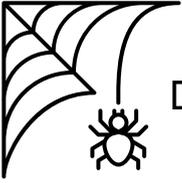


Dusting off the cobwebs

Can you guess / remember the meaning of the following words?

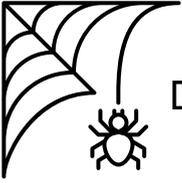
- Law enforcement =
- Law enforcement agency =
- = expulser qn
- = sans-papiers
- = prendre des mesures sévères contre
- = des mesures sévères contre
- ICE /ais/ =



Dusting off the cobwebs

Can you guess / remember the meaning of the following words?

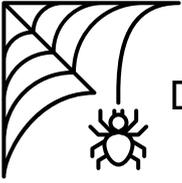
- Law enforcement = le maintien de l'ordre
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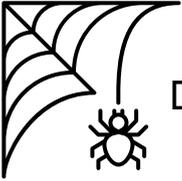
- Law enforcement = le maintien de l'ordre
- Law enforcement agency = organisme responsable du maintien de l'ordre
- **To deport sb** = expulser qn
- = sans-papiers
- = prendre des mesures sévères contre
- = des mesures sévères contre
- ICE /ais/ =



Dusting off the cobwebs

Can you guess / remember the meaning of the following words?

- Law enforcement = le maintien de l'ordre
- Law enforcement agency = organisme responsable du maintien de l'ordre
- To deport sb = expulser qn
- Undocumented = sans-papiers
- To crack down on sth = prendre des mesures sévères contre
- A crackdown on sth = des mesures sévères contre
- ICE /aɪs/ =



Dusting off the cobwebs

Can you guess / remember the meaning of the following words?

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- A crackdown on sth = des mesures sévères contre
- ICE /aɪs/ = **Immigration and Customs Enforcement**
Service américain de l'immigration et des douanes



U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

ICE was created in 2003 through a merger of the investigative and interior enforcement elements of the former U.S. Customs Service and the Immigration and Naturalization Service. ICE now has more than 20,000 law enforcement and support personnel in more than 400 offices in the United States and around the world.

The agency has an annual budget of approximately \$8 billion, primarily devoted to three operational directorates — Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) and Office of the Principal Legal Advisor (OPLA). A fourth directorate — Management and Administration (M&A) — supports the three operational branches to advance the ICE mission.

<https://www.ice.gov/>

United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement : agency of the U.S. federal government that enforces laws governing border control, customs, trade, and immigration. ICE is overseen by a director who is appointed by the president of the United States and confirmed by the U.S. Senate. The director reports to the secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). From the start of Pres. Donald Trump's second term (2025-), the agency expanded its efforts to arrest and deport undocumented immigrants, and its size and budget were greatly increased.

Encyclopaedia Britannica

Trump ties crime with immigration, blurring the lines with Guard deployment

NPR, OCTOBER 17, 2025

① CHICAGO — It's a sunny October morning, and Yackson is waiting for a bus that will take him to meet his immigration attorney.

The Venezuelan, who NPR is identifying by his first name because of his immigration status, looks at a big, run-down apartment building in front of him. Earlier this month, it was raided by Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents who landed a helicopter on the roof, and arrested more than 30 people.

Yackson, 39, says he's terrified. Besides this raid, he's also heard about the possibility of National Guard troops deploying here, something a federal court has put on hold for now. The father of three lives in this neighborhood and he's been scared to leave his house.

US-Venezuela relations in 2025 (britannica.com)

Tensions between the United States and Venezuela rose sharply in late 2025 after the U.S. military carried out a series of lethal boat strikes in the Caribbean and eastern Pacific, which U.S. officials said targeted vessels involved in drug trafficking. Many of these strikes were carried out along the Venezuelan coast. The operations, publicly announced by senior U.S. officials, have resulted in at least 95 deaths, triggering harsh criticism from foreign governments, human rights bodies such as the United Nations, and U.S. lawmakers from both the Republican and Democratic parties.

In early December U.S. forces also **seized a Venezuelan-linked oil tanker off the country's coast**, an operation that further inflamed tensions and drew sharp condemnation from Caracas. After the tanker's seizure, the situation intensified when on December 16, Trump ordered a **blockade** of sanctioned oil tankers entering or departing Venezuela, a move intended to halt the country's oil trade and deal a substantial blow to Venezuela's oil-dependent economy.

Trump has repeatedly accused Maduro and senior officials in his government of playing central roles in large-scale drug-trafficking operations. During Trump's first term (2017–21), the U.S. Department of Justice alleged that Maduro was connected to the Cartel de los Soles, a loose network of military and political elites believed to have profited from drug trafficking and extortion. In his second term Trump broadened his approach by designating both the Cartel de los Soles and the Venezuelan criminal organization Tren de Aragua as Foreign Terrorist Organizations (FTOs). In August 2025 he reportedly signed a secret directive permitting the Pentagon to use military force against specific Latin American drug-trafficking groups. He also raised a U.S. bounty on Maduro to \$50 million, asserting Maduro's direct role in narcotics smuggling.

"Venezuela is completely surrounded by the largest Armada ever assembled in the History of South America," Trump wrote on December 16, 2025, on Truth Social. He continued: "It will only get bigger, and the shock to them will be like nothing they have ever seen before — Until such time as they return to the United States of America all of the Oil, Land, and other Assets that they previously stole from us." With this declaration Trump announced a blockade on sanctioned oil tankers entering or departing Venezuela, a step designed to limit the country's oil exports and increase U.S. leverage in the escalating standoff. Additionally, **Trump declared that he would seek to designate the Maduro government as a Foreign Terrorist Organization for what he described as the "theft of our [United States] Assets, and many other reasons, including Terrorism, Drug Smuggling, and Human Trafficking."**

DECEMBER 2025 : The CIA carried out a drone strike earlier this month on a port facility on the coast of Venezuela, sources familiar with the matter told CNN, marking the first known US attack on a target inside that country.

Saturday, January 3, 2026
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U.S. CAPTURES MADURO, TRUMP SAYS

Venezuelan Leader Flown Out of Country After 'Large-Scale' Attack

LIVE 2m ago

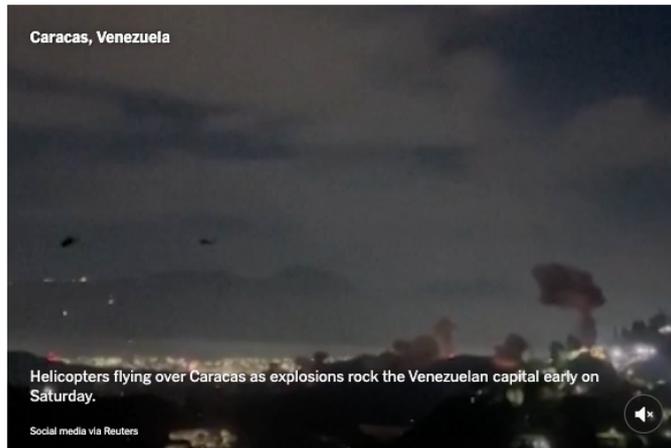
Trump to Address the Nation This Morning

- The Trump administration had been working for months to oust Nicolás Maduro, who has led Venezuela since 2013.
- In an interview with The Times, President Trump said "a lot of good planning and lot of great, great troops" were responsible for the mission's success.

See more updates >

Reached by Phone, Trump Celebrated the Capture of Maduro

1 MIN READ



Carol Rosenberg

Attorney General Pam Bondi said on social media that Maduro would face "American justice on American soil in American courts."

• • •



LIVE 1h ago

Leer en Español. (Read in Spanish.)

See more updates >

• • •



What is the National Guard?

The National Guard is a **state-based military force** made up of hundreds of thousands of trained soldiers who typically serve only part-time, but may be activated in times of need, most often during natural disasters, wars or civil unrest. When they are not on duty, Guard troops typically hold civilian jobs or attend college.

Both state governors and the president have the power to activate National Guard troops. When presidents have done so for duty in the United States, it has almost always been at the request of state or local officials.

When President Trump deployed the California National Guard to the streets of Los Angeles over the summer in response to protests against his immigration crackdown, it was the first time since the civil rights movement in 1965 that a president had summoned a state's National Guard troops against the will of the state governor.

A federal judge later ruled that the Mr. Trump's use of the troops to Los Angeles was illegal, saying that the president had effectively turned the troops into a "national police force" in violation of the Posse Comitatus Act, a 19th-century law that generally prohibits the use of federal troops for domestic civilian law enforcement.

The U.S. president can deploy the National Guard during **rebellion and unrest as well as the threat of invasion**. Typically, the president invokes the **Insurrection Act**. However, there is a specific provision in Title 10 of the U.S. Code on Armed Services that allows for the president to activate the National Guard. This clause can be used when:

(1) the United States is invaded or is in danger of invasion by a foreign nation; (2) there is a rebellion or danger of a rebellion against the authority of the Government of the United States; or (3) the President is unable with the regular forces to execute the laws of the United States.

Adapted from *The New York Times & Britannica*



Members of the National Guard patrol at Gallery Place Metro Station on Dec. 3 in Washington, D.C.

National Guard deployments so far

Democratic governors have opposed troop deployments to their states, while Republican governors have given explicit or tacit approval.

◆ Deployed ◆ Pending ◇ Suggested by President Trump



Note: Troops were deployed briefly in the greater Chicago area but on Oct. 9, a judge temporarily blocked the deployment.

What are the two confusions described in the following passage?

② "We already don't know who is grabbing us, whether it's ICE or whether it's people who disguise themselves as ICE," Yackson says in Spanish. "With the National Guard, it's going to be even harder, scarier."

In several cities across the country facing National Guard deployments, NPR has heard similar sentiment.

"The government isn't exactly doing a great job of proactively delineating this person is National Guard who isn't allowed to arrest immigrants, and this person is an ICE agent or an FBI agent who is," says Dara Lind a senior fellow at the American Immigration Council, noting that many times federal agents are in military-style gear, or masked, or not clearly marked.

She says this makes it hard to look at patrols on the street and figure out who is legally authorized to engage in law enforcement activities or not.

Under U.S. law, the National Guard and other military personnel can't make arrests. But experts worry that the pattern of their deployments, alongside increased federal immigration raids and operations, has allowed for violent crime and illegal immigration to be conflated into a single crisis.

The Guard's actual role in immigration enforcement in these deployments remains unclear.

In September, the Trump administration announced a widespread ICE operation in Illinois called Operation Midway Blitz, saying it was needed to fight crime by undocumented immigrants. It came after Trump had been pressuring Democratic Illinois Governor JB Pritzker to deploy the state National Guard for the same reason, but Pritzker refused.

After weeks of fighting between the two, Trump federalized the Illinois National Guard – a highly unusual move – and worked with Republican Texas Governor Greg Abbott to send hundreds of his state's Guard to Illinois.

How does Trump link crime and illegal immigration in his rhetoric, and to what end?

③ Trump has been conflating crime and illegal immigration since he first emerged on the political scene. It's something that has proved popular with his base — and helped garner support for his unprecedented crackdown on immigrants.

The net has swept up people living in the country illegally along with U.S. residents, people with visas, or those granted humanitarian parole.

The White House regularly characterizes undocumented immigrants as drivers of urban lawlessness. Officials at the Department of Homeland Security and the White House constantly refer to ICE actions as only targeting "the worst of the worst," a talking point that isn't supported by the arrest data.

"This is really, really core to the administration's immigration policy. They toggle between 'we're only going after these really, really bad criminals,' and 'we're deporting everybody who's in the country without authorization,'" says Lind. "They get to play that two-step because there's this bigger body of fears that they're playing into about urban areas as unsafe, as unruly, about there being some kind of unrest, and about protests being always akin to riots."

Trump has deployed the National Guard in five Democratic-led cities so far — often over the objections of state and local leaders — claiming troops are needed to control crime and lawlessness.

Some of those deployments — like in Chicago and Portland, Ore. — have been blocked by the courts and are making their way through a federal appeals process. But others are ongoing, like in Washington, D.C., and Memphis.

EXPLAIN THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE

The net has swept up people living in the country illegally along with U.S. residents, people with visas, or those granted humanitarian parole.

④[L]egal experts say there's a clear connection developing between Trump's use of the troops and his immigration enforcement tactics.

"We see these as deeply intertwined," says Benjamin Farley, special counsel at the National Immigration Law Center, which advocates for immigrant rights.

"The Trump administration is using an increasingly aggressive, increasingly brutal approach to immigration enforcement, which, unsurprisingly, inspires protests. And then the protests themselves serve as a pretext or an excuse for the Trump administration to deploy the National Guard and the Armed Forces of the United States," he says.