

# Canada hits gridlock, a Carrie on at No 10 and the rise of Netflix

**Towards the end of last month, a convoy of Canadian truckers and their supporters** set off from Vancouver to Ottawa, in protest against rules requiring any lorry drivers arriving from the US to be fully vaccinated against coronavirus. Having since ground Canada's capital to a halt, the truckers have quickly become a symbol for a hotchpotch of far-right views and conspiracy theorists, and a *cause célèbre* for populists internationally.

Our big story this week asks whether this could be a defining moment for Canada's right. Then David Smith considers how the US anti-vaccine movement - linked with funding for the Canadian protest - is taking over the Trump-supporting Republican base.

**The big story** [Page 12](#) →

**In the UK, a scandal-ridden Boris Johnson somehow continued to cling to power.** Rowena Mason profiles the prime minister's wife, Carrie Johnson, who it has been claimed yields more influence over her husband's decision-making than many inside No 10 would like.

**Spotlight** [Page 22](#) →

**Look out for some great feature reads in the magazine this week.** On page 34, Philip Oltermann delves into the workings of a poetry club for members of the East German secret police. Were they studying more than just iambic pentameter?

Then, in the Culture pages, Steve Rose tracks the rise of media streaming giant Netflix over the last decade and asks whether it can stay at the top for another 10 years.

**Red poets' society** [Page 34](#) →

**Stream ticket** [Page 51](#) →



### On the cover

"Culture wars always mean some kind of chaos and that's what I wanted to illustrate," says Klawe Rzczy of her montage artwork for this week's cover. "In this case this chaos spreads all over the world like a virus. A bit ironic, isn't it?"

*Illustration: Klawe Rzczy*



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