

**INAUGURAL
EDITION**

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On 7 May, Wales and Scotland elect their devolved Parliaments. Council elections will also happen across England. This set of elections, similar to a set of US Midterms, could decide the Sir Keir Starmer's fate.

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War In Iran

The US And Israel's War In Iran Is Showing Cracks In The International Order. Who Really Rules The World?

It did nothing. It changed nothing. It cost \$2 trillion. That may be the consensus of US President Donald Trump's war in Iran- which has caused global economic turmoil and questions about the future of global politics. But is it true that this conflict has done and changed nothing?

On 28 February 2026, the US and Israel launched airstrikes in Iran without a stated objective. Among a sea of missiles, including one US Tomahawk killing 156 civilians at a girl's elementary school, an Israeli strike killed the Iranian Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

This caused Iran to retaliate by essentially closing the Strait of Hormuz- the vital 104 mile-long stretch of water between Iran and the UAE through which 20% of the world's liquified natural gas (LNG), 1/3 of its fertiliser and countless other goods pass. To achieve this, Iran would attack ships passing through and lay mines in the Strait.

Understandably, the lack of ships entering and exiting the Strait has resulted in profound economic chaos. The price of a barrel of Brent crude jumped by 55% from \$72 to a high of \$120 said the NY Mercantile and the price of fertiliser has hiked by 40%. Given 4/5 of oil exiting the Strait of Hormuz is sent to Asia, the continent is experiencing turbulence. Across Asia, length lines queue for fuel. In Bangladesh, a curfew has prevented shops from opening past 8pm, whilst all Thai government employees work from home and in the Philippines a state of emergency has been declared.

More broadly, the threat of recession looms over the continent. Closer to home, the UK's rate of inflation has increased, while the price of a gallon of gas passes \$4 in the US and interest rates are spiking. Like in Asia, the threat of recession is large in the West.

Perhaps the statement "It did nothing. It changed nothing. It cost \$2 trillion" may have been an exaggeration. Iran's leadership differs significantly between now and before the beginning of the war- its former leader, defence minister, chief of staff of the Armed Forces and other senior figures are all dead. The conflict has also reshaped the future of the Gulf states, once meccas for wealth and paradise, but were devastated by Iranian attacks. However, research by the firm SolAbility suggested that if the Iran War last for between 3 and 6 months, the global economy could lose \$2.2 trillion worth of GDP. The US and Israel had no stated objective when they began strikes on Iran. Leadership in Tehran remains intact and not at risk of collapse, which was supported by a recent US intelligence report. It looks like Iran's regime will remain in power after the war. Politically, nothing has really changed.

On 25 March, the US proposed a 15-point proposal for a ceasefire to end the conflict, which included a relief of sanctions on Iran in return for limits on Iran's missiles, the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz and a reduction in Iran's nuclear program. This agreement was rejected by the Iranians. In response, they proposed a 5-point counter proposal- consisting of an end to the acts of "aggression"; ensuring the war will not restart; payment of war damages and reparations; the ending of the war across all fronts involving all resistance groups and Iranian sovereignty over the Strait of Hormuz.

Meanwhile, President Trump began threatening Iran with the obliteration of all its electricity generation plants, oil facilities and desalination plants, setting a deadline for a peace deal by 27 March. In the words of Trump, this would blast Iran "back to the Stone Ages, where they belong." The US' 27 March deadline was pushed back to 6 April at 8:00PM EST.

On Easter Sunday, days before Trump's deadline, he posted on his social media platform Truth Social, "Tuesday will be Power Plant Day, and Bridge Day, all wrapped up in one, in Iran. There will be nothing like it!!! Open the Fuckin' Strait, you crazy bastards, or you'll be living in Hell - JUST WATCH! Praise be to Allah." Trump's threat of war on the holy day of Easter Sunday sparked uproar among Christian circles. Former ardent Trump loyalist turned opponent Marjorie Taylor Greene who said that "our President is not a Christian."

Unsurprisingly, President Trump did not follow through on his threats on Iranian infrastructure. This was another example of TACO, or "Trump Always Chickens Out," a common phenomena in the Trump Presidency where he makes absurd promises without completing them. The human chains of Iranian civilians on bridges and power plants, intending to prevent a major US bombing campaign, likely didn't further impact the president's ultimate decision to not recur attacks on Iran.

Instead, the United States and Iran agreed to a ceasefire on 8 April. Key proposals in the agreement, initially expected to last for 2 weeks, included: non-aggression commitment from the US; reopening the Strait of Hormuz; an acceptance of Iran's nuclear enrichment programme; the lifting of all sanctions and resolutions against Iran, including by the UNSC and IAEA; full compensation for damages suffered by Iran during the war - to be secured through payments to Iran by ships passing through the Strait of Hormuz; and release of all Iranian assets and properties frozen abroad. Iran claimed victory because the US had agreed to a ceasefire which they proposed and from which they largely benefited. President Trump said that the ceasefire was a basis from which to negotiate, whilst Pakistan prepared to host negotiations between the US and Iran in order to agree to a long-term peace agreement.

The ceasefire didn't last long. Israel and the United States claimed that Lebanon was not included in the agreement. Following Ayatollah Khamenei's death, the Lebanese and Iranian-aligned Hezbollah group struck Israel. In response, Israel began operations in Lebanon and since the beginning of March the war has killed 2,500 people. Shortly after the announcement of a US-Iranian ceasefire, Israel continued its operations in Lebanon by killing over 350 people, making the day's attacks the largest of any day's in the latest edition of the Lebanon war.

In response, Iran and the ceasefire mediators Pakistan said that the end to conflict in Lebanon was included in the ceasefire agreement.

US Vice-President JD Vance led a large US negotiating team, also including special envoy Steve Witkoff and Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner, to the Islamabad Talks with Iran held in Pakistan on 11 April. Whilst the two sides were able to agree to the main points in the 10-point ceasefire, issues concerning Iran's nuclear programme and the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz caused disagreement. Therefore, the Islamabad Talks ended without an agreement.

As a result of a failure to reach a permanent ceasefire in the Islamabad Talks, the US imposed a naval blockade of Iranian ports on 13 April. The US would intercept and interdict any Iranian-flagged vessels from leaving the Strait of Hormuz. Four days after the US began its blockade on Iranian ships, a ceasefire was agreed between Israel and Lebanon. In response, Iran declared the Strait of Hormuz open to commercial vessels. However, the US announced it would continue its blockade of Iranian ports. This provoked Iran to quickly announce the closure of the Strait. So far, the United States has claimed that 34 ships have been blocked from going to or from Iranian ports. However, the BBC said that it had identified 4 Iranian-linked ships which crossed through the Strait of Hormuz without interception by the US. How seriously is the US blocking entry and exit to and from the Strait of Hormuz?

President Donald Trump announced that he had extended the ceasefire with Iran on 21 April. Whilst a ceasefire remains, admittedly appearing to be more de jure than anything else, it appears the two sides are in a stalemate. Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf, the speaker of the Iranian Parliament, said that it would be impossible for Iran to reopen the Strait of Hormuz whilst the US is blockading Iranian ships. The state of the Strait of Hormuz has become a cornerstone of the conflict, meaning a permanent ceasefire is highly unlikely if it remains closed in a "double blockade." For Iran, the US blockade is estimated to cost them \$435 million worth of economic damage per day. For the rest of the world, vast economic damage. US and Iranian officials decide how long this stalemate will last.

Since the Iran War began, there has been no consistently stated objective from the US and Israel.

Political and military leaders, however, often cite the destruction of Iran's nuclear programme, the toppling of the Iranian regime or to prevent an Iranian attack on Israel. Interestingly, the US and Israel decided to launch attacks on Iran whilst the US was renegotiating a nuclear peace agreement with Iran to replace the JCPOA, which was the agreement the US and various other countries shared with Iran to prevent it from obtaining a nuclear weapon.

Most likely, the reasons why US President Trump and Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu ordered attacks on Iran were political.



President Trump is attempting to distract from his 15-year long friendship with former sex offender Jeffrey Epstein. Reporting suggests more documents remain unreleased. In March, the DOJ released a batch of previous documents including notes from FBI interviews with a woman who says she was assaulted by President Trump when she was a minor. Little coverage followed. The President's strategy may be working. In November, Trump faces the Midterms. He could be involved in this war to either appear like a strong leader in hopes that it would boost his popularity, or claim the war is an opportunity to interfere with the results in autumn.

We know that Trump has denied elections before, combined with the high stakes it wouldn't be unsurprising to see an attempt at interference from the White House. The Iran War is the perfect opportunity for that.

Meanwhile, Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu faces a general election in the autumn. If he loses, Netanyahu will likely either be imprisoned in the Hague for his crimes against humanity or in Israel for his corruption. Given his approval ratings were also poor before the Gaza War began, before increasing during a wave of patriotism for Israel, War in Iran is an opportunity for Netanyahu to either delay an election to cite concerns over security or for Netanyahu to win a reassuring victory to maintain in power. Alternatively, Israel could have pressured the United States into involvement in war because they acknowledge that the US public's support for Israel is slowly decreasing- 60% of US adults had an unfavourable view of Israel in an April 2026 poll, up from 53% last year- therefore now may be the last remaining period of time for Israel to go to war with its greatest enemy.

In November, President Donald Trump faces the Midterm elections, in which all members of the US House of Representatives and some members of the US Senate will be elected.

If the Democrats win, which seems likely, Trump's period of governing by executive order may come to an end. Essentially, he'd become a lame duck president, like former Presidents Obama and Bush in the final days of their administrations. 61% of Americans disagreed with Trump's handling of the Iran War in a late March poll by the Pew Research Center. An unpopular event, like the Iran War, leading news headlines in the runup to the Midterms will be a factor going against the President.

In fact, the Democrats' lead in polling for the generic congressional ballot has increased by 0.4% since the beginning of the war. This means the Iran War will mean disastrous results for Trump in November.

War in Iran is both good and bad for China. Over 10% of China's oil is imported from Iran. Therefore, blockades and attacks on Iran and its oil infrastructure by the US would have devastating impacts on the Chinese economy. Given China is the world's largest manufacturing economy, lack of oil in China would also cause devastation for the world. Officially, Chinese President Xi Jinping is urging for diplomatic efforts to resolve the war and reopen the Strait of Hormuz. However, the conflict also offers new opportunities for China. It can present itself as a more responsible superpower in comparison to a raging US President who appears to be engaging in war without a plan or as the superpower which doesn't pursue a policy of foreign influence. This means the lesser powers will seek closer relations with China. Whilst it is unlikely that the PRC invades Taiwan, Xi could use the War in Iran as an opportunity to capture the island while the US is distracted in the Middle East.

India remains neutral. Prime Minister Modi condemned Iranian strikes on US bases but refused to condemn US and Israeli strikes on Iran. Usually 90% of India's liquified petroleum gas (LPG) passes through the Strait of Hormuz, but the Strait's closure has plunged India into an energy crisis.

Long queues for fuel lines at petrol stations whilst panic buying continues. In cities, gas canisters are confiscated by authorities and the cost of living increases. This has led to a period of reverse migrations in which people living in cities are returning to their roots in the countryside where energy is more abundant. During the Iran War, one Indian ship has been fired at by the Iranians whilst another has been seized in the Strait of Hormuz. This shifts the country's foreign policy closer to the West.

Pakistan's role as the mediators in the conflict reflect a growing concern that India is losing its role as the main power in South Asia. War in Iran will make India reconsider its place in geopolitics.

Russia's support for Iran is more complex than expected. The two countries share a close relationship, driven by opposition to US foreign policy, and signed a strategic partnership last year which promoted collaboration on defence, technology and trade. Russia has provided Iran with intelligence about the locations of US ships, troops and aircraft. However, any possible Russian support for Iran is constrained by its own war in Ukraine. For Russia, the Iran War has arguably been a success because the US government suspended sanctions on Russian and Iranian oil exports. This suspension, beginning in March, has been extended to May. Iran may have hoped for more support from Russia, but the Russians will be pleased by lifted sanctions.

President Trump has encouraged Europe to join the US in the Strait of Hormuz, but they won't budge. "Go get your own oil," President Trump told the United Kingdom. Europe will face brutal consequences, with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) downgrading the Eurozone's economic growth prospects from 1.4% to 1.1%. The United Kingdom, Germany and Italy's growth prospects were reduced the most, meaning they are most likely to be hit by the Iran War. So far, no European country has directly assisted the US and Israel in their operations in Iran. Italy has suspended a defence agreement with Israel. Europe will now shift towards more stable alternatives, such as China, for trade and investment, indicating that the War in Iran was a terrible idea for the US. King Charles and his wife, with whom President Trump claims to have a strong relationship, will travel to meet Trump next week. Perhaps that may make Trump closer to Europe but warm relations are unlikely to last long.

The economies of both the US and Iran have been affected by the war.

In April, the Iranian government estimated that the war had damaged Iran by between \$300 billion and \$1 trillion. Therefore, there is an appetite in Iran for a permanent end to the war. For the rest of the world, the war is costing trillions.

War in Iran could continue for either weeks or years. Whilst both sides would like an end to the war, there is disagreement over how that end will be reached.

Not only the terms of a potential permanent ceasefire are disputed, but more importantly the enforcement of such ceasefire will be difficult. Just hours after the 8 April ceasefire was agreed, Israel resumed its attacks on Lebanon. If a permanent agreement is made, its validity will depend on what happens immediately after. Currently, such a deal is out of question, given the US continues to blockade Iranian ports and as a result the Iranian government refuses to reopen the Strait of Hormuz.

In an age of globalisation, there is no single power which dominates. This war has made that clear. US political leadership and military capability has been tested in the Iran War. The results are that countries are quietly losing faith in the US-led world order. This is not a symptom of the Iran War—rather a theme which has defined the Trump administration. An analysis by Focaldata suggested that the majority of countries, including all of Europe, shifted more towards voting alongside China than towards the US in 2025. Ultimately, this war has made it clear that geography outranks superpower. The intricacies of the Earth hold as much power as countries such as the United States and Iran because they result in vast consequences when countries disagree. A 104 nautical-mile stretch in Asia is holding the world hostage. Whoever takes the greatest advantage of that, truly rules the world.

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What Will Happen At May's Elections?

Sir Keir Starmer entered government, having led the Labour Party to the third greatest victory in its history, nearly two years ago. A combination of poor communication, lack of ambitious policy and scandal have slid his approval rating to negative 49%. As a result, Starmer faces threats from everywhere. On the right, Reform UK and Nigel Farage have risen to first place in the opinion polls. Farage, once the lead cheerleader of Brexit, now promises to limit the rates of immigration and tax. On the left, the Green Party and Zack Polanski have risen. They have captured the support of dissatisfied Labour voters, who feel they have been denied the radical left-wing government which they voted for in 2024. The pressure is also mounting from within Labour. Scottish Labour leader called for the prime minister to quit in February, and still stands by his comments. Leaked briefings from November suggested Starmer's aides were worried about MPs starting a coup if the budget was a disaster. Angela Rayner is rallying support inside the Westminster bubble.

The commonly held belief by politicians, aides and the media is that Labour's terrible poll ratings will translate into a disastrous showing at this year's local elections. Labour MPs then have the justification to coup Starmer, or force his resignation.

On 7 May, voters across Britain will head to the polls. In Scotland, the nation's devolved Parliament, the Scottish Parliament, will be elected, and the winner will form the next Scottish government. For 19 years, the nationalist SNP, who advocate for Scottish independence, has controlled the nation's government. Many pointed the finger at the SNP for a declining Scotland, to the point at which Scottish Labour looked like the party most likely to form the next government, however the unpopularity of Labour in Westminster have returned the SNP into a comfortable lead in the opinion polls. However, the party faces new challenges from Reform UK. In Wales, the Welsh Parliament, nicknamed the Senedd, is also up for election. The winner will decide the next Welsh government. Labour have led the Welsh government, and won every single election, since devolution was brought to Wales in 1999.



Welsh Labour faces the same problem as the party does in Scotland and nationwide- the sheer unpopularity of Starmer's government. Instead, the Welsh nationalist Plaid Cymru and Reform UK are battling out for control of the Senedd. Labour falling from first to third in Wales would be a disaster. Across England, dozens of local authorities are up for election, and many of them were expected to happen last year, but were postponed. The sheer size of these elections- comprising elections to two devolved Parliaments and countless councils in England- has meant that they are essentially an US-style "midterm election," given they will occur nearly halfway through Starmer's premiership.

The Scottish Parliament uses a different system to elect its members, unlike the Westminster Parliament which uses first-past-the-post. There are 129 Members of the Scottish Parliament- 73 constituency MSPs and 56 regional MSPs. Scotland's Additional Member System (AMS) means that voters have two votes. A voter's first vote is for their constituency MSP. A constituency MSP represents one constituency and is elected using the first past the post system- similar to a Westminster MP. A voter's second vote is for a Regional MSP- where they vote for a party, not a candidate. Regional MSPs represent one of the eight regions. Each region elects seven regional MSPs. Regional seats are allocated using the d'Hondt method in which the party's regional vote total is divided by the number of constituency seats won in that region plus one. The party with the highest result gets the first regional seat, and the calculation is repeated until all seven seats are filled. In both regional and constituency ballots, only one vote is cast.

Nicknamed Holyrood, the Scottish Parliament was founded in 1999 as part of a devolution bill, which also gave Wales a Parliament, under Tony Blair's government. 65 seats are required for a majority at Holyrood, which comprises 129 MSPs. To become first minister, or head of the Scottish government, a vote in the Scottish Parliament occurs and the individual who wins a

a simple majority will be appointed as first minister. The Scottish government has devolved powers and is responsible for the nation's NHS, education and tax system, among other powers.

Despite immense turbulence and a nation crying out for change, the SNP holds a convincing lead in opinion polls. Before Labour were elected to Westminster government in July 2024, YouGov suggested Labour held a narrow one point lead over the SNP in the constituency vote. The most recent poll now suggests the SNP holds a 16 point lead over Labour. However, the polls could be incorrect. Scottish Labour won a recent by-election to Holyrood last June, and one poll suggests that around 40% of Scottish voters would be open to changing their mind. We will use polling as a factor to analyse, whilst not blindly trusting it. Since the SNP was re-elected in 2021 for its fourth term, turbulence has defined the party. Nicola Sturgeon's successor, Humza Yousaf, announced that the Scottish government would end its climate targets to achieve by the year 2030.

In response, the Scottish Greens left the agreement, making Yousaf vulnerable to a no-confidence vote, which would end his tenureship. To prevent a no-confidence vote, Yousaf resigned. He was replaced by John Swinney, a senior SNP politician whose first ministership has been relatively uneventful. In recent years, polling has indicated that Scotland would vote to be an independent nation, which may be one reason why the SNP's grip on power remains strong.

Scottish Labour is led by Anas Sarwar. As previously stated, the party's support has dropped remarkably since Labour entered government nearly two years ago.

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In February, Starmer's government was on the brink of collapse as questions emerged about how much Starmer knew about Peter Mandelson's relationship with convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein. Starmer's chief of staff Morgan McSweeney resigned, prompting rumours to abound how long Starmer himself had left. McSweeney had been central to Starmer's election victory and government. On the following day, Sarwar publicly urged Starmer to resign. Throughout their respective leaderships, Sarwar had remained close to Starmer, making his comments a huge surprise. However, Starmer's cabinet ministers began rallying behind him, urging him to remain in office. Eventually, he stayed. Most likely, Sarwar urged Starmer to go because he assumed that Starmer would resign and, if Starmer did, he wanted to claim that he was the individual who put the pressure on Starmer. More broadly, Sarwar's comments suggest that he is disloyal. Over a month after the incident, Sarwar announced that he had not spoken to the prime minister since he urged him to resign, and Sarwar more recently said that he stood by his comments. An awkward relationship is ahead for Sarwar and Starmer, significantly damaging a bruised Labour Party in the run-up to May.

Whilst one party struggles, another shines. The Scottish Greens are independent from the English and Welsh one, since both parties have been separated because the Scottish Greens wanted to be more representative of local issues by being based in Scotland, instead of in Westminster. Last month, the party achieved 10,000 members, having gained 2,500 over recent months.

Civibus has previously analysed Reform UK's campaign in Scotland. To summarise, whilst the party presents itself as a fresh start for Scotland with an ambitious policy manifesto, they poll only at around 15% and have already suspended a candidate, making victory unlikely.

The SNP are the most popular party by a considerable margin. If they don't form a majority, one likely scenario is another confidence and supply agreement with the Greens. Ultimately, the party is posed for its fifth term in Scottish government. Reform UK will be disappointed to not have pulled off the upset victory it was hoping for, however it will have established a footing in Scotland, a thought which would have been unprecedented 18 months ago. The Greens could end up as the largest opposition party, a similarly unimaginable position for the party. One worrying image would be a Scottish Parliament in which the two largest parties believe Scotland should be independent. In which case, the future of the Union is in trouble.

If Labour are reduced from second place to third or fourth place, behind two left-wing independence parties, a resounding message will be sent to the national Labour Party and the prime minister- it's time to go.

In May, Wales will elect its Welsh Parliament, nicknamed the Senedd. Previously, elections in Wales were held under the Additional Member System (AMS), which is the same system used in Scotland. However, May's elections will use the closed-list proportional representation system of voting. This system is the same as the Regional part of Scotland's. In Wales, 96 Senedd members will be elected to 16 constituencies. This means that this Welsh election will make history as the first to use proportional representation in a British election.

Given the Senedd has 96 members, 49 Senedd members are required for a majority. Like in Scotland, the first minister of Wales, or head of the Welsh government, is elected through a simple majority of Senedd members. Like in Scotland, Wales has a devolved NHS and systems of education and transportation, for which the Welsh government is responsible.

Welsh Labour has governed since devolution was brought to Wales in 1999. In fact, it has won the plurality of the Welsh vote in every single United Kingdom general election since 1922, making it the democratic world's most successful election-winning machine by some distance, according to Cardiff University's Professor Richard Wyn Jones. The most recent YouGov opinion poll for which party to vote for at the Welsh Senedd elections placed Plaid Cymru in first place with a predicted 33% of the vote; Reform UK in second place with a predicted 27% of the vote; Labour in third with a predicted 13% of the vote.

That means Labour is projected to win $\frac{1}{3}$ of the votes which it won at the last Senedd elections, marking a significant decline in its popularity. Professor Jones named Labour the democratic world's most electorally successful party. That title may soon begin to slip.

Like the SNP in Scotland, Welsh Labour have experienced a large amount of political turbulence. After two first ministers resigned the party is led by Eluned Morgan, who will lead the party into May's election. Morgan remains unpopular in Wales- 47% of Welsh people say she is doing a bad job, compared to 23% of Welsh people who say she is doing a good job.

However, Labour's unpopularity at the national level is the main driver behind its fall in support in Wales. In recent YouGov surveying in March, 64% of Welsh adults believe the UK government is doing a bad job. Only $\frac{1}{4}$ of Labour voters in 2024 say that the UK government is doing a good job. In Wales, the cost-of-living remains the primary issue for voters, which is an issue in which Labour are expected to perform poorly.

Plaid Cymru, which translates to "the party of Wales," has the highest polling numbers. They are a left-wing party which supports Welsh independence and have been led by Rhun ap Iorwerth since 2023. Plaid lead the opinion polls not because they are the primary party

supporting Welsh independence, only 15% of Welsh voters said Welsh independence should be a top priority for the Welsh government, rather because they are positioning themselves as the left-wing alternative to Labour in government. The party won the third largest number of seats and votes at the last Senedd elections, or the second largest of the left-wing parties, leading by a significant amount over the Liberal Democrats, the fourth largest party. Therefore, left-wing voters are most likely to vote for Plaid because they are the left-wing party in the best position to win power, aside from Labour, with whom they are growing evermore disappointed. To make matters worse for Starmer, Plaid's popularity has already been tested. Last October, Plaid gained a seat in a Senedd by-election in Caerphilly, a Labour stronghold for over 100 years. Plaid rose from first to second; Reform rose from seventh to second; Labour slid from first to third, losing 35% of the vote.

If Plaid perform as well as expected, Labour's grip on the left of Welsh politics, or Welsh politics more broadly, slips. Nationally, that would be a disaster for Labour.

Reform UK appointed Dan Thomas as its leader in Wales in February. The former London councillor hasn't lived in Wales for the past 26 years, but he will lead Reform UK at the Senedd elections. Driven by a lack of wealth and prosperity, Wales is the perfect place for populist politicians to answer complex problems with simple solutions, namely the demonisation of immigrants. Therefore, Wales has always been fertile ground for Nigel Farage's political career- it voted to leave the EU by a margin of 53% to 47%. In his new political outfit, Farage hopes to return to Wales and offer lower taxes and an end to Wales's asylum policy. Given his party's position in the polls, he looks unlikely to form the Welsh government.

There is a consensus that it will be difficult to predict the results of these elections because of the new voting system. Therefore, polling numbers must be taken with a pinch of salt. A left-wing government led by Plaid with support from Labour looks likely. A similar agreement happened after the last Senedd elections, but the roles were reversed. Reform could be the largest opposition party. Therefore, the Senedd elections could be the most transformative and impactful for Wales since devolution was established 27 years ago. Two populist outsider parties could find themselves as the two largest in the Welsh Parliament- in a break from the age-old status quo of Labour versus Conservative. Labour have dominated Welsh politics for over a century. At May's set of elections, the Welsh Senedd elections will be the most likely condition for Starmer's

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resignation. Assuming Labour plummets at the rate at which they are expected, backbench rebels have the credibility to ask the prime minister to go. Of course, that is only if Starmer hasn't already decided he will.

Labour's control of London may crumble. The party has generally won more parliamentary seats in London compared to nationwide, and more recently, by a considerable margin. At the last London borough elections, Labour won 21 of the 32 councils up for grabs. This time, London's voters may be seeking alternatives. Up for election are London's 32 borough councils. The UK's capital is divided into 32 different areas, boroughs, whose councils are responsible for education, libraries and bin collection, among other things. The borough councils are different to London's Greater Authority, which includes the city's Labour Mayor Sadiq Khan and the London Assembly, whose largest group is the Labour Party. Furthermore, 5 boroughs will hold an election for their directly-elected mayor, responsible for the council's executive branch.

After the February 2026 Gorton and Denton by-election, the Green Party of England and Wales hopes to win major gains in London. Last February's parliamentary by-election in Greater Manchester proved that the Green Party can win in urban behemoths such as London. In May, the party is aiming to win councillors in Islington, Haringey and Newham, as well as gaining the mayoralties of Lewisham and Hackney. Zack Polanski, the Leader of the Greens, is a Londoner who lives in Hackney, and has represented the whole of London at the London Assembly for the past 5 years. A survey by JL Partners suggested that the Greens would win the largest number of votes in Hackney and Haringey. This means that the Greens are on course for groundbreaking gains in London. The Greens hope to win 12 parliamentary seats at the next general election, including party leader Zack Polanski, who has said that he will stand for Parliament in London. For a party now defined by progressives, London council gains are the bare minimum if the Greens want to play kingmaker at the next general election.

Like in Scotland, Nigel Farage has previously failed to win electoral success in London. Greater London voted to remain in the EU by a margin of 60-40%.

However, Reform hopes to win councils in outer London at May's elections, in areas frustrated by Sadiq Khan's mayoralty and dissatisfied by the Conservatives. Specifically, Reform UK is focusing on the boroughs of Bexley, Bromley, Havering and Hillingdon. If Reform makes inroads, they could portray themselves as London's party of the right, but victory in London's 2028 mayoral contest remains unlikely.

Elsewhere, Labour are projected to lose 600 council seats, which is over half of the number they won in 2022.

An election will happen for Birmingham City Council. The incumbent Labour Party has controlled the council during some very turbulent recent years, in which it was effectively bankrupt for 2 ½ years and a one-year long strike by binmen resulted in a city littered by rubbish.

Therefore, Labour is likely to collapse. More in Common polling suggests that Labour, the Conservatives and Reform UK will all win a roughly equal number of seats in May, whilst the Liberal Democrats and Green Party will win slightly fewer. Ultimately, Labour's 14-year rule in the city is coming to an end, and most likely a "rainbow coalition" of the left will succeed it. Whilst a poor result is predicted, perhaps it isn't too devastating for Starmer given his government has stood against the workers on strike.

My home county of Hampshire will elect our county council in May. Like 9 other county council elections, Hampshire's was originally expected to take place in May 2025, however they were postponed by the government for the reorganisation of local government. Last February, a planned legal challenge by Reform UK would have cancelled the government's delay of local elections, but the UK government agreed to hold the elections before any legal process began. One April YouGov poll shows Reform UK with the most support at 29% of the vote in Hampshire; the Liberal Democrats following with 27%; the Conservatives behind in third place with 21%. It looks like the Conservative Party's 29-year rule of Hampshire County Council is coming to an end.

For a long time, May's elections have been viewed as the moment when prime minister Sir Keir Starmer will leave Downing Street. This makes sense, given Labour are predicted to perform terribly at Holyrood. In Wales, Labour will likely lose their century-aged grip on power, by coming third at the Senedd elections. Meanwhile, Labour could lose 600 councillors in London. To an extent, President Trump's war in Iran may have saved Starmer. Which likely Labour leadership contender wants to become prime minister at a time of such immense geopolitical instability? However, assuming Labour perform as badly as they are expected, this lays the ground for party rebels to pounce.

SPOTLIGHT

MARK CARNEY

President Donald Trump has made the expansion of US territory a priority of his administration. “The United States will once again consider itself a growing nation — one that expands our territory” he said at his January 2025 inauguration speech. Trump’s proposals to rehear manifest destiny, the 18th century imperialist belief, may sound absurd, because they were. However, they have tensed a relationship with its neighbours which would already have been difficult.

One of Trump’s primary targets was the US’ closest ally, Canada. Before taking office, in December 2024, he suggested that Canada should become the 51st US state and described Canada’s prime minister Justin Trudeau as the “governor of the Great State of Canada.” Upon entering office, Trump proposed that Canada could avoid US tariffs by joining the United States.

Meanwhile, Justin Trudeau’s popularity continued to slide. When elected, he was the progressive idol for liberals across the planet, enjoying popularity across Canada. But it didn’t last long. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, the price of housing and groceries have both skyrocketed, whilst Canada’s public health system has struggled. Trudeau’s government was perceived to be responsible for this downward shift. The Liberal Canadian prime minister entered office with an approval rating of plus 12%, but that had since slumped to minus 52%— for comparison Sir Keir Starmer’s current approval rating is around minus 49%. A consensus was forming—Trudeau was universally hated and that his Conservative opponent Pierre Poilievre would soon be prime minister.

At the height of Trudeau’s unpopularity, in December 2024, his finance minister Chrystia Freeland resigned. Meanwhile the New Democratic Party (NDP), who had previously promised to support Trudeau’s minority government in any votes of confidence, said they would vote against him in the new year. This would either have resulted in Trudeau’s resignation or him calling a federal election. On 6 January 2025, Justin Trudeau announced he would resign as prime minister.

As well as announcing his resignation, Trudeau announced the closure of the Canadian Parliament until his successor was chosen, preventing any votes of confidence.

A two-month leadership campaign followed in which 3 candidates, including Freeland, all threw their hat into the ring. Not one of them won the contest. Instead, the 59-year-old former Governor of the Bank of Canada and Bank of England Mark Carney won. In a landslide victory, he received 86% of the vote. Before his election as leader of the Liberal Party, Carney had held no previous political roles, meaning that he wasn’t even an MP when he became prime minister. Carney’s experience navigating global instability as the leader of the central banks of Canada and England meant that he was the perfect candidate for Canadian prime minister during a chaotic Trump administration.



During his time as Governor of the Bank of Canada from 2008 until 2013, he led Canada through the 2008 global financial crisis. No Canadian financial institutions failed, meaning the government didn’t have to bailout any banks. This was unlike many other wealthy nations, making Canada the only country in the G7 to avoid a financial crisis. From 2013 until 2020, Carney was Governor of the Bank of England, during which he led Britain through economic turbulence caused by Brexit and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Upon entering office on 14 March 2025, Carney signed a prime ministerial directive which ended Canada’s consumer carbon tax. For many, the tax was an unpopular surcharge during a devastating cost-of-living crisis. It also was at the heart of Poilievre’s agenda, giving name to his three-word slogan, “axe the tax.”

However, Carney still had to face a Parliament he didn’t control. Therefore, he announced a federal election. Given there was an election planned for no later than autumn 2025, this was expected. During the campaign President Trump’s threats on Canada, concerning the country’s sovereignty and potential tariffs, dominated. This was a huge advantage for Carney, who voters perceived would be much more effective at negotiating with Trump. Carney’s popularity caused the Liberals to surge in the polls. At their expense, the NDP, Canada’s left-wing party who are perhaps most like the UK Labour Party, collapsed in the polls. The Conservative Party’s popularity also weakened. Whilst Carney may appear to be a dull technocrat on paper, he developed a unique persona during the campaign with the slogan “Elbows up” to demonstrate his tough stance towards the US and his use of hockey on the campaign trail.

Mark Carney’s Liberal Party won the federal election. They won 169 of the 343 seats in the House of Commons, making them three away from a majority, therefore Carney formed a minority government. For opposition parties, the result was disastrous. Conservative leader Pierre Poilievre lost his seat in Parliament, and so did NDP leader Jagmeet Singh. Meanwhile, Carney became a Member of Parliament for the Ottawa riding of Nepean.

The One Canadian Economy Act has been Carney’s flagship legislative achievement. The bill, which came into effect in June of last year, restricts provisions on interprovincial trade and expedites the time taken to construct major infrastructure projects. The act attempted to reduce Canada’s reliance on the US, and it is an integral part of Carney’s “Canada Strong” agenda.

One driving factor in the election of Mark Carney was his promise that a deal could be reached with the US which would limit the effects of Trump’s tariffs on the Canadian economy. Whilst Carney has scared off any chance of Trump’s ludicrous proposals, such as a 100% tariff on Canadian goods, high tariffs remain.

INTERNATIONAL

CUSMA (Canada–United States–Mexico Agreement) compliant goods, meaning goods made in Canada, are not subject to tariffs because of the CUSMA free trade agreement. Meanwhile, non-CUSMA compliant goods are subject to a 10% tariff; metal products are subject to a 50% tariff; heavy equipment is subject to a 15% tariff. Canada's involvement in CUSMA means that it is protected from the significant economic hit many economists projected.

On the world stage, Carney is pivoting Canada's foreign policy to diversify its international partnerships. In January, he made a visit to China, where he agreed a trade deal with the Chinese government which lowered tariffs on Canadian canola oil from 85% to 15%. Carney has also agreed a deal with India in which Canada gave India \$2.6 billion worth of uranium for Canada's nuclear energy generation in exchange for commercial investment. Furthermore, Carney has developed deeper relations with European leaders. On the Davos stage, Carney delivered an enthusiastic speech in which he declared that the Middle Powers must stand up to American hegemony. The well-received speech was met with applause and praise.

Carney won a majority government in April 2026. He didn't call a snap election, rather a combination of defections and by-election victories boosted his government from minority to majority status. Four Conservative MPs, Chris Chris d'Entremont, Michael Ma, Matt Jeneroux, and Marilyn Gladu all defected to the Liberals, whilst one NDP MP Lori Idlout joined them. These defections illustrate Carney's popularity in Canada. However, one questions their democratic legitimacy.

The Liberals won three by-elections on one April night- including Scarborough Southwest and University-Rosedale in Toronto, and the Quebec riding of Terrebonne. Interestingly, Terrebonne was won by the Liberals by only one vote at the last federal elections, but that majority grew to 700 votes in the by-election. This set of defections and by-election victories meant that the Liberals' seat count increased to 174, making Carney's government have majority control in the House of Commons. This was the first time in Canada that a majority has been formed through a combination of by-elections and defections to the governing party.

Whilst the party remains centrist, Carney has shifted the Liberals towards the right. His acceptance of 4 Conservative MPs into his caucus and pro-business policies all place him in the "Blue Grit" faction of his party. Carney initially supported the Iran War, arguing it was valuable to prevent Iran obtaining a nuclear weapon, however he later argued the attacks were inconsistent with international law.

The world still watches to see whether Carney's political career has actually resulted in substantial change or was simply all talk, no do. Tariffs remain on Canadian goods and agreements with foreign countries were minimal, however the Canadian economy grew by 1.7% in 2025. We are still waiting for more of Carney's domestic and international agenda before a proper judgement can be formed.

For liberals across the globe, Mark Carney's journey from outsider to majority government has been a success story. His political story is arguably the most interesting of a foreign leader.

Now, a recent Ipsos poll suggests that Carney enjoys an approval rating of positive 25%. This certainly bucks the trend dominating the 21st century in which liberalism is continually defeated. Carney and his supporters now hope that his story doesn't end like Trudeau's.

NEWS YOU MAY HAVE MISSED



War in Iran has dominated the headlines. What else has happened?

On 11 March 2026, the first round documents relating to the appointment of Peter Mandelson as UK Ambassador to the US were released. They revealed that Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer was warned of “general reputational risk” and that Mandelson originally requested a payout of £547,000 from the FCDO. Eventually, he received £50,000. A second set of documents will be released soon.

An investigation in the Guardian revealed that the independent security vetting agency UKSV recommended that Mandelson shouldn't be appointed as Ambassador. Foreign Office officials failed to tell the prime minister that information. After the investigation, was published, the chief civil servant at the Foreign Office was fired. Questions linger about the prime minister's judgement.

In July, Britain will hold its first CPAC event. CPAC, which stands for the Conservative Political Action Conference, is an annual gathering of conservative activists, commentators and politicians in the United States. In 2025, Donald Trump; JD Vance; Elon Musk and Javier Milei all gave speeches, making the conference arguably the most high-profile event in conservative America. Last month, it was announced that Liz Truss, who has been a regular at the US conference for the past few years, will lead a CPAC in Great Britain in July. Eight other countries, including Japan and Australia, hold their own versions of CPAC. The question is: will CPAC Great Britain become a genuine political force in the US or yet another strange far-right propaganda fest? Given Reform UK has said they will “steer well clear” of the event, the latter seems likely.

Avi Lewis won the NDP leadership election in Canada. He hopes to begin a new dawn for the New Democratic Party, the left-wing political party who are to the left of Mark Carney's Liberals. The NDP performed terribly at last year's elections, when they lost a majority of their seats and votes. Lewis, the grandson of a former NDP party leader and son of a former NDP politician, hopes to bring the NDP further to the left, supporting a wealth tax and Green New Deal. He won the leadership election with majority of 30%. Perhaps Lewis is the man who can recover the NDP's electoral chances, after nearly a decade of plateau and fall under former leader Jagmeet Singh.

What is Happening in Gaza and Venezuela?



War in Gaza plastered headlines for much of the past 3 years. Until it didn't. By no means was this war unimportant— Israel has killed 72,000 Gazans; damaged or destroyed 90% of Gazan homes; and blocked supplies of food and water to devastate all 2.4 million Gazans in a famine. As a result the 140-mile square of land called the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian territory, was virtually uninhabitable. A UN Commission of Inquiry says Israel has committed a genocide. Israel began its invasion and blockade of Gaza in October 2023, after an attack by Hamas, the governors of Gaza, killed 1,200 of its own civilians, and took 251 individuals hostage. Throughout the conflict, Israel was continuously supported by the United States— in the form of \$18 billion worth of military aid according to Brown University, and 15,000 bombs according to the Wall Street Journal. This support, combined with acts of inhumane genocide by Israel, provoked much uproar among the left across the globe. In Britain, politicians such as Zack Polanski, Jeremy Corbyn and Zarah Sultana all opposed Israeli action— as well as some progressives in America, joined prominent politicians across Europe and beyond. Public opinion also was favourable to the Gazans— 86% of all global protests related to the conflict were pro-Palestinian, said nonprofit ACLED. At least 54,000 articles were written about the conflict, and media coverage extended to social media, especially among a young generation— making this war extensively covered by the media.

University campuses saw frequent pro-Palestine demonstrations. More than double Americans under the age of 30 were more sympathetic to the Palestinians than the Israelis. For my generation, Gaza is our Vietnam.

Months after the Americans brokered a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas, President Donald Trump intervened in Venezuela. In early January 2026, the US captured, some say kidnapped, Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro. Afterwards, he was flown out of the nation, transferred onto an American ship and flown to New York. Since his arrival in the United States, Maduro has been held in a jail cell in Brooklyn. During Maduro's regime, thousands were killed in extrajudicial executions and a hyperinflation crisis featured a rate of inflation of 1,000,000%. Trump has always held contempt for Maduro and his regime— during his first term, he said that he wouldn't rule out military action as an option in Venezuela. The US President blames Maduro for the fact that hundreds of thousands of Venezuelans have entered the United States— just a fraction of the 8 million who have fled Venezuela during the Presidency of Maduro. Furthermore, Trump accredits an influx of drugs— particularly fentanyl and cocaine— into the United States to Venezuela, also evident by his proscription of two criminal groups as terrorists. After the capture of Maduro, Trump promised to make use of Venezuela's vast oil reserves— the largest of any nation on Earth— which he believed had been under-utilised by Maduro, and could enrich the Venezuelan people.

The US intervention in Venezuela is clearly illegal under international law. Article 2(4) of the United Nations Charter was violated because it prohibits the use of force in international relations. Attempts to justify the intervention under US law are also false, because the country's law holds no validation outside of the US. However, January's intervention was quickly overshadowed.

On 9 October 2025, Israel and Hamas agreed to the Gaza Peace Plan— nicknamed Trump's 20-point peace plan— brokered by US President Donald Trump alongside other Arab nations. Soon after, Hamas transferred the remaining 20 hostages back to Israel, in accordance with the agreement. Next, Hamas gradually transferred the remains of dead hostages, despite Israel claiming that a coffin handed over by Hamas on Monday did not contain a hostage, rather somebody else. After Israel continued to pressure Hamas to fulfill its promises, all hostages, dead and alive, were transferred back to Israel. There are no remaining hostages in Gaza. President Trump's ego has remained central to his strategy post-war Gaza. In phase two of the Gaza Peace plan, he created the "Board of Peace." Initially an international body which would administer Gaza after the war, it is now an alternative to other world peace bodies. Tony Blair— who has extensive experience in maintaining peace in the Middle East— Jared Kushner— son-in-law of Donald Trump— and Steve Whitkoff now make up a smaller Board within the organisation called the Gaza Executive Board.

So far, the Board has done little to rebuild Gaza. Trump altered his original suggestions to instead create a de facto replacement for the United Nations- the body which Trump has consistently criticised. Now, countries are members of the Board of Peace for a three-year term in exchange for a fee of \$1 billion, or £740 million. Currently, 27 countries are Members of the Board of Peace, whilst dozens of others are Observers. In February, nine member states pledged to give \$7 billion worth of aid towards relief efforts in Gaza, and the United States pledged to give a further \$10 billion. However, these are pledges, and many of the countries who vowed to give money- including the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Bahrain- are all victims of attacks by Iran in the ongoing conflict. Therefore, they may be unable to give this aid because of the devastation they are currently facing. Western governments disapproved: the UK's prime minister and foreign secretary were both deeply concerned about the role of Russian President Vladimir Putin in an organisation dedicated to establishing peace. France, Germany and Spain also all rejected their invitations. Broadly, the Board of Peace is not a serious answer to rebuilding Gaza. Because there has been little progress, and the Board is made up of individuals and nations who have perpetuated war, not peace, the Board is not a serious way to rebuild Gaza. Instead, it represents an egotistical attempt by Trump to create a legacy.

Humanitarian aid began entering Gaza after the Peace Plan was agreed. A convoy of aid trucks carrying essential food, medicine, and drinking water entered in mid-October. Gradually, more aid began to flow through the border crossings, and in November, the New York Times reported that 800 aid trucks were entering Gaza on a daily basis. In February, the Rafah Border Crossing, one of a handful of ways to leave Gaza- and the only way via Egypt- was opened. However, the Crossing was closed earlier in the Iran conflict.

The situation on the ground remains ugly. The vast majority of Gaza's buildings remain damaged or destroyed, meaning families still continue to live in harsh conditions in tents and other forms of makeshift accommodations. Flooding and rain over the winter mean that 800,000 people living in temporary shelters are at risk of flooding, according to the UN. Whilst malnutrition rates have slightly decreased, Gaza is still in desperate need of food according to the DEC.

Trump's Peace Plan is not a ceasefire. Israel has continued airstrikes, shelling, and gunfire. As a result, 673 Palestinians have died since the Peace Plan was signed. Whilst there have been some improvements- the return of Israeli hostages, temporary reopening of the border crossings and a slight reduction in malnutrition- they do not nearly resemble the end of the Gaza War. Instead, President Trump has used the war as an opportunity to advance his own interests through the creation of the Board of Peace. Meanwhile, a new conflict rages in the Middle East and Iran.

Attention has been distracted from the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza. The Gaza War needs a proper solution.

Former Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro, and his wife Cilia Flores, are being held at the Metropolitan Detention Center in Brooklyn. During his time in Brooklyn, he has been held in solitary confinement to prevent attacks by other Venezuelan inmates- reportedly screaming every night "I Am the President!" in a cell that is 3 meters long by 2 meters wide. This illustrates the psychological damage caused by a drastic fall from power. Upon his arrival in Brooklyn in early January, Maduro pleaded "not guilty" to all four counts against him today, including drug-terrorism conspiracy, cocaine-importation conspiracy, and possession of machine guns and destructive devices. Maduro made another court appearance in March, but remains in the Detention Center in Brooklyn. The case is ongoing, and Maduro's lawyer Barry Pollack said he anticipated voluminous and complex litigation over what he called his client's "military abduction."

The US seized multiple oil tankers carrying sanctioned Venezuelan oil after the capture of Maduro. Among those seized were the *Marinera*, *M Sophia*, *Olina*, *Veronica* and *Sagitta*.

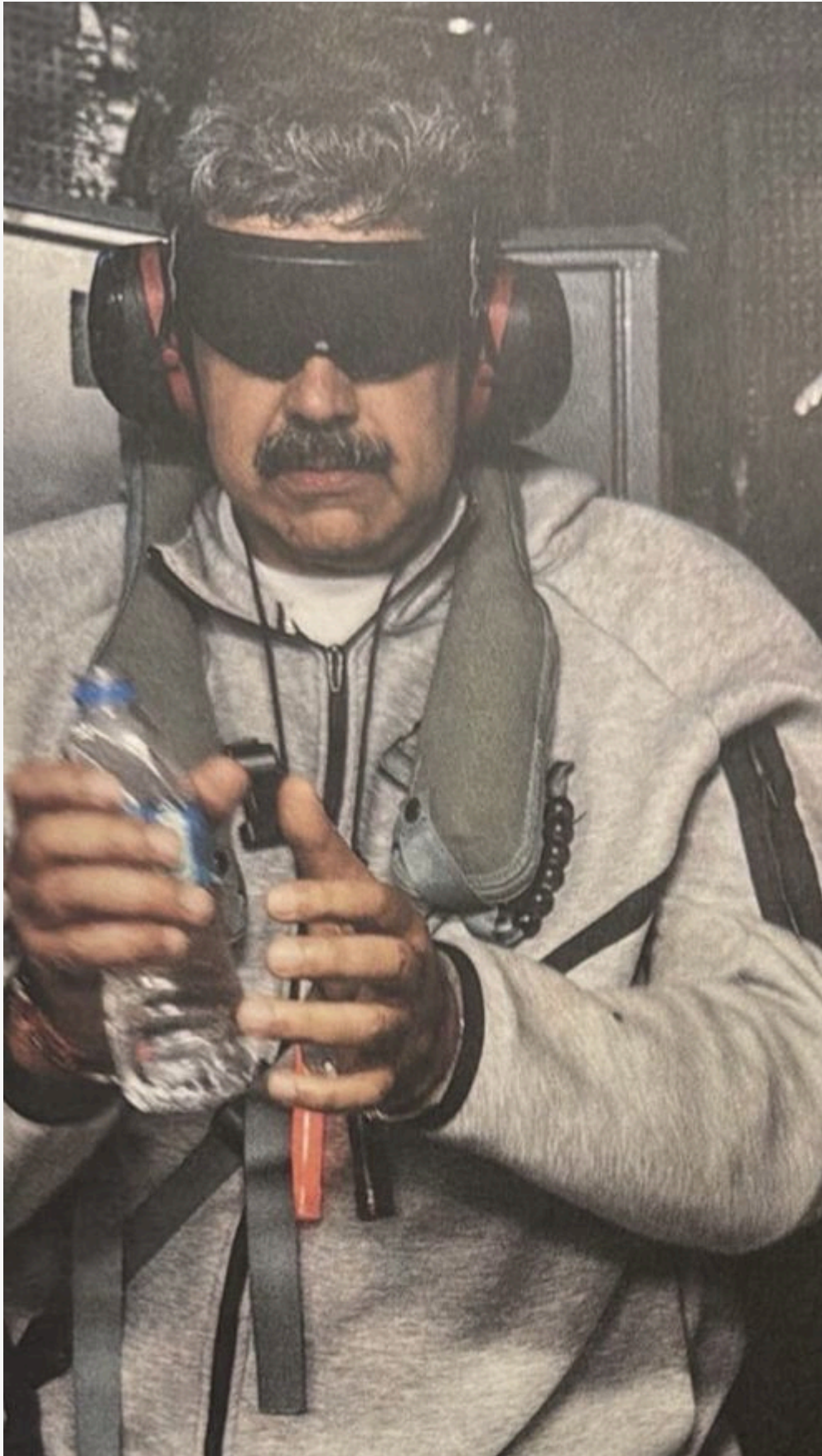
Meanwhile, the US government is warming towards Venezuelan President Delcy Rodriguez. As the Vice-President under Maduro and his immediate successor, she is not the regime change which the US had pictured. Within hours of Maduro's capture, which she described as a kidnapping, Rodriguez demanded proof that Maduro was alive. Currently, she still refers to Maduro as the official President of Venezuela. Tensions began to defrost when the Venezuelan government released nine of its political prisoners- prompting Trump to cancel another wave of attacks. Rodriguez has separately met with CIA director John Ratcliffe and US energy secretary Chris Wright to discuss economic collaboration and investment in Venezuela. Recently, the US government recognised Delcy Rodriguez as the acting President of Venezuela- in contrast to the EU, who don't- and the US has removed sanctions on Rodriguez.

Oil has been one key objective of the Trump administration in Venezuela. Venezuela is home to the largest known reserves of oil in the world that are five times larger than the United States's. As a climate change denier and supporter of oil, President Trump hopes to begin large-scale oil production in Venezuela. However, one major roadblock to that fantasy was the Venezuelan government- who had nationalised the country's oil industry and gave the state oil company PDVSA majority control over operating oil projects. In January, Rodriguez and the Venezuelan legislature approved a bill which would allow private firms to operate oil fields if they had approved contracts.

This also invites foreign firms to begin investment into Venezuela and its oil. Rodriguez announced that her government had received \$300 million from a US sale of 80 million barrels Venezuelan oil in January- which is part of an oil deal between the US and Venezuela worth \$500 million. Reuters recently reported that Chevron and Shell are close to agreeing the first big oil deal with Venezuela since the capture of Maduro. Other companies are more skeptical, partly as a result of the high density of the oil, making it expensive to produce, and meaning that it sells for little.

Venezuela appears to have both changed and to have continued on its path of authoritarian rule. A recent UN fact-finding mission found that Venezuela's repressive state remains fully operational after the capture of Maduro. Venezuela expert Laura Vidal said that the release of political prisoners is extremely slow, whilst the "revolving door" of political prisoners continues, just like deaths in custody and torture. From a human rights perspective, very little in Venezuela has changed. The privatisation of Venezuela's oil suggests the country is transitioning away from socialism, a transition that some Venezuelans may oppose. Some Venezuelans may also oppose the US intervention and restoration of relations between Venezuela and the US. Ultimately, it is too early to judge whether Trump's proposed \$100 billion investment in the Venezuelan oil industry, from both the public and private sector, will come to fruition. However, the reluctance from many oil companies remains obvious, making a proposed transformation unlikely. The results of President Maduro's trial in the US will decide the future of Venezuela. Democracy may not be returned for a long time.

Meanwhile, another storm is brewing in Latin America: Cuba. The nation ruled by a communist dictatorship since 1959 is the next which President Trump has his eyes on. Even the President admitted it when he said Cuba is "going to be next." Earlier in 2026, the Trump Administration blocked deliveries of Venezuelan oil to Cuba carrying up to 35,000 barrels of oil per day. As a result, Cuba faces a shortage of fuel, electricity, and basic necessities including food, water, and medicine. Even after an aid mission to Cuba, which brought attention to the island by featuring social media commentator Hasan Piker, US intervention looks increasingly likely. And when that happens, Gaza and Venezuela will fall off the front page once more.



ABOVE: VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT NICOLAS MADURO ONBOARD US NAVY SHIP HEADED FOR NEW YORK HOURS AFTER HIS CAPTURE

CIVIBUS MAGAZINE



"Civibus" is Latin for "Citizens".
Civibus is the Magazine for the Thinking Citizen

CREDIT

COVER ART. TRUMP'S PRESIDENTIAL PORTRAIT 2025 BY DANIEL TOROK

PAGE 2 AND 6. KEIR STARMER BY GETTY IMAGES

PAGE 4. SHUTTERSTOCK

PAGE 9. MARK CARNEY BY ALAMY

PAGE 11. GETTY IMAGES

PAGE 12. GETTY IMAGES

PAGE 14. US MILITARY

PAGE 15. COLOSSEUM BY GARY LINE ROME

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