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## ■ **Laurence Nardon, Trump II: The Clash of Ideologies**

The second Trump administration brings together a number of very different, even opposing, ideologies: far-right populism, the reactionary Christian right, paleolibertarianism, and technolibertarianism. The most visible measures taken since Donald Trump's return to the White House have been populist in nature, with the president's authority strengthened, checks and balances weakened, a form of identity politics embraced, and economic nationalism implemented.

## ■ **Alix Frangeul-Alves and Martin Quencez,** The Geopolitics of the Second Trump Administration

The foreign policy of the second Trump administration appears to lack consistency and to follow no precise doctrine. Nevertheless, a number of characteristics can be identified: a break with the legacy of previous presidents, a questioning of alliances and rules perceived to be unfavorable to the United States, an understanding of the world divided into spheres of influence, and a transactional approach to international relations. The result of all this is an uncertainty that disrupts the international order.

## ■ **Norbert Gaillard, Donald Trump's Economic Nationalism**

Since his return to power, Donald Trump has pursued an erratic economic policy, symbolized by his ever-changing announcements on tariffs. He is seeking to improve the United States' competitiveness, which may be reflected in maneuvers aimed at weakening the dollar. The uncertainties surrounding the US economy are all the more damaging given the worrying level of public debt. Against this backdrop, Moody's made the decision to downgrade the country's credit rating.

## ■ **Marc Julienne, Trump II and Asia:** The Wind is Picking Up...

The Indo-Pacific is a priority for the second Trump administration, which sees China as the United States' principal rival. However, Donald Trump began his second term in a rather disconcerting fashion by taking a harder line with Washington's traditional partners. He then provoked hostilities with Beijing, sparking a trade war even more intense than during his first term. The Chinese authorities have no intention of taking it lying down.

## ■ **Rym Momtaz**, *The Second Trump Administration and the Middle East*

During the 2024 presidential campaign, Donald Trump pledged to end the war in Gaza, to avoid any new military engagements in the Middle East, and to expand the Abraham Accords. Since his return to the White House, he has signed eye-popping contracts with the Gulf monarchies, lifted sanctions on Syria, and ordered strikes on Iran's nuclear sites. His unpredictable Middle East policy is creating division within his own camp.

## ■ **Olivier Schmitt**, *The Defense of Europe: A New Crisis of Principles*

At a time of abundant threats, of both state (Russia, China) and non-state (jihadism) origin, the fundamental principles of European security are being called into question. With Donald Trump seeking to withdraw US support for the defense of Europe, several scenarios are possible. The most desirable would be that of a "European NATO", which would allow Europe to gradually compensate for the progressive withdrawal of the United States.

## ■ **Élie Tenenbaum** and **Guillaume Garnier**, *Europe Uncovered?*

As Russia continues to threaten Europe, the Trump administration is making no secret of its desire to withdraw—at least partially—from the defense of the Old Continent in order to focus on strategic competition with China. It is thus putting pressure on its European allies to increase their investment in the military sector. The NATO Summit in The Hague in June 2025 resulted in ambitious commitments by member states to increase their defense spending.

## ■ **Adel Bakawan**, *Turkey-PKK: Forty Years, All for Nothing?*

In May 2025, the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) held its Twelfth Party Congress. This organization, which had been fighting the Turkish state for decades, announced its dissolution and the end of the armed struggle. The decision came in response to a call issued a few months earlier by the PKK's leader, Abdullah Öcalan, imprisoned by the Turkish authorities since 1999. A peace agreement between the Kurds in Turkey and the Turkish authorities could have significant regional impacts. However, the peace process could still be derailed.

## ■ **Alain Monnier**, Iraqi Shiites: Religious and Strategic Drivers of Iranian Influence

Tehran is mobilizing Iraqi Shiites through religious initiatives and support for Shiite paramilitaries. This strategy is accompanied by internal tensions within the Iraqi Shiite community, amid a deeply turbulent regional context. In October 2023, the conflict between Hamas and Israel entered a new stage, amplified in 2024 by two major shocks for the “Axis of Resistance”: the death of Hassan Nasrallah and the fall of the Assad regime.

## ■ **Djallil Lounnas**, Jihadism: North African Combatants in the Syrian-Iraqi Zone

Around 7,000 individuals from North Africa joined jihadist groups in the Syrian-Iraqi zone during the civil war. Half of them have died, and 1,500 are believed to have returned to North Africa. The fall of the Assad regime has sparked uncertainty around the future of those who have remained in Syria. It is unlikely that there will be a significant influx of “returnees”. However, the North African states are preparing for such an eventuality.

## ■ **Marc-Antoine Pérouse de Montclos**, The Challenges Facing Nigerian Oil in the Niger Delta

Nigeria possesses significant oil reserves, which account for the vast majority of exports from this country—the most populous in Africa. However, oil production has decreased over the last decade, despite a rebound since 2022. The Niger Delta, where most of the oil deposits are located, is plagued by endemic problems such as corruption and violence. The Nigerian political class, mired in racketeering, is unable to solve these problems.

## ■ **Paul Salez**, Value Chains and Investments in Asia

Southeast Asia, which has now overtaken China in terms of economic growth, accounts for a growing share of global trade. However, the Middle Kingdom still has certain advantages that allow it to maintain its place as “the world’s factory”. Will China and the rest of Asia remain resilient in the face of the tariffs imposed by the second Trump administration? What changes might we expect in the global economic order?

■ **Cyril Gelibter**, Iran's Nuclear Program:  
Evaluation Methods and Difficulties

Evaluating the progress of Iran's nuclear program is a tricky business. Competing and sometimes contradictory pieces of information come from intelligence services, the IAEA, and even Iran itself. It nevertheless seems reasonable to believe that while Iran is acquiring assets that bring it closer to the nuclear threshold, it is not yet capable of acquiring operational weapons. But, beyond being able to play the nuclear card in diplomatic negotiations, does it really want to do so?

■ **Jean Marie Théodat**, Haiti 1825-2025:  
The Geopolitics of Debt

In 1825, France forced Haiti to sign an agreement demanding significant financial payments in exchange for recognition of Haiti's independence. Today, with the country in a state of widespread dereliction, Haiti is calling for reparations, sparking an important international debate. France, which has yet to respond to this request, remains one of the few countries concerned about Haiti's fate, and about the Caribbean more broadly.

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