

News Item

## Blame game escalates between US and China over coronavirus disinformation | CNN

By Zachary Cohen, Alex Marquardt, and Kylie Atwood March 24, 2020

Washington (CNN) - President Donald Trump says he has declared war on the <u>coronavirus</u> in an effort to contain the outbreak and its economic impact here at home, but on the world stage, his administration is engaged in another battle as the US and China <u>fight to shape the narrative</u> about the pandemic's origins.

Trump and senior members of the administration <u>have attempted to brand the outbreak</u> as the result of a "Chinese virus" as they ramp up accusations that Beijing failed to identify, stop or warn about the virus early on.

The administration has also implemented a coordinated messaging campaign which includes talking points sent out by the National Security Council pushing US officials to highlight China's alleged "coverup" and subsequent disinformation campaign, CNN has learned.

[...]

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