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Alix	Tom	Marie	Romane	Sarah	Tess	Louna
Elorri	Romain	Callista	Abigail	Emma	Mylan	Maelyse
Julie	Slohana	Lucile	Ilan	Valentine	Julian-Léo	Titouan
Ambre	Naïs	Benjamin	Elise	Celia	Adrien	Lenny
Nolwenn						

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Video: Who is Zohran Mamdani, and what are his plans for NYC?



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Video: The Corruption Behind Trump's East Wing Demolition ★



Document 3 ★★

Video: Epstein files explained



Document 4: video + article ★★

Trump signs executive order rebranding Pentagon as Department of War

[Joseph Gedeon](#), *The Guardian*, Fri 5 Sep 2025

Donald Trump signed an executive order on Friday to rebrand the Department of Defense as the Department of War, a callback to the department's original name used from 1789 to 1947.

The directive will make Department of War the secondary title, and is a way to get around the need for congressional approval to formally rename a federal agency, an administration official said.

"We won the first world war, we won the second world war, we won everything before that and in between," Trump said at the signing. "And then we decided to go woke and we changed the name to the Department of Defense."

The administration has already begun implementing the symbolic changes: visitors to the Pentagon's defense.gov website are now automatically redirected to war.gov.

The move comes days after a deadly US navy airstrike killed 11 people on a small boat in international waters, which the military said involved a drug vessel operated by the Venezuelan gang Tren de Aragua. Some legal experts questioned whether the strike was lawful under international law.

The combination of aggressive military action and symbolic rebranding goes in contrast with Trump's repeated claims to be "the anti-war president" who campaigned on promises to end conflicts and avoid new wars. Trump said during the signing of the order that his focus on strength and trade has improved America's position in the world.

Trump has argued the original name better reflects military victories and honestly represents what the department does. The rebrand would reverse the 1947 name change made as part of postwar reforms that emphasized defense over warfare.

Seven US warships and one nuclear-powered fast-attack submarine were reported to be heading for the Caribbean following Monday's strike, another layer in the measures Trump has taken to combat what he claims is the threat from Tren de Aragua.

Congressional approval would ultimately be required for any permanent name change, though the House member Greg Steube from Florida and the senator Mike Lee from Utah, both Republicans, introduced legislation to make the switch official.

"We're going to go on offense, not just on defense. Maximum lethality, not tepid legality. Violent effect, not politically correct," the secretary of defense, Pete Hegseth, said in the Oval Office. "We're going to raise up warriors, not just defenders. So this war department, Mr President, just like America is back."



Document 5 ★ ★ ★

Demolishing the White House East Wing to build a ballroom embodies Trump's heritage politics

R. Grant Gilmore III, *The Conversation*, Oct. 23, 2025

From ancient Egypt to Washington, D.C., rulers have long used architecture and associated stories to project power, control memory and shape national identity. As 17th-century French statesman Jean-Baptiste Colbert observed:

“In the absence of brilliant deeds of war, nothing proclaims the greatness and spirit of princes more than building works.”

Today, the Trump administration is mobilizing heritage and architecture as tools of ideology and control. In U.S. historic preservation, “heritage” is the shared, living inheritance of places, objects, practices and stories – often plural and contested – that communities value and preserve. America’s architectural heritage is as diverse as the people who created, inhabited and continue to care for it.

As an archaeologist with three decades of practice, I read environments designed by humans. Enduring modifications to these places, especially to buildings and monuments, carry power and speak across generations.

In his first term as president, and even more so today, Donald Trump has pushed to an extreme legacy-building through architecture and heritage policy. He is remaking the White House physically and metaphorically in his image, consistent with his long record of putting his name on buildings as a developer.

In December 2020, Trump issued an executive order declaring classical and traditional architectural styles the “preferred” design for new federal buildings. The order derided Brutalist and modernist structures as inconsistent with national values.

Now, Trump is seeking to roll back inclusive historical narratives at U.S. parks and monuments. And he is reviving sanitized myths about America’s history of slavery, misogyny and Manifest Destiny, for use in museums, textbooks and public schools.

Yet artifacts don’t lie. And it is the archaeologist’s task to recover these legacies as truthfully as possible, since how the past is remembered shapes the choices a nation makes about its future.

Architecture as political power and legacy

Dictators, tyrants and kings build monumental architecture to buttress their own egos, which is called authoritarian monumentalism. They also seek to build the national ego – another word for nationalism.

Social psychologists have found that the awe we experience when we encounter something vast diminishes the “individual self,” making viewers feel respect and attachment to creators of awesome architecture. Authoritarian monumentalism often exploits this phenomenon. For example, in France, King Louis XIV expanded the Palace of Versailles and renovated its gardens in the mid-1600s to evoke perceptions of royal grandeur and territorial power in visitors.

Many leaders throughout history have built “temples to power” while erasing or overshadowing the memory of their predecessors – a practice known as *damnatio memoriae*, or condemnation to oblivion.

In the ancient world, the Sumerians, Babylonians, Egyptians, Romans, Chinese dynasties, Mayans and Incas all left behind architecture that still commands awe in the form of monuments to gods, rulers and communities. These monuments conveyed power and often served as instruments of physical and psychological control.

In the 19th century, Napoleon fused conquest with heritage. Expeditions to Egypt and Rome, and the building of Parisian monuments – the Arc de Triomphe and the Vendôme Column, both modeled on Roman precedents – reinforced his legitimacy.

Albert Speer’s and Hermann Giesler’s monumental neoclassical designs in Nazi Germany, such as the party rally grounds in Nuremberg, were intended to overwhelm the individual and glorify the regime. And Josef Stalin’s Soviet Union suppressed avant-garde experimentation in favor of monumental “socialist realist” architecture, projecting permanence and centralized power.

Now, Trump has proposed building his own triumphal arch in Arlington, Virginia, just across the Potomac River from the Lincoln Memorial, as a symbol to mark the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

An American alternative

Born of Enlightenment ideals of John Locke, Voltaire and Adam Smith, the American Revolution rejected the European idea of monarchs as semidivine rulers. Instead, leaders were expected to serve the citizenry.

That philosophy took architectural form in the Federal style, which was dominant from about 1785 to 1830. This clear, democratic architectural language was distinct from Europe’s ornate traditions, and recognizably American.

Its key features were Palladian proportions – measurements rooted in classical Roman architecture – and an emphasis on balance, simplicity and patriotic motifs.

James Hoban’s White House and Thomas Jefferson’s Monticello embodied this style. Interiors featured lighter construction, symmetrical lines, and motifs such as eagles, urns and bellflowers. They rejected the opulent rococo styles associated with monarchy.

Americans also recognized preservation's political force. In 1816, the city of Philadelphia bought Independence Hall, which was constructed in 1753 and was where the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution were debated and signed, to keep it from being demolished. Today the building is a U.S. National Park and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Early preservationists saved George Washington's home, Mount Vernon, Jefferson's Monticello, and other landmarks, tying democracy's endurance to the built environment.

Architecture, memory and Trump

In remaking the White House and prescribing the style and content of many federal sites, Trump is targeting not just buildings but the stories they tell.

By challenging narratives that depart from white, Anglo-Saxon origin myths, Trump is using his power to roll back decades of work toward creating a more inclusive national history.

These actions ignore the fact that America's strength lies in its identity as a nation of immigrants. The Trump administration has singled out the Smithsonian Institution – the world's largest museum, founded “for the increase and diffusion of knowledge – for ideological reshaping. Trump also is pushing to restore recently removed Confederate monuments, helping to revive “Lost Cause” mythology about the Civil War.

Trump's 2020 order declaring classical and traditional architectural styles the preferred design for government buildings echoed authoritarian leaders like Adolf Hitler and Stalin, whose governments sought to dictate aesthetics as expressions of ideology. The American Institute of Architects publicly opposed the order, warning that it imposed ideological restrictions on design.

Trump's second administration has advanced this agenda by adopting many recommendations in the Heritage Foundation's Project 2025 blueprint. Notably, Project 2025 calls for repealing the 1906 Antiquities Act – which empowers presidents to quickly designate national monuments on federal land – and for shrinking many existing monuments. Such rollbacks would undercut the framework that has safeguarded places like Devils Tower in Wyoming and Muir Woods in California for over a century.

Trump's new ballroom is a distinct departure from the core values embodied in the White House's Federal style. Although many commentators have described it as rococo, it is more aligned with the overwrought and opulent styles of the Gilded Age – a time in American history, from about 1875 through 1895, with many parallels to the present.

In ordering its construction, Trump has ignored long-standing consultation and review procedures that are central to historic preservation. The demolition of the East Wing may have ignored processes required by law at one of the most important U.S. historic

sites. It's the latest illustration of his unilateral and unaccountable methods for getting what he wants.

Instruments of memory and identity

When leaders push selective histories and undercut inclusive ones, they turn heritage into a tool for controlling public memory. This collective understanding and interpretation of the past underpins a healthy democracy. It sustains a shared civic identity, ensures accountability for past wrongs and supports rights and participation.

Heritage politics in the Trump era seeks to redefine America's story and determine who gets to speak. Attacks on so-called "woke" history seek to erase complex truths about slavery, inequality and exclusion that are essential to democratic accountability.

Architecture and heritage are never just bricks and mortar. They are instruments of memory, identity and power.

Document 6 ★★

Trump's war on the press: 10 numbers from the US President's first 100 days

Published on 25.04.2025, www.rsf.org

(RSF = Reporters Without Borders)

As President Donald Trump approaches the 100-day mark of his second presidency, he continues to carry out the threats he made on the campaign trail against the news media by intensifying his monumental assault on press freedom. In both his personal and official capacities, he is attacking the credibility, independence, and sustainability of the news media in the United States and around the world. Reporters Without Borders (RSF) lays out 10 key numbers that illustrate his administration's unconstitutional assault on the country's press freedom and the right to reliable information in the US and globally.

Donald Trump campaigned for the White House by unleashing a nearly endless barrage of insults against journalists and news outlets. He repeatedly threatened to weaponize the federal government against media professionals whom he considers his enemies. In his first 100 days in office, President Trump has already shown that he was not bluffing.

"The day-to-day chaos of the American political news cycle can make it hard to fully take stock of the seismic shifts that are happening. But when you step back and look at the whole picture, the pattern of blows to press freedom is quite clear. RSF refuses to accept this massive attack on press freedom as the new normal. We will continue to call out these assaults against the press and use every means at our disposal to fight back against them. We urge every American who values press freedom to do the same."

Clayton Weimers

Executive Director, RSF North America

Here is the Trump administration's war on the press by the numbers*:

- **427 million** – Weekly worldwide audience of the USAGM news outlets silenced by Trump

In an effort to eliminate the US Agency for Global Media (USAGM) by cutting grants to outlets funded by the federal agency and placing their reporters on leave, the government has left millions around the world without vital sources of reliable information. This leaves room for authoritarian regimes, like Russia and China, to spread their propaganda unchecked. However, RSF recently secured an injunction against the administration's dismantling of the USAGM-funded broadcaster *Voice of America*, which also reinstates funding to the outlets *Radio Free Asia (RFA)* and *the Middle East Broadcasting Networks (MBN)*.

- **8,000+** – US government web pages taken down

Webpages from more than a dozen government sites were removed almost immediately after Donald Trump took office, leaving journalists and the public without critical information on health, crime, and more.

- **3,500+** – Journalists and media workers at risk of losing their jobs thanks to Trump's shutdown of the USAGM

Journalists from *VOA*, *the MBN*, *RFA*, and *Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty* are at risk of losing their jobs as the Trump administration works to shut down the USAGM.

Furthermore, at least 84 USAGM journalists based in the US on work visas now face deportation to countries where they risk prosecution and severe harassment. At least 15 journalists from *RFA* and eight from *VOA* originate from repressive states and are at serious risk of being arrested and potentially imprisoned if deported.

- **180** – Public radio stations at risk of closing if public media funding is eliminated

The Trump administration reportedly plans to ask Congress to cut \$1.1 billion in allocated funds for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, which supports *National Public Radio (NPR)* and the *Public Broadcasting Service (PBS)*. These cuts will hit rural communities and stations in smaller media markets the hardest, where federal funding is most impactful.

- **74** – Days the *Associated Press (AP)* has been banned from the White House

On February 11, the White House began barring the *AP* from its events because of the news agency's continued use of the term "Gulf of Mexico," which President Trump prefers to call the "Gulf of America" — a blatant example of retaliation against the media. Despite a federal judge ruling the administration must reinstate the news agency's access on April 9, the White House has continued to limit *AP*'s access.

- **64** – Disparaging comments made by Trump against the media on Truth Social since inauguration

In addition to regular, personal attacks against the media in press conferences and public speeches, Trump takes to his social media site nearly every day to insult, threaten, or intimidate journalists and media workers who report about him or his administration critically.

- **13** – Individuals pardoned by President Trump after being convicted or charged for attacking journalists on January 6, 2021

Trump pardoned over a dozen individuals charged with or convicted of violent crimes against journalists at the US Capitol during the January 6 insurrection.

- **6** – Federal Communications Commission (FCC) inquiries into media companies

Brendan Carr, co-author of the “Project 2025” playbook and chair of the FCC, has wasted no time launching politically motivated investigations, explicit threats against media organizations, and implicit threats against their parent companies.

These include inquiries into *CBS*, *ABC* parent company Disney, *NBC* parent company Comcast, public broadcasters *NPR* and *PBS*, and California television station *KCBS*.

- **4** – Trump’s personal lawsuits against media organizations

While Trump settled a lawsuit with *ABC*’s parent company Disney, he continues to sue *CBS*, *The Des Moines Register*, Gannett, and the Pulitzer Center over coverage he deemed biased.

- **\$1.60** – Average annual amount each American pays for public media

Donald Trump has threatened to eliminate federal funding for public broadcasting, framing the move as a cost-cutting measure. However, public media only costs each American about \$1.60 each year, representing a tremendous bargain as it gives Americans access to a wealth of local, national, and lifesaving emergency programming.

**Figures as of the date of publication.*

Document 7 ★ ★ ★

Why Trump's White House is using video game memes to recruit for ICE

Alyssa Mercante, *The Guardian*, 29 Oct 2025

Just days after Microsoft announced Halo: Campaign Evolved, the next game in its famous science-fiction series, the White House shared an interesting picture on X. The image, which appears to be AI-generated, shows President Donald Trump wearing the armour of Halo's iconic protagonist, Master Chief, standing in salute in front of an American flag that's missing several stars. In his left hand is an energy sword, a weapon used by the alien enemies in the Halo games. Posted in response to a tweet from US game retailer GameStop, the text accompanying the image reads "Power to the Players" in reference to the store's slogan.

GameStop and the White House exchanged another Halo meme or two, and then, on 27 October, the official Department of Homeland Security X account joined in – using Halo imagery of a futuristic soldier in an alien world to encourage people to join its increasingly militaristic Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency (ICE). Stop the Flood, this one reads, equating the US's immigrant population with the parasitic aliens that Master Chief eliminates.

"Yet another war ended under President Trump's watch – only one leader is fully committed to giving power to the players, and that leader is Donald J Trump," said White House deputy press secretary Kush Desai over email, when I asked for the official line on this post. "That's why he's hugely popular with the American people and American gamers." (Microsoft has not replied to any requests for comment.)

This spate of sharing video game imagery may seem odd, but Trump and his various allies have been leaning into gamer culture for nearly a decade. Trump has courted gamers – a demographic that includes a significant subsection of disaffected young men – since his first presidential campaign. Media executive Steve Bannon joined that campaign as chief strategist and senior counsellor in August 2016, bringing with him a wealth of knowledge of video game culture and the online behaviour of its biggest fans. [...]

Once Bannon joined the Trump campaign, he leveraged his understanding of gamer culture to push Trump's presidential campaign to previously untouched places. "You can activate that army. They come in through Gamergate or whatever and then get turned on to politics and Trump," Bannon told Green.

That army was ready to engage in memetic warfare at any given moment, and it did. Throughout the campaign, Trump's meme army monitored then candidate Hillary Clinton's every move, sharing fabricated allegations of health problems with the hashtag #HillaryHealth. It regularly produced memes supporting Trump based on internet in-

jokes and nerdy pop culture references. Arguably, Trump defeated Clinton in the 2016 presidential campaign with the help of this army.

When Trump failed to beat Joe Biden in the 2020 election, he turned to his own social media platform, Truth Social, to regularly lambast Biden and the Democrats throughout Biden's four-year term. He continued to court gamers and the online reactionary right, before winning the presidency again. The second Trump administration still utilises the tactics and frameworks of online agitators (or trolls), but there's one major difference this time around: Elon Musk.

The South African entrepreneur bought Twitter in October 2022 and quickly reinstated Trump's account and a host of others that had been banned. Musk, who regularly invokes gamer culture and posts memes on his own X account, and spent a few weeks earlier this year embroiled in a ridiculous fight over whether he was faking his gamer credentials (he was), loosened the restrictions on hate speech on the platform and boosted the exact kind of toxic gamer culture that the White House is now courting.

Since Trump's January inauguration, the White House and various federal institutions have taken up meme posting. Last month, the Department of Homeland Security's official X account and the White House's official TikTok account shared a video of ICE raids set to the Pokémon theme music, interspersing imagery from the animated show with clips of agents arresting people and using the "Gotta catch'em all" slogan from the franchise. The Pokémon Company International told the BBC that "permission was not granted for the use of our intellectual property". The video is still up at the time of writing.

The video game industry at large has long remained silent when it comes to the reactionary politics and ideologies spreading among its communities. For millions of Americans who play games, but are massively embarrassed by an administration that is warning pregnant women against taking Tylenol, or pushing the narrative that immigrants are parasites, or that diversity, equity and inclusivity movements result in unqualified workers, watching this unfold is incredibly frustrating. The more the administration leans into video game iconography and internet memes, the more video game companies find themselves associated with the divisive and reactionary politics of the right – whether they want it or not.