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PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION 2020 ✓

USA OUTLOOK

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Foto: TechCrunch

Coronavirus vaccine human trials began.

A recent association among the National Institutes of Health and drug maker company Moderna, made possible the development of a potential vaccine for the Coronavirus; the trials began on Monday 16th with more than 45 young volunteers receiving different doses of the shots.

This test was developed using a gene-based method that uses messenger RNA to trigger an immune response in the target, "the goal is purely to check that the vaccines show no worrisome side effects", the Associated Press reports.

This public/private association is not the only research group that is attempting to develop a vaccine, Inovio Pharmaceuticals is also aiming to begin safety tests of its vaccine candidate next month in a few dozen volunteers; this trials will take place at the University of Pennsylvania and another testing center in Kansas City.

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases director, Dr. Anthony Fauci made clear that even though the trials began this vaccines could be ready from 12 to 18 months, "you're talking about a year to a year and a half", he declared during a press conference. However, President Donald Trump has been pushing on this matter, as he declared that the work "is moving along very quickly".



Foto: Lincoln Journal Star

Economy follows the path of an induced-recession by Covid 19 spread.

After some emergency measures were approved in order to stop the advance of the virus, the economy continues to feel the effects of a possible recession, fact that was evidenced on the worst week for Wall Street in at least 3 decades having the Dow Jones Industrial Average 12.9% lower on March 17.

Also the uncertainty among the employers of the effects of the coronavirus on the U.S. Job market has made this damage looks likely to be much deeper and longer lasting that it seemed possible a week ago, since most small businesses do not have the financial capacity to pay workers for long without revenues

President Trump declared a series of measures like reducing interest rates to a range of 0.025 percent, stimulus packages that include sick paid leave for workers in small businesses, cash payments to Americans and a \$1 trillion bill to address the crisis. The future events, the development of the virus spread and the time it will take to stop it, will determine if the economy enters into a full recession stage or not.



Foto: The New York Times

New measures will help reduce the spread and assist the most affected areas by the virus.

As it was declared by President Donald Trump, Vice President Pence and Members of the Coronavirus Task Force during a press briefing on March 18, the new measures aim to provide assistance across the country.

Part of this measures include the deployment of two hospital ships fully equipped to attend the State of New York that, according to official sources it's been the most affected State by the Coronavirus within the US. The "Comfort" and the "Mercy" are expected to be sent during this week, "depending on need", declared President Trump.

Since the medical licenses are State-restricted, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is preparing a special regulation that will allow all the medical and physician personnel to perform across State lines, in order to assist the most affected and adjoining areas.



Foto: The New York Times

Primaries elections are postponed in at least 6 more States.

Since the Coronavirus threatens all aspects of massive social interactions, some States have close and postponed the Democratic Party presidential primary election, in response to growing concerns about the spread of the virus.

One of the cases is the State of Maryland, whose Governor, Larry Hogan, sent a proclamation on Tuesday to move the state's April 28 primary to June 2. Even though the Governor considered organizing the election by mail, the state election officials did not believe they had the time to make it work in that way, reports USA Today.

Also in the State of Kentucky, after a request from the Secretary of State and through its Governor Andy Beshear, the elections were set for May 19 but pushed back to June 23. The decision was taken in "the hope that this delay will allow us to have a normal election", declared Secretary of State Michael Adams through a video posted on his twitter official account.

Georgia, Puerto Rico, Wyoming and Louisiana also got into the list of states that decided to move the primary back in the calendar in order to maintain the security and health of its citizens against the Coronavirus threat.



Foto: npr.org

President Donald Trump signed the Defense Production Act to improve the medical equipment supply amid the Coronavirus spread.

As a part of the measures taken by the U.S. Government, President Donald Trump declared on Wednesday during a press briefing that he will invoke the Defense Production Act, a law that has its origins back in World War II.

This law grants the Executive branch broad powers to handle industrial production during warfare and it contains a specific section that authorizes the President to control the production and distribution of scarce materials that are declared as “essential for the nation’s defense”.

Through this authorization, the U.S. Government is able to make contracts with different companies of the industry under the law, in order to prioritize the production of specific goods, in this case, President Trump cited in his executive order “protective equipment”, presumably face masks and ventilators.