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# The New Dawn

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# L\$4 billion 'insufficient'

**-CBL Deputy Governor-Designate tells Senators**



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# Continental News

## Zuma: SA anti-graft inquiry is biased against me

South Africa's former President Jacob Zuma has requested the head of a commission investigating corruption during his presidency to step aside over alleged "bias", his lawyers said.

Mr Zuma has failed to reappear before the commission as has been requested.

But Deputy Chief Justice Raymond Zondo has set a "non-negotiable" date for him to appear.

Allegations of corruption dogged Mr Zuma's presidency and led him to resign in February 2018.

The former president's lawyer has said that he would not take part until Mr Zondo is replaced. In a letter to the commission, Eric Mabuza said: "We are instructed to seek your recusal as chairperson of the commission on the ground that our client reasonably apprehends that you have already adopted a biased disposition towards him."

He said that Mr Zondo was no longer capable of "exercising an independent and impartial mind". "President Zuma has always expressed his willingness to cooperate with the commission. This is in spite of his reservations about the legality of the commission and in particular, your suitability as chairperson, given your personal relations with him".

The inquiry, known as the

Zondo Commission, was established to investigate the "state capture" scandal during Mr Zuma's tenure as president. This centred around allegations about an Indian business family, the Guptas, who won lucrative contracts with state companies.

The family has also been accused of trying to influence political decisions, including

the naming of ministers.

The Guptas have said that there were no cases to answer and that they were in the process of clearing their name "in the face of unfounded media allegations". Even though he has repeatedly denied any wrongdoing, some say he has used his qualities as a tenacious fighter to stay out of the courts, baffling for someone who has always insisted that he would take up the first opportunity to clear his name.

While some see this latest wrangling over the Zondo Commission as an attempt to delay the investigation and buy time to plan, his supporters see this merely him exercising his right to a fair legal process.

Incidentally, it was Mr Zuma who appointed Mr Zondo to the role, shortly before he was

forced to step down as president.

At the time he said: "I would like to emphasise that I have faith in all the judges and their ability to execute their tasks with the requisite levels of fairness, impartiality and independence."

It would seem those days are long gone. Mr Zondo has chaired the commission for more than two years and it has heard testimony from ministers, ex-ministers, government officials, politicians and business executives.

Last week Mr Zuma said he was too ill to testify.

As a result, Mr Zondo held a televised media briefing where he ordered Mr Zuma to testify in November.

Making a televised announcement "attests to the fact that he seeks to portray him as uncooperative and belligerent in the eyes of the public", Mr Zuma's lawyer argued in the letter. BBC



Ex-President Jacob Zuma is accused of allowing a wealthy business family to influence political decisions

## Nigerian senator fined for sex toy shop assault

A Nigerian senator has been fined \$130,000 (£100,000) and told to apologise to a woman he physically assaulted in a sex toy shop last year.

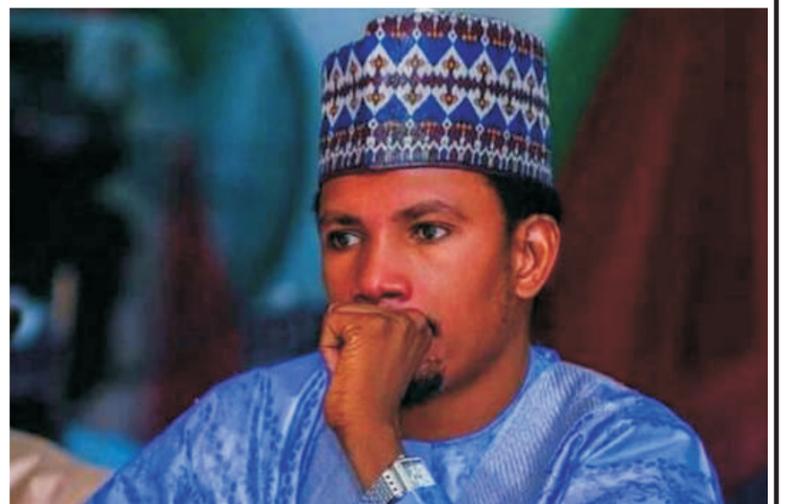
A high court in the capital, Abuja, found that the assault by Senator Elisha Abbo was "inhuman and degrading" and violated the fundamental rights of the victim,

also ordered Mr Abbo to apologise to her in a national daily newspaper.

The decision has been welcomed by women's activists.

One of Ms Warmate's lawyers described it as a victory for the rule of law and for the common person in Nigeria.

However, a lawyer



Osimibibra Warmate.

The incident which was captured on video and later went viral online, showed Mr Abbo slapping Ms Warmate.

After widespread condemnation and street protests, the senator publicly apologised but Ms Warmate filed a court case.

On top of the cash to be paid to Ms Warmate the court

representing Mr Abbo told the BBC they will appeal against the ruling, which they can do within 90 days.

The high court ruling in the civil case comes after a magistrate's court dismissed criminal charges filed against the senator by the Nigerian police. BBC

## Suspected separatists attack bus station in Ghana

Gunmen believed to be members of a secessionist group have attacked a bus station and burnt one vehicle in the town of Ho, in the Volta region in south-eastern Ghana.

Local media report that the attackers opened fire during the Tuesday morning incident.

They also held a security

guard hostage at gunpoint before beating up some drivers at the station.

Security forces have been deployed to restore calm.

On Friday, a group calling itself the Western Togoland Restoration Front attacked two police stations and exchanged fire with security officers, killing one person and leaving five others injured.

The separatists also stole 10

AK-47 assault rifles and a police vehicle in what is considered the most daring attack by the group. A manhunt has been launched for its leaders.

Five different groups have been campaigning for decades to form a new country called Western Togoland - made up of parts of Volta region and northern Ghana.

They claim the region has been marginalised by successive post-colonial administrations.

British-administered Togoland did not fall within the borders of the formerly Gold Coast region - which now defines most of modern-day Ghana.

But in 1956 its people voted to unite with the newly independent Ghana. The British parliament also enacted the Ghana Independence Act of 1957 to effect the union.

Now the territory wants its independence restored.

The latest string of attacks could pose a serious security risk as Ghana holds its elections in December. BBC



# EDITORIAL

## Stop the violence

**LIBERIA IS RETROGRESSING** gradually into violence of unimaginable proportion that could reverse hands of the clock and send this country once again nose-diving, amid a global pandemic.

**AHEAD OF MIDTERM** senatorial election in December, the country has witnessed spate of violence between supporters of the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change and loyalists of the opposition Collaborating Political Parties, threatening whatever is left of the economy and social peace.

**THIS IS DANGEROUS** and must claim attention of the Weah administration immediately. Opposition lawmakers Abraham Darius Dillon and Yekeh Kolubah have suffered attacks repeatedly in the past several months for criticizing the CDC administration. The latest saw the home of Montserrado County Electoral District#10 Representative Kolubah completely ransacked on Sunday, 27 September by mobilized youths believed to have come from the CDC just as it occurred in Zwedru, Grand Gedeh County few months back.

**THE GOVERNMENT APPEARS** to be comfortable with violence against members of the opposition, believing that such tactics would silence them into cowardice and submission. The ruling establishment is totally paranoid by criticisms, and is prepared to go after any citizen raising his or her voice, as is in the case of Dillon and Yekeh on critical issues.

**SURELY, THIS IS** not the type of democracy Liberians saw in the CDC and elected its standard bearer George Manneh Weah in 2017 as President. President Weah's conspicuous silence on the wave of violence across the country is not only worrisome, but disappointing.

**THIS IS EVEN** more dangerous as the country goes to the poll on December 8th to elect 15 senators with the ruling Coalition seeking absolute control of the Legislature, which it already has over both the House and the Senate.

**THE WEAH ADMINISTRATION** should understand that violently suppressing free speech and dissenting views are traits of dictatorship that undermine tolerance and national unity. The eastern European state of Belarus is a classic example of where tyrant rules with iron fist, crushing dissents at all cost.

**LIBERIA SHOULD NOT** be allowed to return to such atmosphere because our international partners, including the United States, the United Nations, ECOWAS and the African Union, among others invested a lot in this country to get us to where we are today as a people.

We call on the government to move quickly in ensuring the violence comes to an end no matter which side it emanated from to give way to democratic norms and practices, which are healthy for our democracy.

**IN THE SAME** vein, we want an immediate investigation into Sunday's violence that left Representative Kolubah's residence totally ransacked so that perpetrators are brought to justice. Anything short of that could be seen as government's complacency.

# COMMENTARY

By Joschka Fischer

## The Transatlantic Tragedy

*While today's mounting global disruptions have accelerated an ongoing shift in global power dynamics, neither China's rise nor the emergence of COVID-19 can be blamed for the West's lost primacy. The United States and the United Kingdom took care of that on their own, with a complacent Europe watching it happen.*

**B**ERLIN - Between the intensifying Sino-American drama and the persistent COVID-19 crisis, the world is undeniably undergoing fundamental, historic change. Seemingly immutable structures built up over many decades are suddenly exhibiting a high degree of malleability, or simply disappearing altogether.

In the ancient past, today's unprecedented developments would have put people on guard for signs of a coming apocalypse. In addition to the pandemic and geopolitical tensions, the world is also confronting the climate crisis, the balkanization of the global economy, and the far-reaching technological disruptions brought on by digitization and artificial intelligence.

Gone are the days when the West - led by the United States, with the support of its European and other allies - enjoyed unchallenged political, military, economic, and technological primacy. Thirty years after the end of the Cold War - when Germany was reunified and the US emerged as the world's sole superpower - the case for Western leadership is no longer credible, and East Asia, with an increasingly authoritarian and nationalistic China at the helm, is moving swiftly to replace it.

But it wasn't the escalating rivalry with China that weakened the West. Rather, the West's decline has been driven almost entirely by internal developments on both sides of the Atlantic, particularly - though not exclusively - within the Anglo-Saxon world. The United Kingdom's Brexit referendum and US President Donald Trump's election in 2016 marked a definitive break in the transatlantic commitment to liberal values and a global rules-based order, heralding the revival of a narrow-minded fixation on national sovereignty that has no future.

The transatlantic West, a concept embodied in the establishment of NATO after World War II, was the result of the military triumph of the US and UK in the Pacific and European theaters. It was these two countries' leaders who created the post-war order and its principal institutions, from the United Nations and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (the precursor to the World Trade Organization) to the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. As such, the "liberal world order" - and indeed "the West" generally - was wholly an Anglo-Saxon initiative, one that victory in the Cold War further vindicated.

But in the ensuing decades, the Anglo-Saxon world's powers have been exhausted, and many of its people have begun to long for a return to a mythical imperial golden age. The prospect of reclaiming past greatness has become a successful political slogan in both countries. Between Trump's "America First"

doctrine to UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson's effort to "take back control," the common denominator is a yearning to relive idealized moments of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

In practice, these slogans amount to a self-defeating reversal. The founders of an international order that enshrines democracy, the rule of law, collective security, and universal values are now dismantling it from within, thereby undercutting their own power. And this Anglo-Saxon self-destruction has created a vacuum, leading not to a new order but to chaos.

Of course, Europeans - starting with the Germans - are in no position to sit back complacently or point the finger at the Anglo-Saxons. By free-riding on security matters and simply shrugging their shoulders at persistently high trade surpluses, they, too, bear responsibility for today's nationalist resurgence.

If the West - as an idea and as a political bloc - is to survive, something will have to change. The US and the European Union will each be weaker alone than as a united front. But Europeans now have no other choice but to transform the EU into a genuine power player in its own right. A deep rift has opened up between continental Europeans - who must hold on to the traditional Western construct - and increasingly nationalistic Anglo-Saxons.

After all, Brexit is not really about pragmatic questions of trade; rather, it represents a fundamental break between two value systems. More to the point, what happens if Trump is re-elected in November? The transatlantic West almost certainly would not survive the next four years, and NATO would probably face an existential crisis, even if Europeans increase their defense spending in response to US demands. For Trump and his followers, the money isn't really the issue. Their primary concern is with American supremacy and European fealty.

By contrast, if former US Vice President Joe Biden is elected, the tone of transatlantic relations would certainly become friendlier. But there is no going back to the pre-Trump era. Even under a Biden administration, Europeans would not quickly forget the deep distrust that has been sown these past four years.

Whoever wins in November, the US will have to deal with a Europe that puts much greater stock in its own sovereignty - particularly on technological matters - than it has in the past. The cozy interdependencies of the immediate post-Cold War years are long gone. The relationship will have to be remodeled, and both sides will need to adjust. Europe will have to do much more to safeguard its own interests, and America would do well to understand that Europe's interests may diverge from its own.

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+231-775407211 Managing Editor: Othello B. Garblah; Editor-In-Chief: Jonathan

## O-PED

By Yanis Varoufakis

# The Redistribution Games

*Life is not the Olympics, where talent and training determine an athlete's performance. It's more like a Roman arena in which well-armed gladiators vanquish unarmed victims who lose not because they did not try hard enough, but because of the asymmetrical initial distribution of armor.*

**A**THENS - The Olympic 100-meter final is about to begin. The crowd roars at the sound of the starting gun. The sprinters are off. But, after 30 meters, the frontrunners slow down, as if in solidarity with the laggards. They have not chosen to do so, but new rules set strict limits on the maximum distance separating the winner from the last-place finisher.

Conservative opponents of income and wealth re-distribution have this kind of analogy in mind when they lament the "politics of envy." They envision the rich as sprinters that do-gooders want to slow down by law and through punitive taxes.

But life is not the Olympics, where talent and training determine an athlete's performance. It's more like a Roman arena in which well-armed gladiators vanquish unarmed victims who lose not because they did not try hard enough, but because of the asymmetrical initial distribution of armor.<sup>1</sup>

In the 1950s and 1960s, hard work and an innovative mind could perhaps be relied upon to lift people from poverty and propel them upward. But that was possible only because society imposed constraints on what the ultra-wealthy, bankers especially, were allowed to do with their money. Since those constraints were removed, with the collapse of the Bretton Woods system and the ensuing financialization of our economies, working long hours and showing immense flair may get one nowhere.

The problem facing most people, especially the young, is not that superstars like Warren Buffett are leaving them behind. It is that they are being held behind by stagnant investment and wages, owing to the simple fact that the wealthy get wealthier almost in their sleep, for reasons that have nothing to do with effort, entrepreneurship, or parsimony.

Even the great innovators are part of the problem. Jeff Bezos had foresight, revolutionized retail, and made a fortune. But what part of his \$200 billion is a reward for his smart thinking and entrepreneurship? And what part of his current wealth is simply a function of his previous wealth?

While it is impossible to answer such a question precisely, the greatest proportion of the world's wealth does not find its way to society's innovators or maintainers. As wealth accumulates in few hands, the rest of the economy gradually becomes a desert.

This is not news. We have always known that exorbitant market power underpins exorbitant wealth, which then feeds back into even greater market power. And this is the crux of the matter: Nothing retards productivity and depresses employment as efficiently as exorbitant market power. To invoke the conservative analogy, not even the fastest runners can win when the wealth commandeered by the ultra-rich turns the track into sand for everyone else. That's why the most soul-destroying poverty and the largest number of "deaths of despair" are observed in countries where wealth concentration is soaring.

What should we do about highly concentrated wealth? How do we redistribute it fairly and efficiently?

A wealth tax is much in vogue today. But no legally and politically feasible wealth tax can reduce substantially the current levels of crushing inequality. Moreover, it enables conservatives to cast doubt on wealth redistribution by asking pertinent questions: Should the state evict the poor heir of a good house if she can't afford to pay the wealth tax? How do we price an asset, such as a stamp collection, without first auctioning it off?

Fortunately, there are proven ways to redistribute wealth without violating anyone's rights or crossing ethical lines. In 1906, Theodore Roosevelt famously broke up Standard Oil and other cartels despite a chorus of opposition bemoaning his attack on innovation and entrepreneurship. Following the 1929 Wall Street collapse, another Roosevelt, Franklin Delano, faced the same chorus when he put the financial genie in a bottle. With these two moves, the Roosevelts effected a redistribution of wealth and power that nothing short of a revolution could accomplish.

Of course, the powerful find ways to shake off such shackles. After the Bretton Woods system collapsed in 1971, Wall Street and the cartels began to dominate again. Today, three megafirms, BlackRock, Vanguard, and State Street, own at least 40% of all American public companies and nearly 90% of those listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

Tacit collusion is rampant, because every CEO knows that the parent megafirm is likely to be talking to CEOs of rival companies that it also owns. The result is higher prices, less innovation, lower investment, and, naturally, stagnant wages.

Power was further concentrated after Wall Street imploded in 2008 and central banks began to pump rivers of money into the financial system. Levering up the central bank money, the gargantuan cartels used this liquidity to invent new forms of complex debt and to buy back their own shares, sending share prices (and, naturally, bonuses) into the stratosphere while starving the world of investment in quality jobs and green infrastructure.

Megafirms also indulged in another favorite pastime: usurping markets, buying politicians, and capturing regulators - in short, poisoning liberal democracy. By the time COVID-19 sent the real economy further into depression, the world of finance had decoupled fully from the real economy, turning capitalism into a type of techno-feudalism.

To end this regime, we must update the two Roosevelts' interventions. Instead of wasting energy on an ineffective wealth tax, progressives should concentrate on a three-pronged strategy.

First, central bank money must be exclusively directed to support public investment in the green transition and other public goods. Second, corporations that monopolize large marketplaces of their own making - as, say, Amazon and Facebook have done - should be broken up. Lastly, a proportion of large corporations' shares (perhaps 10%) should be deposited into a social equity fund to fund a universal basic dividend.

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## OPINION

By Andrew Sheng &amp; Xiao Geng

# Making Sense of China's New Plan

*From Made in China 2025 to the Belt and Road Initiative, the world has often misinterpreted pragmatic or strategic Chinese policies and projects as devious or destructive schemes. The same thing is happening today, in response to China's new Five-Year Plan.*

**H**ONG KONG - China's leaders are currently putting the finishing touches on the country's 14th Five-Year Plan, which will cover the 2021-25 period. But one aspect of the plan - the so-called dual-circulation strategy - is already attracting the world's attention. Many fear that China is "turning inward" just when the global economy is staring down the barrel of a recession. These fears are misplaced.

According to President Xi Jinping, the dual-circulation strategy means that China will rely mainly on "internal circulation" - the domestic cycle of production, distribution, and consumption - for its long-term development. This will reduce China's dependence on overseas markets and technology.

But that doesn't mean China is withdrawing from the world. To understand what it does mean, one must first comprehend how Chinese policymakers think about the country's long-term development trajectory.

Unlike Western leaders, who typically have degrees in law or economics, Chinese policymakers are mostly scientists and engineers. As a result, they are more likely to think in systemic terms. China's Five-Year Plans are crammed with engineering and systemic terms, such as "top-down architectural design," networks, platforms, and processes. This approach means that Chinese policymakers look beyond mainstream micro- and macroeconomic models to account also for meta- and meso-considerations.

At the meta- level, Chinese policymakers are dealing with what the father of the country's nuclear program, Qian Xuesen, called an "open complex giant system." As Qian and his co-authors noted, one cannot expect to manage such a system using "exact science," with its underlying reductionism. Instead, they should engage in "meta-synthetic engineering from the qualitative to the quantitative" - that is, a process of qualitative analysis followed by rigorous testing against empirical facts.

Deng Xiaoping summed up this approach with his axiom, "crossing the river by feeling the stones." Decades later, Nobel laureate Robert Shiller would take this concept further, showing how qualitative factors, such as popular stories, influence complex systems and are therefore essential to enable us to explain outcomes accurately.

At the meso- or institutional level, the dual-circulation strategy evolved out of the "circular economy" model - a systemic approach to reducing consumption and waste, thereby enabling natural-resource regeneration. The dual-circulation model is built on the recognition, derived from decades of manufacturing the world's goods, that supply chains operate through multiple cyclical production, distribution, and innovation processes that are endogenously self-coordinating and synchronizing.

When these processes, cycles, and feedback loops do not synchronize well with government policies and procedures - say, because taxes or bureaucratic barriers are too high - supply chains stall. The dual-circulation strategy aims to avoid such obstruction, by applying flexible, adaptive, institutional, and structural approaches.

Focusing on internal systems is crucial to this objective, not least because of increasing macroeconomic disturbances. For starters, the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted just how vulnerable our "just-in-time" global supply chains are to disruption, fueling calls for "deglobalization."

At the same time, tensions with the United States - China's largest trade partner - are escalating, exemplified by recent moves by President Donald Trump's administration to cripple the operation of the popular Chinese-owned mobile apps WeChat and TikTok in the US. Economic decoupling now seems likelier than ever.

China's dual-circulation strategy is a pragmatic response to the rapidly changing internal and external pressures the country faces. Policymakers' goal is to boost supply-chain and market resiliency by leveraging China's massive population of 1.4 billion - including 400 million middle-class consumers.

This brings us to micro-level considerations. Given China's meritocratic system, one generally reaches the highest levels of policymaking only after working at the development "frontlines": directly managing the construction of physical and social infrastructure in villages, cities, and provinces. This instills in Chinese leaders an awareness of people's needs and the dynamics of social and economic engineering that never dissipates.

Today, most Chinese enterprises, as well as local governments, are struggling to adjust to fast-changing domestic and international market conditions. The dual-circulation strategy will help, by creating freer and more unified national markets for physical, financial, and human capital, products and services, technology, and information. It will also ensure that all of the system's stakeholders know what to expect.

But strengthening internal production and consumption cycles does not mean destroying external trade, investment, tourism, and education networks; on the contrary, China is set to continue opening up its economy, especially its financial market. Rather, dual circulation means that external exchanges will be expanded and deepened in ways that complement the domestic economy.

If the rest of the world wants to cooperate in such ways - say, on developing green products and services - China will oblige. If it doesn't, China will rely on its own formidable strengths, from a large consumer base to fast-growing innovative capabilities, to sustain its growth and development. Simply put, if the world is not ready for cooperation, China will adapt to polarization.

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## ARTICLE

## ARTICLE

# Stop Raping Our Future

By Sara BeysolowNyanti

Liberia ranks 177th out of 188 countries in the annual global Gender Inequality Index. This already low positioning is at risk of sinking even lower if we fail to address the gender issues plaguing our nation, especially violence against women and girls.

We have already lost a generation to the trauma of war. We cannot afford to lose another generation to the trauma of rape... If Liberia is going to progress, we need these young minds leading the way.

Violence against women, girls and now even boys is one of the most pervasive human rights violations in our country. Sexual violence is at risk of being accepted as a social norm; and this should never be allowed. If we had almost 1000 murders or armed robberies between January and July, what would the response of every Liberian be? The almost 1000 reported cases of rape between January and July 2020 should outrage every well-meaning Liberian because one case is already too many.

I hail our grandmothers, mothers, aunties, sisters and daughters who collectively raised their voices to say enough is enough. I salute every man who stood in solidarity. Every Liberian should be saying enough is enough right now. If we are not saying this collectively, the question would then be why not. We should all be concerned about the future of Liberia if sexual violence is categorized based on political lenses. Rape is rape regardless of who runs the government or who stands in opposition to it. This is not about a political divide, but rather an issue that should unite us and galvanize us into action out of concern and love for our children. Our doctors, nurses, scientists, educators, astronauts, authors, diplomats, industrial agriculturalists and others are being destroyed. Almost 1000 of Liberia's future skillsets have been attacked. All of us need to rise and say enough is enough. Stop raping our children - stop raping our future. Liberia's future is being ripped into pieces - and enough is enough.

A lot has been done by many, but clearly it is not enough. I have seen the work of many civil society organizations, the government, donors and others, but it is still not enough; and we owe it to our babies to speak the truth and say that collectively, we have not done enough. Policies and guidelines are in place, structures have been set up, but they are clearly not enough. If we had done our best, the incidents would not be as high as they are. We should now be asking ourselves what else is required. Why have all the actions to date been insufficient? Where is the gap?

Could the problem be due to lack of political will? Is it due to a low level of awareness and knowledge at the household level? Or is it due to a high rate of young men who require rehabilitation or



The Author

psychosocial support? Is it the issue of insufficient deterrents? Maybe the weakness in identifying and prosecuting perpetrators is a contributing factor. It could be a combination of all these plus more. This is not about the clothes that women wear, because if it were, the 2-year-old, 6-month-old and other little baby girls would not have been raped.

To get to the root, it requires all of us to take a step back, have community conversations and talk to the population subgroup that is most often found to be the perpetrators. Let us all get involved. Let us commit to having rape free households, rape free communities - and yes, rape free churches and mosques. Rapists are everywhere. This is Liberians attacking Liberians - another form of a not so civil war; and the war must end.

Violence begets violence. Calling for castration and death penalty will not address the root causes. Violent crimes cannot and should not be addressed through other violent acts. Let us not divide ourselves over an evil that needs to be addressed and squashed in our nation. Let us come together to address the evil. We can do this by firstly appreciating the women who came out in large numbers to raise the volume on the issue. Beyond that, we need to take additional steps in solidarity against sexual and gender-based violence at all levels. We all have the responsibility to stop this trauma. We all have a role to play and we can strengthen our engagement as follows:

As Individuals: Let us teach our daughters and sons about danger signs for not only themselves, but their younger siblings as well. Let us educate our parents about the need to stop trusting beyond reason but putting the protection of the child at the heart of child-rearing. To each Liberian, stop rape in your household

and community. Accept the truth about that male who is molesting our children and do not let sympathy exceed the best interest of the child.

At the Community level: Let us have those community conversations using the existing community structures. Let us identify community champions and safe spaces where victims can speak freely without fear of judgement.

At the level of Government: Let us prioritize rape cases in our justice system and prosecute the accused. Continue to strengthen the one stop centers and ensure functionality and scale-up as required. Prioritize children in the Pro-Poor agenda and support the rollout of the UN/EU supported Spotlight Initiative with the highest levels of commitment. Seek out the voices of the communities and respond to their appeals. Allocate appropriate resources for service delivery for child protection and other areas addressing vulnerable women and children.

At the level of donors: Provide additional technical and financial assistance to strengthen community-based and civil society organizations who are already championing SGBV in our communities.

In my personal capacity as a Liberian, I have continued to contribute to social programs outside of my official duties. Most recently, and in response to the escalation of rape cases, I built and launched the Rainbow Community Learning Hut for Adolescent Girls aged 10-19 years. The learning hut has a paid female teacher and a paid female social worker to teach 30 girls after school, but to also give them knowledge and skills on prevention of SGBV.

Through the Development Brokers and its Social Movement for Change (SM4C), I will continue to build more learning huts - a self-designed model from experiences around the world. I say this not to hail myself because this is only a drop in the bucket compared to the needs around the country. However, if all of us give a drop of effort, things will change.

*About the Author: Sara BeysolowNyanti is a Liberian who has a global leadership role in international development. She formerly served Liberia as the Programme Manager of the National AIDS Control Program (NACP) of the Ministry of Health; authored Liberia's first Global Fund proposal for HIV/AIDS for Liberia; and set up the first Global Fund unit for delivering HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria grants in Liberia. She has since served in over 7 countries leading humanitarian and development programmes: including serving as Team Leader for Management and Coordination in Nigeria's Ebola response. She can be reached at sara.nyanti@gmail.com.*



MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# Supreme Court will hear all electoral cases

**-Chief Justice Korkpor**  
By Ben P. Wese

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Liberia His Honor Justice Francis Korkpor, has disclosed during the special sitting session at the Supreme Court that the Court will only give opinions on cases about elections, while Justices are on break.

Justice Jamesetta Wolokollie, who is on medical leave, because of the many election cases coming to this honorable court, as you are aware last week Friday, the Collaborating Political Parties filed a writ of mandamus," the Chief Justice said here on Monday, 28 September while speaking in the chambers of the High Court. He explained that though the special senatorial election

applicable," Chief Justice Korkpor added.

He called on lawyers not to harbor fear, noting that if lawyers are to judge the court, it should be from a standpoint rather than assumption.

The Chief Justice continued that Justices at the Supreme Court are more concerned of their role, being the court of last result, so they will hear all election-related cases, saying "We want to assure the public that we will do the right thing."

Last Friday, the Collaborating Politick Parties (CPP) filed a Writ of Mandamus before the Supreme Court, praying on the High Court to instruct the National Elections Commission to, among other concerns, clean up the Voter Roll before the December election.

The CPP includes the Unity Party (UP), Liberty Party (LP), Alternative National Congress (ANC) and the All Liberia Party (ALP). In their joint petition, they said, "cleaning the Voter's Roll will clothe the process with credibility, accountability and fairness and is in furtherance of Chapter 1, Article 1 of the 1986 Constitution."

The petition is presently before Chamber Justice of the Supreme Court, Associate Justice Sie-A-Nyene Gyapay Yuoh. **-Editing by Jonathan Browne**



According to Chief Justice Korkpor, despite the break and due to the pending special senatorial election on December 8, 2020, the Supreme Court will still hear cases emanating from the polls because they are critical to the peace of the country. "I have already called

was moved from October 8 to December 8, 2020, the Court will remain open during and after the election to hear disputes that may emerge.

"I will like to assure the public that this court will always be the court that will decide based on what it sees and what law and facts are

# Senate confirms Kemayah

By Ethel A. Tweh

In spite of facing sexual harassment allegations levied by his staff, Mr. Dee Maxwell Kemayah has been confirmed Liberia's Minister of Foreign Affairs by majority members of the Liberian Senate, a sign of defeat for those suggesting that the allegation could dim Liberia's diplomatic image if not judicially cleared before his confirmation.

The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations has recommended to the Plenary of the Liberian senate that Mr. Dee-Maxwell Kemayah be confirmed as Foreign Minister and the lady who has accused the nominee should take the matter to court.

Montserrado County Senator Abraham Darius Dillon

ear. Dillon claims that the Senate Foreign Relations Committee proceeded wrongly from the outset of the Kemayah hearing.

"This lady could be lying or saying the truth against Mr. Kemayah, but let's hear from the accuser. Kemayah could be innocent but failing to do due diligence will cause a problem further," Dillon argues.

Meanwhile, the Senate committee's report says that there is a thin line between the Legislature and the Judiciary branch of government.

It says in as much as it takes sexual harassment, it requires a full and detailed investigation, suggesting that the committee does not have the tools of police and



confirmed Tuesday, 29 September that the majority of the senators voted that the nominee be confirmed.

Mr. Dillon, an opposition senator laments that the Liberian Senate has blundered again because due diligence wasn't given in the confirmation hearing.

According to Dillon, this is the same wrong proceeding that makes Nigerian-born Cllr. A NudubusiNwabudike to be the head of a credible institution like the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission when he has credibility issues.

According to him, Kemayah has all of the academic credentials to serve the position, but when there is an issue of concern, it is fair to give the complaint a listening

investigative agencies to establish a legal merit and demerit of the case.

The report also says that the committee is doing what the Constitution provides for the Legislature by doing administrative hearing, noting that the administrative hearing finds the nominee fit and suitable in all aspects required.

However the committee urges any of the parties that is not pleased to go to court to get appropriate remedy and justice.

The report also says that after legal consultations, it was advised not to do any hearing via zoom because the investigation was not a teleconference type. **--Edited by Winston W. Parley**

# Bong senatorial aspirant wants better law for health workers

By Joseph Titus Yekeryan in Bong County

Bong County senatorial aspirant Dorothy Tooman is calling on members of the Legislature to begin the enactment of comprehensive long-term health strategies that would prevent future strikes by health workers.

Speaking recently, the former Development Education Network of Liberia (DEN-L) Executive Director maintained that there is a need for government to design a holistic strategy that would provide clear understanding on how social benefits and incentives of health workers would be adequately settled if they must disengage their strike actions and go back to work.

She warns that strike actions will continue to paralyze the Liberian health



sector if the government, especially the Legislature doesn't develop a system that will ably address the needs of Liberia.

She adds that it is saddening to note that instead of the government finding amicable ways to adequately address the

current strike-actions through dialogues, the government is making the situation worse with derogatory statements that have the propensity to stimulate chaos in the health sector of the country.

According to her,

threatening to replace dissatisfied workers is not a solution to the problem, but a means of making the problem worse.

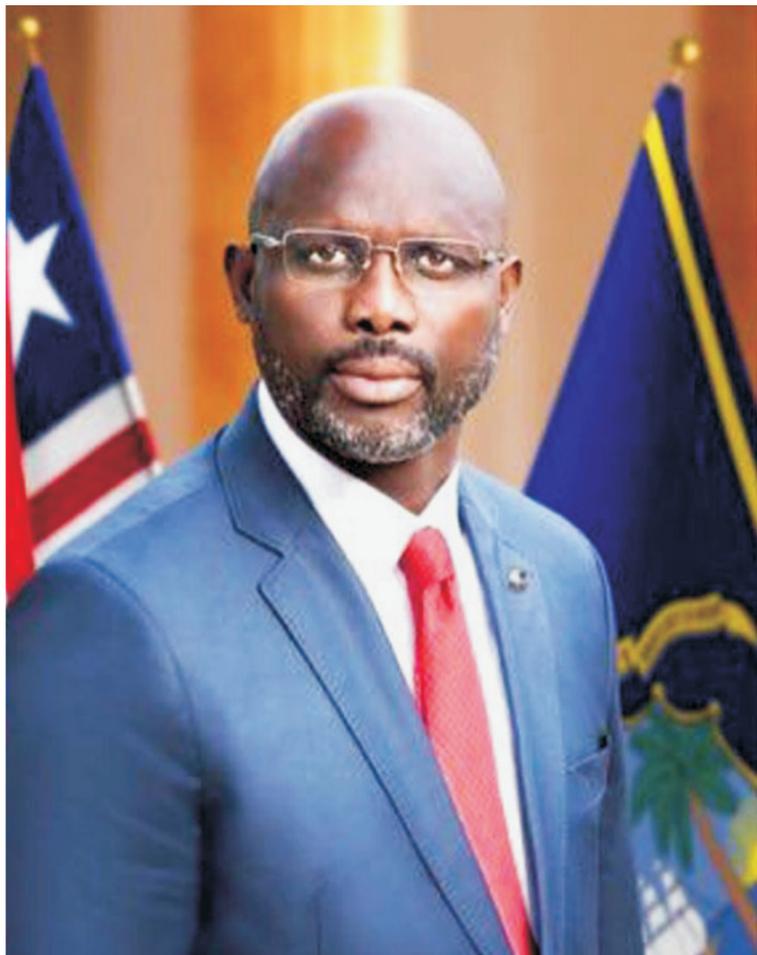
"How can you say that you



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**2017 election grudge rocks CDC?**

By Winston W. Parley

**G**rudge from past presidential and general elections could be rocking the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) internally, judging from constituent party National Patriotic Party (NPP) Senator H. Dan Morias’ claim before court of CDC disregarding his re-election bid due to his alleged failure to support its 2017 presidential bid.

The CDC and Mr. Morias are before the Supreme Court of Liberia on an appeal filed against him on 16 September by the ruling party, asking the high court to reverse the National Elections Commission (NEC’s) decision that the legislative seat in Maryland County belongs to NPP.

The ruling party accuses Mr. Morias of operating against the coalition which comprises the Congress for Democratic Change (CDC), Liberian People Democratic Party (LPDP) and NPP during the 2017 elections and allegedly continues to behave hostile toward the CDC legislative agenda in the Senate up to present.

In its appeal before the Supreme Court, the CDC claims that “the purported primary/selection”

was negotiated and signed in 2016, he and few NPP members overtly declared their disagreement with it.

However, Senator H. Dan Morias informs the Supreme Court that in keeping with the NPP’s internal party rules, he participated in the senatorial primary by NPP’s Maryland Chapter on 18 June 2020 and emerged as the winner on NPP’s ticket and by operation of the coalition agreement on the coalition’s ticket.

Morias says the CDC insists that he is not entitled to benefit from the coalition agreement of the CDC due to his alleged failure to support the party’s 2017 presidential and general elections bid, thereby preferring to pick another senatorial candidate for the CDC’s ticket in Maryland.

According to Morias, an addendum to the formation agreement of the CDC which was executed states that elections of legislative candidates of the coalition shall conform to the provisions of Article 77(b) of the 1986 Constitution of Liberia and other provisions relating to political parties and independent candidates.

Additionally, he says the addendum



Senator H. Dan Morias



Chairman Mulbah Morlu

allegedly conducted by the Maryland and Gbarpolu Counties Chapters of the NPP is simply a facade intended to create disharmony within the coalition and mislead the NEC.

Despite Mr. Morias’ election in NPP’s Maryland County primary for the 8 December senatorial election, the CDC chose to elect a different senatorial candidate for the ruling party’s ticket, prompting the legal battle with Morias.

Having heard the internal disagreement between Morias and the CDC, the NEC ruled that the ruling party shall not conduct any primary for the senatorial seat in Maryland County, adding that right to nomination of a candidate to contest the senatorial seat in Maryland is reserved to the NPP.

But CDC contends that the decision of the NEC Hearing Officer was not in the right direction, claiming further that the NEC’s Board of Commissioners also turned blind eyes on this contention.

CDC concludes that Morias has no standing to sue CDC under the coalition agreement because he was not a party because he was elected to the Senate on NPP ticket in 2011 and that when the coalition agreement

to the formation agreement of the CDC indicates that parties to the coalition which have seats in the legislature shall reserve the right of nomination to those seats.

In constituencies/counties where there is no incumbent coalition member, he argues that the document states that the legislative candidate in that constituency shall be selected by consensus or primaries where applicable.

Considering that NPP is the incumbent coalition member occupying the senatorial seat of Maryland County which is up for re-election on 8 December, Senator Morias says through a letter to NPP’s National Executive Committee expressed his intention to seek re-election on NPP’s ticket.

He says he participated in the senatorial primary in Maryland on 18 June and emerged as the winner of the primary to contest on NPP’s ticket and by operation of the coalition agreement, on the coalition’s ticket.

Notwithstanding, Morias says on 1 July, CDC issued and published what it referred to as “Guidelines for the 2020

# Français

## Violences électorales : Le Libéria sur le bord de l'explosion

La nation du Libéria semble être au bord d'un autre cycle de crise en prélude à des élections sénatoriales cruciales prévues pour avoir lieu le 8 décembre 2020, si l'on n'y prend garde.

Quelques 15 sièges sénatoriaux sont à pouvoir en décembre, dont les comtés de Montserrado, Grand Bassa et Bomi, qui sont les plus disputés par le parti de

l'ancienne star du football George Weahet les candidats de la plateforme de l'opposition.

La CPP (Collaboration des partis politiques) est composée du Parti de l'unité (ancien parti au pouvoir), de l'Alternative National Congress (ANC), du Liberty Party (LP) et All Liberian Party (ALP)).

Déjà, l'on a enregistré une série d'affrontements violents opposant les militants du député Thomas Fallah (candidat

de la Coalition pour le changement démocratique, au pouvoir) et ceux du sénateur sortant Darius Dillon (opposition) pour le contrôle de Montserrado.

À Bomi, où l'ancien président de la Chambre des représentants Alex Tyler et le représentant Edwin Snowe se battent pour renverser le sénateur sortant Sando

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



## La Côte d'Ivoire, premier pays africain au sous-sol pauvre à dépasser en richesse un pays d'Amérique hispanique

Après avoir réussi l'exploit de dépasser le Ghana et le Nigeria, deux pays regorgeant de richesses naturelles, la Côte-d'Ivoire, pays francophone d'Afrique de l'Ouest, vient de dépasser le Nicaragua pour devenir le premier pays africain au sous-sol pauvre de l'histoire à devancer un pays d'Amérique hispanique.

Selon les statistiques récemment publiées par la Banque mondiale, le PIB par habitant de la Côte d'Ivoire s'établissait à 2 286 dollars fin 2019, soit un niveau désormais supérieur à celui du Nicaragua (1 913 dollars). Ce dernier avait, en fait, déjà été dépassé au cours de l'année 2018, mais ce n'est qu'après la récente mise à jour de la base de calcul

du PIB de la Côte d'Ivoire (comme, avant elle, pour le Ghana et le Nigeria) que cette évolution a pu être mise en évidence.

Un événement historique, dû à une croissance record

La Côte d'Ivoire est donc aujourd'hui le seul pays africain au sous-sol pauvre à devancer en richesse un pays d'Amérique hispanique (or très petits pays de taille négligeable et de moins de 1,5 million d'habitants, majoritairement insulaires et ne pouvant être pris en compte pour de pertinentes comparaisons). Ce pays de six millions d'habitants, situé en Amérique centrale et faisant partie des 18 pays du continent à avoir l'espagnol pour langue officielle, a par ailleurs une population aux deux tiers exclusivement ou majoritairement d'ascendance européenne. Ce qui fait de cette origine la principale des origines présentes dans le pays, loin devant les racines amérindienne et africaine.

L'importante progression

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



## Éditorial

### Arrêtez la violence

Le Libéria est en passe de renouer progressivement avec la violence d'une envergure inimaginable qui risque de renverser le sens des aiguilles de l'horloge et provoquer la chute libre de ce pays, en plein pandémie mondiale.

En prélude aux élections sénatoriales de mi-mandat qui doivent avoir lieu en décembre, le pays assiste à une vague d'affrontements entre militants des partis rivaux (la Coalition pour le changement démocratique au pouvoir et la collaboration des partis politiques), menaçant tout ce qui reste de l'économie et de la paix sociale.

Cette situation est dangereuse. Ainsi interpellons-nous l'administration Weah à prendre immédiatement des mesures. Des députés issus de l'opposition (Abraham Darius Dillon et Yekeh Kolubah) sont quotidiennement victimes d'attaques ces derniers mois pour avoir critiqué le régime en place. Le dimanche 27 décembre, le domicile du représentant de la circonscription électorale n° 10 du comté de Montserrado, Yekeh Kolubah, a été complètement saccagé par des jeunes militants du CDC, à l'image de ce qui s'était produit à Zwedru, dans le comté de Grand Gedeh, il y a quelques mois.

Le gouvernement semble être à l'aise face à la violence faite aux militants de l'opposition, tout en espérant pouvoir ainsi museler l'opposition. Le régime en place est totalement paranoïaque et allergique aux critiques, ainsi s'en prend-il à tout citoyen qui ose lever la voix sur les questions critiques, comme c'est le cas de Dillon et Yekeh.

Ce n'est certainement pas le type de démocratie que les Libériens ont vu dans le CDC en élisant son leader politique George Manneh Weah en 2017 à la présidence. Le silence assourdissant du président Weah sur la vague de violence à travers le pays est non seulement inquiétant, mais décevant.

C'est d'autant plus dangereux que le pays se rendra aux urnes le 8 décembre pour élire 15 sénateurs avec la Coalition au pouvoir cherchant le contrôle absolu de l'Assemblée législative.

L'administration Weah devrait comprendre que la suppression violente de la liberté d'expression et des opinions dissidentes sont des traits de dictature qui sapent la tolérance et l'unité nationale. L'État de l'Europe de l'Est, la Biélorussie, est un exemple classique de l'endroit où le tyran règne d'une main de fer, écrasant à tout prix les voix dissidentes.

Le Libéria n'a pas intérêt à retourner dans une telle cacophonie parce que nos partenaires internationaux, y compris les États-Unis, les Nations Unies, la CEDEAO et l'Union africaine, entre autres, ont beaucoup investi dans ce pays pour nous amener là où nous en sommes aujourd'hui en tant que peuple.

Nous demandons au gouvernement d'agir rapidement en faisant en sorte que la violence cesse afin que règne la norme démocratique qui est indispensable au développement. Nous exigeons une enquête immédiate sur les violences de dimanche.

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# Français

## Violences électorales :

Johnson, de violents affrontements y ont éclaté.

Le vendredi 25 septembre 2020, quelques heures après que la CPP a déposé sa requête devant la Cour suprême demandant la suspension du processus de révision de la liste électorale entreprise par la Commission électorale nationale et le parti au pouvoir, des affrontements ont été signalés entre la police et les militants de la plateforme de l'opposition au siège du Parti de la Liberté près du carrefour catholique à Monrovia.

Comme si cela ne suffisait pas, le dimanche 27 septembre 2020, des inconnus ont attaqué et vandalisé le domicile du représentant Yekeh Kolubah, membre du Congrès national alternatif (opposition).

L'ANC, que représente le député Kolubah à la Chambre des représentants, a publié lundi une déclaration condamnant l'attaque et accusant le régime de l'avoir commanditée. L'ANC craint que les opposants au régime actuel ne bénéficient d'aucune protection, en violation des lois libériennes.

« C'est inacceptable et contre-productif pour le maintien de la paix et de la tranquillité au profit du peuple libérien », a ajouté le communiqué.

« Nous appelons donc tous les Libériens bien intentionnés, les dirigeants et les membres d'autres partis politiques, les organisations de la société civile et nos partenaires internationaux (représentants de l'ONU, de l'UA, de la CEDEAO, de l'UE et du gouvernement américain) qui ont travaillé sans relâche pour garantir la paix au Libéria à demander au gouvernement CDC de mettre fin à ces actes de violence politique », a déclaré l'ANC, tout en appelant à une enquête indépendante

## La Côte d'Ivoire, premier pays africain

de la Côte d'Ivoire résulte de la très forte croissance que connaît le pays depuis plusieurs années. Sur la période de huit années allant de 2012 à 2019 (et hors micro-États, et plus précisément Nauru, pays insulaire du Pacifique sud ne comptant que 11 mille habitants et pour un territoire de seulement 21 km<sup>2</sup>), la Côte d'Ivoire a réalisé la plus forte croissance au monde dans la catégorie des pays ayant un PIB par habitant supérieur ou égal à 1

complète sur la situation et avertissant le gouvernement libérien qu'il assumera l'entière responsabilité de toute atteinte à la paix.

Dans une interview lundi, le représentant Kolubah a affirmé que les hommes impliqués avaient été aperçus plus tôt avec le maire Jefferson Kojee de la ville de Monrovia.

Il a affirmé que sa sécurité l'avait appelé pour l'informer de ce que Kojee était venu ouvrir un supermarché juste à côté de sa résidence.

« Selon ma sécurité, quand il passait, il a dit : "oh, voici la maison de Yekeh". Il a dit "oh, cet endroit sale est où vit l'homme qui metsa bouche sur le président ? Il faut arracher le toit !" » a dit Yekeh.

« Alors ma sécurité m'a appelé, j'ai décidé de me rendre sur les lieux. Quand j'y suis arrivé, j'ai vu mon ancien agent de sécurité Keita, j'ai obtenu un enregistrement. En cas d'une enquête indépendante sur cette affaire, je fournirai des preuves qui montrent que ces gens ont été aidés par la police », a-t-il affirmé.

« La police a vu Keita diriger une troupe pour endommager ma propriété. J'ai des preuves. Je ne peux pas les donner à la police, je ne peux pas les donner au ministère de la Justice », a-t-il dit.

« Les gens ont détruit mon toit, détruit mes voitures. Ils sont allés dans mon bureau. Vous savez, mon bureau est à mon domicile. Ils ont tout fait sauter. Ils ont emporté la télévision qui était dans mon bureau », a ajouté le représentant Kolubah.

Les autorités de la police nationale libérienne ont publié une déclaration disant qu'elles avaient arrêté 14 personnes en relation avec le vandalisme. Elles ont fait croire qu'au moins (14) personnes feraient l'objet d'une enquête policière concernant l'incident violent.

000 dollars, avec une croissance annuelle de 8,2 % en moyenne (6,9 % en 2019). Plus impressionnant encore, elle se classe deuxième toutes catégories confondues, pays très pauvres inclus, faisant ainsi mieux que 30 des 31 pays au monde qui avaient un PIB par habitant inférieur à 1 000 dollars début 2012. La Côte d'Ivoire n'est alors dépassée que par l'Éthiopie, qui a connu une croissance annuelle de 9,2 % en moyenne (8,3 % en 2018). Une performance.

## COMMENTAIRE

Par Joschka Fischer

## La tragédie transatlantique

**B**ERLIN - Entre les péripéties d'un duel sino-américain de plus en plus tendu et la persistance de la crise du Covid-19, le monde vit indubitablement un changement profond, historique. Des édifices apparemment immuables, bâtis voici de nombreuses décennies font soudain preuve d'une extrême malléabilité, ou disparaissent purement et simplement.

Dans les temps anciens, les événements sans précédents du temps présent auraient persuadé aux populations inquiètes de scruter les signes d'une apocalypse à venir. Outre la pandémie et les tensions géopolitiques, le monde est aussi confronté à la crise climatique, à la balkanisation de l'économie mondiale et aux profondes perturbations technologiques engendrées par la numérisation et l'intelligence artificielle.

Les jours ne sont plus où l'Occident - sous la houlette des États-Unis soutenus par leurs alliés, notamment européens - jouissait d'une primauté politique, militaire, économique et technologique incontestée. Trente ans après la fin de la guerre froide - quand l'Allemagne s'est réunifiée et que les États-Unis sont apparus comme l'unique superpuissance -, rien ne justifie plus l'hégémonie occidentale, et l'Asie orientale, avec une Chine de plus en plus autoritaire et nationaliste à sa tête, s'avance, prête, sans tarder, à la remplacer.

Mais ce n'est pas dans l'aggravation de la rivalité avec la Chine qu'il faut chercher l'affaiblissement de l'Occident. Ce sont ses développements internes qui, des deux côtés de l'Atlantique, ont presque entièrement précipité son déclin, particulièrement, quoiqu'il n'en ait pas l'exclusivité, au sein du monde anglo-saxon. Le référendum sur le Brexit au Royaume-Uni et l'élection aux États-Unis du président Donald Trump en 2016 ont marqué une coupure décisive dans ce qui avait été l'engagement transatlantique en faveur des valeurs libérales et d'un ordre mondial fondé sur des règles, et cette coupure présageait la résurrection d'une obsession bornée pour une souveraineté nationale sans avenir.

L'Occident transatlantique, idée qu'incarrait la création de l'OTAN après la Seconde Guerre mondiale, était le produit du triomphe militaire des États-Unis et du Royaume-Uni sur les théâtres pacifique et européen. Ce sont les dirigeants de ces deux pays qui ont créé l'ordre de l'après-guerre et ses principales institutions, des Nations Unies et de l'Accord général sur les tarifs douaniers et le commerce (le précurseur de l'Organisation mondiale du commerce) à la Banque mondiale et au Fonds monétaire international. En tant que tel, l'« ordre libéral du monde » - et bien sûr, d'une manière générale, l'« Occident » - était tout entier une initiative anglo-saxonne, dont la victoire à l'issue de la guerre froide renforçait encore la légitimité.

Mais au cours des décennies qui ont suivi, les forces du monde anglo-saxon se sont épuisées et, dans sa population, beaucoup se sont mis à rêver au retour d'un âge d'or impérial et mythique. La perspective d'une restitution de la grandeur passée est devenue, dans les deux pays, un slogan politique gagnant. Entre la doctrine de « L'Amérique d'abord » de Trump et les appels du Premier ministre du Royaume-Uni Boris Johnson à

« reprendre le contrôle », le dénominateur commun est un ardent désir de revivre les temps idéalisés des XIXe et XXe siècles.

En pratique, ces slogans conduisent à un retour en arrière voué à l'échec. Les fondateurs de l'ordre international, qui ont consacré la démocratie, l'État de droit, la sécurité collective et les valeurs universelles, sont désormais occupés à le démanteler de l'intérieur, et par conséquent à détruire les fondements de leur propre puissance. Et cette autodestruction anglo-saxonne crée un vide, qui ne conduit pas à un nouvel ordre mais au chaos.

Certes, les Européens, à commencer par les Allemands, seraient malvenus à jouer les spectateurs complaisants ou à pointer du doigt les Anglo-Saxons. Parce qu'ils se sont trop peu intéressés aux questions de défense ou ont persisté à minimiser l'importance des surplus commerciaux, ils portent eux aussi une part de responsabilité dans la résurgence actuelle des nationalismes.

Si l'Occident, comme idée et comme bloc politique, veut survivre, quelque chose doit changer. Les États-Unis et l'Union européenne seront l'un et l'autre plus faibles s'ils sont séparés que s'ils forment un front uni. Mais les Européens n'ont aujourd'hui d'autre choix que de faire de l'Union un véritable acteur, en tant que tel, de la puissance. Une faille profonde s'est ouverte entre les Européens du continent - à qui revient la tâche de poursuivre la construction occidentale - et des Anglo-Saxons de plus en plus nationalistes.

Car le Brexit n'est pas vraiment affaire de pragmatisme et de relations commerciales ; il représente plutôt une rupture fondamentale entre deux systèmes de valeurs. Pour poser clairement la question, que se passera-t-il si Trump est réélu en novembre ? Il est presque certain que l'Occident transatlantique ne survivrait pas à quatre années supplémentaires, et l'OTAN devrait probablement faire face à une crise existentielle, même si les Européens augmentaient, conformément aux exigences des États-Unis, leurs dépenses de défense. Pour Trump et ses partisans, il ne s'agit pas vraiment d'argent. Ce qui leur importe d'abord, c'est la suprématie américaine et l'allégeance européenne.

Si, en revanche, l'ancien vice-président Joe Biden est élu, les relations transatlantiques prendront certainement un tour plus amical. Mais il n'y aura pas de retour à l'ère d'avant Trump. Même avec une administration Biden, les Européens n'oublieront pas facilement la profonde défiance semée au cours des quatre années qui se sont écoulées.

Quel que soit le vainqueur en novembre, les États-Unis devront compter avec une Europe qui accordera beaucoup plus d'importance à sa souveraineté, notamment pour ce qui concerne la technologie, qu'elle ne l'a fait par le passé. Les interdépendances complices des années qui ont suivi la guerre froide sont révolues depuis longtemps. L'Europe devra se montrer beaucoup plus attentive à la protection de ses propres intérêts, et l'Amérique comprendra opportunément que ceux-ci puissent diverger des siens.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

“NaFAA to issue sanitary certificates on fish products”

-Says DG Glassco

The Director General of the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA) says the fisheries agency will shortly begin issuing sanitary certificates to institutions or individuals importing and exporting fish

recent signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA).

According to Madam Emma Metieh Glassco, NaFAA and MOA Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will ensure the conduct of quality assurance inspection of fish and fishery products and will include establishing the

other things be responsible to control fish handling, storing, landing, transportation, processing and marketing of fish and fish products.

The NaFAA Boss further stated that, NaFAA shall inspect operational fishery enterprises for compliance with fish safety regulations within the Republic of Liberia.

Mrs. Glassco noted that NaFAA shall specify conditions for the placing on the market of fish, fish products and fish feed, monitor possession, import, export, transportation, selling, receiving, of fish and fishery products, test and issue sanitary certificate for all fish and fish products leaving Liberia.

During the signing of the MoU, Glassco stated that NaFAA will inspect all fish and fish products leaving and entering Liberia including cold storage facilities to ensure the quality of fish sold to the public or exported from Liberia.

The MoU further states that MOA shall have the responsibilities to regulate the export of plants and livestock products to conserve dwindling species and protect the food supplies of Liberia.

The MoU mentioned that where there are fish or fish products above 20% in volume and more than 5kg in a parcel, such consignment shall obtain

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and fish products through the airports, postal services and land borders in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) for parcel/consignment containing above 20% in volume and more than 5kg of fish product; following the

terms and conditions under which documentation is required for export of fish and fishery products through exit points mentioned above.

Madam Glassco in a press release issued Thursday September 29, 2020, also stated that NaFAA shall among

American joins Grand Kru senatorial race?

-As NEC investigates today

By E. J. Nathaniel Daygbor

The Hearing Officer at the National Elections Commission, Cllr. Muana Ville will today, September 30, listen to a complaint against one of the senatorial contenders, Dr. Alfred Segbe, in the pending Grand Kru County December 08, 2020, Special Senatorial election. The complaint against Dr. Segbe is an American citizen.

The complaint which was filed by another candidate, Lawrence Snor Clake alleges that Dr. Segbe is an American citizen who is venturing in the

rival candidates which is due to begin hearing at 4PM local time on Wednesday comes at the time the Supreme Court has announced that it will hear all cases involving disputes.

The petition further that Dr. Segbe holds an official passport of the United States something which puts him in contravention of Article 30 of the 1986 Constitution of the Republic of Liberia.

The Constitution stipulates that "Only citizens of Liberia shall be eligible for election to the National Legislature of Liberia".



political space of the country at the expense of natural and true born citizens who are willing to serve the people.

According to a communication written on September 29, 2020, under the signature of Mr. Emmanuel K. Kerkula, Chief Dispute Hearing Clerk, Mr. Clake listed a seven count objections against Dr. Segbe.

The case between the two

The petitioner and or objector who is calling for NEC to disqualify or withdraw Dr. Segbe's nomination claimed to have in their possession copies of Dr. Segbe's American passport and the Immigration Entry Form filed in by him upon arrival at the Roberts International Airport (RIA) indicating that he is an American citizen. -Edited by Othello B. Garblah

Spotlight Initiative supports COVID-19 and SGBV survivors

Spotlight Initiative, through UNFPA, has provided deployment kits for 105 Mental Health Clinicians and Social Workers through the Mental Health and Psychosocial (MHPSS) Pillar under the supervision of the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection in Liberia.

The initiative is part of efforts to support the mental health and psychosocial needs of COVID-19 survivors, affected communities as well as survivors of sexual and gender-based violence. The deployment kits include rain gears, nose masks, hand sanitizers, and visibility jackets, among others.

According to a press release, UNFPA also presented a Backup Server and accessories to the Gender Based Violence Incident



Deputy Minister for Gender and Acting Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection, Madam Alice Johnson-Howard signs for the equipment and supplies as UNFPA Representative Dr. Bannet Ndyanabangi looks on.

Management System to enhance GBV data collection, analysis and dissemination besides the kits.

The Mental Health Clinicians and Social Workers were recently trained in collaboration with UNICEF, the Carter Center and the Ministry of Health.

Speaking on Monday, 28 September, at the Ministerial Complex in Congo Town when he handed the items over to Madam Alice Johnson-Howard, Deputy Minister for Gender and Acting Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection, UNFPA Representative Dr.

Bannet Ndyanabangi said the Spotlight Initiative would continue to support all interventions geared at reduction of the prevalence of sexual and gender-based violence and harmful practices and increase in women's and girls' access to sexual and reproductive health and rights.

In response, the Deputy Minister for Gender and Acting Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection, lauded the EU-funded Spotlight Initiative and the United Nations for supporting the Government's efforts to tackle violence against women and girls and ensure women's

quality access to sexual and reproductive health services especially during the period of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In addition to the training and provision of deployment kits to the 105 Mental Health Clinicians and Social Workers, the Spotlight Initiative is also providing transportation allowance and recharge cards to the 105 MHPSS service providers involved with the response in the five Spotlight counties.

Since the discovery of the first COVID-19 positive case in Liberia, the Spotlight Initiative through the UN has stepped up

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# L\$4 billion 'insufficient'

Central Bank of Liberia (CBL) Deputy Governor-Designate for Operations says the Bank is ensuring that the newly printed L\$ 4 billion (Four Billion Liberian Dollars) is in circulation.

Appearing Tuesday, September 29, in the chambers of the Liberian Senate, in Monrovia for her confirmation proceedings before the Senate's Banking and Currency Committee, Madam Nyemadid Pearson says the amount printed is not

mutilated banknotes that come to the CBL does not go back in circulation.

According to her, going back will undermine the efforts of the Bank to get the mutilated notes off the market.

Madam Pearson further called for the printing of additional notes in five, ten and fifty notes to replace the existing mutilated ones.

"Senators, the amount printed is small, so you will not feel the impact of the new money" she noted.

The nominee pointed out

macroeconomics climax.

Touching on achievements as Acting Governor for Operations, the nominee revealed that the current Team at the bank ensured the outsourcing of the internal audit function of the CBL to lend credibility to the internal control processes of the bank, a prior action, she said was demanded by the IMF.

Additionally, Pearson said the CBL supported government's efforts in negotiating an IMF-support program to Liberia.



sufficient for the market.

According to a dispatch from the senate's press and public relations department quoting Madam Pearson, there is L\$21 billion in circulation significant portion of which are mutilated notes on the market. This, she said makes the Four Billion Liberian Dollars grossly insufficient to address the issue of mutilated banknotes here.

She further indicated that the CBL is doing everything possible to ensure that the

that if confirmed she will work to implement effective operational policies to sustain the gains already made by the bank. Madam Pearson promised that she will also work with the current team at the Bank to ensure that the CBL continue to run credible budgets, follow all requisite and statutory policies to procure currency and institute efficient banking operations.

Madam Pearson pledged to support the management team of the CBL to sustain the relatively stable

The Deputy Bank Governor-designate also told the Committee that as acting deputy governor she closely worked with her Colleagues to ensure that the CBL comply with all commitment under the IMF program, including monetary policy that will promote macroeconomics stability, Governance of the bank and internal controls, as well as strengthening the Country's international reserves position amongst others. *-Edited by Othello B. Garblah*

# Bong senatorial

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will replace professional Doctors with people who are still considered as students? Does it make any sense to do that or do you want our people to die?" she asks.

Madam Tooman argues that no amount of statements from the government can pressure health workers to work, maintaining that constructive engagement is the best way forward in reaching a logical conclusion of the prevailing situation across the country.

In order to ensure a flourishing health system and curtail continued strike actions by health workers across the country, Madam Tooman suggests that there is a

need that citizens elect characters who are knowledgeable of the prevailing situations in the country and have the expertise in developing programs that would address them.

According to a 2006 health survey, Liberia has 5,000 fulltime and part-time health workers and 51 Doctors to cater to a population of 3.8 million.

Such a survey placed the responsibility on the shoulders of one Doctor to cater to 76,000 civilians, a number that is very huge for a single Doctor. *--Edited by Winston W. Parley*

# 2017 election

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Mid- Term Senatorial Elections" for all 15 counties, including Maryland County, when in fact, the incumbent coalition member NPP had already announced him as the candidate to contest the pending senatorial election following a primary.

Morias therefore requests the Supreme Court not to disturb the findings and

decisions of the NEC Board of Commissioners on grounds that the ruling is based on the facts and the law.

He insists that NEC acted within the ambit of the law controlling administrative agencies, asking the court to deny and dismiss CDC's appeal and affirm the decision of NEC's Board of Commissioners.

# LUSA president

Starts from back page

criticism but you have to be focused, and determined if you must succeed."

For his part, president-elect Emmanuel Juduh described his victory as a new day for GOLSAO, adding that the trust placed in him to serve the organization for second term in office will be translated into taking GOLSAO to higher height.

He said it was by no mistake that he was reelected by his colleagues, saying "today my re-election isn't about my strength but it's about the passion, and the dedication including the trust that some of you have in me, but I will not let you down."

Juduh reminded that it was

about time members of the organization put their various differences aside, and work together for growth now that politics was over.

He said one of the cardinal reasons behind the establishment of the organization is to give hope to young people by bringing them together to share ideas on promoting peace for the good of Liberia.

"we will need the full support of every member, despite I'm the president, I want to encourage all of us to put in time, and work together as a team for us to achieve our goals and visions", he concluded. *-Editing by Jonathan Browne*

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# Spotlight Initiative

efforts to ensure that its support toward the reduction in the prevalence of sexual and gender-based violence and harmful practices and increase women's and girls' access to sexual and reproductive health and rights in Liberia remains on track.

Key among these efforts is the support to UNFPA for the establishment of a fully equipped maternal and child care unit and an operating theater at the main COVID-19 treatment unit at the 14 Military Hospital to provide antenatal care, delivery, emergency obstetric care, and postnatal care services for pregnant COVID-19

infected women admitted at the center.

Additionally, the Spotlight Initiative supported the deployment of a roving maternity team to provide care for quarantine pregnant women at Points-of-Cares (POCs), and within the communities. The roving team consisted of trained midwives under the supervision of the Family Health Division at the Ministry of Health.

The Spotlight Initiative is an EU-UN global partnership to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls. It was launched in June 2019 by the Government of Liberia, European Union, Civil Society Organizations and the United

Nations in Liberia.

The programme aims to, through priority interventions, prevent and respond to sexual gender based violence, sexual reproductive health and rights and harmful practices against women and girls by addressing structural causes across six key pillars of legislative and policy framework; institutional strengthening; changing norms and behaviors; delivery of essential services; management of data and strengthening women's movements and civil society organizations. *-Press Release*

# "NaFAA to issue

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a sanitary certificate and an export permit from NaFAA.

It also states that MOA shall inspect sanitary certificates issued by NaFAA only for parcel for export containing assorted items which includes both plant and fish products, and issued zoo-sanitary and phytosanitary certificates for all processed commodities except fish and fish products and assigned personnel at entry and exit points (airports,

postal services and land borders) as deemed necessary to control the movement of all animal and animal products, plants and plant products including processed food and agrochemicals.

Both parties shall also ensure that where there are fish or fish products above 20% in volume and more than 5kg in a parcel, such consignment shall obtain a sanitary certificate and an export permit from NaFAA.

# LUSA president applauds GOLSAO -for transparent election



GOOD LEGACY SOCIAL & ATHLETIC ORGANIZATION

By Lewis S. Teh

The President of Liberia University Students Association or LUSA, Darius S. Toweh has applauded members of the Good Legacy Social Athletes Organization (GOLSAO) for conducting peaceful, transparent, and credible elections.

"We want to applaud the

leadership of GOLSAO for demonstrating true sense of patriotism, and for conducting peaceful and transparent elections", said Toweh.

According to him, the attitude exhibited by young people is welcoming, stressing a need for emerging organizations to follow the footsteps of GOLSAO.

"We are quite aware of the

conflict and chaos that are associated with election process in our country, but to sit and witness a peaceful, transparent, and credible elections being conducted by young people, it speaks volume which means our democracy is growing".

He reminded the officers-elect as they take mantle of authority to spearhead the organization to perform to the expectations of those who entrusted them with leadership, saying, "The road that leads to success begins with the way and manner in which we handle the little opportunities that are given to us."

The LUSA president called on young people across the country to see themselves as the future generation Liberia depends on in terms of development and growth.

"Today, I want to encourage you my fellow young people, upon taking office there will be distraction; there will be huge

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# Manchester City announce £64m signing of Ruben Dias

Ruben Dias promised to bring aggression to Manchester City's defence after completing a £64.3million move from Benfica.

The 23-year-old is in line to make his debut over the coming week after undergoing a medical in Lisbon before signing a six-year contract. Nicolas Otamendi has moved to Benfica for £13.7m as part of the deal.

Dias is a no-nonsense centre half, the sort of which that Pep

Guardiola hopes will offer an additional presence to a back four that shipped five goals during Sunday's capitulation against Leicester City.

'I am a player that loves to win, a player for the team, for the fans, a player that loves this family spirit which I am feeling a lot since I have been here,' Dias said. 'I am an aggressive player and I love what I do. I love the game and without getting into too much detail, because it is something you will see when I start playing, the most important



thing to say is I love to win and that is the thing you most need to know about me. 'I am expecting the Premier League to be the reason why I wanted to be a football player. To have that feeling when I am on the field, when my arms get goosebumps.'

'That is it, that feeling, you cannot even put it into words. For me, the Premier League means all of that and to be able to play in the Premier League at a top club like City, it doesn't get much bigger than that.'

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