**Cash is the Currency of Crime**

And so, to stop global crime, the Global Syndicate plans to end all cash, **in order to better track and control their citizens.** There have been numerous moves closer to a cashless society in recent years, from [capping ATM withdrawals](https://schiffgold.com/key-gold-news/cash-limits-are-all-about-control-over-you-but-you-can-take-back-the-power/) to [doing away with large-denomination bills](https://schiffgold.com/key-gold-news/the-war-on-cash-bye-bye-500-euro-note/). Last year, China launched [a digital yuan pilot program](https://schiffgold.com/key-gold-news/war-on-cash-chinese-digital-currency-gets-a-boost/) and [the US has floated moving toward a digital dollar](https://schiffgold.com/key-gold-news/the-war-on-cash-us-exploring-a-digital-dollar/).

We got a first-hand look at what happens when governments restrict access to cash when [India plunged into a cash crisis](https://schiffgold.com/key-gold-news/cash-crisis-india-atms-running-dry/) after the country’s government enacted [a policy of demonetization](https://schiffgold.com/key-gold-news/cash-crisis-india-hitting-gold-sales-hard/) in November 2016.

It’s bad enough that various countries are exploring ways to move toward cashlessness, **but there’s an even worse scenario - a global digital currency.**

Economist Thorsten Polleit compares it to the “master ring” in J.R.R. Tolkien’s classic Lord of the Rings.

[A picture containing text

Description automatically generated](https://www.zerohedge.com/s3/files/inline-images/ring-4612457_1280-1024x576.jpg?itok=Z2KFQ7Su)

The following ideas were [*originally published by the Mises Wire*](https://mises.org/wire/global-fiat-currency-one-ring-rule-them-all).

#### ****1.****

**Human history can be viewed from many angles. One of them is to see it as a struggle for power and domination, as a struggle for freedom and against oppression, as a struggle of good against evil.**

That is how Karl Marx (1818–83) saw it, and Ludwig von Mises (1881–1973) judged similarly.

The history of the West, from the age of the Greek Polis down to the present-day resistance to socialism, is essentially the history of the fight for liberty against the encroachments of the Global Syndicate. It would seem human history does not follow predetermined laws of societal development but ultimately depends on ideas that drive human action. It is only when the historical struggle of these ideas is expunged from history, so that men cannot learn from it, that those ideas fall apart.

Ideas are good if those whom act upon them produce results that are beneficial for everyone and lead the actors to their desired goals;

At the same time, good ideas are ethically justifiable, they apply to everyone, anytime and anywhere, and ensure that people who act upon them can survive.

On the other hand, bad ideas lead to actions that do not benefit everyone, that do not cause all actors to achieve their goals and/or are unethical.

Good ideas are, for example, people accepting “mine and yours”; or entering into exchange relationships with one another voluntarily. Bad ideas are coercion, deception, embezzlement, theft.

Evil ideas are very bad ideas, ideas through which whoever puts them into practice is consciously harming others. Evil ideas are, for example, physical attacks, murder, tyranny.

#### ****2.****

With Lord of the Rings, J. J. R. Tolkien (1892–1973) wrote a literary monument about the epic battle between good and evil. His fantasy novel, published in 1954, was a worldwide success, not least because of the movie trilogy, released from 2001 to 2003.

What is Lord of the Rings about?**In the First Age, the deeply evil Sauron—the demon, the hideous horror, the necromancer—had rings of power made by the elven forges.**

Three Rings for the Elven-kings under the sky,

Seven for the Dwarf-lords in their halls of stone,

Nine for Mortal Men doomed to die,

One for the Dark Lord on his dark throne

In the Land of Mordor where the Shadows lie.

One Ring to rule them all, One Ring to find them,

One Ring to bring them all, and in the darkness bind them.

In the Land of Mordor where the Shadows lie.

**But Sauron secretly forges an additional ring into which he pours all his darkness and cruelty, and this one ring, the master ring, rules all the other rings.**

When Sauron puts the master ring on his finger, he can read and control the minds of everyone wearing one of the other rings.

**The elves see through the dark plan and hide their three rings. The seven rings of the dwarves also fail to subjugate their bearers. But the nine rings of men proved to be effective: Sauron enslaved nine human kings, who were to serve him.**

Then, however, in the Third Age, in the battle before Mount Doom, Isildur, the eldest son of King Elendils, severed Sauron’s ring finger with a sword blow. Sauron is defeated and loses his physical form, but he survives.

Now Isildur has the ring of power, and it takes possession of him. He does not destroy the master ring when he has the opportunity, and it costs him his life. When Isildur is killed, the ring sinks to the bottom of a river and remains there for twenty-five hundred years.

Then the ring is found by Smeagol, who is captivated by its power. The ring remains with its finder for nearly five hundred years, hidden from the world.

Over time, Sauron’s power grows again, and he wants the Ring of Power back. Then the ring is found, and for sixty years, it remains in the hands of the hobbit Bilbo Baggins, a friendly, well-meaning being who does not allow himself to be seduced by the power of the One Ring.

Years later, the wizard Gandalf the Gray learns that Sauron’s rise has begun, and that the Ring of Power is held by Bilbo Baggins.

Gandalf knows that there is only one way to defeat the ring and its evil: it must be destroyed where it was created, in Mordor.

Bilbo Baggins’s nephew, Frodo Baggins, agrees to take the task upon himself. He and his companions—a total of four hobbits, two humans, a dwarf, and an elf—embark on the dangerous journey.

**They endure hardship, adversity, and battles against the dark forces, and in the end, they succeed at what seemed impossible: the destruction of the ring of power in the fires of Mount Doom. Good triumphs over evil.**

#### ****3.****

**The ring in Tolkien’s Lord of the Rings is not just a piece of forged gold. It embodies Sauron’s evil, corrupting everyone who lays hands or eyes on it, poisons their soul, and makes them willing helpers of evil.**

No one can wield the cruel power of the One Ring and use it for good; no human, no dwarf, no elf.

**Can an equivalent for Tolkien’s literary portrait of the evil ring be found in the here and now? Yes, I believe so, and in the following, I would like to offer you what I hope is a startling, but in any case, entertaining, interpretation.**

Tolkien’s Rings of Power embody evil ideas.

The nineteen rings represent the idea that the ring bearers should have power over others and rule over them.

And the One Ring, to which all other rings are subject, embodies an even darker idea, namely that the bearer of this master ring has power over all other ring bearers and those ruled by them; that he is the sole and absolute ruler of all.

The nineteen rings symbolize the idea of establishing and maintaining a state (as we know it today), namely a state understood as a territorial, coercive monopoly with the ultimate power of decision-making over all conflicts.

**However, the One Ring of power stands for the particularly evil idea of creating a state of states, a world government, a world state; and the creation of a single world fiat currency controlled by the states would pave the way toward this outcome.**

#### ****4.****

**To explain this, let us begin with the state as we know it today. The state is the idea of the rule of one over the other.**

This is how the German economist, sociologist, and doctor Franz Oppenheimer (1864–1946) sees it:

The state … is a social institution, forced by a victorious group of men on a defeated group, with the sole purpose of regulating the dominion of the victorious group over the vanquished and securing itself against revolt from within and attacks from abroad…. This dominion had no other purpose than the economic exploitation of the vanquished by the victors.

Joseph Stalin (1878–1953) defined the state quite similarly:

The state is a machine in the hands of the ruling class to suppress the resistance of its class opponents.

**The modern state in the Western world no longer uses coercion and violence as obviously as many of its predecessors.**

But it, too, is, of course, built on coercion and violence, asserts itself through them, and most importantly, it divides society into a class of the rulers and a class of the ruled.

How does the state manage to create and maintain such a two-class society of rulers and ruled?

In Tolkien’s Lord of the Rings, nine men, all of them kings, wished to wield power, and so they became bearers of the rings, and because of that, they were inescapably bound to Sauron’s One Ring of power.

This is quite similar to the idea of the state. **To seize, maintain, and expand power, the state seduces its followers to do what is necessary, to resort to all sorts of techniques: propaganda, carrot and stick, fear, and even terror.**

The state lets the people know that it is good, indispensable, inevitable. Without it, the state whispers, a civilized coexistence of people would not be possible.

Most people succumb to this kind of propaganda, and the state gets carte blanche to effectively infiltrate all economic and societal matters—kindergarten, school, university, transport, media, health, pensions, law, security, money and credit, the environment—and thereby gains power.

**The state rewards its followers with jobs, rewarding business contracts, and transfer payments.** Those who resist will end up in prison or lose their livelihood or even their lives.

**The state spreads fear and terror to make people compliant**—as people who are afraid are easy to control, especially if they have been led to believe that the state will protect them against any evil.

Lately, the topics of climate change and coronavirus have been used for fear-mongering, primarily by the state, which is skillfully using them to increase its omnipotence: it destroys the economy and jobs, makes many people financially dependent on it, clamps down on civil and entrepreneurial freedoms.

However, it is of the utmost importance for the state to win the battle of ideas and be the authority to say what are good ideas and what are bad ideas.

Because it is ideas that determine people’s actions.

**The task of winning over the general public for the state traditionally falls to the so-called intellectuals**—the people whose opinions are widely heard, such as teachers, doctors, university professors, researchers, actors, comedians, musicians, writers, journalists, and others.

The state provides a critical number of them with income, influence, prestige, and status in a variety of ways—which most of them would not have been able to achieve without the state. In gratitude for this, the intellectuals spread the message that the state is good, indispensable, inevitable.

**Among the intellectuals, there tend to be quite a few who willingly submit to the rings of power, helping—consciously or unconsciously—to bring their fellow men and women under the spell of the rings or simply to walk over, subjugate, dominate them.**

Anyone who thinks that the state (as we know it today) is acceptable, a justifiable solution, as long as it does not exceed certain power limits, is seriously mistaken.

**Just as the One Ring of power tries to find its way back to its lord and master, an initially limited state inevitably strives towards its logical endpoint: absolute power.**

The state (as we know it today) is pushing for expansion both internally and externally. This is a well-known fact derived from the logic of human action.

George Orwell put it succinctly: “The object of power is power.”  Or, as Hans-Hermann Hoppe nails it, “[E]very minimal government has the inherent tendency to become a maximal government.”

Inwardly, the state is expanding through all sorts of interventions in economic and social life, through regulations, ordinances, laws, and taxes.

Outwardly, the economically and militarily strongest state will seek to expand its sphere of influence. In the most primitive form, this happens through aggressive campaigns of conquest and war, in a more sophisticated form, by pursuing political ideological supremacy.

In recent decades the latter has taken the form of democratic socialism. To put it casually, democratic socialism means allowing and doing what the majority wants.

**Under democratic socialism, private property is formally upheld, but it is declared that no one is the rightful owner of 100 percent of the income from their property.**

People no longer strive for freedom from being ruled but rather to participate in the rule. The result is not people pushing back the state, but rather coming to terms and cooperating with it.

The practical consequence of democratic socialism is interventionism: the state intervenes in the economy and society on a case-by-case basis to gradually make socialist ideals a reality.

**All societies of the Western world have embraced democratic socialism, some with more authority than others, and all of them use interventionism. Seen in this light, all Western states are now acting in concert.**

What they also have in common is their disdain for competition, because competition sets undesirable limits to the state’s expansive nature.

Therefore, larger states often form a cartel. Smaller, less powerful states are compelled to join—and if they refuse, they will suffer political and economic disadvantages.

**But the cartel of states is only an intermediate step. The logical endpoint that democratic socialism is striving for is the creation of a central authority, something like a world government, a world state.**

#### ****5.****

In Tolkien’s Lord of the Rings, the One Ring, the ring of power, embodies this very dark idea: to rule them all, to create a world state.

To get closer to this goal, democracy (as we understand it today) is proving to be an ideal trailblazer, and that’s most likely the reason why it is praised to the skies by socialists.

Sooner or later, a democracy will mutate into an oligarchy, as the German-Italian sociologist Robert Michels pointed out in 1911.

According to Michels, parties emerge in democracies. These parties are organizations that need strict leadership, which is handed to the most power-hungry, ruthless people. They will represent the party elite.

**The party elite can break away from the will of the party members and pursue their own goals and agendas. For example, they can form coalitions or cartels with elites of other parties.**

As a result, there will be an oligarchization of democracy, in which the elected party elites or the cartel of the party elites will be the kings of the castle. It is not the voters who will call the tune but oligarchic elites that will rule over the voters.

The oligarchization of democracy will not only afflict individual states but will also affect the international relations of democracies.

Oligarchical elites from different countries will join together and strengthen each other, primarily by creating supranational institutions.

**Democratic socialism evolves into “political globalism”: the idea that people should not be allowed to shape their own destiny in a system of free markets but that it should be assigned and directed by a global central authority.**

The One Ring of power drives those who have already been seduced by the common rings to long for absolute power, to elevate themselves above the rest of humanity. Who comes to mind?

Well, various politicians, high-level bureaucrats, court intellectuals, representatives of big banking, big business, Big Pharma and Big Tech and, of course, big media—together they are often called the “Davos elite” or the “establishment.”

Whether it is about combating financial and economic crises, climate change, or viral diseases—the one ring of power ensures that supranational, state-orchestrated solutions are propagated; that centralization is placed above decentralization; that the state, not the free market, is empowered.

**Calls for the “new world order,” the “Great Transformation,” the “Great Reset” are the results of this poisonous mindset inspired by the one ring of power.**

National borders are called into question, property is relativized or declared dispensable, and even a merging of people’s physical, digital, and biological identities—transhumanism—is declared the goal of the self-empowered globalist establishment.

But how can political globalism be promoted at a time when there are (still) social democratic nation-states that insist on their independence? And where people are separated by different languages, values, and religions?

**How do the political globalists get closer to their badly desired end of world domination, their world state?**

#### ****6.****

Sauron is the undisputed tyrant and dictator in his realm of darkness. He operates something like a command economy, forcing his subjects to clear forests, build military equipment, and breed Orcs.

There are neither markets nor money in Sauron’s sinister kingdom. Sauron takes whatever he wants; he has overcome exchange and money, so to speak.

Today’s state is not quite that powerful, and it finds itself in economies characterized by property, division of labor, and monetary exchange.

**The state wants to control money—because this is one of the most effective ways to gain ultimate power.**

**To this end, the modern state has already acquired the monopoly of money production; and it has replaced gold with its own fiat money.**

Over time, fiat money destroys the free market system and thus the free society. Ludwig von Mises saw this as early 1912. He wrote:

It would be a mistake to assume that the modern organization of exchange is bound to continue to exist. It carries within itself the germ of its own destruction; the development of the fiduciary medium must necessarily lead to its breakdown. (6)

Indeed, fiat money not only causes inflation, economic crises, and an unsocial redistribution of income and wealth. Above all, it is a growth elixir for the state, making it ever larger and more powerful at the expense of the freedom of its citizens and entrepreneurs.

Against this backdrop, it should be quite understandable why the political globalists see creating a single world currency as an important step toward seizing absolute power.

In Europe, what the political globalists want “on a large scale” has already been achieved “on a small scale”: merging many national currencies into one.

In 1999, eleven European nation-states gave up their currencies and merged them into a single currency, the euro, which is produced by a supranational authority, the European Central Bank.

**The creation of the euro provides the blueprint by which the world’s major currencies can be converted into a single world currency.**

This is what the 1999 Canadian Nobel laureate in economics, Robert Mundell, recommends:

***Fixing the exchange rates between the US dollar, the euro, the Chinese renminbi, the Japanese yen, and the British pound against each other and also fixing them against a new unit of account, the INTOR. And hocus pocus: here is the world fiat currency, controlled by a cartel of central banks or a world central bank.***

#### ****7.****

**Admittedly, creating a single world fiat currency seems to have little chance of being realized at first glance. But maybe at second glance.**

First of all, there is a good economic reason for having a single world currency: if all people do business with the same money, the productive power of money is optimized. From an economic standpoint, the optimal number of monies in the world is one.

What is more, nation-states have the monopoly of money within their respective territory, and since they all adhere to democratic socialism, they also have an interest in ensuring that there is no currency competition—not even between different state fiat currencies. This makes them susceptible to the idea of reducing the pluralism of currencies.

Furthermore, one should not misinterpret the so-called rivalry between the big states such as the US and China and between China and Europe, which is being discussed in the mainstream media on a regular basis.

No doubt that there is a rivalry between the national rulers: they do not want to give up the power they have gained in their respective countries; they want to become even more powerful.

But the rivalry between the oligarchic democracies of the West has already weakened significantly, and there are great incentives for the oligarchic party elites to work together across borders.

**In fact, it is the oligarchization of democracy in the Western world that allowed for the rapprochement with a socialist-communist regime: the state increasingly taking control of the economic and societal system.**

This development could be called “the Chinacization of the West.”

The way the Western world has dealt with the coronavirus—the suspension, perhaps the termination of constitutional rights and freedoms—undoubtedly shows where the journey is headed: to the authoritarian state that is beyond the control of the people—as is the case in Communist China. The proper slogan for this might be “One System, Many Countries.”

**Is it too farfetched to assume that the Western world will make common cause with Communist China not only on health issues but also on the world currency issue? The democratic socialists in the West and the Chinese Communist Party have a great deal of common ground and common interest, I would think.**

It is certainly no coincidence that China has pushed hard for the Chinese renminbi to be included in the International Monetary Fund’s special drawing rights, and that the IMF already agreed in November 2015.

#### ****8.****

**The issue of digital central bank money, something the world’s major central banks are working on, could be a catalyst in the creation of a single world currency.**

The issue of digital central bank money not only heralds the end of cash—the anonymous payment option for citizens and entrepreneurs.

**Once people start using digital central bank money, it will be easy for the central bank and the state to spy on people’s transactions.**

The state will not only know who pays what, when, where, and what for. It will also be in a position to determine who gets access to the deposits: who gets them and who doesn’t.

**China is blazing the trail with its “social credit system”: behavior conforming to the Communist regime is rewarded, behavior that does not is punished.**

Against this backdrop, digital central bank money would be particularly effective at stifling unwanted political opposition.

**Digital central bank money will not only replace cash, but it will also increasingly compete with money from commercial banks.**

Why should you keep your money with banks that are exposed to the risk of default when you can keep it safe with the central bank that never goes bankrupt?

Once commercial bank deposits can be exchanged one to one for digital central bank money—and this is to be expected—the credit and monetary system is de facto fully nationalized.

Because under these conditions, the central bank transfers its unlimited solvency to the commercial banking sector.

This completely deprives the financial markets of their function of determining the cost of capital—and the state-planned economy becomes a reality.

In fact, this is the type of command and control economy that emerged in National Socialist Germany in the 1930s. The state formally retained ownership of the means of production.

**But with commands, prohibitions, laws, taxes, and control, the state determines who is allowed to produce what, when, and under what conditions, and who is allowed to consume what, when, and how much.**

In such a command and control economy, it is quite conceivable that the form of money production will change—away from money creation through lending toward the issue of helicopter money.

**The central bank determines who gets how much new money and when. The amount of money in people’s bank accounts no longer reflects their economic success. From now on, it is the result of arbitrary political decisions by the central banks, i.e., the rulers.**

The prospect of being supplied with new money by the state and its central bank—that is, receiving an unconditional basic income—will presumably drive hosts of people into the arms of the state and bring any resistance to its machinations to a shrieking halt.

#### ****9.****

**Will the people, the general public, really subscribe to all of this?**

Well, government-sponsored economists, in particular, will do their very best to inform us about the benefits of having a globally coordinated monetary policy; that stabilizing the exchange rates between national currencies is beneficial; that if a supranational controlled currency—with the name INTOR or GLOBAL—is created, we will achieve the best of all worlds. And as the issuance of digital central bank money has shut down the last remnants of a free capital market, the merging of different national currencies into one will be relatively easy.

The single world currency creature that the political globalists want to create will be a fiat money, certainly not a commodity money.

**Such a single world fiat currency will not only suffer from all the economic and ethical defects which weigh on national fiat currencies.**

**It will also exacerbate and exponentiate the damages a national fiat currency causes. The door to a high inflation policy would be pushed wide open—as nobody could escape the inflationary single world fiat currency.**

The states are the main beneficiaries: they can get money from the world central bank at any time, provided they adhere to the rules set out by the world central bank and the special interest groups that govern it.

This creates the incentive for national states to relinquish sovereignty rights and to submit to supranational rules—for example, in taxation and financial market regulation.

It is therefore the incentive resulting from a single world currency that paves the way toward a world government and a world state.

**In this context, please note what happened in the euro area: the starting point was not the creation of the EU superstate, which was to be followed by the introduction of the euro. It was exactly the opposite: the euro was introduced to overcome national sovereignty and ultimately establish the United Nations of Europe.**

One has good reason to fear that the idea of issuing a world fiat currency—which the master ring relentlessly pushes for—would bring totalitarianism—that would most likely dwarf the regimes established by Joseph Stalin, Adolf Hitler, Mao Zedong, Pol Pot, and other criminals.

#### ****10.****

**In Tolkien’s Lord of the Rings, evil is eventually defeated. The story has a happy ending. Will it be that easy in our world?**

The ideas of having a state (as we know it today), of tolerating it, of cooperating with it, of giving the state total control over our money, of accepting fiat money, are deeply rooted in people’s minds as good ideas.

Where are the forces supposed to come from that will enlighten people about the evil that the state (as we know it today) brings to humanity?

Particularly when in kindergartens, schools, and universities—which are all in the hands of the state—the teachings of collectivism-socialism-Marxism are systematically drummed into people’s (especially impressionable children’s) heads, when the teachings of freedom, free market and free society, and capitalism are hardly or not at all imparted to the younger generation?

Who will explain to people the uncomfortable truth that even a minimal state will become a maximal state? That states’ monopolies over money will lead to a single world currency and thus world tyranny?

**It does not take much to become bleak when it comes to the future of the free economic and social order.**

However, it would be rather shortsighted to get pessimistic.

Those who believe in Jesus Christ can trust that God will not fail them. If we cannot think of a solution to the problems at hand, the believers can trust God. Because “[e]ven in the darkest night, there is a bright light shining somewhere.”

Or: please remember the Enlightenment movement in the eighteenth century. At that time, the Prussian philosopher Immanuel Kant explained the “unheard of” to the people, namely that there is such a thing as “autonomy of reason.”

It means that you and I have the indisputable right to lead our lives independently; that we should handle it according to self-imposed rules, rules that we determine ourselves based on good reason.

People back then understood Kant’s message. Why should such an intellectual revolution—triggered by the writings and words of a free thinker—not be able to repeat itself in the future?

Or: the fact that people have not yet learned from bad experience does not mean that they won’t eventually learn from it.

When it comes to thinking about changes for the better, it is important to note that it is not the mass of people that matters, but the individual.

**Applied to the conditions in today’s world, among those thinkers who can defeat evil and help the good make a breakthrough are Ludwig von Mises, Murray Rothbard, and Hans-Hermann Hoppe—and all those following their teachings and fearlessly disseminating them—as scholars or as fans.**

They are—in terms of Tolkien’s Lord of the Rings—the companions. They give us the intellectual firepower and the courage to fight and defeat evil.

I don’t know if Ludwig von Mises knew Tolkien’s Lord of the Rings. But he was certainly well aware of the struggle between good and evil that continues throughout human history.

In fact, the knowledge of this struggle shaped Mises’s maxim of life, which he took from the verse of the Roman poet Virgil (70 to 19 BC):

“Tu ne cede malis, sed contra audentior ito,” which means “Do not give in to evil but proceed ever more boldly against it.”

I want to close my interpretation with a quote from Samwise Gamgee, the loyal friend and companion of Frodo Baggins.

In a really hopeless situation, Sam says to Frodo: ***“There is something good in this world, Mr. Frodo. And it’s worth fighting for.”***

So if we want to fight for the good in this world, we know what we have to do: we have to fight for property and freedom and against the darkness that the state (as we know it today) wishes to bring upon us, especially with its fiat money.

**In fact, we must fight steadfastly for a society of property and freedom!**

**Google Election Tampering 2022**

Here we go again. Can nothing stop Google from turning America into a Fascist State? Joe Kent, a retired Green Beret who is running for Congress as a Republican in Washington State’s third district, has been permanently banned by Google-owned YouTube.

Kent, who has been endorsed by Donald Trump, has taken vocal positions against the permanent Deep State, open borders, and endless foreign wars.

In a message sent to the Republican candidate, YouTube said it had found “severe or repeated violations of our Community Guidelines,” without specifying what guideline had been breached or how.

“You Tube is censoring Congressional candidates without warning,” said Kent on Twitter. “Oh well, We have rumble.

Kent’s Rumble channel [can be found here.](https://rumble.com/user/joekentforcongress)

In an exclusive interview with Breitbart News in June, Kent declared his opposition to the country’s “permanent ruling class.”

Via [Breitbart News:](https://www.breitbart.com/politics/2021/06/10/america-first-candidate-special-forces-veteran-joe-kent-taking-permanent-ruling-class/)

“Trump tried to get troops out of Syria the first time, and we all saw what happened after that Secretary of Defense Mattis and the rest of the permanent ruling class in the Pentagon and the government turned against President Trump in an effort to keep our troops overseas and deployed,” he said.

But he had already known for a while that the forever wars were not in the country’s best interests anymore. Trump, he said, was “restoring the will of the American people to Washington, DC, and doing the right thing but for the security of our country.”

He planned to work in a second Trump administration, but after the outcome of the 2020 election, with “widespread election irregularities,” and Beutler voting for Trump’s impeachment over the January 6 Capitol breach, he said he wanted to do something.

He has also [condemned the treatment](https://www.breitbart.com/politics/2021/09/19/slippery-slope-joe-kent-decries-erosion-january-6-protesters-right-due-process/) of January 6th protesters:

We believe in this country, we believe in this flag. We believe in everything that it stands for, and when there is an injustice done to our fellow citizens and their constitutional rights are taken, if we do not speak out against that, we are guilty of standing by and watching those rights erode. Make no mistake what governments overseas they will do over here, and they have already started.

No law seems to be able to stop their communist agenda.

**The End of Public Education**

A Florida mom at the Family Research Council's annual Pray Vote Stand Summit has gotten a standing ovation for calling on parents to orchestrate a mass exodus from public schools.

A report from [BizPacReview](https://www.bizpacreview.com/2021/10/08/fla-mom-calls-for-mass-exodus-from-public-schools-gets-standing-ovation-for-powerful-punch-1145790/" \t "_blank) explains that Quisha King, who was described in the report as a former "race-obsessed leftist" now has turned into a "conservative mother."

She said the "only" solution to the massive leftist agenda being imposed on American public schools is that "mass exodus."

Recently she's been battling the imposition of the ideological Critical Race Theory in schools. That theory teaches that all America is racist, all whites are offenders, and all blacks are victims, in direct contradiction to historical fact.

She explained, "Right after the 2016 election, I started to pay more attention to politics and God spoke to my heart and told me that my skin color had become an idol in my life. And that was life-changing, because it was so true. I saw everything through being black, and that was an offense to God, and I had to examine everything that I was doing."

And she started paying more attention to what her daughter was being told.

"When my daughter was asked what pronoun she wanted to be identified by in 8th grade at their first week of school, I’m like what is going on? This is crazy! And so I was like, OK, just pay attention. I emailed the teacher; she never emailed me back. I was like, well, you know, just pay attention to what’s going on," King continued.

Then, the report explains, her daughter did more than just pay attention, recording her teacher's indoctrination on CRT.

"They were supposed to be discussing books, and the books apparently had some racial themes in them well. [The teacher] never got to the literature of the books or the academic portion. She just started sectioning the kids in the way that she talked to them by their physical characteristics," she told the audience.

"'Oh, I’m sorry, as an African-American child, how do you feel about this? So as an Asian child, how do you feel about that?' And so on. And we had a board of education meeting in Florida to ban critical race theory, and I spoke up against it because I knew it was happening, and they were trying to tell us that this was not in schools. And I’m like, no, it is!"

King explained in her home, Duval County, she found Critical Race Theory workshops that dated back a decade.

"This is not going away, the enemy has no chill and is advancing forward as fast – we can see," she said.

It was reported just days earlier that a Christian ministry, [Answers in Genesis,](https://answersingenesis.org/homeschool/11-us-households-now-homeschooling/) had noted Census data found that 11.1% of U.S. households with school-age children now are homeschooling.

That's double from just a year ago.

"That increase means there are about 2.6 million new homeschool students across the nation. A report also found that 8.7 million children have been pulled from a government-run school and placed in a private school, which includes many Christian schools," the organization said.

It was in [Christian Headlines](https://www.christianheadlines.com/contributors/milton-quintanilla/homeschooled-students-in-america-doubled-during-pandemic-studies-show.html) only a short time ago that a report confirmed as of last spring, the rate for families homeschool was 5.4%. But now that's more than doubled.

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"The Bellwether Education Partners, a non-profit education advocacy group, reported similar findings in its August 2021 overlook, noting that close to 2.6 million children have transitioned from public schooling to homeschooling since the start of the pandemic," the report said.

"The percentage of homeschooling children also spreads across different ethnicities. The group found that 9.7 percent of white families, 12.1 percent of Hispanic families, 8.8 percent of Asian families, and 16.1 percent of Black families have pulled their children out of public schools to homeschool them," the report said.

A Florida mom at the Family Research Council's annual Pray Vote Stand Summit has gotten a standing ovation for calling on parents to orchestrate a mass exodus from public schools.

A report from [BizPacReview](https://www.bizpacreview.com/2021/10/08/fla-mom-calls-for-mass-exodus-from-public-schools-gets-standing-ovation-for-powerful-punch-1145790/" \t "_blank) explains that Quisha King, who was described in the report as a former "race-obsessed leftist" now has turned into a "conservative mother."

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She said the "only" solution to the massive leftist agenda being imposed on American public schools is that "mass exodus."

Recently she's been battling the imposition of the ideological Critical Race Theory in schools. That theory teaches that all America is racist, all whites are offenders, and all blacks are victims, in direct contradiction to historical fact.

She calls CRT "anti-biblical" and "anti-America."

Her remarks, at about the 2:10 mark of the video:

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Bottom of Form

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**Keep You Eye on the Chinese Real Estate Market**

You will recall early last year I covered the riots in China over a fire sale on Chinese real estate that drove the housing process down? I told you that the CCP governs the hounsing prices, and how Chinese nationals are trying their best to sell their properties in China and move to Canada and then on to the US. Real estate prices in BC are out of reach for Canadians because rich Chinese are flooding the area with smuggled Yuan as they try to escape the coming conflict.

You see, the CCP has a far bigger enemy than Taiwan or the US. They have the Chinese people. Here’s the dam wall that is about to burst.

No matter how the Evergrande drama plays out - whether it culminates with an uncontrolled, chaotic default and/or distressed asset sale liquidation, a controlled restructuring where bondholders get some compensation, or with Beijing blinking and bailing out the core pillar of China's housing market - remember that Evergrande is just a symptom of the trends that have whipsawed China's property market in the past year, which has seen significant contraction as a result of Beijing policies seeking to tighten financial conditions as part of Xi's new ***"common prosperity"***drive which among other things, seeks to make housing much more affordable to everyone, not just the richest.

As such, any contagion from the ongoing turmoil sweeping China's heavily indebted property sector will impact not the banks, which are all state-owned entities and whose exposure to insolvent developers can easily be patched up by the state, but the property sector itself, which as Goldman recently calculated **is worth $62 trillion making it the world's largest asset class,**[**contributes a mind-boggling 29% of Chinese GDP**](https://www.ft.com/content/ea1b79bf-cbe3-41d9-91da-0a1ba692309f)**(compared to 6.2% in the US) and represents 62% of household wealth**.

[Chart, bar chart

Description automatically generated](https://www.zerohedge.com/s3/files/inline-images/china%20property%20market%20world%27s%20largest%20asset.jpg?itok=PLQqMVRK)

It's also why we said that for Beijing the focus is not so much about Evegrande, but about preserving confidence in the property sector.

But first, a quick update on Evergrande, which - to nobody's surprise - [we learned today](https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/polish-court-ruling-plunges-eu-into-new-crisis-eu-ministers-say-2021-10-08/)**is expected to default on its offshore bond payment obligations imminently according to investment bank Moelis,**which is advising a group of the cash-strapped developer’s bondholders. Evergrande, which is facing one of the country’s largest defaults as it wrestles with more than $300 billion of debt, has already missed coupon payments on dollar bonds twice last month.

The missed payments, worth a combined $131 million, have left global investors wondering if they will have to swallow large losses when 30-day grace periods end for coupons that were due on Sept. 23 and Sept. 29. A separate group of creditors to Jumbo Fortune Enterprises who are advised by White & Case, are also waiting for a $260 million [bond principal repayment](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-10-07/holders-of-evergrande-linked-jumbo-fortune-bond-yet-to-be-paid?sref=6uww027M), after a bond guaranteed by Evergrande matured last Friday, and unlike the offshore bonds, does not have a 30 day grace period (although five business days 'would be allowed' if the failure to pay were due to administrative or technical error).

The Jumbo Fortune payment is being closely watched because of **the risks of cross-default for the real estate giant’s other dollar bonds**; it would also be the firm’s first major miss on maturing notes instead of just coupon payments since regulators urged the developer to avoid a near-term default. And with the five business days up as of today, and with a payment yet to be made, it appears that this weekend we will get news of a declaration of involuntary default from the creditor group which will set in motion the Evegrande default dominoes.

With that background in mind, let's move on to the truly chilling latest developments: it now appears that **China does not need Evergrande to officially default to unleash a property crisis - one has already arrived.**

Recall that in September, sketched out [Goldman's three scenarios on China's housing sector](https://www.zerohedge.com/economics/housing-market-almost-frozen-even-bigger-problem-emerges-china)- a base case, a severe scenario and a third "hard landing."

[Chart, waterfall chart

Description automatically generated](https://www.zerohedge.com/s3/files/inline-images/Goldman%20three%20scenarios%20china%20property_4.jpg?itok=YpJGLpdt)

While readers can find the full details here, we focus on the worst case, "Scenario 3", which Goldman summarized as follows:

In the third and most bearish scenario, land sales and housing starts fall 30% and property sales, house prices and completions drop 10% from 2021 to 2022. ***The tightening in financial conditions doubles that in the second scenario.***Note that in this scenario, the tightening is of the same magnitude as the tightening in Goldman's China Financial Conditions Index (FCI) from November 2017 to June 2018 ***when domestic credit tightening and the US-China trade war rattled the financial market significantly.***

Quantifying this dire scenario, Goldman envisions a China where **new property starts tumble 30%, completions drop 10% alongside sales volumes and ASPs.**If this scenario comes to pass it would also wipe out at least 4% of China's 2022 GDP, potentially resulting in full-year contraction at the second largest economy in the world, an outcome that would have catastrophic implications for the rest of the world. And with Goldman's warning that such a scenario would lead to a tightening in financial conditions similar to what happened **"from November 2017 to June 2018 when domestic credit tightening and the US-China trade war rattled the financial market significantly**" and one can therefore see that while contagion from an Evergrande default may skip China's banks, it would have no less dire consequences for global markets and economies.

With that preamble in mind, we bring readers' attention to a little noticed report in Shanghai Securities News, citing China Real Estate Information Corp. research ([link](http://news.10jqka.com.cn/20211008/c633160560.shtml)), which revealed that **more than 90% of China’s top 100 property developers’ sales declined in September by an average of 36% from the same period last year.**According to the report:

* Sept. sales totaled 759.6b yuan ($118BN), **down 36.2% from September 2020 and 17.7% lower from the same period in 2019, deepening a downward spiral that started in July**
* Among companies, **60% of developers saw sales decrease by more than 30% y/y in Sept.**
* Beijing, Shenzhen and Guangzhou saw transaction **volume of residential properties decline 30% y/y, while Shanghai fell 45%**

We had to do a double take when we saw this because these are absolutely terrifying numbers and are, to put it bluntly, **scarier than Goldman's "worst case scenario**"; what's worse this sudden collapse in China's property market is taking place before Evergrande has even defaulted, an event which would lead to a glacial freeze in the property market as potential buyers hold off expecting liquidation firesales from the property giant in hopes of getting bargains. The problem is that in addition to being the world's largest asset, China's property market is also the world's largest ponzi scheme, and without constant inflow of new capital it would implode, especially when factoring in the [90 million vacant apartment](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-10-03/china-evergrande-property-bubble/100496768)which just sit inert and which would promptly be dumped by anxious owners, flooding the market with excess inventory and sending prices crashing.

It didn't take long for the market to notice what is going on and otherwise healthy property developers, which are in far better financial health than Evergrande, promptly collapsed: China Jinmao Holdings plunged as much as 10%, China Overseas Grand Oceans Group tumbled -7.9%, Sunac -3.7%, Country Garden Holdings -3%, Agile Group -2.8%, and so on.

[Chart

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But keep in mind that all of the above presupposes just one major default, that of Evergrande. Alas, it's going to be far, far worse because in a reflexive toxic spiral, one property values fall, the entire property sector will collapse, leading to an epic bursting of a housing bubble that is order of magnitude greater than the US housing market was in 2007/2008.

As [Bloomberg writes](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-10-08/a-wave-of-defaults-may-hit-china-s-property-firms-says-sc-lowy?sref=6uww027M), Chinese property firms "**may face a wave of defaults"** next year if China Evergrande Group’s deepening debt crisis shuts access to a key source of funding and conditions don’t ease for heavily indebted borrowers. As we have documented extensively in the past month, there’s growing alarm that the liquidity crisis at Evergrande will spill over to other developers as President Xi maintains measures to cool the property market while maintaining China's "three red lines" rules on property sector leverage (a new report from the FT today found that no less than half of China's 30 top developers were in breach of at least one of said lines).

[Graphical user interface, application

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Fears of contagion risks intensified this week after a surprise default by Fantasia Holdings Group spurred a dramatic selloff in the offshore market.

[A picture containing text, indoor

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That sent yields on China dollar junk bonds to 17.5%, the highest in about a decade, while Evergrande’s dollar bond prices sank to a record low. After plunging 80%, Evergrande's HK-traded stock remains halted.

[Chart, line chart

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Distressed debt veteran Michel Lowy said in a Bloomberg TV interview that the nation’s developers are facing a **“triple whammy” with dwindling access to offshore financing, “catastrophic” September pre-sales and a limited onshore banking market. Translation: both organic (i.e., operation) and external sources of cash have dried up.**

That could spark a “large wave of defaults” if the offshore market remains shut for riskier borrowers going into next year, said Lowy, chief executive officer of his alternative asset manager SC Lowy. For dollar bonds - which in the coming Evegrande default will be at the very bottom of the pre-petition [claims waterfall](https://news.yahoo.com/evergrande-creditors-brace-battle-fate-150509199.html)leaving them with negligible recoveries at best - the risk is that the increase in yields becomes indiscriminate and makes it impossible for developers to refinance maturing debt, triggering a succession of missed payments across the industry.

If they end up being locked out from the market and unable to rollover coming maturities, and with operating cash flow drying up, the only recourse is the dreaded liquidation firesale which would be the pin that bursts China's housing bubble.

**"Ultimately it’s a liquidity game,"**said Lowy. “How many months can you survive until at some point the central government will relent and start releasing liquidity pressures on developers?”

And while much has been written about the turmoil in China's dollar, or offshore bond market, the distress is starting to spread to the onshore bond market too. As Bloomberg notes, signs of strain in China’s $12 trillion domestic credit market after months of resilience may add to borrowers’ refinancing pressures. Stress levels rose in both the local and offshore bond markets in September, Bloomberg’s China Credit Tracker showed.

Take yuan-denominated bonds sold by Xiamen Yuzhou Grand Future Real Estate Development Co., Yango Group Co. and Aoyuan Corp. Group all of which plunged to record lows Friday while two local bonds from a Fantasia Holdings Group unit were briefly halted following sharp declines. Yango denied social media reports that one of its housing projects had been halted indefinitely, and said that it had sufficient cash to repay debt.

And while Bloomberg still has its onshore credit stress indicator at a [positively bubbly level 3](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-10-08/a-wave-of-defaults-may-hit-china-s-property-firms-says-sc-lowy)(vs 2 in August), expect this to get much, much worse as the property sector implosion accelerates. As for the offshore bond credit stress indicator, well at least it can't get any worse.

[A group of colorful umbrellas

Description automatically generated with low confidence](https://www.zerohedge.com/s3/files/inline-images/onshore%20vs%20offshore.jpg?itok=IQ2rLWQ_)

Needless to say, once the "stress level" in China's far bigger, $12 trillion onshore bond market approaches levels currently at the offshore, property-dominated market, all bets are off.

Yet what makes the situation especially dire is that while Beijing would eagerly step in to bailout every insolvent bank and corporations until a few years ago, the one time when China's economy desperately needs a bailout from the state is when Xi decided to be silent. Authorities have been allowing defaults to rise in recent years in order to curb moral hazard and encourage better pricing of risk in its debt markets. Property firms’ missed payments made up 36% of the record 175 billion yuan in onshore corporate bond defaults this year.

Yet if Xi allows the entire $62 trillion Chinese property sector to sink, the outcome will be orders of magnitude more dire than Lehman.

“It’s very difficult to see a solution right now,” said Hao Hong, head of research and chief strategist at BoCom International, who agrees that the Evergrande crisis could drag on. China’s Evergrande strategy would be to “let as many people bear the cost as possible,” to lessen the pain for any one individual, Hong said. However, if the broader population loses faith in what is China's biggest asset while the market waits for a resolution - something the latest sales data confirm is already taking place - then the consequences will be catastrophic.

So while some observers have compared Evergrande’s woes to the epic collapse of Lehman, the truth is that the coming default is just the trigger event whose downstream effects could pull down the entire Chinese house of cards, something the latest housing data show is already in play. Because at the end of the day, no Ponzi scheme can continue if the participants lose faith in a favorable outcome, **and at $62 trillion China's housing sector is not only the world's largest assets, it is also the world's biggest Ponzi scheme.**Which is why [other experts](https://www.ft.com/content/0bf52d39-fd42-408f-aa85-52a4135de312)have said this isn’t a Lehman Brothers moment— it could be far worse, if one views China’s gargantuan real estate sector as rotten to the core.

**A Mandate is Not a Law**

When is a mandate not a mandate? When it is just a press release. Yes, we’ve heard all about Joe Biden’s alleged vaccine mandate for private companies employing 100 or more people. It was all over the news even before he [announced it](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CwjV6MDU9E8) on September 9. His announcement has jeopardized the employment of [millions](https://time.com/6098752/biden-vaccine-mandate-company-reactions/) of Americans and increased worker shortages in critical domains such as health care.

There’s only one problem. It’s all a mirage. Biden’s so-called vaccine mandate doesn’t exist — at least, not yet. So far, all we have is his press conference and other such made-for-media huff-puffing. No such rule even claiming to be legally binding has been issued yet.

That’s why nearly two dozen Republican attorneys general who have publicly voiced their opposition to the clearly unconstitutional and illegal mandate haven’t yet filed suit against it, the Office of the Indiana Attorney General confirmed for me. There *is* no mandate to haul into court. And that may be part of the plan.

According to several sources, so far it appears no such mandate has been sent to the White House’s Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs yet for approval. The White House, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and the Department of Labor haven’t released any official guidance for the alleged mandate. There is no executive order. There’s nothing but press statements.

Despite what you may have been falsely led to believe by the media fantasy projection machine, press statements have exactly zero legal authority.

“There is nothing there yet that gives employers any mandate,” Stephanie McFarland, spokeswoman for the Indiana Occupational Safety and Health Administration, told me Oct. 6. “The president made an announcement on this asking OSHA to do it, but we’ve not yet seen anything come from it yet,” she also said. When the state agency gets any further information, she said, they’ll review it.

To impose the public perception of a mandate, the Biden administration is following an unusual rule-making process it also employed earlier this year, called an emergency temporary standard (ETS). The [spring ETS rule](https://www.osha.gov/coronavirus/ets) took [nearly six months](https://news.bloomberglaw.com/business-and-practice/companies-see-manna-from-heaven-with-biden-vaccine-mandate) to issue. Meanwhile, companies are telling reporters their vaccine mandates will have at the latest December deadlines. (For those who can’t calendar, that’s *four*months after Biden’s non-existent mandate was proclaimed. According [to OSHA](https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/standards-development), an ETS takes up to six months to go into effect *after* the initial mandate is issued in the Federal Register — which, again, for the proclaimed 100-employee mandate hasn’t happened yet.)

Lawyers for big business were blunt about their love for this mandate mirage: “Everybody loves this cover,” Minneapolis employment lawyer Kate Bischoff [told Bloomberg Law](https://news.bloomberglaw.com/business-and-practice/companies-see-manna-from-heaven-with-biden-vaccine-mandate) in September. “Many were already looking down the road at doing this, but the fact that they get to blame Biden is like manna from heaven.”

Using the ETS procedure instead of normal federal rule-making processes both allows the Biden administration to push its demands faster and without any public input or requirement of responding to public input, which is normally required of even legally laughable federal rule-making like this one would be. That is part of why ETS rules have been overwhelmingly overturned in courts.

“OSHA has used that legal authority only 10 times in 50 years,” David Rivkin Jr. and Robert Alt [wrote in the Wall Street Journal](https://www.wsj.com/articles/biden-lawless-vaccine-mandate-constitution-occupational-safety-11632841737?st=rwvqpt3svb6kv0k&reflink=article_email_share) in September. “Courts have decided challenges to six of those standards, nixing five and upholding only one.”

There are many other reasons any federal vaccine mandate would be obviously illegal and unconstitutional, Rivkin and Alt write, including that “The states have plenary police power to regulate health and safety. Congress has only those limited powers enumerated in the Constitution. That wouldn’t include the authority to impose a $155 fine (today’s equivalent of the $5 at stake in *Jacobson)* on an individual who declines to be vaccinated, much less to prevent him from earning a livelihood.”

But who needs the Constitution when you have an American people conditioned for compliance with even wildly outlandish things the screen people insist they must think and do?

Earlier this week, the Wall Street Journal published [a letter](https://www.wsj.com/articles/vaccine-mandate-covid-19-biden-osha-rule-legal-11633381896) from Bruce Atkinson making several excellent observations about the nonexistent mandate, including the following:

*The mandate’s nonexistence shields the Biden administration from legal challenges that may ultimately restrict the Occupational Safety and Health Administration’s authority. Yet the mandate is still effective at compelling industries and companies into compliance, as it leaves room for any eventual issuance to target noncompliant entities. This implied cudgel is particularly effective on industries and companies that are dependent on federal spending or the goodwill of federal regulators. The nonexistent mandate also allows so-inclined state and local governments and companies to issue their own mandates, seemingly in lockstep with Washington.*

*The Biden White House has been well-served by presenting a nonexistent mandate as a done deal.*

Now, let me see, what presidential administration does all this remind you of? Why, that of Mr. “Pen and Phone” himself, Barack Obama.

His also wildly unconstitutional Deferred Action for Child Arrivals was simply a two-page memo, for example, but it is [still allowing](https://www.cbsnews.com/news/daca-judge-orders-u-s-to-close-program-for-dreamers-calling-it-illegal/) some 616,000 people to simply ignore major U.S. laws, and could easily be reinstated by courts as litigation continues nearly a decade later. It seems that, given such unchecked gains from openly lawless actions Democrats have turned into standard operating procedure over the years, Joe Biden feels free to reduce that constitutional contempt to simply a phone now.

What this “government by press release” also allows is for Republicans like Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb to [complain](https://www.indystar.com/story/money/2021/09/10/biden-vaccine-mandate-covid-testing-governor-eric-holcomb-todd-rokita-indiana-lawmakers-against/8272040002/) about Biden’s tyranny while using zip, nada, zilch of their elected authority to stop it. Holcomb has used the same executive rule-by-decree throughout the lockdown era without effective restraint by a supermajority-Republican state legislature, even telling the press churches were required to deliver Christ’s Body and Blood his way while [quietly keeping that part out of his executive orders](https://thefederalist.com/2020/04/10/indiana-governor-to-churches-worship-as-i-say-or-be-shut-down/), surely because government dictating religious exercise is obviously unconstitutional and would quickly have generated lawsuits.

All this allows weak Republicans and evil Democrats to shadowbox each other for the cameras while ordinary Americans suffer under their abdicated leadership. By the time Republican attorneys general get around to filing lawsuits over any eventually issued legal documents that fulfill Biden’s promises, the vast majority of people not wanting government to force them into medical procedures will likely be unemployed, forcibly injected with treatments that have almost no track record, forced from their education paths, provided with fake documents like these citizens are beneath COVID-rule-exempt illegal aliens, and all the rest.

This is how weak Republicans keep letting Democrats go right on gleefully disemboweling our rights just like they have nearly 50 million of the American unborn. Gee, thanks, “public servants.” Tell me another one about how you love American liberties and the Bill of Rights. I’ll believe that when I see you sacrificing anything substantial to fight for them.

What Democrats are doing as Republicans stand down yet again is a moral and constitutional abomination. Not even the fig-leaf pose of a pen signing balderdash-filled documents is needed for today’s Democrats. Whatever they say, you do. You have no rights or say in the matter, no possibility for objecting to even them forcibly injecting things into your own body and the bodies of your children.

These people believe they are royalty, and too many Americans are acting like they’re these losers’ serfs instead of citizens endowed by God with inalienable rights, including the right to consent — through *elected representatives*, not never-elected dictatorial bureaucrats — to rules that restrict our rights, everyday lives, and human dignity.

**Secession Fever**

When Joe Biden entered office, he claimed it marked a new era of unity. It is clear to the world that the last thing Sleepy Joe wants is to unite the country. He has ignored every concern Americans. In fact, he seems driven to put globalists and socialists first.  
  
Meanwhile, Democrats blindly forged ahead with a wildly unpopular agenda. They keep the border open as they defund police departments. Cities are crumbling as liberals push for more taxes and heavy regulation. Americans are actually wondering for the first time since 1860 if the nation deserves to survive.

And it seems like they agree with liberals on at least one thing.   
A shocking new poll from the Center for Politics at the University of Virginia reveals that over half of Trump voters surveyed, and 41% of Biden voters, are in favor of blue and/or red states seceding from the union. They scarcely know how to fix their own roads, and they want to secede from the union. They don’t have an army, a currency, an education system that works, or a budget surplus, but they want to secede.   
  
Roughly 4 in 10 (41%) of Biden and half (52%) of Trump voters at least somewhat agree that it’s time to split the country, favoring blue/red states seceding from the union. That would make at least one new country, one made of 23 States and one made of 27 States. Of course, the truth is there is no such thing as a blue State. There are only blue cities.   
  
If you go out into your town, you’ll probably meet people from all walks of life. You might even meet people with different political views. Do you disagree with them? Sure. Are you unable to live, work, and coexist with them? Of course, not. The only reason so many voters feel this way is because toxic politicians are ignoring their concerns, in favor of special interest groups and foreign donors. It’s especially bad in blue-run States, where Democratic majorities railroad their agenda through. Even in Texas (a conservative state that values democracy), Democrats disrupted the government by fleeing to D.C.  
  
There appears to be no effort by lawmakers to work together, find compromises, and put their own bank accounts and stock portfolios aside for the good of the people. Long gone are the days where both blue and red leaders can find common ground and negotiate.  
  
Who is really to blame for all this? The Global Media Empire seems to work for themselves these days, but the news actors and Hollywood pedos don’t have the power they used to have. Powerful globalists purchase lawmakers like runway models to pass policies that weaken our country and make themselves rich. That is exactly the way fascism works.

And, there is always the toxic D.C. swamp, that feeds off of conflict and crisis and war.   
Regardless of the reason, the solution is the same: strong leaders who will work to unite the country are the enemy of the Global Syndicate. Any voice calling out the corruption becomes an enemy of the Deep State. The J6 prisoners are being tortured for their free speech. The saddest thing of all, is that Americans have not stormed the Bastille in DC and freed them. It will soon be a year. The leaders of the revolution are being forged into fine steel in those chambers of hell. One has already died by Pelosi’s hand. Others will soon follow. We think they can’t possibly think about arresting a society, but that is exactly what the Syndicate wants to do.

While 50 thousand CCP soldiers are slicing away at the tendons of America from the inside, Virtual Joe and his gang of criminals are crushing the hands of the working poor and putting IRS blades against the necks of the middle class. Australians are showing the world what a public resistance looks like, and they have no way to defend themselves except for bare hands and yard tools.

Secession fever is a symptom of something much more dangerous. The solution is not splitting the country. The solution is right before our eyes. The Founding Fathers knew how to do it. They established a Republican form of government and guaranteed it with the union army. That was made for a nation of cooperative States. Now, some of those States are populous enough and certainly rich enough to be their own countries, and yet they do not have a Republican form of government.

They have democracies. They are mob rule. That means that one city can rule the entire State. What the States need to do is establish a Republic inside their own State. Give each county the right to cast a single vote in the State legislature. Each County then has their Democratic vote, and then the winner takes the County. And then the County casts its vote.

Winner of the most Counties, wins the State offices. That would end secession.

**Virtual Joe Going for Obama’s Title as World’s Greatest Gun Salesman**

In most States you have to get a permit to buy a handgun. But in those same States a CCW holder can buy as many guns as they wish without an additional permit being required. They are the best of the best, going through extensive background checks, training, and testing. Sheriffs count them as defacto deputies helping to protect the county against criminals.

We knew that the Great Gun Run of 2020 led to millions of new gun owners, but according to a new report from the Crime Prevention Research Center, it also led to a huge increase in the number of individuals licensed to *carry*a firearm. The CRPC [report](https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3937627) shows that there are an estimated 21.5-million concealed carry licensees across the United States, and the rate of growth is phenomenal; up 48% over the past five years and a 10.5% increase in 2020 alone.

Some highlights from the report:

* 8.3% of American adults have permits. Outside of the restrictive states of California and New York, about 10.0% of adults have a permit.
* In fifteen states, more than 10% of adults have permits. Since 2019, Arkansas and Oklahoma have fallen below 10%, but they are now all Constitutional Carry states, meaning that people no longer need a permit to carry. Virginia’s concealed carry rate has risen to above 10%.
* Alabama has the highest concealed carry rate — 32.1%. Indiana is second with 21.6%, and Iowa is third with 16.5%.
* Six states now have over 1 million permit holders: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Pennsylvania, and Texas. Florida is the first state to have over 2.5 million permits.

The CRPC noted that concealed carry licenses declined in Arkansas and Oklahoma, but only because Constitutional Carry is the law of the land in both states. That’s also the case in 19 other states, which means that while there are more than 21-million Americans exercising their right to carry with a license, there are undoubtably hundreds of thousands if not millions more who are now lawfully bearing arms without the need for a government-issued permission slip.

There’s another factor that could soon add to the number of Americans who are exercising their right to carry; the *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen*case coming before the Supreme Court next month. That case has the potential to overturn the state’s subjective “may issue” permitting system, and could very well impact the handful of other states with similar laws on the books.

If the Supreme Court strikes down the “proper cause” requirement in the eight May Issue states, we estimate that there could be at least 2.3 million more concealed handgun permits. The eight states with that rule have issued permits to only 1.24% of their adult population compared to 10.77% for the other states.

There aren’t many “may issue” states left, but they are a pretty population-rich group, with New York and California alone close to 60-million residents between them. There are millions of Americans right now who would love to be able to exercise their right to bear arms in self-defense but can’t because the state they live in refuses to recognize the right at all.

It’s also worth noting the explosive growth in the right to carry took place despite the fact that sheriffs’ offices and police departments in many cities and counties were closed to the public for weeks or months at a time, or only accepted concealed carry applications by appointment. We know that in places like Wayne County, Michigan and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the wait to simply apply for a license to carry was six months or more by June of last year. In Illinois it was also taking almost six months on average for the state police to process carry applications, and some folks have had to wait for more than a year. There might be 21.5-million carry licenses active across the United States, but the demand for them is even higher than that.

# **China Is Preparing for War With Taiwan**



'Zhen Hua 28' and a Z-8 helicopter.

VIA TWITTER

To have [any chance of conquering Taiwan](https://www.forbes.com/sites/davidaxe/2021/07/26/the-ultra-mega-taiwan-invasion-could-defy-comprehension/?sh=3d20260e3452), China might need to transport as many as two million troops across the rough 100 miles of the Taiwan Strait and land them under fire at the island’s 14 potential invasion beaches or 10 major ports.

That’s a lot of people—far, far more than the People’s Liberation Army Navy can haul in its 11 new amphibious ships. To transport the bulk of the invasion force, Beijing almost certainly would take up into naval service thousands of civilian ships.

To that end, the Chinese Communist Party has created a legal and bureaucratic framework for taking over control of commercial shipping. Meanwhile, naval engineers have begun modifying key vessels to make them better assault ships.

All that is to say, the vast flotilla that would be both the vehicle for China’s assault on Taiwan—and the biggest target of Taiwanese forces and their allies—is taking shape.

“If the PLA invasion force was a million or more men, then we might expect an armada of thousands or even tens of thousands of ships to deliver them, augmented by thousands of planes and helicopters,” Ian Easton, an analyst with the Project 2049 Institute in Virginia, wrote in [a recent report](https://project2049.net/2021/07/22/hostile-harbors-taiwans-ports-and-pla-invasion-plans/).

The PLA’s eight modern Type 071 landing docks and three Type 075 big-deck assault ships together [can haul around 25,000 troops](https://www.forbes.com/sites/davidaxe/2021/07/12/to-capture-taiwan-chinese-forces-might-attack-from-several-directions/?sh=53c301c74413). A drop in the bucket. To transport the balance of the invasion force, the Chinese navy can take up around 2,000 large commercial vessels crewed by around 650,000 mariners.

The legal framework is a new one. On Jan. 1, 2017, China’s National Defense Transportation Law went into effect. “Among other things, the law mandated that all of China’s basic infrastructure and related transportation platforms would henceforth be treated as military-civil fusion assets,” Easton explained.

“At the CCP’s discretion, they were now legally required to be designed, built and managed to support future military operations. In the event of conflict, they would be pressed into wartime service. Now they had to prepare accordingly in peacetime.”

According to Easton, the roughly 1,000 large vessels belonging to China COSCO Shipping Corporation could comprise the backbone of this improvised fleet. They are not armored ships, and they have no defense systems on board. They will make extremely easy targets for high-tech Taiwanese hypersonic drones and submarine smart mines. Look for 2 million Chinese troops to be shark bait within minutes after they lose sight of the Chinese mainland at night.

Engineers already had begun modifying certain vessels for their wartime roles. At least one heavylift ship got a removable helicopter deck, transforming it into [an ad hoc assault ship](https://www.forbes.com/sites/davidaxe/2020/08/22/surprise-the-chinese-navy-just-transformed-this-cargo-ship-into-an-istant-helicopter-carrier/?sh=7902dc6c1d44).

Perhaps the most important modification is a heavy ramp by which military vehicles speedily can drive from the hold of a ferry or roll-on/roll-off ship onto lighterage or a pier.

“The ramp is driven directly by two large hydraulic cylinders and two support arms,” Conor Kennedy explained in [a briefing](https://jamestown.org/program/ramping-the-strait-quick-and-dirty-solutions-to-boost-amphibious-lift/) for The Jamestown Foundation in Washington, D.C.

When conducting launch and recovery, these are connected between the top of the hydraulic mounting assemblies on the inner ramp and the top of the freight deck threshold to provide the strength and leverage required to deploy the ramp into the water and withstand sea action.

The support arms also act as preventers at maximum extension, while the ramp is kept rigid by the hydraulic cylinders. A longer outer ramp flap has also been added, controlled by another set of hydraulic cylinders mounted on the underside or backside of the ramp.

These help to provide strength at the end of the outer ramp and may also allow for further articulation to help vehicles get on the inner ramp. Based on 2020 video footage, the ramp system appears able to launch and recover at a minimum the lightweight ZTD-05 vehicle (26 tons).

These modified civilian vessels aren’t idle. Their crews actively are training for a possible assault on Taiwan. Of course, they have no assault boats. The ships will run aground before they every reach the shore. Like everything else China does, they are not permitted to don’t think things through. They must obey what their leaders tell them or die.

Thomas Shugart, a fellow with the Center for a New American Security in Washington, D.C., last week [noted](https://twitter.com/tshugart3/status/1419323927801782276) two large ferries sailing far from their home ports for what appeared to be a naval exercise. “The nearest coastline appears to consist of sandy beaches, and is near the amphibious training area from the 2020 ramp tests,” Shugart tweeted.

The huge, quasi-civilian assault fleet Beijing is building would be indispensable if the CCP ever makes good on its longstanding threat to “unify” Taiwan with China. But it also represents a profound weakness.

Assaulting Taiwan under fire surely will be very, very dangerous for an armed, armored warship with a large, well-trained crew. For a thin-skinned, lightly-crewed commercial ship, it’s even more dangerous. Taiwan and its allies are stocking up on long-range anti-ship missiles. The plan, if that giant Chinese fleet ever sails toward Taiwan with a couple million troops aboard, is to sink as many of them as possible in the day or two it would take for Beijing to assemble the fleet and send it across the Taiwan Strait.

In assigning its commercial ships a military role, China risks not just a fleet, but a big chunk of its economy, as well. Taiwan is technologically one of the most advanced nations in the world. They control an entire fleet of satellites, submarines, warships, aircraft, and sophisticated defense systems that make the Dome look like a flyswatter.

Go Taiwan.