

#### On the cover

Donald Trump wants to curb Iran's aggression. Has he gone about it the right way? Leader, page 7. What the death of Qassem Suleimani means for Iran and for the region: briefing, page 14. Deep mistrust of Mr Trump complicates his Iranian gamble: Lexington, page 24. Western corporations have less to lose than you might think from a military tit-for-tat between America and Iran, page 51. The mastermind of Iranian foreign policy: obituary, page 78

- Lessons from Australia's wildfires Other countries have a combustible mix of tinder-dry flora and climate-denying politicians: leader, page 8. The bushfires will burn for weeks to come, page 29
- How GE hobbled Boeing Can a new boss salvage the reputation of Boeing-and of his mentor, Jack Welch? Schumpeter, page 56
- · Why Ben Bernanke is wrong The former Fed chief is optimistic that monetary policy can fight the next recession. Don't count on it: leader, page 8
- · A dispatch from Xinjiang The gulag in China's far west will aggravate a deep ethnic divide, page 33. Dismantling the camps is not enough: leader, page 10

#### The world this week

5 A summary of political and business news

#### Leaders

- 7 America and Iran Masterstroke or madness?
- 8 Forest fires A blaze that will keep on burning
- 8 Monetary policy Why Ben is wrong
- 9 France Who rules?
- 10 Han and Uighurs Apartheid in Xinjiang

12 On menopause, patents, hijabs, impeachment, hot-metal type

## Briefing

14 Conflict with Iran After the assassination



**Bagehot** Gertrude Himmelfarb, a great historian of Victorian Britain, had a message for today's elite, page 48



#### **United States**

- 18 Educating gifted children
- 19 Desegregating schools
- 20 Justice Democrats
- 20 Digital self-harm
- 21 Voting and the economy
- 24 Lexington Trump and the Middle East



### **The Americas**

- 25 Justin Trudeau's makeover
- 26 Guatemala's president
- 28 Bello Maduro v Guaidó



### Asia

- 29 Australia burning
- 30 Bashing Indian students
- 31 Polio in the Philippines
- 32 Jakarta submerged
- 32 Much ado about Jawi



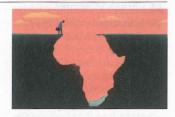
### China

- 33 Xinjiang's ethnic divide
- 36 Chaguan Saving the Yangzi's fish



### Middle East & Africa

- 37 Taxing Africa
- 38 Angola's princess
- 39 Al-Shabab and Iran
- 39 Turkey's gamble in Libya
- 40 Mega-mosques



### **Europe**

- 41 France on strike
- 42 Spain's new government
- 43 Austria's Greens
- 43 Recycling in Lithuania
- 44 The elderly
- **45 Charlemagne** Stereotypes in Brussels



### Britain

- 46 Brexit botheration
- 47 Harry and Meghan go private
- 48 Bagehot A Victorian lesson for the elite



#### International

**49** The surprising politics of disgust



#### **Business**

- 51 Business and war
- 52 Autostrade hits the skids
- 53 The semiconductor cycle
- 53 Ghosn in the flightcase
- **54 Bartleby** Scrutinising Amazon
- 55 China's VC winter
- 56 Schumpeter Boeing and the last GE Man



### Finance & economics

- 57 Europe's demography
- 58 Price controls
- 59 Why gold is soaring
- 60 Capital in the 14th century
- 60 Diversity in economics
- **61 Buttonwood** Getting out of Big Oil
- **62** The changing fortunes of Greenwich
- **64 Free exchange** America's deaths of despair



## Science & technology

- 65 New Zealand's giants
- 66 Sex and self-promotion
- 67 Betelgeuse misbehaves
- **67** Watering deserts
- 68 Dung-beetle diets



#### **Books & arts**

- 71 Democracy in eastern Europe
- 72 Negative thinking
- 73 Psychology's failings
- 73 Garth Greenwell
- 74 Revising Beethoven



### **Economic & financial indicators**

76 Statistics on 42 economies

### **Graphic detail**

77 Street gangs inflict broad economic harm

## **Obituary**

78 Qassem Suleimani, mastermind of asymmetric warfare

# The

#### Volume 434 Number 9176

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 \$189 (plus tax)

 Canada
 CA \$199 (plus tax)

 Latin America
 US \$325 (plus tax)





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

© 2020 The Economist Newspaper Limited. All rights reserved. Neither this publication nor any part of it may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of The Economist Newspaper Limited. The Economist (ISSN 0013-0613) is published every week, except for a year-end double issue, by The Economist Newspaper Limited, 750 3rd Avenue, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10017. The Economist is a registered trademark of The Economist Newspaper Limited. Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Economist, P.O. Box 46978, St. Louis, MO. 63146-6978, USA. Canada Post publications mail (Canadian distribution) sales agreement no. 40012331. Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to The Economist, PO Box 7258 STN A, Toronto, ON MSW 139. GST R123236267. Printed by Quad/Graphics, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866