

If Trump says jump, Starmer will

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As ITV has reported (and I have edited, but very lightly):

Keir Starmer is set to present President Trump with a bespoke red box, the likes of which are usually reserved for his majesty's ministers.

The box was made especially for the president and is adorned with the presidential seal and title, with Downing Street saying it "symbolises the special relationship between the UK and US".

This is quite extraordinary. Of course, these boxes are symbolic, but symbols matter. And the message in this gift could not be clearer. Starmer is making clear that Trump, who is currently engaged in destroying free speech in his country, is a de facto member of his Cabinet. What he is saying is if Trump says jump, he will.