

# Press review - MP - September 2016

By Cédric DARCHICOURT, Yoan GERAN, Louis-Joany JOINT, Mickael MASUBUMKO, Valentin RÖSE

*Abstract*—Many events happened in September, including political ones. Here is a selection of the most important ones.

## Politics

### 1<sup>st</sup> Presidential Debate in the United States



*Trump vs Clinton! Who will be the winner?*

On the 26<sup>th</sup> of September, there was the 1<sup>st</sup> presidential debate between the Democratic Party's nominee, Hillary Clinton, and the Republican Party's nominee, Donald Trump. It was the first real face-to-face between those who appear to be "two of the least-liked candidates in modern history", according to *The Business Insider*. It took place in Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY. The debate was moderated by NBC Nightly News anchor Lester Holt, who selected three major topics: "America's direction", "Achieving Prosperity" and "Securing America".

There were pointed questions about jobs, transparency but also Trump's tax returns and Clinton's email scandal. After a 2-hour hot argument, experts said Clinton seemed to have taken the advantage in this first round. Two other presidential debates are planned not to mention a debate between the Vice-Presidents, before the presidential election which will be on the 8th of November.

### Final agreement with the FARC



*Peace soon?*

Since 1964 and the creation of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), Colombia has been facing an asymmetric war between the government and paramilitary groups. But the longest running armed conflict in the Western Hemisphere seems to be coming to an end. Indeed, after a 4-year negotiation, the FARC guerrilla leader Rodrigo Logoño, also known as Timochenko, and Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos have come to a peace deal, signed in Cartagena on the 26th of September. This agreement came after a definitive ceasefire claimed in June and an agreement signed on the 24<sup>th</sup> of August in Havana. It includes the disarmament of the FARC and their political reincorporation, that is to say their transformation into a political party. However, it will require a final peace referendum planned for the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October.

# Health

## Zika virus heading towards Southeast Asia

After reaching the American continent in April 2015, the epidemic of Zika fever is now moving towards Southeast Asia. Indeed, it broke out in Singapore, Malaysia – which confirmed its first case on the 1<sup>st</sup> of September – and then the Philippines.



*The health hazard.*

The virus in Singapore likely evolved from a strain already circulating in Southeast Asia, and was not imported from South America, where the outbreak has been linked to another factor and has caused a condition called microcephaly, in which children are born with abnormally small heads, according to *Bloomberg News*, while Thailand is investigating in what could be its first cases of Zika virus-linked microcephaly in Southeast Asia.

Now, the Zika virus has already infected more than 240 people in Singapore.

# Miscellaneous

## DPRK nuclear test

On September 9, North Korea conducted its fifth nuclear test, which resulted in a 5.3 magnitude earthquake.

## Mass shooting in Burlington, Washington in a mall, 5 dead

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September, a mass shooting happened in the Cascade Mall, Burlington, Washington. 5 people

were killed in this rampage. The perpetrator, arrested the following day, didn't have terrorist motives.

## Rio Paralympics

They took place from the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup>. We can notice the absence of the Russian delegation, suspected of organised doping.



*Human Heroes.*

## Mother Teresa's canonization by Pope Francis

Mother Teresa, the famous Albanian-Indian Roman Catholic nun, who is best-known for acting for the poor in India, was eventually canonised on the 4th of September by Pope Francis, at Saint Peter's Square. Tens of thousands of pilgrims attended the canonisation. Two cases of healings after Mother Teresa's death in 1997 have been attributed to her intercession, according to *BBC News*.



*The Great Mother!*

The 1979 Nobel Peace Prize winner had been previously beatified by Pope John Paul II in 2003.