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A Joint Media Project of  
the [Non-profit International Press Syndicate Group](#) with IDN as the Flagship Agency  
and [Soka Gakkai International](#) in Consultative Status with ECOSOC

## SDGs for All Newsletter - May 2021 In Retrospect

### Call for Referring Conflict-related Sexual Violence to International Criminal Court



By Reinhard Jacobsen

BRUSSELS (IDN) — The scale and brutality of crimes of conflict-related sexual violence against women committed in Tigray have drawn

widespread condemnation from around the world.

It was no surprise that the Europe External Programme with Africa (EEPA) focussed on that theme in the Webinar organised on May 25. EEPA is a Belgium-based centre of expertise with in-depth knowledge, publications, and networks, specialised in issues of peacebuilding, refugee protection, and resilience in the Horn of Africa.

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### Khoi Leaders Consider Amazon's Planned HQ in South Africa as Desecration of 'Ancestral Land'



By Lisa Vives, Global Information Network

NEW YORK (IDN) — Controversy is dogging the latest project of the world's largest online retailer, Amazon, as it prepares to set up its African headquarters in Cape Town, South Africa.

Amazon would be the anchor tenant of the River Club—a nine-story business and residential complex with a hotel, gym, restaurants, conferencing, schools and event space.

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## Covid-ravaged India Hard Put to Cope with the Crisis

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By Shastri Ramachandaran\*

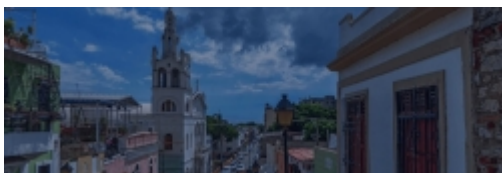
NEW DELHI (IDN) — The tsunami of Covid-19 infections and deaths in India continues unabated as people and governments at the Centre and states continue to battle the shortage

of hospital beds, medicines, ventilators and much else that is required to overcome this crisis. The horrifying deaths and the plight of the dying have also created a climate of fear with people not knowing when it may strike, where and whom in what form; and, how they would cope if they or their near and dear ones are stricken. (P07) [HINDI](#) | [JAPANESE TEXT VERSION PDF](#) | [TURKISH](#)

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## Latin America and the Caribbean Boost Chances of Success at Climate Conference

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By Caroline Mwangi

NEW YORK | SANTO DOMINGO (IDN) — The three-day Virtual Thematic Sessions of the Latin America and the

Caribbean Climate Week 2021 (LACCW2021), which wrapped up on May 14, hosted by the Government of the Dominican Republic, are reported to have provided important momentum for a successful [UN Climate Change Conference COP26](#) from November 1 to November 12 in Glasgow. (P06) [GERMAN](#) | [JAPANESE TEXT VERSION PDF](#) | [SPANISH](#)

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## Education For Sustainable Development as Overarching Framework to Achieve the SDGs

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Viewpoint by Simone Galimberti

*The writer is Co-Founder of [ENGAGE](#), a not-for-profit in Nepal. He writes on volunteerism, social inclusion, youth development, and regional integration as an engine to improve people's*

*lives. He can be reached at [simone\\_engage@yahoo.com](mailto:simone_engage@yahoo.com)*

KATHMANDU, Nepal (IDN) — A life insurance policy for humanity, this is how Audrey Azoulay, the UNESCO Director-General defined the scope of all efforts focused on addressing climate change and the persistent degradation of our biodiversity.

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## The Nuclear Threat in the New Information Age

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Viewpoint by Daryl G. Kimball



*The writer is the executive director of Arms Control Association and publisher of [Arms Control Today](#) since 2001. The following is the text of Mr Kimball's Foreword to [2021 Joint Media Project Report](#) of the Non-Profit International Press Syndicate Group with IDN as flagship agency in*

*partnership with Soka Gakkai International in consultative status with ECOSOC.*

WASHINGTON, DC (IDN) — An informed and mobilized public is essential to human survival in the nuclear age—and effective and independent journalism is essential to revealing the hard truths, the consequences, and the choices that nuclear weapons pose for all of us.

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## **Africa the Next Centre for Manufacturing COVID Drug?**

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By Lisa Vives, Global Information Network

NEW YORK (IDN) — For a while, Africa appeared to be losing the fight to build manufacturing capacity for the production of COVID-19 vaccines as big pharma and rich countries questioned African capacity to make

its own vaccines.

Some international companies regard African self-sufficiency as a long-term risk to their business, some fear a loss of influence.

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## **Renewables Are the Building Blocks of Global Energy Transition**

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By J W Jackie

RENO, Nevada, USA (IDN) — The latest International Renewable Energy Agency [IRENA](#) analysis reveals that by 2050, variable renewables like wind and solar PV will dominate the global total power supply. The insights from IRENA's [World Energy Transitions](#)

[Outlook](#) were released on March 16-17, 2021, at the Berlin Energy Transitions Dialogue.

With 163 Members, IRENA plays a leading role in the energy transformation as a centre of excellence for knowledge and innovation, a global voice for renewables, a network hub and a source of advice and support for countries. (P05) [ARABIC](#) | [HINDI](#) | [JAPANESE TEXT VERSION PDF](#)

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## COVID-19 Accelerates Digitilization of Economies and Societies

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Viewpoint by Kaveh Zahedi \*

*A defining feature of the post-COVID world will be the digital transformation of the world, though it might also widen gaps in economic and social development within and between countries. The digital transformation has gone hand in hand with the rise of*

*digital technologies, writes Kaveh Zahedi, the Deputy Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). (P04) [INDONESIAN](#) | [JAPANESE TEXT VERSION PDF](#) | [THAI](#)*

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## Conquering Poverty in America Is Possible

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Viewpoint by Jonathan Power\*

LUND, Sweden (IDN) — Adam Smith who in 1776 wrote “The Wealth of Nations”, the Bible of capitalism, which has become the standard economics text for over two centuries, was quick to single out monopolistic tendencies as the most important tool in

undermining the virtues of capitalism. It kept the poor poor. The laws that give these capitalists their freedom to exploit the marketplace, so-called rent-seeking, “may be said to be all written in blood”. At the moment, Amazon is in the firing line for practicing such practices. Indeed, a majority of Silicon Valley companies rent-seek. Big pharma companies, like Pfizer, which is expecting this year 25% profits on its corona virus vaccine are another.

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## Is 'Vaccine Consent' Journalism Killing The "Watchdog" Model?

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*A special feature by Kalinga Seneviratne\* to mark [UNESCO's World Press Freedom Day](#).*

SYDNEY (IDN) — In recent months, there has been alarming one-sided reporting in the so-called mainstream

media—both internationally and nationally—that sounds more like public relations handouts from the big pharmaceutical companies from the West. This 'vaccine consent' journalism and the labelling of anyone questioning the safety or ethics of the vaccine roll out as "conspiracy theorists" is slowly but surely killing the "watchdog" role of journalism.

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**Published by**

The [Non-profit International Press Syndicate Group](#) with IDN as the Flagship Agency  
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