

1785

France limits the importation of goods from Britain.

1815

Napoleon Bonaparte surrenders to the British at Rochefort, France.

1898

U.S. troops under General William R. Shafter take Santiago de Cuba during the Spanish-American War.



1966

Ho Chi Minh orders a partial mobilization of North Vietnam to defend against American airstrikes.

From White House sledgehammer



that the US could walk away from its NATO commitments if nations didn't acquiesce to his constantly shifting demands.

The Bush-Blair dismemberment of Iraq sowed the seeds of the anarchy ripping the Middle East apart today. We are still reeling from that eight-year reign of George W. Bush and the neocons; yet this US administration after just one year — with its vandalism of international institutions, the surrender of Jerusalem, policy confusion toward Syria, and open contempt for Islam — is like President Bush on steroids. Let's take our heads out of the sand: Trump could conceivably win an eight-year term; but what would the consequences be for the Middle East, for global institutions, for the world?

After the 9/11 attacks, it was NATO states that rallied around America, based on their ethos of collective self-defense. Faced with an aggressive Russia and an increasingly assertive and powerful China, these principles of mutual support can't be taken for granted. However, the threat to NATO is bigger than one US president. Trump is part of a wider current of nativist, illiberal tendencies bubbling away under the NATO umbrella; from encroaching authoritarianism and the throttling of democratic institutions in Poland and

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Recep Tayyip Erdogan's Turkey to xenophobic populism in Hungary and Italy. In France, Germany and Spain, the far right has surged into the mainstream and is hungry for power. Along with their hostility to NATO's founding aspirations and their cosy relations with the Kremlin, these forces are diametrically opposed to the cosmopolitan, liberal values of Europe's traditional political classes, fuelling a polarized, poisonous atmosphere within Western institutions.

We know how Trump's Helsinki meeting with Putin will go: Trump will deferentially offer flattery and praise, will perform rhetorical cartwheels to avoid criticism, will

stoutly assert Russian non-interference in American elections, and will trumpet every dubious concession from Putin as proof of his deal-making genius. This is despite Putin's promises meaning nothing, and his ability to nimbly run circles round Trump.

Powerhouses of global decision-making — the G-7, NATO, the World Trade Organisation and the UN — have almost ceased to function. The issue for world leaders attending these summits is no longer the policy agenda, but managing fallout from predictable bouts of pique and sabotage from the US. This US administration is, meanwhile, about to discover the bitter consequences of its global trade war.

Dysfunction and paralysis within global institutions precedes the Trump administration, but it is accelerating their demise and exacerbating the international fallout. As the number of failing and conflict-racked states continues to grow and liberal democracy is bludgeoned into decrepitude by the twin curses of authoritarianism and neo-fascism, who is there to prevent the lights of civilization and progress being snuffed out altogether?

America and Europe need one another but, with a hostile White House, European states can't afford to lapse into confused disu-

nity. Rather than allowing themselves to be isolated and bullied — or pandering to Trump in the hope of a fair hearing — Merkel, May, Justin Trudeau and Emmanuel Macron must forge their own common agenda. This doesn't mean provoking or opposing the US, but rather setting an example about how pragmatic and mature multilateral diplomacy should be conducted; presenting an enlightened and globalist bulwark against the irrational, illiberal, racist rantings of the populist far right. The US Republican Party and Congress must likewise step out of this administration's shadow and reassert the enlightened principles of the American constitution.

The world should not throw out the diplomatic rulebook simply because of one administration. However, if at any point Trump or his successor were so minded, they would find the institutions of multilateralism ready to welcome America back from self-imposed isolation into the community of civilized, law-abiding nations. Let us simply pray that the damage wrought upon the world until that moment isn't more than we can bear.

(Baria Alamuddin is an award-winning journalist and broadcaster in the Middle East and the UK. She is editor of the Media Services Syndicate and has interviewed numerous heads of state.)

The world sick

ate illness

It is common for patients to resist a diagnosis with a psychotic component, insisting instead that what they really have is depression that should be treated with antidepressant medication rather than antipsychotics.

access those services, or that they are unnecessary. No one would begrudge economically advantaged people accessing treatment for high blood pressure, or asthma, or sporting injuries, and nor should they be considered to be acting inappropriately for accessing treatment for mental illness. But it does point to a terrible unfairness that will never be rectified by public awareness and stigma reduction alone.

When it comes to the public conversation about mental illness, we need to inflect that conversation with nuance. After all, speaking of mental illness in blanket terms is no more useful than speaking about "illness" in blanket terms. There is a world of difference between the common cold, cancer and diabetes.

A nuanced discussion of mental health might include the fact that even within the diagnosis of depression there are degrees of severity, that other illnesses like psychosis deserve recognition, that there is an entire dimension of human suffering in the form of personality vulnerabilities and personality disorders that can be borne of trauma and that need much greater understanding and discussion.

But ultimately, raising awareness, that impotent entreaty of our time, is not enough. Greater funding is needed, and it needs to be targeted at the greatest suffering.

(Lisa Pryor, a medical doctor, is the author, most recently, of "A Small Book About Drugs" and a contributing opinion writer.)

CIVILIAN'S TRIBUNE

Let this friendship flourish



The growing ties between the Kingdom and India is a welcome news for the global community now being harmed by narrow-minded leaders like Donald Trump, Vladimir Putin and Erdogan. Both India and the Kingdom have been for centuries the land of tolerance with equal freedom for all faiths, all people. It is the humanity that serves the basic guiding principles in both nations. Both nations

can also excel in trade, especially in the service sector, considering the strong human resources wealth the Kingdom possess. Let this friendship cherish and flourish setting a model for other world countries to emulate. Two lands symbolizing love and tolerance coming together will offer great lessons to the world isolated by authoritarian leaders and their dividing ideologies.

Mahendra Chowdhary

TOP 4 TWEETS

01

Russia's attack on the Rus & other democracies around the world transcends partisanship. Congress needs to get serious with our president about protecting our national security & elections from future international interventions.
@SenBlumenthal

02

President Trump's press conference with Putin was an embarrassing spectacle. Rather than make clear that interference in our elections is unacceptable, Trump instead accepted Putin's denials and cast doubt on the conclusions of our intelligence community. This is not normal.
@SenSanders

03

Meanwhile, the Kamikaze Brexiteers and Kamikaze Remainers are currently tearing each other to pieces in the Commons over who has the right to bring down Theresa May. Bliss it was in that dawn to be alive...
@DPJHodges

04

At the end of our journey here in Russia I have to thank the @FIFACOM for their great hospitality and I enjoyed every minute with all the great legends that has been involved in all the events during this great @FIFAWorldCup big thanks to the FIFA president and all the FIFA team
@midoahm

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