



Is the USA under President Trump a Danger for the EU?

Group 4 : Clément Chapelle - Mathieu Feger - Gabrielle Lemaire - Blandine Saunier



1. Introduction

Historical relationship



What future ?



US and Europe maintained political, economic, and military ties

For exemple:

- GATT, creation of WTO...
- Marshall Plan : Economic aid to rebuild Europe after WWII (1948)
- NATO : backbone of security alliance

European Leaders's serious concern

- Fear about the deterioration of diplomatic ties, increased pressure on defense spending, and trade conflicts.
- Trump's unpredictable foreign policy
 - ↳ could weaken the EU's geopolitical influence and stability

2.Context and background

Trump's first presidency (2017-2021) and its impact on the EU

NATO and security concerns



- he criticized NATO allies for not meeting their commitments regarding the defense
- Suggested that US might not honor its collective defense obligations and even leave NATO

Consequences :

- increased uncertainty about NATO's future
- European countries had to strengthen their own security frameworks



2.Context and background

Trump's first presidency (2017-2021) and its impact on the EU



Trade wars and economic tensions

- Trump's administration imposed additional duties of 25% and 10% respectively on imports of steel and aluminium from the EU in 2018
- European Union retaliated by placing tariffs on American products

Consequences :

- The dispute escalated tensions between the U.S. and EU, straining the transatlantic trade relationship



2.Context and background

Trump's first presidency (2017-2021) and its impact on the EU



Brexit and th EU skepticism

- Trump was a big supporter of Brexit : a “great thing”
- Encouraged other EU countries to consider leaving the bloc
- Supported leaders against the EU's centralized governance
- His administration actively engaged with UK to negotiate a post Brexit trade deal

Consequences :

- Eu saw this as an effort to undermine the EU unity and increase division within the bloc



2. Context and background



KAMALA HARRIS

226

50%

269

DONALD TRUMP

312

remporte l'élection ★

Trump's second presidency (2025-Today)

- Reelected on the 5th of november, 2024 (312 Grands électeurs)
- 25th of January 2025 : Inauguration of the president Donald Trump
- Majority of Republicans in the Senate and House of Representatives → this assures Trump the support of the Congress.
- Who has the power to block Donald Trump: for the 2nd term, the main and almost only bulwark is the Judiciary. The judiciary had blocked some of Trump's measures during his first term (but many conservative judges were appointed by Donald Trump to the federal courts).

3. *Key issues*



ECONOMICS RELATIONS

Protectionist Policies

- Planned tariffs on the EU: 10-20% on cars (currently 2.5%)

Impact on the EU Economy

- Risk for car industry
- Reduced exports and lower competitiveness for European companies
- Potential GDP drop: -0.5% to -0.9%



SECURITY AND DEFENSE

- Threat to reduce US security guarantees if EU spending does not reach 5% of GDP
- Decreasing US support for Ukraine → Risks for European security
- Trump's proposal to buy Greenland → concerns about unpredictable foreign policy decisions.

4. *Impact on Political and diplomatic relations*



Weakened Transatlantic Relations

-Trump's View on the EU

- Called the EU a “foe” in trade
- Prefers bilateral relations over multilateral cooperation

-Support for Nationalist & Eurosceptic Movements

- Close ties with Viktor Orbán (Hungary) & Marine Le Pen (France)

- Encourages nationalism within the EU

-Risks & Consequences

- Deepens internal divisions in the EU
- Weakens European integration



Strained Relations with Key EU Countries

-Tense Relations with European Leaders

- Clashes with Angela Merkel over Trump's isolationist policies
- Emmanuel Macron pushes for European strategic autonomy

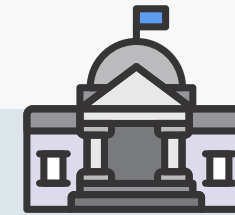
-Key Diplomatic Decisions

- Withdrawal from the Paris Climate Agreement 🌍
- Exit from the Iran Nuclear Deal (JCPOA)



-Consequences for Transatlantic Relations

- Weakened trust between the US and EU
- Seen as disregard for international commitments



THE IMPACT ON GLOBAL ALLIANCES

-Decline of US Global Leadership

- Trump's “America First” policy reduced US diplomatic engagement
- The EU must take on a bigger role in global issues

-Key Areas Where the EU Steps Up

- Climate change 🌍
- Trade agreements 📈
- Security & defense 🛡️

-Challenges for the EU

- Trump questioned NATO's relevance ?
- Threatened to withdraw US support, forcing the EU to strengthen its own foreign policy & defense mechanisms

Conclusion

Trump's second term could significantly impact the EU in three key areas.

- Economically : plan to impose higher tariffs on European imports threatens EU industries and could reduce GDP (-0.9%).
- Security : his demands for increased military spending and reduced support for Ukraine could weaken Europe's defense against Russian aggression.
- Politically : his backing of nationalist leaders like Viktor Orbán and Marine Le Pen risks deepening divisions within the EU.



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Thank you



Question to debate

Has Trump had positive effects on EU ? If
so, which one ?