillement se fait immédiatement dans le bureau de vote et en public.

Le chef de mission de la Synergie a indiqué que si dans

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



## Côte-d'Ivoire : Un PM aux abonnés absents, qui valait un budget de campagne de 75 milliards...

Le premier ministre ivoirien, Amadou Gon, pompeusement élevé au rang de candidat «unique» de la majorité RHDP au pouvoir, à la prochaine présidentielle de 2020 en

pleine crise du coronavirus, est aux abonnés absents depuis le 24 mars.

Officiellement, le PM est en quarantaine parce qu'il aurait été en contact avec une personne testée positive, issue de son entourage direct.

Certaines langues affirment que cette personne serait un de ses fils...

Une semaine après son auto-mise en quarantaine, notre PM nous sort un communiqué pour nous informer qu'il a été testé négatif à deux reprises...en attendant un 3e test (sic!).

« Mais entre nous, si tu as été testé négatif deux fois, pourquoi te caches-tu ? », se demandent les Ivoiriens et Ivoiriennes ? « Il est malade, il a été évacué au Maroc. Il a corona ! », répond un internaute.

Pendant ce temps, le pauvre ministre de la santé, totalement déconnecté des méthodes modernes de communication se démène comme il peut pour calmer la grogne des populations, face à un Exécutif aux abonnés absents.

Même son collègue Koné Nagbana, ancien porte-parole du gouvernement, a reconnu à mots voilés ses

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



## Éditorial

### La lutte contre COVID-19 rend la vie insupportable pour les citoyens

Les mesures mises en œuvre par le gouvernement du Libéria pour empêcher la propagation du COVID-19 poussent les citoyens, pour la plupart déjà en marge de la société, vers la misère et la mort imminente.

Comme dans la plupart des pays africains, la majorité des Libériens survivent grâce au secteur informel, en se livrant au petit commerce. Mais la démolition actuelle des étals de marché dans le cadre des mesures visant à promouvoir la distanciation sociale semble avoir un impact négatif grave sur les citoyens ordinaires, rendant la subsistance quotidienne presque impossible.

Les autorités ont déjà fermé les écoles, les églises et les mosquées, entre autres, et ont interdit les grands rassemblements publics dans une série de mesures préventives pour maintenir la sécurité publique.

Mais ce que le gouvernement semble ignorer, c'est la nécessité de la mise en place des mesures d'accompagnement pour permettre aux citoyens vulnérables de ne pas perdre leur seul moyen de survie et faire en sorte que la vie soit relativement supportable jusqu'à la fin de la crise.

La réponse du gouvernement semble unilatérale, car il ne fait que mettre l'accent sur la fermeture, la mise en congés des employés non essentiels sans des mesures d'accompagnement, sur fond des rumeurs faisant état d'une pénurie imminente des produits de base et dans un contexte de l'augmentation de la cherté de la vie. La survie des citoyens est un problème.

Bien que nous saluons ces premières mesures, il faut qu'elles soient accompagnées par des mesures pour amortir les répercussions économiques inattendues. Les élèves ne vont plus à l'école, les parents sont en congé obligatoire et les étals des marchés sont démolis. Comment les gens vont-ils survivre ?

L'homme qui a faim peut faire n'importe quoi juste pour rester en vie. Et la façon dont les autorités procèdent peut pousser des gens à se livrer à des actes non catholiques, à moins que les mesures actuelles soient réexaminées.

Certes, le gouvernement du Libéria veut protéger les vies humaines contre le COVID-19, cependant, des mesures non calculées pourraient exploser si des précautions nécessaires ne sont pas prises.

Fermer les commerces et le secteur informel sans des mesures d'accompagnement pourrait s'avérer contre-productif non seulement pour la population mais aussi pour le gouvernement lui-même, car cela pourrait entraîner un grave problème social pour l'ensemble du pays.

www Advertise Here!  
Subscribe to our website  
get the best of balance and accurate news, delivered daily



# Français

## Mali : Premier tour des élections législatives:

la plupart des bureaux (96,4%) ces règles ont été respectées, les observateurs ont relevé que dans certains centres de Bamako, le public a été tenu à l'écart par les forces de l'ordre." Les opérations de dépouillement s'étant poursuivies dans la nuit, nos observateurs n'ont pas pu y prendre part en raison du couvre-feu en vigueur", a précisé le conférencier.

Ainsi, à ce stade de l'observation des élections législatives et pour améliorer les conditions de la poursuite des opérations, la Mission recommande au Gouvernement de : préserver les droits des électeurs et des candidats par leur sécurisation et la garantie de l'égalité de chance des candidats ; étendre les dérogations aux mesures de couvre-feu aux acteurs impliqués dans le processus électoral, notamment les agents électoraux et les observateurs ; mettre un accent particulier sur la formation des agents électoraux aux procédures et règles en matière de tenue du bureau de vote et leur sécurisation ; de prendre des mesures pratiques afin de faciliter l'accès aux bureaux de vote aux personnes vivant avec le handicap ; mettre en œuvre les mesures de protection des agents électoraux, observateurs et électeurs contre le Coronavirus (COVID 19) et l'insécurité ; de poursuivre en lien, avec la société civile, les initiatives d'appels collectifs

au calme des populations et de tous les acteurs politiques et réactiver le programme national d'éducation civique ; créer les conditions pour l'effectivité des élections paisibles sur l'ensemble du territoire national.

Aux acteurs politiques, la Synergie recommande de poursuivre dans la voie du dialogue et de la concertation, le règlement de toutes les divergences pouvant naître du processus électoral et de recourir aux juridictions compétentes pour le règlement de tout contentieux électoral.

Aux organisations de la société civile et à la CNDH, les observateurs recommandent de poursuivre et intensifier le travail d'éducation civique et de sensibilisation de la population sur toute l'étendue du territoire malien et d'appeler les leaders religieux à poursuivre leur appel à la cohésion sociale, aux respects des règles institutionnelles et électorales.

Quant à la communauté internationale, la Synergie suggère de poursuivre et renforcer son appui multiforme aux acteurs locaux du processus électoral ; de renforcer son soutien technique et matériel aux autorités maliennes dans leurs efforts pour l'instauration de la paix et de la sécurité sur toute l'étendue du territoire ; d'encourager la coopération entre les Forces Armées maliennes, les Forces de la MINUSMA, Barkhane et du G5 Sahel dans la coordination et la sécurisation du processus électoral.

## Côte-d'Ivoire : Un PM aux abonnés absents, qui

limites dans un tweet posté récemment.

Pour dire vrai, la Côte-d'Ivoire qui a perdu de vue son président et son premier ministre depuis au moins une semaine, navigue à vue face aux risques du coronavirus.

Le nombre de malades infectés par le virus ne fait qu'augmenter, les carences de la gestion des hôpitaux publics sont mises à nue en peu plus chaque jour.

Le pays ne disposerait en tout et pour tout que de 80 respirateurs et de 2000 tests, tenez-vous bien, «offerts gracieusement» à l'Institut Pasteur du pays par la Banque mondiale.

Au cœur de la tourmente actuelle, un journal annonce même un budget de 75 milliards de francs cfa pour

la campagne présidentielle du futur candidat unique du RHDP.

Ah donc le RHDP est à mesure de lever 75 milliards pour une campagne alors que les hôpitaux du pays manquent de tout ? On comprend pourquoi tous se soignent en Europe en cas de moindres petits pépins de santé.

Capables de sortir de terre les châteaux les plus inimaginables, à Cocody Golf Beverly Hills et autres endroits huppés d'Abidjan, avec l'argent volé des caisses de l'État, mais incapables de garantir plus de 100 respirateurs à un pays de plus de 25 millions d'habitants.

Sacré RHDP, sacré Amadou !

## COMMENTAIRE

Par Alex Soros

# L'esprit de Milan

NEW YORK - Les manchettes des journaux donnent la chair de poule. Des pénuries de matériels vitaux obligent les médecins à prendre les mêmes décisions que sur le champ de bataille, pour choisir qui doit vivre et qui doit mourir. Des longues files de malades qui attendent en vain un test ou un lit d'hôpital. Des entreprises, des magasins, des bars et des restaurants vides qui mettent les économies locales du monde entier au point mort. Ajoutez à cela un triste décompte sur les pays les plus durement touchés par le coronavirus COVID-19, avec près de 61 000 cas confirmés de plus que la Chine, l'épicentre de l'épidémie initiale.

En Europe, la pandémie frappe très durement l'Italie, qui est en confinement national depuis le 9 mars dans le but de ralentir la propagation du virus. Le 30 mars, l'Italie a répertorié près de 98 000 cas confirmés de COVID-19. Plus de 10 700 Italiens, pour la plupart dans la région de la Lombardie dans le Nord, sont morts des suites de la maladie, jusqu'à présent. Milan, la capitale régionale, est plus qu'un pilier de l'économie italienne. Cette ville autrefois dynamique est inextricablement liée au projet européen et est un moteur crucial pour l'économie européenne dans son ensemble.

Pourtant, alors que le nombre de morts augmente et que la région connaît des taux de transmission plus élevés par rapport au reste du continent, l'Union européenne et ses États membres ont été lents à redoubler d'efforts et à faire preuve de solidarité vis-à-vis de leur voisin en difficulté. Au lieu de cela, les États membres de l'UE ont fermé leurs frontières et se sont repliés sur eux-mêmes. La situation critique de l'Italie s'est aggravée suite aux fermetures de frontières, qui ont interrompu les flux de fournitures et de matériels médicaux nécessaires.

Les gouvernements se sont engagés dans des querelles puériles, en se montrant davantage préoccupés par leur propre avantage économique. Les représentants de certains États du Nord de l'Europe semblent remettre en cause les récentes décisions économiques de l'Italie et se soucier davantage de la manière dont l'Italie parviendra à rembourser ses dettes, plutôt que du nombre de décès et de la récession économique.

En conséquence, à une époque où le continent, et en fait le monde entier, est confronté à des crises de santé publique et économiques aux proportions historiques, l'Europe est une maison divisée, qui court le risque d'une éventuelle dissolution territoriale. Si le Brexit a uni les 27 États membres restants et a chassé hors de l'arène européenne le spectre d'une sortie de l'Union, le coronavirus le remet à l'ordre du jour.

L'UE a la responsabilité vis-à-vis de ses États membres et de ses citoyens d'utiliser tous les instruments financiers dont elle dispose, ou de créer de nouveaux instruments, afin de garantir que l'Italie et l'Union dans son ensemble puissent faire face à cette crise - et puissent en fin de compte rebondir. Cela exige l'abandon de la dépendance habituelle à un modèle de gouvernance obsolète fondé sur l'absence de ressources financières communes dans une Union monétaire. Si l'Italie échoue, le prix pour

l'économie européenne - et sans aucun doute, pour le projet européen lui-même - sera beaucoup plus élevé que le prix de l'infraction à une règle budgétaire ou autre à l'heure d'un grave péril.

Avant le sommet virtuel du Conseil européen de la semaine passée, un groupe de neuf pays européens, dont des États du Sud tels que le Portugal et la Slovaquie, a appelé à la création d'une euro-obligation et à la mutualisation de la dette commune. Les institutions financières européennes ont été chargées lors de ce sommet de faire des propositions, afin d'atténuer dans la mesure du possible la pression sur les chefs de gouvernement (dont la plupart sont préoccupés par leur opposition nationale). Parallèlement, certaines des personnalités politiques italiennes les plus autoritaires et les plus extrémistes ont saisi cette occasion pour se rallier contre l'UE et pour mettre à l'ordre du jour une sortie italienne de l'euro et de l'Union elle-même.

Alors que les États-Unis sous l'administration actuelle se sont retirés de l'alliance transatlantique d'après-guerre, l'UE a eu l'occasion de tenir ses promesses sur ses engagements quant aux valeurs, aux droits et à sa coopération multilatérale, et de s'affirmer en tant que leader mondial. Elle n'a pas relevé ce défi. Si les perspectives d'avenir de l'Europe semblent à présent peu réjouissantes, il n'est pourtant pas trop tard pour que les institutions et les gouvernements européens changent de cap. L'UE ne peut se permettre de perdre l'Italie ni de traverser la crise sans fournir une réponse significative. Tous les pays et toutes les économies du bloc risqueraient d'en pâtir.

Mon père, George Soros, a connu certains des crimes les plus odieux du siècle dernier, et en est sorti imbu d'une croyance profonde et constante en la nécessité du projet européen. Je suis fier de ses nombreux succès dans l'utilisation de ses institutions philanthropiques en vue de promouvoir des lendemains meilleurs pour l'Europe et pour le monde.

Pour toutes ces raisons, il semble donc naturel que l'organisation qu'il a fondée, Open Society Foundations, vienne au secours de l'Italie en ce moment crucial, en s'engageant à verser un million d'euros à la ville de Milan pour soutenir le travail acharné d'assistance aux plus vulnérables et de reconstruction de son économie, de sa santé et de son esprit dans les mois qui viennent.

Bien sûr, certains pays de l'UE - avec un certain retard - ont également envoyé des fournitures médicales, et de nombreux Italiens ont fait des dons à l'effort national en vue de faire face à la crise. Et à peine quelques jours après avoir reçu le feu vert pour entamer des négociations d'adhésion à l'UE, l'Albanie a fait preuve d'une véritable solidarité européenne en envoyant un contingent de médecins de 30 personnes au Nord de l'Italie. J'espère que beaucoup d'autres suivront cet exemple et tendront leur main secourable aux régions les plus durement touchées par le COVID-19. Suite à un don similaire à la ville de Budapest, une aide de ce genre est la première d'une série d'interventions que Open Society Foundations entend lancer dans les prochains jours en réponse à un monde en crise.

## ARTICLE

## ARTICLE

# Cllr. Ndubusi Nwabudike lied about his nationality

**W**e must be clear, a naturalized Liberian - whether from Nigeria, Ghana, or America and Italy (Negro or Negro descent) - can serve on the National Elections Commission of Liberia. However, the case of Mr. Ndubusi Nwabudike is completely different, he is not a naturalized Liberian!

Mr. Nwabudike claims he was born in Nigeria and his parents are from Delta State in Nigeria. Cf. Frontpage Africa March 27, 2020 online story written by Lennart Dodoo: <https://frontpageafricaonline.com/frontslider/liberian-senate-conducts-confirmation-hearing-today-on-the-controversial-appointment-of-nigerian-born-liberia-as-chairman-of-elections-commission/>. This statement alone affirms that he is a Nigerian citizen. "Every person born in Nigeria after the date of independence either of whose parents or any of whose grandparents is a citizen of Nigeria." Article 25 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. Because Mr. Nwabudike was born in Nigeria after the date of independence and both of his parents were citizens of Nigeria, he is a Nigeria citizen by birth. Id.

There exist credibility and trust issues surrounding the inconsistent accounts that Mr. Nwabudike has given to the public and the Liberian Senate about his background. He has indicated on his curriculum vitae that his place of origin is Montserrado County. Such a blatant lie per se, and thus a crime or perjury. How then would an Igbo man's origin be Montserrado? I hope the Senate would ask Cllr. Nwabudike about this very strange history account. Our history tells us who the aboriginals of Montserrado or Ducor - is Nwabudike a Bassa man or Vai, or a Congo or Americo-Liberian too? While one nationality may change, no one origin and or birth place ever changed. For instance, President Weah's origin is Grand Kru County, being a resident and Senator for Montserrado County has never changed that fact; Saah Joseph's origin will always remain Lofa County.

Your parents came from Delta State, but your origin is Montserrado County. Really? Making up imaginary stories is not something easy for anyone, including Cllr. Nwabudike. If I were Nwabudike I had better stay quiet than seeking public attention and thus causing self-embarrassment.

An investigation conducted reveals that his claim of Liberian citizenship is unsupported by law. His story is poorly designed, and the inconsistencies are obvious. With all the doubts, Mr. Nwabudike now bears the ultimate burden to prove his Liberian citizenship. Practicing law, obtaining a voter's registration card or holding any previous positions set aside for a Liberian citizen, are not proof of citizenship under the law. One may use any of these scenarios as a "presumption" of his or her citizenship. This is true because our laws say so - a Certificate of Naturalization is legally required. Section 21.7 of the Alien and Naturalization Law. Hence, such certificate must be issued to in accordance with law to be good.

Our law provides that, "[a] person admitted to citizenship by a court ... shall be entitled upon such admission to receive from the clerk of such court a certificate of naturalization, which shall contain substantially the following information: Number of petition for naturalization; number of certificate of naturalization, date of naturalization; name, signature, place of residence, autographed photograph, and personal description of the naturalized person, including age, sex, marital status, and country of former nationality; title, venue, and location of the court issuing the order of naturalization; statement that the court, having found that the petitioner intends to reside permanently in Liberia, and has complied in all respects with all of the applicable provisions of the naturalization laws of Liberia, and was entitled to be admitted as a citizen of Liberia thereupon ordered that the petitioner be admitted as a citizen of Liberia; attestation of the clerk of the court issuing the order of naturalization, and seal of the court." Section 21.7 of the Alien and Naturalization Law (1973). We are also keen to note that the law requires all certificates of naturalization to be filed with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Hence, if Cllr.

Nwabudike had naturalized as he claimed, there would be a duplicate copy of his certificate. It is plain and simple that he is not a Liberian.

It is highly probable that Cllr. Nwabudike has misled

the Liberian National Bar Association and the Supreme Court of Liberia by making false declarations to be admitted to practice law, and the Elections Commission to have voted in elections. Our law writers anticipated such conduct, thus there are legal and ethical ramifications for any violation that may have occurred - including prosecution or disbarment in the instant case.

It must be pointed out that Cllr. Nwabudike has tacitly admitted to his citizenship and allegiance to the Federal Republic of Nigeria, when he informed us that he was born in Nigeria and his both parents are from the Delta State. He is still a Nigeria citizen pursuant to Article 25 of the Constitution of Nigeria. "Every person born in Nigeria after the date of independence either of whose parents or any of whose grandparents is a citizen of Nigeria. Because Mr. Nwabudike was born in Nigeria after the date of independence and both of his parents were citizens of Nigeria, he is a Nigeria citizen by birth. Id.

Also, Cllr. Nwabudike fails to tender any proof that he has renounced his Nigerian citizenship to be able to legally obtain Liberian citizenship. Article 29 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria states that "[a]ny citizen of Nigeria of full age who wishes to renounce his Nigerian citizenship shall make a declaration in the prescribed manner for the renunciation. The President shall cause the declaration to be registered and upon such registration, the person who made the declaration shall cease to be a citizen of Nigeria." It is imperative to further point out that Cllr. Nwabudike cannot simultaneously carry both Nigerian and Liberian citizenships.

He claims that he was born in 1965 and came to Liberia in 1988 at the age of 23. Our investigation further shows that he has acquired his primary, secondary and undergraduate education in Nigeria as a Nigerian student and paid local fees up to his alleged graduation in June 1988. In the same June 1988, he enrolled at the University of Liberia Graduate School, and graduated in 1990, and later entered the Louis Arthur Grimes School of Law. A careful perusal of his records from the University of Liberia reveals an apparent alteration to his place of birth. While it must also be noted that he attended the University of Liberia as a local student and paid fees charged to all Liberian students. This brings us to the next question when and how did Mr. Nwabudike acquire his Liberian citizenship in June of 1988 and the very same month and year he is said to have graduated from a Nigerian University as a Nigerian student. He is not a Liberian, otherwise he has the burden.

Again, attending the University of Liberia and paying local fees is not a proof of citizenship. It is our considered opinion that Cllr. Nwabudike's claim of Liberian citizenship is an obvious lie. Because it was not possible to have obtained Liberian citizenship without renouncing his Nigerian citizenship consistent with the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria quoted hereinabove.

Cllr. Nwabudike, the flabbergasted nominee to head NEC has made frantic efforts to throw a catchall basket to establish his citizenship at all costs - unfortunately, the basket leaks. In another account of his imaginary story, he also claimed that he became a Liberia citizen through his father's purported naturalization in the 1940s. Yet he has not offered his father's certificate of naturalization, but instead tends to use a flimsy war excuse. Clearly, he has made no efforts to search for his or his father alleged certificates of naturalization or his father's certificate of naturalization and nothing more.

because none exist. The evidence in this case would be Cllr. Nwabudike's certificate of naturalization and nothing more.



Assuming his father had naturalized in the 1940s, under the Liberian Naturalization law that does not make Cllr. Nwabudike an automatic citizen, because he has not chosen Liberia over Nigerian as his nationality since he turned 21. He has not renounced his allegiance to the Federal Republic of Nigeria as provided for under Nigerian law. Under our law, it is only permissible that a child enjoys dual nationality before s/he turns 21 - provided one parent was a Liberia citizen at the time of the child's birth. Because Cllr. Nwabudike has clearly admitted that both his parents are from Delta State this exception does not apply to him.

For the sake of argument, let us agree that his father was a naturalized Liberian, thus his father has forfeited that status before Nwabudike was born, because his father had returned to Nigeria, his country of origin, and stayed more than two consecutive years. Therefore, Mr. Nwabudike could not have acquired his purported citizenship through his father. He is not a Liberia citizen; otherwise, he has that burden. Thank God Cllr. Nwabudike has given us more facts to use. To become a Liberian, Cllr. Nwabudike must renounce his Nigeria citizenship, which he still holds.

It is evident that he continues to beat our system, but his nomination to NEC is the dawning of the new day. Ninety-nine days for rogues one day for the master. What was not done legally, is never done at all. Our institutions like the Liberian National Bar Association and the Court must muster the courage to correct this blunder. Understandably, he deceived everyone, including the Liberian Senate that previously confirmed him. As for the Bar and the Court, Nwabudike's conduct warrants disbarment, because making false declarations during Bar admission process is a cogent basis for disbarment and subsequent prosecution; as for the Government, Cllr. Nwabudike needs to be prosecuted and deported, and the Senate must reject him!

Additionally, it is not feasible that he is on the NEC commission, because his inclusion has the proclivity to undermine public trust in any electoral process and would further dent the credibility of any elections and results.

**Mr. Nwabudike is not in good standing with the Liberian National Bar Association for years. He faces several corruption allegations. TO TRUST SUCH A MAN WITH OUR ELECTIONS, IS LIKE TRUSTING A GOAT WITH CASSAVA LEAF. FRANKLY, PRESIDENT DISAPPOINTS AGAIN BY THIS NOMINATION.**

# Don't confirm them

By E. Nathaniel Daygbor

Opposition political parties here have unanimously cautioned the Liberian Senate not to confirm the newly nominated Commissioners of the National Elections Commissions (NEC), following public outcry over the nomination of self-proclaimed naturalized Liberian Cllr. Ndubuisi Nwabudike, and Tech savvy Floyd Saylor.

In separate presentations, the opposition leaders argue the nomination by President George Weah is an affront to the Liberian people and governance of the state.

They unanimously agreed the NEC chairman-designate, Cllr. Ndubuisi Nwabudike, Commissioners-designate Floyd Saylor, Davidetta Lasanna, and Josephine Kou Gaye should not be confirmed by the senate for lack of integrity and identity crisis.

Cllr. Nwabudike, a Nigerian-born self-proclaimed naturalized Liberian told Senators on Capitol Hill Monday during confirmation hearing that he naturalized as a Liberian in 1982 at the age of 16, arguing that he was accompanied by an adult.

However, Chapter 21 of the Aliens and Nationality Law of Liberia states that a naturalization applicant must be at least 21 years of age at the time of the petition.

This process requires a



Cllr. Nwabudike



Madam Davidetta Browne Lansanah



Mr. Floyd Saylor



Mr. Barsee Kpankpa

two-step approach - that is, first making a declaration of intent to naturalize before a Circuit Court, followed by the actual petition for naturalization which must be filed between the second and third anniversary dates of the declaration of intent.

But legal experts say the argument that Cllr. Nwabudike claims he was admitted to the Liberia National Bar by the Supreme Court and therefore, that validates his Liberian citizenship does not hold water simply because the Supreme Court is not in the business of investigating claims and it is not the branch of government that awards citizenship.

His citizenship has drawn widespread opposition among ordinary Liberians and

politicians, raising integrity and credibility questions about his preferment by the President to head Liberia's electoral commission.

President Weah on March 21, nominated to the NEC, Cllr. Nwabudike as Chairman, Madam Davidetta Browne Lansanah Co-Chairman, Cllr. Ernestine Morgan-Awar, Commissioner; Mr. Floyd Saylor Commissioner; Barsee Kpankpa Commissioner, and Madam Josephine Kou Gaye Commissioner, respectively.

But the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) Tuesday described the move by the opposition parties as dangerous.

The CDC also frown at the decision by the senate's committee on election to

solicit opinions from leaders of political parties on the confirmation hearing of the newly nominated chairman and commissioners of the NEC saying it is a dangerous precedent for the democratic space of Liberia.

Speaking at the called meeting by the committee Tuesday, March 31, in the Joint Chambers of the Capitol, CDC Chairman MulbahMorlu said it is wrong footing for national leaders especially, senators who are regarded as elders of the land to ask political parties' views on nominees, adding it is first of its kind and should not be encouraged by legislators.

According to Chairman Morlu, the CDC is not interested in who heads the National Elections Commission or who's nominated as commissioners because it is a grassroots-based political party popular with the Liberian people.

He hopes the decision of senators at the close of the hearing would not be based on sentiment and falsehood created by leaders of

opposition political parties.

According to Morlu, opposition political party like the Liberty Party is known for taking every little issue to the Supreme Court, noting that because the opposition leaders have no facts in their presentation, so they are using political tricks to mislead the Liberian people.

"The united choragus (song) from the opposition is a clear manifestation that argument is based on falsehood, sentiments and only intended to play on the minds of the elders of our land. It is my view that the senate remains honorable and does the right," he cautions.

Political parties present at the meeting include; the former ruling Unity Party represented by Mr. Worlea Saywah Dunah, Alternative National Congress represented by its national secretary general Aloysius Toe; the Liberty Party by its secretary general Jacob Smith, the True Whig Party led by Chairman Reginald Goodridge, and the CDC by Chairman Morlu. -  
*Editing by Jonathan Browne*

## USAID market women enforce COVID-19 measures

By Emmanuel Mondaye

Marketers at the USAID Market in Monrovia are working along with the leadership of the Liberia Marketing Association (LMA) in enforcing government

measures in the fight against the Coronavirus in Liberia.

Making the disclosure at the market on 26 March, the Market Superintendent for Operations Madam Cecelia G. Wuduwelh said by the mandate of Superintendent of the Market

Madam Sando Johnson, all marketers selling in the market have been made to have hand washing bottles with prepared water to be used whenever customers appear at their market tables to buy.

Besides that, she indicates that they have also ensured that hand washing buckets and drums are positioned at all entry points into the market building with monitors posted to ensure that visitors to the market adhere to the COVID-19 measures.

She furthers that with the assistance of her special aide Mr. Justine K. David, the marketers are fully cooperating and also insisting that their customers abide by government's measures to stop the spread of the Coronavirus in the country.

She expresses gratitude to the Government of Liberia for providing drums and hand washing materials which she said are helping marketers to prevent the spread of the disease. -  
*Edited by Winston W. Parley*



## Lawmaker seeks

Starts from back page

national health emergency in Liberia. On March 24, 2020, neighboring Ivory Coast announced it closed land borders with Liberia and Guinea in a measure to contain COVID-19.

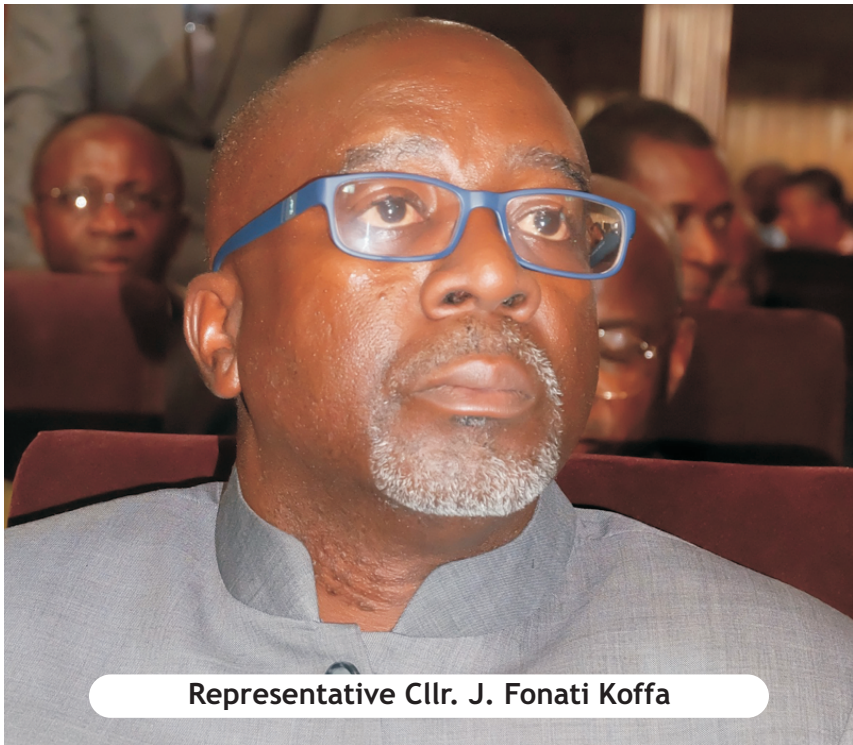
Cllr. Koffa further suggested that government should engage the World Food program, the United States

government, European Union, local businesses and partners.

He said the Ministry of Public Works should work with various municipalities to develop address system for each house and statistics on each of the 1.5 million households. -  
*Editing by Jonathan Browne*

www **Advertize Here!**  
**Subscribe to our website**  
 get the best of balance and accurate news, delivered daily

# Lawmaker seeks US\$25m stimulus package



Representative Cllr. J. Fonati Koffa

**G**rand Kru County District # 2 Representative Cllr. J. Fonati Koffa suggests to government to prepare a US\$25 million emergency relief program in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic for Liberians especially, citizens in the affected counties.

Speaking to the media

following his return from Grand Kru County, Rep. Koffa said government should reach out to international partners in providing funding to the vulnerable population.

The entire world is affected by the pandemic that broke out in Whuan, China in December, 2019.

Rep. Koffa who chairs the

House Judiciary committee, noted the emergency relief at least should focus on a bag of rice per household, cans of meat and fish for the next three months.

On 16 March, Liberia confirmed its index case of the virus, who is a government official from Switzerland.

President George Weah controversially named the Executive Director of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Nathaniel Blama, of violating preventive health protocols at the Roberts International Airport (RIA) in Harbel, Margibi County when the suspended EPA boss chose not to be quarantined.

The second case was confirmed on 17 March 2020, a domestic worker for the first case. Liberia's third case of COVID-19 was confirmed on 20 March involving a 63-year-old Linda Ross. Ross recently returned from Italy. Following this third case, the Ministry of Health in Monrovia declared a

**▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 10**

**Take control of your money.**

Link your Mobile Money account to your GT Bank account today! With MTN MoMo, you can now transfer money easily between your bank account and your MTN Mobile Money account.

Dial \* 156 \*7# to get started today.

#GoodTogether everywhere you go

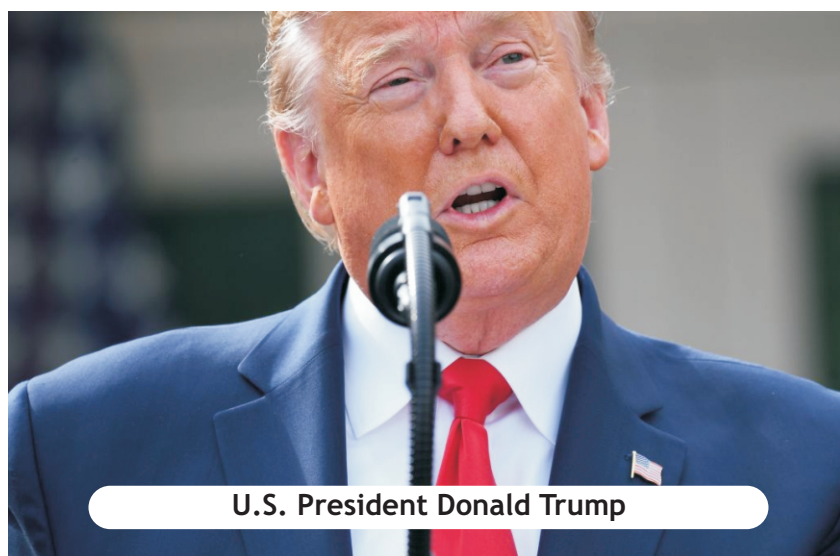
# White House to give coronavirus briefing

**T**he White House will formally reissue nationwide coronavirus guidelines on Tuesday after President Donald Trump -- faced with dire models showing up to 200,000 American deaths and polls indicating support for social distancing and calamitous scenes at New York hospitals -- determined another 30 days were necessary to avert disaster.

Not all of Trump's advisers support the decision, and some have privately questioned the

models his health advisers used to convince him the distancing efforts were necessary, multiple people familiar with the matter said. Trump faced intense pressure from business leaders and some conservative economists to reopen some parts of the country before ultimately deciding against it.

Amid the internal debate over whether to ease the social distancing efforts, some aides recommended the President only extend them another 15 days, but health advisers argued a month was necessary, people familiar



U.S. President Donald Trump

with the discussions said. Trump told aides it would be better to ease the guidelines earlier than expected rather than have to extend them again.

The guidelines are expected to last until April 30.

Trump has explained his decision as a necessary one to protect potentially millions of lives. To that end, Trump and the coronavirus task force plan to delve into more detail on their models using graphs and information during the daily late-afternoon press briefing at the White House on Tuesday.

## The NewDawn Press

**2 colors Heidelberg printing machines**

**We Offer The Following Printing Services:**

- Newspapers, Magazines
- Flyers, Posters, Calendars
- Brochures, Letterhead
- Receipts, Invoices
- Souvenirs, Gifts
- Designs, etc...

**ELLEN JOHNSON SIRLEAF  
 PRESIDENTIAL CENTER  
 FOR WOMEN EMPOWERMENT**

Visit: [www.ejscenter.org](http://www.ejscenter.org)