**Press review November 11-17 (notes)**

Slide 1: title

Slide 2: Trump’s circus

Slide 3: **Lee Zeldin** 🡪 a) Member of the House of Representatives from the state of New York

b) Nominated to lead the EPA (Environmental Government Agency)

c) goal is to be Trump’s “Drill, baby, drill!” campaign promise a reality

d) expected to take deregulatory decisions about carbon emissions

Slide 4: **Marco Rubio** 🡪 a) Senator for Florida + candidate for the Republican primary in 2016 (during which he traded insults with D. Trump)

b) Nominated to be Secretary of State c) Voted against financial help for Ukraine

Slide 5: **Elon who?** a) Owner of SpaceX (which is a contractor for NASA) + Starlink

b) Owner of X (formerly Twitter) c) Owner of Tesla, Neuralink…

d) **Nominated to lead the ‘Department of Government Efficiency’**

e) Said during the campaign that $2tn could be cut from the $6,5tn federal budget…

Slide 6: **Kristi Noem** a) South Dakota governor + VP hopeful

b) Famously bragged about killing her 14-month-old puppy for not being properly trained

🡪 Stephen Colbert about that: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M2mnIB5\_Crw

c) Nominated to be the head of the Department of Homeland Security

Slide 7: **Tulsi Gabbard** a) Former member of the House of Representatives from Hawaii

b) Former candidate to the Democratic primary for the 2020 election

c) Then became independent, before joining the Trump campaign in 2024

d) said to have been a “booster for autocrats such as Al Assad, Erdogan and Putin” 🡪 and yet…

e) **Nominated to be the new head of the National Intelligence Agency (therefore in charge of spy agencies)**

Slide 8: **Pete Hegseth** a) Member of the National Guard of Minnesota, served in Iraq and Afghanistan b) **Nominated to be Secretary of Defence** c) best-known for being TV host on Fox and Friends Weekend… d) + Accused of sexual assault in 2017 (but no complaint filed against him)

**Colbert**: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J7yF8KJwR0c&list=PLiZxWe0ejyv-j3jr2tFC-G-7pJiHUQKIh&index=2

Slide 9: **Matt Gaetz** a) Member of the House of Representatives from Florida

b) Hardcore Trump supporter + Conspiracy theorist + Mysoginistic

c) Currently under investigation of the House Ethics Committee for having sexual relations with a minor (resigned 2 days before the report was supposed to be released)

d) **Nominated to be the new Attorney General!!!!**

**Colbert again:** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J7yF8KJwR0c&list=PLiZxWe0ejyv-j3jr2tFC-G-7pJiHUQKIh&index=2

Slide 10: **Robert F. Kennedy Jr.** a) Former 3rd party candidate to the 2024 presidential election

b) Claimed that a worm had eaten part of his brain c) Antivaxxer + wants to remove fluoride from drinking water

c) **Nominated to be the new head of the Health Department…**

d) yet, Wants to improve American people’s diet with more fruits and vegetables + pro-abortion

**John Oliver on RFK:** <https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=john+oliver+rfk>

Slide 11: **New Republican Senate leader 🡪 John Thune (Texas) 🡪 already put to the test**

* Why? Trump wants to just go ahead with the appointments in his administration without any confirmation phase by the Senate 🡪 **dangerous attempt at doing without checks and balances**

Slide 12: Meanwhile, the Republicans secured a majority in the HofR by winning a 218th seat

Slide 13: COP29 started in Baku, Azerbaijan on November 11th

Slide 14: Controversial because:

- conflict with Armenia over the Karabakh territory

* an authoritarian regime: same family (Aliyev) in power for 31 years
* - a massive oil and gas producer, with an economy depending heavily on fossil fuels:

🡪 92% of the country’s exports

🡪 45% of the country’s GDP

* listed 14 propositions, none of which mention the words ‘fossil fuels’

Slide 15: especially worrying as a new report has shown that global carbon emissions are on the rise (0.8% in 2024) while they need to fall by 43% by 2030 for global warming to be limited to 1.5°

Slide 16: One ambitious announcement: Keir Starmer saying that the UK has committed to cutting carbon emissions by 81% by 2035

Slide 17: actually, a ‘financial’ COP whose goal is to determine how much money developed countries should collect every year to help developing countries in their green transition

* a ‘moral’ obligation since developed countries got rich thanks to the extremely polluting industrial revolution
* right now, $100bn a year
* but experts say **$1tn** a year would actually be necessary
* developed countries clearly not ready to pay that amount of money + since the previous agreement (2009), China became the 2nd economy in the world + the largest polluter 🡪 developed countries want it to contribute

Slide 18: in other news 🡪 Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby has resigned over a new Church abuse scandal

[A long-awaited independent review](https://ablink.editorial.theguardian.com/ss/c/u001.Yw_JkLMEmFuifc_XG18IRyTNtZQ7fIEMgszcCSneHEA3ne3Ju0Zp-3VTingFk55bSR9bW9cOD0CjK_0kxbwKAiAJQBvF9iI3LHCacYPK65WR3Z-aZ1WsQYVZ8CCi2-5XzdxLmrOTRgAnqvdpPPCRRr0PX7YNVL1wnfhcksREXXVMzIqKBN-nN8xw8uboTBRKfHAtBT09QM45uNr2syaJFiIVlDO-RYHKMBpvTYbNJD9qHxO6qySWf5uGs08GZLusLhp8m6qprYEu0UTHQsoq-MUYtIE7YNu3_8PpNfA75Dwgvfs1n-JdqwQpcX-9rQ5XJjH5Diy29fNg6ApzdSUguA/4be/DrP93RsJRT2swcBOk_0Cmg/h37/h001.uKbQKIE9RtSW6Vu2RVQ25N7kCf0HDVMErFE6BBlfr0I) led by former social services director Keith Makin concluded that it was “unlikely” that Welby knew nothing of concerns about John Smyth.

Smyth was the chair of the Iwerne Trust, a group that ran Christian camps in Dorset. He groomed boys who he met through those camps, many of them pupils at the private school Winchester college, and violently beat them in the garden shed of his family home. His own seven-year-old son was among his victims, believed to number about 130 in total. One survivor said he received more than 1,000 strokes with a cane on a single occasion; some had to wear nappies to contain the bleeding. This description is only the most superficial account of a years-long pattern of sadistic abuse.

Winchester college cut all ties with Smyth in 1982, but they did not report him to the authorities. With no blemish to his reputation, he moved to Zimbabwe and later South Africa, where he appears to have continued his abusive behaviour. He was charged but never convicted of the manslaughter of a 16-year-old boy who had attended one of his summer camps.

Welby was informed, and so were other senior figures. But they didn’t tell the authorities in the UK or South Africa. And between 2013 and [Smyth’s] death five years later, he continued to present a threat. He didn’t have to face up to what he’d done, and he didn’t face any consequences.” The allegations against Smyth were not made public until three years later.

Slide 19: A new assisted dying bill will reach the House of Commons, with a set of strict safeguards:

* patients must be over 18, have the mental capacity to make a choice about the end of their life and must be terminally ill and expected to die within six months.
* They must express a “clear, settled and informed” wish in two separate witnessed declarations.
* Two independent doctors must be satisfied that the person is eligible.
* The application must be approved by a high court judge who would hear from at least one of the doctors and may question the patient or anyone else involved.
* Medicine must be self-administered with doctors banned from assisting.
* Coercion of a patient would be a criminal offence punishable by up to 14 years in prison.

Slide 20: who do you think these people are, and what is going on in the second picture?

* Maori MPs performing the haka during the first reading of the Treaty Principles bill as a form of protest against it

<https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/house-suspended-after-te-pati-maori-mps-start-haka-in-parliament/LUPWVIEFDVS4OPPCXAAP7N5XCY/>

Slide 21:

**Treaty Principles bill** (introduced by ACT, a party of the current right-wing coalition)

Its leader, David Seymour, argues that there is a need to legally define the principles of **the 1840 Treaty of Waitangi**, which has been fundamental to race relations in New Zealand.

The core values of the treaty have, over time, been woven into New Zealand's laws in an effort to redress the wrong done to Māori during colonisation.

Seymour says this has resulted in the country being divided by race, and the bill will allow the treaty to be interpreted more fairly through parliament, rather than the courts.

🡪 massive protests gathering thousands of people as this is seen as an effort to restrict the rights of Indigenous communities (but unlikely to pass a second reading as all parties but ACT said they would not support it)