

How Donald Trump Is Reshaping America in Just 7 Weeks

By Victor Davis Hanson

How should we characterize the first seven weeks of the Trump administration because we get so much information and misinformation?

Almost a day doesn't go by where [The Wall Street Journal](#) is predicting that we are headed for a recession, that our allies are furious at us, that the economy is on the brink.



So, what are we gonna make of all this? I think it's time to take a deep breath and envision the first seven weeks is something like the following: [President Donald Trump](#) is in a race. He's in a race to enact

fundamental, disruptive change, a counterrevolution, and it's going to be rough for a while, as he pointed out.

But the things that he has already done are going to have, shortly or maybe even midterm, fundamental advantages for the United States. The question is, can he message and can he explicate and explain what he's doing so people hang on? Because the eventual reward will be great.

Now, what do I mean? We're talking about tariffs, tariffs, tariffs, but even the mere mention of tariffs for all of these countries that have not been reciprocal and have imposed

tariffs on us in a way that we would never think of imposing on them, that idea that we might return to parity, it's had an enormous effect.

Some \$4 trillion of announced investment from the Europeans, from the Saudis, from the Chinese, from the Mexican government, from the Canadians even. That will create hundreds of thousands of jobs. And that is in the process of working out.

When Donald Trump entered office in 2017, we were only pumping about 9 million barrels. When he left, we were pumping 12 million. The Biden administration immediately cut back. And then it decided, before the midterms, "Hey, Americans like affordable oil." So then they continued the Trump plan and got up to 12, almost 13 million barrels.

Already in just seven weeks, we have increased the amount of oil produced per day in the United States by about a third of a million barrels. And we're on schedule to get up to about 14 million barrels by the beginning of the year. And that is coordinated with an increase in Middle East production as well.

So, we're going to see a moderation of energy prices, which may explain, already, why the inflation rate was not nearly as high as was predicted.

If we look at the border, it's amazing. We were told that the border problem was unsolvable without comprehensive immigration reform. And there were 10,000 people swarming up per day. We don't even—nonchalantly, nobody talks about it anymore. But it's a revolutionary achievement. There's nobody going across the border illegally, or at least, it's statistically insignificant.

The big issue right now is the Left is [cherry-picking judges](#) to prevent, not the deportation of somebody who's working, who's never been arrested, who's been here for five

or six years, but criminals and people who already have been ordered out of the country or pro-Hamas, pro-terrorist supporters.

But the point I'm making is, what we're doing now is Phase Two. The border is essentially solved, as far as security, and in seven weeks. Now, we're having a difficult task of trying to find out who these 12 million people were that [former President Joe Biden](#) deliberately and with intent—malicious intent—allowed to come into the country.

But the point I'm making is this is an incredible success.

There's a final point that I want to make. We hear about Elon Musk is not authentically American. He is a nepo baby. And we hear Rep. Jasmine Crockett, D-Texas, threatening his person, along with threatening Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas.

All of this chaos and nihilism coming about [Elon Musk](#) and what he's doing, but what he's finding out, almost every day, in the Treasury, in the IRS, in the Department of Energy, in the intelligence communities, is a vast unreported siphoning off of hundreds of millions of dollars, if not billions, to favorable and mostly left-wing entities, both abroad and here in the United States.

And already, he has cited areas where the Cabinet officers can cut \$200 billion. That's a fifth, only after seven weeks. He's got a fifth of the way to go. He thinks he can cut a trillion dollars without touching entitlements. I don't know if he can.

But let me just sum up. If Donald Trump is able to fulfill this promise of commitment by foreign entities of \$4 trillion in investment—\$4 trillion—if he is able to cut a trillion dollars within a year or two, if he's able to solve the Ukraine war, and if he is able to have a general peace in the Middle East, that will be the most substantial presidency—if he does nothing else—that we've seen in 50 years.

Final word, everybody, keep calm. There's events in process that if they are brought to fulfillment and fruition, this country will be a radically different and radically better place.

First published in the [Daily Signal](#)