

# The Ugly Face of Capitalism

By Tarcisio Beal

The power-hungry and autocratic face and nature of Capitalism is now being widely exposed with Donald J. Trump and Elon Musk and their *MAGA* right-wing allies in charge. Their takeover and manipulation of federal agencies is not only an assault on the *US Constitution*, but also a negation of basic human rights and a contradiction of the very meaning of democracy. Trillionaire Elon Musk, appointed by Trump as head of the new *Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE)*, wants to obliterate what he calls the *Deep State* by divesting government agencies of employees and funding. Thousands of federal employees are being left jobless while adding billions of dollars to Musk and his clique who already control most of the nation's wealth and much of the public media.

Trump charged Musk with the task of reducing the huge federal debt in order to shape a smaller government that gives them full control. In the process, they are endangering the security and the well-being of the nation's people. The recent firing of *FBI* personnel presents a threat to National Security; and Musk's recent dismissal of *United States Aid to International Development (USAID)* employees impacts the quality of life for millions of the poor and needy across the world and will ultimately cause the death of many. Musk's cuts of the *USAID* was seen as so outrageous that even the *Supreme Court (SC)* declared it illegal.

The Trump-appointed *Supreme Court*, however, carries the blame for the chaos that now engulfs America. Although Trump was already convicted of multiple crimes and was being investigated by the *FBI* and the *Justice Department* for inciting the January 6, 2021 riots on *Capitol Hill* and the removal of national documents from the *White House*, plus illegal actions to invalidate the 2020 election results, the *Supreme Court* still granted Trump *Presidential Immunity* that allowed Trump's pardon of convicted leaders of the attack on *Capitol Hill* and empowered Trump to continue with his inane actions in his 2<sup>nd</sup> term as President.

Now, the US, led by Trump, appears to be in collusion with autocratic governments (most notably Russia), a tendency that started during Trump's first term. This was highlighted recently during the Zelensky/Trump talks seeking an end to the war in Ukraine that began with Russia's invasion. Trump's disrespectful behavior during the "negotiations", plus Vice-President J. D. Vance's statements that the Ukrainian President was not grateful enough had never been seen before in public. No surprise, then, that on March 5th, Russia's *Foreign Relations Minister* stated that the foreign policy of the United States "coincides with our vision" —betraying *NATO* allies.



Trump's televised "Presidential Address to Congress," on March 4, 2025

Trump's friendship with Putin is raising the Europeans' fears that the US is no longer the leader of the free world. Instead, the US, under Trump, seeks to carve out a deal with Russians to sacrifice Ukraine.

Furthermore, the Trump-Musk raising of tariffs against traditionally friendly allies (Mexico and Canada) invites retaliation and is already hurting American farmers (not to mention the impact of *USAID* cuts on them). Thus, the nation's voters are starting to voice their disagreement with Trump's policies and concerns with: major cuts coming in the funding

of *Medicare* and *Medicaid*; the closing of the *United States Agency for International Development (USAID)*; the elimination of thousands of *VA* jobs; the closing of the *Department of Education*; cuts in budgets and personnel of *National Parks*, the direct attacks on the *Transgender* community denying their very humanity and so much more! All of which exposes the totally non-Christian and unscientific biases of a man who claims he was chosen by God to be the President of the US.

Trump's televised "Presidential Address to Congress," on March 4th revealed to Americans his self-glorifying personality as never before. His speech was loaded with self-praise and disregard for the truth. He claimed the *Internal Revenue Service* was paying millions of retirees whose ages were listed as 109 to 300 or above (not true); he also said that Joe Biden's presidency was the worst ever in American history and that Biden had welcomed thousands of foreign terrorists into the country, (both lies). Trump's address to Congress was unbelievably theatrical and two puppets, namely, Vice President J. D. Vance and *Speaker of the House* Mike Johnson, sat behind Trump and kept jumping up and down after each of Trump's statements while the *Republicans* cheered Trump on. On the other side of the chambers, *Democrats* and Trump critics sat silently while some of them politely held up signs of protest with words like "lies," "false," "Musk steals," and "No Kings live here!"

It seems quite clear after the first two months of Donald Trump's second presidency that he intends to shape a future America that is anything but democratic or what the Founding Fathers intended. Abraham Lincoln's authentic humanity, simplicity and devotion to the common people and to freedom contrast loudly with what is being displayed by Trump and his associates, today. It is urgent that caring Americans get involved and speak out in the struggle to save American freedom and values before it is too late.

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