

THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION: IMPLICATIONS FOR U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

Richard Giragosian Regional Studies Center

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NOTE OF CANDID CAUTION

This assessment is not our usual evidence-based analysis; rather, given the lack of data, this assessment is more of a predictive analysis

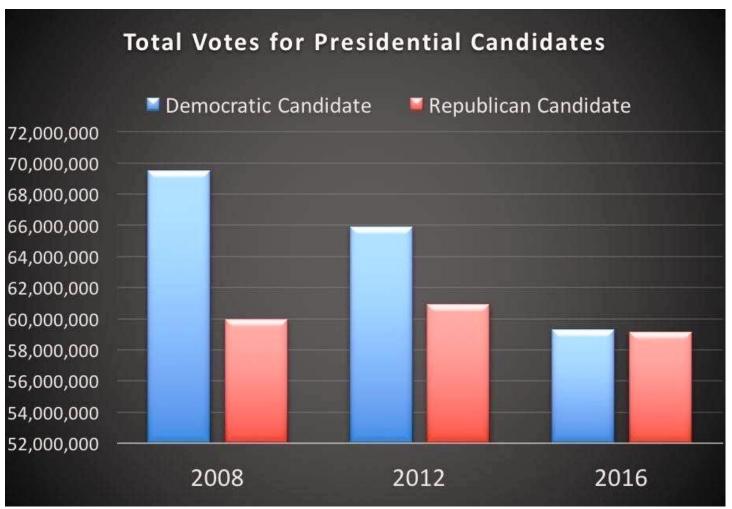
2016 Presidential Election



Moment in History Mood of the Electorate

- Despite popularity of Obama, deep unease over core issues
 - U.S. global standing (61%), crime (57%), race (67%), immigration (55%)
 - Urban-Rural divide
- Pronounced distrust of Clinton
 - Private email
 - Clinton Foundation

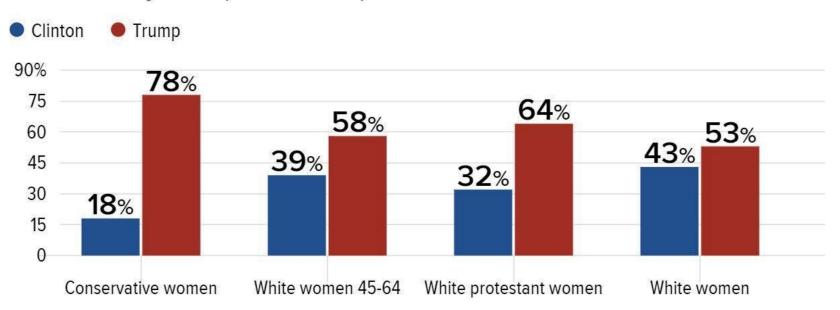
The Election Dispelling the Myth



The Election Dispelling the Myth

Voters Nationwide

Women: Key Groups for Trump



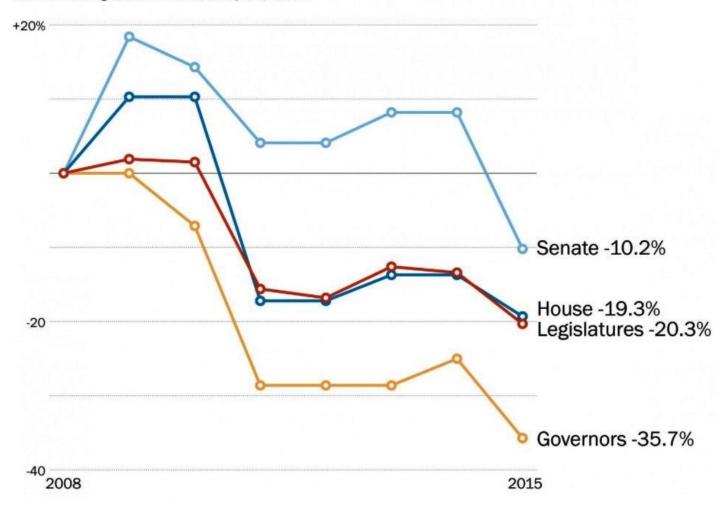
The Election Dispelling the Myth

income			
	clinton	trump	othe
under \$30,000 17 %	53%	41%	6
\$30k-\$49,999 19%	51%	42%	7
\$50k-\$99,999 31%	46%	50%	4
\$100k- \$199,999 24 %	47%	48%	5
\$200k- \$249,999 4%	48%	49%	3
\$250,000 or more 6%	46%	48%	6

The Demise of the Democrats

Change in number of Democrats since 2008

Data from House.gov, Dr. Carl Klarner, Ballotpedia, Statista.



President-Elect Trump



International Reaction



BRITAIN Theresa May

C This American election

opens a period of uncertainty"

Real Britain and the United States have an enduring and special relationship based on the values of freedom. democracy and enterprise



ee Germany and America share the values of democracy, freedom, respect for the rule of law and human dignity"

CR Russia is ready and wants to restore full-fledged relations with the US. We understand that this will not be an easy path...



RUSSIA Vladimir Putin

Congratulations. What a great news. Democracy is still alive."



HUNGARY Viktor Orban



Extreme right and populist right in Europe

Marine Le Pen (National Front, France)

Congratulations to the new president of the United States Donald Trump and to the free American people"



Nigel Farage (UKIP, Britain)



!! I hand over the mantle to @realDonald Trump! Many congratulations. You have fought a brave campaign"

Matteo Salvini (Northern League, Italy)

ee Now it's our turn"

IRAN Hassan Rohani

CCThe most important thing is that the future US president sticks to agreements, to engagements undertaken."



Recep Tayyip Erdogan

CC We hope our alliance with the United States will continue and that our partnership and relationships will develop."

JAPAN Shinzo Abe

ee Japan and the United States are unshakeable allies



FRANCE

Francois

Hollande

CC President-elect Trump is a true friend of the state of Israel"



SAUDI ARABIA King Salman

We wish your excellency success in your mission to achieve security and stability in the Middle East and worldwide



The Trump Worldview

There's nothing wrong with America's Foreign Defense Policy that a little backbone can't cure. An open letter from Donald J Trump on why America should stop paying to defend countries

that can afford to defend themselves.

DONALD JOHN TRUMP

To The American People:

For decades, Japan and other nations have been taking advantage of the United States.

The maga continues unabated as we defend the Persian Gulf, an area of only marginal significance to the United States for its oil supplies, but one upon which Japan and others are almost cotally dependent. May are these nations not paying the United States for the human lives and billions of dollars we are losing to protect their interests? Saudi Arabia, a country where we want to be a country when we want to be the United States, last week refused to allow us to use their mine sweepers (which are, sadly, far more advanced their mine sweepers (which are, sadly, far more advanced their mine sweepers (which are, sadly, far more advanced their size spoliticians as we protect ships we don't own, carrying oil we don't need, destined for allies who won't help.

Over the years, the Japanese, unimpeded by the huge costs of defending themselves (as long as the United States will do it for free), have built a strong and vibrant economy with unprecedented surpluses. They have brilliantly managed to maintain a weak yen against a strong dollar — his, coupled with our monumental spending for their, and others, defense, has moved Japan to the forefront of world economies.

Now that the tides are turning and the yen is becoming strong against the dollar, the Japanese are openly complaining and, in typical fashion, our politicians are reacting to these unjustified complaints.

It's time for us to end our vast deficits by making Japan, and others who can afford it, pay. Our world protection is worth hundreds of billions of dollars to these countries, and their stake in their protection is far greater than ours.

Make Japan, Saudi Arabia, and others pay for the protection we extend as allies. Let's help our farmers, our sick, our homeless by taking from some of the greatest profit machines ever created --- machines created and nurtured by us. "Tax" these wealthy nations, not America. End our huge deficits, reduce our taxes, and let America's economy grow unencumbered by the cost of defending those who can easily afford to pay us for the defense of their freedom. Let's not let our great country be laughed at anymore.



Isolationist "America First"

- Alliances as contractual transactions
- Challenges forward posture
- Opposes free trade deals
- Authoritarian appeal
 Deeply-held beliefs (1987)

The Trump Administration

- Candidate promises vs. Presidential commitments
 - Limits of presidential pragmatism
 - Institutional constraints
- Concerns & worries
 - Limited experience
 - Differences with Republicans
- Character & personality driving policy

Broad Implications for U.S. Foreign Policy

- Despite domestic focus, other priorities
 - Russian "reset" Sanctions & deal on Syria
 - Iran nuclear deal (difficult) & deeper commitment to Israel
- Reversal of Obama's Pivot to Asia
 - Edging Japan & South Korea closer to nuclear security; Ignoring North Korea
 - Trade measures against China
- Degrading Euro-Atlantic security

Implications for the South Caucasus

- Accommodation of Russian power & influence in "near abroad"
 - Ukraine: annexation of Crimea endorsed
 - Georgian NATO aspirations weakened
 - Russian unilateral lead on Karabakh
 - Baltic insecurity
- Moving closer to Turkey's Erdogan
- Regional irrelevance & insignificance



Conclusion