

Resisting Trumpism:

It means taking on the Far-Right, and the Bosses Agenda

In the short time since Trump's inauguration we have been assaulted with a constant barrage of attacks, attempting shock and awe tactics to frighten and disorient dissent. Every day there are new outrageous policies being pushed forward, too many to even list.

Starting at the inauguration ceremonies, Musk, the richest man in the world, who had been promoting far-right and fascist figures internationally, made two Nazi salutes to the crowd. He was then put in charge of firing federal workers, gaining access to private information and funding pipelines, and cutting broad swaths of essential services and workers.

Since then, we've seen reactionary action on:

Immigration: Cruel and highly publicized raids have already led to plane loads of immigrants being flown out of the country, in line with Trump's racist mass deportations promise. Guantanamo Bay is being readied for 30,000. While his promise to deport 11 million may be impossible, ICE is creating a climate of fear and normalizing police actions that could be used against even more people when Trump wants to.

Trans people: On his day one proclamation, the government recognized only two (unchangeable) genders. His order sending trans women to male prisons has so far been blocked by a judge, but they are now forced to wear

men's clothing. Trans people are barred from the military and women's sports, and hospitals have cancelled life-affirming therapies for trans youth after Trump's threats to their federal funding. While starting on the most vulnerable, this is an attack on any challenge to gender hierarchy. Idaho is bringing a challenge to gay marriage to the Supreme Court that recently ended *Roe v Wade*.

Civil Rights: While "Diversity, Equality, and Inclusion" programs were often just corporate window-dressing, not an effective fight against racism, Trump's rhetoric about DEI as "dangerous, demeaning, and immoral" suggest Black people, women, gays, and other oppressed groups are inherently less qualified than white men. He even blamed the American Airlines crash last month on DEI hiring, ignoring the chronic understaffing!

From closing down enforcement agencies to canceling a slew of orders (including President Johnson's 1965 banning of discrimination among federal contractors), his actions have given the green light to racist discrimination and attacks.

Student Protests: Building on repression of Palestinian protests under Biden, Trump has ordered agencies to report actions critical of Israel as "anti-semitism," and deport foreign students involved. The far-right Betar U.S. is filming and reporting protesters.

Gaza and the Palestinians: Trump's proposal to "own Gaza" (after the destruction caused by US-supported Israeli bombing) is greeted by disbelief around the world, but supports Netanyahu and the Zionist far-right's dreams of ethnic cleansing.

Federal Funding & Tariffs: The deadline issued by Musk to have the whole of the federal workforce resign (over 4,250,000 workers) is February 10. International USAID is now shut down. Similarly, the imposition of tariffs on China, and the threats of tariffs for Canada and Mexico can lead to trade wars whose cost will fall on workers, here and around the world.

Trump's Cabinet of Horrors have been appointed for personal allegiance to Trump, even if unsuited to the job, to back his wildest impulses. Stephen Miller, deputy chief of staff, is a white supremacist who helped design his border policy. Others include rabid believers in conspiracy theories. Any cabinet position that could provide services to people are led by those who want them dismantled.

Weaponizing the State: Trump, his Attorney General and FBI picks, are all election deniers aiming at turning repressive arms of the government against his personal enemies. Trump also pardoned 15,000 of the January 6th Capital rioters.

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So what do we do? STAND UP FIGHT BACK!

So far, we have not seen the huge wave of protests that greeted Trump's first term. But as his policies become real, we are seeing some examples of resistance and mobilization, including massive demonstrations and walkouts opposing the ICE raids, and protests against the attacks on trans healthcare.

Trump and his advisors have unprecedented connections with the far-right and violent fascist groups. But it is important to recognize we are not living under a fascist regime, however dictatorial Trump wishes to act. Neither is there a fascist movement big enough to challenge the existing state, smash working-class organizations and all resistance. We can still organize, and defeat moves in that direction.

In Chicago, the radical Chicago Teachers Union had prepared, and members kept agents from entering a largely immigrant school. Organized unions can give teeth to vague "sanctuary city" policies, and more.

There are massive contradictions in Trump's program, and his coalition. How far out of the norm he is going is frightening, but it also could easily lead to overreach, splits at the top, and resistance from below. Trump already

backed down on the blanket stop of Federal funding. Forcing more back-downs could revive confidence in the majority who don't agree with his program.

Trump ran partially on populism. He pledged to bring down prices on day one. His lies were made more convincing by a Harris campaign focused on befriending millionaires. Yet his administration is aimed at helping the transfer of money to the filthy rich, corporate tax cuts, gutting regulations, and limiting unions. He has already functionally shut down the National Labor Relations Board, and attacked the Dept. of Labor, but we still can strike.

As the prices of goods and credit do not fall, the effects of tariffs on working people become apparent, and inequality continues to increase, it will be harder for Trump to keep up the façade of this fake populism. That Musk has already made \$4 billion per day since Trump was elected, all while presiding over massive cuts and layoffs is already generating broad anger, and could blow up in their faces.

To stop his support (outside committed rich backers) from dissipating, Trump will try to emphasize non-class

divisions, demonizing imaginary enemies, radicalizing the anti-immigrant and anti-trans actions, and "America First" rhetoric. Despite his running against the "forever wars" and "nation-building," Trump is now pushing a new imperialism, with outlandish threats to take over Greenland, the Panama Canal, and now the Gaza strip, expelling close to 2 million Palestinians.

There will be more resistance.

The future depends on how long the working-class Trump supporters cling to racism and xenophobia against their own interests, and when they turn against Trump and his class. Our job is to support all oppressed people, join and build all resistance, and crucially, to connect this activism with the power of the working class. We cannot tie resistance to the hated status quo. We need to build lasting, democratic, united fronts of struggle including all Trump's victims. Out of these struggles we also need to build a socialist force with a clear vision, against the capitalist world system that is increasing inequality, fueling authoritarianism, and destroying our planet.

If you're as outraged as we are, join us. We're a revolutionary socialist organization with members active across the United States. We stand in the tradition of socialism from below and meet monthly to discuss our work, read together, and debate the way forward for different social movements.

Check out the Marx21 Website for these articles:



- Report from Immigrants' Protest in Los Angeles
- Resist Trump's Plan for Ethnic Cleansing in Gaza!
- What Next for Syria After the Fall of Assad?
- LA Fires are an Unnatural Disaster
- Amazon Strikes: A Report from the Picket Line
- The 2024 US Election: What Now?
- Info on upcoming meetings, forums and Socialist Study Groups.