



[Trump Halts U.S. Funding for the World Health Organization](#)

This week, President Trump announced that he was halting funding of the World Health Organization (WHO) while his administration reviews their handling of the coronavirus outbreak. The United States has more confirmed coronavirus cases than any other country in the world, and is the single-largest donor to the WHO, contributing around 15% of the organization's budget. Trump's decision prompted condemnation from health experts and world leaders, with the European Union's top foreign policy representative Josep Borrell denouncing the move and emphasizing that the WHO's efforts are needed now more than ever to help contain and mitigate the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. Domestically in the United States, there are around 650,000 confirmed cases of the virus, with over 30,000 fatalities.

In response to Trump's decision, WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus stated that he and the organization "regret" the action and praised the United States saying that it is a "longstanding and generous friend to WHO, and we hope it will continue to be so." He also added that the agency would work with other partners to fill any financial gaps and ensure that their work continues uninterrupted. Other public health experts contend that Trump cutting U.S. funding of the WHO undermines the global fight against the coronavirus, and critics have also argued that the president is using the organization as a scapegoat for his slow reaction to deal with and acknowledge the severity of the health crisis. Trump has been accused of failing to adequately prepare the United States in the period after restricting global travel from countries that had already been hit hard by the virus, including China and much of Europe.