

Technology and Pandemics in International Politics

Chukwu, R. Doris

*Department of Political and Admin
Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences,
University of Port Harcourt, Choba*

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Corresponding Author:

Chukwu, R. Doris

Abstract

This study was on technology and pandemics in international politics. The aim was to examine and analyze the trend in technological innovations and its connection to pandemics in world history especially in the COVID-19, to determine their implications on world politics. Theoretical framework of the study was on power as an outstanding force in international politics, in line with the Realists theory of international relations. According to the Realists, the selfish nature in man is manifested in the lust for power and desire to dominate, hence international politics is all about struggle for power. The State centered focus of the Realist, as the principal Actor in world politics was enhanced with the role of Corporations and Individual in the politics of the COVID-19 pandemics. These roles were in the technological innovations centered on powerful Corporations (Huawei and ZTF) and world billionaires; the Bill Gates, Warren Buffet etc. whose activities were outstanding in the COVID-19 pandemics. Their activities generated lots of conspiracy theories that trace the coronavirus pandemic to the installation of the 5G networks and the double standard role of China and the WHO. Governments and individuals that excel in the advancing surveillance technology game would no doubt order the politics of the world because 'he who has the know-how, will obviously dictate the pace'. In all the contests, the study recommends among all, that States must be conscious of the politics surrounding the COVID-19 pandemics, and governments and individuals involved in the technology push must be wary of the risk effect on the human bodies, especially in the heightened interconnected and interdependent world we live in.

Background to the Study

Technology has always played an outstanding role in international politics. It has continuously shaped the structure of the global system in its impacts on actors and nature of interactions between them. Technology simply defined by Stoegler, 2015 is the pursuit of life by means other than life. Broadly, technology can be seen as entities created by the application of mental and physical efforts to achieve some value or fulfil a human purpose. According to Igwe 2003, technology is the know-how, man-made implements and corresponding processes that simplify the tasks and hasten the solution of the problems of man, their level and sophistication, being one of the main determinants of society's power and prosperity. Technology as tools and machines have been used to solve real world problems that it has remained a powerful factor in global affairs. It a highly political and important force that determines and shapes international economy, politics and culture.

Pandemic is simply widespread or general; It is epidemic over a wide geographical area and affecting a large proportion of the population. Pandemic is an epidemic of an infectious disease that has spread across a large region with global health implications. Throughout history, as humans spread across the world, infectious diseases have been a constant companion. With the increasing interconnections in the world today, as aided by technological advancement, pandemics have come to be an outstanding force in international politics. As modern transportation and trade have increased interconnections, the same pathways of global commerce and communication have become the transmission routes and avenues for disease. A cough in a city in France can be transmitted all over the world, just in one day, through a single flight of Air France, or any other Air Flight.

With the heightened relationships in the international arena with many Actors, protection of interests has remained a common goal in all. Politics as a process of coordinating and actualizing interests play out in these relations. International politics is all about the world we live in, the challenges we face, and struggles among the Actors in the international system. It is the increasing complex and interwoven nature of local, national, regional and global problems that creates process by which Actors tries to safeguard and secure their interest by adjustments in relationship. In this line, we can see international politics as understanding and explaining global challenges and developing ideas at the International, State and Sub-State levels, aimed at addressing them. International politics explores activities of these key Players/Actors and their interests in the international system. These Actors include States and Non-State Actors; Inter-Governmental Organizations, (IGOs) Non-Governmental Organization (NGOs), Transnational Corporation (TNC), Terrorists, individuals like influential Billionaires, including, William Henry Gates III, Warren Buffet and others whose influence are shaping our world today. International politics is obviously the pursuit of various interests in the international system and concerned with the art of achieving needs against opposition.

According to Wright 1955, international politics is the art of influencing, manipulating or controlling major groups in the world, so as to advance the purposes of some, against the opposition of others. Obiozor 2010, see international politics as an academic discipline that embraces much more than recent history and current events, but studies the articulated and

discernible interests of the Actors who are constantly involved in Competition, Conflict and Co-operation. Consequently, according to him, international politics is “a field of outrageous paradox of selective mortality and double standards” and a serious business that “involves the test of wills and favours the fittest”. According to him, transformation in the international system occurs as a result of changes in the power situation, that comes with either gains or losses, or even redistribution of power among members of the system. It is in this context that Morgenthau clearly asserts that international politics is struggle for power and that States power position in the world is the crucial factor on how it will behave or be treated in any given international situation. “Weak countries watch and complain, strong and powerful countries act and achieve results”, making it “the iron law of international politics”. The weak and poor States often have their opinions, but the few powerful ones, often have had their way. (Obiozor pp 76-86).

The actualization of these interests in the international arena has been aided by technology in defence of our opening statement. Technology has shaped the structure of the global system because interactions between the Actors in international politics, have been facilitated by technology. It is technological discoveries of the renaissance and enlightenment era that spurred the early Explorers and Adventures; the Prince Henry, Christopher Columbus, Ferdinand Magellan, Hernando Cortes, Vasco Dagama etc. to discover new continents, that increased interconnections. Technology has been in the centre of all the major events in world history right from the time of the ancient kingdoms, to the rise of the Roman Empire, with the religious wars, to the Peace of Westphalia, the different revolutions in the world, including the World Wars, the various pandemics the world have been plagued with, to the present politics surrounding the COVID-19, Pandemic.

The aim of this study is to examine and analyze the evolutionary trend of technology and its connections to pandemics in world history, especially in the present COVID-19, to determine their implications on international politics.

Theoretical Framework

Theory as a scheme, sets of images or mental perspectives for this study, will be anchored on Power as an outstanding focus of the Realist's theory of international relations. According to the realists, the selfish nature in man is manifested in the lust for power and desire to dominate, hence international politics is all about struggle for power. For the Realists, States are significant Actors in international politics that the power of States matter in international relations, hence the promotion of national interests. This emphasis on States, as principal Actors in international politics will be enhanced by the role of other Non-State Actors including NGOs, TNCs and Individuals. All these Actors are involved in the power politics of pandemics in world history playing out conspicuously in the COVID-19 pandemic. To analyze this politics, we must understand that power simply is the ability to exert an overwhelming influence. Power is indeed a complex and contested concept that no single interpretation can capture in international politics. Power can be viewed in several directions that can capture the relevance of all the Actors in the international system.

Political Scientists, Historians and International Relations Scholars, have seen power in several dimensions, but for the purposes of this study, concentration will be on the vista on power, as a measure of influence and control over outcomes, events, actors and issues. Political Scientists see power in terms of an Actor's ability to exercise influence over other Actors within the international system. This influence can be coercive, attractive, co-operative or competitive buttressing power as the capacity to direct the decisions and actions of others. Power is relations between Actors in which some Actors compel others to implement something that otherwise they would not do. In this sense, power can be seen as capacity to direct the decisions and actions of others, derived from strength that comes from the transformation of resources into capabilities. Viottie and Kauppi 2013 defines capacity as “material and immaterial, resources that can serve as the basis for power to allow Actors the ability to be influential in the international system. These capabilities can be economic, military, geographical or political, but it is the effective and strategic deployment and ability to convert these power resources into actual influence that is the actual power. Power is thus a means to achieve an end or goal. Power explains influence and influence measures power, such that influence and power go together. Power can thus be seen as the ability to influence another Actor to do what it would not ordinarily want to do, or not to do what it would have done. Actors are powerful to the extent that they affect others more than others affect them. This is the unfolding trend in international politics. In the international system, there are many distributions of power relationships in the forms of unipolar, bipolar and multipolar. Waltz 1979 sees the distribution of power as a key variable in determining the nature of the international system.

Morgenthau 1960 defined power as a relationship between two political Actors in which Actor A has the ability to control the mind and actions of actor B. Power according to him “may comprise anything that establishes and maintains control of man over man and it covers all social relationships which serve that end, from physical violence to the subtlest psychological ties by which one mind controls another”. All interactions and exchanges in the international arena are defined in terms of power, because all politics, be it domestic or international, are all power show, aimed at the three basic tendencies to keep, increase or demonstrate power. International politics therefore deals with the goals and demands of Actors in the international system. Chaturvedi 2006, see power as the production of intended effects, the capacity of an individual, group, party, class etc. to get what it wants, by securing the compliance of others, through whatever means; the capacity to achieve an outcome through an actual use or threat of coercion. According to the Wikipedia, power is an inherent goal of mankind and of States.

Actors' ability to exercise influence over other Actors in the international system is the rally force of international politics, because the capacity to direct the decisions and actions of others show power politics. Accordingly, power derives from strength and will, and strength comes from the transformation of resource into capabilities. Viotti and Kauppi 2013 definition of power as the means by which a State or other Actor wields or can assert actual or potential influence or coercion, relative to other States and Non-State Actors because of the political, geographical, economic and financial, technological, military, society, cultural or other capabilities it possesses, will be a major focus of this study. Power as a means to pursue an

end and the capacity of an Actor to shape the norms and values held by other, played out in the politics of the COVID-19 pandemic especially in the technological realm.

Technology in Perspectives

Addressing technology in perspectives, will be taking its cue from Bain 1937 definition of technology as tools, machines, utensils, weaponry, instruments, housing, clothing, communication and transport devices, and the skills, by which we produce and use them. By this definition, technology can be seen as both material and immaterial entities created by the application of mental and physical efforts in order to achieve some value, solve problems and enhance the living conditions of man. As a Greek word, 'techne' which means art and craft, it was first used to describe applied arts, but now used to describe the advancement and changes around us. Historical account of technology will revolve around the systematic development of tools and techniques for making and doing things. These developments have passed through phases as it relates to food production, manufacturing industry, building, construction, transport and communications, military, medicine, exploration, information processing etc. Each period or phase in the development of the human society has been tied to particular innovations that sustained the phase. Several forces contributed to the sustenance of these processes.

These innovations manifested in the advancement of societies from primitive to sophistication, aided by available techniques. Though many have remained stagnant for long periods of time, some have regressed even at developed stages. Periodization of development of technology started with the stone age or Paleolithic age, that progressed to the Neolithic or New Stone Age when innovations for survival have transited and carried on, to the emergence of the urban civilization that heralded the modern international society. Skills and innovations were instrumental in the thriving of these phases of human history, and sustained relationship. According to the Britannica, the emergence of the Nation-State, the cleavage of the Christian Church by the Protestant Reformation, the renaissance and its accompanying scientific revolution, and the overseas expansion of the European States had interactions with developing technology. Technological innovation aided the Renaissance era, the early European adventurers and explorers, enhancement of the reformation regimes, through the Printing Press and other industrial and commercial activities. The late 19th and early 20th centuries witnessed revolution in transportation with the invention of the airplane and automobile. The 20th century brought lots of innovations in physics, computers with the internet, which ushered the current information age. In medicine, innovation came in open heart surgery, stem cell therapy with other new medications and treatments. Innovations in medicine serve a central piece of this study, especially in the pandemics and its implication on world politics, because technology is a creative process involving human ingenuity.

Pandemics in History

Pandemic as earlier stated is a disease prevalent over a whole country or the world. Diseases and illnesses have plagued humanity since the earliest days, because as humans spread across the world, Infectious diseases have remained a constant companion. Widespread trade created new opportunities for human and animal interactions that speed up epidemics. The

more civilized humans evolve, with larger cities, more exotic trade routes, aiding increased contact with different populations, the more likely pandemics would occur. Rising global connections and interactions, facilitated by geography and trade are driving forces of pandemic. Plagues and epidemics have ravaged humanity and impacted on global politics.

History.com Editors, gives an account of pandemics that changed history. According to them, Malaria, Tuberculosis, Leprosy, Influenza, Smallpox and others, appeared first but the shift to agrarian life 10,000 years ago, created communities that made epidemics more possible. The more civilized humans became, building cities and forging trade routes that increased connections and likelihood of wars, the more pandemic became. According to the account, in 430 B.C the earliest recorded pandemic happened during the Peloponnesian war that killed so many people up to Libya, Ethiopia and Egypt. Others include:

1. The 165 A.D Antonine plague that infected and killed the Germans and Romans.
2. The 250 A.D Cyprian plague, named after the Christian Bishop of Carthagea, that caught it. It spread up to Ethiopia, North Africa, Rome, Britain.
3. The 541 A. D Justinian plague, the first significant appearance of the bubonic plague that first appeared in Egypt, and spread through Palestine and the Byzantine empire into the Mediterranean.
4. The 11th century Leprosy that grew into a pandemic in Europe, led to the building of numerous leprosy focused hospital, to accommodate the vast number of victims. Now known as Hansen's disease.
5. The 1350 black death, seen as the second large outbreak of the bubonic plague that started in Asia, and moved into Sicily, and spread throughout Europe with so much deaths that dead bodies littered all over, in cities.
6. The 1492 Columbian exchange, following the arrival of the Spanish in the Caribbean, Smallpox, Measles and Bubonic plague erupted in Europe and spread into the Americas with so much deaths.
7. The 1665 Great Plague of London, that led to the deaths of 20 percent of London's population.
8. The 1817 FIRST of seven Cholera Pandemics over the next 150 years originated in Russia and spread to Britain, India, Spain, Africa, Indonesia, China, Japan, Italy, Germany and America. Over one hundred thousand people died. A vaccine was created in 1885 but the pandemic continued.
10. The 1855 Third Plague Pandemic, that started in China, and moved to India, and Hong Kong, and claimed over 10 million lives.
11. The 1875 Fiji Measles Pandemic, that claimed over 30,000 of Fiji's population.
12. The 1889 Russian Flu, the first significant flu pandemic that started in Siberia and Kazakhstan, to Moscow, Finland, Poland and moved into the rest of Europe, America and Africa.
13. The 1918 Spanish Flu, an avian borne flu that resulted in 50 million deaths worldwide, was first observed in Europe, the United States, and parts of Asia, before it swiftly spread around the world.
14. The 1957 Asian Flu, that started in Hong Kong and spread through China, into the United States and England.

15. 1981 HIV/AIDS that destroys immune system, resulting in death by diseases, that the body would ordinarily fight off.
16. The 2003 SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome) that started in China, followed by 26 other countries, infecting 8,096 people with over 700 deaths.
17. 2019 COVID-19, that was declared by the World Health Organization (WHO), a pandemic only on March 11 2020, after spreading through 114 countries in three months and infecting over 118,000 people. First reported in China on Nov. 17 2019 in the Hubei Province, but went unrecognized. According to Reports, knowledge of COVID-19 was released by Dr. L Wenliang, an Ophthalmologist who defied Chinese government order, and released safety information to other doctors. The following day China informed WHO and charged him for a crime. Dr. Wenliang was believed to have died of the COVID-19, just over a month later. (Retrieved from www.history.com).

All these epidemics were all influenza virus infecting humans and with movements, transformed into a pandemic with very high fatality rates. They have had widespread over the entire world because they are infectious and contagious, that responses to them, have also taken a global action. Containment and mitigation have been a globally accepted management mechanism for these pandemics. Measures usually adopted in the early stages is, contact tracing and isolating infected persons to stop the spread and vaccination. When these containment measures are not effective, mitigation strategies are taken to slow the spread of the disease and lessen the impact on society. In reality, containment and mitigation mechanisms may be carried out simultaneously, but could involve some politicking. Various interventions actions also come in, to enhance the containment and mitigation measures. These measures include; hand hygiene, wearing face-masks, self-quarantine etc.

According to Harari, 2018 *Viruses evolve*, planet earth is teeming with countless viruses and new viruses are constantly evolving due to genetic mutations. When humans squabble, viruses double. As humans move, virus also move. The world has experienced many pandemics throughout history from the account above, but not every era has had the benefit of modern medicine and hind sights. However, with the readily available medical expertise and equipment that exists today, it is still unevenly distributed throughout the globe. Community measures are aimed at social distancing include closing schools and cancelling mass gatherings, and environmental measures, include cleaning of surfaces and decontamination of the environment. Above all, health care improvements and understanding the factors that incubate pandemics have been powerful tools in mitigating their impacts. This is because despite the persistence of diseases and pandemics throughout history, there has been a consistent trend of gradual reduction in death rate as a result of healthcare management forces.

Quarantine has been an old containment strategy that began in the 14th century, as an effort by Greeks to protect coastal cities from plague epidemics. Cautious Port Authorities were known to have required ships arriving Venice from infected Ports to sit at anchor for forty days before landing. Vaccinations is also critical in preventing resurgence of known and treatable diseases and curb its spread. Notwithstanding, it is a known fact that vaccine contains toxins and

chemicals that lights the human body effectively to respond more powerfully, to radioactive signals in form of chemotherapy. Humans are electromagnetic beings with electrical circuits that creates chemistry or chemicals that responds to vibrations and electromagnetic energy in vaccines. The xtray of the politics in all these innovations are the thrusts of this study. All the rhetorics over the COVID-19 will give a pointer to the connection of technology in pandemics that has engineered and heightened international politics.

The Triage of Technology and Pandemics in World Politics

Technology as material and immaterial entities created to solve evolving problems in man's search for enhancement of her living conditions have been advancing from the development of tools and techniques, in all the various phases in history. Since diseases and illnesses have plagued humanity through interactions, that it has become an evolving trend in history, technological innovations have continued to be put in place to contain and mitigate fallouts from these diseases. This section of the work will contend with the politics surrounding technology in pandemics, especially in the latest COVID-19. According to Harari, 2020 the COVID-19 has placed human kind with a global crisis and the decisions government and people take in those situations, will shape the world in years to come. Decisions will shape, not just the healthcare systems, but the economic, political and social spheres of our world. Politics as a process of coordinating and actualizing interests predominates, in all these decisions.

Account that could be linked to theories on the connections between the implementation of Radio Waves globally and pandemics in the last 120 years provokes causes for research. An article by Arthur Firstenberg. *The invisible Rainbow*, supports these claims. Dr Cowan J, an American Infectious Disease Specialist explained that every instance of “influenza” epidemic in our modern era, was associated with a radical change in the electrification of the earth. Immediately before the outbreak, in his analysis of the 5 pandemics in the last 120 years. According to him, the 1918 Spanish Flu was as a result of the implementing of the high intensity radar globally and increasing electrification of the universe, that led to the death of millions of people. After World War II (WW2), another pandemic that broke out, caused by the implementation of radar equipment when global satellites were launched in “Van Allen Belt”, (space where satellites are sent). For the first time, he noted, the entire globe was subjected to a level of radar waves never experienced on earth. Within months of these installations, the 1956 pandemic broke out. This he said, was as a result of the introduction of high intensity radar installations off the Coast of Alaska Cape and New York Harbor. The 1968 Hong Kong Flu from his accounts came when they rolled out another level of satellite penetration in the Van Aven Belt where over 100,000 Satellites were transmitting radar signals to radar fields in the cosmic. Dr Cowan, went further to assert that whenever there is a quantum leap in the intensity of electrical exposure, many people and many living beings die. They die quickly and from the well-documented changes in their blood. It is this analysis that spear headed the theories connecting the COVID-19 to the 5G network.

According to these theories, Wuhan city where the Coronavirus (COVID-19) first broke out was the initial site of the most intense rollout of the 5G wireless technology in the planet.

According to Martin Pall, Wuhan is China's first 5G “Smart City” and is the location of China's 5G highway where 5G radiation is being used to test self-driving vehicles. According to him, approximately 10,00 5G antennae were installed and activated in Wuhan in 2019 with approximately 75 to 80% of these, installed and activated in the last 2 ½ months of the year. May be by coincident, the epidemic was first detected near the beginning of the same 2 ½ months period and became vastly most severe with large increases in cases and deaths in the end of 2019. According to him, South Korea which became the site of the worst epidemic, outside of China, has large number of 5G antennae all over the country. The Milan area of Italy, the worst epicenter in Europe also is a 5G center. Also, Seattle area, the worst area in the U.S is also a major 5G area.

According to Pall, reports predict that New York City, another 5G site will shortly become the largest epicenter in the U.S. However, he added that these epicenter in 5G areas may also be coincidental, but added that “it seems highly plausible that 5G radiation is greatly increasing the spread of the epidemic and also the death rate in individuals that are infected”. (Retrieved from electromagnetichealth.org). The rollout of 5G in cities and towns across the globe to support the theories, is also coincident in time with the placement of thousands of radiating emitting satellites in the ionosphere and magnetosphere. Dr Cowan summarized a number of studies in which electromagnetic radiation electric and magnetic fields (EMF) radiation is a co-factor in either suppressing human immune response to viral infections, or itself makes viral infections more lethal. If a virus is involved, the afflicted people would already have sufficiently weakened immune systems that can withstand the virus. To enhance these positions, brief on the 5G technology is worthwhile at this point.

According to Qualcomm, the 5G technology is the 5th generation wireless mobile network after the first, second, third and fourth GS networks. It is designed to connect virtually everyone and everything together including machines, objects, and devices. Their order of invention and impacts stands as follows:

1G enabled voice calls only

2G enabled voice calls and SMS

3G enable voice calls, SMS, internet and chat services including WhatsApp, Twitter etc.

4G came with better speed for online and real time communication, video conferencing, smart devices, connectivity etc.

5G promises amazing speed from what 3G and 4G could offer in data speed, plus many more global connectedness internets of things (IOTS), as in self-driven cars, remote surgery, 3D printing, smart homes (everything in the house connected and controlled from home including switching on and off lights), and so much more through an electrification of the universe to the 5G satellites, 5G towers and 5G cells.

The Account, has it that 5G was first rolled out in large scale in South Korea, was rolled out and working in Beijing and Shanghai, China, has been rolled out in Germany, U.K and U.S, Switzerland and Finland. It is said to be the only network with speed to handle the future world run by Artificial intelligence (AI) and has the capacity to generate million jobs and add 500 billion dollars to GDP. According to estimates published in an informal Technology Research

paper, 5G technology could be responsible for 22.3 million jobs and 13.2 trillion dollars of global economic output by 2035. It is the one new nuclear button, that any Actor in the international arena that control it, will control the world via information. This is the 5G conspiracy theory that is surrounded by power politics.

From the accounts, the U.S won the 4G war and generated over 100 billion dollars in GDP, that China took off the 5G race, and emerging victorious as 5G is 20 times more powerful than 4G. According to Tom Wheeler, former U.S Head of Federal Communication Commission, Huawei and ZTE, 2 Chinese telecomm giants, accounts for about 40% of the global 5G infrastructure market, that puts China, in the front banner of the 5G networks. This could align with the conspiracy theory linking the COVID-19 to China more so when the pandemic broke out in Wuham China technology city. According to Wheeler, China's dominance of the 5G network puts the U.S economic future at risk. William Barr the U.S Attorney General, contends that Chinese companies were winning the fight for the next generation of telecom networks posing both economic and national security threats to America. America's National Security experts have also opined that companies including Huawei are too closely tied to the Chinese government that their equipment could give Chinese government full access to data and communications of networks across, if the world decides to use it. <https://www.equalcomm.com.Ret.30/5/2020>. The U.K government has been in row with Huawei over the 5G installation because they also see it as a national security threat.

These Theorists see the scenario as the Power Contest for World War III, that would have involved bombardments, flying high in the skies, with lots of nuclear bombs and sophisticated gun shots ranting the air as per technological advancement, but has changed to a virus war. They contend that COVID-19 pandemic is the impact on human beings caused by technological advancement, alleging it is a virus produced by body cells, excreting toxins, caused by exposure to the 5G ultra high frequency because 5G frequency is a very high frequency, just below the classification of a weapon.

Other accounts state the technological reasons behind the 5G includes:

A robust, scalable, fast and capable internet that can handle the processing of information about all movements, journeys, banking transactions, identification

1. CCTV camera monitoring of activities around the world
2. Vaccines administration tracking.
3. Installation of Radio frequency identification chips (RFID chips)
4. Global digital currency

All these according to the Conspiracy Theories, are aimed to cage humanity and take over power to be controlled by few Individuals (world billionaires), and big Corporations through Artificial Intelligence (IA). Bill Gates stands out among these individuals.

Bill Gates is the William Henry Gates III, an American business magnet, software developer investor and philanthropists, best known as the co-founder of Microsoft Corporation; Net worth \$130 billion U.S Dollars as at 2020, own the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation, a

private charitable foundation established in 2000 and reported to be the world's largest private charitable organization. In 2009 Gates and Warren Buffet, another world billionaire founded the giving Pledge, a philanthropy to save lives and improve global health. Gates is said to have pledged a quarter of a billion dollars to the effort to develop a COVID-19 vaccine. Bill Gates invests in satellite Broad Band. According to Sarah Thomas, Director Women in Communities, Patent House Intellectual Ventures Management LLC (iv), is spinning off satellite antenna maker Kymeta, after securing a 12 million dollars in funding from a group that includes Microsoft Corporation. Kymeta plans to use the fund to simplify the satellite connection needed for broadband internet on the go anywhere in the world (the 5G connection).

These fast-disseminating pandemic related Conspiracy Theories in the U.K, Europe, U.S, Australia, Canada, led to reports of cell-tower attacks in most of these places. Anger at China rose in India, Hong Kong, Africa etc. and there was a widely circulating notion that China engineered SARS and deliberately released it as part of a plan to bring down the world economy and increase its own power (Retrieved from Wikipedia.org). Notwithstanding all these, the genre of conspiracy theories linked to wireless technology has been on, in the last 4 decades. Jason Puekett a National Verify Journalist, tried to counter these Theories from the Spanish flu of 1918. According to him, there is no specific date when radio waves were introduced, because their usage and spread increased over time and onto new platforms. The United States Federal Communications Commission FCC confirmed the first public demonstration of radio was in the 1890s and the first program to transmit speech and music was in the 1900s. According to Puckett, each generation released at different times on different countries. An IT company from Belgium chronicled the history of wireless technology upgrades and disclosed that IG was first introduced in Tokyo in 1979, but didn't cover all of Japan until 1984, while the U.S only approved the first IG operation in 1983. By this analysis, the claim linking 1979 influenza outbreak to IG is faulty. The link of a 1991 cholera epidemic to 2G also has its fault lines, because cholera is not a respiratory illness. The Centre for Disease Control (CDC) describes cholera as an "acute diarrheal illness". The cholera epidemic was not pandemic per say, because it happened in Peru, Latin America and did not affect Finland, where 2G was being launched. The 3G was first activated in 2001 and the CDC lists both 1998 and 2001 as years with moderate seasonal flu outbreaks. The 4G was launched in 2009 in Scandinavia, and in late 2010 in the U.S, but it is on record that the last pandemic before COVID-19 was the 2009 HIV outbreak. According to the Account, the link of the COVID-19 to the 5G is also faulty, because 5G launch in many places, is not in line with COVID-19 world-wide spreading rate. South Korea launched 5G in 2018 and 5G roll out in the United State started in March 2019. COVID-19 has spread wide to places where 5G infrastructure are not. Influenza outbreaks have been taking place well before launch of wireless technology.

The conspiracy theories are still thriving as was visible on most Facebook walls from about the 20th of May 2020. According to the Posts: Breaking new: US President cancelled Bill Gates Projects known as ID2020. The President of the United States of American Donald Trump did the following:

1. Made vaccines voluntary not mandatory. Military will check purity and distribute vaccines.
2. Defunded World Health Organization (WHO) forever, and wanted an investigation into its operations.
3. Cancelled the Democrats HR 6666 Bill known as the COVID-19 Trace Act, that was the basis for Bill Gate's diagnosis and tracking project which was also cancelled.
4. Cancelled Bill Gates project known as ID 2020
5. Opened a complaint platform to report censorship on Facebook, twitter and Youtube.
6. Stopped 5G rollout nationwide
7. Executive Order to reopen States Governors, who refuse to reopen to be sued.
8. Executive Order for White House to take over all Electrical Grids which will include internet servers, Broadcasting Systems, Electronic Systems (Red Flag).
9. Declares places of worship essential services. Some Mayors were fining people for going to church.
10. Applauded Australia and 116 countries for insisting on a China probe into the spread of COVID-19 despite several threats from China about refusing critical exports.

These actions according to the post were a consequence of serious concern earlier raised on the WHO's "alarming lack of independence from the People's Republic of China". Trump according to the Post, outlined as much as 15 points to support his worry and action. All bordered on the WHO's roles in the handling of the outbreak, containment (asymptomatic spread) and treatment of the coronavirus pandemic in bids to cover up China's implicit role in the pandemic. He commended the role played by the then Harlem Brundtland Director – General of the WHO in 2003 in the outbreak of SARS; where the first emergency travel advisory in 55 years recommending against travel to and from the disease epicenter in Southern China was declared. Such urgent and timely action were played down by the WHO in the face of the coronavirus episode with "grossly inaccurate or misleading" claims about the virus.

All the issues raised in this post have been debunked by FACTCHECK.ORG. in their write up; Facebook Posts distort facts on Trump's actions. The summary of the write up in their quick take "Facebook posts credit president Donald Trump with accomplishing a list of things that haven't happened-claiming, for example, that he "cancelled" a proposed house bill on contact tracing and "expelled WHO". According to the report "... most of the claims are false, misleading or unsupported" and went ahead to break them down. In response to the post on vaccine, the report referenced a statement by Trump on May 15, 2020 while discussing "Operation Warp Speed" – a U.S Federal initiative to quickly find a vaccine and treatments for COVID-19, quoting Trump "we're looking for a full vaccine for everyone that wants to get it". The objective of the operation Warp Speed according to Trump "is to finish developing and then manufacture and distribute a proven coronavirus vaccine as fast as possible" adding "again, we'd love to see if we could do it prior to the end of the year" and that the federal government would "invest in manufacturing all of the top vaccine candidates before they're approved", to "eliminate any unnecessary delay and enable us to begin providing Americans with a proven vaccines the day our scientists say, we're ready. We got it". On the WHO, on May

18, Trump sent a letter to the United Nations health body and demanded its commitment to “major substantive improvements” in the next 30 days or risk “temporary freeze of United States funding permanent, and reconsider our membership of the Organization”. On the 5G, the report referenced it to a recent move by the Trump administration to further cut off supplies to Huawei, the Chinese technology giant rolling out the 5G networks. The U.S has accused the company of conspiring to steal trade secret that its technology could be used for Chinese espionage. Huawei has however denied it. The fact that president Trump has called the WHO a “Puppet of China” and the coronavirus a “Kung flu” should not also be overlooked.

It is also imperative to make clarification on the ID 2020, Digital Identity Alliance ID 2020. From the Fact Check Report, A Non-Governmental Organization NGO which advocate for digital ID. ID2020 mission is to widen access to digital forms of identification and to ensure people have control over their digital IDs. The organization was founded by several partners including Microsoft and Gavi, a Gates backed organization that seeks to provide access to vaccines in impoverished states. Datota Gruener is the Executive Director. According to the Wikipedia, Gavi (The Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization) is an international Organization Created in 2000 as a global vaccine Alliance, to bring together public and private sectors with the shared goal of creating equal access to new and under used vaccines for children living in the world's poorest States. Gavi was created as a successor to the children's vaccine initiative launched in 1990. Seth Berkly has been the CEO of GAVI since 2011. The Bill and Melinda Gates foundation has donated 1.56 billion dollars to the Alliance's 2016-2020 strategic period as at March 2019. It is an organization focused on vaccines against human diseases. According to Ryan, K and Alexander, S, in the past 20 years, Gavi has helped immunize 700 million children and saved more than 13 million lives. In addition to her vaccine intervention programmes, Gavi has also spent the past two decades helping countries strengthen their health systems more broadly, recruit and train health workers and improve infrastructure for healthcare to be accessible. Gavi has committed to providing an initial account of over 42 million U.S dollars in urgent funding to 30 countries to help them protect health care workers with personal protection equipment (PPE), perform trainings, and fund diagnostic tests. Gavi's goal of at least 7.4 billion U.S dollars in funding will be geared towards making vaccines for everyone, everywhere and making sure that a COVID-19 vaccine is accessible to all who need it. According to Fact Check, the WHO, in partnership with Gavi and Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovation (CEPI) are on mission to ensure all countries have access to therapeutics diagnostics and COVID-19 vaccines.

In the midst of all these, there is also a recent bewilderment on the sudden installment of COVID-19 exposure notifications on all Android and iPhone. This trending installation on phones that linked Apple or Google to the sudden upload of COVID-19 tracking app without permission, spurs the question of the right of privacy, activating another Conspiracy Theory. Winder, D, a senior contributor on cybersecurity has though debunked the fears, that it is just an Application Programming Interface (API) that will enable exposure notifications to work, if you decide to install it. According to him, it is not an app but an operating system that will function where it becomes available and if you decide to install it. He said it's just a new entry

on smart phones that can only be activated when you click on the entry that will bring up a screen for installation before it can be activated. He confirmed that Apple and Google published a joint statement on May 20, 2020 that reads “what we've built is not an app, rather public health agencies will incorporate the API into their own apps that people install. Our technology is designed to make these apps work better”. According to Winder, this installation is to enable tracking, or contact tracing apps to work correctly when they are installed.

We ask again, how did phones get so connected without owners/user's knowledge? Technology is gradually unfolding to man the possibility to access and monitor everyone all the time. According to Harari Y, 50 years ago, the KGB couldn't follow 240m Soviet citizens 24 hours a day. They relied on human agents and analysts, but now Powerful Individuals and Governments can rely on ubiquitous sensors and powerful algorithms in the place of flesh and blood spooks. Governments, notably China have deployed a new surveillance tool to closely monitor people's smart phones, face-recognizing cameras and obliging people to check and report their body temperature and medical conditions. Chinese authorities with this technology can not only quickly identify suspected COVID-19 carriers, but also track their movements and identify anyone they come into contact with. There are also a range of mobile apps that warn citizens about their proximity to infected patients. From Harari's account, Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu authorized the Israeli Security Agency to deploy surveillance technology normally reserved for battling terrorists to track COVID-19 patients through an emergency decree because of the refusal of Parliament to pass it. As he noted, though sophisticated technology to track monitor and manipulate people had been in use, but with the COVID-19, there is a shift of focus of interest, that may mark an important watershed in the history of surveillance. It might normalize the deployment of mass surveillance tools in States that have rejected them as it shows a dramatic transition from “over the skin” to “under the skin” surveillance.

Surveillance technology is seriously developing at breakneck speed as what seemed science fiction 10 years ago, is now a reality. See the silent and unaware installation of COVID-19 exposure notification on all Android and iPhone. New surveillance system now monitors all the activities of man, wherever, and at any point. If Corporations and Governments take the full harvest of this biometric data on masses, they can know humans so well, that they can not only predict feelings, but can also manipulate feelings and sell to humans anything they wish to, be it product, ideology or a politician. This surveillance emergency technology from the COVID-19 will so reap off because of the great value human attach to health.

Conclusion

The study laid out technological connections to pandemics in world politics. The politics surrounding the COVID-19 pandemics from the study has to some extent, directly or indirectly portrayed a link to technology that is impacting on international politics. COVID-19 is spiraling a new trend in world politics because of technological innovations. Technological display in the midst of the Conspiracy Theories and the counters, accompanying the COVID-19 pandemic, is bringing a new bolt in world politics. In this

contest, and in defence of our opening remark on the State centrism of the Realist theory, we can see some overwhelming force of Non-State Actors in the COVID-19 pandemics, pounding seriously on world politics. There appears to be so much more, accompanying the COVID-19 that is still unclear. In all the notable events in world history including power dominance, earlier pandemics, major revolutions in Europe, WW1, creation of Israel and the politics in the Middle East, WW2, the Cold War, revolutions in Africa, Britain and the European Union, rise of new terrorists' organizations, etc., there were not much incidences where Corporations and Individuals have been so outstanding, as in the COVID-19 pandemics scenario. This notable role is obvious because of technological connections. In conformity with Harari, Governments and Corporations that excels in the advancing surveillance technology game would no doubt order the politics of the world. States, though, still in her leading position as major actor in world politics, because Governments and Corporation will always have to align with her, would definitely be the major causality. The elements and capabilities of power that dictates world politics also appears threatened, because, he who has the know-how will obviously dictate the pace. This is the triumph of technology from the COVID-19 pandemics in international politics, that will steer a new course in world history.

Recommendations

In view of the challenges, we face from the COVID-19 pandemics, including the struggles among Actors in the international system, we make the following recommendations.

1. In as much as technology has impacted positively in providing unprecedented economic prosperity and improved living conditions of billions, we should not easily forget its multiple destructive effects, as in the increase in armed conflict, Weapons of Mass Destruction (WAD), cyber war, international frauds, environmental pollution, global climate change, loss of biodiversity etc. Political force in technology should not be overlooked.
2. States as ultimate victims of the politics in technology must be conscious of the politics in healthcare improvements mechanisms that comes with mitigating impacts of pandemics.
3. Recognition of the limitations of technology is highly needed, because in dealing with environmental justice and "health" issues, technology may be uncertain.
4. Because technology is everywhere and has dramatically changed landscapes and societies, that engineers, scientists and governments have believed that they can use technology to shape the world as they want, States must be willing to share information openly and non-State Actors must show some sincerity in their activities. We can embrace new technologies to empower citizens, and not enslave citizens. Surveillance technology should not be used to create an all-powerful government, but can be used, not only by governments to monitor citizens, but citizens, to also assess the sincerity of their governments.
5. Good enlightenment mechanisms must be put in place where people are told the scientific facts. People should be made to trust public authorities. Citizens can do the right thing when properly carried along, because despite politicization, a self-motivated and well-informed population is far more powerful and effective than a

- policed ignorant population. People must be made to trust science, public authorities as well as the media.
6. Global solidarity is most necessary, because the pandemics despite the power contest, and the resulting economic crisis, and other fallouts, are global problems that can only be solved by global co-operation in view of the interdependent and interrelated world we have today.
 7. The technological push must also be wary of the effect on the human bodies especially where all humans will be so digitally connected to a central server. We must not rule out a risk effect. Power, no doubt is a survival force in life, but it must be used to accommodate the reality of humans.

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