

COVID-19 | *Timeline of the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) Coronavirus Cover-up*

House Foreign Affairs Republicans | Lead Republican Michael McCaul (R-TX)

October 18, 2019

- Chinese press could have reported the chilling results of a pandemic simulation, but did not.
 - The John Hopkins Center for Health Security, in partnership with the World Economic Forum and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, carries out a **simulated** coronavirus pandemic on **October 18th, 2019**, and **alerts** the international community to the chilling results: 65 million deaths in 18 months.
 - If the Chinese internet were not isolated by an elaborate system of electronic censorship and the media were not forced to follow the instructions of the Communist Party, the public and the authorities would have undoubtedly been interested in this information coming from the United States, which echoed the SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome) epidemic of 2003. SARS infected 8,000 people and caused more than 800 deaths, mostly in China. ([RSF](#))

Early December 2019

- Overwhelming information points to a live fish and animal market in Wuhan as the source of COVID-19.
- The first case of symptoms may have been as early as December 8, but the government did not appear to take any actions or make clear statements until mid-January ([The Diplomat](#))

December 10, 2019

- Wei Guixian, one of the earliest known COVID-19 patients, starts feeling ill ([Axios](#))

December 27, 2019

- As early as December 27, a Chinese genomic company had reportedly sequenced most of the virus in Wuhan and results showed a similarity to SARS ([Caixin](#))
- Zhang Jixian, a doctor from Hubei Provincial Hospital of Integrated Chinese and Western Medicine, tells China's health authorities that a novel disease affecting some 180 patients was caused by a new coronavirus. ([SCMP](#))

December 30, 2019

- Wuhan doctor Li Wenliang shares information on WeChat about the new SARS-like virus. He is called in for questioning shortly afterward ([Axios](#), [National Review](#))
- Ai Fen, a senior doctor at Wuhan Central Hospital, posts information on WeChat about the new virus and is reprimanded by superiors. Ai subsequently instructs her staff to wear protective clothing and masks, despite official instructions not to. "I knew there must be human-to-human transmission," she said in a later interview. ([The Guardian](#))

December 31, 2019

- Government officials in Wuhan, China, confirmed that health authorities were treating dozens of cases. First reports of cases of pneumonia of unknown cause are sent to the World Health Organization China Country Office (WHO) ([New York Times](#), [Axios](#), [CNN](#))
- Officials in Taiwan report to the World Health Organization (WHO) that medical staff in China are reportedly getting ill with the new virus, signaling human-to-human transmission. But Taiwan's information is not published on the WHO platform for

COVID-19 | *Timeline of the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) Coronavirus Cover-up*

House Foreign Affairs Republicans | Lead Republican Michael McCaul (R-TX)

data-exchange among 196 countries. Taiwan officials also alert PRC health authorities. ([Financial Times](#))

- Chinese internet authorities begin censoring terms from social media such: Wuhan Unknown Pneumonia, SARS Variation, Wuhan Seafood Market, and keywords critical of the government's handling of the infection ([Citizen Lab, University of Toronto](#))

Late December 2019

- Chinese doctors reportedly know, but deny, that the virus can spread between humans. ([WSJ](#))
- Wuhan hospitals notice “an exponential increase” in the number of cases that cannot be linked back to the Huanan Seafood Wholesale Market ([National Review](#))

January 1, 2020

- An official at the Hubei Provincial Health Commission orders gene sequencing companies and labs, which had already determined that the novel virus was similar to SARS, to stop testing samples and to destroy existing samples ([Axios, National Review, Caixin](#))
- Dr. Li Wenliang detained for “rumor-mongering.” ([WAPo](#))
- Wuhan authorities finally shut down the live fish and animal market. ([The Diplomat](#))
- Global Times tweets that “Police in Central China’s Wuhan arrested 8 people spreading rumors about local outbreak of unidentifiable #pneumonia. Previous online posts said it was SARS.” ([Twitter](#))

January 2, 2020

- PRC state media aggressively highlight the detentions of the Wuhan doctors. Top national TV news program Xinwen Lianbo reports the detentions while Xinhua publishes a call from Wuhan police for “all netizens to not fabricate rumors, not spread rumors, not believe rumors.” ([WaPo](#))

January 3, 2020

- China’s National Health Commission, the nation’s top health authority, ordered institutions not to publish any information related to the unknown disease and ordered labs to transfer any samples they had to designated testing institutions, or destroy them ([Caixin, National Review](#))
- Public Security Bureau forced Dr. Li Wenliang to sign a document admitting to “spreading lies.” Doctor Li was one of eight people who police rounded up and said were “spreading rumors.” ([BBC](#))

January 5, 2020

- Wuhan Municipal Health Commission stops releasing daily updates on new cases of the disease ([WSJ](#))
- WHO releases statement characterizing PRC’s initial Dec. 31 notice about “pneumonia of unknown etiology.” WHO states: “Based on the preliminary information from the Chinese investigation team, no evidence of significant human-to-human transmission and no health care worker infections have been reported.” This continues to ignore Taiwan’s warnings of Dec. 31 ([WHO.int](#))

COVID-19 | *Timeline of the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) Coronavirus Cover-up*

House Foreign Affairs Republicans | Lead Republican Michael McCaul (R-TX)

January 6, 2020

- The U.S. CDC offered to send a team to China to assist with the investigation. The Chinese government declined ([National Review](#))
- The Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention activates an emergency response measure, but does not publicly announce the move ([WSJ](#))

January 7, 2020

- Chinese President Xi Jinping personally ordered officials to control the outbreak. However, his personal knowledge of the outbreak is not disclosed until mid-February ([WSJ](#))

January 8-9, 2020

- Chinese medical authorities claim to have identified the virus and that “there is no evidence that the new virus is readily spread by humans, which would make it particularly dangerous, and it has not been tied to any deaths.” ([National Review](#))
- Jan. 9 - Chinese authorities finally confirm publicly an outbreak of a new coronavirus ([WSJ](#)) and U.S. media, including [WAPQ](#), report on the new coronavirus in China.

January 10, 2020

- Beginning as early as January 10, Chinese authorities allowed massive travel in China and abroad during the Spring Festival; some three billion trips were expected ([Business Insider](#))
 - Untold numbers of Chinese who may have contracted the virus traveled in close quarters with each other throughout China as well as traveled globally during this period.
 - For reference, about seven million Chinese traveled abroad during Spring Festival in 2019 ([Bloomberg](#))
 - One woman reportedly ‘cheated’ COVID-19 tests to fly to France to eat at a Michelin-starred restaurant during this period ([Telegraph](#))
- PRC government expert Wang Guangfa tells state broadcaster China Central Television that the Wuhan pneumonia was “under control” and mostly a “mild condition” ([NYT](#))

January 11, 2020

- Chinese state media reported the first known death from an illness caused by the virus ([New York Times](#), [CNN](#))
- Chinese health official said the “epidemic situation is currently controllable” ([China.org](#)), which turned out to be wrong
- Political leaders in Hubei province, which includes Wuhan, began their regional meeting. The coronavirus was not mentioned over four days of meetings ([National Review](#))
- Having provided the genomic sequence of the virus to national authorities on January 5 and seen no action from them, Shanghai Public Health Clinical Centre Professor Zhang Yongzhen publishes the data on virological.org and GenBank ([SCMP](#))
- The Wuhan Institute of Virology publicly released the full genomic sequence of COVID-19 online ([New York Times](#))

COVID-19 | *Timeline of the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) Coronavirus Cover-up*

House Foreign Affairs Republicans | Lead Republican Michael McCaul (R-TX)

Early-Mid January 2020

- In early- to mid-January, the CDC and WHO offered to send experts to China but were not invited to China for more than one month, delaying understanding and collaboration on the virus. ([NYT](#))
- China allows massive travel – potentially three billion trips – within China and abroad ([Business Insider](#))

January 12, 2020

- National Health Commission shares virus genomic information with the World Health Organization for the first time ([Caixin Global](#))

January 13-14, 2020

- China allowed two Taiwanese medical experts to travel to Wuhan to visit Wuhan CDC and hospitals. The information obtained, however was hardly comprehensive due to time constraint and limited access. China's CDC has provided Taiwan very little updates on the virus (TECRO)
- The first case of COVID-19 infection outside of China, a tourist from Wuhan, is reported in Thailand.
 - If the international media had had full access to information held by the Chinese authorities on the scale of the epidemic before January 13th, it is likely that the international community would have taken stock of the crisis and better anticipated it, reducing the risk of the epidemic spreading outside China and possibly avoiding its transformation into a pandemic. ([RSF](#))
- The WHO shared, “Preliminary investigations conducted by the Chinese authorities have found no clear evidence of human-to-human transmission of the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) identified in Wuhan, China.” ([Victims of Communism](#))

January 14, 2020

- Hubei Provincial officials hold a teleconference with Ma Xiaowei, the head of China's National Health Commission, who details the threat posed by the new virus. A [memo](#) from the teleconference raises the possibility of human-to-human transmission, but public was not alerted for 6 days.

January 15, 2020

- Li Qun, head of the Chinese CDC's emergency center, plays down the human-to-human transmission threat on state television: “After careful screening and prudent judgment, we have reached the latest understanding that the risk of human-to-human transmission is low.” ([WSJ](#))
- The patient who becomes the first confirmed U.S. case leaves Wuhan and arrives in the U.S., carrying COVID-19. ([Axios](#), [CDC](#))

January 16-17, 2020

- Wuhan government holds its 14th People's Congress meeting and 13th committee of the Chinese People's Consultative Conference ([The Diplomat](#)), putting politics above a potential pandemic.

COVID-19 | *Timeline of the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) Coronavirus Cover-up*

House Foreign Affairs Republicans | Lead Republican Michael McCaul (R-TX)

January 18, 2020

- Wuhan held potluck banquets to celebrate the upcoming Spring Festival holiday, with more than 40,000 families eating from 14,000 dishes ([WAPQ](#)) / ([SCMP](#)).
- Wuhan Municipal Health Commission announces a new case of the virus for the first time since before January 5 ([WSJ](#))

January 20, 2020

- China finally concedes publicly that there is human-to-human transmission of COVID-19 ([The Guardian](#))
- First cases of COVID-19 outside of the China are confirmed around the world, including in the United States ([NYT](#))
- PRC state media publish first public remarks from Xi Jinping about the virus, ordering officials to contain it ([WSJ](#))
- Dr. Zhong Nanshan, a leading authority on respiratory health well-known for his role in fighting SARS, confirms in a TV interview that the disease is spreading from person-to-person, a fact first identified by doctors in Wuhan in December. He later said that if the government had taken action earlier, in December or even early January, “the number of sick would have been greatly reduced.” ([WSJ](#) / [Caixin Global](#))
- The WHO first admits that there is “some human-to-human transmission” of the virus ([WHO](#))

January 22, 2020

- WHO mission to China issued a statement saying that there was evidence of human-to-human transmission in Wuhan but more investigation was needed to understand the full extent of transmission ([WHO](#))

January 23, 2020

- Chinese authorities announce their first steps for a quarantine of Wuhan. By this point, millions have already visited the city and left it during the Lunar New Year celebrations ([National Review](#), [Axios](#), [CNN](#))
- Before Wuhan implemented a quarantine on January 23, an estimated five million people left the city ([Business Insider](#))
- At Tedros' direction, WHO decides against declaring a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC), which meant, among other things, no calls for restrictions on travel in and out of China ([WAPQ](#))

January 23, 2020

- Tedros: “This is an emergency in China, but it has not yet become a global health emergency. At this time, there is no evidence of human-to-human transmission outside China.” ([Victims of Communism](#))

January 27, 2020

- Mayor of Wuhan said rules imposed by Beijing limited what he could disclose about the virus. ([WSJ](#))

COVID-19 | *Timeline of the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) Coronavirus Cover-up*

House Foreign Affairs Republicans | Lead Republican Michael McCaul (R-TX)

January 29, 2020

- WHO head praises China's response to the virus ([WHO](#)), including its transparency ([FMPRC](#)) despite widespread reporting that China delayed its response and covered up information.
 - The WHO's positive comments likely created a false sense of security that facilitated the spread of the virus ([WAPQ](#)).

January 30, 2020

- Tedros: "[T]here is no reason for measures that unnecessarily interfere with international travel and trade. WHO doesn't recommend limiting trade and movement." ([Victims of Communism](#))
- First case of human-to-human transmission of COVID-19 in the U.S. confirmed ([Victims of Communism](#))

February 3, 2020

- China's Foreign Ministry accuses the US government of inappropriately reacting to the outbreak and spreading fear by enforcing travel restrictions. ([CNN](#))
- Chairman Xi urges Chinese media to broadcast stories about China's positive response to COVID-19 ([Xinhua](#))
- The Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CCP Central Committee held a meeting, formulating a new narrative: that the epidemic was out of control because of poor management. The CCP would now lead a "people's war" against the virus, clamping down even harder on quarantines and rumors ([Foreign Policy](#))
- Chairman Xi stated "that he made requests for prevention and control of the new coronavirus pneumonia in early January" but the evidence indicates that by then, the PRC had deliberately prevented the dissemination of knowledge necessary to stop the illness from spreading. ([Victims of Communism](#))

February 5, 2020

- The Cyberspace Administration of China (CAC) issued a notice concerning media coverage of the virus. In the announcement, public WeChat accounts were accused of having "illegally carried out reporting activities," while the CAC placed internet companies like Sina Weibo and Tencent under "special supervision." ([Freedom House](#))

February 6, 2020

- Citizen journalist and former rights lawyer Chen Qiushi disappears in Wuhan after posting mobile-phone videos of packed hospitals and distraught families ([NYT](#))
 - March 23: Chinese Ambassador to the US, Cui Tiankai, denies knowing of Chen's whereabouts or even his existence. ([Axios](#))
- WHO provided their first and only technical brief to engage directly with Taiwan public health officials. This briefing was a result of lengthy negotiation and repeated efforts by democratic like-minded missions in Geneva and pressures from Members of the US Congress. While WHO continues to brief member states on a weekly basis, there has been NO further briefings for Taiwan, thanks to political pressure from the PRC

COVID-19 | *Timeline of the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) Coronavirus Cover-up*

House Foreign Affairs Republicans | Lead Republican Michael McCaul (R-TX)

February 7, 2020

- Doctor Li Wenliang dies from the virus, sparking public outrage against the Chinese authorities and triggering an outcry on Chinese social media. ([CNN](#))

February 8, 2020

- The first American citizen in Wuhan, China dies. ([NBC News](#))

February 9, 2020

- The WHO announced that a joint mission for China was finally departing, but only a select team was allowed to travel to Wuhan. ([VOX](#)) ([WHO](#))
- Citizen journalist and local businessman Fang Bin disappears after posting videos from Wuhan that circulated widely on Chinese social media ([NYT](#))

February 10, 2020

- President Xi inspects efforts to contain COVID-19 in Beijing, the first time he has appeared on the front lines of the fight against the outbreak ([CNN](#))
- The Chinese government issued new guidelines stipulating criminal charges against people who use social media to impede the fight against COVID-19 ([Freedom House](#))
- Xi sacked two of Hubei's top health officials, amid claims that the virus could sicken 5 percent of Wuhan's population, or half a million people. Three days later, Hubei's party secretary was replaced by a Xi loyalist ([Foreign Policy](#))

February 15, 2020

- The official Communist Party journal Qiushi publishes the transcript of a speech made on February 3 by Xi in which he "issued requirements for the prevention and control of the new coronavirus" on January 7, revealing Xi knew about and was directing the response to the virus on almost two weeks before he commented on it publicly ([CNN](#))

February 16, 2020

- A group of 12 WHO officials and 13 PRC officials begin a nine-day "WHO-China Joint Mission on Coronavirus Disease 2019," led by Canadian Bruce Aylward of WHO and Wannian Liang of the PRC National Health Commission ([WHO.int](#))
- Tsinghua University Professor Xu Zhangrun is placed under house arrest, barred from social media, and cut off from the Internet after publishing an essay declaring that "The coronavirus epidemic has revealed the rotten core of Chinese governance."
([The Guardian](#))
 - He was previously suspended and investigated for essays criticizing Xi Jinping. ([NYT](#))

February 17, 2020

- Xu Zhiyong, a prominent legal activist is detained after releasing a letter to Xi Jinping on social media, accusing him of a cover-up and calling on him to step down. ([NYT](#))

February 19, 2020

- Beijing revokes press credentials of three Wall Street Journal reporters who had widely covered the outbreak, including one that was reporting from Wuhan ([WSJ](#))

COVID-19 | *Timeline of the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) Coronavirus Cover-up*

House Foreign Affairs Republicans | Lead Republican Michael McCaul (R-TX)

February 23, 2020

- Chairman Xi holds a teleconference for 170,000 officials to say the country's leadership acted swiftly and cohesively since the beginning ([WSJ](#))

February 26, 2020

- Chinese state media announced the release of a book, A Battle against Epidemic: China Combatting Covid-19 in 2020, which aims to present the party as having responded to the disease with skill and speed ([Freedom House](#))
- The first suspected case of COVID-19 community transmission in the US is reported in California ([CNN](#))

February 27, 2020

- A Chinese researcher leading the government response on COVID-19 claims the virus may not have originated in China ([Xinhua](#))

February 28, 2020

- The WHO-China Joint Mission on Coronavirus Disease 2019 publishes its report after a "huge back and forth" between PRC and non-PRC officials over wording. PRC officials refused to call the virus "dangerous" or include reference to a possible "second wave" of infections (preferring "resurgence" instead) ([Financial Times](#))
- The first COVID-19 patient dies on American soil, in Washington State ([CBS News](#))

Late February 2020

- Twice since late February, a Chinese diplomat in the consulate in Chicago has emailed State Senator Roger Roth, the president of the Wisconsin Senate, to ask that that Senate pass a resolution recognizing that China has taken heroic steps to fight the virus ([NYT](#))

March 4, 2020

- China's Foreign Ministry claims COVID-19 may not have originated in China ([FMPRC](#))
- Xinhua publishes a commentary piece titled "Be Bold, the World Should Thank China" that threatens restrictions on medical equipment and pharmaceuticals to the United States and threatens to plunge the United States into a COVID-19 hell ([Xinhua](#))

March 7, 2020

- Chinese Ambassador to South Africa pushes out the idea that COVID-19 did not originate in China.
 - "Although the epidemic first broke out in China, it did not necessarily mean that the virus is originated from China, let alone "made in China"." ([Twitter](#))
 - "Studies by scientists from countries like the United States, Europe and Japan show that the source of #COVID19 is still inconclusive. Based on the results of global scientists, WHO said the source is still uncertain and stigmatization should be avoided." ([Twitter](#))

COVID-19 | *Timeline of the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) Coronavirus Cover-up*

House Foreign Affairs Republicans | Lead Republican Michael McCaul (R-TX)

March 9, 2020

- Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs says China bought the world time.
 - “China has been updating the WHO & other countries including the US on #COVID19 in an open, transparent & timely manner. China’s endeavor to combating the epidemic has bought time for int’l preparedness. Our contribution is there for all to see. @WHO” ([Twitter](#))

March 11, 2020

- National Security Advisor Robert O’Brien said the initial cover-up of COVID-19 in China “cost the world community two months” ([AXIOS](#))
- Researchers at the University of Southampton (UK) estimate that had Beijing owned up to the Wuhan virus and responded with significant measures just one week before it did, 66% of cases could have been avoided, and had Beijing responded three weeks sooner, 95% could have been avoided ([University of Southampton](#))
- The WHO officially declares the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic after 114 countries had already reported 118,000 cases ([NBC News](#))

March 12, 2020

- Zhao Lijian, a MFA official, spreads disinformation about the virus originating in the United States and alleges the U.S. military brought COVID-19 to Wuhan.
 - “This article is very much important to each and every one of us. Please read and retweet it. COVID-19: Further Evidence that the Virus Originated in the US.” ([Twitter](#)) (Above-mentioned article [here](#))
 - “1/2 CDC Director Robert Redfield admitted some Americans who seemingly died from influenza were tested positive for novel #coronavirus in the posthumous diagnosis, during the House Oversight Committee Wednesday. #COVID19” ([Twitter](#))
 - “2/2 CDC was caught on the spot. When did patient zero begin in US? How many people are infected? What are the names of the hospitals? It might be US army who brought the epidemic to Wuhan. Be transparent! Make public your data! US owe us an explanation!” ([Twitter](#))

March 13, 2020

- U.S. State Department summoned the Chinese ambassador to the United States to protest comments made by Ministry of Foreign Affairs officials suggesting the U.S. military brought COVID-19 to Wuhan. ([Reuters](#))

March 14, 2020

- Ren Zhiqiang, an outspoken real estate tycoon, is disappeared after publishing an essay calling Xi Jinping a power-hungry clown. ([NYT](#))
 - Chinese authorities don’t acknowledge he’s detained until April 7, when they announce ambiguous corruption charges. ([CNN](#))

March 16, 2020

- Secretary Pompeo spoke by phone with Yang Jiechi, Director of the Office of the Foreign Affairs of the CCP, to convey strong objections to PRC efforts to shift blame for COVID-19 ([State Department](#))

COVID-19 | *Timeline of the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) Coronavirus Cover-up*

House Foreign Affairs Republicans | Lead Republican Michael McCaul (R-TX)

- CCP state media, Xinhua, tweets that “racism is not the right tool to cover your own incompetence” ([Twitter](#)), attempting to distort the narrative away from China’s culpability.

March 18, 2020

- China expels American journalists working for three major news outlets.
 - “Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs said Wednesday it was demanding all U.S. nationals working for the Wall Street Journal, the New York Times and the Washington Post whose credentials expire at the end of the year turn those credentials in within 10 days” ([Wall Street Journal](#))

March 20, 2020

- The CCP attempts to deflect anger at Doctor Li Wenliang’s detention and death by having the Wuhan police exonerate him post-mortem, and punishing the police officers involved. ([Politico](#))
- Wuhan doctor tells reporters his hospital was under pressure from the central government to report no cases and refuse to admit new virus patients ([Victims of Communism](#))

March 22, 2020

- Chinese Foreign Ministry officials continue to shift blame and advance the idea that the US is responsible for the spread of COVID-19.
 - “US CDC admitted some #COVID19 patients were misdiagnosed as flu during 2019 flu season. 34 million infected & 20000 died. If #COVID19 began last September, & US has been lack of testing ability, how many would have been infected? US should find out when patient zero appeared.” ([Tweet by Lijian Zhao, Chinese MFA](#))
 - Reports emerge of PRC government classified data showing a far higher rate of asymptomatic illness in China than previously disclosed. The classified data show some 43,000 people in China tested positive without symptoms by the end of February, representing one-third of cases. But PRC officials exclude these cases from their public count. When epidemiologists from the Chinese CDC published a paper on Feb. 24, they cited only 889 asymptomatic patients out of 44,672 confirmed cases as of Feb. 11, a rate of only 2% ([SCMP](#))
- Party-state media in China launch another explanation for the origin of the virus – that it began in Italy. This shows that the CCP “is content to shift blame away from China to anywhere in the world, not just the United States” ([Foreign Policy](#))
- Chinese Ambassador to the US, Cui Tiankai, told “Axios on HBO” that he stands by his belief that it’s “crazy” to spread rumors about COVID-19 originating from a military laboratory in the United States.” ([AXIOS](#))

March 23, 2020

- Chinese MFA officials allege that rhetoric in reference to the virus is racist, praise China’s efforts to control COVID-19, and criticize the US Government’s response.
 - “Some people have kept stigmatizing #China & using “Chinese virus” in reference to #COVID19. Such language contravenes #WHO guidelines against the use of geographical terms in naming diseases. Chinese people are strongly opposed to it. #WHO guidelines state that scientists, national authorities & media should

COVID-19 | *Timeline of the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) Coronavirus Cover-up*

House Foreign Affairs Republicans | Lead Republican Michael McCaul (R-TX)

follow best practice when naming infectious diseases to minimize unnecessary negative effects on nations, economies & people. The name #COVID19 has been chosen to avoid & prevent stigmatization. The pandemic of influenza in 2009 originated in North America. #WHO didn't call it North American flu. It's important that everyone has the same approach when it comes to #COVID19. This is a time for solidarity. President #XiJinping has said that to prevail over a disease that threatens all, unity & cooperation is the most powerful weapon. Thanks to united & arduous efforts, #China has made important progress in prevention & control, and also tried its best to help other countries fight #COVID19. We will continue to work with the world to address challenges and safeguard regional & global public health security." ([Tweet](#) by Sun Weidong, China's Ambassador to India)

- "On Jan 3, China started regularly updating the US. On Feb 2, the US banned entry by foreign nationals who had traveled in China within 14 days. It only reported about 10 cases then. Now the number has surged over 30,000. What did the US do in these 50 days?" ([Tweet by Chinese MFA](#))
- "It is the US who made the first move against Chinese media. China made it clear on the very first day that it reserves the right to take countermeasures. The US has been fully aware of that! So stop playing innocent or faking surprise now." ([Tweet by Chinese MFA](#))

March 24, 2020

- Secretary Pompeo accused the CCP of continuing to deny the world crucial information about the COVID-19 pandemic. CCP officials fired back with demands that the US stop "politicizing" the pandemic. ([Reuters](#))

March 26, 2020

- President Xi Jinping addresses the G20 summit and calls for unity in the global COVID-19 response.
 - "Facing the COVID-19 outbreak that caught us all by surprise, the Chinese government and Chinese people have been undaunted as we took on this formidable task. From day one of our fight against the outbreak, we have put people's life and health first." ([CGTN](#))
- "President Xi Jinping appreciates WHO DG Tedros today in a reply letter for his efforts to advance the global battle against the COVID-19 pandemic and expresses China's continued support of WHO to play its leading role." ([Tweet by Chen Xu, Permanent Representative to UN office in Geneva](#))
- ProPublica released a report tracking more than 10,000 fake or hijacked Twitter accounts connected to the Chinese government that have been engaged in COVID-19-related propaganda worldwide. Twitter had frozen another 200,000 accounts before they went active ([ProPublica](#))

March 27, 2020

- Wuhan residents told Radio Free Asia that Beijing's claims that there were only 2,500 deaths in Wuhan is far from reality. These residents claim there are "seven large funeral homes in Wuhan have been handing out the cremated remains of around 500 people to their families every day, suggesting that far more people died than ever made the official statistics."

COVID-19 | *Timeline of the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) Coronavirus Cover-up*

House Foreign Affairs Republicans | Lead Republican Michael McCaul (R-TX)

- In addition, Wuhan resident Chen Yaohui told RFA that city officials have been handing out 3,000 yuan in “funeral allowances” to the families of the dead in exchange for their silence. ([Radio Free Asia](#))

March 30, 2020

- Chinese MFA push back against the ongoing allegations against the country for sending faulty aid. “China is practicing “mask diplomacy”? Do those speaking ill of China rather want us to stand by while other countries suffer? NO. It is our tradition to reciprocate kindness and help those in need. This is all we do: help others to the best of our ability.” - [Tweet by Chinese MFA Spokesperson](#)
- Whistleblower Doctor Ai Fen, Director of the Emergency Department at Wuhan Central Hospital disappears, two weeks after going public with allegations that she was silenced after alerting other doctors in the early stages of the outbreak. Eight of those she alerted were later detained by police, including Li Wenliang. ([Radio Free Asia](#))

March 31, 2020

- After it has been revealed that asymptomatic cases have not been counted as confirmed cases under Chinese government guidelines, Chinese health authorities will include asymptomatic cases of COVID-19 in their official count. This brings in to question whether reporting out of China has been greatly understated ([CNN](#))

Late March 2020

- The CCP continues its “mask diplomacy” campaign by shipping medical supplies to affected countries around the world. A significant amount of this equipment, however, is faulty.
 - [Faulty tests in the Czech Republic, Spain, and Ukraine](#)
 - [Defective masks in the Netherlands](#)
- ProPublica obtained records of propositions to several prominent Chinese Twitter users from what appear to be fake accounts. One private message offered a user with more than 10,000 followers a payment to promote a video of Wuhan’s battle against COVID-19 “for the public benefit.” ([ProPublica](#))

April 1, 2020

- The U.S. intelligence community concluded in a classified report to the White House that China has concealed the extent of the COVID-19 outbreak in its country, under-reporting both total cases and deaths resulting from the disease ([Bloomberg](#))

April 6, 2020

- Chinese news outlet Xinhua publishes a timeline of the CCP’s response to COVID-19, from its origin to the pandemic. They heavily emphasize the CCP’s supposed international cooperation and close contact with the WHO and US CDC, making a point to cite every piece of praise China received for its handling of the outbreak and every call President Xi Jinping made to offer support to foreign leaders. ([Xinhua](#))
- A new report by the UK Commons Foreign Affairs Committee argues the country where the outbreak began should have taken a leading role in collecting data and sharing its research with other nations to help control the spread of Covid-19, accusing Xi Jinping’s Beijing of engaging in “obfuscation” rather than transparency. ([Independent](#))

COVID-19 | *Timeline of the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) Coronavirus Cover-up*

House Foreign Affairs Republicans | Lead Republican Michael McCaul (R-TX)

April 7, 2020

- An outspoken Beijing property tycoon who wrote an essay blaming Chinese President Xi Jinping and the Communist Party's "crisis of governance" for the COVID-19 outbreak has been placed under investigation, party authorities announced late Tuesday in their latest move to silence and punish voices critical of their response to the epidemic. ([WaPo](#))

April 9, 2020

- Chinese MFA tweeted, "We have set straight the timeline of China-US communication on the epidemic. China timely informed WHO of the outbreak, shared the genetic sequence of the virus and conducted international cooperation among disease-control experts." ([Twitter](#))
- Hua Chunying, Spokesperson for the CCP, shared a tweet by Morgan Ortagus and replied "Welcome to China anytime and talk to anyone in the streets to enjoy the freedom. BTW Where is freedom & transparency when Captain Crozier was dismissed for a letter to save thousands of lives and medical workers fired for talking about working conditions?" ([Tweet](#))

April 10, 2020

- Taiwan accused Chinese internet users of spreading fabricated expressions of remorse in a coordinated effort to paint Taipei as the source of a campaign of racist abuse against the head of the World Health Organization ([Bloomberg](#))
- Chinese MFA tweeted: "WHO warned about the risk of human-to-human-transmission of #COVID19 as early as 10 Jan in its note of guidance and urged precautions even though initial Chinese studies at that point had found no clear evidence of that route of infection." ([Hua Chunying](#))

April 11, 2020

- Two websites for leading Chinese universities, Fudan University and the China University of Geosciences (Wuhan), appear to have recently published and then removed pages that reference a new policy requiring academic papers dealing with Covid-19 to undergo extra vetting before they are submitted for publication. Research on the origins of the virus is particularly sensitive and subject to checks by government officials, the notices posted on the websites of said. ([The Guardian](#))

April 13, 2020

- Taiwan released the contents of a December email inquiring about the person-to-person spread of COVID-19, which it says was ignored by the organization and further denied to provide adequate information about how to fight the virus. ([Fox](#))
- An op-ed written by Hu Xijin, the editor-in-chief of the state-run Chinese newspaper, Global Times Publication, titled "Washington's hysterical COVID-19 claims will fail" claimed that "the U.S. Democratic Party wants to prove the weakness and inability of the Trump administration's epidemic fight." Democratic opposition to Trump and Americans' outrage over the epidemic's casualties, the op-ed says, will eventually end the "Washington-launched propaganda war" against China. ([Global Times](#))