

Governments around the world face fallout from offshore accounts report

Iceland's prime minister resigns

By DAVID MCHUGH
Associated Press

FRANKFURT, Germany — Governments around the world tried Tuesday to contain the fallout from the publication of thousands of names of rich and powerful people who conducted offshore financial activity through a Panamanian law firm.

Iceland's embattled prime minister has resigned amid a controversy over his offshore holdings, a Cabinet minister said Tuesday as outrage over the accounts roiled the North Atlantic island nation.

Prime Minister Sigmundur David Gunnlaugsson is stepping down as leader of the country's coalition government, Agriculture Minister Sigurdur Ingi Johannsson told Icelandic broadcaster RUV.

No replacement has yet been named, and Iceland's president has not yet confirmed that he has accepted the resignation.

China dismissed as "groundless" reports that relatives of current and retired politicians, including President Xi Jinping, own offshore companies.

The state media are ignoring the reports, and search results for the words "Panama documents" have been blocked on websites and social media.

And Ukraine's president was accused of abusing his office and of tax evasion by moving his candy business offshore, possibly depriving the country of millions of dollars in taxes.

The reports are from a global group of news organizations working with the Washington-based International Consor-



Brynjar Gunnarsson/AP Photo

Iceland's Prime Minister Sigmundur David Gunnlaugsson speaks during a parliamentary session in Reykjavik. Gunnlaugsson resigned today after facing growing calls for him to step down because of reported offshore financial dealings by him and his wife that opposition lawmakers say show a significant conflict of interest with his job.

tium of Investigative Journalists. They have been processing the legal records from the Mossack Fonseca law firm that were first leaked to the German Sueddeutsche Zeitung newspaper.

Shell companies aren't by themselves illegal. People or companies might use them to reduce their tax bill legally, by benefiting from low tax rates in countries like Panama, the Cayman Islands and Bermuda. But the practice is frowned upon, particularly when used by politicians, who then face criticism for not contributing to their own countries' economies.

Because offshore accounts and companies also hide the names of the ultimate owners of investments, they can be used to illegally evade taxes or launder money.

Mossack Fonseca says it obeys all laws relating to com-

pany registrations and does not advise people how to evade taxes.

The firm said in a statement that "our industry is not particularly well understood by the public, and unfortunately this series of articles will only serve to deepen that confusion."

"The facts are these: while we may have been the victim of a data breach, nothing in this illegally obtained cache of documents suggests we've done anything wrong or illegal, and that's very much in keeping with the global reputation we've worked hard to build over the past 40 years of doing business the right way."

Members of the Group of 20 — which includes China — have agreed on paper to tighten laws relating to shell companies and make sure authorities can find out who the real

owners are. Actual legislation at the national level has lagged behind the promises, however.

The appearance of offshore accounts in political scandals is far from new. Shell companies played a role in the corruption scandal involving the Petrobras oil company in Brazil. The U.S. Justice Department said in an indictment last year that offshore accounts were used to mask the transfer of bribes to officials at FIFA, the global soccer federation.

China's Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei said he would not discuss the reports further and declined to say whether the individuals named would be investigated.

"For these groundless accusations, I have no comment," Hong told reporters at a regularly scheduled news conference.

Sueddeutsche Zeitung, working with NDR and WDR public television, reported Monday that 14 German banks had used Mossack Fonseca's services to set up 1,200 letterbox companies for clients.

The report said use of offshore company registrations had spiked after the European Union introduced regulations in 2005 requiring countries to exchange tax information on physical persons, but not for companies. Many of the accounts, however, have since been closed.

The EU has since tightened its rules on offshore companies under its Fourth Anti-Money Laundering Directive, which is being phased in as national governments pass local laws to comply by June 26, 2017. The new rules tighten requirements for companies to keep accurate information on their real owners and to make that available to authorities.

Court upholds total population count in electoral districts

By MARK SHERMAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A unanimous Supreme Court ruled Monday that states can count everyone, not just eligible voters, in deciding how to draw electoral districts.

The justices turned back a challenge from Texas voters that could have dramatically altered political district boundaries and disproportionately affected the nation's growing Latino population.

The court ruled that Texas' challenged state Senate districting map, using total population, complied with the principle of "one person, one vote," the requirement laid out by the Supreme Court in 1964 that political districts be roughly equal in population.

The issue, though, was what population to consider: everyone or just eligible voters.

The challengers said the districts had vastly different numbers when looking at eligible voters, in violation of the Constitution.

"Jurisdictions, we hold, may design state and local legislative districts with equal total populations; they are not obliged to equalize voter populations," Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg said, summarizing her opinion for the court.

Ginsburg said that "history, our decisions and settled practice in all 50 states and countless local jurisdictions point in the same direction."

Two rural Texas voters challenged the use of total population data in drawing state Senate districts because they said it inflates the voting

power of city dwellers at their expense.

In Texas, and other states with large immigrant populations, urban districts include many more people who are too young, not citizens or otherwise ineligible to vote. Civil rights groups said forcing states to change their method of constructing districts would have damaged Latino political influence.

The court stopped short of saying that states must use total population. And it also did not rule on whether states are free to use a different measure, as Texas asked.

Ginsburg said the court was not resolving whether states may use voter population.

Richard Hasen, an expert in election law at the University of California at Irvine law school, said, "A contrary ruling would have shifted power to Republican, rural districts, and away from Democratic urban areas."

Edward Blum, whose Project on Fair Representation backed the lawsuit, said he was disappointed in the outcome, but predicted that "the issue of voter equality in the United States is not going to go away."

Though the justices were unanimous in upholding Texas' use of total population, Justices Clarence Thomas and Samuel Alito declined to join Ginsburg's opinion.

Thomas said the Constitution gives the states the freedom to draw political lines based on different population counts. Referring to the 1964 case of Reynolds v. Sims, he said the high court "has never provided a sound basis for the one-person, one-vote principle."

Scientists urge action to combat changing ocean chemistry

The Associated Press

SEATTLE — Global carbon dioxide emissions are rapidly altering ocean chemistry along the West Coast and urgent regional action is needed, a panel of ocean scientists said in a report released Monday.

The group warned that failing to respond to ocean

acidification, which comes from added carbon absorbed by oceans, will have widespread negative ecological consequences for the West Coast.

California, Oregon, Washington and the province of British Columbia in 2013 brought together 20 scientists to come up with management tools to address ocean acidifi-

cation and hypoxia, or waters with extremely low oxygen levels.

Global carbon emissions are the dominant cause of ocean acidification, according to scientists from the three states and province. While it is a global problem that will require global solutions, West Coast leaders should develop regional

strategies to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, the group said.

The scientists outlined other actions these governments could take, including exploring using seagrass to remove carbon dioxide from seawater, improving the monitoring network and identifying areas where local pollutants can make problems worse.

"There has been an attitude that there is not much we can do about this locally, but that just isn't true," said Francis Chan, an Oregon State University marine ecologist and who co-chaired the panel. "A lot of the solutions will come locally and through coordinated regional efforts."

Because of the way the Pacific Ocean circulates, the

West Coast is exposed to unusually high volumes of seawater at elevated acidity levels, according to Richard Feely with NOAA's Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory in Seattle.

Responding to the report, Washington Gov. Jay Inslee said in a statement that he's ready to work with West Coast leaders on the issue.

THE DAILY ASTORIAN

TV LISTINGS

Evening listings
TUESDAY

TUESDAY EVENING												APRIL 5	
A	L	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
2	KATU	(2) KATU News at 6		Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	Fresh Off-Boat (N)	Real O'Neals (N)	Agents of SHIELD "Spacetime" (N)		Beyond the Tank (N)		KATU News at 11	(3:5) Jimmy Kimmel
3	KOMO	(4) KOMO 4 News		Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	Fresh Off-Boat (N)	Real O'Neals (N)	Agents of SHIELD "Spacetime" (N)		Beyond the Tank (N)		KOMO 4 News	(3:5) Jimmy Kimmel
4	KING	(5) NBC Nightly News	KING 5 News	KING 5 News	Evening	Voice "The Road to the Live Shows" (N)	Chicago Med "Us" (N)	Chicago Fire "On the Warpath" (N)		Chicago Fire "On the Warpath" (N)		KING 5 News	(3:5) Tonight Show
5	KOIN	(6) KOIN 6 News at 6	CBS Evening News	Extra	Ent. Tonight	NCIS "Charade" (N)	NCIS: New Orleans "Second Line" (N)	Limitless (N)		Limitless (N)		KOIN 6 News @ 11	(3:5) S.Colbert
6	KIRO	(7) KIRO 7 News	CBS Evening News	The Insider	Ent. Tonight	NCIS "Charade" (N)	NCIS: New Orleans "Second Line" (N)	Limitless (N)		Limitless (N)		KIRO News	(3:5) S.Colbert
7	KGW	(8) KGW News at 6:00 p.m.		Live at Seven	Inside Edition	Voice "The Road to the Live Shows" (N)	Chicago Med "Us" (N)	Chicago Fire "On the Warpath" (N)		Chicago Fire "On the Warpath" (N)		KGW News at 11	(3:5) Tonight Show
8	KRCW	(9) Seinfeld Pt. 2 of 2	Seinfeld	Modern Family	Modern Family	The Flash "King Shark"	iZombie (N)	KGW News at 10	(3:5) Two and Half	Two and Half Men		King of the Hill	
9	KOPB	(10) Ask-Old House	Business (N)	PBS NewsHour		10 Homes That Changed America (N)	S.Deed "Secrets of Saint John Paul II" (N)	Frontline "Putin's Way"		Frontline "Putin's Way"		Afropop: Ultimate	
10	KPTV	(12) 6 O'Clock News		Family Feud	Family Feud	American Idol: American Dream (N)		Brooklyn 99 (N)		10 O'Clock News		11 O'Clock News	Loves Ray
11	KPDx	(13) Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	FOX 12's 8 O'Clock News on PDX-TV		FOX 12's 9 O'Clock News on PDX-TV		Walking Dead "Welcome to the Tombs"		Dead "30 Days Without An Accident"	
12	KCPQ	(13) Name Game	Modern Family	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	American Idol: American Dream (N)		Brooklyn 99 (N)		Q13 News at 10		Q13 News	Modern Family
13	TBS	(20) Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	America's Greatest Makers (N)		Separation "Carolyn and Celina" (N)		Conan (N)	
14	KZJQ	(22) Two and Half Men	Two and Half Men	The Simpsons	The Simpsons	Modern Family	Modern Family	Q13 News at 9		Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Friends	Friends
15	ESPN	(29) (5:30) NCAA Basketball Division I Tournament (L)				SportsCenter		SportsCenter		SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
16	ESPN2	(30) (5:00) Soccer (L)		30 for 30 "White, Blue and White"		NFL Live		30 for 30 Shorts	30 for 30 Shorts	NBA Tonight	Jalen & Jacoby (N)	30 for 30 "When the Garden Was Eden"	
17	NICK	(31) The Thundermans	The Thundermans	Paradise Run	Henry Danger	Henry Danger	NickyRickyDicky	Full House	Full House	Full House	Full House	Friends	Friends
18	DISN	(32) Stuck in Middle	Bunk'd	Friends Whenever	K.C. Undercover	Frenemies (2012, Family)	Zendaya, Bella Thorne.	(:40) Jessie		(:05) Liv Maddie	Stuck in Middle	Girl Meets World	K.C. Undercover
19	FAM	(34) Shadowhunters	"This World Inverted"	Shadowhunters	"Blood Calls to Blood"	Shadowhunters	"Malec"	Shadowhunters	"Morning Star" (SF) (N)	Stitchers	"The One That Got Away" (N)	The 700 Club	
20	FMC	(35) (1:15) ★★ Click (2006, Comedy)	Kate Beckinsale, Christopher Walken, Adam Sandler.					The Sitter (2011, Comedy)	Ari Graynor, Jonah Hill.	(:10) FXM Presents Fun Size (2012, Comedy)	Chelsea Handler, Victoria Justice.		
21	LIFE	(36) Pitch Slapped		Pitch Slapped				Dance Moms: Dance and Chat	Dance Moms "Jojo Steals the Show" (N)	Mother Daughter Exp. (N)		The Rap Game	
22	ROOT	(38) (5:00) MLB Baseball Seattle Mariners at Texas Rangers (L)				Post-game		MLB Baseball Seattle Mariners at Texas Rangers Site: Globe Life Park -- Arlington, Texas					Post-game
23	FS1	(39) UEFA Soccer Champions League				Fox Sports Live	Fox Sports Live	TMZ Sports (N)	Best I Heard (N)	Fox Sports Live	TMZ Sports	Fox Sports Live	Fox Sports Live
24	SPIKE	(43) Ink Master "Initiation"		Ink Master "Salt in the Wound"		Ink Master "The Devil's in the Details"		Ink Master "New School, Old Artist"		Ink Master "Under Pressure" (N)		Ink Master (N)	Ink Master
25	COM	(44) Futurama	Futurama	Futurama	Futurama	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Tosh.0 (N)	Nikki Glaser (N)	The Daily Show (N)	Nightly Show (N)
26	HIST	(45) (5:00) To Be Announced		To Be Announced		Counting Cars	Counting Cars	Counting Cars	Counting Cars	Forged in Fire "The Cutlass" (N)		(:05) Forged in Fire	The Shotel"
27	A&E	(46) The First 48 "Pointless/ Set Up"		Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars: Ba	Storage Wars (N)	Storage Wars (N)	Storage Wars (N)	Storage Wars	Storage Wars
28	TLC	(47) Lost Family "Am I Who I Think I Am?"		J. Jessa "Date Nights and Bright Lights"		Jill Jessa Countdown (N)		Jill and Jessa: Counting On (N)		The Willis Family (N)		Jill and Jessa: Counting On	
29	DISC	(48) Deadliest Catch		Deadliest Catch: On Deck "Ticking Bomb" (N)				Deadliest Catch "First Timers" (N)		Deadliest Catch "Legend of the Wizard"		Deadliest Catch "First Timers"	
30	NIGC	(49) (5:00) Bigfoot: The New Evidence		Unabomber: The Secret History		The Real Bonnie and Clyde		Billy the Kid: New Evidence A new authenticated photo of Billy the Kid may exist.				Billy the Kid: New Evidence	
31	TNT	(50) (5:00) NBA Basketball Chicago Bulls at Memphis Grizzlies (L)		NBA Basketball Los Angeles Lakers at Los Angeles Clippers Site: Staples Center -- Los Angeles, Calif. (L)				Inside the NBA				NBA Basketball Chicago vs Memphis	
32	AMC	(51) (5:30) ★★ The Sorcerer's Apprentice (10) Alfred Molina, Nicolas Cage.				★★★ Jurassic Park (1993, Sci-Fi) Laura Dern, Jeff Goldblum, Sam Neill.						The Lost World: Jurassic Park	
33	USA	(52) Law & Order: S.V.U. "Hothouse"		Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Chrisley Knows (N)	Chrisley Knows	Modern Family	Modern Family
34	FOOD	(53) Chopped "Stacking Up"		Chopped "Mix and Mache"		Chopped "There Will Be Bloody Marys"		Chopped "Offal Surprise"		House Hunters (N)	House Hunters (N)	Good Bones (N)	
35	HGTV	(54) Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		House Hunters (N)	House Hunters (N)	Good Bones (N)	
36	FX	(56) (4:30) Green Lantern Ryan Reynolds.		★★★ The Avengers (2012, Action) Chris Evans, Scarlett Johansson, Robert Downey Jr..						O.J. Simpson "The Verdict" (SF) (N)		People v. OJ Simpson "The Verdict"	
37	CNN	(57) Anderson Cooper 360		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon		CNN Newsroom		CNN Newsroom		CNN Newsroom	
38	FNC	(58) The Kelly File with Megyn Kelly		Hannity		The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File with Megyn Kelly		Hannity		On the Record	
39	CNBC	(61) Shark Tank		Billion Dollar Buyer (N)		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Filthy Rich Guide	Filthy Rich Guide	Paid Program	Paid Program
40	BRVA	(63) Beverly Hills "Hearing is Believing"		Beverly Hills "Lymes in the Sand"		The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills		Beverly Hills (N)		The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills		WatchWhat (N)	Housewives Atk.
41	TCM	(64) (5:00) Cape Fear '62) Gregory Peck.		★★★★ To Kill a Mockingbird '62) Brock Peters, Robert Duvall, Gregory Peck.		(:15) Conversations With Gregory Peck						The Guns of Navarone Gregory Peck.	
42	SYFY	(65) 12 Monkeys "Divine Move"		★★★★ Superman (1978, Sci-Fi) Gene Hackman, Margot Kidder, Christopher Reeve.						★★★ Superman II (1980, Sci-Fi) Margot Kidder, Gene Hackman, Christopher Reeve.			
43	RFD	(162) (5:30) Cattlemen	American Harvest	Downunder Horseman.		Chris Cox	Rural Eve. News	Ag PhD		Cattlemen to Cattlemen	American Harvest	Product Showcase	

Suzanne Elise Assisted Living Community is the proud recipient of a PERFECT STATE SURVEY for 2015 – a reflection of our core value, "Quality that is Obvious!"

P: 503-738-0307 | www.suzanneelise.com