

A Short Overview of Donald Trump's First 15 Months of his Second Term as President

Leading to the Conclusion that
Donald Trump is a murderer, a convicted felon, a habitual liar and a bully.

by Janet Munro-Nelson
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Goodness! Every single day brings more news about how the current American president is breaking the laws of the United States including, and most importantly, our underlying US Constitution. At these times, I think to myself, "What a guy!" I don't mean this in a positive or admiring way. Having trained and worked as a psychologist for over ten years and now a lawyer, I am struck, time after time, by the immaturity of Donald Trump. He is a bully in his dealings with other Republicans, with the states that did not vote for him, and even with our historical allies. He denigrates others by calling them silly and unwarranted names; by ridiculing and dishonoring them. President Joseph Biden was called, "Sleepy Joe" while Hillary Clinton was called "Crooked Hillary". Anyone disagreeing with or challenging Donald Trump's authority is a "left-wing activist." A generic name for many others is simply, "loser". Another reflection of his immaturity is blaming others for his own behavior and actions saying, "That wasn't me, it was him or her or them". It is never about him. Unfortunately, it always is about him. He takes no responsibility for his actions and there is no caring about the consequences that follow from his actions. Psychologists refer to this behavior as "arrested development". His main aim appears to create chaos and make money for himself and his family. He is one of the most corrupt presidents the United States has ever had. After his first term of office he was ranked by scholars as the worst US president. Every day brings a new (or much repeated) verbal attack on an individual or a country, or a tariff going up or down while generally taking over America's heritage by renaming cultural institutions with his own "Trump" name. At the same time, he speaks and acts as if he was elected by the world rather than by less than 50% of US popular vote in 2024. I summarize below only a few of his actions which may have been forgotten over time. I know there are reliable, factual writers who have focused on one action at a time. I will leave it to the reader to investigate further any statements I make of President Donald Trump.

TRUMP WAS RANKED "THE WORST PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES" AFTER
HIS FIRST PRESIDENTIAL TERM; RANKED NUMBER 45TH OF 45 PRESIDENTS.

I say he is a murderer. He has ordered attacks on people in boats off Venezuela, another sovereign country. The US military followed his orders to kill individuals sitting like ducks in a boat; shot because he alleged that these were drug runners/dealers. When did the United States have a law on its books that if you see someone you think is a drug dealer, you can shoot them? And if they are still alive after attacking them, you should go back and shoot them until they are well and truly dead? How did we, the United States, get to this place that murdering someone is acceptable because we feel like it, without evidence, without consideration and in another country? No matter how odious drug traders are to society, there is no agreement or treaty that allows another country, specifically here, the Trump government to declare 'war' on them and shoot to kill. This is what our president has done; after promising on the campaign trail not to get the United States into any long-term wars. The US government has 'invaded' Venezuela by sending in its military to kidnap both the Venezuelan president and his wife; taking them to New York City to stand trial (why New York?) due to President Trump's spoken belief that there was "an unfair election". A more apparent reason would be to take over Venezuela's oil and gas supplies. If Venezuela was a stronger, more powerful nation such as China, they would be declaring war on the United States.

The Charter of the United Nations (signed by every country in the world) states, *inter alia*, that its purpose is to maintain international peace and security; develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights ad self-determination; and to achieve international co-operation in solving international problems. Under Article 2.3, all members shall settle their international disputes by peaceful means while 2.4 points out that all member states 'shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state'. Article 51 points out that nothing in the Charter will impair the inherent right of self-defense if an armed attack occurs. Over time, this has included a member's right to defend against "an imminent attack". Again, the key word here is "imminent". As is known from the facts, neither situation of having been attacked or noting an attack was imminent describes what occurred before the United States began its military attacks on the Islamic Republic of Iran ("Iran") on 28 February 2026. Simply, there is no legal basis for the United States being at war with Iran. The might of the United States' military power has directed sustained and heavy air attacks on Iran's government, its civilians and civilian structures. The New York Times reported that President Trump made his decision following a lengthy meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu. At this meeting, Netanyahu made concerted efforts to convince the United States to join Israel in attacking Iran. This illegal war against Iran was not and has not been approved by Congress as the US Constitution requires it to be and is costing the US taxpayers some one billion dollars (ie, \$1,000,000,000) a day. Over 100 international law experts from across the United States have signed a letter to the US government stating that the US strikes against Iran violate the UN Charter and may be war crimes (website: "Just Security"). For further information on Iran's nuclear capabilities, see, "The Failure of the Iran Nuclear Agreement" on this website.

In his first term, President Trump was deeply concerned about the number of illegal migrants in the United States. One of his government policies was to separate children from their parents at the US/Mexican border. Factchecking says 3913 to

3,924 children were separated from their parents although some websites give higher numbers. By January 2026, only about 1,786 children have been reunited with their parents. At the beginning of his second term, Trump vowed to send migrants being held in US prisons and jails, "the worst of the worst" back to the countries they came from. Not withstanding these parameters, in 2025 he began ordering federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers ("ICE") to many cities including Los Angeles, Chicago and Minneapolis. All these cities are in Democratic states that did not vote for Donald Trump in the last election. ICE agents have to meet a quota of arrests set by the government. This appears to be the basis for why ICE follows and confronts suspected illegal migrants on the streets, in stores and by the school gates. A main characteristic of those confronted by ICE is that they are not 'white'. ICE does not seem to care how long a suspect has been in the US nor even to care if those being detained are in the US legally or illegally. Their definition of "illegal immigrant" includes individuals who hold a green card, are US citizens or have applied for political asylum. In December 2025, Trump sent ICE agents to Minnesota, focusing on Minneapolis and Saint Paul. The total ICE agents in the state grew to close to 3,000 (a local source quoted 4,000) strong by January 2026. President Trump clearly knows and supports that ICE officers are masked and that they are allowed to operate with impunity against even US citizens. Although it was announced that ICE agents were leaving Minnesota, some 400 ICE agents remained as of 22 March.

In January 2026, ICE agents murdered two people on the streets of Minneapolis in separate shootings: Renee Nicole Good and Alex Pretti. The details of these murders point to them being "executions" because at the time they were shot, the victims were acting within the law and if ICE thought they weren't, each could have been taken into custody with little harm. As shocking as these executions were, more shocking were the claims made by US government officials, including Donald Trump, that each of these shootings was justified because these were "domestic terrorists". No, these were ordinary citizens who were not doing anything illegal. Mr. Pretti was shot a total of 10 times by ICE agents Jesus Ochoa and Raymundo Gutierrez. At the moment he was shot at close range, Mr. Pretti was sprawled face down on the ground and held there by several ICE agents. Tear gas was being sprayed directly into his face. Just prior, Mr. Pretti had bent down to help a woman up who had been pushed to the ground by an ICE agent. The autopsy of Ms Good showed she was shot at least three times including a fatal shot to her head. Immediately following his shooting of Ms Good, her ICE assailant, Jonathan Ross, could be heard (including, on video) saying, "Fucking bitch".

In March 2026, the Minnesota attorney general Keith Ellison and Hennepin County Attorney Mary Moriarty filed an unprecedented lawsuit against Donald Trump seeking access to evidence held by the Federal Government in both the Good and the Pretti cases.

AS HE DID IN THE SPRING OF 2020, TRUMP IS NOW BEGINNING TO WARN MID-TERM VOTERS OF 'VOTER FRAUD'

In the past, there have been many notable situations where Donald Trump has demonstrated his contempt of both state and federal laws. Following his bid for a second term as president, Donald Trump was defeated by Joseph Biden in the November 2020 elections. Trump immediately declared the outcome of the election was 'fixed' apparently because he lost. This was the first time in the 231 years existence of the United States (with ratification of the Constitution) that the sitting president (the 45th one) disagreed with and refused to accept clear and legitimate election results. Earlier, in the Spring of 2020, President Trump began warning Americans of the shortcomings of postal voting. He warned that postal votes could lead to voting irregularities, including duplicate voting, which would be used by the unscrupulous to win the 2020 election. The unscrupulous in this case were those voters who were Democrats. Trump's warnings of voter fraud followed the business logic of a 'win-win'. If he won the election, he could say the protections in place worked and he was legitimately re-elected. If he lost, he could say, "I warned you about postal voting and cheating, and it has happened!" This is cunning thinking and one that he has now started to warn the 2026 mid-term voters about. He accuses others of what he himself would do. Following the 2020 election results, Trump publicly and repeatedly stated that as he had actually won the election, the resulting vote showing Biden had won could only be due to the election being rigged. To prove this, he filed over 60 legal actions against different states and districts where he had lost the vote. Not one of these 60+ legal complaints was successful; some cases were denied because they lacked standing or other information necessary for adjudication while other cases were heard by the judicial courts but were dismissed because there was no evidence of illegality. One factchecking site stated, "His relentless legal efforts have been widely criticized as an attempt to undermine public trust in the electoral process rather than a legitimate pursuit of justice." It is a fact that postal votes are not inherently corrupt and that fraud rates are tiny. In a recent Palm Beach County, Florida election (24 March 2026), Donald Trump voted by postal vote.

TRUMP ACCUSES OTHERS OF THINGS HE WOULD DO

On 6 January 2021, President Trump took desperate action when he held a rally several blocks away from the US Capitol. He again falsely declared he had won the 2020 election with the other speakers echoing his lie. The date of this rally was significant because it is on the 6 January following every presidential election, that the Electoral College votes are recounted and certified by both houses of Congress. This is the final step to validate the votes, allowing for a peaceful transition of power to the next president. Trump's speech at the rally included words to fight and told his followers that they had the power to prevent president-elect Joseph Biden from taking office. He also said that he would meet them by the Capitol (he never showed up). A huge crowd of his followers, most of whom were heavily armed, stormed the Capitol building. Five people died by the hands of the rioters, including one Capitol police officer. A second Capitol police officer committed suicide several days later. Evidence from that day shows Donald Trump was "initially pleased" by the attack on the Capitol and took no action despite being repeatedly begged to tell the violent rioters to leave the building, including by

his family. Instead, he watched the rioters' attack on TV for several hours before finally telling the rioters, "We love you. You're very special." He again restated his false claims of election fraud, finally asking them to go home.

Following what can be called an insurrection against the US government, the House of Representatives moved to impeach President Trump for a second time. This time there was only one charge, "incitement to insurrection" against Trump. By the time the impeachment proceedings reached the Senate to vote, it was past 21 January 2021 and Trump was no longer president. Some senators, including the Majority leader of the Senate, Mitch McConnell, stated their belief that it would be unconstitutional to impeach someone who was no longer president. By a ten-vote margin, Trump was found not guilty of the charge against him. On the day Trump was sworn in as president for a second term, he pardoned almost 1,600 people who were convicted or charged for their part in the attack on the US Capitol.

Following Trump leaving the presidency on 21 January 2021, the House of Representatives set up the January 6 Select Committee (the "Select Committee") to hear evidence regarding the Capitol riots. The Select Committee's final report in 2022 stated, among other things, that President Trump had a detailed plan to overturn the 2020 election results which included the corrupt use of fraudulent slates of electors in several states.

At the same time, the US Department of Justice (historically, separate and independent from the Executive Branch and the president) began investigations against Donald Trump. These investigations led to 3 major legal cases (and several 'minor' cases) against Trump. These cases were: 1) The review of Donald Trump's actions before and on 6 January 2021 culminating in the serious, armed attack on the US Capitol and all those present; 2) The unlawful keeping, hiding and denying possession of 33 boxes of federally classified files at Trump's home, Mar-a-Lago, in Palm Beach, Florida; 3) Trump's personal calls (taped and made public) to the Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger in an attempt to pressure him to change the state's voting results of a win by Biden in Georgia; and a more minor case: 4) Some 34 felony charges of attempting to influence the 2016 presidential election (including falsifying business records). The first case was expected to take place and conclude before the presidential election of November 2024. This didn't happen due to a multitude of delays, many of them instigated by Donald Trump. The only legal case to be heard against Trump concerned falsifying business documents to influence the 2016 election results. Donald Trump attended this New York jury trial every day. On 30 May 2024, the jury declared its findings: Donald Trump was found guilty on all 34 felony charges of falsifying business documents. By the time he was finally sentenced on 10 January 2025, Trump was once again the US president-elect. The New York judge in the case granted Trump an unconditional discharge although there had been a small chance that a custodial prison sentence would be imposed when the jury's decision was read. Despite being granted an unconditional discharge, President Trump is and will remain a convicted felon.

DONALD TRUMP IS A HABITUAL LIAR; NOTHING HE SAYS ABOUT OTHERS SHOULD BE BELIEVED

President Trump is a habitual liar with the majority of his statements being blatantly untrue. The exception to this statement is to believe what he says he will be doing. For an overview of his initial campaign promises, see the paper comparing the presidential terms of Donald Trump and Joseph Biden on this website. During Donald Trump's first presidential term (2017-2021), Glenn Kessler, the fact-checker at the Washington Post newspaper, found Trump made around 30,000 false statements or misleading comments. Kessler reported that Trump came to realize that people didn't care if he lied. He was and is a habitual liar. Psychological studies have found 50% of the lies being told are told by only 5% of the people. A liar is undependable as a friend, a wife or husband because you can never depend on anything they say. Having a liar as the president of the United States is a disaster, not only for everyone in the United States but for any country that has to work with or is influenced by the United States. When Joseph Biden became president, he had to first get the US allies to once again believe in and trust that what the US said matched what it did. All that effort has now been destroyed by Trump with his lies and bullish behavior.

President Trump loves money, who doesn't? But, as president he is not allowed to personally benefit from his position. President Trump has not let this stop him or his family from filling their pockets. He has pardoned many millionaires from prison who had been found guilty of fraud. Many have then donated money into party and individual coffers of Trump's. Rules and laws are not for him. His own rules appear to be if someone is of benefit to him, monetarily or for rubbing some shine into his ego, he likes them. His actions with increasing and decreasing tariffs at whim have directly affected the stock markets of the world. The financial world has strong laws against 'inside trading', a serious crime for those investors who trade knowing – before it happens – that the market will go up or go down and sells or buys stock accordingly. The facts shown that the Trump family (and others) has enriched itself know when the markets will go up or down because of inside information. Donald Trump has encouraged both the American government and the American people to invest in Bitcoin – something that doesn't exist until enough people invest in it. The Trump family launched its own crypto firm, "World Liberty Financial" in the middle of Donald Trump's presidential campaign in 2024 and presents a conflict of interest with Trump being entangled in an industry he was poised to regulate and now does so. As Natalie Sherman reported on 2 September 2025 on BBC News, Trump and his two sons own Bitcoin worth some US\$5 billion. Bitcoin can be likened to a Ponzi scheme as it only deals with a speculative asset. As Warren Buffett says, a true asset, i.e., stock in a company, must deliver something tangible over time. Peter Schiff has labeled Bitcoin as a "decentralized Ponzi scheme" as it is dependent on new investors.

What can I say but, "What a guy!" It is a shocking travesty of what President Trump has already done, I hesitate to use the word, "accomplished", in just fifteen months after taking office to make those at the lower end of the US economic scale even poorer by taking away many federal programs that offered support. Almost immediately after Trump took office for a

second time, he selected his largest political donator, Elon Musk, to slash through federal programs. The Department of Governmental Efficiency head by Musk managed to slash many federal programs and departments. This was despite the US Constitution requiring that officials that wield "significant authority" must be confirmed by the Senate. Billions of dollars have been slashed from education. Federal employees were encouraged to leave their positions with a payout without any concern of how this affected the running of the government. Science, medical areas and the arts had their employees and programs decreased with some areas losing up to 25% of their workforce. Monies already allocated by Congress for certain programs were reallocated by Trump (an action against the law). The percentage of employees cut at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has been 24%. Clean energy projects in 16 Democratic states have been cut. The largest US solar power project was quietly cut. Funding for Medicaid will be cut by \$1 billion over the next decade. Many more cuts have been made in the federal government's programs besides the few mentioned here.

Also, untold damage was also inflicted internationally by Trump when he suddenly and without notice gutted USAID (US Agency for International Development). USAID has been a soft-power policy of the United States since it was set up by President Kennedy in 1961 to administer foreign aid and economic development assistance to countries worldwide. In February 2026, it has been estimated that the dismantling of USAID could lead to some 9.4 million more deaths worldwide by 2030. At the time USAID was gutted, all the food and drugs including birth control and HIV drugs already delivered to various countries was then either destroyed or left to rot on President Trump's orders. The already-delivered food and drugs could have been distributed but instead they were wasted which was damaging to these countries and also wasting US taxpayers' dollars. At the same time, the Trump government is willing to excuse the most wealthy 1% taxpayers from paying a fair tax which results in the US government plunging deeper and deeper in debt. As mentioned above, since the Trump started his war against Iran, the US is spending some 1 billion dollars (\$1,000,000,000). The spending by this president is extreme and unnecessary. It's a travesty for America.

To quote Jonathan Freedland in the *The Guardian*, "Trump embodies the very worst of us: greed, lying, dishonesty, bloodlust, and racism. He is cruel and dishonest with no humanity." America as a whole is not these things. The majority of Americans believe in decency, in morality, in good character, and helping others. What we need is someone who can be trusted; who believes in humanity and wants to make the world a better place. It must be someone who understands governing; understands the world; who works with his or her allies; someone who follows their Oath of Office to respect and uphold the US Constitution; and someone caring about the whole country and every one in it.

This isn't Donald Trump.

--The End--