

# What's happening in the news this week?



Let's have a look at this week's poster!

25th - 31st March 2024

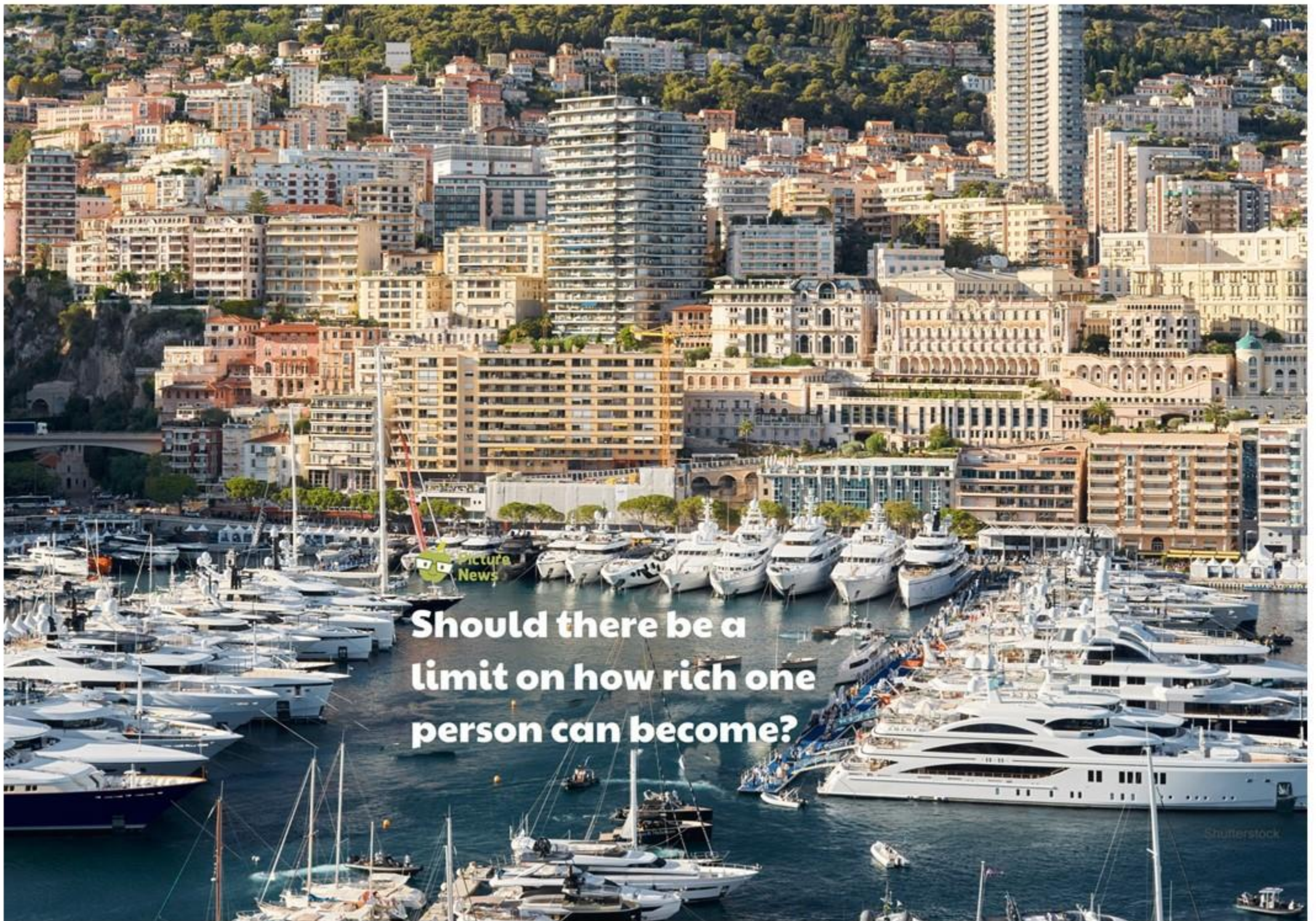




## **Individual Liberty**

We are free to make our own choices and pursue our own goals. At times, it is important to consider those less fortunate than ourselves when making decisions in order to make the world a better place for everyone.





**Should there be a  
limit on how rich one  
person can become?**

Picture  
News

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## Let's look at this week's story

Poverty-fighting charity, Oxfam, recently released a new report on inequality and global corporate power. It found that the world's five richest people have more than doubled their fortunes from a combined total of £321 billion to £688 billion since 2020. The wealth of the poorest 60% (nearly five billion people) has fallen. If this trend continues, the world will have its first trillionaire within 10 years, whilst poverty may not be eradicated for another nearly 230 years.



Learn more about this week's story [here](#).  
Watch this week's useful video [here](#).  
This week's Virtual Picture News [here](#).



# How does it make me feel?



## sad

despondent  
disconsolate  
dismal  
doleful  
downhearted  
forlorn  
gloomy  
melancholic  
miserable  
woeful  
wretched

## angry

aggrieved  
annoyed  
discontented  
disgruntled  
distressed  
exasperated  
frustrated  
indignant  
offended  
outraged  
resentful  
vexed

## happy

beaming  
buoyant  
cheery  
contented  
delighted  
enraptured  
gleeful  
glowing  
joyful

## confused

addled  
baffled  
bemused  
bewildered  
disorientated  
indistinct  
muddled  
mystified  
perplexed  
puzzled

## excited

animated  
elevated  
enlivened  
enthusiastic  
exhilarated  
exuberant  
thrilled

## worried

agitated  
anxious  
apprehensive  
concerned  
disquieted  
distraught  
distressed  
disturbed  
fretful  
perturbed  
troubled  
uneasy

## overwhelmed

engulfed  
inundated  
overburdened  
overloaded  
saturated  
submerged  
swamped

## afraid

alarmed  
apprehensive  
daunted  
fearful  
frantic  
horrified  
petrified  
terrified

## guilty

ashamed  
compunctious  
contrite  
culpable  
penitent  
responsible  
rueful

## jealous

bitter  
covetous  
desirous  
envious  
envying  
resentful  
wary

## thankful

appreciative  
grateful  
gratified  
indebted  
obliged  
relieved

## shocked

astonished  
astounded  
disconcerted  
distressed  
dumbfounded  
horrified  
staggered  
startled  
stunned  
surprised

## disgusted

affronted  
appalled  
horrified  
repelled  
repulsed  
revolted  
sickened

## inspired

activated  
encouraged  
exhilarated  
galvanised  
influenced  
motivated

## embarrassed

ashamed  
awkward  
chagrined  
demeaned  
discomposd  
humiliated  
self-conscious  
uncomfortable  
uneasy  
unsettled

## interested

absorbed  
captivated  
curious  
engaged  
enthralled  
fascinated  
gripped  
intrigued  
riveted



# This week's story looks at events related to ...





## Read the information below, which explains more about wealth inequality.

The five richest people in the world were revealed to have **doubled their wealth** in the four years since 2020.

Over the same time, people around the world are working harder and longer hours, often for very low wages in unsafe jobs. Across 52 countries, average real wages of nearly 800 million workers have fallen.

Seven of the ten biggest corporations in the world have a billionaire as their CEO (the person in charge).

What can you see in the picture?

What do you think it represents?

Source: Billy Bragg.



### How much is one trillion?

**1,000,000,000,000**

It is thought that within 10 years, the world will see its first trillionaire.

*'If you had a stack of thousand-dollar bills in your hand only four inches high, you'd be a millionaire. A trillion dollars would be a stack of a thousand-dollar bills 67 miles high.'*

Former US President, Ronald Reagan, speaking on how to imagine a trillion in 1981.

What can be done to help reduce the gap between the world's poorest and richest people?

Billionaires, Bill Gates and Warren Buffett, have a 'Giving Pledge', which asks the very wealthy to give 'at least 50% of their wealth to charity'.

Money journalist, Atossa Abrahamian, suggests that increasing taxes that very wealthy people pay and redistributing that money to those who need it most would make countries' wealth fairer and more even.

Can you think of any other ideas?

**Do you think more should be done to tackle the issue? If so, by whom?  
Do you feel the governments of each country have a responsibility?**





Look at the resource below, which shares some information about billionaires from around the world.



Source: Elon Musk X page.

**Name:** Elon Musk

**Net worth:** \$196 billion (Forbes, 2024)

**Source:** Tesla, SpaceX



Source: LebanonValleyCollege, X page.

**Name:** Giovanni Ferrero

**Net worth:** \$43.7 billion (Forbes, 2024)

**Source:** Chairman of 'Ferrero', makers of Nutella and Kinder

**Name:** LeBron James

**Net worth:** \$1 billion (Forbes, 2024)

**Source:** Basketball player and endorsements



Source: LeBron James, X page.



Source: Taylor Swift, X page.

**Name:** Taylor Swift

**Net worth:** \$1.1 billion (Forbes, 2024)

**Source:** Music artist





**Look at the resource below, which shares some information about some countries' wealth inequality.**

**Wealth inequality is a global issue but some countries have lower wealth inequality than others.**

Some of the countries with the lowest wealth inequality are in Europe such as Slovakia, Belarus, Belgium, Iceland, the Netherlands, Czech Republic and Norway.

Education and healthcare for everyone, taxes dependent on income and tracking wealth can contribute to low wealth inequality.



Some countries in Africa have high wealth inequality. This can be caused by unfair education systems that are more accessible to the rich, corrupt/oppressive governments or discrimination against race, sex etc.

**To reduce wealth inequality, Oxfam is calling for governments to:**

Introduce one-off taxes for people or businesses making exceptional profit.

Permanently increase taxes on the richest 1%, including implementing inheritance, property and land taxes.

Empower public and tax administrations to track the wealth of the richest people and corporations so that wealth cannot be hidden.

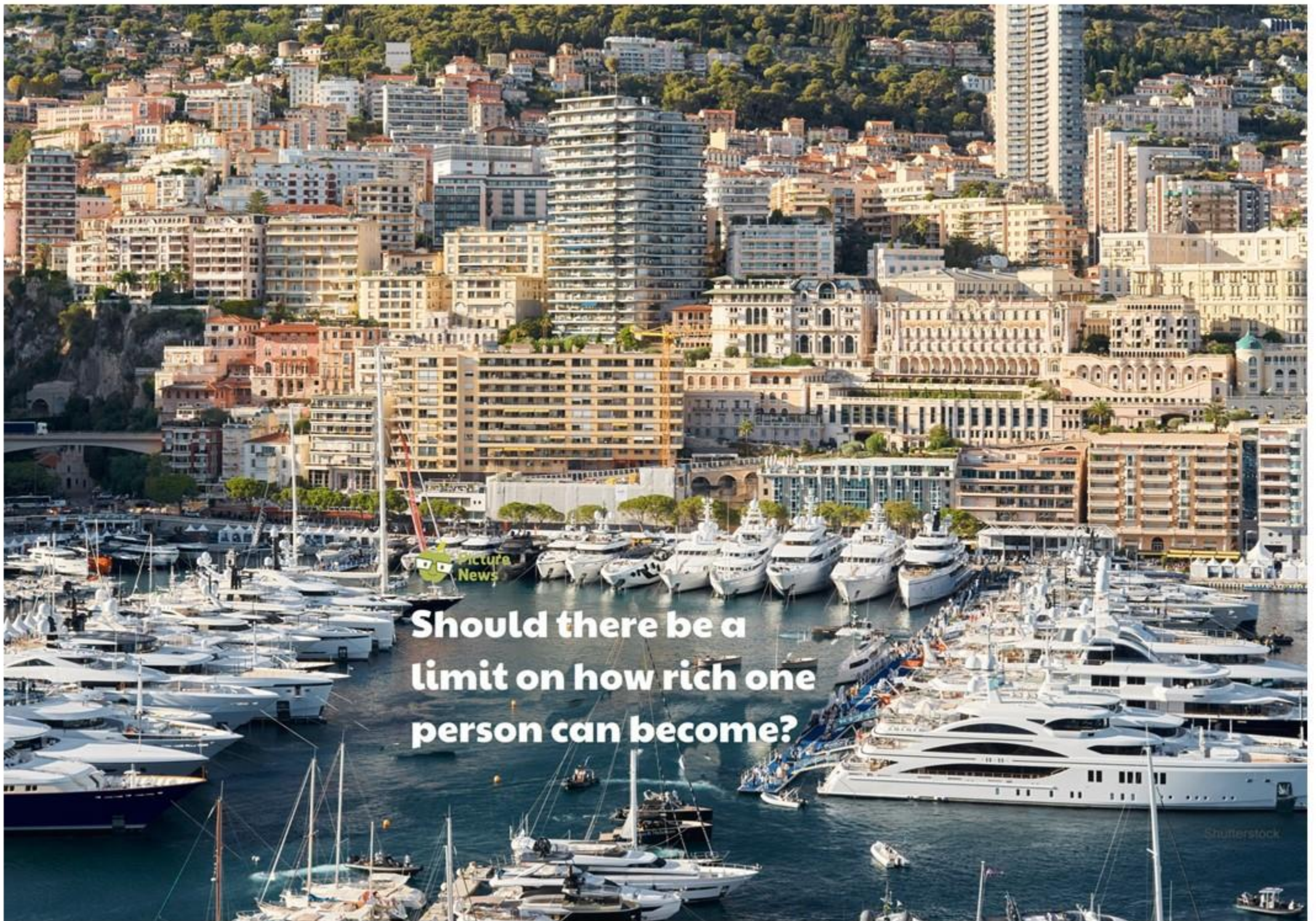


**If we don't start measuring inequality properly now, we will never reduce it seriously by 2030.**

Matthew Martin, director of the campaign group Development Finance International.

**Discuss the difference between countries with high wealth inequality and low wealth inequality.**





**Should there be a  
limit on how rich one  
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Picture  
News

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# Reflection



Inequalities around the world can be linked to many causes. This is why there are organisations that help populations in need. For example, UNICEF tries to help children around the world by providing resources in education and health.





# Protected Characteristics



Everybody deserves fair pay for the work that they do. Today, there are still differences between the salaries of men and women, who do the same job.



Sex



Sexual Orientation



Age



Disability



Gender Reassignment



Marriage and Civil Partnership



Pregnancy and Maternity



Race



Religion and Belief





# UN Rights of a Child



Children and young people have the right to a good standard of living. Where parents/carers are unable to provide this, the government should make financial support available.





# Useful vocabulary



## Corporation

A large company or business with its own legal powers.

Seven of the ten biggest **corporations** in the world have a billionaire as their CEO.

## Duty

A responsibility; a moral or legal obligation.

Do you think that people who become billionaires have a **duty** to help others?

## Eradicate

To destroy or get rid of something bad.

...poverty may not be **eradicated** for another nearly 230 years.

## Pledge

A serious or formal promise.

Bill Gates and Warren Buffett have a 'Giving **Pledge**', which asks the very wealthy to give "at least 50% of their wealth to charity".

## Redistribute

To share something out differently from before, often in a fairer way.

Atossa Abrahamian suggests ...**redistributing** that money to those who need it most would make countries fairer and more even.

## Tackle

To deal with a task or problem in a determined and organised way.

Do you think more should be done to **tackle** the issue?

**Can you use them in your writing this week?**



# Picture News



## Should there be a limit on how rich one person can become?

Poverty-fighting charity, Oxfam, recently released a new report on inequality and global corporate power. It found that the world's five richest people have more than doubled their fortunes from a combined total of £321 billion to £688 billion since 2020. The wealth of the poorest 60% (nearly five billion people) has fallen. If this trend continues, the world will have its first trillionaire within 10 years, whilst poverty may not be eradicated for another nearly 230 years.



- Look at this week's poster and share what you think this week's story could be about.
- Does it surprise you to learn that the gap between the richest and poorest people in the world is getting bigger? Why do you think this is happening?
- Read the information found on the assembly resource and watch this week's useful video, which explains more about wealth inequality. Do you think more should be done to tackle the issue? If so, by whom? Do you believe the governments of each country have a responsibility?
- Talk about the individuals who become billionaires. Do you know any of the companies or businesses they have created?
- Do you think that people who become billionaires have a duty to help others, and to share their wealth or do you think they should be able to spend their money as they wish?
- Discuss the impact of money, and how it makes a difference in people's lives.

### Reflection

Inequalities around the world can be linked to many causes. This is why there are organisations that help populations in need. For example, UNICEF tries to help children around the world by providing resources in education and health.

# Picture News



## KS1 focus

### What is a billionaire?



- Show children the photo of Elon Musk on resource 1. Who do you think this is? Can you see any clues in the photo? What might he do? Do you think he could be important? Why?
- Elon Musk is a famous billionaire. Do you know what a billionaire is? A billionaire is a person who has money or property worth at least a billion units of a major currency e.g., £1 billion.
- What is currency? What currency do we use in the UK? Do you know any other world currencies?
- Do you know how to write the number one billion? **(Teacher note: historically, British and American billions were different. Today, however, one thousand million is widely accepted as one billion).** Write 1,000,000,000 on the board. What do you notice about this number? Can you identify any place value e.g., ones, tens, hundreds etc? Do you know how to write any other large numbers?
- Look at the other billionaires on resource 1. Do you recognise any of them? Do you know how they earned their money? Does it surprise you that these people are billionaires?
- Do you think it is important to earn a lot of money? Why? What would you do if you had a billion pounds? Would you give any away to friends, family or a worthy cause?

### Reflection

Billionaires are worth a huge amount of money which they may have earned working in a particular industry. We can earn money in lots of different ways to help support ourselves and others.

# Picture News



## KS2 focus

### What are countries around the world doing to reduce wealth inequality?



- Write 'wealth inequality' on the board. What do you think this means? Have you heard of inequality before?
- Wealth inequality occurs when the amount of money people have is very uneven and the gap between rich and poor widens. For example, the richest 10% of households have 43% of a country's wealth, whilst the poorest 50% of households have just 9%. How do you feel about this? Do you think it's fair? If not, what do you think could be done about it?
- Look at resource 2, which shares some information about some countries' wealth inequality. Discuss the difference between countries with high wealth inequality and low wealth inequality. Should there be low wealth inequality worldwide?
- Think about education and healthcare. What do you know about access to them in other countries? Are you aware that in some places people pay for them? How do you think not having access to education and healthcare may affect people?
- Oxfam is calling on governments to reduce wealth inequality. Using resource 2, discuss how you think this can be done. Do you agree with higher taxes for the richest people? Why?
- Share your thoughts and any experiences you have of wealth inequality in the UK.

### Reflection

Wealth inequality is a global issue. There are some people in the world living in poverty, whilst others are billionaires. We can take an interest in issues affecting the world and tackle the ones we feel passionate about.





## KS2 follow-up ideas

### Option 1

Write a diary entry titled 'A day in the life of a billionaire'. Think about:

- Describe the different events of your day in chronological order. Did you go to work, take part in any activities, enjoy any meals?
- Did you spend any money? How much?
- Describe how you felt.
- Use an informal, chatty tone.
- Include time conjunctions.
- Use past tense as your day has already happened.

Share your diary entries with each other and compare your day!

### Option 2

In the UK, people pay income tax on their earnings. This is a compulsory tax that goes to the government. The following tax rates apply:

- Personal Allowance: Up to £12,570 - 0% tax
- Basic rate: £12,571 to £50,270 - 20% tax
- Higher rate: £50,271 to £125,140 - 40% tax
- Additional rate: Over £125,140 - 45% tax

Use the information above to complete the following:

- Read the earnings aloud. Can you write each amount in words?
- Can you record 20%, 40% and 45% as fractions and decimal fractions?
- Can you explain how to find 20% of an amount?
- Explore finding 20% of different amounts.

**Challenge** – work out how much tax someone would pay if they earned £25,000. This is very tricky as you need to deduct the tax-free amount of £12,570 first!



## KS1 follow-up ideas

### Option 1

Think about the different jobs on resource 1. Make a class list of all the different jobs you can think of. Discuss each one and share your ideas. Can they be sorted into groups? What job would you like to do in the future? Think about the following questions to help you:

- Would you prefer working indoors or outdoors?
- Is it important for you to earn a lot of money?
- Will you need to go to university?
- Would you prefer to work alone, or with other people, animals or children?

After sharing your ideas with a partner, write some sentences or a short paragraph to describe your dream job. You could even go to the library or research online to find more information.

### Option 2

How do we pay for things? Explore a range of money (either real or play coins and notes). What are the values of the different coins?

- Make posters for a display by placing the coins under your paper and using the side of a crayon to reveal the coin below. Then label it with the correct value.

**Challenge** – ask your teacher to set an amount (e.g., £5.69). Can you make this with a partner? Did everyone make it in the same way? Look at the different ways of making the same amount. Try some different amounts.



## This week's useful websites

### This week's news story

[www.cnb.com/2024/01/22/world-will-have-its-first-trillionaire-within-a-decade-report-finds.html](http://www.cnb.com/2024/01/22/world-will-have-its-first-trillionaire-within-a-decade-report-finds.html)

### This week's useful video

An overview of wealth inequality  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VLDMPg5op28/>

### This week's Virtual Picture News

[www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss)

## This week's vocabulary

### Corporation

A large company or business with its own legal powers. Seven of the ten biggest **corporations** in the world have a billionaire as their CEO.

### Duty

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### Eradicate

To destroy or get rid of something bad. ...poverty may not be **eradicated** for another nearly 230 years.

### Pledge

A serious or formal promise. Bill Gates and Warren Buffett have a 'Giving **Pledge**', which asks the very wealthy to give "at least 50% of their wealth to charity".

### Redistribute

To share something out differently from before, often in a fairer way. Atossa Abrahamian suggests ...**redistributing** that money to those who need it most would make countries fairer and more even.

### Tackle

To deal with a task or problem in a determined and organised way. Do you think more should be done to **tackle** the issue?



## Glitter for Lunch?

If you are visiting Blackpool Zoo at the moment, you may see something rather surprising in the elephant enclosure – glittery poo! This is because keepers at the zoo are putting glitter into the food of the female elephants in order to be able to tell which poo belongs to who. Asian elephants are currently on the ‘endangered’ list,

meaning these animals are at a very high risk of extinction in the wild. Keepers at the zoo will collect the glittery poo twice a week and send it to a research laboratory at Chester Zoo for testing. The aim is to find out if any of the female elephants are pregnant. The elephants can then be suitably cared for in the hope of increasing their numbers.



**Pictured:** Endangered Asian elephant. **Source:** Canva.



**Pictured:** Chess pieces. **Source:** Canva.

## Checkmate!

8-year-old Ashwath Kaushik, who was born in India and now lives in Singapore, has made history by becoming the youngest-ever chess player to defeat a grandmaster in classical chess. Grandmaster

(GM) is the highest title of any chess player.

The young player began learning to play chess at just four years old! He practises every day after school and spends weekends finessing his game. When asked about his performance at the tournament in Switzerland, Kaushik said. ‘It felt really exciting and amazing, I felt proud of my game’. Kaushik came 12<sup>th</sup> in the tournament overall and says his dream is to one day become a world champion in chess.

## Should mobile phones be banned in all classrooms?



*I think phones can be distracting in school but taking them off pupils could be too complicated.*

**Monika**

Let us know what you think about this week’s news.



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## Back to Earth with a Splash!

NASA's SpaceX Crew-7 has safely landed back on Earth. The team has returned from six months of science and discovery aboard the International Space Station (ISS). The crew, from four different countries, splashed down in their Dragon spacecraft off the coast of Pensacola, Florida, USA. Whilst they were on the ISS for 199 days, Jasmin Moghbeli (USA), Andreas Mogensen (Denmark), Satoshi Furukawa (Japan) and Konstantin Borisov (Russia) completed 3,184 orbits around Earth!

NASA Administrator, Bill Nelson, spoke of the successful mission saying, 'After more than six months aboard the International Space Station, NASA's SpaceX Crew-7 has safely returned home. This international crew showed that space unites us all. It's clear that we can do more – we can learn more – when we work together. The science experiments conducted during their time in space will help prepare for NASA's bold missions at the Moon, Mars, and beyond, all while benefitting humanity here on Earth.'

**How do you think it would feel to return home after six months in space?**

**What do you think you would miss if you were away from Earth for that long?**



**Pictured:** NASA's SpaceX Crew-7 - Borisov, Mogensen, Moghbeli and Furukawa, shortly after landing. **Source:** NASA X page.

## Solo Sailing

Cole Brauer, from New York, has become the first US woman to sail solo around the world! She was the only woman competing in one of the most extreme sailing events in the world, the Global Solo Challenge. The Global Solo Challenge is a unique sailing race that starts from A Coruña, Spain, and takes participants on a single-handed, non-stop circumnavigation across the globe. Captaining her 40-foot vessel, 'First Light', Brauer crossed three oceans. The 29-year-old travelled 30,000 miles on a journey that took 130 days and finished second in the race. Talking about the challenges of sailing alone, Cole said, 'Solo sailors, you have to be able to do everything. You need to be able to take care of yourself. You need to be able to get up, even when you're so exhausted. And you have to be able to fix everything on the boat.' She also commented on what inspires her to be determined



**Pictured:** Cole Brauer becomes the first US female to sail solo non-stop around the world. **Source:** Global Solo Challenge @marconannini X page.

saying, 'I push so much harder when someone's like, 'no, you can't do that,' or 'you're too small. It would be amazing if there was just one other girl that saw me and said 'Oh, I can do that, too.' **Have you ever been sailing or on a boat? Would you like to?**

### Should mobile phones be banned in all classrooms?



*I don't think that mobiles phones should be banned, people just need to be sensible and use them sensibly!*  
**Nikolas**

Let us know what you think about this week's news.



[picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://picture-news.co.uk/discuss)



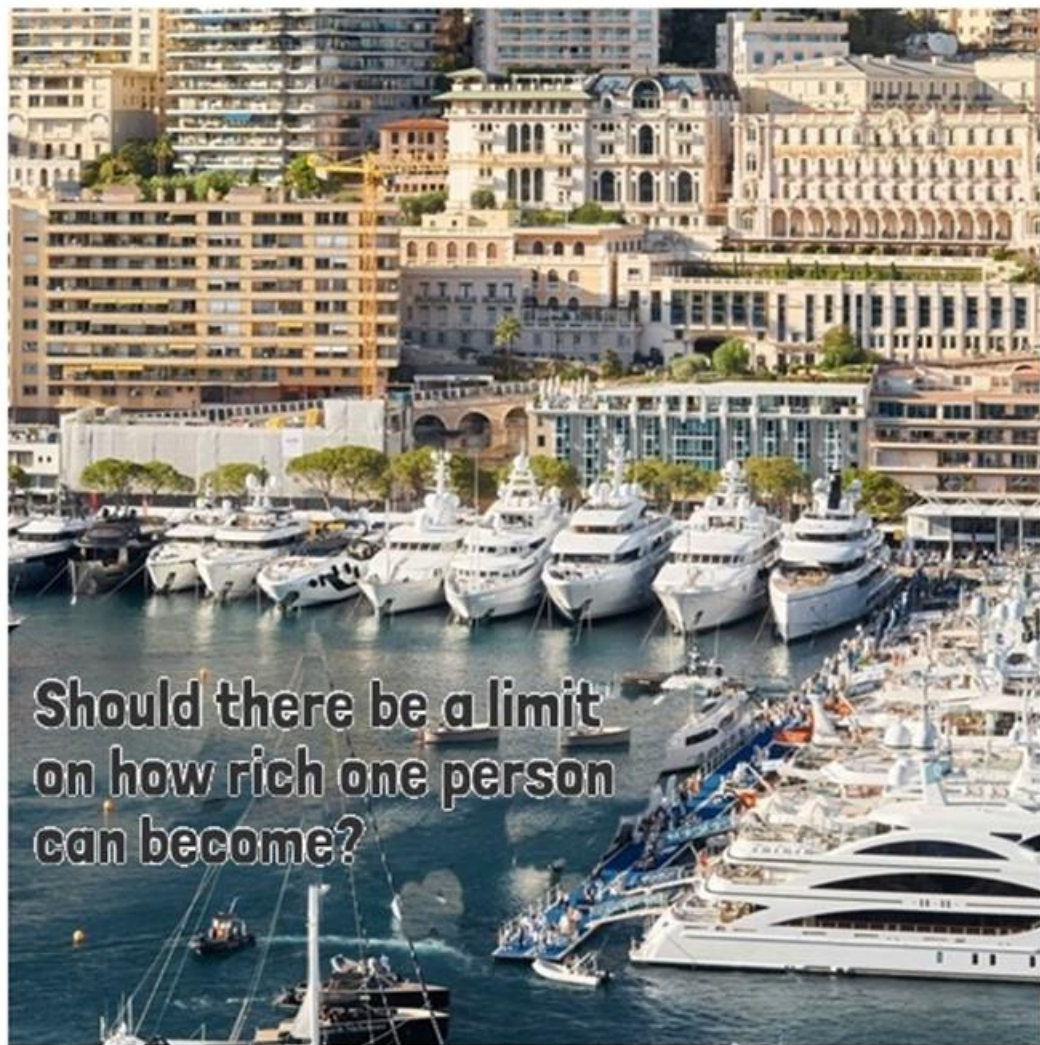
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# TAKEHOME



Should there be a limit on how rich one person can become?

## In the news this week

Poverty-fighting charity, Oxfam, recently released a new report on inequality and global corporate power. It found that the world's five richest people have more than doubled their fortunes from a combined total of £321 billion to £688 billion since 2020. The wealth of the poorest 60% (nearly five billion people) has fallen. If this trend continues, the world will have its first trillionaire within 10 years, whilst poverty may not be eradicated for another nearly 230 years.

### Things to talk about at home ...

- Share your thoughts on this week's story. Are you surprised to learn that there will likely be a trillionaire within ten years?
- Can you name any billionaires? Do you know how they acquired their money?
- Do you think more should be done e.g., by governments, to reduce the gap between the world's richest and poorest people?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

[www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss)

