



On the cover

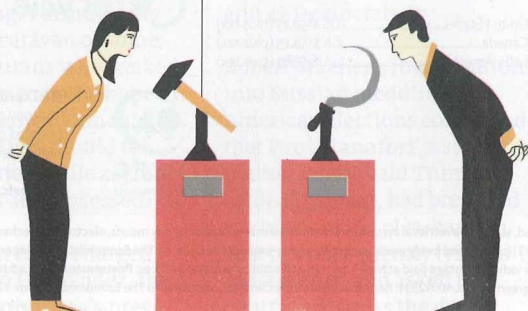
America cannot afford to ignore China's semiconductor ambitions. It cannot easily tame them, either: leader, page 9. The chip industry shows the power of globalisation. Superpower politics may yet unravel things, page 18

• **Russia eyeballs Ukraine** Two navies collide in the Sea of Azov, page 44

• **Edit genes, but not like this** A Chinese scientist claims to have changed the genomes of babies: leader, page 14. It would be the first birth of genetically modified children, page 70

• **Technology Quarterly: Zero carbon** What would it take to get carbon dioxide out of the global economy? Lots of clean electricity and a revolutionary shift towards the lightest gas, after page 42. Climate change is a problem of unprecedented scope and intractability. Can it be overcome? Leader, page 10

• **Our books of the year** The best books of 2018 were about corruption, blood, slavery, survivalism, espionage and a drifting second-world-war veteran, page 74



The world this week

7 A round-up of political and business news

Leaders

- 9 Trade and technology
Chip wars
- 10 Mexico's new president
AMLO's errors
- 10 Global warming
The great inaction
- 12 Renault-Nissan-Mitsubishi
Unholy alliance
- 14 Gene editing
The baby crisperer

Letters

- 16 On opportunity zones, accents, buildings, India, Europe, DNA, Napoleon

Briefing

- 18 Semiconductors
The chips are down

Technology Quarterly: Towards zero carbon

Conquering CO₂
After page 42



Chaguan A remarkable museum network offers a chance to remember, if not judge, China's dark past, page 38

United States

- 21 The housing wobble
- 22 Assessing the climate
- 24 Puerto Rico's recovery
- 24 Asset forfeiture
- 25 The Illinois machine
- 26 Lexington Native
Americans in Congress



The Americas

- 27 The power of AMLO
- 28 Brazil's culture war
- 30 Bello A memoir of
Argentina's madness



Asia

- 31 Elections in Taiwan
- 32 Banyan Singapore's next
prime minister
- 33 Counter-terrorism in India
- 33 Indonesia's likely veep
- 34 Australia's hapless
conservatives



China

- 35 Curbing tax evasion
- 36 State media abroad
- 38 Chaguan Gloss-free
history



Middle East & Africa

- 39 Angola's Deng Xiaoping?
- 40 Ebola and Congo's rebels
- 41 Talks on Western Sahara
- 42 Qatar and the World Cup
- 42 Saving the Sea of Galilee



Europe

- 44 Russia and Ukraine clash
- 45 The race to succeed Angela Merkel
- 46 France's protesting motorists
- 47 #MeToo in Turkey
- 47 Let Polish pollsters poll
- 48 Charlemagne Spain, Franco and memory

**Britain**

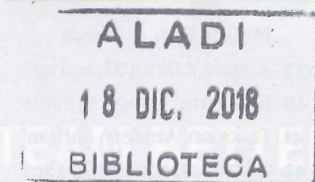
- 49 Religious schools take off
- 50 The knights who say Brexit
- 51 Bagehot Don't write off the prime minister yet

**International**

- 52 Indigenous peoples
- 53 Brazilian Indians
- 54 Why Maori do better than Aboriginals

**Business**

- 55 Taming Glencore
- 56 The scramble for cobalt
- 57 Polish state-owned enterprises
- 58 Bartleby Working for a purpose
- 59 GM closes plants
- 60 Post-Soviet farming
- 61 Schumpeter A merger proposal

**Finance & economics**

- 63 Banks' Brexit plans
- 64 Brexit and clearing-houses
- 65 Mortgages in America
- 65 Bitcoin's collapse
- 66 Growing green finance
- 66 Pubs in Ireland
- 67 Buttonwood Corporate bonds
- 68 Free exchange Paul Volcker's memoir

**Science & technology**

- 70 Gene-edited babies
- 71 InSight lands on Mars
- 71 Spiders that suckle young
- 72 Viruses, sunshine and antibiotic resistance
- 73 The genetics of ADHD
- 73 Phantoms and prostheses

**Books & arts**

- 74 Books of the year
- 77 Books by our writers

**Economic & financial indicators**

- 80 Statistics on 42 economies

Graphic detail

- 81 European populists agree on bashing elites and little else

Obituary

- 82 Raed Fares, a tireless Syrian activist

The Economist

Volume 429 Number 920

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

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

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

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)



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