

Trump presidency: The world has nothing (new) to worry about



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**“It is difficult to make predictions,
especially about the future”**

- Karl Steincke -

- **Who is Donald Trump?**
- **Causes of his ascendancy**
- **American political and bureaucratic system**
- **American strategic worldview**
- **The bipartisan consensus?**
- **Continuity in American foreign policies?**
- **What to expect from the Trump presidency**
- **Conclusion**

Who is Donald Trump?

- **A successful billionaire businessman from New York**
- **Socialite and media celebrity**
- **Accused of racism, sexism, nationalism, isolationism, backtracking, and a loose canon**



Causes of Trump's ascendancy

- **Bernie Sanders NOT given a fair chance**
- **Hillary Clinton: image problem and lack of focus on the key issue, economic prospects for lower and middle classes**
- **Trump mobilized largely rural blue color workers/farmers**
- **Worldwide backlash against globalisation and rising nationalism**
 - **Brexit, Nigel Farage, Marine Le Pen, Viktor Orban , anti immigration sentiment in Europe, Vladimir Putin, Xi Jinping, Recep Urdogan, Narendra Modi, etc.**

American political and bureaucratic system

- **Clinton won popular vote by 1.75 %**
- **Congress lower and upper houses, won by the Republicans**
- **Institutional checks and balances**
- **US and the international law**
 - Ratification by Two third of Senate
 - Congressional-Executive agreements
 - Sole Executive power
- **ICRG Bureaucratic Quality score and a cursory observation indicates a relatively independent and stable and long-term policy process**
- **Agendas require departmental approvals and protocols**

American strategic worldview

- **Manifest destiny**
- **American exceptionalism**
- **China challenge**
- **Terrorism**

The bipartisan consensus?

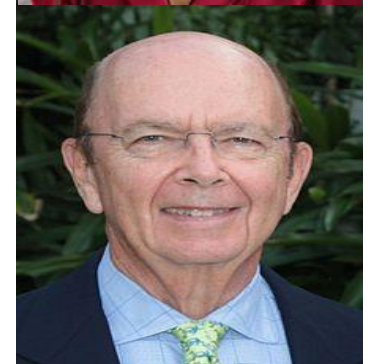
- American identity and exceptionalism
- Threat perceptions
- Interventionism and Unilateralism/Coalition of the willing
- The first and Second Iraq wars
- Yugoslavia, Sudan, Somalia, Libya, Syria, Palestine/Israel
- Iran, Russia, China

Continuity in American foreign policies?

- **Obama's hope and change promise and outcomes**
 - Drone attacks
 - Guantanamo Bay
 - Iraq
 - Afghanistan/Pakistan
 - Israel/Palestine
 - Libya / Syria / ISIS
 - Iran
 - Russia
 - China
 - India
 - International institutions

What to expect from the Trump presidency

- **Defense Secretary – James Mattis**
- **Ambassador to the U.N. – Nikki Haley**
- **Commerce Secretary – Wilbur Ross**



What to expect from the Trump presidency

- **Secretary of the State**
 - **Rudolph Giuliani**
 - **John Bolton**
 - **Mitt Romney**
 - **Bob Corker**
 - **Zalmay Khalilzad**

What to expect from the Trump presidency

- **Trumps' promises and possibilities**
 - Drone attacks
 - Guantanamo Bay
 - Iraq
 - Afghanistan / Pakistan
 - Libya / Syria / ISIS
 - Israel/Palestine
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What to expect from the Trump presidency

- **Trumps' economic rhetoric and possibilities**
 - **Trade, NAFTA, TTIP, TPP, WTO**
 - **Monetary issues**
 - **Climate Change**
 - **United Nations**

Trump & world leaders

“Germany and America are bound by common values — democracy, freedom, as well as respect for the rule of law and the dignity of each and every person, regardless of their origin, skin color, creed, gender, sexual orientation, or political views. It is based on these values that I wish to offer close cooperation, both with me personally and between our countries’ governments.”

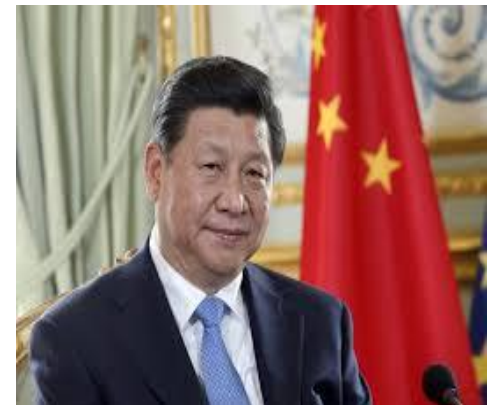


Trump & world leaders

“[have] confidence in building a constructive dialogue ... which is based on principles of equality, mutual respect and taking into account each other’s interests”



“The facts prove that cooperation is the only correct choice for China and the United States,”



Trump & world leaders

- **Admires President Nazarbayev and Kazakhstan, a miracle**
- **Wants to visit Pakistan, a fantastic people**
- **Emphasizes regional partnership**



Conclusion

In short, like Obama who failed to deliver on the promise of hope and change, Trump too would fail to deliver on the promise of hate and fear.

Instead, if anything we can expect some positive developments on the security front and some negative developments on the economic front.

“The more things change the more they stay the same”

- Jean Karr -



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Thank you

Q & A