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# David Rennie

Geopolitics Editor and Columnist for The Economist

**US-China Relations in the Complex World** David Rennie has been on the front lines of the Covid-19 crisis in China since news of the outbreak broke in January 2020. He has made multiple reporting trips from his base in Beijing to locked-down cities and barricaded villages across China's heartland, willingly accepting the long weeks in quarantine that are the price of travel to heavily-affected areas. Drawing on his contacts as *The Economist*'s Beijing bureau chief and former Washington bureau chief, he has written extensively about the recent influences on the economic and political climate. In this talk, Rennie shares how recent events are forcing governments and companies to question core assumptions underpinning globalised, cost-driven supply chains. It has triggered the sharpest propaganda war between America and China in decades. Public anger is surging in both countries and, in the rest of the world, other nations are voicing alarm at decisions being made in both Beijing and Washington. He demonstrates how the battle to control a virus became a test of rival political systems, fuelling the sharpest ideological contest since the end of the Cold War. Rennie predicts that recent events will leave their mark on the global order for years to come.

**The Global Economy: The Future for All** As David Rennie begins his second posting in Asia, he does so with over a decade of experience of covering America and Europe at *The Economist*. Rennie's posting as Beijing Bureau Chief allows his unparalleled experience to shine by reporting on President Xi Jinping, China's growing geopolitical might and the ambitions that lie behind such mega-projects as the Belt and Road Initiative. He offers a top insider's perspective on the biggest global trends of the moment, after writing weekly columns for *The Economist*, the world's most influential news magazine of business and politics.

**Populism: The Politics of Loss, Control and Trust** After traveling more than 150,000 miles across the U.S. to report on American politics and culture, journalist David Rennie has met countless Trump supporters who strongly stand by their vote for the President. These interactions, as well as strong correlations with European politics, led David Rennie to develop a theory surrounding President Trump's astonishing ascent: While countries absorb constant change and rapid globalization, populations become vulnerable to the "politics of loss"–a feeling that they are left behind and living within a world that feels increasingly foreign. When a leader emerges who promises to both "right the ship" and bring back the past, they begin trading on the "politics of control" and relying on the "politics of trust"—or the idea that they are on the side of the individual. With this fascinating talk chock-full of anecdotes, David Rennie discusses how President Trump's promised policies will affect our geopolitical relationships, the international economy, employment in the U.S., and what Americans can expect as Trump's presidency unfolds. He encourages journalists, politicians, and engaged citizens alike to listen to voters with differing opinions and offer better, alternative ideas rather than

condemning their views. Rennie illustrates why we must learn from one another to ensure every voice is heard and forge a path to a better future.