

**Donald Trump (Republican)**  
**"Make America Great Again!"**  
(\*June 14, 1946)



### **Personal life**

- He was born and raised in New York City.
- His father was Frederick Christ Trump, a Bronx-born real estate developer whose parents were German immigrants. His mother was Scottish-born housewife Mary Anne MacLeod Trump.
- He grew up with three elder siblings, Maryanne, Fred Jr., and Elizabeth, and younger brother, Robert.
- He was married 3 times (Czech model Ivana Zelníčková. 1977-92, three children, actress Marla Maples, 1993-99, one daughter, Slovenian model Melania Knauss, since 2005, one son).
- He identifies as Presbyterian and appointed his personal pastor, televangelist Paula White, to the White House Office of Public Liaison.
- He abstains from alcohol, says he has never smoked cigarettes or cannabis.
- He likes fast food and French cuisine, has called golfing his "primary form of exercise" and considers exercise a waste of energy.
- He is of "very good health overall", although clinically obese, suffers from a form of coronary artery disease.



### **Business and media career**

- He received a bachelor's degree in economics from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. His lawyers threatened university and the New York Military Academy with legal action if they released Trump's academic records.
- He became president of his father's real-estate business in 1971.
- He renamed it The Trump Organization, and expanded its operations to building or renovating skyscrapers, hotels, casinos, and golf courses.
- He was involved in more than 4,000 state and federal legal actions, including six bankruptcies.
- He produced and hosted *The Apprentice*, a reality television series, from 2003 to 2015.
- His estimated net-worth is at \$2.1 billion.



### **Political career**

- He registered as a Republican in Manhattan in 1987, switched to the Reform Party in 1999, the Democratic Party in 2001, and back to the Republican Party in 2009.
- He entered the 2016 presidential race as a Republican.
- He was elected in a surprise victory over Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton, although he lost the popular vote.
- He has been the 45th and current president of the United States since 2017.
- He is a businessman and television personality.



## Political agenda

- He has been renegotiating U.S.–China relations and free trade agreements such as NAFTA and the Trans-Pacific Partnership,
- He has been investing in infrastructure, simplifying the tax code while reducing taxes for all economic classes, and imposing tariffs on imports by companies that offshore jobs.
- He has been pursuing energy independence while opposing climate change regulations such as the Clean Power Plan and the Paris Agreement
- He is has been modernizing and expediting services for veterans,
- He has been repealing and replacing the Affordable Care Act (“Obamacare”)
- He has been abolishing (which seeks to establish consistent educational standards across the states) education standards.
- He has been strongly enforcing immigration laws, and building a new wall along the U.S.–Mexico border.
- He favours extreme vetting or banning immigrants from Muslim-majority countries to pre-empt domestic Islamic terrorism.
- He advocates a largely non-interventionist approach to foreign policy while increasing military spending and aggressive military action against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant.
- He has repeatedly called NATO "obsolete".

➔ His political positions have been described as populist and some of his views cross party lines.



## Presidency

- He has permanently cut the corporate tax rate to 21 percent temporarily lowered personal tax brackets until 2025, increased child tax credit.  
➔ In 2016, the year before Trump took office, the U.S. national debt was around \$19 trillion; by mid-2020, it had increased to \$26 trillion under the Trump administration.
- He has rolled back federal regulations aimed at curbing greenhouse gas emissions, air pollution, water pollution, and the usage of toxic substances.
- He has rolled back key components of the Obama administration's workplace protections for LGBT people.
- He has continually reduced the number of allowed refugees into the country.
- He permanently restricts travel from Iran, Libya, Somalia, Syria, Yemen, North Korea and Chad, along with certain Venezuelan officials.
- He has launched a trade war against China.



## Impeachment

- He welcomed and encouraged Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election according to a special counsel investigation but there has been no sufficient evidence to press charges of criminal conspiracy or coordination with Russia.
- He was also investigated for obstruction of justice, the report neither indicted nor

- exonerated Trump on that offence.
- He solicited an investigation by Ukraine of political rival Joe Biden.
- He was impeached by the House of Representatives in December 2019 for abuse of power and obstruction of Congress.
- He was acquitted by The Senate of both charges in February 2020.



## **Public image**

- He has made many false or misleading statements during his campaign and presidency, for example such as Trump's promotion of unproven antimalarial drugs as a treatment for COVID19 in a press conference and on Twitter in March 2020.
- Many of his comments and actions have been characterized as racially charged or racist and he has repeatedly refused to condemn the Ku Klux Klan or white supremacists.

## ***Role play:***



***Imagine you are Donald Trump discussing with your opponent at a panel discussion.***

- 1. Use the information on this sheet to get prepared for the discussion.***
- 2. Use the information about Joe Biden to be ready to attack your opponent.***

*(Sources: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/people/donald-j-trump/>, <https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump>, <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Donald-Trump>, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Donald\\_Trump](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Donald_Trump),*

*Picture: Michael Vadon, [Donald Trump August 19, 2015 \(cropped\)](#), [CC BY-SA 2.0](#))*

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