

U.S. urged to go slow on easing coronavirus lockdown, even as jobless claims surge

WASHINGTON/NEW YORK (Reuters) - The top U.S. infectious disease expert on Thursday warned against reopening the economy too soon in the face of improving data on the coronavirus outbreak but a third week of massive jobless claims underscored the huge economic cost to social distancing measures aimed at curbing the virus' spread.

FILE PHOTO: Members of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers stand outside the Miami Beach Convention Center as they prepare to build a coronavirus field hospital inside the facility, amid the coronavirus (COVID-19) disease outbreak, in Miami Beach, Florida, U.S., April 8, 2020. REUTERS/Marco Bello
Several officials have hailed the apparent success of mitigation efforts shown in death projections that have been scaled down to 60,000 from more than 100,000, but Dr. Anthony Fauci said it was important that people continue to stay home.

"We've got to continue to redouble our efforts at the mitigation of physical separation in order to keep those numbers down and hopefully even get them lower than what you've heard recently," Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said on CBS "This Morning."

Stay-at-home orders that have closed non-essential workplaces in 42 states have drastically slowed the once-humming U.S. economy and thrown millions of people out of work.

With several state unemployment insurance offices deluged in recent weeks, 6.6 million workers applied for jobless benefits in the week ended April 4, the U.S. Labor Department said on Thursday. That followed 6.9 million jobless applications the week before, the most since the Great Recession of 2008.

In all, some 16.8 million American workers have applied



FILE PHOTO: Members of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers stand outside the Miami Beach Convention Center as they prepare to build a coronavirus field hospital inside the facility, amid the coronavirus (COVID-19) disease outbreak, in Miami Beach, Florida,

for jobless benefits in the past three weeks.

Fauci, appearing on several morning television programs, affirmed that recent models showing fewer deaths than previously projected were evidence that social distancing and other efforts at keeping people apart were slowing the spread of the virus.

"So I believe we're going to see a downturn in that, and it looks more like the 60,000 than the 100,000-200,000," Fauci said on the NBC "Today" program.

A University of Washington model often cited by U.S. and state officials projects that COVID-19, the respiratory ailment caused by coronavirus, will claim 60,415 American lives by Aug. 4, with the peak coming on Easter Sunday this weekend, when it projects that 2,212 will die.

By Thursday morning, more than 432,000 U.S. residents had tested positive for the virus, and around 14,800 had

died, according to Johns Hopkins University.

New York state, epicenter of America's coronavirus crisis, set another single-day record of COVID-19 deaths on Wednesday. Veteran doctors and nurses voiced astonishment at the speed with which patients were deteriorating and dying.

Stay home!

BUSINESS

Work safe!

Death Toll To Be More Like 60,000 Rather Than 100,000 To 200,000

Dr. Fauci Outlines Return To "Normal" Once Coronavirus Outbreak Weakens

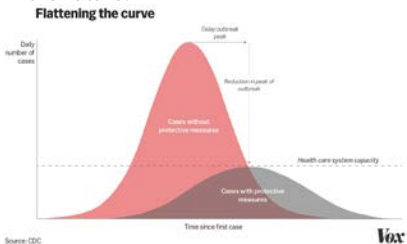


Dr. Anthony Fauci

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

WASHINGTON — Dr. Anthony Fauci said Thursday that he thinks the U.S. may be experiencing the "beginning" of the flattening of the curve with the coronavirus outbreak, but added that the virus will determine when life returns to normal.
In an interview on NBC's "TODAY" show, co-host Savannah Guthrie asked Fauci, the nation's top infectious disease expert, whether people will be able to be out and about again by summer.
"I hope that's the case, Savannah," Fauci said, but he added that the virus "determines the timetable." President Donald Trump has been itching to reopen the economy, saying Wednesday that it should happen "sooner rather than later." Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said he's "cautiously optimistic" that the U.S. may soon start to see a "turnaround and that curve not only flatten, but coming down." He made clear, however, that when the U.S. attempts to return to normal, the virus won't suddenly disappear.
"When we attempt to get back to normal, we have to have in place the ability, when it starts to try and rear its ugly head, we can absolutely suppress it by identification, isolation, contact tracing," he said.

Fauci also warned that the crisis is a major wake-up call that this could reoccur in the future.



"When you're talking about getting back to normal, we know now that we can get hit by a catastrophic outbreak like this," he said. "It can happen again, so we really need to be prepared to respond in a much more vigorous way."
Various companies are now developing antibody tests, which are blood tests that will help determine how many people were previously infected with COVID-19 but were asymptomatic. They will also help show whether those who were infected are protected from contracting the virus again. Fauci said that companies have said these tests will be made available in large quantities in a matter of days or weeks. Officials have been saying the tests could be used to decide when to reopen things again and allow people back to work.

Asked if he envisions a scenario in which all Americans would be tested and the results would allow certain people to return to society, Fauci expressed doubt that every American could be tested. But when the U.S. reaches the point of flooding society with the antibody tests, Fauci said, "I think something akin to what you're saying is possible."
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued new guidance Wednesday night for "critical infrastructure workers" that lay out criteria to meet and recommendations to follow before they return to work. (Courtesy <https://www.nbcnews.com/>)
Dr. Fauci agrees NY likely seeing flattening of the curve on coronavirus
Dr. Anthony Fauci agreed Thursday that New York is likely seeing the "flattening of the curve" in its coronavirus crisis — while revealing that antibody tests could be available in "days to weeks."
America's top infectious disease expert agreed "with cautious optimism" that Gov. Andrew Cuomo was correct in predicting the Empire State had reached its peak and could soon see lowering daily death tolls.
"I don't want to jump the gun on that, but I think that is the case," Fauci said on the "Today" show Thursday.



Dr. Anthony Fauci

"I'm always very cautious about jumping the gun and saying, 'Well, we have turned the corner' but I think we are really looking at the beginning of that, which would really be very encouraging. We need that right now," he said.
"So we are hoping, with cautious optimism, that at the same time we're in for a bad week, we're going to start to see a turnaround. And I think it will."
However, he warned against people getting too excited by the news and lifting

the isolation measures that he said have helped improve the crisis.
Fauci also said antibody tests that would let people know if they have already been infected — potentially allowing them to resume normal life — could be available sooner than expected.
"The antibody tests are developed," he said, saying that some are "validated to show they are consistent." (Courtesy <https://nypost.com/>)
Drs. Birx and Fauci credit Americans for flattening the coronavirus curve
A key model used in projecting the number of COVID-19 related deaths has seen a steep decline in recent days, as White House officials say the models prove that social distancing measures are working. On Wednesday, the University of Washington's Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation updated its projection to a range of 31,000 to 126,000 Americans dying from coronavirus-related illnesses through August. The model's best guess is around 60,000 fatalities from COVID-19.

Last weekend, the model's best guess was that around 93,000 Americans would die from the virus.



President Donald Trump listens as Dr. Deborah Birx, White House coronavirus response coordinator, speaks about the coronavirus in the James Brady Press Briefing Room of the White House, Wednesday, April 8, 2020, in Washington. (AP Photo/Alex Brandon)
However, scientists note that the model is only as good as the data, and that data is still coming in. The model also does not analyze a potential second wave, which experts such as Dr. Anthony Fauci expect could come in the fall.
White House coronavirus task force expert Dr. Deborah Birx said the model's

downward trend is an indication that Americans are heeding the call to stay at home.
"That is modeled on what America is doing," Dr. Birx said. "I think what has been so remarkable to those of us who have been in the fields for so long is how important behavioral change is and how amazing Americans are adapting to the behavioral changes and that is what is changing the cases and that is what will change the mortality going forward."
Dr. Fauci echoed Birx's sentiments, but added that continued mitigation needs to continue as there is still a lot that is unknown about the spread of COVID-19.



"We know now for sure that the mitigation we have been doing is having a positive effect, but you don't see it until weeks later," Dr. Fauci said. "Remember this past weekend, when all of us got in front of this podium and mentioned this would be a very bad week. At the same time, we said we hope to see a change in the daily hospitalizations and integrations -- intubations. New York is starting to see that."
"Don't get complacent. What will happen two and a half weeks from now -- as Dr. Birx said, everyone is as susceptible to everyone else to getting infected, it is what happens to you after you get infected."
Part of the reason for the lowered death projected death toll is that the peak of the virus is expected to come several days sooner, now on April 12.
As of late Wednesday night, Johns Hopkins University reported 14,739 US deaths, nearly one-third in New York City, which has become the worldwide epicenter of the virus. Nearly 2,000 US fatalities were reported on Wednesday. (Courtesy <https://www.thedenverchannel.com/>)

Editor's Choice



Scottish soldiers prepare to test the NHS workers for coronavirus disease (COVID-19), in a new testing facility, which has been set up at Glasgow Airport, in Glasgow, Scotland, Britain April 9, 2020.



Scottish soldiers test the NHS workers for coronavirus disease (COVID-19), in a new testing facility, which has been set up at Glasgow Airport, in Glasgow, Scotland, Britain April 9, 2020. MINISTRY OF DEFENCE/Cpl Nathan Tanuku/CROWN COPYRIGHT 2020/Handout via REUTERS



Canada's Minister of Health Patty Hajdu attends a news conference, as efforts continue to help slow the spread of coronavirus disease (COVID-19), in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada April 9, 2020. REUTERS/Blair Gable



Anders Gadegaard poses after performing a livestream Good Thursday worship in front of more than one hundred selfies, all sent by the congregation via the internet, at the Church of Our Lady in Copenhagen, Denmark April 9, 2020. Martin Sylvest/Ritzau Scanpix/via REUTERS



A municipality worker in a protective suit feeds street cats at Sultanahmet Square, as the spread of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) continues in Istanbul, Turkey, April 9, 2020.



Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau attends a news conference at Rideau Cottage, while the spread of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) continues, in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada April 9, 2020. REUTERS/Blair Gable TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY



A view of an Odense Havnebad during the spread of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in Odense, Denmark April 9, 2020. Picture taken with a drone. Mikkel Berg Pedersen/Ritzau Scanpix/via REUTERS ATTENTION EDITORS -



Tensions flare as homeless people attempt to speak to journalists at a camp set up by disaster management authorities during the 21-day nationwide lockdown aimed at limiting the spread of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in Cape Town

US Jobless Claims Soar To Over
Six Million As Labor Market
Rout Continues



Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

Jobless claims filed in the United States soared to a near-record high of more than 6 million for the week ending April 4, as CCP virus-related lockdowns and closures continued to drive deep layoffs. The number of initial jobless claims filed across the country, which is a measure of the number of Americans filing new unemployment claims and is the most timely data on economic health, surged to 6,606,000, a slight drop of 261,000 from the previous week’s revised level, the Department of Labor figures show (pdf). The previous week’s figures were revised up by 219,000 from 6,648,000 to 6,867,000. Economists polled by Reuters said they expected weekly jobless claims for the week ended April 4 to come it at 5.25 million, while some estimates were as high as 9.295 million. “These dismal numbers suggest another record-breaking April jobs report,” said Beth Ann Bovino, chief U.S. economist at S&P Global Ratings in New York. “America is now in recession and as it appears to deepen, the question is how

long it will it take before the U.S. recovers,” Bovino said.



Visitors to the New York State Department of Labor are turned away at the door by personnel due to closures over CCP virus concerns in New York on March 18, 2020. (John Minchillo/AP Photo) Thursday’s jobless figures are a near-historic high for weekly unemployment claims in the United States, amounting to almost 10 times the pre-COVID-19 crisis record of 695,000, set in 1982. The new claims bring the number of Americans seeking unemployment benefits in the last three weeks to over 15 million. The Department of Labor blamed the spike in unemployment on the pandemic. “The COVID-19 virus continues to impact the number of initial claims and its impact is also reflected in the increasing

levels of insured unemployment,” the agency said. The preliminary unemployment rate was 5.1 percent for the week ending March 28, an increase of 3.0 percentage points from the previous week’s unrevised rate, the agency said. The mounting economic fallout almost certainly signals the onset of a global recession, with job losses that are likely to dwarf those of the Great Recession more than a decade ago. Roughly 95 percent of the U.S. population is now under stay-at-home orders, and many factories, restaurants, stores, and other businesses are closed or have seen sales shrivel. “My anxiety is through the roof right now, not knowing what’s going to happen,” said Laura Wieder, laid off from her job managing a now-closed sports bar in Bellefontaine, Ohio.



Unionized hospitality workers wait in line in a basement garage to apply for unemployment benefits at the Hospitality Training Academy in Los Angeles on March 13, 2020. (Marcio Jose Sanchez/AP Photo) The \$2.2 trillion emergency relief bill signed into law by President Donald Trump on March 27 gives states more flexibility to extend unemployment compensation. The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act expands states’ ability to provide unemployment insurance for many workers impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including for workers who are not ordinarily eligible for unemployment benefits like independent contractors. Still, many economists believe there is still more downside for the labor market.

“The labor market has entered a traumatic period,” said Gregory Daco, chief U.S. economist at Oxford Economics in New York. “We foresee the unemployment rate spiking to 14 percent in April.”

‘Not in Free Fall’ Speaking on Face the Nation on Sunday, St. Louis Federal Reserve President James Bullard said he did not believe the U.S. economy or jobs market was in “free fall” amid the epidemic. “We’re asking people to stay home to invest in national health,” Bullard said, adding, “The uptake on the unemployment insurance program is a good thing because it means you’re getting the transfers to the people that are being disrupted by this health-ordered shutdown.” The Fed’s St. Louis district in late March estimated that some 47 million Americans could lose their jobs as a result of the virus-driven economic fallout, which would bring the rate to around 32 percent. Bullard told Bloomberg radio on March 30 that he expected unemployment within a range of between 10 and 42 percent, adding that he expected the economy to rebound sharply after the virus is defeated.



A doctor speaks with a homeless man in San Francisco, California, on March 17, 2020. (Josh Edelson/AFP/Getty Images) A recent Goldman Sachs forecast predicted a 9 percent slide in gross domestic product (GDP) for the first quarter and a 34 percent plunge in the second quarter. “This large drop in GDP is consistent with 19.8 million jobs lost by July,

bringing unemployment rates across the country into the mid-teens,” analysts at a Washington-based think tank said of Goldman’s figures, adding their own dire forecast of 20 million jobs lost by summer. “Our estimate is much larger than was predicted even a week ago, when the forecasting implied 14 million would be furloughed or laid off,” The Economic Policy Institute (EPI) said in an April 1 note that blamed the COVID-19 outbreak for the carnage in labor markets. “This kind of upending of the labor market in such a short time is unheard of,” said Heidi Shierholz, an economist at EPI. Bank of America analysts forecast similar figures. In a report released on April 2, the analysts project that 16 million to 20 million jobs will be lost within a few months. They expect unemployment to soar to more than 15 percent, worse than the figures during the recession in 2007–2009. Both Bank of America and Goldman Sachs expect a sharp rebound after the pandemic subsidies in the United States. (Courtesy <https://www.ntd.com/>)



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某些时候，活着就是一切的哲学

最近几天，又重读了一遍余华的《活着》，我已记不清自己读过多少遍这本小说了。最初，读这本书是高一，全班50个同学都在传阅这本书，看哭了一大半。最初，我只是把这本小说，当成历史来读。在六七十年代的中国，一个叫福贵的男人，在一系列社会巨大变革中，从地主变成穷人，再从穷人变得一无所有。他不断经历了父、母、子、女、妻、婿、孙，七个亲人，一个接一个的死亡，直到自己在整个地球上都举目无亲。最后，他用尽积蓄，买下一头和自己同样老迈、孤苦的牛，每天相依为命。在一亩半的土地上，一遍遍熬着生命残余时光。命运夺走了福贵的一切，唯一没有夺走的，只有他身上活着的意志。福贵是20世纪动荡年代里，无数社会底层人物命运。很多像他这样的老百姓，经历过中国几十年种种巨大的变动和灾难。面对悲惨命运的翻弄，毫无还手之力。他们只能将这些遭遇，都理解为“天意”。一个上头的政策是天意，一场人为的战争是天意，一场自然的灾害也是天意。他们没有那么多的能力去分析什么，更不要说能够反抗什么。在旁人眼里，福贵是一个苦难的幸存者。而在他自己看来，一切都只是生存而已。为了活着而活着，这就是整个中国。这部小说发表在1993年，发表这篇小说之前，余华在浙江海盐县做过5年牙医，拔了上万颗病人的牙齿，他称那里是世界上最没有风景的地方，他最迫切的愿望就是去县文化馆上班。《活着》发表之后，余华一举成名，靠《活着》一书拿下许多国际文学奖项，也靠这本书，摆脱了贫困的生活，这本书甚至被许多人认为是中国最可能评诺诺贝尔文学奖的一本书。作为一本书，《活着》已经完成了。我本以为这是中国60—70年代的生活。和我们生活的时代是完全迥异的，福贵遭遇的生活，我们不会再遭遇。正如古希腊哲学家赫拉克利特所说人不可能两次跳入同一条河流。但显然，灾难不是这样。2009年，余华出版了《十个词汇

里的中国》里，我又看到一样的生活。余华在词汇“差距”一词里，继续讲述着他看到的中国。一个失业的男人带着儿子走在街上，儿子哭着要买一根香蕉。回到家，男人因为贫穷训了吵闹的儿子，而后女人因为疼爱儿子和男人吵架。随后，男人因为悲哀走向窗台，而后从十楼坠落。女人惊叫着夺门而出，她努力抱起丈夫，哭着喊他的名字。哭了一会，她意识到丈夫生命已经结束。她突然平静下来，回到家中，让儿子背过身去。女人找来一根绳子，将一把凳子搬到中央，她将头从容不迫地伸向系好的绳子，上吊自尽了，儿子还在哭。这是一个新的中国故事，故事的主题依然是活着，讲述的是经济腾飞中的中国角落，恰好这个角落也是最容易被忽略的。余华后来写完这个故事，他说这是巨大差距的中国。我们仿佛行走这样的现实里，一边是灯红酒绿，一边是断壁残垣。或者说我们置身在一个奇怪的剧院里，同一个舞台上，半边正在演出喜剧，半边正在演出悲剧。而2006年，已经成为著名作家的余华来到温哥华演讲，当他在台上讲述这个故事的时候。一个留学生站起来，告诉作家：“金钱不是衡量幸福的唯一标准”。余华当时觉得后背发凉，他在讲述一个中国真实的社会，而这个家境富足的孩子，却在讲述富足后的人生态度和洒脱。余华告诉那个学生，如果你的收入不足800块，当活下去是唯一的需求时，不知道你是否如同今日这样从容不迫。这不是一个国人的声音，而是许多国人的。在过去十年，我也听闻许多这样的声音，像是讲述中国富足背后的荣耀。而每当这时，我心里总会想起余华作品《活着》。2000年的千禧之年，CCTV曾分别采访两个孩子，一个生活在北上广这样的城市，而另一个生活在偏远的山区。当主持人问他们儿童节愿望时，一个说想要一架飞机，而另一个却说只想要一双白色的球鞋。

我看到这个故事里的差距不单是贫穷，还有认知和命运。一个富足的孩子觉得飞机才算是礼物，另一个贫穷的孩子则只看到了鞋子，因为他真的只需要一双鞋子，他如水般的眼睛里，也只能看到鞋子。这依然是有关活着的故事。关于活着的故事还有很多。2008年汶川地震之后，我曾去过北川。我若无其事地坐在汽车里。当汽车路过河对面的一座山时，同车的一个女人将头侧向窗外，蓦然落泪。后来她一个同行的朋友告诉我，她的丈夫曾埋在那座山里。我永远忘不了那个女人的眼神，她的眼神空洞而迫切，像凝视一个巨大的深渊。我也曾在一个矿井外面，遇到一个老人。老人扛着锄头，像福贵那样，每日照常下地干活。只是他每天多了一个新的工作，就是每天经过矿井时，都会注视十几分钟。我像余华小说里的歌谣收集者一样，给他发烟，坐在地上和他聊天。他也像福贵那样，面无表情地讲述他的儿子曾埋在黑洞洞的矿井。我拧过头注视那个矮小的井口，那狭窄的井口，已经不是一口矿井，而是老人的眼睛。2020，这依然是活着的故事。泉州的欣佳酒店酒店倒塌，掩埋了70人，我在屏幕上看着那个废墟，钢筋露在外面，清理之后的废墟，看不出倒塌的痕迹，一跟根钢筋露在外面，更像是一个铁做的笼子，笼住了更多无辜的命运。最伤心的故事，是一家五口埋在里面，他们已经隔离了14天，只剩最后一天，就能相逢崭新的生活。当消防员发现他们时，一家五口全部遇难。年轻的爸爸妈妈，还有三个孩子，老大7岁，老二5岁，最小的女孩只有2岁半。遇难场面，更是让人痛到心脏绞痛。生命最后，两姐弟因为恐惧相拥一起。我的良心告诉我，太多的悲剧不许我赞美。泉州遇难的一家五口，我在深夜的时候，鬼使神差打开他们的抖音，就在遇难几个小时后，他们依然在展示一家人幸福的生活。爸爸妈妈孩子，这个家庭的幸福，肉眼可见。而几

个小时后，悲伤也是肉眼可见。许多人找到他们的抖音，留言说：真对不起，让我以这样的方式认识你们。我很伤心地看了一夜。吊诡的是，只要你拿起手机，用食指往前刷一次，立马就会出现新的歌舞升平、幸福生活 and 日复一日的段子娱乐，你又能看到一个完全不同的中国了，灯红酒绿、歌舞升平、金钱豪横。不偏不倚的是，这又是一个有关活着的故事。在中国所有作家里，余华是讲述死亡最勇敢的一位。他自己讲述，在一九八六年至一九八九年，他鬼使神差地写下了大面积的血腥和暴力。八部短篇小说里，非自然死亡人物多达二十九个。余华书写命运时，不留任何余地。让无常夺走一切珍视，将人置于空空荡荡的悲凉之中，而命运同样也捉弄着他。余华的写作像是手术刀一样冰冷无情，后来，余华本人也因为写作了大量死亡。一度心脏早搏，常常在夜里做噩梦，梦见自己正在被别人追杀，自己也总是在一把斧头砍杀之时大梦惊醒。他知道如果自己再这样写作，很有可能活不下去。为了自救，他修改了自己的写作方式，又写下了《兄弟》和《第七天》两部小说，试图讲述新的中国，但读者并不买账，读者直言，作为作家的余华已经不具备讲述复杂中国的能力。余华自己也坦然讲述。我一生不会再写下像《活着》这样的书了，这是我的幸运，一切都是鬼使神差。最近再看《活着》里的福贵，似乎也成为我们自己自画像。在余华的笔下，命运带来的毁灭，从来不会分人，即便你只是一个懵懂纯真的孩子。这种毁灭，也是追魂索魄的。哪怕你侥幸没有死在战火中，也没有死在灾害里，却仍要死在半锅豆子上。看到这里，我总想起泉州废墟之中相拥而眠的姐弟。他们侥幸躲过了莫言的《蛙》式悲剧，却没能躲过一栋人为的危楼。九十年代初，张艺谋筹拍《活着》，其中一个演员挑中了郭涛。那时

，郭涛刚从中戏毕业没多久，找来一本原著，他边读边哭。最后问张艺谋：一个中国人的命，怎么能这么悲惨呢？这位曾经为了购买一部相机，卖过血的导演当时没有答案。为了拍这部电影，又怕中国人内心接受不了过多的死亡，于是张艺谋改了一些剧情。为了给观众一些希望，最后，张艺谋让福贵的孙子活了下来。可不幸的是，即便如此，这部电影拍出来后，依然没能上映，但这也成为了张艺谋公认的最好电影。之后很多年，作为导演的张艺谋再也没有这样的幸运了。二十年后，当演员郭涛重温《活着》时，他发现自己变了。他说：如今四十多岁，对许多事情认识得更全面了。现在想想，人的命运有时就是这样，谁能摆脱时代带给他的东西呢？18年前，话剧导演孟京辉也找到余华，想将《活着》搬上舞台，改编成话剧。他很担心观众接受不了这么沉重的悲剧，就去找余华商量。余华抽完烟，听完他的担忧，余华表情凝重，说了一句：你不要怕，中国人对于残忍的承受能力，是超乎你想象的。孟京辉听见底气十足，把书中所有死亡，全部原样照搬。后来发现，观众对这种程度的悲惨不仅没有抗拒，而且完全接受。《活着》小说最后以沉默结束，余华在小说里写到：我知道黄昏正在转瞬即逝，黑夜从天而降了。我看到广阔的土地袒露着结实的胸膛，那是召唤的姿态，就像女人召唤着她们的儿女，土地召唤着黑夜来临。可在2020年，我总隐隐约约觉得写的是今天的某些生活。因为但凡灾难之后，均以沉默为生活注脚。或许在以后，匆忙的人会照常在北京的街道行走。但我想一定有人每天都会凝视某家医院、某条马路、某条街道，就像福贵凝视地平线那样。回忆煎熬、沉默寡言。最后只剩下活着，因为活着就是一切的哲学。

各国移民局疫期临时应对政策 那些移民办了一半的人怎么办？

这几天，国内疫情有所缓和，多地已经开始复工，海外新冠疫情却每况愈下，迎来了疫情大爆发，据《人民日报》报道，截至3月20日14时，中国以外病例已经达到了140224例，超过了中国病例总和。为了应对新冠疫情蔓延，海外各国移民局也出台临时应对措施。美国 移民局关门全球签证停发

3月18日，随着新冠疫情的在美国以及全球多地爆发，美国移民局对外业务和全球大多数使领馆签证服务先后宣布暂停。

3月17日，移民局宣布，从3月18日起，为应对新冠疫情的蔓延，美国移民局所有办公室对公众关闭。面谈、入籍宣誓、录指纹、敲章等所有对公众的业务暂停，至少持续到4月1日为止。何时开放，需等待移民局进一步通知。特殊情况，也可以联系移民局紧急预约。

不过，暂停的仅是对公众的业务，移民局将继续接收各类申请并且审查工作也继续进行。

移民局应对新冠疫情状态，可以查询uscis.gov/coronavirus网站。

3月18日，美国国务院对外宣布将取消在全球大多数国家使领馆的移民和非移民签证服务，何时开放待进一步通知。

具体哪些国家在停止之列，可以在

usembassy.gov网站查询具体使领馆签证发放信息，国务院的信息可以查询travel.state.gov网站。

同时，请注意的是，NVC和移民局都在继续审查工作，也许因为疫情会有耽搁，但是目前他们内部审查和文件处理不受影响，只是对外暂停而已。加拿大 移民局紧急颁布境内访问者延期申请新措施

随着新冠疫情在全球开始蔓延，加拿大的疫情也日趋严重。受疫情影响，加拿大目前正在采取特殊措施以进一步阻止病毒传播，2020年3月15日关于加拿大永久居民登陆最新措施官方消息如下：

对于现在身在加拿大境外，已经获准加拿大永久居留权并拿到移民纸准备登陆加拿大的朋友，如果您在移民纸有效期过期之前因为疫情原因不想登陆加拿大，您需要用Web Form通知移民局告诉不能按期登陆的原因。等您再次准备登陆前，请用Web Form通知移民局，移民局会发给您相关指导说明。

从2020年3月16日开始到2020年4月13日，所有加拿大境内面对面登陆服务取消，已经预约面对面登陆的可以改为电话登陆，具体电话登陆时间移民局会发信通知您。

如果您的移民纸已经过期，您需要

用Web Form通知移民局您没有按期完成登陆的原因。等您再次准备登陆前，请用Web Form通知移民局，移民局会发给您相关指导说明。

加拿大移民局官网上联系Web Form链接如下：

<https://www.cic.gc.ca/english/contacts/web-form.asp>

上述移民局官方消息链接如下：

<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/coronavirus-special-measures.html>

另外，因为疫情，现在加拿大境内主要大城市都已经疏散员工在家办公，所以现在移民局或其他政府部门的电话联系中心都无法接通。在这种情况下，相信肯定会出现客户在补材料方面或案件处理时间上有明显延迟。

另外移民局针对目前由于疫情停留在加拿大境内无法返回中国，伊朗和韩国的访问者，加拿大移民局颁布了相应的应急措施。一般持加拿大签证入境的访客，由入境之日起最多可在加拿大境内停留6个月。

新措施的发布，来自中国、伊朗和韩国的访问者可以以新冠病毒爆发的解释理由申请在加拿大境内延期停留。即再多获得6个月的加拿大合法停留期。申请被加拿大移民局批准后，即可获得

境内延期许可证(Visitor Record)。

希腊 移民局关闭至2020年4月10日

受疫情影响，希腊移民局在当地时间3月11日决定暂停对公众的接待和服务，从2020年3月12日至2020年4月10日，为期30天。

各国移民局疫期临时应对政策：那些移民办了一半的人怎么办？

各国移民局疫期临时应对政策：那些移民办了一半的人怎么办？

移民局在响应卫生部门号召的同时，呼吁希腊各部门权利下放到行政当局的协调员，确保立即向服务人员提供和给予个人保护措施。同时按照卫生部的有关指示，要求采取必要的措施，保护其属于弱势群体的雇员。

此次移民局的突然关停也反映了希腊政府面对疫情反应迅速，应对措施全面，将保障人民的生命安全为重要任务，尽全力降低疫情传播风险，遏制疫情蔓延，可谓是高效且有温度。

需要注意的是，若相关申请人的打指纹日期恰逢该时间段(2020年3月12日至2020年4月10日)，请及时调整行程，降低损失。

希腊共和国驻上海总领事馆签署POA制式因为疫情影响，根据希腊共和国外交部指示，只接受常住地为上海地区的，且14天内没离开过上海，随申

码是绿色健康的申请人。

具体事宜如下：

1. POA制式文件上显示的申请人地址为上海地区，并有申请人本人名字的官方证明文件，例如：身份证、户口本、房产证、暂住证、经认证的租房协议、街道开具的证明等官方文件，其他如公共事业费、固定或移动电话账单、银行或信用卡账单、物业公司证明、单位证明等不被视为官方文件；

2. 进入希腊领馆所在利通广场必须在预约时间15分钟前由翻译带领，并测量体温，检验随申码(随申码在支付宝，微信小程序查找)，随申码必须是绿色的，其他颜色如黄色和红色不得入内，并进行登记；

3. 翻译现场根据申请人的手机号码用微信小程序“国务院客户端”-防疫行程卡-通信大数据行程卡检验最近14天内到达或途径地区，必须显示14天内都在上海地区。

西班牙 移民局宣布取消所有预约时间，要换居留、按指印的华人注意了

3月14日，因疫情原因，西班牙移民局在官网上宣布取消所有预约时间，包括换居留、按指印、回乡证的预约，但是移民局应该会考虑采取延长一些居留快到到期的更新时间或者其它方式来应对现在的措施。

加拿大因疫正式封国 对移民有何影响？

因疫情防控所需，当地时间3月16日，加拿大总理贾斯汀·特鲁多做出以下重大宣布：

1. 加拿大禁止所有非加拿大公民或永久居民的旅客入境。美国公民、外交官、机组人员和公民的直系亲属除外。

2. 任何有症状的人都不被允许登上飞往加拿大的航班(根据加拿大公共卫生局的指导方针，将要求航空公司对每位乘客进行基础健康评估)。

3. 为了帮助在境外的想要回国的加拿大健康公民，政府会给予相应帮助以便他们顺利登机。

4. 3月18日起，国际航班只允许在温哥华、多伦多、蒙特利尔及卡尔加里四个国际机场降落，以加强检查。

5. 即日起无论何种国籍，所有来加旅客都将被询问是否咳嗽，呼吸困难或者发烧等症状。所有国际航班到达的乘客，都被要求自我隔离14天。

加拿大作为教育强国、福利大国以及华人公认宜居胜地，移民人士众多。因疫情防控所需，加拿大正式封国，对处于各阶段的移民人士有何影响呢？

已获批准准备登陆的申请人

从3月16日开始，移民局取消了所有面试登陆服务，已经收到登录通知的海外人员会受到电话登录的通知和安排。

已递交入籍申请的申请人

从3月14日开始移民局取消全部的公民入籍测试、面试和典例，截止日期有待另行通知。

申请临时或永居，且在加拿大境外

对于境外申请的旅游签、工签、学签、永久居民的申请人，移民局不会因为材料缺失而拒绝申请。如果需要在规定时间内完成护照邮寄、材料补充、完成体检要求的，移民局自动将有效期延长到90天。

通过快速通道申请枫叶卡的

通过快速通道申请枫叶卡的申请人，如果受病毒影响不能在60天内递交其他相关文件，需要通过IRCC的Web Form做在线解释和说明；

需要办理相关签证，紧急前往加拿大的

需要紧急入境加拿大的旅游签证、学签或工签申请人，可以选择在线申请，并且申请后联系北京签证中心beijing-immigration@international.gc.ca；

需要紧急入境加拿大的永久居民

需要紧急入境加拿大的永久居民，也可以向北京签证办公室beijing-immigration@international.gc.ca发送邮件请求紧急处理申请。

针对无法离开加拿大的临时居民

1) 如果是游客，签证即将到期，可以在线申请延长在加拿大的停留时间；

2) 如果是工签或学签持有人，签证即将到期，不打算继续留在加拿大学习或工作的话，可以将合法身份转为“访客”；

3) 如果打算继续留在加拿大学习或工作的话，可以根据个人情况延长工签或学签；

4) 如果访客记录、学签或工签已经过期，过期时间少于90天，则可以申请恢复身份；过期时间超过90天，则可以申请临时居民许可。

移民不是“围城” 藏身避祸多几手准备

春节前，一场突如其来的疫情，按下了中国经济的暂停键。个人、家庭、企业都被卷入了这场风暴中。在医疗资源紧张、防疫用品短缺、“慈善舞弊”严重、经济生活停摆、万千企业面临破产等问题面前，很多人从健康、安全、个人及企业发展的角度上，对拥有一个海外身份有了更多的思考。

转眼间，两个月过去了，国内疫情控制住，国外疫情发生了反转。随之而来是刚刚萌生的移民意愿开始受此影响而发生“倒戈”。不少人开始认为还是国内好。与此同时，不少自媒体大肆渲染海外华人在疫情中的处境和心态转变。

事实上，除了自媒体外，关于海外华人面对疫情的处境和做法，无论海外华人自己，还是官方媒体，传递的都是满满“正能量”。比如海外华人：“国内打上半，国外打下半，海外华人打全场”。在国内疫情严重时，在海外组织力量驰援中国。在国内疫情好转后，又积极协调国内资源援助海外。由此可见，中国国籍、海外身份，在全人类的新冠肺炎战“疫”中，无论于个人还是于社会，都发挥了积极作用。海外疫情反转：移民不是“围城”，藏身避祸多几手准备

而由此歪曲的“国内打上半，国外打下半，海外华人打全场全场挨打”的论调，其实无异于diss国外不会“抄作业”。认为国内防疫成效高，样样都很好；而国外疫情扩散快就是系统性问题，从而对办理海外身份的价值产生了怀疑。

其实，想清楚“为什么移民”才是关键。移民是为了一时的藏身避祸、趋利避害，还是为了长远的、比现在更好

的生活？比如稳定活跃的商业、优质的国际教育、完善全面的福利、自然健康的环境、纯净安全的食品、相对自由的氛围、透明健全的法制、高品质的生活等等。考虑完这些，再来看看，这些是否会被一场疫情而改变。

事实上，除了网络上风传的各种国外“魔幻”、“弱鸡”操作，在很多我们看不见的“媒体”，很多国家都为“战疫”做出了巨大努力。

各国政府“发钱”保民生

作为首先受到疫情冲击的中国，就业和企业利润数据已经明显恶化。据人民法院公告网显示，自疫情爆发以来，即2020年1月22日起至今，已有逾1000家企业发布破产公告。此外，旅游行业超过11000家旅游企业面临倒闭。1-2月，规模以上企业就业人数比此前减少495万人。1月调查失业率为5.3%，2月失业率达6.2%。

为了保经济、抗通缩、稳就业，中国政府采取了一些列的措施。比如为中小企业提供低息贷款，鼓励企业和社保共同为滞留武汉人员提供生活保障，鼓励商业物业主为租户提供免租，鼓励失业人员摆摊经营自主创业，鼓励公务员带头消费……一系列政策措施在2个月内相继出台。

这些政策与措施可谓秉持了“共克时艰”的宗旨，套用一句话——“是符合当前中国国情”的。与此同时，也借用下张文宏医生对国外防疫措施的评价：

“疫情在全世界爆发后，我们总会看到一种观点，就是嘲笑别国做法，觉得别国都应该来抄中国的作业。其实我们后期的有效，别的国家是学不来的，

因为体制和国情不同。何况这是一场灾难。”

那么在海外的“国情”下，各国为应对疫情，采取了哪些措施呢？

简单粗暴的说——就是“发钱”。

在应急货币及金融政策下，各国政府不遗余力的给企业发钱，给企业主发钱，给员工发钱，给失业人员发钱，给孩子发钱，给业主发钱……

不得不承认，发达国家在福利保障方面做得确实很给力。不以疫情为转移，只因疫情而“变本加厉”。而此时，是否应该让中国也“抄作业”呢？还是那句话、那个逻辑——这不一定适合中国的国情。

因此，回到主题上，重新审视移民——移民这件事不是非黑即白、非此即彼。对于移民和身份的选择，应该以全球视野看“中外”，而不是以个人眼光看世界。从藏身避祸的角度出发，多几手准备可以以防万一；从生活需求的角度出发，追求什么即选择什么。

每个人作为这场灾难的亲历者，都看到了疫情初期各国限制非本国公民和永久居民入境，发展至今也看到了中国限制非中国公民和特殊居民入境的现实；看到了各国从关闭普通签证、留学签证申请只保留移民等特殊业务受理，到美国、葡萄牙等国相继暂时关闭移民申请；看到了澳洲多个州移民配额耗尽，看到英国关停Tier1投资移民签证……疫情的不确定性下直接或间接使得各国移民政策的不确定性也随之增加。因此，对于期望通过身份规划实现改善教育、生活条件或财富规划、健康避险等目标的人士，把握眼下仍可双选甚至多选的机会是当务之急。

十大日勉

肚量大一點，嘴巴甜一點，
行動快一點，效率高一點，
腦筋活一點，理由少一點，
做事多一點，脾氣小一點，
說話輕一點，微笑露一點。

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