News review January 27th – February 2nd, 2025



The DeepSeek panic

- Jaunch of DeepSeek R1, an Al language model built by a Chinese Al lab
- .// ChatGPT but built on a shoestring budget
- It immediately became one of the most downloaded apps.
- → hysteria/panic in the Silicon Valley and Wall Street (\$1tn sell-off of tech stocks).



New non-opioid painkiller

- The FDA (Food and Drug Administration) approved JOURNVAX, a new non-opioid painkiller
- It blocks pain signals to the brain, but does not get into the brain, and thus is nonaddictive.
- Death toll of the US opioid epidemic: more than 645 000.



The Washington D.C. plane crash

- •Wednesday, January 29th, 2025
- •Mid-air collision between a passenger plane and a military helicopter near Washington D.C.
- .67 casualties, including many figure skaters
- .What happened?

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 - Trading blame: Trump blamed DEI programs; his opponents blame Trump's decision to fire the head of the Transportation Security Administration and to gut the Aviation Security Advisory Committee.
 - Investigation under way

Monday, January 27, 2025



Wednesday, January 29, 2025: The Trump Administration rescinded the spending freeze memo



Trump tariffs: which countries are affected and what does this mean?

Imports from Mexico and Canada will be taxed at 25% and China 10% - but US consumers are likely to pay the price





Canada announces retaliatory tariffs on long-time ally

By Promit Mukherjee

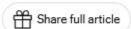
February 2, 2025 5:16 PM GMT+1 · Updated 4 hours ago





Trump Says U.S. Will Hold Migrants at Guantánamo

The president suggested 30,000 migrants could be housed on the base. It is unclear how the plan will take shape.











The U.S. Navy base at Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, in 2023. Marisa Schwartz Taylor/The New York Times

Government efficiency

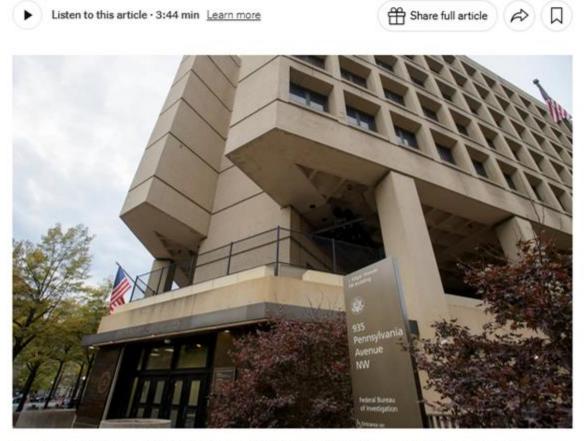
In an email, the Trump administration has offered 2 million federal workers the option to resign and receive pay for eight months, in a major effort to shrink/downsize the US government.

- Confusion.
- •Purge?

The purge continues

Trump Administration Shocks Senior F.B.I. Ranks by Moving to Replace Them

Top officials have been told to retire or be fired in the coming days, fueling fear within an agency that has been a target of President Trump and Kash Patel, his nominee to be F.B.I. director.



The F.B.I. headquarters in Washington in November. The senior bureau employees given the apparent ultimatum had been promoted under the agency's former director, Christopher A. Wray. Rod Lamkey Ir for The New York Times

Child poverty predicted to rise in most of UK except Scotland

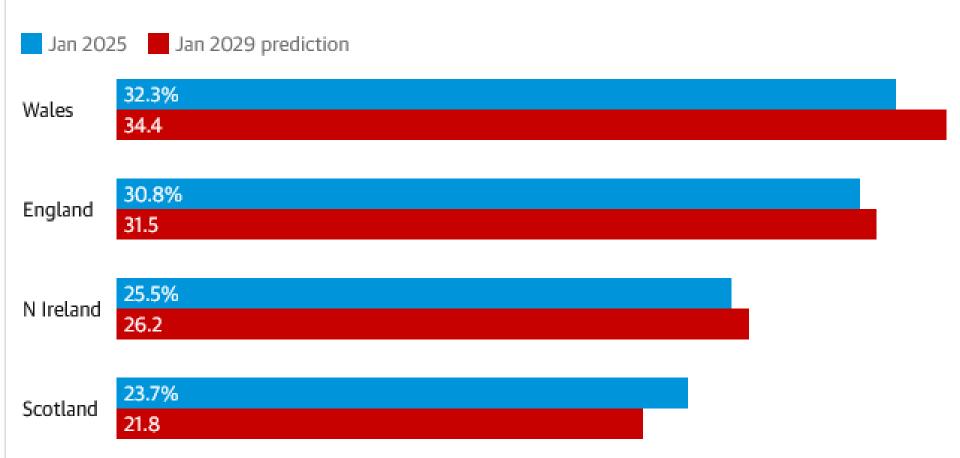
Joseph Rowntree Foundation calls for changes to benefits system amid pressure on Labour to scrap two-child limit



Labour's election manifesto committed it to an 'ambitious strategy' to reduce child poverty.

Child poverty outlook across the UK is bleak, with only Scotland predicted to improve

Relative child poverty rates*



Guardian graphic. Source: JRF analysis using the IPPR tax and benefit microsimulation model. Note: *child living in a household where the income, after housing costs, is below 60% of the median

Rachel Reeves's plan for growth







BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Educate one month, celebrate every month.

Feb 1, 2025 to Feb 28, 2025

CUPE-SCFP