

Published: January 12, 2026, 7:53 pm

Headlines in the Guardian and elsewhere make it obvious how dangerous politics is becoming at this moment. Just look at those that follow.

First, [there is a threat to annex Canada](#):

'A snowball's chance in hell': Trudeau rejects Trump threat to annex Canada

President-elect threatened to use 'economic force' to make northern neighbor part of US

Trump is not the only thing that has pulled down Trudeau, but he has most certainly destabilised that country already, and matters will get worse. I also fear for minorities there as there is going to be a sharp swing to the right.

Then [there is Greenland and the Panama Canal Zone](#):

Trump refuses to rule out using military to take Panama Canal and Greenland

Remarks likely to set off alarm bells around the world as Trump prepares to return to the White House this month

I believe Trump when he says he is considering using economic and military force to create a new US empire. I do not think he will stop with Canada, Panama and Greenland, either. Magalomamniacs don't know what moderation is.

Meanwhile, [Facebook is giving up moderation](#) of content so that the far-right can say what they like. The flow of propaganda is going to become intense:

Meta to get rid of factcheckers and recommend more political content

Mark Zuckerberg says company will 'dramatically reduce censorship' across Facebook, Instagram and Threads

Note the use of far-right language in this. Fact-checking and moderation are not censorship, despite the far-right's claims; they are about ensuring the credibility of the content. That is going to disappear.

So are the protections for many. [Note this story](#) on McDonald's giving up its diversity programmes under right-wing pressure in the USA:

McDonald's rolls back DEI programs, ending push for greater diversity

Fast-food company decides to scale back plans after 2023 US supreme court ruling and conservative backlash to DEI

DEI stands for diversity, equity and inclusion.

This is going to be a bad time to be:

- * a woman, or
- * LGBTQ+, or
- * a member of an ethnic minority, or
- * a migrant, or
- * poor, or
- * neuro-divergent, or
- * to be a part of the majority, in other words.

The world is going to be ever-more rigged in favour of the white, supposedly evangelical Christian from an already privileged background, and they really do not care about the rest of us.

And [there is this](#), of course:

Elon Musk knows 'absolutely nothing' about women and girls' safety, says Jess Phillips

Safeguarding minister says billionaire has increased her risk of harm by calling her a 'rape genocide apologist' on X

The personal risks of opposing these people are growing, as I am aware. The threats

are very real and will only increase in number.

Trump is delivering economic insanity unless, of course, he is actually delivering his plan, which is for fascism, when all of this both makes sense and has horrible resonances.

Worry, a great deal, I suggest.