Global Research has repeatedly published false information, including unsubstantiated claims in 2020 about the COVID-19 virus.

For example, a March 2020 article, “Who Made Coronavirus: Was It the U.S., Israel, or China?” claimed that the coronavirus may have been created in a lab as a bioweapon. “There has also been considerable speculation that the Coronavirus did not occur naturally through mutation but rather was produced in a laboratory, possibly as a weapon,” the article states.

Global Research solicits donations, sells memberships, runs advertisements, and features an online store selling books by Chossudovsky and other site authors.
oxiological warfare agent,” the article said.

The article suggests that it may have accidentally leaked from the Wuhan Institute of Virology, or that “Washington has created and unleashed the virus in a bid to bring Beijing’s growing economy and military might down a few notches.”

There is no evidence that the COVID-19 virus was engineered by scientists in a lab, or by any country for political reasons. The World Health Organization (WHO) has stated that the virus likely originated in bats. A February 2020 article published by three epidemiologists in the New England Journal of Medicine concluded, “RNA sequences closely resemble those of viruses that silently circulate in bats, and epidemiologic information implicates a bat-origin virus infecting unidentified animal species sold in China’s live-animal markets.”

Another March 2020 story, “COVID-19 Coronavirus: A Fake Pandemic? Who’s Behind It? Global Economic, Social and Geopolitical Destabilization,” falsely implied that WHO was “serving the interests of powerful corporate sponsors” by calling the outbreak a public health emergency. The article also referred to the 2009 H1N1 swine flu pandemic, claiming, “There was no H1N1 pandemic in 2009. It was a money making scam as revealed by the European Parliament.”

WHO and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention did designate the 2009 swine flu outbreak as a pandemic. According to the CDC, between April 12, 2009, and April 10, 2010, “there were 60.8 million cases (range: 43.3-89.3 million), 274,304 hospitalizations (range: 195,086-402,719), and 12,469 deaths (range: 8808-18,306) in the United States due to the (H1N1)pdm09 virus.”

Chossudovsky did not respond in 2020 to an email from NewsGuard seeking comment on the site’s coverage of COVID-19.

The site also has a dedicated 9/11 section and regularly posts articles alleging that the U.S. government destroyed the World Trade Center’s twin towers with planted explosives, such as the February 2019 article titled “The ‘Toxic Mythology’ of 9/11 Is Destroying Humanity,” and, in January 2019, “A Majority of Americans Do Not Believe the Official 9/11 Story.”

In November 2017, the site published articles that described the July 1995 Srebrenica massacre as a “hoax,” and falsely asserted that the Omarska camp, a prison camp run by Bosnian Serb forces during the Bosnian War, was a refugee camp. Former Secretary-General of the United Nations Kofi Annan described the Srebrenica massacre, where more than 8,000 Muslim men and boys were killed by Bosnian Serb troops, as the worst crime in Europe since World War II. The United Nations International Court of Justice ruled that the killings constituted genocide.

Global Research has published stories alleging vaccinations are dangerous and can cause autism in children. For example, a November 2018 article claims that “there is a federal Vaccine court that has paid $3.3 BILLION dollars to families bright enough to learn the system and were able to prove that the autism was from the vaccines.” While it is true that a U.S. federal claims court has heard cases as part of the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, that court has “in every instance found no association between autism spectrum disorders and vaccines,” according to an American Journal of Public Health study. An April 2018 article, “The Impacts of Vaccines: Aluminum, Autoimmunity, Autism and Alzheimer’s,” argued that aluminum in vaccines cause autism. Federal agencies and health and science authorities have repeatedly debunked the claim that there is a link between vaccinations and autism.

In an April 2018 article, “Emotional Propaganda 101: Chemical Attack in Syria Appears to be a False Flag to Justify Regime Change.” Global Research’s author wrote that claims that Assad ordered a chemical weapons attack in Douma, Syria, are “based on lies, distortion and propaganda.” The article added, “We know there is evidence that militant opposition groups have used chemical weapons in Syria previously, yet this is never highlighted by much of the media in their reports of this latest incident.”

Claims that Syria was not responsible for the attack have been contradicted for years by first-person accounts, videos, and photos that documented the victims, as well as investigations by the United Nations.

Global Research also republished a Zero Hedge.com article in September 2018, “Russia’s Alleged Skripal ‘Assassins’ Caught Breaking Cover?” The article suggested that the parade attack was a Russian effort to discredit the Novichok gas.”
the Laws of Physics," that claimed without evidence that two men accused of poisoning former Russian spy Sergei Skripal were framed by British police.

Because Global Research has repeatedly published false claims and propaganda, NewsGuard has determined that it repeatedly publishes false content, fails to gather and present information responsibly, and fails to avoid deceptive headlines.

Global Research writes on its About page that it publishes news stories and opinion articles. However, the site often includes opinion in articles that are presented as news, which is why NewsGuard has determined that the site does not handle the difference between news and opinion responsibly. For example, the May 2019 article, “Trump Puts Ilhan Omar at Risk: To Protect Ilhan Omar is to Protect Us All,” appearing in the site’s Latest News and Top Stories sections, says that “right-wing bigots have targeted her with whatever smear seemed useful,” and “there is no doubt that a Trump tweet on April 12 constituted reckless endangerment.”

Another May 2019 article in Latest News, headlined “RussiaGate 2.0 and the Plan to Impeach President Trump,” states, “Another absurd proposition: The US media is now intimating that Trump’s conversation with Putin is setting the stage for Kremlin intervention in the 2020 elections.” The article referred to U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and National Security Advisor John Bolton as “dangerous individuals, psychopathic in their understanding of global geopolitics.”

The site does not state a corrections policy. NewsGuard only found one example of a correction from 2017, and the site has left false stories uncorrected, which is why NewsGuard has determined that it does not meet NewsGuard’s standard for regularly correcting errors.

Chossudovsky did not respond to two NewsGuard emails seeking comment on the site’s publication of false information, its failure to distinguish news from opinion, and its failure to correct errors.

**Transparency**

Global Research states on its About page that it is a nonprofit organization registered in Quebec. However, the site does not identify its major donors or how it is funded, which does not meet NewsGuard’s standards for revealing ownership and financing. Global Research editor Chossudovsky did not respond to two NewsGuard emails asking about the site’s disclosure of its financing.

The site publishes a Contact page that identifies the site’s editors and provides their email addresses. Articles generally name authors and provide their biographical information.

Advertisements are typically distinguishable from editorial content.

**History**

Global Research states on its About page that it launched on Sept. 9, 2001, two days before the Sept. 11 terror attacks. However, a NewsGuard search of internet records indicates the website published articles as early as August 29, 2001.

A book by Chossudovsky arguing that the United States caused the 9/11 attacks was found in the personal library of Osama bin Laden, following the 2011 raid of bin Laden’s compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan, according to U.S. intelligence officials.

*Editor’s Note: This Nutrition Label was updated on March 12, 2020.*

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**Sources**

**Ownership and Financing**

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## Content

**Typical headlines**

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## Credibility

Who writes the content?

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