

## On the cover

Why the global suicide rate is falling and how to bring the numbers down further still: leader, *page 13*. Suicide is declining all over the world, thanks to greater freedom and some helpful policies, *page 50*

• **Hard truths about a no-deal Brexit** Time to bust the last great myth of Brexit: leader, *page 16*. What to expect if nothing gets sorted, *page 19*. How Brexit compares with other great debacles: Bagehot, *page 49*

• **The Trump and AMLO show** Ties between Mexico and America are strong. Will their nationalist presidents loosen them? *Page 28*

• **Going, going, Ghosn** Accusations of financial misconduct topple a giant of the car industry, *page 55*

• **Emerging-market currencies' comeback** Exchange rates have strengthened, but threats to growth remain, *page 60*

## The world this week

10 A round-up of political and business news

## Leaders

- 13 **Suicide**  
Staying alive
- 14 **The killing of Khashoggi**  
See no evil
- 14 **Taxes on homebuyers**  
Stamp them out
- 15 **UN regulatory bodies**  
Agency problems
- 16 **Brexit**  
The truth about no deal

## Letters

17 On the first world war, Italy, individualism, tax data, synagogues, Brexit

## Briefing

19 **A no-deal Brexit**  
Free falling

## United States

- 23 The baby bust
- 24 Falling carbon emissions
- 25 In praise of EITC
- 25 Building walls
- 26 Mancamps gentrify
- 27 **Lexington** Nixon had it harder



## The Americas

- 28 AMLO and Trump
- 30 **Bello** The difficulty of being Duque



## Asia

- 31 Talking to North Korea
- 32 Rohingyas fear return
- 33 **Banyan** US-China rivalry engulfs the APEC summit
- 34 India's most orderly city



## China

- 35 Out of the closet, quietly
- 36 A private university
- 37 **Chaguan** Abuses of Muslims in Xinjiang



## Middle East & Africa

- 39 Nigeria's deadly jihadists
- 40 Pentecostals in Ethiopia
- 41 Syria's documents men
- 41 Netanyahu and the right
- 42 Bahrain's unhappy Shias
- 42 A British student jailed in the UAE



**Chaguan** Why Western governments are at last complaining about China's new gulag, *page 37*





**Europe**

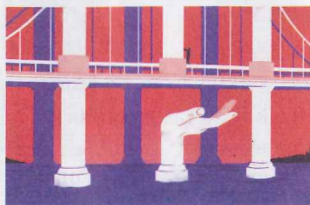
- 43 Drugs in Europe
- 44 A German slowdown
- 44 Moscow's dynamic mayor
- 45 Italy's troubled coalition
- 46 **Charlemagne** The power of fish

**Britain**

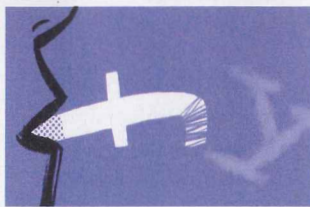
- 47 Rebellious Conservatives
- 48 The wobbly Northern Irish alliance
- 49 **Bagehot** Brexit v other great debacles

**International**

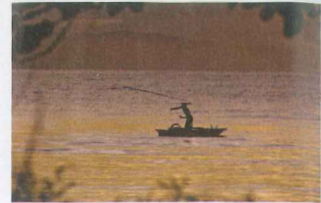
- 50 The decline of suicide
- 51 Anti-suicide volunteers in Japan

**Business**

- 54 Facebook's future
- 55 The ousting of Ghosn
- 56 **Bartleby** Americans need a break
- 57 Ninebot rides the e-scooter craze
- 58 The FDA v menthol cigarettes
- 59 **Schumpeter** Key-person risk

**Finance & economics**

- 60 Emerging-market currencies
- 61 **Buttonwood** The big bank theory
- 62 Tech stocks tumble
- 62 Reforming auditors
- 63 Seasonal work
- 64 Double-taxation treaties
- 64 A provocateur at the RBI
- 65 **Free exchange** Home economics

**Science & technology**

- 66 Repairing and destroying satellites
- 67 InSight's mission to Mars
- 68 An ion-powered aircraft
- 69 University v work
- 69 A cat's tongue's secrets

**Books & arts**

- 70 Mapping the making of America
- 71 Hollywood and the mob
- 72 The history of blood
- 72 A novel of Brexitland
- 74 Of ice and mirages

**Economic & financial indicators**

- 76 Statistics on 42 economies

**Graphic detail**

- 77 The golden age of TV in America

**Obituary**

- 78 Stan Lee, Marvel Comics' creative superhero

The Economist

Volume 429 Number 919

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, Cairo, Chicago, Johannesburg, Madrid, Mexico City, Moscow, Mumbai, New Delhi, New York, Paris, San Francisco, São Paulo, Seoul, Shanghai, Singapore, Tokyo, Washington DC

**Subscription service**

For our full range of subscription offers, including digital only or print and digital combined, visit: [Economist.com/offers](http://Economist.com/offers)

You can also subscribe by mail, telephone or email:

**North America**  
**The Economist Subscription Center,**  
 P.O. Box 46978, St. Louis, MO 63146-6978  
**Telephone:** +1 800 456 6086  
**Email:** [customerhelp@economist.com](mailto:customerhelp@economist.com)

**Latin America & Mexico**  
**The Economist Subscription Center,**  
 P.O. Box 46979, St. Louis, MO 63146-6979  
**Telephone:** +1 636 449 5702  
**Email:** [customerhelp@economist.com](mailto:customerhelp@economist.com)

One-year print-only subscription (51 issues):

United States.....US \$158.25 (plus tax)  
 Canada.....CA \$158.25 (plus tax)  
 Latin America.....US \$289 (plus tax)

Please Recycle



PEFC certified  
 This copy of *The Economist* is printed on paper sourced from sustainably managed forests certified to PEFC  
[www.pefc.org](http://www.pefc.org)