



# Bill Gates Vs. Donald Trump

## Event-Driven Analysis

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Acknowledging that our collective economic and financial travails are being led by a very specific and acute biomedical event-driven crisis, the politicking surrounding a Novel Coronavirus and COVID-19 disease cure is both material and germane to almost all of our investment decisions.

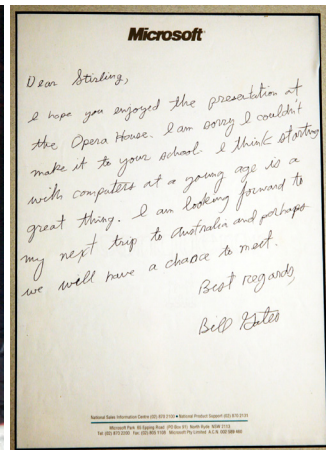
It is well publicised that following President Trump's public declaration to halt the United States' funding of the World Health Organisation (WHO), on 14 April – for allegedly failing to properly warn the world about the Chinese coronavirus – Bill Gates then became the WHO's largest individual financial benefactor, and on this decision said, "[halting funding for the World Health Organization \(sic\) during a world health crisis is as dangerous as it sounds](#)".

Gates and Trump have never got along and tensions between Trump's Executive Branch and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, have been escalating well before April's barbs, with issues emanating out of the workings of the WHO, echoing back to 2017.

With Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus taking over the helm of the WHO in July 2017, rifting began and continued to brew between Trump and Gates acolytes, stemming predominantly from Dr. Ghebreyesus' approach to the agency's problematic financing structure and related chronic funding shortfalls. Under the [imprimatur of Transformation](#), the WHO worked with six professional consultancies during the transformation: McKinsey, BCG, Deloitte, Preva Group, Seek Development and Delivery Associates – the total value of the consultancies nearing US twelve million dollars, at least a quarter of which was paid directly by the Gates Foundation.

Under the United Nations public institution charter, the WHO has not detailed these engagements nor what, exactly, these consultants have been hired to do – to former Presidential Advisor Steve Bannon's surmising, this was tantamount to a red cape for a raging bull.

So it became both circumstantial and material that following Gates' 12 April 2020 blogpost on his own "[GatesNotes](#)" ("[GatesNotes. The Blog Of Bill Gates](#)"), where he openly discussed and near lauded his heavily endorsed, [Seattle Coronavirus Assessment Network](#), or "SCAN" initial – a *first-of-its-kind* disease surveillance platform for COVID-19 that allows participants to use a self-swab test to collect their own nasal samples and send them to a



lab without leaving home – [the US regulator, the Food and Drug Administration, or FDA, on Thursday, 14 April](#), precisely two days following Gates' attention to SCAN, suspended SCAN's emergency approvals.

The Gates Foundation in March said it was providing technical assistance for SCAN, which had been approved by regulators in [Washington state, one of the first US states to be hit hard by the outbreak](#). The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or CDC, also provided an in-person technical advisor to the project. [Dr. Eric Topol](#), Director of the Scripps Research Translational Institute, who is not involved in the Seattle group, said it was "*bizarre*" that the FDA would halt such a project.

By the end of February, SCAN researchers discovered the first case of community transmission in the (Washington State) region and provided key evidence that the virus had most likely been circulating for weeks. On this, Gates also blogged, "*Not only will it help improve our understanding of the outbreak in Seattle, it will also provide valuable information about the virus for other communities around the world*".

An FDA spokesperson said home collection kits raised additional concerns about safety and accuracy that required the agency's review and the issue in the Seattle case appears to be that the test results are being used not only by researchers for surveillance of the virus in the community but that the results are also being returned to patients to inform them.

The two kinds of testing – surveillance and diagnostic – fall under different FDA standards: In a pure surveillance study, the researchers may keep the results just for themselves. But coronavirus testing has largely revolved around getting results returned to doctors who can share the results with patients. In a bungled reply by FDA spokespersons, "*We had previously understood that SCAN was being conducted as a surveillance study*". Adding to the Trump camp's agitation, reports on the day preceding Gates' 12 April blogpost,

that according to [Forbes, Zhang Timing, the 36-year-old Chinese billionaire and founder of the social media app TikTok, has pledged US\\$10 million to the COVID-19 Therapeutics Accelerator, a project founded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation](#).

[Tik Tok](#), the most downloaded Apple and Android 'app' in 2018 and 2019, which presents as US developed, has long been a thorn in both Silicon Valley and Washington's side as it has not only been created, developed and owned by Chinese State Owned Enterprises but has also been accused of "scraping" users details, [as well as those for users of Grindr](#), for the databasing for the *powers-to-be* in Beijing.

Cite:- [Chinese Internet Megatrend Going Global](#), 4 December 2018

Cite:- [US China Trade Wars Are Not The Only Problem For Investors As Tech Fight Looms](#), 9 April 2018

Trump and Gates' roughhouse would almost be amusing and entertaining if it weren't for the fact that its consequences were so serious, impactful and deleterious – with unsubstantiated claims surrounding Hydroxychloroquine circulating, Moderna Inc.'s (MRNA:US) encouraging Ph1 mRNA-1273 (COVID-19 vaccine) trials still unproven, now is not a time for personal animus and reprisals to obstruct a medical solution being discovered and clinically proven for the Novel Coronavirus and COVID-19 disease.

For what it's worth, I met Gates in 1995 and interviewed him for the Australian Channel Nine programme, *A Current Affair* – ignorant to much of his sageness at the time, I did notice that almost every answer to all of my questions began with the proposition, "*and ten years from now*".

Gates has always thought about solving problems for the future and proven his mettle in these regards: if he and Melinda truly believe SCAN has a *line-of-sight* towards a viable COVID-19 cure, **then get out of his way Mr. President**.

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