

Donald Trump's first 100 days

A transformative presidency



The White House
@WhiteHouse

"CONGESTION PRICING IS DEAD. Manhattan, and all of New York
SAVED. LONG LIVE THE KING!"
—President Donald J. Trump

[Traduire le post](#)



8:31 PM · 19 févr. 2025 · 39,1 M vues



Barry Blitt' A beacon extinguished.

Who's who in the White House?





Vice President JD Vance



Speaker Mike Johnson



Secretary of Sate - Marco Rubio



Secretary of Homeland Security Kristi Noem



Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent



Secretary of Commerce Howard Lutnick



Attorney General Pam Bondi



Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth



Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr.



Education secretary Linda McMahon



Chief of Staff Susie Wiles



Deputy Chief of Staff Stephen Miller



White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt



De facto leader of the White House DOGE office Elon Musk



Director of the Office of Management and Budget Russell Vought



White House Executive Associate Director of Enforcement and Removal Operations Tom Homan



Peter Navarro - Senior Counselor to the President for Trade and Manufacturing



Laura Loomer ?

Loomer doesn't have an official job in the Trump administration, and the president has denied that she had anything to do with the NSC firings. But she is one of the president's confidantes, and she has come to exercise a significant amount of influence over the White House. Lots of people in Trump's inner circle have unlikely backgrounds (defense secretaries are not usually hired straight from Fox News), but Loomer's is probably the least likely of them all.

Laura Loomer Is a Warning

No one else with direct access to the president has been as outwardly bigoted.

By Ali Breland *The Atlantic*, April 5 2025

This week, Loomer—a far-right provocateur who has described herself as “pro-white nationalism” and Islam as a “cancer on humanity”—met with Donald Trump in the Oval Office. After she reportedly railed against National Security Council officials she believed were disloyal to the president, the White House fired six NSC staff members the next day. More firings could be on their way: Yesterday, a person close to the administration told my colleague Michael Scherer that “Loomer has been asked to put together a list of people at State who are not MAGA loyalists

What has been done?

AND WHAT THEORIES / IDEOLOGES /VISIONS
LIE BEHIND?



How President Trump's
second term is changing...

EXECUTIVE POWER



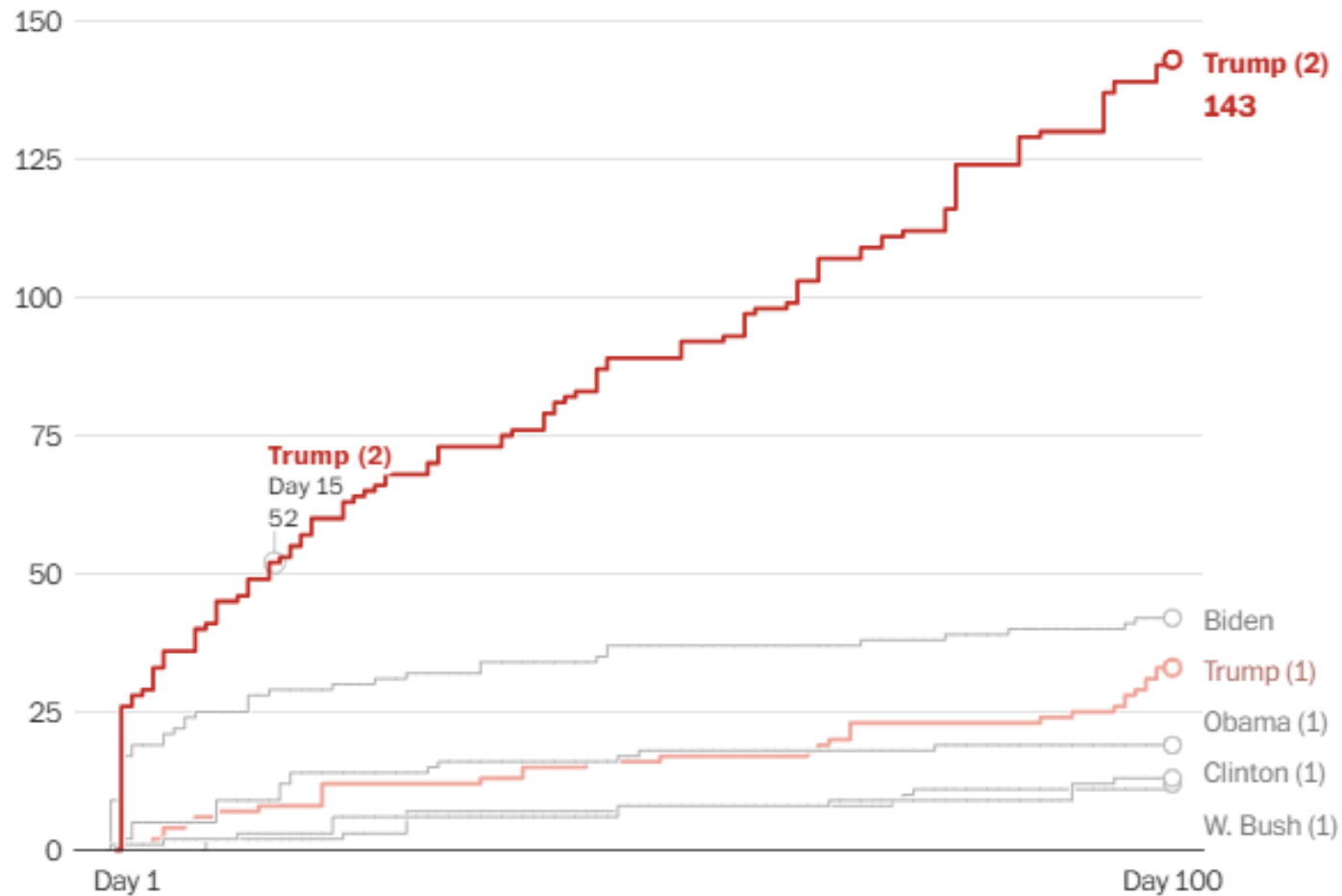
President Trump signs a second executive order during the inaugural parade inside Capital One Arena in Washington, on Jan. 20, 2025. (Reuters/Carlos Barria)



Trump's Maximalist Assertion of Presidential Power Tests the Rule of Law

The United States has never seen an effort to expand presidential authority at the scale of Donald J. Trump's second term.

Number of executive orders signed

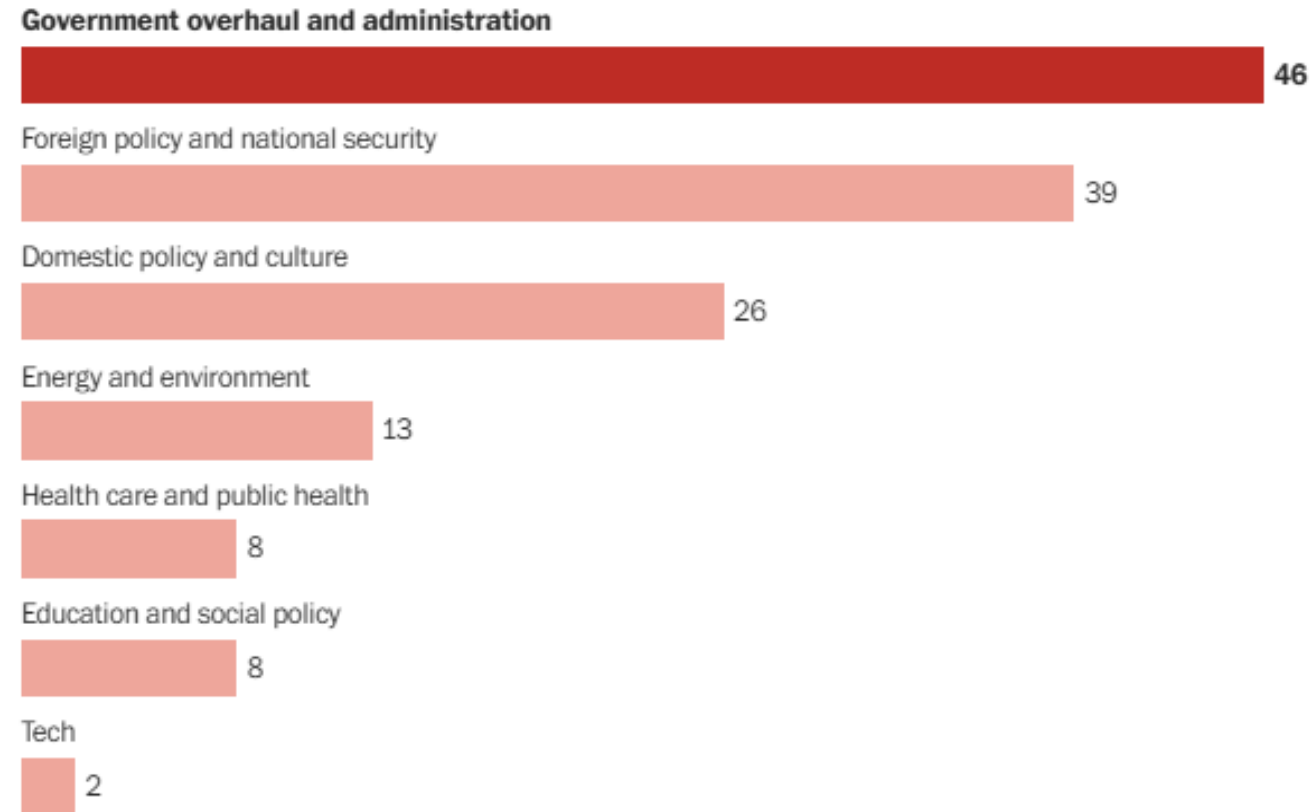


Source: [Federal Register](#)

Trump is using executive orders much more than other presidents.

Trump signed more than 140 executive orders as of Monday, far more than any American president in the same period. He is rapidly approaching the number that Barack Obama signed in his entire first term.

Those orders have been aimed at the federal bureaucracy, among other targets.



The executive ignoring the rule of law? Institutional crisis ahead?

A battle looms over rule of law as some courts start to flex their muscles against Trump

Sam Levine, The Guardian, Wed 23 Apr 2025

Whether federal courts can force Trump to comply with their orders is an essential question for US democracy

The US supreme court and other federal courts have begun flexing their muscles to push back on Donald Trump's efforts to defy judicial orders, escalating a hugely consequential battle over the rule of law.

The supreme court issued a significant order early Saturday morning blocking the federal government from removing people from the United States who had been detained in northern Texas. Separately, US district Judge James Boasberg has found probable cause to hold the government in contempt for defying his orders to halt deportations.

In another case, the US district Judge Paula Xinis has forced the government to provide daily updates in its efforts to comply with court orders to "facilitate" the return of Kilmar Ábrego García – the man who was wrongly deported to El Salvador.

It is a dynamic that underscores how a constitutional crisis between Trump and the courts is likely to be a push and pull between the government and judges that is simmering through the legal system and could very well break it.

The executive ignoring the rule of law? Institutional crisis ahead?

Injunction Dysfunction Is a Threat to Our System

By Andrew C. McCarthy

The National Review,
April 17, 2025

Nationwide injunctions — or perhaps, as Justice Neil Gorsuch has acidly observed, we should call them “universal” or even “cosmic” injunctions — are a distortion of our constitutional order. Alas, they are proliferating because of other, more deeply seated distortions.

A nationwide injunction occurs when a single unelected judge, seated in just one of 94 federal districts throughout the nation — say, the District of Hawaii, home to just 0.1 percent of our population — issues a ruling that binds the entire country, forbidding the government (most often, the president through subordinate executive agencies) from executing a policy, regulation, or statutory interpretation.

By issuing nationwide injunctions, however, judges effectively make policy by nullifying the policy choices of the elected administration. This does not stop at settling the rights of the parties to the lawsuit; it saddles others similarly situated, and frequently the entire country and its government, for as long as the injunction is in place. As litigation goes, that can be months and sometimes more than a year.

That said, in his fledgling second term, Trump has been purposely edgy, strategically violating laws in the hope of getting the current Supreme Court (with six Republican appointees, three chosen by Trump) to invalidate dubious limitations on presidential power and reverse precedents that are foundational to the administrative state — such as *Humphrey’s Executor*, which approved Congress’s creation of “independent” agencies insulated from executive control.

The White House deputy chief of staff, Stephen Miller, has the most influence over legal vetting of Mr. Trump's actions.



Stephen Miller ✓ @StephenM · 20 mars

Under what theory of the constitution does a single marxist judge in San Francisco have the same executive power as the Commander-in-Chief elected by the whole nation to lead the executive branch?

No such theory exists. It is merely naked judicial tyranny.

6 k

20 k

78 k

2 M



Stephen Miller ✓ @StephenM · 20 janv.

All illegal aliens seeking entry into the United States should turn back now. Anyone entering the United States without authorization faces prosecution and expulsion.

2 k

13 k

76 k

5 M



Stephen Miller ✓ @StephenM · 29 mars

There are 677 local district judges.

Under current procedure, the president needs unanimous consent from all 677 to implement a major decision.

If just 1 communist out of 677 unelected judges disagrees, the action is frozen. Nationwide.

That is not democracy.

That is tyranny.

6 k

22 k

78 k

38 M



Stephen Miller ✓ @StephenM · 19 mars

Currently, district court judges have assumed the mantle of Secretary of Defense, Secretary of State, Secretary of Homeland Security and Commander-in-Chief. Each day, they change the foreign policy, economic, staffing and national security policies of the Administration. Each day the nation arises to see what the craziest unelected local federal judge has decided the policies of the government of the United States shall be. It is madness. It is lunacy. It is pure lawlessness. It is the gravest assault on democracy. It must and will end.

How President Trump's second term is changing...

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
AND CIVIL SERVICE



Cutting federal budgets

Shutting down agencies

<https://www.appropriations.senate.gov/trumps-funding-freeze>



Cutting federal
budgets

Shutting down
agencies

The Battle over USAID



Cutting federal
budgets

Shutting down
agencies

The Battle over USAID

Why? Trump and Musk have framed the US Agency for International Development (USAID) as unnecessary at best, and financially fraudulent at worst. The Trump administration said it will cut 90% of USAID contracts.

Opposition: Critics say friendly foreign governments and global perception of the U.S. will suffer. CNN (Lean Left) describes the USAID as “a key soft power tool of the US to foster relations with communities around the world.” As of Feb. 10, a judge had blocked the plan to put thousands of USAID workers on leave.

The Latest: A group of House Democrats introduced legislation on Feb. 11 to stop the Trump administration from breaking up the agency. On Mar. 5, a judge unfroze \$2 billion in USAID aid in a loss for DOGE's efforts. On Mar. 10, Secretary of State Marco Rubio announced that 83% of USAID programs had been canceled. On Mar. 18, a federal judge ruled that USAID's dismantling likely violated the constitution.

Cutting federal
budgets

Shutting down
agencies

Most directly felt impact

☐ **Federal Emergency Management Agency**

Cf video

☐ **Department of Veterans Affairs**

☐ **Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB)**

☐ **Department of Education (cf File)**

☐ **National Institutes of Health**

☐ **HUD Department of Housing and Urban
Development**

Cutting federal budgets



DOGE

The Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) have been tasked with "modernizing federal technology and software to maximize governmental efficiency and productivity".

Elon Musk and a network of operatives have taken control of information systems to terminate contracts, facilitate layoffs, and shut down federal agencies. Mass layoffs of federal workers followed. Many public records were modified or removed from federal websites and databases. These actions have fostered a response by federal workers, civil society, and the public.

DOGE has terminated contracts for climate change initiatives, diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), environmental, health, and safety protections, consumer protections, international aid, science research, whistleblower protections, and government oversight.

A good overview here:

<https://edition.cnn.com/2025/04/26/politics/federal-layoffs-trump-musk-dg>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kaNweybz-Zc&ab_channel=TheWallStreetJournal

DOGE

How Musk Is
Bringing His Twitter
Takeover Playbook
to DOGE | WSJ



How President Trump's
second term is changing...

FOREIGN POLICY

PRICE \$9.99

APRIL 21, 2025

THE NEW YORKER



VIVA

Today's WorldView

Trump hates 'globalism.' But he seems to like imperialism.

Ahead of his second term, an emboldened Trump has articulated a vision of hemispheric expansionism. What's he playing at?

January 10, 2025

Trump's tariffs make the 'post-American world' a reality

President Donald Trump and right-wing Republicans have accelerated the arrival of a "post-American world," surpassing any vision of past anti-globalization activists.

April 9, 2025

Trump and the end of the geopolitical 'West'

Donald Trump and JD Vance may delight in shocking Europe, but their counterparts across the pond are coming to terms with the collapse of a united West.

March 2, 2025

End of liberal international order (LIO)

Aka
rules-based order
(RBO)

- an “open and rule-based international order” that is “enshrined in **institutions** such as the United Nations and norms such as **multilateralism**.
- describes a set of global, **rule-based**, structured relationships based on **political liberalism**, **economic liberalism** and **liberal internationalism** since the late 1940s.
- it entails international **cooperation** through multilateral **institutions** (like the United Nations, World Trade Organization and International Monetary Fund)
- is constituted by **human equality (freedom, rule of law and human rights)**, **open markets**, **security cooperation**, **promotion of liberal democracy**, and **monetary cooperation**.
- The order was established in the aftermath of World War II, led in large part by the United States.

Imperialism

GREENLAND

PANAMA CANAL

CANADA

GULF OF MEXICO

Ahead of his second term, an emboldened Trump has not dropped his **scorn for “globalists.”** But in recent weeks, his populism has been overshadowed by something else: a newfangled 21st century **imperialism.**

Much to the bemusement of U.S. allies, Trump has articulated **a vision of hemispheric expansionism.** He called for the U.S.'s **acquisition of Greenland,** an autonomous Danish territory. He has repeatedly suggested **Canada should become the U.S.'s 51st state.** He raised forcefully **retaking control of the Panama Canal,** complaining about fees for passage and Chinese influence over the strategic waterway. In perhaps the mildest provocation of the bunch, he said the **Gulf of Mexico should be renamed the Gulf of America.**

Imperialism

GREENLAND

PANAMA CANAL

CANADA

GULF OF MEXICO

Greenland? Canada? The Canal? The Mystery Behind Manifest Destiny

By David E. Sanger, *The New York Times*

Walk into the Oval Office these days and there is an unfamiliar visage on the wall, just above the gold-enhanced mantel: James K. Polk. For those with only vague memories of high school American history, his appearance is no accident. It was Polk, the 11th president, who seized Texas and much of the Southwest and pushed America's borders to the Pacific.

He was, in short, the hero of manifest destiny, a phrase President Trump revived for his inaugural address. When visitors come to the White House now, Mr. Trump, not known for his intense study of his 19th-century predecessors, notes that Polk "got a lot of land."

Which helps explain Mr. Trump's fascination with acquiring Greenland, retaking the Panama Canal and turning Canada into the 51st state.



Associated Press says it was barred from Oval Office over use of 'Gulf of Mexico'

Trump renamed the body of water the 'Gulf of America' via executive order on his first day in office
Fox News

So what's Trump playing at?

For Trump, talk of annexation and expansion is **part of his brand of populism**. *“It makes America dream again, that we’re not just this sad, low-testosterone, beta male slouching in our chair, allowing the world to run over us,”* Charlie Kirk, a far-right influencer who accompanied Donald Trump Jr. on his trip to Greenland, said in a recent podcast. *“It is the resurrection of masculine American energy. It is the **return of Manifest Destiny**.”*

Some analysts have offered a less metaphoric interpretation of Trump’s recent moves. **John Bolton**, Trump’s former national security adviser turned vocal critic, told the Associated Press that **Trump’s strategy is “transactional, ad hoc, episodic** and really viewed from the prism of how it helps Donald Trump.” Analysts have long mused over the efficacy of Trump’s “madman” approach to foreign affairs, his **hectoring of allies and frequent use of threats**.

But it’s not clear what he stands to gain from this latest episode.

How President Trump's
second term is changing...

CULTURE

Jason Stanley, professeur à Yale : « Les piliers de la démocratie sont les écoles, les universités, les médias et le système judiciaire. Ils sont tous attaqués »

Dans un entretien au « Monde », le professeur de philosophie américain explique pourquoi il a décidé de s'exiler au Canada. Il justifie ce départ par les assauts de l'administration Trump contre les campus américains, même si son université a été jusqu'ici relativement épargnée.

Propos recueillis par Piotr Smolar (Washington, correspondant)

Le Monde 2 mai 2025

Culture – History Museums

Trump targets 'anti-American ideology' at Smithsonian museums

US President Donald Trump has signed an executive order targeting the Smithsonian Institution, which operates more than 20 museums and research centres visited by millions yearly in Washington DC and New York City.

Donald Trump veut prendre le contrôle d'institutions culturelles pour restaurer la « vérité dans l'histoire américaine »

Le Monde 28 mars 2025

What's Driving Trump's Attack on Museums

An ousted museum director from Poland explains why museums are on the “front lines” when populists take power.
POLITICO

Culture – Education

**“Universities are the enemy.
Professors are the enemies”**

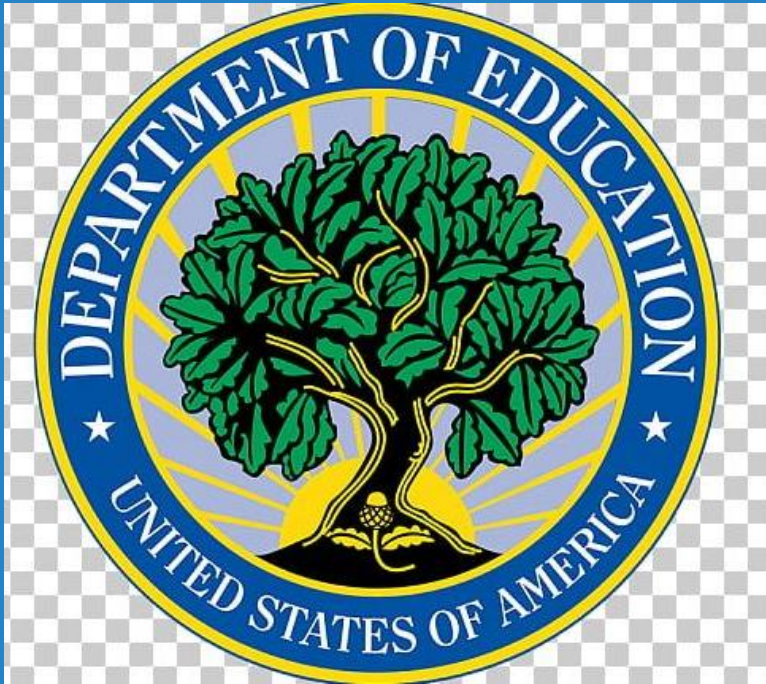
J.D. Vance

Trump Targets K-12

We explain why the president is taking on public schools, and how officials are responding.

**Democrats Want to Raise Your Kids. Republicans
Fight for Parental Rights | Opinion
By Ronna McDaniel
Chair, Republican National Committee.**

Explained: Why does Trump want to shut down US education department?



❑ Trump's long-standing promise

Trump has long promised to eliminate the department, calling it part of a bloated federal bureaucracy. "And one other thing I'll be doing very early in the administration is closing up the Department of Education," he said in September 2023.

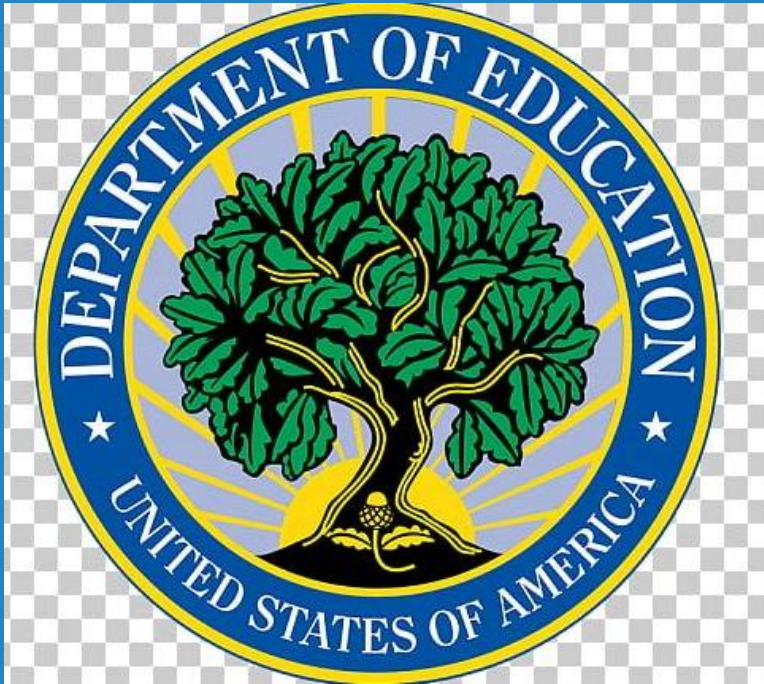
❑ Fighting 'wokeness' in schools

Trump and his supporters argue that public education is being overtaken by a "radical woke agenda," including diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives, and policies supporting transgender students.

Trump has vowed to end what he calls "critical race theory and transgender insanity" in schools. His executive order will reportedly ban any Education Department funding for DEI or "gender ideology" programs.

White House spokesman Harrison Fields said the order "will empower parents, states and communities to take control and improve outcomes for all students." But critics say the plan could do just the opposite.

Explained: Why does Trump want to shut down US education department?



❑ Claims of Marxist indoctrination

Some Trump supporters go further, claiming public education is part of a larger Marxist plot to indoctrinate students. Trump has issued orders aimed at combating what he calls “Radical Indoctrination in K-12 Schools” and “campus anti-Semitism”.

These moves mirror the Heritage Foundation’s Project 2025, a policy blueprint for a future Trump administration that details steps to dismantle the Education Department.

❑ School choice and parental rights

Trump’s focus on ‘parental rights’ is another key reason for the push. His administration supports school vouchers and Education Savings Accounts, allowing parents to use public funds for private or religious schools, or home-schooling. Critics argue this would weaken public schools by diverting resources away from them

❑ Cutting red tape and shrinking the government

How President Trump's
second term is changing...

THE PRESS

The Media

Trump Signs Executive Order Seeking to End Federal Funding for NPR and PBS

The New York Times, May 2, 2025

Perfect storm of tech bros, foreign interference and disinformation is an urgent threat to press freedom

The Conversation, May 2, 2025

Donald Trump deploys new tactics to manage the media

The Economist, March 6, 2025



U.S. AGENCY FOR
GLOBAL MEDIA

Le rétablissement du média Voice of America, que Donald Trump veut démanteler, ordonné par la justice

Le juge Royce Lamberth a ordonné la réintégration des employés de l'USAGM et la reprise des subventions, critiquant l'absence de preuves des dérives alléguées par l'administration Trump.

Le Monde 23 avril 2025

How President Trump's
second term is changing...

THE ECONOMY

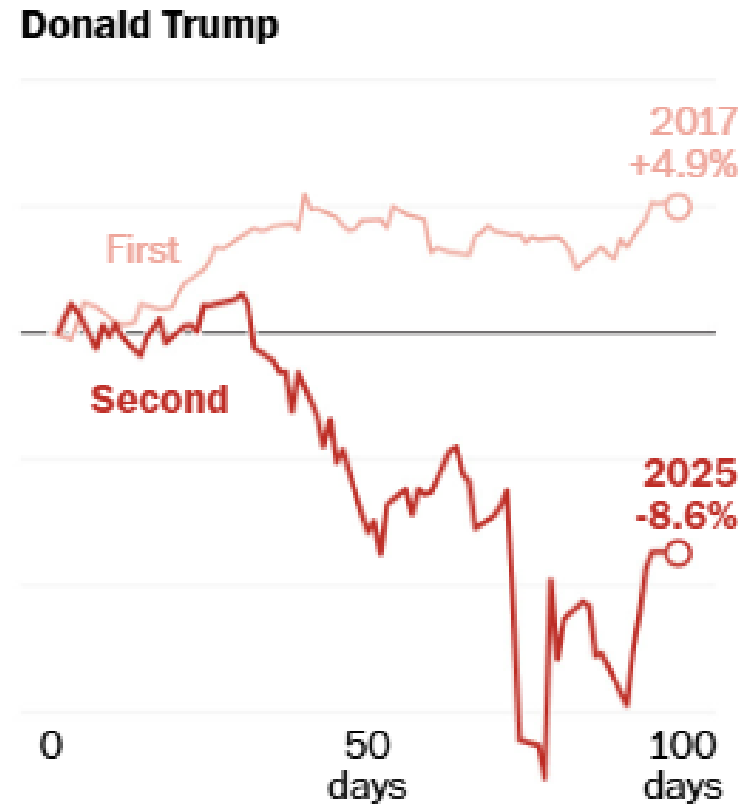
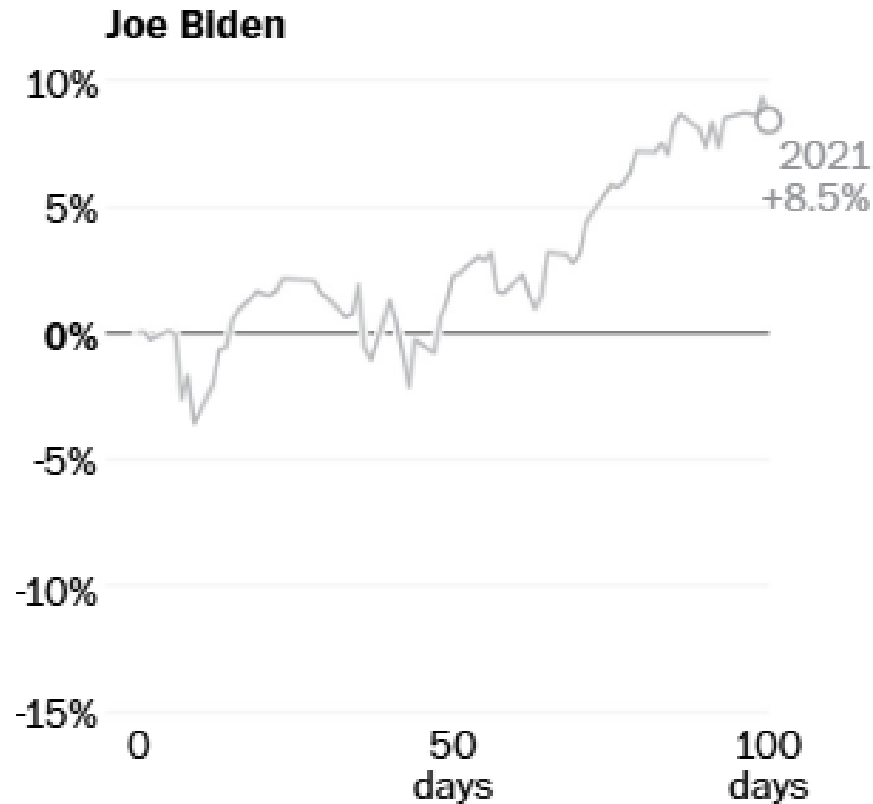
Liberation Day



"April 2nd, 2025, will forever be remembered as the day American industry was reborn," Trump said in remarks from the Rose Garden. "In a few moments, I will sign a historic executive order instituting reciprocal tariffs around the world. Reciprocal — that means, they do it to us, and we do it to them. Very simple, can't get any simpler than that."

"This is one of the most important days, in my opinion, in American history. It's our declaration of economic independence. For years, hardworking American citizens were forced to sit on the sidelines as other nations got rich and powerful, much of it at our expense," Trump said. "But now it's our turn to prosper, and in so doing, use trillions and trillions of dollars to reduce our taxes and pay down our national debt, and it'll all happen very quickly."

The markets are reeling from his « Liberation Day » tariffs



Note: S&P 500 data for Trump's current term as of Monday.

Source: Bloomberg

Tariff Truce With China Demonstrates the Limits of Trump's Aggression

President Trump's triple-digit tariffs on Chinese products disrupted global trade — but haven't appeared to result in major concessions from Beijing.

The
Economist

Trump's "Liberation Day" is set to whack America's economy

A rush of new tariffs will hurt growth, raise prices and worsen inequality

WSJ

Trump's New Protectionist Age

Blowing up the world trading system has consequences that the President isn't advertising.

EVEN HIS most ardent detractors would grant that Donald Trump is a masterful marketer. So it goes for the barrage of tariffs that he is set to unveil on April 2nd. The president has promised they will mark “Liberation Day” for America—a turning-point when the country starts to claw back the respect and money that, he thinks, it has lost over the decades.

In practice there will be nothing liberating about it. Over the two months since returning to the White House, Mr Trump will have brought America’s overall tariff level to its highest since the second world war, setting the country up for slower economic growth, higher inflation, more inequality and, quite possibly, fiscal trouble.

May 12

Trade Talks with China

President Trump made big promises with his China tariffs: China needs us more than we need it. America can outlast China in a trade war. Those advantages will let the administration get big concessions and rebalance global commerce.

Trump's actions, however, suggest **the talk was bluster**. Yesterday, his administration cut its China tariffs from 145 percent to 30 percent for at least a few months. China will reciprocate by lowering its retaliatory levies from 125 percent to 10 percent. Both sides will keep talking.

The Morning Newsletter, May 13 2025

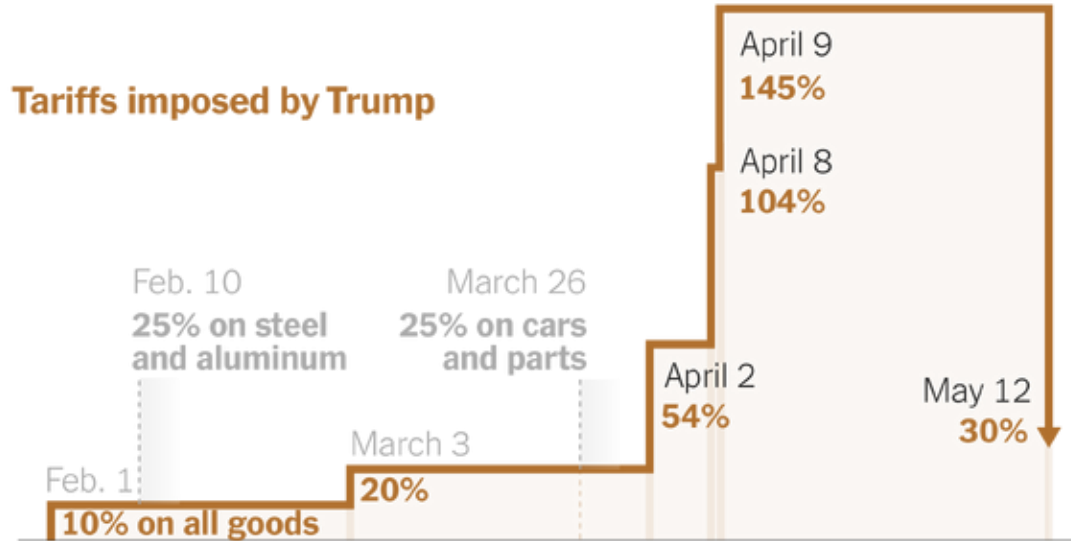
May 12

Trade Talks with China

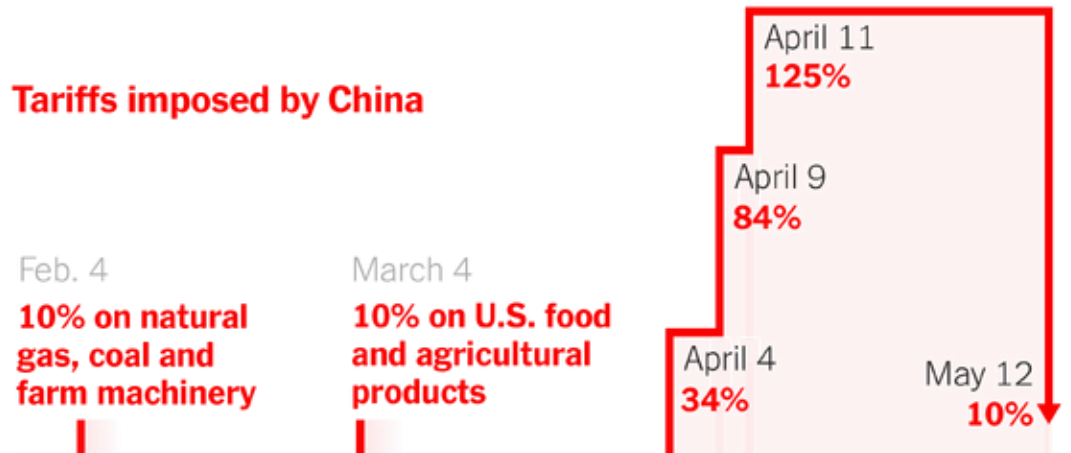
Temporarily Reduced Tariffs

Weeks of tit-for-tat moves between the U.S. and China.

Tariffs imposed by Trump



Tariffs imposed by China



May 12

Trade Talks with China

But China made no concessions. By now, most of us are familiar with this pattern: Trump makes big claims about what his tariffs can get, only for him to later back down without the other country giving up anything meaningful. It happened with Mexico, Canada and most of Trump's "Liberation Day" levies. Despite his claims, America seems to need other countries' trade as much as they need ours, diminishing Trump's negotiating position. Today's newsletter explains.

Here's the problem: Trade is mutually beneficial. The buyer gets a good, and the seller makes a profit. The United States runs a trade deficit with China — it buys more than it sells — because Americans have the cash and want what China is selling.

Trump's tariffs on China were so high that they were effectively an embargo that threatened to end all of those mutually beneficial transactions. That would cover a lot of goods — more than 70 percent of smartphones, laptops and toys — as well as manufacturing materials, particularly rare earth metals used in modern electronics. Retailers warned that prices would rise and shelves would go empty. Markets tumbled.

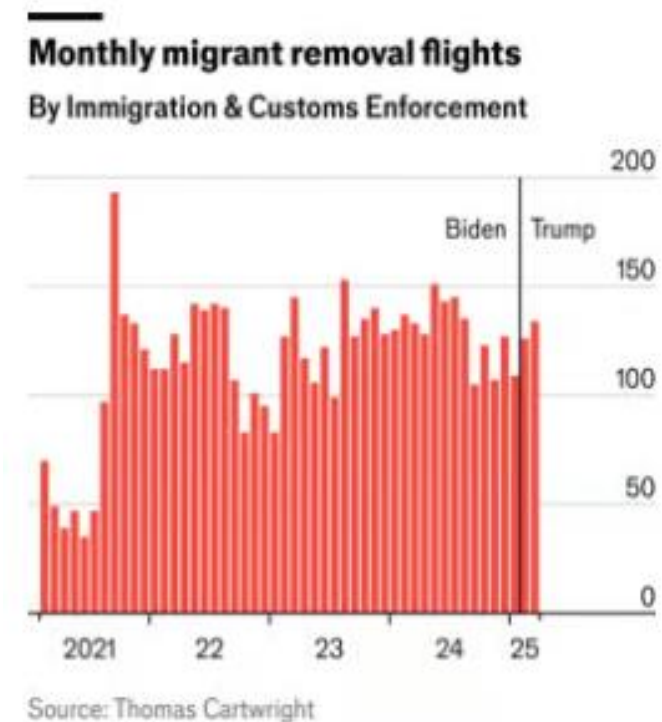
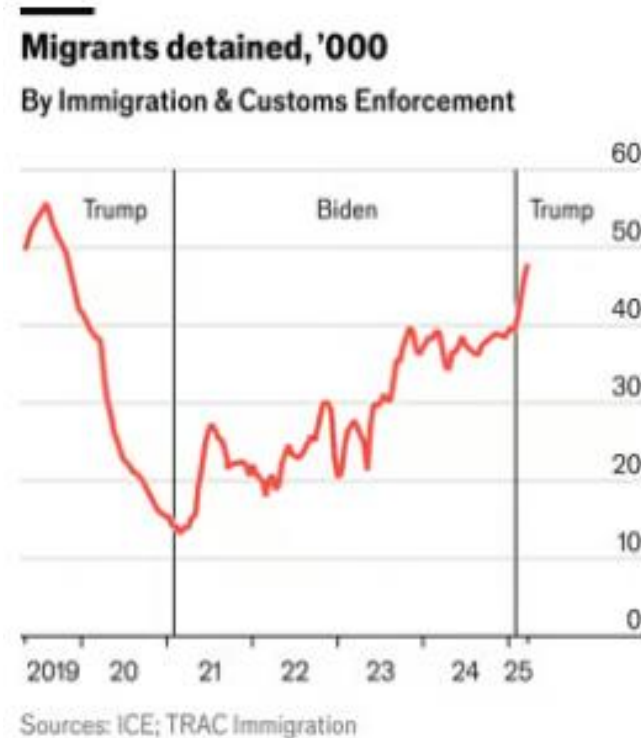
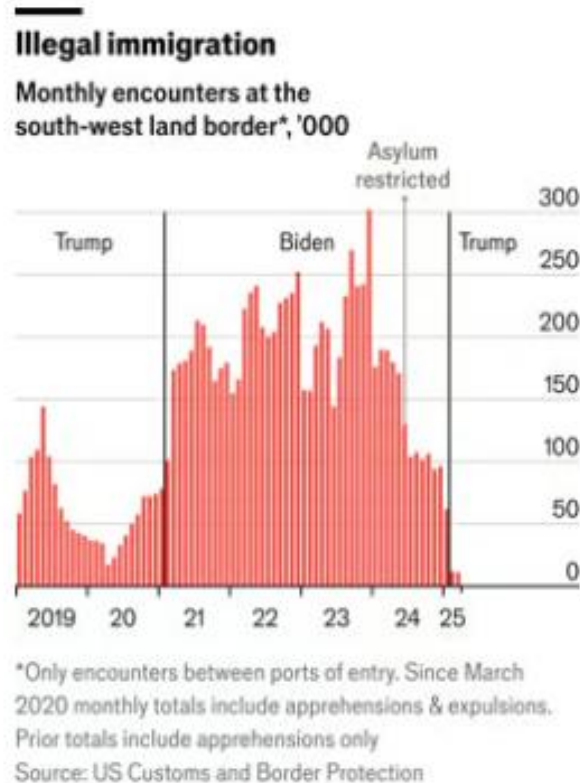
The hits to the economy weakened Trump's negotiating position, and China knew it. Americans spent the last few years fuming about inflation and supply mishaps, and they would be furious if those problems continued. And unlike previous bouts of inflation that leaders could pin on the pandemic or the Ukraine war, this time it would clearly be Trump's fault.

How President Trump's
second term is changing...

IMMIGRATION

Graphic detail | By the numbers *The Economist*
Tracking Donald Trump's immigration policy in charts

Trump's Immigration Measures Cause Fear, but No Surge in Deportations
By Hamed Aleaziz, *The New York Times*



IMMIGRATION

Here are the
top 5
immigration
changes from
Trump's first
100 days

❑ ALIEN ENEMIES ACT

Trump's use of an obscure 18th-century war powers act to expand and expedite deportations raises concerns about potential violations of the constitutional right to due process as outlined in the Fifth Amendment.

Used only three times prior since it was enacted in 1798, the Alien Enemies Act allows a president to detain or deport citizens of enemy nations, but only in the case of a "declared war" or "invasion" of the United States.

On March 15, Trump invoked the act to target alleged members of the Venezuelan gang Tren de Aragua. He claims the gang, which the U.S. labeled a terrorist group, is "conducting irregular warfare against the territory of the United States."

El Salvador Megaprison



The Trump administration claims that everyone deported to El Salvador's notorious megaprison is a member of the Venezuelan gang Tren de Aragua, but it has not provided any evidence to support that claim.

AP/El Salvador presidential press office

IMMIGRATION

Here are the top 5 immigration changes from Trump's first 100 days

MAHMOUD KHALIL

The detention of the 30-year-old, Syrian-born graduate student and pro-Palestinian activist, a green-card holder who was in the U.S. legally, has raised serious concerns about free speech rights and due process. The government is seeking to deport him for his pro-Palestinian activism on Columbia University's campus in 2024.

The Trump administration's attempt to deport Khalil has become symbolic of its broader crackdown against noncitizen students and pro-Palestinian campus protesters. The administration has revoked visas for hundreds of them.

Secretary of State Marco Rubio told reporters in March, "We're looking every day for these lunatics that are tearing things up," adding, "I think it's crazy to invite students into your country that are coming onto your campus and destabilizing it."

IMMIGRATION

Here are the top 5 immigration changes from Trump's first 100 days

KILMAR ABREGO GARCIA

Concerns about **adequate due process** and what legal protections noncitizens are afforded are at the heart of the case of the 29-year-old Maryland man the White House concedes was mistakenly deported in March to a mega-prison in El Salvador — despite a 2019 court order barring his removal (because he was in danger of immediate death).

Abrego Garcia's case has catalyzed a growing clash between the White House and the courts.

This month, the Supreme Court sided with a district judge who'd ordered Abrego Garcia brought back to the United States. The high court ruled that the Trump administration should help "facilitate" Abrego Garcia's return.

The Trump administration has since doubled down and argued that Abrego Garcia should not be brought back because he is a gang member. The White House is banking on strong political support for deporting criminals, but a plurality of adults in the recent NPR/PBS News/Marist poll disapproved of the way the administration is handling the case, including a majority of independent voters.

IMMIGRATION

Here are the top 5 immigration changes from Trump's first 100 days

BIRTHRIGHT CITIZENSHIP

As outlined in the 14th Amendment of the Constitution and upheld after the Civil War, birthright citizenship is automatically granted to people born on U.S. soil. Trump has sought to reinterpret that "blood right" by denying citizenship to people born to parents without legal status or temporarily in the United States.

Trump signed an executive order on his first day in office to exclude from birthright citizenship the U.S.-born children of parents who are temporarily or illegally in the country. Most legal analysts called the move blatantly unconstitutional.

The 14th Amendment, which codified birthright citizenship in 1868, says: "All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States."

Trump has repeatedly maintained that there is no automatic guarantee of birthright citizenship in the Constitution. That idea is widely considered a fringe legal view. The Supreme Court ruled to the contrary 127 years ago, and that decision has never been overturned.

IMMIGRATION

Here are the top 5 immigration changes from Trump's first 100 days

❑ **ASYLUM ACCESS**

Trump's overhaul of the U.S. immigration system has caused border crossings to plummet during the first months of 2025.

The near-total ban of asylum access outlined in an executive action signed on Jan. 20 has also raised concerns about asylum-seekers in the U.S. who are now being detained and deported without due process.

❑ **One striking exception**

Dozens of white South Africans arrive in US under Trump refugee plan – BBC News

A group of 59 white South Africans has arrived in the US, where they are to be granted refugee status.

President Donald Trump has said the refugee applications for the country's Afrikaner minority had been expedited as they were victims of "racial discrimination".

The South African government said the group were not suffering any such persecution that would merit refugee status.

The Trump administration has halted all other refugee admissions, including for applicants from warzones. Human Rights Watch described the move as a cruel racial twist, saying that thousands of people - many black and Afghan refugees - had been denied refuge in the US.

How President Trump's
second term is changing...

DIVERSITY AND EQUITY

How President Trump's
second term is changing...

THE ENVIRONMENT

Trump's executive orders on climate and environment

Associated Press

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=20OI02koU4s&ab_channel=AssociatedPress

How President Trump's
second term is changing...

THE ETHICAL LINES...



How Donald Trump Jr. is cashing in on his dad's presidency

The Trump Family Crypto Business

The Administration will regulate the tokens the Trumps are selling.

By The Editorial Board [Follow](#)

May 11, 2025 4:47 pm ET

Trump Is Poised to Accept a Luxury 747 From Qatar for Use as Air Force One

The plan raises substantial ethical issues, given the immense value of the lavishly appointed plane and that Mr. Trump intends to take ownership of it after he leaves office.

In Mideast, Trump plans to focus on business deals, not geopolitics

The trip is expected to focus primarily on cementing trade ties. On the heels of Trump Organization business deals in the region, it also showcases the blurring of Trump's private business ventures with foreign policy.

Qatar is discussing donating an aircraft to the U.S. government for President Donald Trump to use temporarily, but no final agreement has been reached, according to Qatar's media attaché to the United States. The subject remains in talks between lawyers at the U.S. Defense Department and Qatar's Defense Ministry.

While the deal is not final, ethics experts are raising concerns about the possible donation from a foreign government, which they say would be unconstitutional, violating the emoluments clause, which forbids U.S. officials from accepting gifts or other things of value from foreign officials without congressional approval.

President Trump likes flying close to the sun regarding his family business, and the flight is closer than ever in his second term. Is no one advising Mr. Trump that his family's crypto plans are inviting trouble?

Mr. Trump said last month that he'll host a dinner with the top 220 holders of his \$TRUMP meme coin at his Washington, D.C.-area golf club on May 22. Step right up and invest in the Trump crypto enterprise for a chance to rub elbows with the leader of the free world. The President says all of this is above board. But it nonetheless raises the appearance of a conflict of interest in selling access to the President.

The reaction

POLLS

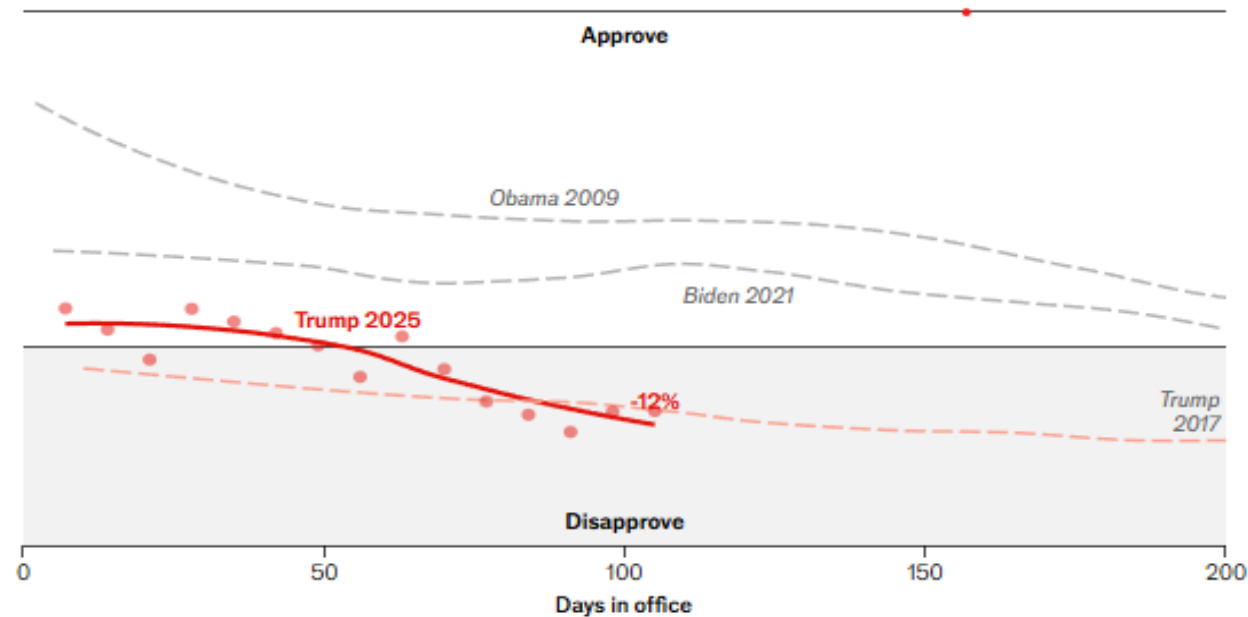
Falling Approval Rating...

How popular is Donald Trump?

Last updated on May 6th 2025

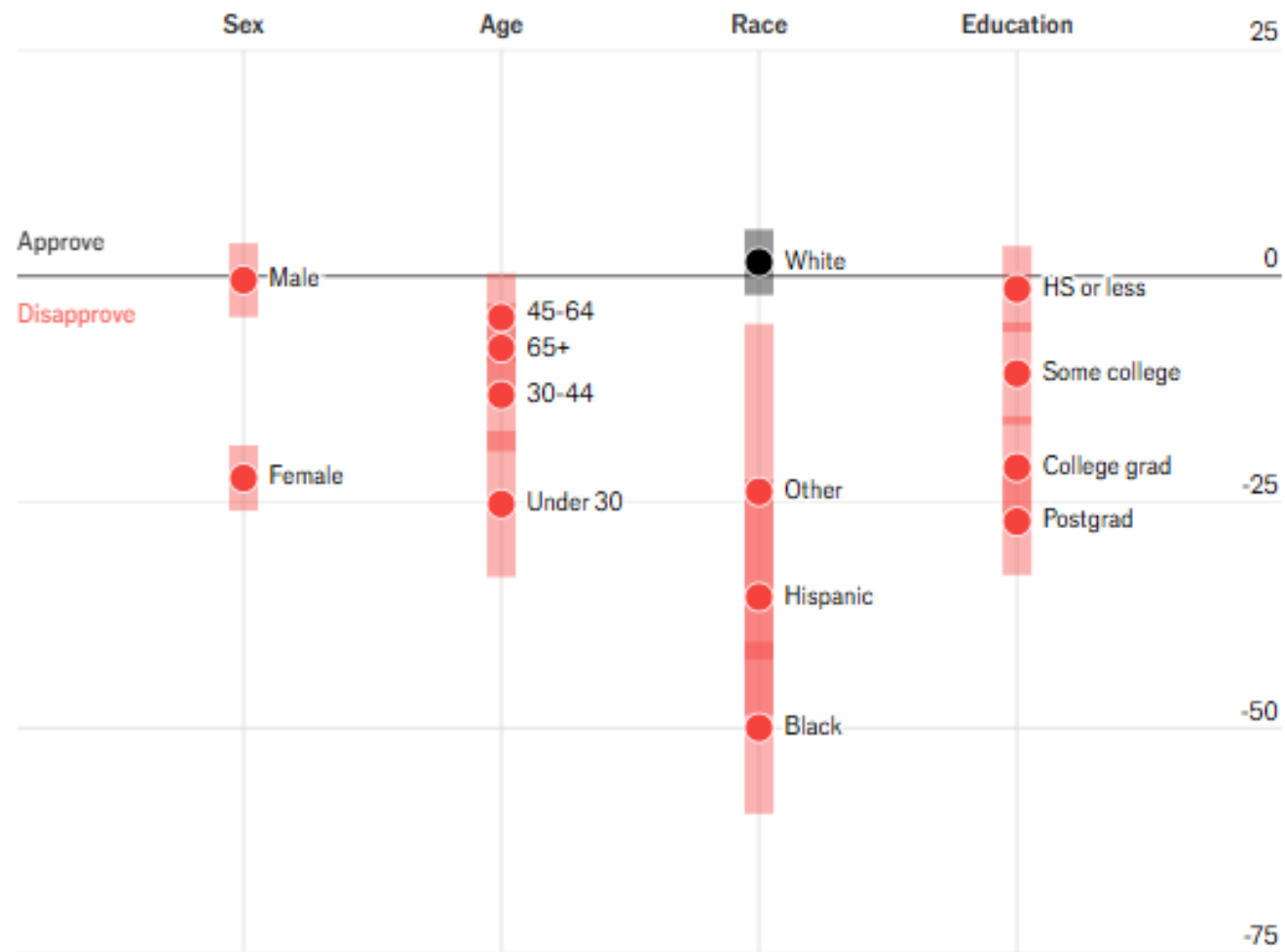
41% Approve | 53% Disapprove | 6% Don't know

Net approval rating, % points



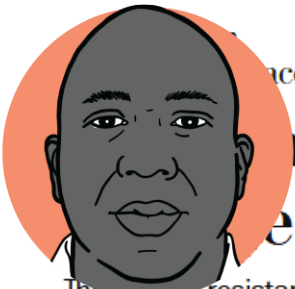
Trump's net approval rating by demographic, %

● 50% confidence interval



The reaction

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY IN CRISIS?



acon Jr.

Democrats who will save us are not the ones

The second resistance gets low marks. Civil society must step up.

May 8, 2025

CNN Poll: Democratic Party's favorability drops to a record low

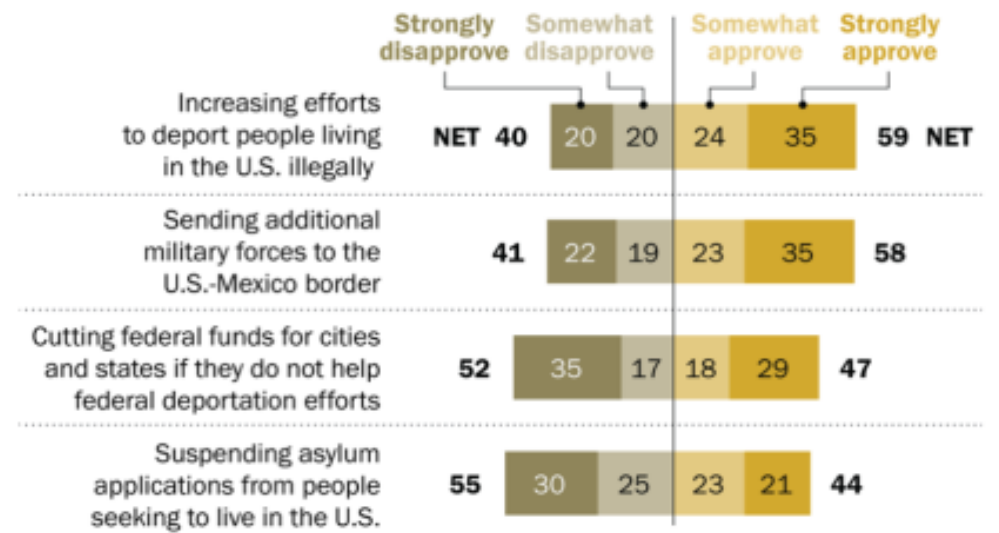


By Ariel Edwards-Levy, CNN

5 minute read · Updated 3:14 PM EDT, Sun March 16, 2025

Most Americans approve of increasing deportations, sending more U.S. troops to the Mexican border

% of U.S. adults who say they ____ of the Trump administration ...



Note: Refer to the topline for full question wording. No answer responses are not shown.
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Jan. 27-Feb. 2, 2025.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

The reaction

FROM CIVIC SOCIETY?

The Democratic Party, despite its name, has been too timid in defending the rule of law and other core ideals of U.S. government in the face of an increasingly authoritarian President Donald Trump and Republican Party. But Democratic politicians aren't the only ones falling short. There are too few people in leadership roles at churches, corporations, labor unions, news organizations, universities and other key U.S. institutions forcefully denouncing Trump's actions and organizing against him.

That's the argument of Harvard University political scientists Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt, authors of "How Democracies Die." Their book, released in 2018, likened Trump to leaders abroad who eroded democracy in their countries. It warned the same could happen in the United States and became essential reading for Trump's opponents during his first term.

The professors were also critical of Democrats. Though party leaders are patting themselves on the back because Trump's poll numbers are going down, the authors attribute the president's unpopularity to his own mistakes. And they are wary of the Democrats "just wait till the midterms" posture.

"There's this kind of overriding theory that political leaders can stand by, and as the approval numbers of the president decline, Democrats will be the lucky beneficiaries," Ziblatt said. "That theory is a reckless theory, because you can't wait around until the midterm elections. There needs to be action taken now. I blame in some sense that theory for the level of inaction."

Though the two would like to see an even bigger protest movement, they were encouraged by anti-Trump rallies held across the country last month and protests at Tesla dealerships. And they see growing signs of a fighting spirit within civil society, particularly universities starting to organize collectively.

“Anti-authoritarian forces in the United States have huge advantages relative to any other comparative case that you can think of,” Levitsky said. “We’ve got 900 billionaires in this country, 22 million millionaires, 1,700 private universities, I don’t know how many law firms that make over a billion dollars a year in revenue. We have a very wealthy private sector, a very well-organized civil society, a unified opposition party that’s well-financed.”

CBS Mornings

Bill Gates explains why he's giving away virtually all of his wealth by 2045 in "CBS Mornings" interview

May 8, 2025

Bill Gates wants to share all of his good fortune — literally.

The billionaire businessman and philanthropist revealed exclusively to "CBS Mornings" on Thursday that he will give away virtually all of his wealth over the next 20 years through the Gates Foundation. He says a total of \$200 billion will go toward causes that will help save and improve lives around the world.

"By deciding to spend all this money in the next 20 years, we can get a lot more done," Gates said in an interview taped last week, days before he announced the initiative. He's confident the money will save "tens of millions of lives."

Bill Gates warns Trump that philanthropy can't cover federal cuts
Philanthropy News Digest, March 21, 2025

The Reaction

- UNIVERSITIES – Harvard first
- Law Firms

The reaction

ELECTIONS ABROAD — THE TRUMP EFFECT?

How Trump's second term has affected elections around the world

The U.S. president and his policies have loomed large in elections in Australia, Canada, Germany, Greenland and elsewhere.

The Washington Post

May 3, 2025

Australia this weekend joined a fast-growing list: countries that held elections over which President Donald Trump's foreign policies and rhetoric loomed large.

Australia

Canada

Greenland

Germany

Romania

How Trump's
second term has
affected elections
around the world

THE 2025 AUSTRALIAN
FEDERAL ELECTION

Sat May 3rd 2025

Up for election were all **150 seats in the House of Representatives** and **40 of the 76 seats in the Senate**. The incumbent **Labor** government, led by **Anthony Albanese**, won re-election to a second consecutive term in office in a landslide victory.

Dutton, a China hawk and former detective, at times **appeared to emulate Trump**: He promised **to tackle government inefficiency if he became prime minister**, echoing Trump and Elon Musk's U.S. DOGE Service. (He's even earned the nickname "**DOGE-y Dutton**.") He also promised to slash government and school "cultural diversity and inclusion" initiatives, akin to Trump's rampage against DEI programs.

But Trump's standing in Australia plummeted with the imposition of his hefty tariffs worldwide — including a 10 percent tariff on goods from this longtime ally — and Dutton's favor fell alongside Trump's,

How Trump's second term has affected elections around the world

THE 2025 AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL ELECTION

Sat May 3rd 2025

Registered

18,098,797 ▲ 5.0% (98.2% of eligible)^[1]

Votes counted

84.9%

as of 12 May, 08:09 pm AEST



Leader

Anthony Albanese

Peter Dutton

Adam Bandt

Party

Labor

Liberal–National Coalition

Greens

Leader since

30 May 2019

30 May 2022

4 February 2020

Last election	77 seats	58 seats	4 seats
Seats before	77 ^[a]	53 ^[c]	4
Seats won	93 ^[b]	42 ^[b]	1 ^[b]
Seat change	▲ 16	▼ 16	▼ 3
Primary vote	5,032,240	4,664,886	1,720,026
Percentage	34.7%	32.1%	11.9%
Swing	▲ 2.1 pp	▼ 3.6 pp	▼ 0.4 pp

How Trump's second term has affected elections around the world

THE 2025 CANADIAN FEDERAL ELECTION



April 28 2025

- Held to elect the members of the House of Commons of the Canadian Parliament
- This was the first election to use a new 343-seat electoral map based on the 2021 census
- Key issues of the election campaign included the cost of living, housing, crime, and tariffs and threats of annexation from Donald Trump, the president of the United States.
- Trump has repeatedly threatened to make Canada the 51st state, and he announced tariffs on some of Canada's largest exports to the United States. On the morning of Canada's election day, Trump wished "good luck" to Canadians in a social media post, again saying their country should be part of the U.S.

How Trump's
second term has
affected elections
around the world

THE 2025 CANADIAN FEDERAL ELECTION

April 28 2025

Registered	28,525,638 ^[1]		
Turnout	69.5% (▲ 7.2 pp) ^[2]		
			
Leader	Mark Carney	Pierre Poilievre	Yves-François Blanchet
Party	Liberal	Conservative	Bloc Québécois
Leader since	March 9, 2025	September 10, 2022	January 17, 2019
Leader's seat	Nepean ^[a]	Carleton (lost re-election)	Belœil—Chambly
Last election	160 seats, 32.62%	119 seats, 33.74%	32 seats, 7.64%
Seats before	152	120	33
Seats won	170	143	22
Seat change	▲ 18	▲ 23	▼ 11
Popular vote	8,595,506	8,113,550	1,236,349
Percentage	43.8%	41.3%	6.3%

How Trump's
second term has
affected elections
around the world

THE 2025 CANADIAN
FEDERAL ELECTION

April 28 2025

Prime Minister Mark Carney and his Liberal Party clinched a win in April, overcoming a 20-plus point polling deficit in a comeback fueled, in part, by Trump's trade war and annexation threats looming over the country.

"As I've been warning for months," Carney said in his victory address, "America wants our land, our resources, our water, our country. These are not idle threats. President Trump is trying to break us so America can own us."

How Trump's
second term has
affected elections
around the world

THE 2025 CANADIAN
FEDERAL ELECTION

April 28 2025

Mark Carney tells Trump 'Canada will never be for sale'

Guardian News May 6 2025

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The Washington Post

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Key Issues

PERSONALITY CULT - MEGALOMANIA





Trump to mark U.S. Army's 250 th birthday, and his, with parade of 6,600 soldiers

The parade to honor veterans and the armed forces happens to fall on the same day as the president's 79th birthday.

The Washington Post

May 2, 2025



Opinion

Carolina A. Miranda

The new Sun King

Donald Trump's rococo Oval Office decorations are old-fashioned and un-American.

Updated April 23, 2025

Key Issues

RETRIBUTION

RETRIBUTION

A Campaign to Exact Revenge, Using the Powers of the Presidency

By Charlie Savage
The New York Times

Perhaps the most salient example of President Trump's **penchant for revenge** came on April 9, when he directed the Justice Department to try to pin a crime on a specific person: Christopher Krebs, a cybersecurity official from his first administration.

Mr. Krebs had enraged the president by contradicting baseless claims that Mr. Trump had lost the 2020 election because electronic voting machines were compromised. But there was no evidence to believe Mr. Krebs had broken any laws.

That did not stop Mr. Trump, whose message was clear: **Opposing him publicly means risking punishment at the hands of the federal government.**

Since returning to the presidency, **Mr. Trump has brazenly used his official powers to carry out a retribution campaign against his perceived enemies.** His subordinates have fired career prosecutors at the Justice Department who played a role in investigating Mr. Trump or his supporters who rioted at the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021.

The president **terminated taxpayer-financed security protection for Dr. Anthony S. Fauci, who led the nation through the coronavirus pandemic, and others who went on to criticize Mr. Trump, including John R. Bolton, his former national security adviser.**

The president has threatened his perceived opponents with state sanctions. He has urged the Federal Communications to remove the licenses of broadcast networks that have covered him in ways he does not like.

He has signed executive orders **singling out law firms that employed or represented people he considers opponents.** He has signed presidential orders that target former officials he dislikes for “reviews” by the federal government, in search of any evidence that could be used to prosecute them.

Some of Mr. Trump's targets have capitulated, but others are fighting him in court. Yet even if he ultimately loses, his legal bills are being paid by taxpayers.

Is it...

Populism ?

Authoritarianism ?

Anti-liberalism ?

Fascism ?

Imperialism ?

Oligarchy ?

Is it ...

A follow-up of Republican conservatism?

The counter-revolution promised by ultra-conservative thinkers ?

A risky bet that may pay off economically?

A game of bluff ?

Reckless dumb economic actions ?

A real shaking-up of overpowerful globalised institutions?

...