

**Partial Reading List and Notes**  
**February – May, 2021**

**Lawrence C. Chin**

**24 February**

Listened to William Burns' confirmation hearing in Congress. Biden's nomination of Burns as the CIA director (some time around 11 January) is another sign that the CIA has already convicted the Russians in the previous ICJ trial. Burns is a Russia expert and was US ambassador to Russia from 2005 to 2008, i.e. he was involved when Russia first joined the lawsuit in January 2008. His wife, Lisa Carty, is also some sort of Russia expert. It's not just that they can understand everything going on in Russia as the CIA takes over the SVR and so on. They will also be suited for advertising the upcoming scandal – how Ekaterina has manipulated a bunch of American women to make up stories about a terrorist stalker in order to promote feminism and anti-racism in America as a way to harm America.

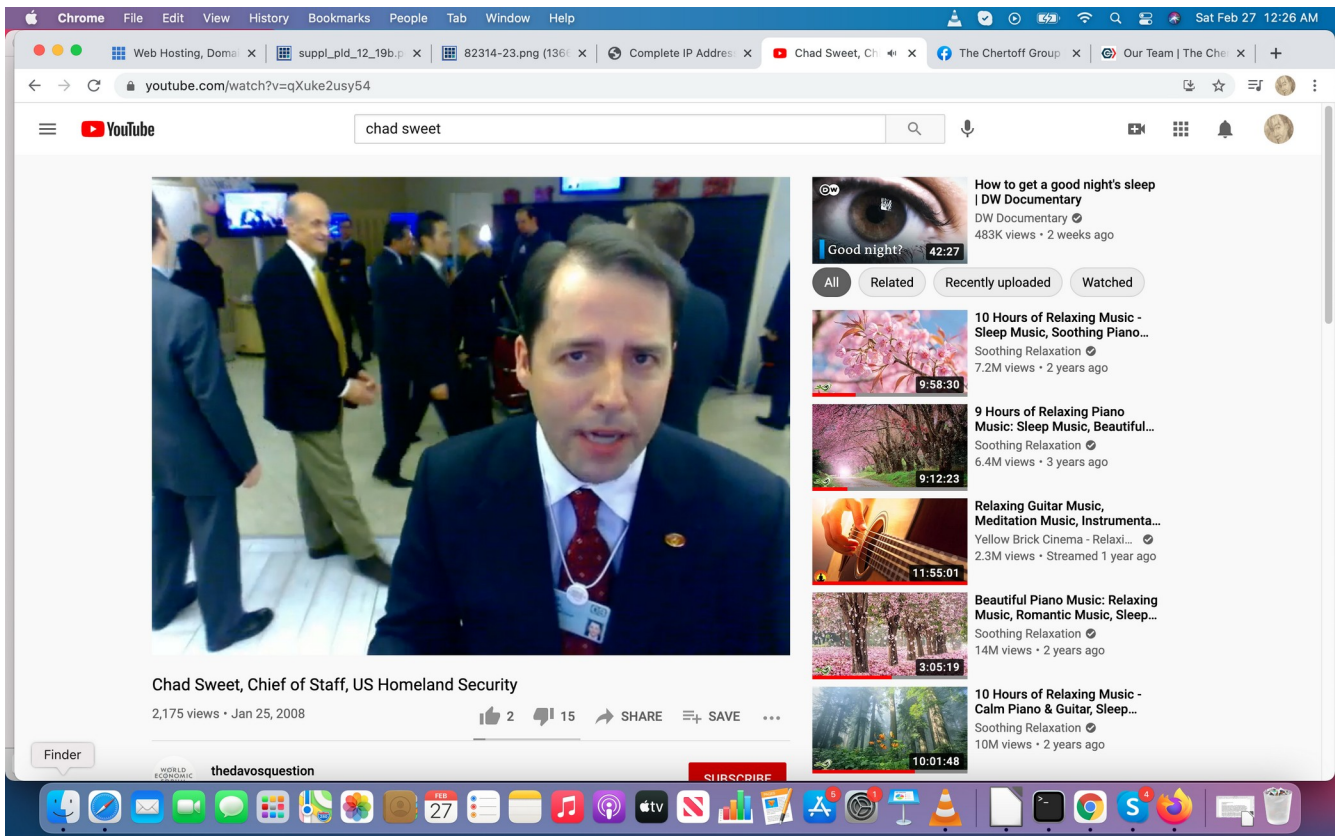
(Note the reference: “Black and Hispanic underrepresentation in tech: it's time to change the equation” (Brookings, 28.03.2018).)

**25 February**

Watched the excellent DW series: “China's Gateway to Europe: The New Silk Road” (07.12.2020). Part 1: China in Italy and Greece. Part 2: China in Serbia.

**26 February**

Discovered a video from 25.01.2008 in which both Chad Sweet and Michael Chertoff appeared at a function. Mr Chertoff appeared especially relaxed. I was in Geneva at the time – perhaps it's because the US was winning.



## 1 March

Read about the development of PHP and Perl (php-einfach.de, Rasmus Lerdorf and Larry Wall, and the books they have co-authored).

Then, 關鍵時刻 reported on the US requirement for TSMC to establish 6 factories in the US (and the associated bonuses to Taiwanese engineers).

## 2 March

Wondered if Hannah Arendt's "banality of evil" will eventually apply to the Secret Society women's scandal as well. Namely, with Prof. Ford's involvement, it's demonstrated that every liberal American, when put into a similar position with Homeland Security and Ekaterina, will do exactly the same thing.

## 3 March

Read: Ana Gabriela Rojas, "Por qué el CISEN... está de nuevo en el centro de una fuerte polémica...", BBC Mundo, 22.02.2018. Ricardo Anaya filmed the CISEN agent who followed his car in a Jeep.

## 6 March

Very affected by the CBS interview with Charlotte Bennet (Cuomo's sexual harassment).

Also enjoyed very much TVBS special report: 直擊亞洲水塔 – 西藏冰川 (the fast melting of ice layers in Tibet endangering future water output) (22.09.2018) and “Pilgerkreuzfahrt 2006: Patmos und hl. Johannes” (pilgrimage to Patmos on 18 – 28 October 2006).

## **7 March**

Read the Foreword in Marx’s dissertation, “Differenz der demokritischen und epikureischen Naturphilosophie”. The quote from Epicurus really affected me:

Not the man who denies the gods worshipped by the multitude, but he who affirms of the gods what the multitude believes about them, is truly impious.

For me it means: “Not the man who denies the reigning political correctness worshipped by the multitude, but he who affirms of social reality what the multitude believes about it (i.e. white supremacy oppresses minorities (blacks, Hispanics, and Native Americans)), is truly impious.” It’s a warning about following the herd only.

Also read Thomas Röper’s “Navalny: Gewissensgefangener oder gewissenloser Gefangener?” *Anti-Spiegel*, 01.03.2021. Navalny’s racism and sexism as reported by the Russian news and the ground on which Amnesty International has revoked Navalny’s status as “prisoner of conscience”.

## **12 March**

Still reading *The Great Reset*. Klaus Schwab is basically trying to advocate the Bilderberg version of sustainable civilization. He is happy that Covid-19 will transform businesses and industries to make the capitalist world sustainable in the long run. In order to be sustainable, the capitalist world must be less global and more regional, “just in case” instead of “just in time” (not entirely devoted to profit-seeking), and accept more government intervention. In short, neoliberalism has to go: that era is finished and done with. The fact that he wants businesses and industries to take account of “racial inequality”, “Me-Too”, climate change activism, and the greater divide between the rich and the poor – this is not merely a public relations stunt, to smooth the ground between the corporate world (the Bilderbergers) and the common people, but also part of the new business model – suggests that what he has in mind is of course what I have called “sustainable civilization with dumb people”.

Also watched the excellent documentary “Verlorene Ehre” (2011). On the murder of Hatun Sürücü by her brother. (After Katharina introduced me to the movie “Nur eine Frau”.)

## **15 March**

Because of the film “Eine Frau in Berlin”, downloaded the original diary and read the foreword and afterword by Kurt M. Marek, plus Jennifer Redmann’s “Eine Frau in Berlin: Diary as History or Fiction of the Self?”, *Colloquia Germanica*, 2008. Vol. 41. No. 3, p. 193 – 210.

## **23 March**

Became engrossed in Prof. Kaatz's *Early Controversies and the Growth of Christianity* (Praeger, 2012). How Paul struggled to dissuade converts from other versions of Christianity and to convince them that only his version was the true version.

Also Thomas Röper's entries on Anti-Spiegel: Putin's response to Biden (Native Americans, slavery, and atomic bombs) and "Die Lage in der Ukraine" (how Ukraine is ignoring the Minsk agreement and, under US encourage, is ready to retake Donbass).

Also, Deutschlandfunk, 07.03.2021, "Wie die Pandemie die internationale Arbeitsteilung verändert". How the European pharmaceutical companies are reestablishing their plants in Europe wanting no more relocation to China. (Exactly as Schwab has predicted in *The Great Reset*.)

## **25 March**

Had been avidly reading Andreas Kappeler's *Ungleiche Brüder: Russen und Ukrainer vom Mittelalter bis zur Gegenwart* (CH-Beck, 2017).

## **2 April**

Read (because this is what I got): Jonathan Corum and Carl Zimmer, "How the Pfizer-BioNTech Vaccine Works", *The New York Times*, 22.03.2021.

## **13 April**

Read Joshua Rothman's "What is the Struggle in 'My Struggle'?", *The New Yorker* (28.05.2014). Note especially Knausgaard's similarity to me:

"Part of the appeal is that he has left many of the names and details unchanged; you can do a Google images search and see many of the characters you read about. But the appeal isn't just gossipy. Perhaps because he is so candid and open, Knausgaard has made his memories into common property."

## **16 April**

Read Frédéric Gros' Foreword (English and French) to Foucault's *The History of Sexuality*, Vol. 4, *Confessions of the Flesh*.

Read the two notices on the new Russia sanctions on the website of the Department of Treasury.

## **20 April**

Watched (1) "Arnon Grunberg meets Deborah Feldman", 21.05.2017. (2) Deborah Feldman's interview on Sternstunde Religion, 17.05.2020.

## **25 April**

While continuing on with Rachel Maddow's *Blowout*, also read through Thomas Röper's latest reports on the *Putschversuch* in Belarus: "Neue Details über den Putschversuch und welche Konsequenzen

Lukaschenko zieht”, 24.04.2021 (including a translation of a TASS report) and “Alle bekannten Einzelheiten über den vereitelten Putsch in Weißrussland”, 18.04.2021 (including a translation of the Russian “Weekend Report” on the arrest of Alexander Feduta and Juras Sjankovitsch). As I have noted on Facebook, while the CIA is working on its regime-change plan with Ekaterina and the Secret Society women, other factions of the US national security Establishment are working on other attempts to effect regime-change in Belarus and Russia. These other attempts are old-fashioned, rough, and simple-minded (armed rebellion, color-revolution) and will make the US look bad if the whole details are known to the world. Only the CIA is pioneering a new “smart” approach by which Putin’s clique will make themselves look bad while getting removed by the Russian people.

## **27 April**

Read, on Anti-Spiegel, “Regierungskrise in Moldawien spitzt sich zu”, 26.04.2021. On the conflict between Dodon and Sandu. Also Röper’s comments on Black Lives Matter (the financing from big capitalists, including George Soros) and his new books on the NGOs in the West.

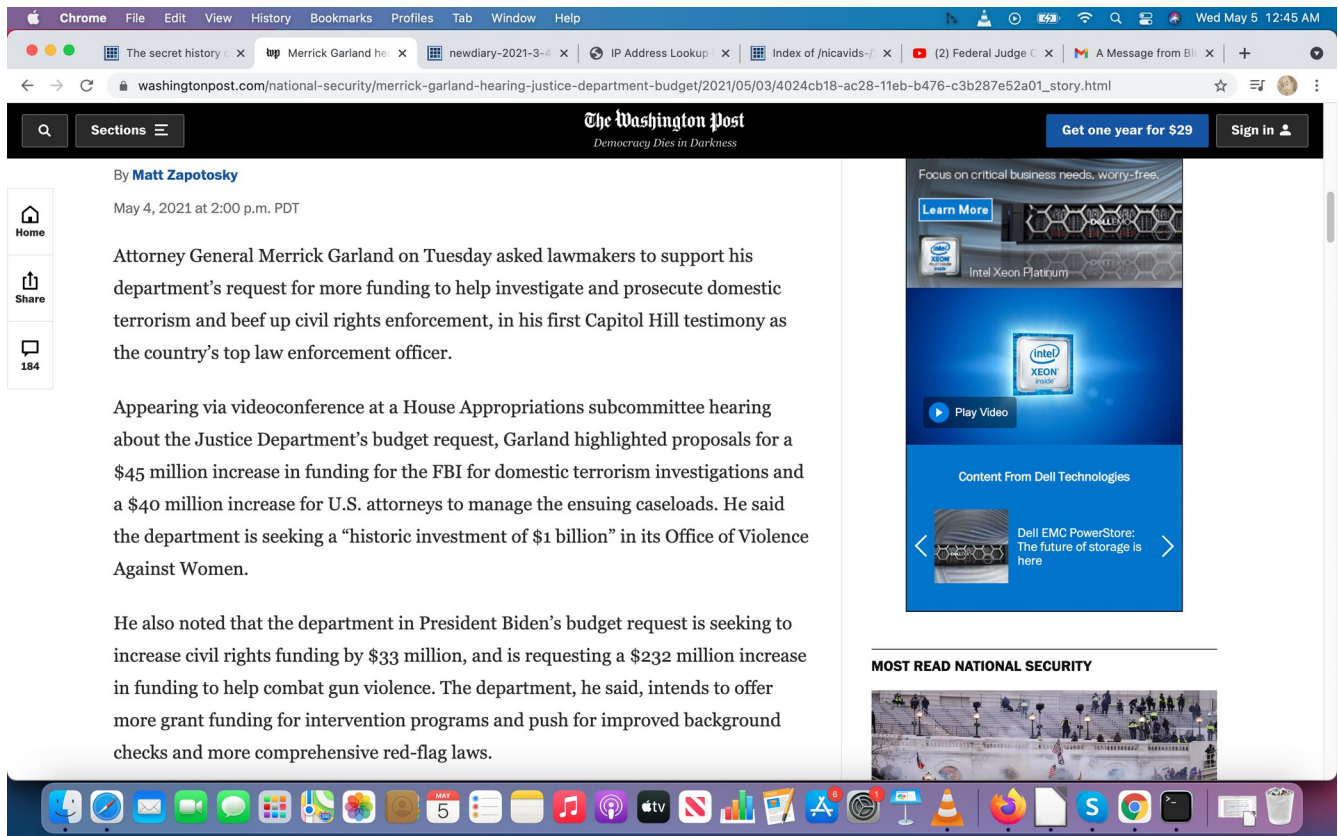
## **3 May**

Spent some time checking out Andreas Reckwitz’s latest activities (now at Humboldt), including his latest book with Hartmut Rosa, *Spätmoderne in der Krise*. Then checked out Hartmut Rosa’s profile and downloaded the Leseprobe of *Beschleunigung. Die Veränderung der Zeitstrukturen in der Moderne* (2005). Started reading it (introduction and the first chapter). It would seem that his *Beschleunigung* is precisely my version of “McDonaldization” (greater volume in lesser time).

## **4 May**

Read Thomas Röper, “SS-Gedenkmarsch in Kiew und ein mögliches Zurückrudern der USA”, 04.05.2021. Röper argues that the sudden quietude on Ukrainian border since 23 April is due to Washington’s taking seriously Putin’s warning of a “red line” just as in 2014 over Crimea. Again, his speculation is wrong because he doesn’t know about what’s going on with me – that it’s all because I uploaded “Pyramids” on 23 April to my website.

Read about Merrick Garland’s new budget requests today – bullshit:



## 8 May

Charlie Savage, Eric Schmitt, and Michael Schwartz, “Russian spy team left traces that bolstered CIA’s bounty judgment”, *The New York Times*, 07.05.2021. The GRU unit which has worked with Afghan criminals is Unit 29155.

While continuing to read Rosa’s *Beschleunigung*, also downloaded, and looked into, his *Resonanz: eine Soziologie der Weltbeziehung*. And looked into many of his presentations on Youtube on “acceleration” and “resonance”.

## 10 May

Also started reading Rosa’s *Unverfügbarkeit* (along with its French translation, *Rendre le monde indisponible*, by Olivier Mannoni). To leave the world unavailable – the exact opposite of the mechanization of nature in the “Cheney Plan”. The modern drive to make everything available and the proposed willingness to leave it unavailable (resonance) – this really seems like a reiteration of Buber’s I-It vs I-Thou.

## 14 May

Read Charles J. Shields’ new introduction to his *Mockingbird: A Portrait of Harper Lee: Revised and Updated* (Henry Holt and Company, New York, 2016).

## 15 May

While continuing to read Rachel Maddow's *Blowout*, read Thomas Röper's "Bei kaum einem Thema desinformiert das ehemalige Nachrichtenmagazin dreister, als bei der Ukraine", *Anti-Spiegel*, 15.05.2021.

## 16 May

Came across several videos in which Chiara Marletto and David Deutsch explain their new "Constructor Theory" in theoretical physics.

## 17 May

Have been thinking for a while about the recent surge of "Against Anti-Asian Hate" sentiments following upon the shooting at the Asian massage parlors in Atlanta, Georgia. At the beginning it was a surprise because, as soon as Biden got into power, the Justice Department dropped all charges against Harvard and Yale that they discriminated against Asians during the admission process. But the Democrats' message is clear after you try to find what the two sides have in common: "When you are not white, your only destiny in American society is to be victimized by white men. When you do better than white men and thus disprove the thesis that white men's victimization is absolutely disabling, you will be punished. When you get shot dead by white men and thus prove the thesis that white men's victimization is absolutely disabling, you will be rewarded." Just as I have noted, Asians will be punished or rewarded by the Democrats according to how well they can confirm the thesis that white supremacy is absolutely rampant and effective in American society. Everyone in American society is required to constantly produce proof that the White Man is the Grand Master Devil of the Universe – or else.

Was also engrossed in Rachel Maddow's presentation on Carol Leonnig's new book, *Zero Fail: The Rise and Fall of the Secret Service*.

## 19 May

Watched "Valkyrie: The Plot to Kill Hitler".

## 20 May

Downloaded, and started reading, Machael Bazzell, *Open Source Intelligence Techniques* (2021 edition).

Then, Thomas Röper, "Warum haben die USA auf neue Sanktionen gegen deutsche Firmen wegen Nord Stream 2 verzichtet?" *Anti-Spiegel*, 20.05.2021. It is reported that Washington has been wanting a summit meeting between Biden and Putin, but that Moscow has shown no interest. Today, Blinken met with Lavrov in Iceland. Because the US has decided to refrain from many of the sanctions it had earlier announced, Putin has now agreed to a summit meeting, and Blinken and Lavrov were meeting today to set the date. (The US did not refrain from the sanctions to please Germany, but to please Russia.) My question: Is the US pretending to offer concessions to Putin in order to continue to dupe him into the impression that he has won the ICJ trial?

## 21 May

Watched “Secrets of War: Brezhnev’s Kremlin”, History Channel.

## 22 May

Listened to Korine Amacher’s lecture, “La Russie et l’Ukraine: histoire partagée, mémoires divisées”, University of Geneva, 04.12.2014.

Then, various short notes about, and excerpts from, Nestor’s Chronicle: (1) Trautmann, *Die altrussische Nestorchronik* (Leipzig, 1931). (2) *Die Nestorchronik* (notes). (3) Cross and Sherbowitz-Wetzor, *The Russian Primary Chronicle: The Laurentian Text*.

## 28 May

A note on Hartmut Rosa’s *Resonanz*. Rosa makes this comparison between Adrian and Dorian in order to illustrate the difference between a “resonant” and a “non-resonant” way of relating to the world:

In dieser – natürlich idealtypisch überzeichneten– Kontrastierung unterscheiden sich die beiden Figuren nun, anders als Anna und Hannah, nicht (primär) in ihrer Welterfahrung, sondern in ihrer aktiven Stellungnahme zur Welt, in ihrer Art, sich Welt anzueignen oder anzuverwandeln. In allen aufgelisteten Aspekten lässt sich vermuten, dass Adrian eine Strategie der Reichweitenvergrößerung und der (instrumentellen und/oder rationalen) Weltbeherrschung verfolgt (und verfolgen muss), während Dorian sich Weltausschnitte zu suchen scheint, die auf reziproke und schöpferische Interaktionen und auf die Herstellung von sozialen und extrasozialen Verbindungen hin angelegt sind...

Clearly, Rosa is developing and elaborating upon Martin Buber’s distinction between I-It and I-Thou mode of being: to relate to the world as a dead object to be manipulated or to engage in a dialogue with the world. But later he claims to be elaborating on Herbert Marcuse’s distinction between living according to the mode of (Western) Logos and living according to the mode of Eros.

Clearly: I-It = Logos = rationalization/ generalization (Weber/ Reckwitz) = the mode of non-resonance; I-Thou = Eros = artist/ culturalization (Boltanski/ Reckwitz) = the mode of resonance. Recall that, in “Reckwitz”, it is noted that these two modes represent the masculine and feminine side of Western civilization that have been battling each other since Enlightenment, and that, while the masculine side predominated during the production phase of capitalism, the feminine side predominates today during this consumption phase.

Rosa’s “sociology of a good life” really seems like just another critique of Weber’s rationalization and Reckwitz’s Logic of Generalization which characterize the modern age and persist under certain conditions during the postmodern age.

## 29 May



Because of Mark Felton's presentation on "Die Glocke", downloaded, and started reading, Louis Pauwels and Jacques Bergier's *Le matin des magiciens* (Edition Gallimard, 1960).

### **30 May**

Got engrossed in Adam Entous' "Stealth Mode: How the Havana Syndrome spread to the White House", *The New Yorker*, 31.05.2021.

Have been thinking about the difficulty with somebody like Prof. McGuire. Going to college is troublesome nowadays because there are so many "stupid people with a PhD" occupying key positions in universities. If you say something profound that is beyond their comprehension, they will not understand you and will just think you are stupid. (They will never notice that, when they don't understand something, it might be because they are stupid.) They will then tell others that you are stupid, and you'll have difficulty explaining yourself because you can't just point out the truth to people, that so-and-so professor is just being stupid – because she has a PhD and nobody will believe that a person with a PhD can actually be a stupid person. And so, while at East Bay, one couldn't just tell Prof. Kaatz the truth, that Prof. McGuire was just a mediocre intellectual who had failed to understand oneself. Besides, it would be too offensive to say the truth. Before one shares one's ideas with one's adviser, one must first carefully assess her level of intelligence so that one can tune one's ideas to fit her understanding.

The problem is thus: (1) higher education nowadays has become such a mechanical process that anybody can get a PhD without ever having to exercise his or her brain to think: all that s/he needs is patience. (2) Nobody has any time to examine anything in-depth, i.e. to actually spend time to figure out who is really stupid, the student or the professor.