

Coronavirus shuts Italy; Biden emerges; and Zelenskiy speaks

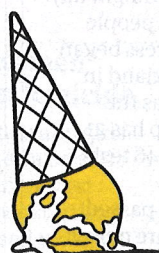
Covid-19 continues to wreak havoc around the world - with Italy on lockdown and the global economy in turmoil (see p23). This week, we look at how the virus preys upon human error in order to spread (p10); explore how China appears to have got a grip on the virus (p14); look at reasons to be cautiously optimistic (p15); round up some of the key disruptions so far (p16) and look at how a town in Colorado escaped the Spanish flu pandemic in 1918.

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After the Iowa caucus and New Hampshire primary, former US vice-president looked finished in the race to take on Trump in November. No more! The new comeback kid, boosted by black voters in the American south (see p32), swept Super Tuesday - and is looking good ahead of this week's round of votes. Adam Gabbatt headed to Biden's hometown of Scranton, Pennsylvania, to find out why the future now looks so bright for Biden in the all-important midwestern states. **Spotlight US page 30 →**

Last week the Guardian launched This is Europe, our new strand of reporting dedicated to covering the continent in a post-Brexit world. In this edition we have more from the series, including an exclusive interview with Volodymyr Zelenskiy. The Ukrainian president tells Andrew Roth and Shaun Walker about his wild ride from TV comic to real-life president - via a starring role in Donald Trump's impeachment (The joke president, p34). We also feature a report on the rise and fall of Golden Dawn, the Greek neo-Nazi who became a genuine political force (p40) and, in culture, Ellen E Jones dons her Fair Isle jumper and investigates the new wave of Nordic TV (p51), before Peter Bradshaw examines how an exceptional generation of Polish filmmakers are pushing back against an exceptionally conservative government (p54).

This is Europe throughout the magazine →



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On the cover

The comeback kid: Biden gets his groove back. The former US vice-president put a spring in his step - if not necessarily on his skateboard - with his comeback primary wins on Super Tuesday. The polling analysis site 538 - as of Tuesday - put Biden's likelihood of winning the nomination at 99%. **Photograph: Getty**
Photomontage: Guardian imaging



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