

Panic in New York

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As the [FT has reported](#) this morning:

President Donald Trump has branded Zohran Mamdani “a 100% Communist Lunatic” the day after the New York mayoral hopeful won a surprise victory in the city’s Democratic primary.

In a post on his Truth Social platform, Trump attacked Mamdani as a “radical leftie” who was “on his way to becoming Mayor”.

These two paragraphs present me with a conundrum. To describe Zoran Mamdani as a 100% communist is obviously entirely absurd. It's true that he is a socialist. It is also true that he is not a Zionist. Glaringly obviously, he is a Muslim. But is he a communist? Only in the brains of the far right is that a possibility.

On the other hand, Trump is right in describing Mamdani as a radical leftie who is on his way to becoming mayor of New York. That does, indeed, look to be the case.

Right across the media, the panic of the political establishment on this issue is apparent. The Democratic Party establishment is in meltdown, fearful of what this means for their view of the world that was so resoundingly rejected when Trump was elected.

And the GOP is also panicked. The ad hominem attacks might be flying, but what comments from Trump and others suggest is that they are also worried about the prospect of a real alternative that actually reflects the disillusionment of the people of the USA being put before the electorate of the country, and what that might mean for them.

New York is not, of course, typical of the US.

And Mamdani has not won yet.

If, as expected, he wins the nomination, Cuomo might still stand, not that he has much

chance, I suggest.

More likely is that money will go into the coffers of another independent candidate that the New York financial oligarchy is now desperately seeking to find. As the FT [notes this morning](#):

Panicked Wall Street financiers are racing to rally behind an “anyone-but-Mamdani” candidate for New York City mayor after 33-year-old democratic socialist Zohran Mamdani unexpectedly clinched the Democratic nomination on Tuesday.

I have no idea what will happen in this race as yet. Nor has anyone else, but what we can be sure of are three things.

The first is that the establishment, whether Republican or Democratic, is spooked.

The second is that the reason why they are spooked is that Mamdani undoubtedly has popular support. As is the case in the UK, the people of the USA have had enough of the right-wing political establishment in whatever form it wishes to present itself to the electorate.

Third, there are lessons to learn here. Being left of centre, coherent, charismatic, persistent, and very obviously ethical has electoral appeal. Who would have thought it?