

Washington's Empire Is Not Unraveling

By [Dr. Paul Craig Roberts](#)

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Region: [Europe](#), [Russia and FSU](#), [USA](#)

Theme: [Environment](#), [Media Disinformation](#)

The military/security complex spent seven decades building its empire. The complex assassinated one American president (JFK) who threatened the empire and drove another (Richard Nixon) out of office. The complex does not tolerate the election of politicians in Europe who might not follow Washington's line on foreign and economic policy.

Suddenly, according to the Western and even Russian media, the complex is going to let one man, Trump, who does not rule America, and one woman, Merkel, who does not rule Germany, destroy its empire.

According to the pressites, by pulling out of the Paris Accord (the global climate pact) and stating that NATO members should contribute more to the alliance's budget for which the US taxpayer has an overweighted share, Trump has caused Merkel to conclude that Europe can no longer rely on Washington. The discord between Trump and Merkel and Washington's resignation of its leadership position has destroyed the Western alliance and left the EU itself on the verge of being torn apart.

All of this is nonsensical silliness. What has happened is this:

Just as men in dark suits and dark ties carrying briefcases explained to Trump that it was not Washington's policy to normalize relations with Russia, they explained to him that it was not Washington's policy to exit the Paris Accord. Trump said something like this: Look, you guys, you have already required me to abandon my peace initiative with Russia and my intent to pull out of Syria. Now you are forcing me off my "America First" pledge. If people realize that I am not really the president, who are you going to rule through? What about a compromise?

Here is the deal, as Trump made perfectly clear in his speech. He is temporarily pulling the US out of the Paris Accord while he immediately opens negotiations to rejoin the Paris Accord on terms less burdensome to Americans. In other words, the "pull out" is a face-saving gesture that will result in a small reduction in America's share of the cost. We will have a "Trump victory" and no damage to the Paris Accord.

Trump to pull U.S. from historic Paris climate agreement

Casting his decision as a 'reassertion of America's sovereignty,' president's move alarms leaders worldwide

"I was elected to represent the citizens of Pittsburgh, not Paris," the president said in announcing the United States' abandonment of the historic, 190-nation pact. The move honors a Trump campaign pledge but jeopardizes America's alliances and stymies the global effort to address the warming planet.

By Philip Rucker and Jenna Johnson

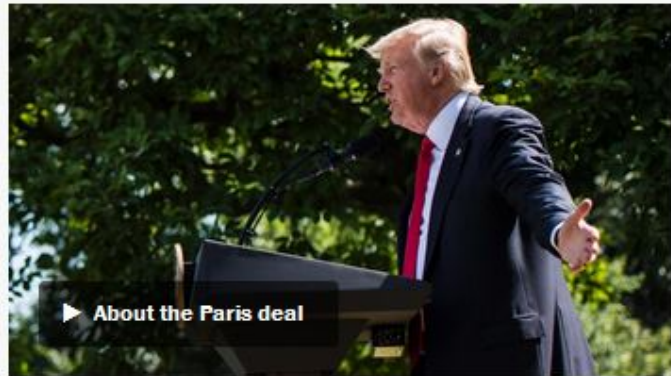
- **The Fix: Trump's remarks on leaving the Paris climate deal, annotated**

Analysis

Trump's reasons for leaving the agreement just don't add up

Trump railed against the climate accord and its "draconian financial and economic burdens."

But it's hard to reconcile the president's description of the deal with the agreement itself.



▶ About the Paris deal

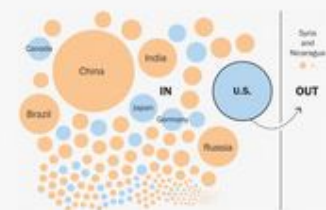
(Video: Daron Taylor/The Post; photo: Jabin Botsford/The Post)

Analysis

Only two countries aren't part of the Paris climate agreement. The U.S. will be the third.

The United States will join two other nations — Syria and Nicaragua — in the U.N. climate group that do not participate in the accord.

By Kim Soffen and Denise Lu



As the U.S. bows out, some

Source: The Washington Post via Michael Bucci

Merkel facing reelection needs a boost that will refocus German attention from the one million Muslim refugees, bringing crime, rape, and terrorism in their train, that Merkel brought into Germany. Her dramatic statement that Europe can no longer rely on America was a perfect way to refocus attention. I wouldn't be surprised if Trump and Merkel got together and agreed on how they would play this.

Yet neither reporters nor commentators could report the obvious truth. Why? The Western media could not let pass the opportunity to denounce Trump for destroying American leadership and the climate, and environmental organizations seized the fundraising opportunity to oppose Trump's climate destruction. Russian commentators saw hope for Russia in NATO and the EU breaking up as consequences of America going its own way.

There are two serious implications of this media deception. One is that Americans and the world are blinded to the fact that there are power centers that constrain a president and are capable of substituting their agendas for the agendas on which the president campaigned. We saw this with Obama, but were given the explanation that Obama never meant it in the

first place. Now we will get the same explanation of Trump. The fact that the president is constrained by the military/security complex and the financial sector will not come through. Thus, The Matrix's myth of democracy bringing change via elections will continue to blind people to reality.

A second consequence is that the Russians, ever hopeful to be part of the West while retaining national sovereignty, which no member of the EU or NATO is permitted to do, will see in the reported withdrawal of American leadership renewed hopes of joining Europe. If the Russians take seriously the New York Times anointment of Germany's Merkel as "the liberal West's last defender", Russia might leave herself militarily and economically exposed by slowing military preparations and the development of economic relations with Asia.

(<https://www.nytimes.com/2016/11/13/world/europe/germany-merkel-trump-election.html?mcubz=0&r=1>)

People can have little idea of actual events as long as news reporting and commentary reflect political agendas and hopeful aspirations.

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