

# *Has COVID-19 marked the end of the United States hegemony?*

By Soule Coram



# What is the existing debate?

## Norrlof

COVID-19 as a 'public bad;' hurting US leadership and capabilities

An alternate power would need to present itself

## Drezner

Distribution of power during COVID-19 shows the pandemic will not be an inflection point

## Tellis

The US is the hegemon due to economic and military capabilities

Overtime, China may challenge the hegemony

## Focused on two mechanisms:

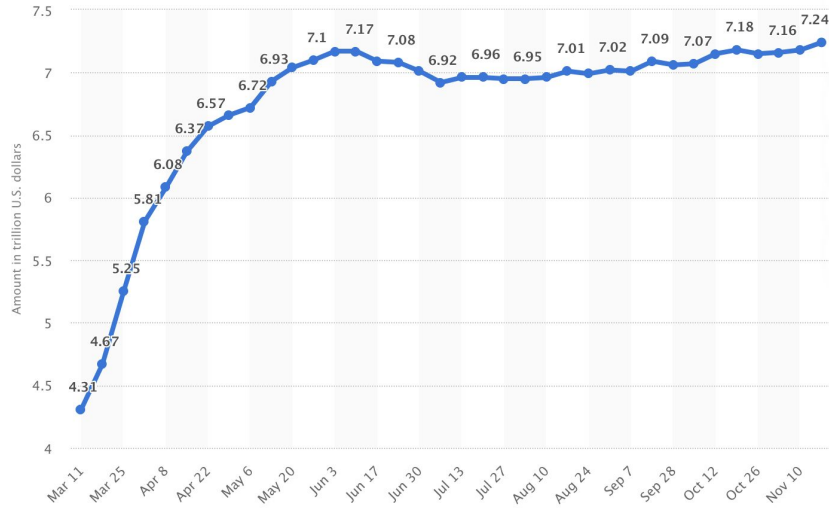
- Lack of global health leadership by the United States
- Monetary leadership from the Federal Reserve

# My research approach

## How my work fits in with existing literature

- Methodology: 3-part report experiment: nationally, internationally, and comparatively between the US and China
  - Compare report results
  - Graph results
  - Align report results with Federal Reserve spending

If able, expand to include third mechanism: collective action problem of the US



#### Increase in Fed balance sheet due to QE during COVID-19 2020

Published by F. Norrestad, Nov 24, 2020

The Federal Reserve's balance sheet ballooned following their March 15, 2020 announcement to carry out quantitative easing to increase the liquidity of U.S. banks. It reached 7.24 trillion U.S. dollars as of November 17, 2020. This measure was taken to increase the money supply and stimulate economic growth in the wake of the damage caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

# Empirical findings

Federal Reserve increased balance sheet (BS) between March - November of 2020

3-part report would compare the increase in Federal Reserve's BS (shown on left) with the report response from the public regarding global health leadership

Expected findings:

Nationally:

- Health leadership valued more than monetary leadership

Internationally:

- Monetary leadership valued more than health leadership

# Has COVID-19 marked the end of the United States hegemony?

- The international role of the United States Federal Reserve compensated for the overwhelming lack of global health leadership from the United States, resulting in the United States maintaining its hegemonic position
- The pandemic did show cracks in US leadership, national stability, and dwindling global power
- For policy actors, the most important takeaway is on what mechanisms are given priority (i.e. monetary vs. global health)