

# mondialisation.ca

The French-language website of the Canadian Centre for Research on Globalization, which has published conspiracy theories and pro-Russia propaganda, including false claims about the COVID-19 pandemic.



**Proceed with caution: This website severely violates basic standards of credibility and transparency.**

**Score: 12.5/100**

## Ownership and Financing

Mondialisation.ca is owned by the Centre for Research on Globalization, a nonprofit organization registered in Quebec, Canada, and founded by Michel Chossudovsky, a former professor of economics at the University of Ottawa.

Mondialisation.ca is the French-language version of the Centre's main website, GlobalResearch.ca.

The website generates revenue from advertisements, donations, and sales of books by some of the site's writers.

-  Does not repeatedly publish false content (22points)
-  Gathers and presents information responsibly (18)
-  Regularly corrects or clarifies errors (12.5)
-  Handles the difference between news and opinion responsibly (12.5)
-  Avoids deceptive headlines (10)
-  Website discloses ownership and financing (7.5)
-  Clearly labels advertising (7.5)
-  Reveals who's in charge, including any possible conflicts of interest (5)
-  The site provides names of content creators, along with either contact or biographical information (5)

## Content

On its About page, Mondialisation.ca states that it publishes “analyses and articles about news that are not very covered by mainstream media.” (“articles d’analyse et des nouvelles qui sont peu couvertes par les grands médias”).

“Mondialisation.ca has become a major source of information on big news themes such as the stakes of the ‘war on terror’ launched by the United States and Middle-Eastern wars,” this page adds. (“Mondialisation.ca est devenu une importante source d’information sur les grands thèmes d’actualité tels que les enjeux de ‘la guerre au terrorisme’ lancée par les États-Unis ainsi que les guerres au Moyen-Orient”).

The website mostly publishes international news articles and analyses, including some stories that are republished from other websites, including French website Observateur Continental, Italian website Il Manifesto, and Russian government-owned outlet Francais.RT.com.

*Criteria are listed in order of importance.*

[More information.](#)

The website also links to the YouTube channel for Global Research TV, which provides video content produced by the Centre.

The site's content is divided into sections including 9/11, War Crimes, Militarization, Police State, US Nato War and Media Disinformation. Typical headlines include "Who are the Narco-Terrorists: George H. Walker Bush: The Bush Family and the Mexican Drug Cartel," ("Qui sont les narco-terroristes? Un indice ... George H. Walker Bush – le papa – la famille Bush et le cartel de la drogue mexicain"), "Maduro, dead or alive!" ("Maduro, mort ou vif!") and "Africa is not an experimental lab" ("L'Afrique n'est pas un laboratoire expérimental").

In November 2017, Canadian newspaper The Globe and Mail reported that Global Research.ca "is viewed by NATO's Strategic Communications Centre of Excellence – or StratCom – as playing a key accelerant role in helping popularize articles with little basis in fact that also happen to fit the narratives being pushed by the Kremlin." The site gives "pro-Russia and pro-Assad stories a wider audience and a veneer of credibility by publishing them through an authoritative-sounding Canadian source," Stratcom said. Chossudovsky, the Global Research founder, denied to The Globe and Mail that there were any formal links between the site and the Kremlin.

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#### Credibility

Mondialisation.ca has repeatedly published misinformation, including false claims in 2020 about the COVID-19 pandemic.

For example, in April 2020, Mondialisation.ca published an article titled "Coronavirus – No Vaccine Is Needed to Cure It" ("Coronavirus – Aucun vaccin n'est nécessaire pour la guérison") which claimed that colloidal silver products, the spice turmeric (curcumine) and high doses of Vitamin C could cure the COVID-19 virus.

As of April 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO), the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the French Health Ministry have said that

there is currently no known treatment for the coronavirus strain responsible for the 2020 outbreak.

Yet the article claimed that products containing colloidal silver (a liquid substance containing silver particles) “reinforce the immune system, combat bacteria and viruses, and were used to treat cancer, HIV/AIDS ... and COVID-19.” (“Les produits à base d’argent colloïdal renforcent le système immunitaire, combattent les bactéries et les virus, et ont été utilisés pour traiter le cancer, le VIH/sida ... et la COVID-19”).

According to the U.S. National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health, which is part of the National Institutes of Health, “scientific evidence doesn’t support the use of colloidal silver dietary supplements for any disease or condition.” Using colloidal silver can cause a condition called argyria, a permanent bluish-gray discoloration of the skins, nails, and gums, according to the FDA. Helene Langevin, the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health’s director, told The Associated Press in February 2020, “There are no complementary products, such as colloidal silver or herbal remedies, that have been proven effective in preventing or treating this disease (COVID-19), and colloidal silver can have serious side effects.”

The Mondialisation.ca article said that turmeric is “an anti-inflammatory and antioxidant component that was successfully used to treat cancer, infectious diseases and yes, coronaviruses.” (“un composé anti-inflammatoire et antioxydant qui a été utilisé avec succès pour traiter le cancer, les maladies infectieuses et, oui, les coronavirus”).

In September 2018, the European Medicines Agency concluded that “turmeric preparations can be used for relief of mild problems with digestion, such as feelings of fullness, slow digestion and flatulence,” but noted that there was insufficient evidence from clinical trials, and this conclusion was based on traditional use only. “Dry mouth, flatulence and stomach irritation may occur as side effects,” the agency added. No study has shown its effectiveness to treat COVID-19.

The article also recommended as a treatment for coronavirus “other simple but efficient remedies include the use of large doses of Vitamin C, as well as D3 vitamin, or more generally the use of micro-nutrients that are essential to combat infections, including Vitamins A, B, C, D and E.” (“D’autres remèdes simples mais efficaces comprennent l’utilisation de fortes doses de vitamine C, ainsi que de vitamine D3, ou plus généralement l’utilisation de micro-nutriments nutritifs essentiels pour combattre les infections, notamment les vitamines A, B, C, D et E”).

While a clinical trial was under way in China as of April 2020 to test whether a high-dose vitamin C regimen is effective against the new strain of coronavirus, the claim that it is a proven treatment for COVID-19 is not supported by scientific evidence.

A March 2020 article titled “COVID-19: Further Evidence that the Virus Originated in the US” (“COVID-19: Des preuves supplémentaires que le virus trouve son origine aux Etats-Unis”), claimed that the virus was likely engineered in the U.S., possibly at a U.S. military lab in Fort Detrick, Maryland. “It would seem the only possibility for origination would be the US because only that country has the ‘tree trunk’ of all the varieties. And it may therefore be true that the original source of the COVID-19 virus was the US military bio-warfare lab at Fort Detrick,” the article said. (“Il semblerait donc que la seule possibilité soit que son origine se trouve aux Etats-Unis parce que c’est le seul pays à disposer du ‘tronc commun’ à toutes ces variétés. Et il est donc vraisemblable que la source originale du virus du COVID-19 soit le laboratoire de guerre biologique de Fort Detrick”).

There is no evidence to back the claim that the new strain of coronavirus originated in the U.S. or came from a lab. A March 2020 study published in the journal Nature Medicine concluded that the virus “is not a laboratory construct or a purposefully manipulated virus.” An earlier study, published in February 2020 in the journal Nature, found that the COVID-19 virus is “96% percent identical at the whole-genome level to a bat coronavirus.”

In March 2020, the website published an article that suggested that Microsoft founder Bill Gates and his charitable foundation knew in advance of the pandemic. The article titled

“COVID-19 Coronavirus: A Fake Pandemic? Who’s Behind It? Global Economic, Social and Geopolitical Destabilization,” (“Coronavirus COVID-19: Une fausse pandémie? Qui est derrière cela? Déstabilisation économique, sociale et géopolitique mondiale”), said that in October 2019, “the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security, Baltimore undertook a carefully designed simulation of a coronavirus epidemic entitled nCoV-2019.” (“Le Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security à Baltimore a entrepris un exercice de simulation consciencieusement élaboré d’une épidémie de coronavirus appelée nCoV-2019”) .

While the article suggested that Johns Hopkins and the sponsor of the exercise, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, anticipated the pandemic, the two foundations have said that the October 2019 event conducted a fictional exercise involving a coronavirus with different characteristics than the COVID-19 virus.

The article also falsely claimed that the global H1N1 swine flu pandemic did not occur in 2009, and “was a money making scam as revealed by the European Parliament.” (“D’une fraude pour faire de l’argent, comme l’a révélé le Parlement européen”).

In 2009, the WHO and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention did designate the swine flu outbreak as a pandemic. According to the CDC, between April 12, 2009, and April 10, 2010, there were 12,469 deaths in the United States due to the virus.

Mondialisation.ca has also published conspiracy theories about the Sept. 11 terror attacks and pro-Kremlin propaganda about Syria’s Civil War.

A September 2019 article, for example, claimed that the U.S. government destroyed the World Trade Center’s twin towers and a third office tower in New York with planted explosives. “It is no longer questionable that the fall of 7 World Trade Center building near the Twin

Towers was caused by a controlled demolition” (“il n’est plus contestable que le bâtiment 7 a fait l’objet d’une démolition contrôlée”),” the article said, adding “well-informed people and experts have concluded that the 9/11 events were an inside job, organized by Vice-President Dick Cheney, his neocons team and Israel.” (“Des gens bien informés et des experts ont conclu que les événements du 11/9 sont un coup monté de l’intérieur, organisé par le vice-Président Dick Cheney, son équipe de néocons et Israël”).

A 2008 investigation by the U.S. National Institute of Standards and Technology about the collapse of 7 World Trade Center concluded that flying debris from the twin towers sparked an intense fire in 7 World Trade that "caused a critical support column to fail, initiating a fire-induced progressive collapse that brought the building down." It found no evidence that explosives were placed inside the trade center, and said that the impact of the crash of hijacked airplanes that flew into the towers caused the buildings to collapse.

Osama bin Laden, the leader of the al-Qaida terror network, claimed responsibility for the 9/11 attacks after the 9/11 Commission and multiple federal investigations reached the same conclusion.

Other stories on the site questioned claims that Syria has launched chemical attacks on its citizens -- a view that is aligned with Syria’s ally, Russia.

For example, the site published an article in February 2020, based on a report by Russian government-owned RT.com, that falsely claimed that a Syrian aid group known as the White Helmets had staged a fake chemical attack in an attempt to cast blame on the Syrian government.

The article said, “Local sources maintain that White Helmets members staged a new video showing the consequences of a ‘chemical attack’ in the Idlib province, in northwest Syria.” (“Des sources locales affirment que les membres des Casques blancs ont mis en scène une nouvelle vidéo qui montrait les

conséquences d'une 'attaque chimique' qui aurait eu lieu dans la province d'Idlib, dans le nord-ouest de la Syrie").

The article added, "Apparently, by using this film, White Helmets are hoping to launch a new disinformation campaign, and to accuse the Syrian government of using a chemical weapon against its civilian population. It seems that they have already played that scenario in Khan Shaykhun [Syria]." ("Apparemment, en utilisant ce film, les membres des Casques blancs envisagent de lancer une nouvelle campagne de désinformation, accusant le gouvernement syrien d'utiliser l'arme chimique contre la population civile. Il semble qu'ils aient déjà joué le même scénario à Khan Cheikhoun").

In May 2018, Mondialisation.ca published another article titled "The invention of Syrian chemical weapons" ("L'invention des armes chimiques syriennes") which stated, "Today, proofs clearly exist that confirm that the Syrian army never used sarin gas." ("Aujourd'hui, les preuves existent objectivement, confirmant la certitude que l'armée syrienne n'a jamais utilisé de gaz sarin ou de chlore").

There is no evidence to back up the claim that the White Helmets, a volunteer search and rescue group in Syria, have staged fake chemical attacks. Claims denying that Syrian government forces conducted chemical attacks against civilians, or that these attacks were staged, contradict a large body of evidence, including international investigations, press reports, witness accounts, and videos. A fact-finding mission by the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) confirmed in June 2017 that people in Khan Shaykhun, Syria, were exposed to the nerve gas sarin. A joint UN-OPCW investigation found that President Bashar al-Assad's government was responsible for the attack, which killed at least 89 people.

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

The site does not clearly state a corrections policy. Its About page simply states that the Centre cannot be held responsible “for any incorrect or inaccurate statement” in its article, and reserves the right to remove articles from the website. (“Le Centre de recherche sur la mondialisation ne peut être tenu responsable de toute déclaration inexacte ou incorrecte contenue dans les articles publiés sur Mondialisation.ca. Mondialisation.ca se réserve le droit de retirer des articles de son site”).

NewsGuard found one correction to the website’s content from 2018. However, the site has repeatedly published false content without correcting those stories, which does not meet NewsGuard’s standard for regularly issuing corrections.

Mondialisation.ca writes on its About page that it publishes news stories and analyses and adds that viewpoints expressed on the website only reflect those of the writers, and not the Center.

The website does not have a dedicated opinion section. However, news articles often include opinion that is not clearly labeled, which is why NewsGuard has determined that the site does not handle the difference between news and opinion responsibly.

For example, an April 2020 article titled “Trump Asks Putin for Help in Oil War” (“Trump demande de l’aide à Poutine dans la guerre du pétrole”) and originally published in The Unz Review, said, “Given the deluge of disinformation on the ‘Russian interference’ that made the headlines for the past three years, you could think that the editors in chief of Tass would feel allowed to be more critical of Trump’s gesture.” (“Étant donné le déluge de désinformation sur ‘l’ingérence russe’ qui a dominé les gros titres au cours des trois dernières années, vous pourriez penser que les rédacteurs en chef de Tass se sentiraient autorisés à être plus critiques à l’égard du geste de Trump”).

A March 2020 article titled “Judge Releases Manning After Suicide Attempt, Effectively Fines Her Supporters \$256,000” (“ Un juge libère Manning après une tentative de suicide et inflige une amende de 256 000

dollars à ses partisans”), ended with the sentence, “This world needs more people like Chelsea Manning, not one less.” (“Ce monde a besoin de plus de gens comme Chelsea Manning, pas d’un de moins”). It was tagged United States and Law and Justice, but not opinion.

Micheline Ladouceur, associate director of the Centre for Research on Globalization, and writer for Mondialisation.ca did not respond to two emails from NewsGuard seeking comment on the site’s editorial process and publication of false information, its failure to distinguish news from opinion, and its failure to correct errors.

Michel Chossudovsky, the president and director of the Centre for Research on Globalization, also did not respond to two emails seeking comment on GlobalResearch.ca’s editorial practices.

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#### Transparency

Mondialisation.ca’s contact page gives the postal address of the Centre for Research on Globalization (Centre de recherche sur la mondialisation) in Montreal, but does not state that the center owns it, or that it is a nonprofit organization. The website also does not provide information about the organization’s major donors.

The Contact page identifies the site’s editors and provides their email addresses. It also gives a postal address for the Centre.

Articles generally name authors, but the website generally does not provide biographical or contact information for them, which does not meet NewsGuard’s standard for providing information about content creators.

Micheline Ladouceur, associate director of the Centre for Research on Globalization, and writer for Mondialisation.ca did not respond to two emails from NewsGuard seeking comment on the site’s lack of disclosure on its ownership and lack of information on content creators.

Advertisements are distinguishable from editorial content.

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## History

Mondialisation.ca states on its About page that Global Research, the English version of the website, 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.

Mondialisation.ca, the French-language version of the website, launched in 2005, according to its About page.

A book by Chossudovsky, the founder and director of the Centre for Research on Globalization, 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. The book argued that the United States caused the 9/11 attacks.

Thierry Meyssan, founder and president of French conspiracy website Réseau Voltaire (Voltaire network), is listed as a contributor on Mondialisation.ca, and Chossudovsky has contributed to Réseau Voltaire in the past.

**Written by:** [Chine Labbe](#)

**Contributing:** [Bron Maher](#)

**Edited by:** [Amy Westfeldt](#), [Yves Clarisse](#)

**Send feedback to NewsGuard:**[Click Here](#)

## Sources

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Ownership and Financing

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<https://www.linkedin.com/in/micheline-ladouceur-612b0b55/?originalSubdomain=ca>

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Content

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## Credibility

### Coronavirus:

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#### Transparency

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