





# Media and Climate Change Observatory (MECCO)



ISSUE 5, MAY 2017

withdrawal from the Agreement and described the mounting pressure on the Trump Administration from international leaders to stay the course.<sup>2</sup> Other political coverage focused on the response of international leaders to a U.S. abdication. Indrani Bagchi of *The Times of India* reported on a renewed partnership between Germany and India, which has helped to reaffirm each countries' commitment to emissions reductions under the Paris Agreement in the face of a U.S. withdrawal.<sup>3</sup>

Coverage of *scientific* and *ecological* dimensions of climate change in May 2017 centered on a number of new reports on carbon emissions. Henry Fountain at *The New York Times* summarized a recent academic study that details drastic changes to the carbon cycle in Arctic and near-Arctic regions as a result of a warming climate.<sup>4</sup> The new study suggests that due to warming temperatures, these regions are shifting away from a net sink or “storehouse” of carbon to a net source of carbon emissions.<sup>5</sup> Chelsea Harvey at *The Washington Post* also drew from new analyses by the Climate Action Tracker on the progress China and India have made in meeting their emissions reductions goals under the Paris Climate Agreement. Overall, the two countries are on track to exceed their climate pledges while the current trajectory U.S. emissions reductions lags behind.<sup>6</sup>

The Trump Administration and the Paris Climate Agreement also consumed *cultural* coverage of climate change in May 2017, continuing an ongoing trend. Alexandra Zavis of the *The Los Angeles Times* wrote about President Trump's visit with Pope Francis, who provided the President with a copy of his 2015 encyclical that called for global collective action to address climate change.<sup>7</sup> Another article, this time in the Des Moines Register, summarizes a recent report on activists and law enforcement officials focused on the Dakota Access Pipeline. The report describes how an international security firm targeted protesters opposed to the Dakota Access Pipeline with military-style counter-terrorism measures and closely collaborated with law enforcement authorities in five U.S. states.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> <http://news.mb.com.ph/2017/05/27/what-happens-to-earth-if-the-us-exits-the-climate-deal/>

<sup>3</sup> <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/india-and-germany-are-made-for-each-other-says-pm-narendra-modi/articleshow/58916444.cms>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/05/08/climate/alaska-carbon-dioxide-co2-tundra.html?ref=energy-environment>

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.pnas.org/content/114/21/5361>

<sup>6</sup> [https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2017/05/15/trump-may-not-be-able-to-halt-the-worlds-climate-progress-thanks-to-china-and-india/?utm\\_term=.f524a66a6495](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2017/05/15/trump-may-not-be-able-to-halt-the-worlds-climate-progress-thanks-to-china-and-india/?utm_term=.f524a66a6495)

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.latimes.com/world/europe/la-fg-pope-encyclical-climate-change-20170524-htmstory.html>

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/politics/2017/05/28/report-military-style-tactics-used-against-dakota-access-pipeline-protesters/351734001/>