

# Examining the Methods and Means of COVID Propaganda Dissemination

By <u>Gary Weglarz</u> Global Research, October 08, 2021 Region: <u>USA</u> Theme: <u>Media Disinformation</u>

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It is useful to identify and examine the many facets and the all encompassing nature of American/Western propaganda systems in our efforts to better understand why so many people have great difficulty in sorting truth from fiction regarding the "covid pandemic" narratives. The following outline and commentary are an effort to more clearly identify the ubiquitous nature of Western covid propaganda in order to better understand its impacts on the public mind.

One method of propaganda dissemination during the promotion of the covid narratives has been major medical journals printing false covid related disinformation posing as "science." Early in the propaganda operation both The Lancet and the New England Journal of Medicine had to retract fraudulent articles dismissing the efficacy and falsely inflating the danger of using hydroxychloroquine in treatment of covid patients. (1). MSM widely promoted the fraudulent claims, but of course expressed no interest in their subsequent retractions.

That two of the world's most widely esteemed medical journals were both guilty of publishing what were essentially disinformation pieces rife with conflicts of interest and essentially constituting what MSM calls "fake news" shines a bright light on the corruption of objective science which has now been captured by powerful monied pharmaceutical and commercial interests.

Print and web based legacy media such as the NYT, WAPO, Guardian, BBC, etc. have all been engaged in credulous daily promotion of the "official" covid narratives. They have done so while refusing to publish counter-narratives even by world renowned scientific experts, and while shaming, demeaning, and ridiculing any who question the "official science" of the CDC and WHO.

The official covid narratives are also promoted daily on all mainstream television news outlets such as CNN, MSNBC, FOX, PBS, BBC, etc. as well as on their web-based presence on platforms such as Youtube, Facebook, Twitter, etc.

Adding to the seamless nature of public exposure to the official covid propaganda narratives

are their constant presence in mainstream print (and web based) specialty and/or alternative media such as Daily Beast, Politico, TYT, Rolling Stone, Huffington Post, National Geographic, Scientific American. (2)

The radio airways provide yet another means for our ingestion of the endless daily repetition of the official covid propaganda narratives. These include of course all MSM radio affiliates, ubiquitous talk radio, and of course NPR. (3)

As if one has not been subject to enough official covid propaganda by bedtime, the late night comedians continue the daily onslaught often during their monologues. A standard format in this aspect of propaganda promotion is that one must have properly ingested one's daily dose of covid propaganda in order to "get the joke" and thus be able to identify with one's favorite comedian. Covid propaganda is simply the background "wallpaper" on the shows of the "hip" late night comedians such as Trevor Noah, Steven Colbert, John Oliver, etc.

However, propaganda as "humor" sometimes moves beyond simple recitation of official narratives and the shaming of the unvaccinated. In some cases it engages in the more sinister openly proclaimed dehumanization of the unvaccinated as "other" to be shunned, scorned and even denied medical care as evidenced by the recent monologue comments of late night comedian Jimmy Kimmel. (4)

Sports reporting both web and radio based also act as outlets for official covid narratives, including the shaming of those who question such narratives and/or who refuse to be vaccinated. This is true of sports pundits for a variety of outlets. Youtube based sports pundit Rich Eisen recently used his platform to confront Draymond Green of the Golden State Warriors basketball team because Green dared to defend the right of one of his teammates Andrew Wiggins to exercise his freedom to make his own decision on rejecting a vaccine. Wiggins has since succumbed to pressure and accepted the vaccine. (5)

Escaping the pernicious presence of the official covid narratives is virtually impossible unless one simply swears off all contact with the major forms of Western media.

#### **Censorship & Demonization of Dissenting Voices**

To insure proper absorption of the official propaganda narratives a regime of outright censorship has become normalized. This includes the removal of specific examples of "offending" material from web based platforms like Youtube, Facebook and Twitter, etc. This sort of open censorship, of even expert scientific opinion, has become part of the so called "new normal." Offenders are often put on notice that further such violations of "community standards" for example, will lead to further sanctions.

Youtube interviews with world renowned scientists have been demonetized and/or removed due to such scientists simply sharing their own scientific opinion. This is done should that expert opinion differ from the "official narrative" according to the censors employed by Tech platforms. One of the co-inventors of the mRNA vaccine technology Dr. Robert Malone experienced such censorship several months ago. (6) Three days after being censored and removed from Youtube for expressing his concerns about the safety of vaccines delivered by technology he helped create, Wikipedia suddenly rewrote Dr. Malone's biography in the process hiding his contribution to the creation of mRNA technology. (7). One can be forgiven for wondering if this was done by Wikipedia in a nod to Orwell's 1984 "Party"

#### maxim - "Ignorance is Strength."

Image on the right: Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.



Complete de-platforming on web based social media of well respected voices is also now becoming normative. A recent example is the complete removal from Youtube of the site of **Robert F. Kennedy**, Jr's Children's Health Defense and Dr. Mercola's medical site, along with others who challenge the official covid narratives. (8). Similar removal/de-platforming of medical professionals and scientists on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and other web based media have also occurred.

Another area of web based censorship is the removal of user generated Facebook groups created by those wishing to share their negative post-vaccination reactions with others given the silence and lack of support from within the medical community itself for such individuals. (9). Multiple such user groups have been banned from Facebook for simply providing a forum for users to share their own personal experiences.

The impact of such overt censorship has been to put all who post material and opinions on platforms like Facebook, Youtube and Twitter to consciously engage in self-censorship in order to not risk being de-platformed. News and analysis sites like Jimmy Dore, Dark Horse Podcast, Joe Rogan, and many others now openly discuss avoiding using or discussing certain words, phrases, or topics related to the official covid narratives that might lead to "warnings" or de-platforming. Self censorship has become yet another aspect of our new normal.

An invisible and too seldom discussed stealth method of the censorship of any of us who are questioning the official covid narratives is the Big Tech use of internet search algorithms designed to suppress or completely hide the existence of the material challenging official narratives. I find my own Google searches for topics such as "covid vaccine adverse reactions" end up providing endless pages of material simply censoring out and/or debunking the very idea that such adverse events could be anything but "fake news."

I have found that the suppression of any articles questioning the official narratives that isn't presented as "fake news" is almost virtually complete in my own Google searches. This means one must know before one searches the actual name of the post you are looking for or of the name of an alternative independent media site like Global Research or OffGuardian, because it appears that Google will now routinely use its algorithms to do everything in its power to avoid taking you to anything but articles and sites supporting the official narratives.

We now live in a world in which MSM outlets across all platforms routinely refuse to publish general articles, opinion pieces, video interviews, or even reference peer reviewed scientific journal articles by world renowned scientists if that material diverges from the official CDC/WHO opinion and stated policy. One cannot help but note the rather seamless nature of this entire propaganda operation. It is indeed impressive from a prospective of totalitarian narrative control.

However, even this massive ability to dominate narrative construction and dissemination appears not to be sufficient in the opinion of those at the helm of the oligarch controlled structures of media power. Thus independent popular media platforms are subject to what appear to be well orchestrated and coordinated attacks from MSM outlets should they report material that questions or in any way challenges MSM covid reporting.

A recent example of such attacks was the MSM wide disinformation campaign aimed at popular Youtube personality Joe Rogan who self-reported his own positive Ivermectin experience in treating his covid. His use of Ivermectin was not only widely panned and demeaned across MSM, but was also routinely intentionally and deceitfully distorted to suggest he had used the "animal version" of the drug scornfully referred to in MSM reports as a "horse dewormer." This disinformation was widely disseminated even though Rogan had clearly stated he received the Ivermectin prescription from his own doctor. (10).

Such MSM attacks are designed to intimidate and although they likely did no significant damage to someone with Rogan's large audience base, they may certainly cause others in independent media who have smaller audiences to hesitate to share their own similar experiences for fear of such negative repercussions.

Such attacks by MSM, and censorship by Facebook, Youtube and Twitter, are now normative even when reporting the results of peer reviewed scientific journal articles that suggest possible efficacy of Ivermectin and hydroxychloroquine in covid treatment. Clearly it is not "the science" that MSM is protecting with such attacks, but the official propaganda narrative.

Medical professional organizations, medical licensing boards, hospitals and related entities are now literally threatening doctors with loss of hospital privileges and/or license to practice for simply having and sharing a medical opinion that diverges from the official narratives. (11)

Newsweek reported "a joint statement issued by the American Board of Internal Medicine, the American Board of Family Medicine and the American Board of Pediatrics" pointed out quite clearly exactly what type of "medical opinion" by a practicing physician might endanger his/her license to practice. "The evidence that we have safe, effective and widely available vaccines against COVID-19 is overwhelming. We are particularly concerned about physicians who use their authority to denigrate vaccination at a time when vaccines continue to demonstrate excellent effectiveness against severe illness, hospitalization and death." (11)

The need for such an overt threat from these higher levels of the medical establishment makes clear that at least some physicians retain both independence of thought and the moral integrity required to form their own opinion. However, the issuance of such a hamhanded threat based upon clearly unscientific and unsupported reassurances of "vaccine safety" suggests that these higher echelons of the medical establishment in the United States are now captive to monied interests, thus completely undermining the integrity of American medical practice.

My own medical care is through a large southern California university based consortium. I recently asked my physician if she would prescribe a prophylactic dose of Ivermectin that I could keep on hand should I begin to develop covid symptoms. She explained she was not allowed to do so, but that she would forward my request to the consortium's "infectious disease specialist" who promptly responded that my doctor could not in fact prescribe Ivermectin for me because "the reliable evidence available does not support the use of Ivermectin for treatment or prevention of COVID-19." My own research into the available information on Ivermectin suggests this contention is clearly not accurate, but there is of course no recourse to challenge this institutional policy.

I cannot help but reflect on the irony that this same medical practice can and does continue to prescribe statin medications for their patients in spite of the now massive scientific research indicating that "the reliable evidence does not support" statin use for a large percentage of those who will continue to be put on statins, in spite of the many known dangerous side-effects.

Although I have great respect for my own primary care physician, she is literally not allowed to practice medicine independently in treating covid, but must instead seek permission to simply prescribe a globally used medication known to be safe that has clearly shown great efficacy around the world in covid treatment. Instead the official opinion of the higher-ups controlling my physician's medical practice appears to be "If you get sick enough show up at the ER, but otherwise we refuse to treat you." Needless to say even while refusing to issue an Ivermectin script, I continue to receive regular email notices from my medical consortium reminding me to "schedule my covid vaccination."

Many doctors are now expressly forbidden from publicly discussing or reporting vaccine adverse reactions, and are forbidden to use their professional expertise in order to treat their own patients should that entail prescribing officially "demonized" medications such as Ivermectin and hydroxychloroquine.

Clearly we have never seen such draconian attempts at controlling the treatment options available to physicians and thus to their patients. Nor have we seen the professional opinions of highly respected front-line acute-care medical providers who actually "treat" covid on a daily basis overtly demeaned in MSM. Bedside acute-care physicians are thus being thwarted using overt threats to their licensure in order to enforce such "new normal" Orwellian control.

Meanwhile, the demonization of the unvaccinated in MSM using these widely varied methods of propaganda dissemination is now ubiquitous. There are now two relatively new categories of "human beings" inhabiting planet earth – the righteous and obedient "vaccinated" and the unclean, unworthy and dangerous "unvaccinated." This represent the latest in oligarchy's endless efforts at "divide and conquer."

Clearly much appears to be at stake in the opinion of said global oligarchy. The uberwealthy and their public representatives seem to be pushing all of their chips to the center of the table as they place massive bets on this covid propaganda campaign. Those bets are wagered against the credibility of what now amounts to almost all Western institutions. Given the completely fatuous nature of the official covid narratives one can assume a significant level of desperation must exist among our global elites. They appear to be dedicated to finding some means, any means, that might allow them to maintain their own power and control in the world. A world in which a literal "house of cards" global economy, combined with ever greater ecosystem degradation and dis-regulation, is able less and less to ensure their continued future dominance.

### Manipulation of Data and Definitions to Support the Propaganda Narratives

One cannot help but notice the importance of language in any propaganda operation. Words have meaning, as do those sets of words we call "definitions." What are we to make of the WHO changing the definition of "herd immunity" so that herd immunity is no longer achieved through a population being exposed to a pathogen and developing a protective immune response, but rather is now to be understood in terms of "vaccines?"(12)

The new WHO definition reads: "herd immunity,' also known as 'population immunity,' is a concept used for vaccination, in which a population can be protected from a certain virus if a threshold of vaccination is reached." (12) Since when has this EVER been the definition of herd immunity? Answer, since the WHO changed the definition during the covid propaganda operation.

In a public presentation the WHO director general explained this Orwellian decision to change the definition using suitably Orwellian double-speak: "Never in the history of public health has herd immunity been used as a strategy for responding to an outbreak, let alone a pandemic. It is scientifically and ethically problematic." (12)

Of course the simple unassailable "reality" here on planet earth is that we have as a species ALWAYS relied historically over endless millennia on the development of herd immunity by surviving whatever pathogen we were collectively exposed to. It is only at this very moment in time, in the midst of the covid propaganda operation, that it has ever been necessary to "deny" that rather elementary fact of our collective human history.

Additional examples of changing an official institutionally based definition to support the covid propaganda narratives is the CDC changing its definition of both "immunity" and "vaccine." (13)

A final example on altering definitions and of data manipulation is the WHO changing how the actual cause of death on death certificates is reported, done clearly in order to inflate covid deaths thus promoting the official "pandemic" narrative. (14) (15). These changes smack of a Three-Stooges level of slapstick absurdity when it comes to simple common sense. Under the new rules one could have essentially been perfectly healthy one moment, but had just been exposed by proximity to someone with a covid infection the next, or given a false-positive PCR at 45 cycles, and then immediately struck by a bolt of lightening and killed. Then, by the new definitions, while in defiance of all common sense, the coroner would be given enough wiggle room so that he could still make a case for "death by covid" on one's death certificate. (16) "Orwellian" doesn't quite do justice to this level of unscientific absurdity.

Manipulation of what constitutes a covid 'case' has been an essential propaganda tool in creating the "impression" of a pandemic. The pandemic hysteria itself is based more than anything upon fraudulent "false positives" obtained with the PCR test. MSM quickly shifted

early in the propaganda rollout from concern about supposed covid deaths, to focusing more on such false-positive "cases" which they dishonestly portrayed as actual illness. These daily touted "cases" appear to be primarily people registering a false positive on a PCR test given at a grossly inflated and therefore meaningless 35-45 cycles.

Massive numbers of such false positive or "asymptomatic cases" were thus created out of thin air. Voila! Instant proof of a pandemic. Most of these supposed "cases" were admittedly "asymptomatic," but not because they had a mild version of the illness. They were most likely asymptomatic because they were not sick at all. Thus the pandemic narrative has been fueled by simply defining "well people" as "sick people" based upon a known fraudulent testing regime. (17)

How do we know the use of PCR testing at 35-45 cycles was known by authorities to be fraudulent? Because now that the vaccine program has been rolled out the vaccinated are only given PCR tests at a reasonable 28 cycles, while the unvaccinated continue to be subjected to the fraudulent 35-45 cycle PCR testing. (18). This of course deceptively insures that the unvaccinated continue to generate completely asymptomatic false positives, and can then be made to appear to be driving the spread of the illness.



Meanwhile the vaccinated are much less likely to test positive given their testing is now, indefensible by any scientific measure, conducted at the lower 28 cycle threshold when compared to the unvaccinated conducted at 35-45 cycles. The MSM promotion of the "trust the science" phrase has become simply a new addition to Orwellian "double-speak." To the Party slogans from Orwell's book 1984, "War is Peace," "Love is Hate," and "Ignorance is Strength," we can now officially add "Trust The Science."

Covid death numbers have been even further inflated by the use of false positive PCR tests to label patients who are already terminally ill from other diseases (i.e. cancer, COPD, renal failure, etc) as "covid deaths" in official reporting because they died within 28 days of a meaningless fake 'false positive' PCR test. Even in the complete absence of covid symptoms a hospice patient dying from another illness can be called a "covid" death in official data collection. (19)

Further distortion and manipulation of data in support of the official narratives involves not counting someone as "vaccinated" until 14 days after the "second dose" in two dose vaccines. Thus someone who dies after the first dose, or within 14 days of the second dose, is "defined" as "unvaccinated" and can be counted fraudulently in that category. (20). This of course further promotes the narrative that it is mainly the "unvaccinated" who are being hospitalized and are dying. One is hard pressed to imagine a more blatantly corrupt and amoral "public health policy." This is a policy which is designed of course to minimize the association between the vaccines and post-vaccination deaths, while simultaneously

blaming the unvaccinated as being those who are hospitalized and dying.

The weekly updated VAERS data from the CDC clearly shows massive numbers of both serious adverse vaccine reactions and deaths though it is known to vastly undercount such events. However this highly concerning VAERS data is being silently ignored by the CDC itself, the MSM, the political class, and most of the medical establishment. (21). Meanwhile a consistent propaganda theme is one of omission in which the MSM either completely fails to report on such obviously important health data, or dismisses the idea that the VAERS reports themselves justify any further scrutiny.

A party interested in truth rather than in promoting propaganda would surely ask where autopsies are for those who died unexpectedly in close proximity to vaccination. The MSM in support of the official narrative simply of course never poses such a logical straight forward question, as it would unravel the entire charade. Clearly if the CDC does not "look for" possible links between vaccinations and unexpected deaths it will certainly be guaranteed "not to find them."

One is reminded how NIST proclaimed there were no explosives involved in the demolition of the three World Trade Center buildings, only to have to admit that they NEVER LOOKED for any evidence of explosives. The CDC is taking the same tack in simply refusing to do autopsies on the many thousands who have died post-vaccination while the MSM pretends any discussion of such deaths is "fake news" by "conspiracy theorists" and "anti-vaxxers."

Another rather telling mode of propaganda promotion is the complete fabrication out of thin air of "news" that supports the covid narrative. This involves the subsequent spreading of such fabricated stories throughout MSM, and even failing to retract them once they are proven completely false. A recent such fabricated article in the magazine Rolling Stone that was widely repeated throughout MSM is a case in point. (22). The story was that ERs in Oklahoma were overrun with people over-dosed on the livestock version of Ivermectin, thus denying even gunshot wound victims access to emergency care. The story was shown to be a complete fabrication. It was an obvious disinformation piece, yet was credulously repeated throughout MSM.

This episode in blatant "fake news" propaganda, since it supported the official narratives demonizing lvermectin, of course aroused no noticeable concern among those who proclaim to find such fake news unacceptable. The MSM pundits and the big tech platforms supposedly devoted to censoring "fake news," appeared to have no problem with this blatantly fabricated disinformation piece posing as news. Clearly fake news in support of the propaganda operation is simply standard operating procedure. Another example of "the new normal."

#### **Invisible Psychological Operations**

In a previous article I discussed the implications of Terror Management Theory (TMT) in promoting and assisting the public's unconscious acceptance of the official covid propaganda. (23) I continue to think that TMT offers an important window into understanding how the manipulation of our natural fears of death makes us more vulnerable to being propagandized. It does so by over-riding one's normal ability to think critically and rationally when such death fears are being repeatedly triggered day after day.

Reminders of death and our mortality, delivered both consciously and unconsciously, have

shown in hundreds of TMT experiments to increase unconscious support for, and greater compliance with, our underlying cultural norms. This drives the population toward an unconscious position of becoming more trusting of institutional authorities, causing people to engage in more compliant behavior with the dictates of such authorities.

When recalling the initial propaganda images out of China depicting people standing in public places who suddenly simply fell over dead I am reminded of the astute observation made by Daniel Boorstin in his 1962 book "The Image: A Guide to Pseudo-Events in America." As Boorstin explained, "Strictly speaking, there is no way to unmask an image. An image, like any other psuedo-event, becomes all the more interesting with our every effort to debunk it."

Are those being propagandized more likely to believe the images they see with their own eyes? Or to believe those of us who are trying to "unmask" and "debunk" those images? The power of such covid propaganda images should not be underestimated, in part because they seamlessly trigger the TMT "death fears" that so effectively short-circuit our ability to think clearly and critically. Images of people falling over dead, images of piles of bodies, images of hospitals over-run, images of the faceless masked, are immensely powerful propaganda tools because of their deep psychological impacts often experienced not only consciously, but also at quite unconscious levels.

Lastly, and perhaps the most frightening aspect of these psychological propaganda operations comes from large segments of the population being vulnerable to the covert behavioral modification techniques associated with simply "being connected" in our modern web-based world. Professor Shoshana Zuboff provides a very detailed and chilling examination of the operant/instrumental conditioning techniques now routinely used by what she terms "surveillance capitalism" in her book "The Age of Surveillance Capitalism: The Fight for a Human Future at the New Frontier of Power" (24)

Professor Zuboff painstakingly outlines the almost unimaginable extent to which big tech companies like Google, Microsoft and Facebook are surreptitiously capturing ("rendering" as Zuboff calls it) vast amounts of our personal data from literally all electronic web based devices. However, it is not the loss of privacy that is of greatest concern in her analysis. Rather, it is the ever increasing ability of big tech companies to compile, aggregate and with ever more powerful AI tools to utilize that data in order to shape and change our behavior through means that are literally beyond our own conscious awareness.

Behavioral change is accomplished utilizing these ever more powerful AI tools in conjunction with continuously analyzing the behaviors and responses of billions of people across the globe. It is the ability to analyze personal opinions, then provide a new psychological "reward" or "punishment," and then again measure those opinions, over and over with ever more powerful tools, in close to real-time, that poses the most dangerous threat to our ability to resist propaganda. This level of "shaping" and "manipulating" the public mind both for the profit of corporations which Zuboff refers to as surveillance capitalism, and in service to the hidden agendas of the State intelligence apparatus, is not part of some future sci-fi world, but is an invisible aspect of our current reality, whether we are aware of that reality or not.

Already surveillance capitalism has shown the ability to surreptitiously modify and shape human thinking and behavior in marketable ways in pursuit of profit. These operations are being conducted by the same big tech companies Edward Snowden outed almost a decade ago for their deep cooperation with and connections to the Western intelligence apparatus. These were intelligence agencies engaged in propaganda operations aimed at Western citizenry. (25) Much has changed in the world since Snowden shed light on these operations, including the development of ever more powerful AI based programs that capture our personal data, monitor our behavior, AND then shape our behavior beyond our human awareness.

Zuboff's book, Snowden's revelations, and the implications of that convergence deserve a much more thorough detailing and discussion in the future. However, I will for today end with what I feel is perhaps the most insidious aspect of what is implied through this coalescence of unseen forces. Which is that we can be both surreptitiously monitored, and our thinking and behavior shaped, in what increasingly approaches close to real-time fashion. Connected to the ubiquitous "web," our thoughts and behaviors are no longer our own. They can be, and are being, manipulated and modified outside of the realm of our conscious awareness. This is not being done to meet our needs, but rather to meet the agendas of those who comprise a new class of "surveillance capitalists" who work in conjunction with the massive power of the Western intelligence gathering services.

In spite of all the wide-ranging aspects of the covid propaganda promotion I detailed earlier, I don't think any of them alone or in combination hold as much potential to control and shape public consciousness as the ever more powerful tools of surveillance capitalism combined with the means and methods of the intelligence services.

It is inconceivable to me that these tools are somehow not in continuous use 24/7, monitoring real-time public responses on web platforms and social media, to our searches, to what we read, to what we share with others, to our comments, spanning everything from new lockdown measures in a particular city, to the loosening of restrictions somewhere else, from responses to various forms of vaccination mandates in one part of the country compared to another, etc.

No doubt there is consistent monitoring and evaluation examining which AI based interventions are most effective in "tuning, herding, nudging and shaping" (24) our perceptions and behaviors toward the propaganda ends of the oligarchic system of control. For a very simple unsophisticated example it is child's play for Facebook using the tools already at its disposal to insure you see nothing but posts from your Facebook "friends" who have gotten the vaccine, and no material from anyone who refused it. This can be done in an effort to shape your behavior toward the desired end of you "making your own decision" to eventually do what you are being manipulated to do, to get the vaccine. Why wouldn't you submit to the vaccine since literally "all of your 'friends' are doing so" and since not doing so will put you in the cognitively uncomfortable position of now being in a publicly demonized "out group."

I fear however that Zuboff's and Snowden's revelations portend something much darker and more sinister than my simple and rather obvious example touches upon. A world in which much of humanity is manipulated, shaped, and controlled in both thought and behavior 24/7 without conscious awareness that this is happening. Our thoughts someone else's, but experienced as our own. We don't really need more information or another whistleblower like Edward Snowden to know where we stand. What we do need is a much deeper familiarity and understanding of these hidden tools and processes in order to unmask them, publicize them, and resist their ever growing impacts. Note to readers: Please click the share buttons above or below. Follow us on Instagram, @crg\_globalresearch. Forward this article to your email lists. Crosspost on your blog site, internet forums. etc.

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## Notes

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