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AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION 2020 ✓

USA OUTLOOK

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Foto: Fox News

President Donald J. Trump Is Demanding Accountability from the World Health Organization

"I will never hesitate to take any necessary steps to protect the lives, health, and safety of the American people. I will always put the well-being of America first," President Donald J. Trump said.

Trump is holding the World Health Organization (WHO) accountable by putting a hold on United States funding.

- The American taxpayers provide \$400 million to \$500 million in funding to the WHO each year, but the WHO has failed them.
- The American people deserve better from the WHO, and no more funding will be provided until its mismanagement, cover-ups, and failures can be investigated.
- President Trump will continue fighting the coronavirus outbreak and will redirect global health aid to others directly engaged in the fight.

The United States is also calling for reforms to promote transparency and data sharing, hold member states accountable for abiding by the International Health Regulations, increase access to medicines, and counter China's outsized influence on the organization.



Foto: New York Post

Trump says coronavirus pandemic has peaked, some states to reopen before May 1

President Trump said Wednesday that the US had passed the peak of the coronavirus pandemic – and that some states would reopen before his May 1 deadline. "While we must remain vigilant, our strategy is working, and very strongly working. New cases are declining throughout the New York metropolitan area. Cases in Detroit and metro Denver areas are flat. Washington, DC, Baltimore, St. Louis is showing progress. New cases in New Orleans are declining. The data suggests that nationwide we have passed the peak on new cases," Trump said during the daily briefing of the Coronavirus Task Force in the Rose Garden.

The president's announcement came as confirmed cases in the US rose to more than 605,000 and the death toll topped 27,000.

Dr. Deborah Birx, a task force member, sounded a more cautionary note during the briefing. "I will remind the people again this is a highly contagious virus. Social gatherings, coming together, there is a chance an asymptomatic person can spread it unknowingly. We know if you are sick, you will stay home. Don't have that dinner party for 20 yet," she said, while adding that some states had very few cases.



Foto: CNN.com

Facebook will start warning people who 'like' or react to fake coronavirus news

Facebook announced Thursday it will start warning users if they have liked, reacted or commented on harmful Covid-19 posts that the company found to be misinformation and removed.

The feature will roll out in the coming weeks, Facebook said in a blog post.

"These messages will connect people to COVID-19 myths debunked by the World Health Organisation including ones we've removed from our platform for leading to imminent physical harm", Guy Rosen, Facebook's vice president of integrity, said in a blog post.

After the WHO declared Covid-19 a global health emergency in January, Facebook started removing misinformation that could lead to physical harm, such as inaccurate content that says physical distancing is ineffective or drinking bleach cures virus.

"We want to connect people who may have interacted with harmful misinformation about the virus with the truth from authoritative sources in case they see or hear these claims again off of Facebook," Rosen said.



Foto: Newsvoice

More Than 5.2 Million U.S. Workers Filed for Unemployment: Live Updates

The small business loan program is out of funds. Jobless claims exceed 22 million in four weeks. For some Americans, government aid payments are staying with the bank. The global economy may be permanently changed, even after it recovers.

The Small Business Administration has run out of money for its Paycheck Protection Program, officials said on Thursday, leaving millions of businesses unable to apply for emergency loans while Congress struggles to reach a deal to replenish the funds.

Congress initially allocated \$349 billion for the program, which was intended to provide loans to businesses with 500 or fewer, which was intended to provide loans to businesses with 500 or fewer employees. The money has gone quickly, with more than 1.4 million loans already approved as of Wednesday evening.

Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and Jovita Carranza, the administrator of the Small Businesses Administration, warned on Wednesday night that "by law, the S.B.A. will not be able to issue new loan approvals once the program experience a lapse in appropriations".