



Written by [John F. McManus](#) on June 22, 2020

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Quick Quotes

Demonstrations in Hong Kong Can Lead to Serious Break in the China-U.S. Relationship

"The brake pads in the relationship have been worn very thin. And it's hard to see this confrontation going anywhere except escalation."

*A former assistant secretary of state for East Asia and the Pacific during the Obama administration, **Daniel Russel** sees trouble ahead if the United States punishes China for ignoring the rules contained in the 1997 British-Chinese agreement that allowed Hong Kong to retain a significant degree of independence from communist rule.*

President Cancels Agreements With Hong Kong in Order to Punish the Beijing Regime

"My announcement today will affect the full range of agreements we have with Hong Kong."

*The Communist Chinese government benefits from the special relationship Hong Kong has enjoyed with the United States. Angered by China's crackdown on civil liberties, Chinese influence at the World Health Organization, and the benefits the Beijing regime derives from trade carried out under the U.S.-Hong Kong agreements, President **Donald Trump** announced plans to end the arrangements that have benefited the Beijing regime.*

Ten Years Ago in Venezuela, Inexpensive Gasoline Was Plentiful; Now It's Costly and Hard to Find

"There won't be a normal fuel supply in Venezuela until we see a new government."

*First Hugo Chávez, and more recently **Nicolás Maduro**, imposed socialism, and the result has been shortages of virtually everything, including gasoline, which once was plentiful and inexpensive. Asdrubal Oliveros, the director of the Caracas-based consultancy known as Ecoanalitica, correctly assessed that Venezuela needs to reverse course and rid itself of socialism.*

Hungarian Law Angers Trans Backers by Tying Gender to Sex and Chromosomes at Birth

"This trans law is clearly a backlash, cutting back on the rights that the trans community had in Hungary since the early 2000s."

*Hungary's Prime Minister Viktor Orbán has previously targeted Muslim migrants, George Soros, Brussels, foreign universities, and more, and he now seeks to stop people seeking to change their "gender." The measure forbidding such action was signed into law by Hungary's President Janos Ader. It drew sharp criticism from **Tomas Dombos**, a board member of the Hatter Society, an LGBTQ advocacy group.*

Biden Puts His Foot in His Mouth Again

"If you have a problem figuring out whether you're for me or Trump, you ain't black."



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*Taking any group's voting preference for granted has always been politically counterproductive. After criticism of his recent outburst during a radio interview with a black host arose, presumptive Democratic presidential candidate **Joe Biden** will find that some black voters resent his comment and will either vote for Donald Trump or skip voting altogether.*

Senate Panel Plans to Investigate Hunter Biden's Lucrative Dealings With Ukraine

"What is everybody worried about? If there's nothing there, we'll find out there's nothing there. But if there's something there, the American people need to know about it."

*Two months after Senator **Ron Johnson** (R-Wis.) first indicated his intention to subpoena documents related to Hunter Biden's lucrative relationship with a Ukrainian energy company, the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee approved the request. Democrats claim the move amounts to a "witch hunt"; Republicans want to know why Ukraine paid Hunter Biden handsomely while his father was serving as vice president.*

— Compiled by John F. McManus



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