

16/05/12



On the cover François Hollande, who is likely to be the next French president, would be bad for France and Europe: leader, page 9. What will the candidate bring to the job? Pages 21-23. The collapse of the Dutch government, page 25. Europe's backlash against austerity: Charlemagne, page 29

The Economist online

Daily analysis and opinion from our 19 blogs, plus audio and video content, debates and a daily chart Economist.com/blogs

E-mail: newsletters and mobile edition Economist.com/email

Print edition: available online by 7pm London time each Thursday Economist.com/print

Audio edition: available online to download each Friday Economist.com/audioedition



Volume 403 Number 8782

First published in 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: Atlanta, Beijing, Berlin, Brussels, Cairo, Chicago, Hong Kong, Johannesburg, Los Angeles, Mexico City, Moscow, New Delhi, New York, Paris, San Francisco, São Paulo, Singapore, Tokyo, Washington DC

6 The world this week

Leaders

- 9 France's election: The rather dangerous Monsieur Hollande
10 Scientific freedom: The world's deadliest bioterrorist
12 The Syrian conundrum: Time to get tougher
12 Digital data: Bit rot
13 The Sudans: Africa's next big war?
14 London's mayoral race: Right man, wrong job

Letters

- 16 On Scotland, Germany, taxation

Briefing

- 21 France's presidency: The man of the moment

Europe

- 25 The Dutch government: Waving, but then drowning
26 Serbia's elections: Cliffhangers
26 Czech politics: Wobbled, not toppled
27 Politics in Italy: What comes next
27 Turkey and the army: Military meddles
28 Germany's Pirate Party: The ayes have it
29 Charlemagne: Kicking against austerity

Britain

- 30 The stuttering economy: Double-dip trouble
31 The Murdochs and the government: Fatal attraction
32 Bagehot: The pen is mightier

Middle East and Africa

- 33 Sudan v South Sudan: Close to the brink
34 Reforming Nigeria: Back to the day job
34 South African polygamy: Swimming against the tide
35 Muslims and Jerusalem: Pilgrims' progress
35 Mobile money in Africa: Press 1 for modernity
36 Syria's rebel fighters: Bullets and bombs

United States

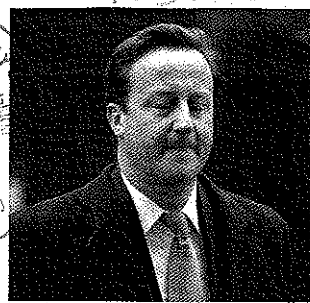
- 37 Immigration politics: The nativist millstone
38 The high price of tax breaks: Not so easy
39 The transport bill: Just the ten extensions
39 North Carolina and the death penalty: A jury of whose peers?
40 Orrin Hatch: Reading the tea leaves
40 Community colleges: Restoration drama
41 Etan Patz: Little lad still lost
42 Lexington: Are the Republicans mad?

The Americas

- 43 The UN in Haiti: First, do no harm
44 Venezuela's judiciary: Whistle-blown
44 Colombia and Venezuela: Anarchy on the border

Asia

- 45 Afghanistan and America: Agreement, at last
46 Asian missiles: Rocket salad
46 The South China Sea: Shoal mates
47 Asian economic rankings: A game of leapfrog
47 Mongolian politics: Steppe in an ugly direction
48 Malaysia's next election: Battling for the middle class
49 Banyan: Myanmar's fly in the ointment



Cameron A bad week for the British economy, page 30. More embarrassment at the Leveson inquiry, page 31. The relationship between the media and politicians: Bagehot, page 32. A British MP's long-awaited account of investigating the Murdoch empire, page 71

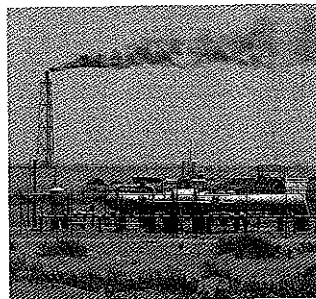


The Republicans Their policies on illegal immigration are a serious handicap in the presidential election, page 37. A party that is determined to challenge the status quo: Lexington, page 42



The Chongqing model The Chinese city's deposed leader, Bo Xilai, tried to be different. But was he? Page 50

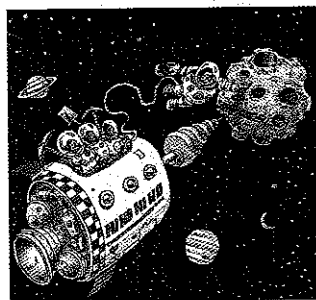
N.T. 6120 col. 107



Global imbalances China, the usual suspect, is not the main driver. Energy producers are: Free exchange, page 67. The Gulf is a huge source of financial remittances, page 61



India's solar power A boom, and what might go wrong, page 57



Asteroid mining Extracting minerals from rocks flying through space sounds like a bonkers idea. But could it work? Page 68

China

- 50 **Models of development**
Chongqing carries on
- 51 **The film industry**
The monkey and the mouse

International

- 52 **Digital archiving**
History flushed
- 53 **Teenage mortality**
The hazards of youth
- 53 **Video surveillance**
I spy, with my big eye

Business

- 55 **Walmart**
A Mexican morass
- 56 **Dewey & LeBoeuf**
When a law firm ails
- 57 **Solar power in India**
Waiting for the sun
- 58 **Healthy snacks in Japan**
The joy of soy
- 58 **Transport in Japan**
Bullet v budget
- 59 **Johnson & Johnson**
Out of the mire?
- 59 **Nestlé buys Pfizer Nutrition**
Feeding little emperors
- 60 **Schumpeter**
Simplify and repeat

Finance and economics

- 61 **Remittance corridors**
New rivers of gold
- 62 **Hong Kong property**
Mid-levels they ain't
- 63 **Buttonwood**
The great house-price divide
- 64 **Sovereigns v creditors**
Deferring to Leviathan
- 64 **The euro's rescue fund**
Funny money, fuzzy maths

- 65 **Spanish banks**
False summit
- 65 **BTG Pactual goes public**
Back to basics
- 66 **Migration in Europe**
Mobile moans
- 67 **Free exchange**
Petrodollars and global imbalances

Science and technology

- 68 **Mining asteroids**
Going platinum
- 69 **Science and terror**
Jail-bird flu
- 70 **Genomic research**
Consent 2.0

Books and arts

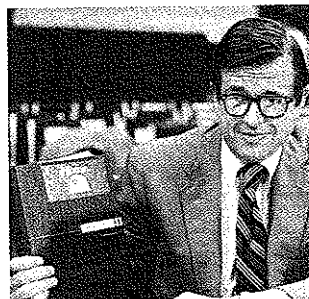
- 71 **The British press**
Dial M for Murdoch
- 72 **New American fiction**
Nick Dybek
- 72 **New British fiction**
Jennie Erdal
- 73 **Jonathan Franzen**
Farther away
- 73 **On immortality**
Upwards and onwards
- 74 **The unconscious mind**
Hidden depths

80 Economic and financial indicators

Statistics on 42 economies, plus a closer look at taxing wages

Obituary

- 82 **Chuck Colson**
In His service



Chuck Colson Our obituary of a pointman for Richard Nixon and Jesus Christ, page 82

Principal commercial offices:

25 St James's Street, London SW1A 1HG
Tel: 020 7830 7000

Boulevard des Tranchées 16
1206 Geneva, Switzerland
Tel: 41 22 566 2470

750 3rd Avenue, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10017
Tel: 1 212 541 0500


60/F Central Plaza
18 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong
Tel: 852 2585 3888

Other commercial offices:

Chicago, Dubai, Frankfurt, Los Angeles, Paris, San Francisco and Singapore

Subscription service

For our latest subscription offers, visit economist.com/offers or call the telephone number provided below:
Telephone: +44 (0) 1444 475 647

 When you subscribe, a tree will be planted for you in *The Economist* forest.

Subscription for 1 year (51 issues)

Euro-zone countries €185	
Czech Republic	CZK 5,365
Denmark	DKr 1,600
Hungary	HUF 58,850
Norway	Nkr 1,710
Poland	PLN 875
Sweden	SKr 1,780
Switzerland	SFr 298
Other Europe (ex UK) €185	
Middle East - GCC	US\$345
South Africa	Rand 2,040
Middle East + Africa	US\$285

An Economist Group business



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

