

Starmer is making a fool of himself: the US is no longer our ally

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As Politics Home reported in an email yesterday:

It is “totally unserious” to suggest that the UK must choose between siding with Europe or the United States in its approach to the war in Ukraine, Keir Starmer has said.

Other reports suggest that whoever wrote this paragraph got the sentiment that Starmer was trying to project to Parliament right.

The trouble is, Starmer makes himself look a complete fool by making such a claim. Anyone, and in fact almost everyone, can now see that Trump is not our ally anymore.

Trump has not only flipped sides during the course of a war, shifting US support from the position of his predecessors with regard to Ukraine, to now supporting Russia's position, and its aggression towards that state.

There is nothing subtle about this process. It is there for everyone to see.

It is also clear that Trump's pro-Russian stance is not just with regard to Ukraine. He has literally closed down every single security process in operation in the USA that might prevent Russia interference with US elections. Simultaneously, he has cancelled the entire USAID programme, which eliminates most of American soft power in the world. He has also closed down US anti-corruption programmes as if he wants to give a green light to Russian oligarchs that the US is now open to them to launder their funds.

Simultaneously, his tariff war against the European Union makes it clear that he not only wishes to transfer responsibility for supporting Ukraine to European states, but he also wishes to undermine their capacity to provide that assistance.

At the same time, Trump is blatantly seeking to undermine the effectiveness of the US constitution, the rule of law in the USA, and the rights of Congress to challenge the actions he takes as president. He is very obviously staging a coup in plain sight.

Perhaps as seriously, real people in the USA are suffering as a consequence. One

quarter of all Americans are likely to lose some or all of their medical support and right now, millions of women in America will be facing increased medical risk as a consequence of Trump's administration removing information from federal websites on how conditions that only women can suffer from should be treated so that US medical practitioners are being left without any up-to-date guidance on the proper treatments to prescribe, making it almost impossible for them to do so in the litigious US medical system. I make the point deliberately. Trump is not only at war externally with almost everybody but Russia, he is also at war with his own people.

In this context, when it is glaringly obvious that Trump is not only not our ally, but he's very clearly setting out to undermine the political, economic and social security of the UK, he can only be described as an enemy of our best interests. For Keir Starmer to pretend otherwise is, to be frank, stupid. It is hard to find another word. In that context, for his ministers to go on the radio and say that Trump remains someone that they can trust makes them look ludicrous. Nobody in their right mind should trust Trump.

So, what is Starmer playing at? Is it that, as ever, he cannot give up on the Labour habit of triangulation, established by Tony Blair, as a result of which Labour plays off all the parties to a potential policy, seeking appeasement with everyone whilst trying to find a line of least resistance even when that path is utterly inappropriate, as a present. I think this is most likely.

It is, however, also possible that Starmer is way out of his depth at present, and is working on autopilot, delivering platitudes because as yet he has no idea what else to do.

What I am sure of is that Starmer's current position is going to rebound on him. Trump is not changing or withdrawing. Of that I think we can be sure. As a result, Starmer is going to look ever more incompetent as his current comments rebound on him.