



Indivisible Bainbridge Island Newsletter

March 7, 2025

Guided by Indivisible's [Practical Guide to Defeating MAGA](#)
Our goal is to help elect progressives in our state legislatures and in Washington, D.C.

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In this newsletter, "kakistocracy" stands for "Trump administration" and "the OG" refers to the "orange guy" or the "original gangster."

Things to Do!

- **In Person - [Want to do a weekly rally? See proposed rally below at noon on March 12.](#)**
 - **March 8, 11 am (doors open at 10:30 am), Rep. Emily Randall in-person Town Hall at the Olympic College, Building 7 (Theatre), 1600 Chester Ave in Bremerton. [RSVP](#)**
 - March 8, 10 am to 12 pm, Bellevue Downtown Park, International Women's Day: Fighting Oligarchy March on Medina
 - March 8, 12 pm to 4 pm, Washington State Capitol, 416 Sid Snyder Ave, Rally for All Women & Girls Rights Equality Empowerment
 - March 8, 2 pm to 4 pm International Women's Day Forum - Unite & Resist in Bremerton, WA, 4414 Perry Ave NE. [RSVP](#)
 - March 9, 11 am to 12:30 pm, Weekly Rally and March in Poulsbo, meet at the Waterfront Park pavilion, hosted by Poulsbo for All/North Kitsap Indivisible

- March 10, 5:30 pm, Worth Uniting For/WFF/North Kitsap Indivisible meeting, Poulsbo Library
 - March 10, 7 pm to 8:30 pm, Zoom, Washington Indivisible monthly meeting. [Email for the link to RSVP](#). Say that you want the WIN monthly meeting link.
 - March 10, March Xodus: Leave X/Twitter en mass
 - March 10, 6 pm to 7:30 pm, Groundwater on Bainbridge Island, a presentation and discussion at the Bainbridge Island Senior Center. Learn more about BI's groundwater issues [here](#).
 - March 12, noon to 1 pm, Rally for America, 305 and Winslow Way. [Email](#) if you want to attend.
 - March 12, 2 to 4 pm, Postcards on Wednesday, writing to Florida special election voters
 - March 16, 11 am to 12:30 pm, Weekly Rally and March in Poulsbo, meet at the Waterfront Park pavilion, hosted by Poulsbo for All/North Kitsap Indivisible
 - March 16, 2 pm to 4 pm, Indivisible Bainbridge Island monthly in-person meeting at the Bainbridge Island Fire Station, 8895 N Madison Ave NE. Overflow parking at the First Baptist Church is restricted to the row nearest the first station. Use sidewalks, don't walk on the grass.
- [Boycotts](#)
 - March 7 to March 14, boycott Amazon.
 - March 21 to March 28, boycott Nestle.
 - April 7 to April 14, boycott Walmart.
 - April 18, second economic blackout.
 - April 21 to April 28, boycott General Mills.
 - [Call Our Elected Representatives](#) or use [5Calls.org](#)
 - Tell our senators to vote NO on all nominations, such as Mark Meador (FTC), Michael Krastios (Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy), Steve Miran (Chair of the Council of Economic Advisors). Learn about them [here](#).
 - Tell our elected representatives to form a shadow cabinet and hold weekly press conferences covering what's happening at federal agencies. Grab the news cycle by holding press conferences at 8 am in D.C. the same time as the Sunday pundit shows. Some suggestions: Pete Buttigieg for State, Rep. Adam Smith (D-WA) for Defense, Kathleen Sebelius for HHS, Deb Haaland for Interior, Michael McFaul for CIA, Paul Rieckhoff for VA, AOC for Energy, Jamie Raskin for Attorney General.

Resources

- [Watch](#) Sen. Elissa Slotkin's post-Joint Congress speech. (She was great!)
- [Watch](#) Mr. T's speech (if you can take it)
 - Among the onslaught of lies, his claim that a group 'headed up' by Stacey Abrams received \$2 billion was [rated false](#) by PolitiFact.

- Rep. Al Green (D-TX) was censured for standing up, waving his cane in the air and yelling during the speech, prompting Green's removal from the chamber. Two days later, ten Democrats - including Rep. Marie Gluesenkamp Perez (D-WA) - joined all Republicans in [censuring](#) him.
- [Watch](#) AOC's response to the 1.75 hour speech in which he did not once mention Medicaid and told more lies about Social Security, which to AOC means the GOP is going after both.
- [Watch](#) Tim Miller on the Power of Speaking Out Against Tyranny
- [Watch](#) The Real State of the Nation with Timothy Snyder, hosted by Red Wine and Blue.
 - Find news outlets you can trust. Snyder recommends
 - [Philadelphia inquirer](#)
 - [ProPublica](#)
 - [Wired](#)
 - Other trusted news outlets
 - [Public Citizen](#)
 - [The Bulwark](#)
 - [Democracy Docket](#)
 - [MeidasTouch Network](#)
 - [Mother Jones](#)
 - [Associated Press](#)
 - [Reuters](#)
 - [The BBC](#)
 - [NPR.org](#) and [PBS.org](#)

Legal Front - Follow the cases at [JustSecurity.org](#).

- March 6, 23 Dem AGs [team up](#) to fight the OG.
- March 6, federal judge [reinstated](#) Gwynne Wilcox, the Democratic NLRB member who was fired in February. The board now has a quorum and can conduct business.
- March 6, Second federal judge [extends block](#) preventing the kakistocracy from freezing funding.
- March 5, in a 5-4 decision, the Supreme Court [rejected](#) the kakistocracy's bid to avoid paying USAID contractors.
- March 5, lawyers suing DOGE [filed](#) a new brief using evidence from T's March 5 speech as proof that Musk is running DOGE illegally. (White House staffers have been trying to shield Musk from lawsuits by, for example, [claiming](#) a woman on vacation in Mexico is running DOGE.)
- March 5, the Merit Systems Protection Board decided to expand their original decision that six USDA workers had been illegally terminate to include 5,000 additional USDA workers.

- March 6, Musk's DOGE [sued](#) after using U.S. marshals to take over the U.S. African Development Foundation.
- Feb. 27, a federal judge [decided](#) the Office of Personnel Management's mass firings of probationary employees was illegal. March 4, OPM [altered](#) its firing memo to say that agencies can fire workers but OPM doesn't reverse probationary worker firings. Federal offices [now have until September 13](#) to determine how to reduce staff.

His Revenge Tour

- On Feb 25, the OG signed a memo suspending the federal building security clearances of employees at the Covington & Burling law firm in Washington, D.C.
- On March 6, the OG [canceled](#) the federal clearance for Perkins Coie law firm employees and ordered federal agencies to cancel contracts with the firm. The effects of the security clearance suspension. It is absurd to bar a law firm's lawyers from entering a federal court house. Their crime: they represented Hillary Clinton. So far, no other law firm has stepped up to defend either firm.

Our Government

- The [many unpopular things](#) the OG is doing right now.
- **All the things done to help Putin**
 - After the Friday ambush, Ukraine's Zelenskyy [says](#) its "time to make things right" with U.S. and seeks the OG's "strong leadership" for peace.
 - U.S. and Russia [agree to restore embassy staffing](#) in high-level talks on Ukraine war. Russia sees talks with US as an [opening to rebuild its spy networks](#).
 - The U.S. has [cut off](#) intelligence sharing with Ukraine that helps on the battlefield.
 - The OG himself [ordered](#) a "pause" on military aid to Ukraine, causing equipment that was en route to be returned.
 - The U.S. considers [easing sanctions](#) on Russia after Oval Office Meltdown last Friday.
 - Hegseth [halts](#) cyber operations against Russia, adding to an ugly pattern.
 - The U.S. has ended support for rebuilding and repairing Ukraine's energy grid (a prime Russian target).
 - The U.S. has [sided with Russia](#) on U.N. resolutions.
 - The U.S. is now [advocating](#) for Russia to join the G7 and [objected](#) to the phrase 'Russian aggression' in G7 statement on the third anniversary of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.
 - In February, the U.S. [cut Ukraine out of peace talks](#) with Russia.
 - **USAID**

- Senior USAID leader Nick Enrich [warned](#) Rubio and other appointees of the hundreds of thousands of deaths that will occur from closing the agency. Now he's [been put on leave](#). It appears that Rubio has issued waivers to at least pay contractors for work done as of Feb. 13, but "USAID leadership has failed to process the disbursement of funds."
 - In blow to the OG, Supreme Court [frees up](#) billions in USAID money but gave the kakistocracy time to sort its payments out. In the 5-4 ruling, Roberts and Barrett joined Sotomayor, Kagan and Jackson.
- **Defense**
 - Vicious Pentagon press secretary [faces calls to resign](#) over antisemitic posts.
- **DOJ** - so far, Pam Bondi and the OG have:
 - [Ordered](#) a [scorched-earth](#) purge of any of the DOJ's 115,000 employees who don't like the OG.
 - [Established](#) a "Weaponization Working Group" to review the actions of officials who investigated the OG at both the state and federal levels, including Jack Smith and DA Alvin Bragg, and NY AG Letitia James.
 - [Limited](#) enforcement of the Foreign Agents Registration Act to "more traditional espionage by foreign government actors," rather than the crimes, for example, that the OG's advisor, Paul Manafort, committed.
 - [Disbanded](#) the task force to fight foreign interference from China, Russia and others in our elections.
 - [Closed](#) the KleptoCapture Unit that seized Russian oligarch assets.
 - [Sued](#) NY AG Letitia James and Gov. Kathy Hochul for a state law that allows undocumented people to get a driver's license.
 - [Ordered](#) the dismissal of the SDNY case against NY Mayor Adams, resulting in the [resignation](#) of at least six prosecutors. Judge Daniel Ho asked Paul Clement to argue against the dismissal, with a hearing set as early as March 14.
 - [Released](#) the Epstein files to much fanfare - something conspiracists have been demanding for years. But the release was a bust in that the release consisted of information that was already known, such as flight logs (with the OG's name among them). Now Bondi [says she was misled](#), and another release is coming.
 - Today, two federal SDNY prosecutors who worked on the Eric Adams case were [placed on leave and escorted out](#) of their workplace.
 - **Office of the U.S. Attorney for Washington, D.C.**
 - The interim U.S. Attorney for Washington, D.C., Ed Martin, planned to investigate Sen. Chuck Schumer for saying in 2020 that two conservative justices had "released the whirlwind" and would "pay

the price" for overturning Roe. Now, Martin has [dropped](#) the idea. **This counts as good news!**

- From [Rollingstone.com](#): The OG "is working to 'drain' the D.C. prosecutor's office and make it MAGA."
- Interim D.C. U.S. attorney Ed Martin is [threatening](#) anyone who opposes Elon Musk's DOGE cronies.
- Washington, D.C. appeals court [finds](#) that the kakistocracy provided enough "cause" to remove Hampton Dellinger as the Special Counsel of the U.S. Office of Special Counsel. The court did not sign its decision.
- **FBI**
 - On a Feb. 27 teleconference call with the heads of the FBI's 55 field offices, Patel [suggested](#) that he wants the FBI to establish a formal relationship with Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC) to develop programs for agents to improve their physical fitness.
 - Top FBI official, James Dennehy, [forced out](#) after questioning pursuit of agents who investigated Jan. 6.
 - Now FBI director, Kash Patel [took](#) \$25k for role in Russia-linked anti-FBI film.
 - New deputy FBI director Dan Bongino previously [called for](#) imprisoning Democrats.
- **State**
 - Feb. 25, the OG announced that he is [replacing](#) the EB-5 visa with a \$5 million "gold card" for wealthy immigrants. The EB-5 visa required an investment of \$1 million that will create or preserve 10 permanent full-time jobs for U.S. workers. Commerce Secretary Lutnick was light on details about how applicants will be vetted.
- **Health and Human Services**
 - RFK Jr. [performs](#) astonishing 180 on vaccines after years of misinformation, saying that vaccination is a personal decision that can protect individuals and communities. Still, RFK Jr. [favors](#) cod liver oil for its Vitamin A content, but experts say Vitamin A is only helpful in people who are already Vitamin A deficient. [Nine states](#) have measles outbreaks: Texas (where one unvaccinated child has died), New Mexico, New Jersey, Alaska, California, Georgia, Kentucky, New York and Rhode Island, and a total of 164 cases. Older adults [may want to consider](#) getting a booster.
 - CDC [rescinds termination notice](#), calls about 180 fired employees back.
- **Veterans Affairs**
 - March 5, the Department of Veterans Affairs is [planning to cut](#) more than 80,000 workers - many of them veterans.

- In February, Sec. of Veterans Affairs, Doug Collins, proudly [announced](#) the cancellation of 875 contracts, including the cancellation of safety monitoring of X-ray and MRI machines. If not properly monitored, the entire hospital would be required to shut down. Under pressure from congressional Democrats, the number of cancelled contracts has been whittled down to 585. Of them, VA employees have [identified](#) 200 contracts essential to veterans care, such as sterile processing services to decontaminate equipment and medical instruments. Also on the cancellation list: contracts providing required certification and accreditation for stroke centers and follow-up care for cancer patients.
- **Agriculture**
 - Nearly 6,000 fired USDA employees just [got their jobs back](#) for 45 days.
 - Secretary of Agriculture [says](#) Americans should farm chickens to combat egg prices.
- **Interior**
 - National park staff told to [downplay](#) record-breaking 2024 visitor stats as visitors to a national park in Texas [face mile-long lines](#) to get in.
- **Commerce**
 - With the Atlanta Fed [predicting](#) negative 1.5 percent GDP growth in the first quarter, Sec. of Commerce Lutnick [proposes a nonsensical fix](#): remove government spending from GDP calculations.
 - The OG is planning an order to take over the USPS and put it in the Commerce Dept., threatening mail voting. [Watch](#) voting rights attorney Marc Elias discuss the many implications.
- **Labor**
 - March 6, the OG to [tap head of anti-union group](#) to run the Office of Labor-Management Standards, which oversees financial disclosures by unions and “union-busting” consultants.
 - Whole Foods: How the OG is allowing Amazon to [steamroll](#) its grocery store workers’ union efforts.
- **Homeland Security**
 - Lawyers [sue to stop](#) kakistocracy from sending 10 migrants to Guantánamo Bay.
 - The kakistocracy [has stopped](#) using C-17 and C-130 military planes to deport immigrants India, Guatemala, Ecuador, Peru, Honduras, Panama, and Guantánamo Bay. Each flight to India cost \$3 million, and some flights to Guantánamo Bay cost \$20,000 per migrant.
 - T.'s aid freeze [disrupted](#) an anti-narcotics program at Mexican ports.
 - The kakistocracy is [rethinking](#) its Guantánamo immigrant detention plan amid cost issues and power struggles.

- South Texas immigration detention center with capacity for 2,400 people to [reopen](#).
- **Education - "I love the poorly educated,"** - T., Feb. 24, 2016
 - The OG has [prepare the order](#) to dismantle the Education Department but he hasn't signed it yet. The department manages student loans and distributes money directly to public schools to help them educate the disabled. [Click to see](#) who gets the most money.
 - Dept. of Education now has a DEI '[snitch line](#)' where people can report schools that are still honoring DEI.
 - The OG [vows](#) to deport students over 'illegal protests' and to defund colleges. The Dept. of Education says stop work orders for \$51.4 million in contracts with Columbia University are under consideration, and that more than \$5 billion in grant commitments to that school will be reviewed.
- **Treasury**
 - On Feb. 6, the OG signed an executive order laying out a plan to create a sovereign wealth fund for the United States. [Doing it won't be so easy](#).
 - On March 6, the OG [created](#) a "Strategic Bitcoin Reserve," ordering the Treasury Department to set up an office to administer the reserve, which will be capitalized with Bitcoin (BTC) confiscated by the government as part of criminal or civil asset forfeiture proceedings, Ripple, ethereum, Solana, XRP and Cardano tokens. [Watch](#) PodSaveAmerica's reaction.
 - From [Forbes.com](#): The OG's "Strategic Crypto Reserve and what it means for crypto and you."
 - Treasury Secretary Bessent [says](#) the American dream is not about 'access to cheap goods,' so there's no need to worry about inflation.
- **The National Science Foundation**
 - National Science Foundation [rehires](#) half of the employees fired two weeks ago.
- **EPA**
 - EPA [plans](#) to 'permanently cripple' climate protections in single blow.
- **General Services Administration**
 - The kakistocracy [took down](#) its list of hundreds of federal buildings targeted for potential sale.
- **Securities and Exchange Commission**
 - Crypto exchange Kraken [says](#) the SEC is dismissing its lawsuit against Kraken.
 - On Feb. 27, the SEC [announced](#) the dismissal of its civil enforcement action against Coinbase, the largest U.S. cryptocurrency exchange
 - Chinese crypto mogul Justin Sun, who invested \$75 million into the OG's coins, is [getting a reprieve](#) from the SEC on civil fraud charges.

In Congress

- Congress has two plans for [avoiding a government shutdown](#) on March 14. They're working on a continuing resolution that may last just a few weeks or one that may go through September, as the OG prefers.
- Last week, the House [passed](#) a framework for a budget by just one vote.
- Republican lawmakers [expand](#) impeachment crusade against federal judges.

The Economy

- Layoffs across the U.S. [soar](#) to highest level since 2020, led by DOGE cuts.
- The kakistocracy has [disbanded](#) two committees that make sure the economic numbers the government produces are accurate.
- Planned job cuts [increased](#) 245% to 172,017 last month, the highest level since July 2020, when the economy was in the grips of the COVID-19 pandemic. It was the highest February total since the Great Recession 16 years ago.
- The U.S. [added](#) 151,000 jobs, short of expectations, as federal workforce shrinks. The unemployment rate rose to 4.1%.
- On Jan. 20, 2025, the Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJI) [closed](#) at 43,487.83. Today, it [closed](#) at 42,801.72.
- Consumer confidence [declined](#) by 7.0 points in February to 98.3.
- **Tariffs**
 - March 6, Mr. T [delays tariffs](#) on many products from Mexico and Canada until April 2.
 - Stellantis, Ford and General Motors [secured](#) a month-long tariff exemption from the OG, but other Canadian goods imported into the U.S. were subject to a 25% tariff, except for energy, which is taxed at 10%, for two days.
 - From the [Toronto Star](#): The OG "is waging economic war on Canada. Here's one way we can protect ourselves: ... withholding nickel, cobalt, lithium, graphite, copper, and rare earths."
 - From [Forbes.com](#): How the OG's "tariffs on Mexico and Canada could impact U.S. gas prices."
 - Pete Navarro on Fox "News" [claims](#) Canada has been taken over by Mexican drug cartels.

Musk's Bad Day

- A StarShip [blew up](#) eight minutes after launch, just like the previous test flight.
- He got demoted. On Thursday, Marco Rubio [unleashed his fury](#) on Musk in heated a cabinet meeting while the OG looked on. Finally the OG [told](#) the assembled cabinet secretaries, including Musk, that they, not Musk, have the power to hire and fire workers.

The Grift

- The OG is [charging](#) millions to hobnob with him at Mar-a-Lago.
- During the transition period, the OG's Store (run by the Trump Organization) [added](#) 168 new presidential products, for a total of 1,725 items. A \$200 MAGA Victory Blanket and \$30 Inauguration Seal Mugs, \$550 45-47 Bling Clutch and \$120 45-47 Rocks Glass Set are some of the highlights. If you're on his e-mail list, this stuff is marketed to you daily.
- What it's like to be on the OG's [fundraising_email_list](#).
- The OG's meme coin [is down](#) 81% and Melania's is 92% since launch.

Welcoming Criminals

- Musk [urges](#) the OG to 'think about' pardoning George Floyd's murderer.
- Facing rape and trafficking charges in Romania, professional misogynist [Andrew Tate is back in the U.S.](#) The OG claims to know nothing about it, but Romanian officials [say](#) U.S. counterparts brought up the brothers' case with the Romanian government earlier this month. And the OG's special envoy Richard Grenell [raised the issue again](#) at a security conference in Munich.

In the World

- Ukraine
 - [Listen](#) to Al Franken's interview with war correspondent Tim Mak.
 - Russian drone [detonates](#) on Chornobyl nuclear plant containment shell.
 - In their never-ending search for peace, Russia [launched](#) the largest drone attack on Ukraine on the eve of the third year of war.
 - The kakistocracy's decision to suspend all military aid to Ukraine was announced [without consultation with NATO](#) and was applauded by Russia. Sharing of intelligence about Russia with Ukraine is also [suspended](#). Both suspensions allegedly depend of peace talk progress. In the wake of these suspensions, Russia [launched](#) huge strikes on energy targets across Ukraine with drones and cruise missiles. However, the U.K. and France [continue to share intelligence](#) with Ukraine.
 - Ukrainian opposition leaders, including the former president and prime minister, [have met](#) with the OG' representatives, but denied any plan to oust Zelenskyy. They expressed support for Zelenskyy and opposed holding elections while the war continued. While Zelenskyy's approval ratings have dropped during the three-year war, but he remains the most popular Ukrainian politician, and his ratings were given a boost by the OG's attacks.
 - If elections were held today, Zelenskyy [has a 20 percent lead](#) in polls over his nearest opponent.
 - Saudi Arabia [will host](#) talks between the U.S. and Ukraine in Jeddah next week, but Saudi Arabia's closeness to Russia is concerning.
- European Union

- With the exception of Hungary and in a "watershed moment", European leaders [agreed](#) to an €800 billion defense spend. Slovakia (led by the pro-Russian Robert Fico) was reluctant to agree but came along by wordsmithing the final statement to include exploring "workable solutions" to its ongoing gas supply dispute with Kyiv. In the final statement, EU leaders except Orban [affirmed](#) "there can be no negotiations on Ukraine without Ukraine" and that any peace deal must "respect Ukraine's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity."
- French president Macron [says](#) more is needed and that Europe's future [can't be decided](#) by Kremlin or White House.
- U.K.
 - Prime minister Starmer [finds](#) subtle way to deal with the OG. After the White House ambush on Feb. 28, Starmer got on the phone with both the OG and Zelenskyy, trying to patch things up. However, Starmer needs to reign in the British ambassador to the U.S., Lord Mandelson, who has called for Zelenskyy to give in to the OG.
- For the first time ever, the United States under the O.G., is [negotiating](#) directly with Hamas, warning that death awaits Hamas leaders and Gazans if hostages aren't immediately released. (Five American hostages are [believed](#) to be alive.) This comes after months of setting deadlines and proclaiming that "all hell will break loose" to no effect. [Watch](#) attorney Ben Meiselas discuss.
- Israel [faces backlash](#) after halting all aid into Gaza as a method of warfare.
- The OG has [signed an order](#) prioritizing U.S. 'resettlement' of white South Africans over 'discrimination,' but they [turn his offer down](#).

Indivisible Bainbridge Island

We are **Indivisible Bainbridge Island**, working in 2024 to **save our democracy** and elect common sense Democrats who respect personal freedoms.



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