

The Economist

JULY 4TH-10TH 2026

बी.सी. रॉय स्मारक पुस्तकालय
B.C. ROY MEMORIAL LIBRARY

23 JUL 2026

पत्रिका अनुभाग आई आई एम सी
PERIODICAL SEC. IIMC

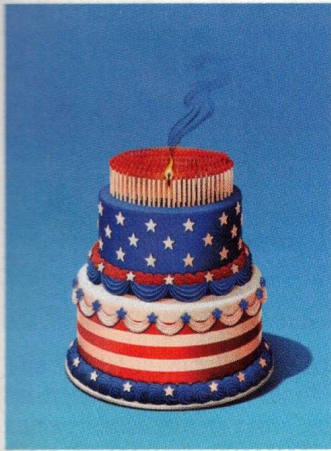


Australia.....	AS19.99(Incl.GST)	Hong Kong.....	HK\$135	Korea.....	Won17,500	New Zealand.....	NZ\$22.99	Sri Lanka.....	Rs.2700
Bangladesh.....	TK900	India.....	₹700	Malaysia.....	RM44.00	Pakistan.....	PKR2100	Taiwan.....	NT\$400
Cambodia.....	US\$16.00	Indonesia.....	Rp170,000	Myanmar.....	US\$16.00	Philippines.....	Pesos770	Thailand.....	Baht440
China.....	RMB135	Japan.....	¥1,820+Tax	Nepal.....	NR1100	Singapore.....	S\$21.00 (Inc. GST)	Vietnam.....	US\$16.00

23 JUL 2026

पत्रिका अनभाग आई आई एम सी
PE

Contents this week Politics



On the cover

This birthday comes at an anxious moment in America's history: leader, *page 7*. The nation that created the postwar order is tearing it down. What will rise from the rubble? Essay, *page 13*. An empirical look reveals a country that is mighty—but becoming less dominant, *page 27*. Donald Trump's reflecting-pool debacle is a fitting birthday gift to America: Lexington, *page 32*. America at 250: the final chapter of our series, *page 33*. Happy birthday America, the ally Europe admires—questioningly: Charlemagne, *page 52*

China's green-tech firms The AI boom and geopolitics are rewiring Asia's oceans, *page 23*

AI regulation Fable is free. But AI desperately needs better regulations: leader, *page 8*. The Trump administration now controls who gets access to the best AI, *page 64*

The future of European defence Europe ponders how to protect its eastern flank as America pulls back, *page 56*

How much sleep should you get? Is too much as bad as too little? Well Informed, *page 79*

→ Download *The Economist's* app for articles, podcasts, videos and more, published throughout the week.

The world this week

- 5 A summary of political and business news

Leaders

- 7 **America at 250**
Fireworks
8 **The government and AI**
Rules for supermodels
9 **Turkey and Israel**
Pipe down and pipe oil
9 **Shaken Venezuela**
A woeful response
10 **An admission**
We woz wrong about oil

Letters

- 11 On shutting off
Anthropic's models, startups in Honduras, sharing companies' wealth, cricket in India, reading

By Invitation

- 12 Carson Block on what AI could do to markets

Essay

- 13 **American foreign policy**
Wrecking-ball revolution



Bartleby You could read Homer. You could see the film. Or you could just go to the office, *page 66*



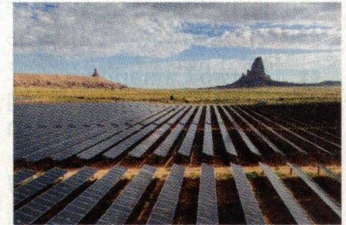
Asia

- 19 Subsea data cables
20 Imran Khan v Asim Munir
21 Rural workfare in India
22 **Ashoka** Why are Indian websites so bad?



China

- 23 China's green-tech firms are leaving America
24 Cover-up of a plane crash
25 **Chaguan** Hong Kong is reviving



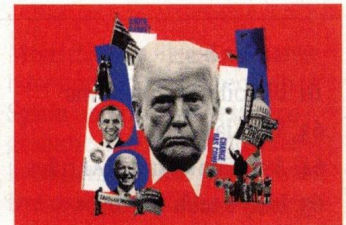
United States

- 27 American power
30 Trump and the court
31 Montgomery transformed
32 **Lexington** Redesigning Washington



America at 250

- 33 Hope, backlash and the battle for America
38 **By Invitation** Michael Beschloss on faith in America's founding principles



The Americas

- 39 Is Cuba opening up?
40 Aftershocks in Venezuela
41 Poisons in the Caribbean
42 Chinese brands in Brazil



Middle East & Africa

- 43 African suburbia
45 Starlink in Africa
45 Press freedom in Uganda
46 Middle Eastern rivals
47 Hope v reality after the war



→ Contents continues overleaf

Contents

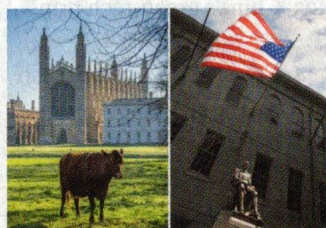
Europe

- 48 Meeting Jordan Bardella
- 49 American gas pressure
- 50 Zelensky's drone surge
- 50 A German reform deal
- 51 Borderline incompetence
- 52 **Charlemagne** Regarding America



Britain

- 53 The two Cambridges
- 55 **Bagehot** Rise of the chippy southerner



International

- 56 Europe v Russia
- 59 **The Telegram** Blackmail diplomacy



Business

- 61 Big oil's trading arms
- 63 Vibe lawyering
- 64 America's erratic AI rules
- 65 Italy's tech star IPOs
- 65 Indonesia jails a tech boss
- 66 **Bartleby** The Toddysey
- 67 **Schumpeter** Lime v liberalism



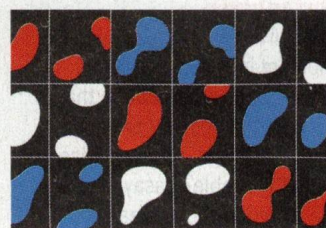
Finance & economics

- 68 The summer BBQ index
- 70 **Buttonwood** FX of a new Plaza Accord
- 71 Is *The Economist* always wrong?
- 72 Chinese capital controls
- 73 Venezuela's odd debt deal
- 74 Turkey's war-adjacent economy
- 75 **Free Exchange** Are stablecoins money?



Science & technology

- 76 Synthetic biology
- 77 Sequencing babies' genomes
- 78 Probing black holes
- 79 **Well Informed** Optimising sleep



Culture

- 80 Route 66
- 81 The magic of butterflies
- 82 **World in a dish** Heinz
- 83 Money men at Stanford
- 83 The Herculaneum scrolls
- 84 **Back Story** A starry World Cup



Economic & financial indicators

- 85 Statistics on 42 economies

Obituary

- 86 A23a, the world's oldest iceberg

Volume 460 Number 9506

Published since September 1843 to take part in 'a severe contest between intelligence, which presses forward, and an unworthy, timid ignorance obstructing our progress.'

Editorial offices in London and also:

Amsterdam, Beijing, Berlin, Brussels, Cape Town, Chicago, Dubai, Lagos, Madrid, Mexico City, Montevideo, Mumbai, Nairobi, New Delhi, New York, Paris, San Francisco, São Paulo, Shanghai, Singapore, Taipei, Tokyo, Washington DC

Subscription service

For our full range of subscription offers visit: [Economist.com/subscribe](https://www.economist.com/subscribe)

If you are experiencing problems when trying to subscribe, please visit our Help pages at: [Economist.com/help](https://www.economist.com/help) for troubleshooting advice.

To manage your account online, please visit my.economist.com where you can also access our live chat service which is available 24/7. To call us, contact our dedicated service centre on:

Asia: 001800 7711 2711
Singapore: +61 2915 75069



PEFC certified
This copy of *The Economist* is printed on paper sourced from sustainably managed forests, recycled and controlled sources certified by PEFC
www.pefc.org