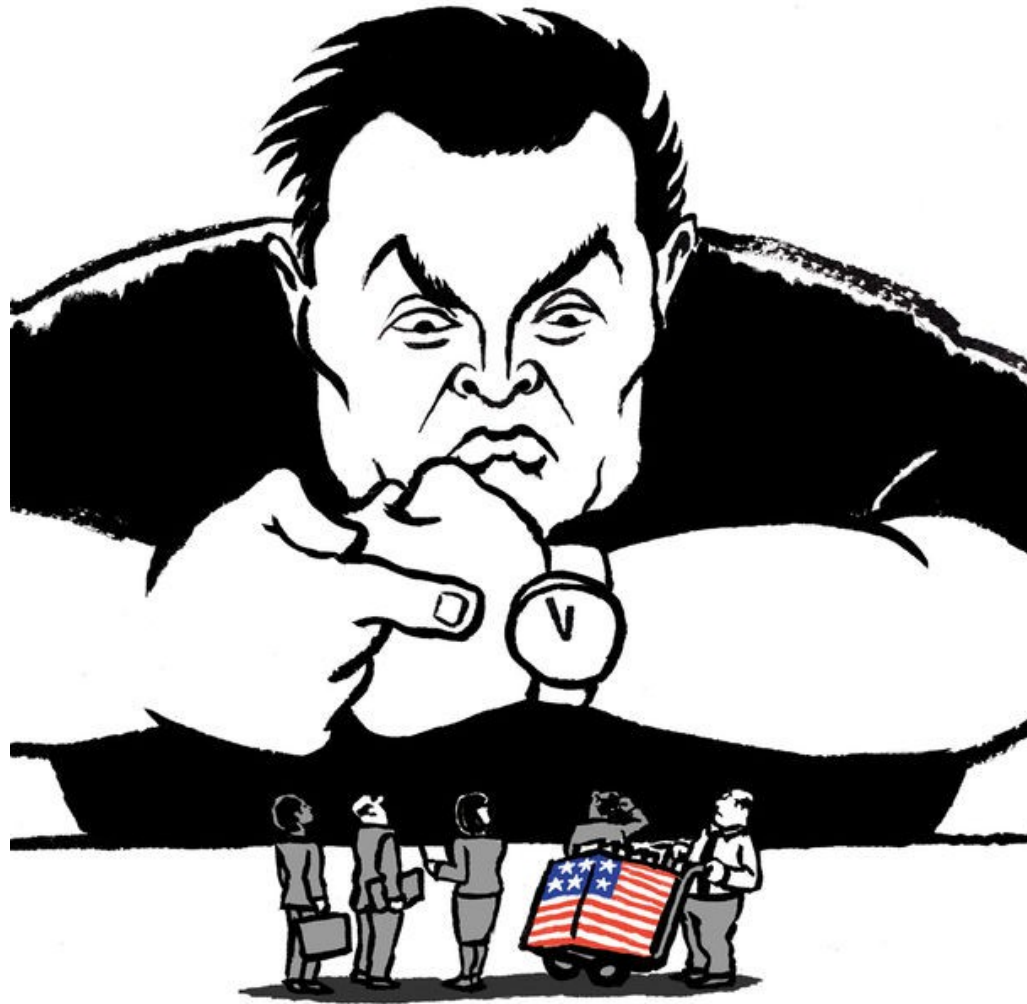


Press review

February 3rd to February 9th

The purge goes on...



... but judges put brakes on Trump and Musk's plans

- The Trump administration reportedly told US Agency for International Development (USAID) workers to expect their numbers to drop from 10,000 to fewer than 300.
- A federal judge temporarily blocked the attempt last Monday.
- On Tuesday, **Marco Rubio**, America's secretary of state, announced that he had become acting director of **USAID** and that the development agency would in effect be absorbed by the State Department.

- On Friday 7, a judge in America **temporarily halted the Trump administration's "buyout"** programme, which the president hopes will lead to 200,000 federal-worker resignations. The stay is intended to give labour unions time to mount a legal challenge.
- **Another judge blocked Elon Musk from accessing the Treasury's payment system.** The system doles out Medicare and social-security payments, among other things.

Tariffs...

TRUMP PROPOSED TARIFFS

- ▶ **25% TAX**
ON PRODUCTS FROM
CANADA AND MEXICO
- ▶ AN ADDITIONAL
10% TARIFF
ON GOODS FROM CHINA

TRUMP TRANSITION TARIFF THREATS ON MEXICO, CANADA, CHINA

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China's reaction

- **China slapped retaliatory tariffs of 10-15% on certain American imports**, including liquefied natural gas, coal and crude oil, shortly after Donald Trump's 10% tariffs on all Chinese products came into effect.
- China also said it would **restrict exports** of certain minerals used in high-tech products and **launch an antitrust investigation** into Google.

- On Thursday 6, China said that Mr Trump's decision to impose additional 10% tariffs on its imports were "discriminatory and protectionist in nature" and **began dispute proceedings** at the World Trade Organisation (a largely symbolic move).
- Earlier the US Postal Service briefly **stopped accepting parcels from China and Hong Kong** after Mr Trump scrapped a rule allowing duty-free imports under \$800, known as de minimis exemptions.

Canada and Mexico's reactions

- On Tuesday 4, Mr Trump agreed to delay **tariffs** of 25% on imports from Canada and Mexico by a month. The levies were due to take effect on Tuesday.
- Justin Trudeau, Canada's prime minister, and Claudia Sheinbaum, Mexico's president, pledged to **bulk up** border security to crack down on the smuggling of fentanyl into America.

Netanyahu's visit



- Donald Trump proposed that America “**take over**” the **war-ravaged Gaza Strip** after its 2m Palestinians are “permanently” **resettled** in neighbouring countries.
- He suggested the enclave, which he earlier called a “demolition site”, could be developed into “the riviera of the Middle East”.

Reactions

- On Thursday 6, the United Nations' secretary-general warned Donald Trump "to avoid any form of ethnic cleansing".
- Some Republican leaders in Congress openly **rejected** President Donald Trump's plan for the U.S. to take over Gaza, while his right-wing backers **expressed their support** for the idea and Democrats **blasted** the proposal.

- Israelis, however, were only too **keen**. The prime minister, Binyamin Netanyahu, said it “should be really pursued, examined, pursued and done”. His defence minister directed the army to prepare plans to allow Gazans “to exit and emigrate”, but not to Arab countries as Trump suggested but Spain and Ireland.



Guantánamo

- America began **sending detained migrants to Guantánamo Bay**, the White House confirmed.
- One military plane, carrying about a dozen people, left from Texas, according to the *Wall Street Journal*.
- Last week Mr Trump had ordered the expansion of a migrant detention camp at America's naval base in Cuba, with the goal of housing 30,000 of the “worst criminal illegal aliens”.

More executive orders

- an executive order that seeks to **bar transgender women from competing in women's sports**, in line with a promise that was prominent in his presidential campaign.
- The directive **denies funding to schools that do not comply** and will be enforced by the Department of Education. It draws authority from Title IX, a sex-discrimination law that the Biden administration tried unsuccessfully to revise to include trans students.

- On Friday, Donald Trump signed an executive order sanctioning the **International Criminal Court**.
- He accused the body—which issued an arrest warrant for Israel’s prime minister, Binyamin Netanyahu, in November—of “illegitimate and baseless actions” targeting America’s “close ally”.



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Keir Starmer in Brussels

- Addressing European Union leaders in Brussels, Sir Keir Starmer said that Britain need not “choose” between closer trade ties with America or the EU.
- The prime minister called for a “reset” in relations with the bloc after Brexit, including greater military co-operation.



David Lammy's visit to Ukraine

- Mr Lammy said Britain's support for Ukraine "remains unbreakable".
- He announced £55m in support for areas such as energy, grain and social services.





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UP TO 70% DISCOUNT

**25 - 31
JANUARY**

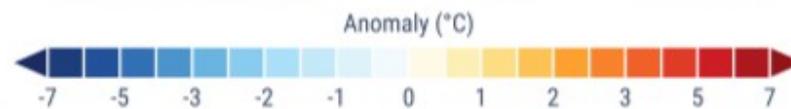
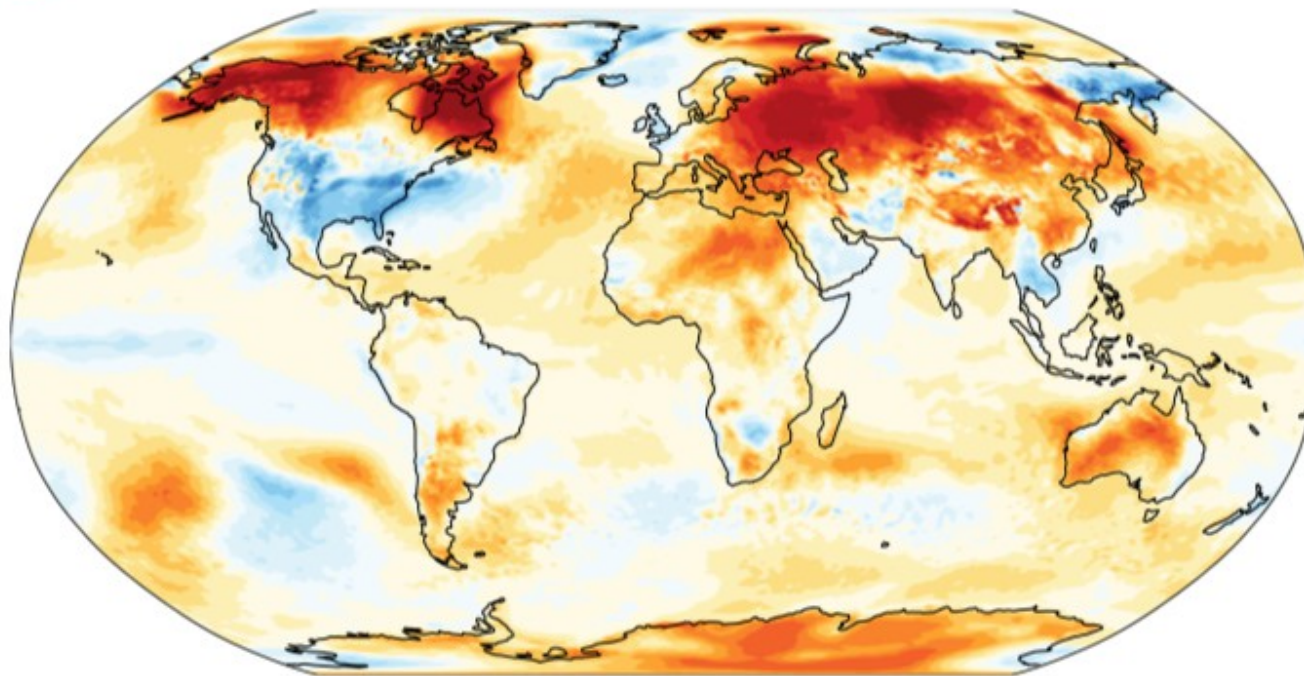
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Warmest January on record



Surface air temperature anomaly in January 2025

Reference period: 1991–2020 • Data: ERA5 • Credit: C3S/ECMWF



PROGRAMME OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION





Grammys







Super Bowl



