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▲ President Donald Trump signs an executive order regarding the Department of Government Efficiency, in the Oval Office on Jan. 20, 2025.

# AN OVERVIEW OF TRUMP'S DOZENS OF EXECUTIVE ACTIONS

Trump issued a wide range of executive orders on his first day in office, aligning the country with his agenda

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the stage for deportation operations while cracking down on illegal immigration and crime.

The president reinstated the “remain in Mexico” policy (formally known as the Migrant Protection Protocols), ended the “catch and release” of illegal immigrants, sought to designate cartels as foreign terrorist organizations, paused refugee resettlement, ended birthright citizenship, and brought back the death penalty for certain crimes against federal agents.

With the end of “catch and release” and the return of policies such as “remain in Mexico,” those seeking asylum will no longer be able to live and work in the United States while awaiting adjudication of their claims.

Those policies under President Joe Biden were a significant factor in attracting some 11 million illegal immigrants into the country in four years, experts have said.

Another executive order directs the attorney general to seek capital punishment for the murder of law enforcement officers and for capital crimes committed by illegal immigrants.

Ending birthright citizenship will likely spark legal challenges.

Birthright citizenship is addressed in the 14th Amendment to the Constitution, which states that “all persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the state wherein they reside.”

Trump’s order hinges on the “subject to the jurisdiction thereof” part of the amendment, stating that the federal government will not recognize automatic birthright citizenship for children born to illegal immigrant parents.

Trump also rescinded multiple Biden executive orders related to the border and immigration.

## Reducing Inflation

Trump signed an inflation memorandum titled “Delivering Emergency Price Relief for American Families and

Defeating the Cost-of-Living Crisis,” which will assemble a whole-of-government approach to tackling high prices.

In his executive action, Trump referenced “unprecedented regulatory oppression” from the previous administration, which he estimates has “imposed almost \$50,000 in costs on the average American household.”

He ordered the heads of all executive departments and agencies to “deliver emergency price relief, consistent with applicable law, to the American people and increase the prosperity of the American worker.” The measures will include expanding the housing supply, eliminating administrative expenses and rent-seeking practices that add to health care costs, and removing requirements that raise the costs of home appliances.

Trump, according to the memorandum, will abolish “harmful, coercive ‘climate’ policies that increase the costs of food and fuel.”

In his inaugural address, the president said that today’s high inflation rates had been caused by overspending and by ballooning energy prices.

Cumulative inflation has surged about 21 percent over the past four years. Trump will begin his second term with an annual inflation rate of 2.9 percent, compared to 1.4 percent when he left office.

Economists have said that Trump’s economic agenda, especially his proposed tariffs, could rekindle the inflation flame by making production more expensive and raising consumer prices.

U.S. Treasury secretary nominee Scott Bessent dismissed these concerns during his confirmation hearing before the Senate Finance Committee last week, saying that a layered-in approach could offset a spike in prices. Additionally, he said that U.S. dollar appreciation, cheaper foreign exports, and changes to consumer preferences could counteract potential adverse effects.

## Trade and Tariffs

A portion of Trump’s raft of executive orders focused on his trade agenda.

The president presented a broad trade memorandum that directs federal agencies, including the Treasury, Commerce, and Homeland Security departments, to examine unfair trade relationships and currency policies with other countries, particularly Canada, Mexico, and China.

Trump will not impose new levies on other nations.

This does not mean he will abandon his pursuit of tariffs. Speaking to reporters from the White House, Trump said he will consider imposing 25 percent tariffs on Canada and Mexico on Feb. 1 because of their trade policies. The president said he will consider putting levies on the Chinese regime if it does not approve a TikTok deal.

In his inaugural address, he also pledged to overhaul the trade system.

“Instead of taxing our citizens to enrich other countries, we will tariff and tax foreign countries to enrich our citizens,” he said.

Trump told reporters: “You put a universal tariff on anybody doing business in the United States, because they’re coming in and they’re stealing our wealth, they’re stealing our jobs, they’re stealing our companies. They’re hurting our companies.”

The president reiterated his plan to establish an External Revenue Service to collect all tariffs, duties, and revenues from foreign businesses and countries.

Tariffs were a chief tenet of his election campaign. He vowed to impose 10 percent to 20 percent universal levies on all U.S. importers and 60 percent to 100 percent tariffs on Chinese products arriving in the United States. Shortly after the November 2024 election, Trump threatened 25 percent tariffs on Canada and Mexico if they didn’t curb illegal immigration and fentanyl trafficking.

## WHO Withdrawal

Trump also signed an executive order to remove the United States from the World Health Organization (WHO), a U.N. agency.

The order also ends any negotiations

regarding the organization’s global pandemic treaty, and it instructs the secretary of state to inform the top ranks of the WHO and the United Nations. The Senate overwhelmingly confirmed Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) to that position earlier on Jan. 20.

Trump previously withdrew the United States from the WHO in 2020, against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic. Biden rejoined the organization soon after taking office. The order revokes the Biden administration communication to rejoin.

## Climate Pact Exit

Trump has again withdrawn the United States from the Paris Agreement, essentially reissuing his 2017 executive order leaving the global accord.

It will take a year to formally disenroll from the pact, but the move signals that the nation’s energy policy will no longer adhere to global carbon emission goals.

“The United States will not sabotage our own industries while China pollutes with impunity,” Trump said on Jan. 20.

“You know, China, they use a lot of ‘dirty’ energy, but they produce a lot of energy and when that stuff goes up in the air, you know, [it] doesn’t stay there ... it floats into the United States of America.”

It is difficult to “fight for cleaner air” when “dirty air is dropping all over us,” Trump said. “Unless everybody does it, it just doesn’t work.”

Withdrawing from the climate pact will save taxpayers \$1 trillion, according to the White House.

## National Energy Emergency

In the first of many energy-related executive actions expected, Trump declared a national energy emergency and opened millions of acres in Alaska to fossil fuel development.

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# List of Executive Actions

**PROCLAMATION**  
Guaranteeing the States Protection Against Invasion

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
Restoring Names That Honor American Greatness

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
Designating Cartels and Other Organizations as Foreign Terrorist Organizations and Specially Designated Global Terrorists

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
Reforming the Federal Hiring Process and Restoring Merit to Government Service

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
Ending Radical and Wasteful Government DEI Programs and Preferencing

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
Defending Women From Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
Establishing and Implementing the President's "Department of Government Efficiency"

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
America First Policy Directive to the Secretary of State

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
Protecting the United States From Foreign Terrorists and Other National Security and Public Safety Threats

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
Unleashing Alaska's Extraordinary Resource Potential

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
Protecting the American People Against Invasion

**MEMORANDUM**  
The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Global Tax Deal (Global Tax Deal)

**MEMORANDUM**  
Organization of the National Security Council and Subcommittees

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
Reevaluating and Realigning United States Foreign Aid

**MEMORANDUM**  
Temporary Withdrawal of All Areas on the Outer Continental Shelf From Offshore Wind Leasing and Review of the Federal Government's Leasing and Permitting Practices for Wind Projects

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
Declaring a National Energy Emergency

**MEMORANDUM**  
Restoring Accountability for Career Senior Executives

**MEMORANDUM**  
Promoting Beautiful Federal Civic Architecture

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
Restoring the Death Penalty and Protecting Public Safety

**MEMORANDUM**  
Putting People Over Fish: Stopping Radical Environmentalism to Provide Water to Southern California

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
Securing Our Borders

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
Realigning the United States Refugee Admissions Program

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
Unleashing American Energy

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
Clarifying the Military's Role in Protecting the Territorial Integrity of the United States

**MEMORANDUM**  
America First Trade Policy

**MEMORANDUM**  
Memorandum to Resolve the Backlog of Security Clearances for Executive Office of the President Personnel

**PROCLAMATION**  
Declaring a National Emergency at the Southern Border of the United States

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
Holding Former Government Officials Accountable for Election Interference and Improper Disclosure of Sensitive Governmental Information

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
Restoring Accountability to Policy-Influencing Positions Within the Federal Workforce

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
Withdrawing the United States From the World Health Organization

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
Application of Protecting Americans From Foreign Adversary Controlled Applications Act to TikTok

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
Restoring Freedom of Speech and Ending Federal Censorship

**PROCLAMATION**  
Granting Pardons and Commutation of Sentences for Certain Offenses Relating to the Events at or Near the United States Capitol on January 6, 2021

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
Putting America First in International Environmental Agreements

**MEMORANDUM**  
Delivering Emergency Price Relief for American Families and Defeating the Cost-Of-Living Crisis

**MEMORANDUM**  
Hiring Freeze

**MEMORANDUM**  
Regulatory Freeze Pending Review

**MEMORANDUM**  
Return to In-Person Work

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
Ending the Weaponization of the Federal Government

## REVOCATION OF ORDERS AND ACTIONS

*Trump rescinded 78 executive actions issued by his predecessor, covering a wide range of policy areas*

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 13985**  
Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 13986**  
Ensuring a Lawful and Accurate Enumeration and Apportionment Pursuant to the Decennial Census

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 13987**  
Organizing and Mobilizing the United States Government To Provide a Unified and Effective Response To Combat COVID-19 and To Provide United States Leadership on Global Health and Security

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 13988**  
Preventing and Combating Discrimination on the Basis of Gender Identity or Sexual Orientation

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 13989**  
Ethics Commitments by Executive Branch Personnel

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 13990**  
Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring Science To Tackle the Climate Crisis

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 13992**  
Revocation of Certain Executive Orders Concerning Federal Regulation

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 13993**  
Revision of Civil Immigration Enforcement Policies and Priorities

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 13995**  
Ensuring an Equitable Pandemic Response and Recovery

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 13996**  
Establishing the COVID-19 Pandemic Testing Board and Ensuring a Sustainable Public Health Workforce for COVID-19 and Other Biological Threats

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 13997**  
Improving and Expanding Access to Care and Treatments for COVID-19

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 13999**  
Protecting Worker Health and Safety

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14000**  
Supporting the Reopening and Continuing Operation of Schools and Early Childhood Education Providers

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14002**  
Economic Relief Related to the COVID-19 Pandemic

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14003**  
Protecting the Federal Workforce

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14004**  
Enabling All Qualified Americans To Serve Their Country in Uniform

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14006**  
Reforming Our Incarceration System To Eliminate the Use of Privately Operated Criminal Detention Facilities

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14007**  
President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14008**  
Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14009**  
Strengthening Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14010**  
Creating a Comprehensive Regional Framework To Address the Causes of Migration, To Manage Migration Throughout North and Central America, and To Provide Safe and Orderly Processing of Asylum Seekers at the United States Border

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14011**  
Establishment of Interagency Task Force on the Reunification of Families

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14012**  
Restoring Faith in Our Legal Immigration Systems and Strengthening Integration and Inclusion Efforts for New Americans

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14013**  
Rebuilding and Enhancing Programs To Resettle Refugees and Planning for the Impact of Climate Change on Migration

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14015**  
Establishment of the White House Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14018**  
Revocation of Certain Presidential Actions

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14019**  
Promoting Access to Voting

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14020**  
Establishment of the White House Gender Policy Council

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14021**  
Guaranteeing an Educational Environment Free From Discrimination on the Basis of Sex, Including Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14022**  
Termination of Emergency With Respect to the International Criminal Court

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14023**  
Establishment of the Presidential Commission on the Supreme Court of the United States

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14027**  
Establishment of the Climate Change Support Office

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14029**  
Revocation of Certain Presidential Actions and Technical Amendment

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14030**  
Climate-Related Financial Risk

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14031**  
Advancing Equity, Justice, and Opportunity for Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14035**  
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility in the Federal Workforce

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14037**  
Strengthening American Leadership in Clean Cars and Trucks

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14044**  
Amending Executive Order 14007

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14045**  
White House Initiative on Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence, and Economic Opportunity for Hispanics

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14049**  
White House Initiative on Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence, and Economic Opportunity for Native Americans and Strengthening Tribal Colleges and Universities

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14050**  
White House Initiative on Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence, and Economic Opportunity for Black Americans

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14052**  
Implementation of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14055**  
Nondisplacement of Qualified Workers Under Service Contracts

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14057**  
Catalyzing Clean Energy Industries and Jobs Through Federal Sustainability

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14060**  
Establishing the United States Council on Transnational Organized Crime

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14069**  
Advancing Economy, Efficiency, and Effectiveness in Federal Contracting by Promoting Pay Equity and Transparency

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14070**  
Continuing To Strengthen Americans' Access to Affordable, Quality Health Coverage

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14074**  
Advancing Effective, Accountable Policing and Criminal Justice Practices To Enhance Public Trust and Public Safety

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14075**  
Advancing Equality for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Intersex Individuals

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14082**  
Implementation of the Energy and Infrastructure Provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14084**  
Promoting the Arts, the Humanities, and Museum and Library Services

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14087**  
Lowering Prescription Drug Costs for Americans

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14089**  
Establishing the President's Advisory Council on African Diaspora Engagement in the United States

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14091**  
Further Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government

**PRESIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM**  
Withdrawal of Certain Areas off the United States Arctic Coast of the Outer Continental Shelf from Oil or Gas Leasing

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14094**  
Modernizing Regulatory Review

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14096**  
Revitalizing Our Nation's Commitment to Environmental Justice for All

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14099**  
Moving Beyond COVID-19 Vaccination Requirements for Federal Workers

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14110**  
Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy Development and Use of Artificial Intelligence

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14115**  
Imposing Certain Sanctions on Persons Undermining Peace, Security, and Stability in the West Bank

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14124**  
White House Initiative on Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence, and Economic Opportunity Through Hispanic-Serving Institutions

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14134**  
Providing an Order of Succession Within the Department of Agriculture

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14135**  
Providing an Order of Succession Within the Department of Homeland Security

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14136**  
Providing an Order of Succession Within the Department of Justice

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14137**  
Providing an Order of Succession Within the Department of the Treasury

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14138**  
Providing an Order of Succession Within the Office of Management and Budget

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14139**  
Providing an Order of Succession Within the Office of the National Cyber Director

**PRESIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM**  
Designation of Officials of the Council on Environmental Quality to Act as Chairman

**PRESIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM**  
Designation of Officials of the Office of Personnel Management to Act as Director

**PRESIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM**  
Designation of Officials of the Office of Science and Technology Policy to Act as Director

**PRESIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM**  
Designation of Officials of the United States Agency for Global Media to Act as Chief Executive Officer

**PRESIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM**  
Designation of Officials of the United States Agency for International Development to Act as Administrator

**PRESIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM**  
Designation of Officials of the United States International Development Finance Corporation to Act as Chief Executive Officer

**PRESIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM**  
Withdrawal of Certain Areas of the United States Outer Continental Shelf from Oil or Natural Gas Leasing

**PRESIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM**  
Certification of Rescission of Cuba's Designation as a State Sponsor of Terrorism

**PRESIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM**  
Revocation of National Security Presidential Memorandum 5

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 14143**  
Providing for the Appointment of Alumni of AmeriCorps to the Competitive Service



# An Overview of Trump's Dozens of Executive Actions

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“We will drill, baby, drill,” Trump said to rousing applause during his inaugural address, noting that the United States has more oil and gas than any country on Earth. “We are going to use it,” he said.

Under his “Unleash American Energy” executive order, the president can streamline permitting, loosen regulations, and “use all necessary resources to build critical infrastructure” such as pipelines and expanded electric grids.

“We will bring prices down, fill our strategic reserves up again, right to the top, and export American energy all over the world,” Trump said in his inaugural address. “We will be a rich nation again, and it is that liquid gold under our feet that will help to do it.”

Trump directed the Department of the Interior to restore oil and gas leasing on 13 million acres in Alaska’s 23-million-acre National Petroleum Reserve, reinstating an order from his first term that was reversed by Biden.

At least two orders unplugged Biden executive orders that placed restrictions on offshore drilling across 625 million acres off the East and West coasts only weeks ago.

## Inflation Reduction Act

Three other orders reverse energy-related Biden orders that provide regulatory authority for implementing aspects of the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act (IRA).

Trump and Republican congressional leaders have vowed to dismember the massive IRA, a signature bill of Biden’s “Green New Deal,” alongside the 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the 2022 CHIPS & Science Act.

The IRA alone authorizes 10 years of sustained tax credits, low-interest loans, and grant programs that by some estimates could top \$1 trillion.

Untangling the IRA will require legislation. Some of its provisions are popular, including in Republican congressional districts.

By repealing Biden’s three executive orders, the White House and Congress can chip away at the IRA by administratively tightening tax credits, clawing back some loans and grants, and revising unfinalized rules under the Congressional Review Act.

## End of EV Agenda

In line with his vision for U.S. energy, Trump rescinded an executive order signed by Biden in August 2021 that set a target of 50 percent zero-emission new vehicle sales by the end of the decade. Electric vehicle sales in the United States reached 8.1 percent of sales in 2024, according to Cox Automotive.

The president also overturned a December 2021 executive order requiring that all vehicles the government procures be emission-free by 2035. Light-body vehicles would have had to meet that mark by 2027.

Another new executive order establishes as U.S. policy an intention to eliminate electric vehicle subsidies and to eliminate state fuel emissions waivers. California introduced its Clean Air Act waiver as a regulatory driver of electric vehicle adoption.

The president said his orders make good on his promises to U.S. auto-workers.

“You’ll be able to buy the car of your choice,” he said. “We will build automobiles in America again at a rate that nobody could have dreamt possible just a few years ago.”

Biden’s August 2021 executive order directed the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to work on new emissions standards.

Consequently, an EPA rule, finalized earlier this year, required automakers to tighten tailpipe emissions standards in a gradual fashion through 2032.

The regulation, which was less severe than one proposed by the same agency in 2023, set a target of 56 percent electric for all new vehicle sales by 2032.

## Federal Bureaucracy, DOGE

Trump promised to reform and streamline government bureaucracy so that it will “work for the American people,” including by freezing “bu-

reaucrat hiring except in essential areas.”

He announced the rescission of a slate of executive orders, with the goal of improving government workers’ accountability. Another executive order requires that all federal workers return to in-person work, noting that “only 6 percent of employees currently work in person.”

Another executive order formalizes the new Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE). It repurposes the U.S. Digital Service to serve as a White House-based U.S. DOGE Service. Additionally, it creates a time-limited service organization to administer DOGE.

It also mandates DOGE teams of at least four people across all federal agencies. Software modernization is a key focus of the DOGE executive order, in line with the tech-forward outlook of DOGE’s leader to date, Elon Musk.

## No Government Censorship

Trump issued an executive order against government censorship, which he vowed would “bring back free speech to America.”

“Never again will the immense power of the state be weaponized to persecute political opponents, something I know something about,” Trump said in his inaugural address.

The executive order establishes as policy that federal employees cannot restrain U.S. citizens’ free speech or use money from taxpayers to that end.

It also directs the attorney general to prepare a report to address abuses against U.S. citizens’ free speech under the Biden administration.

While on the campaign trail, the president outlined his plans for a day one executive order targeting restrictions on speech, often carried out by big tech firms under pressure from the federal government.

Trump added that he would swiftly purge the federal government of those who facilitated domestic censorship and would keep federal funds from going to initiatives that would empower certain groups to determine what qualifies as “misinformation” or “disinformation.”

While advocates of such programs say they combat falsehoods online, especially those spread by unfriendly state actors, opponents say that recent campaigns against misinformation and disinformation have targeted many U.S. citizens on political grounds.

Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg, who attended Trump’s inauguration alongside Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos and other tech titans, previously divulged that the Biden administration pressured Facebook to carry out ideological censorship.

The executive order calls government censorship “intolerable in a free society.”

“Under the guise of combating ‘misinformation,’ ‘disinformation,’ and ‘malinformation,’ the Federal Government infringed on the constitutionally protected speech rights of American citizens across the United States in a manner that advanced the Government’s preferred narrative about significant matters of public debate,” the order states.

## Exposing Abuse

Trump moved to prevent the destruction of records as his administration takes the helm, part of a broader executive order aimed at addressing what he has characterized as a partisan takeover of government institutions that should remain neutral.

“To stop the weaponization of law enforcement and our government, I will also sign an order directing every federal agency to preserve all records pertaining to political persecutions under the last administration, of which there were many, and beginning the process of exposing any and all abuses of power, even though he’s pardoned many of these people,” Trump said shortly before signing that and other executive orders, and referring to Biden’s preemptive pardons.

Trump’s executive order on the weaponization of government directs the attorney general to investigate cases over the past several years that appear

to fit a pattern of weaponization in the Department of Justice and other agencies, and to prepare a report outlining the alleged abuses.

It similarly directs the director of national intelligence to probe possible abuses by U.S. intelligence agencies.

The executive order instructs the federal bureaucracy “to comply with applicable document-retention policies and legal obligations.”

Cases in which employees defy the order “will be referred to the attorney general,” it states.

## Security Clearances Stripped

Trump’s executive actions also include an order targeting election interference. It cites the 2020 letter signed by 51 former intelligence officials who dismissed accounts of Hunter Biden’s laptop as “part of a Russian disinformation campaign.”

The executive order criticizes a 2019 memoir by former national security adviser John Bolton, describing it as “rife with sensitive information drawn from his time in government.”

The order revokes the security clearances of Bolton as well as 49 intelligence officials involved in the 2020 Hunter Biden laptop analysis, including former Director of National Intelligence James Clapper, former CIA Director John Brennan, and former Defense Secretary Leon Panetta.

It also instructs the director of national intelligence to produce a report on steps to take to prevent election interference in the future.

## Pardons for Jan. 6

The president followed through on a promise to pardon participants in the U.S. Capitol breach on Jan. 6, 2021.

Trump pardoned roughly 1,500 people who were charged in connection with that event while commuting the sentences of 14 others. Those who have been pardoned include former Proud Boys leader Enrique Tarrio.

“You’re going to see a lot of action on the J6 hostages,” Trump said earlier in the day at the Capitol.

Trump’s pardons for Jan. 6 defendants were issued hours after Biden released a slew of his own preemptive pardons.

Those Biden pardoned included Dr. Anthony Fauci, Gen. Mark Milley, and members of the Jan. 6 congressional committee, including former Rep. Liz Cheney (R-Wyo.).

“Why are we trying to help a guy like Milley?” Trump asked on Jan. 20. “Why are we helping Liz Cheney?”

In the final minutes before Trump and Vance were sworn in, Biden preemptively pardoned his siblings and their spouses. In December 2024, Biden pardoned his son Hunter as the younger Biden faced sentencing for firearm and tax convictions.

## TikTok Reprieve

Trump signed an executive order to give social media platform TikTok 75 days to secure a U.S. buyer. If TikTok doesn’t separate from its Beijing-based parent company, ByteDance, it faces a ban in the United States.

After a 14-hour shutdown over the weekend as the original deadline of Jan. 19 approached, TikTok resumed service in the United States, after Trump signaled that he would grant the company an extension.

Last week, the Supreme Court upheld the divest-or-ban law, citing valid national security concerns due to TikTok’s “scale and susceptibility to foreign adversary control” and the “vast swaths of sensitive data the platform collects.”

ByteDance, TikTok, and TikTok content creators challenged the law soon after it was enacted in April 2024. They brought their case to the nation’s highest court after a federal appeals court denied their claims on First Amendment grounds.

At the core of the transaction is the algorithm owned by China-based ByteDance, without which TikTok wouldn’t be the same. The Chinese regime on Jan. 20 indicated for the first time that it would be open to a transaction to allow TikTok to operate in the United States after consistently rejecting any deal for divestiture, citing

technology transfer concerns.

Previous attempts by Oracle and Walmart to acquire ByteDance’s U.S. operations fell apart in 2021.

This executive order is Trump’s second one addressing TikTok. In August 2020, during his first term, he issued an executive order to ban the video app over national security concerns. TikTok sued and had that order overturned with a court order in December 2020.

## DEI Targeted

Diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) policies were the focus of another executive order.

“This week, I will also end the government policy of trying to socially engineer race and gender into every aspect of public and private life,” Trump said in his inaugural address. “We will forge a society that is color-blind and merit-based.”

The new order ends all federal programs and preferences that are based on race, sex, gender, or any other immutable characteristics. It also instructs the director of the Office of Management and Budget and the attorney general to terminate all “discriminatory programs, including illegal DEI and ‘diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility’ (DEIA) mandates, policies, programs, preferences, and activities in the Federal Government, under whatever name they appear.”

A White House statement said Trump will “freeze bureaucrat hiring except in essential areas to end the onslaught of useless and overpaid DEI activists buried into the federal workforce.”

The Biden administration prioritized DEI efforts, which often encourage hiring practices that give advantages based on metrics including gender and race.

Another executive order seeks to ensure that merit guides hiring in the federal government rather than race, sex, or other factors.

## 2 Sexes Policy

Trump also signed an order to create a new U.S. policy on gender.

“As of today, it will henceforth be the official policy of the United States government that there are only two genders—male and female,” Trump said in his inaugural address.

Trump’s executive order defines a female as “a person belonging at conception to the sex that produces the large reproductive cell,” which refers to eggs or ova.

The definition does not distinguish gender and sex based on chromosomes, bypassing the issue of those who may have an irregular combination of chromosomes.

The federal government will no longer “promote” gender ideology and will revoke the Biden administration’s efforts to expand Title IX to include gender identity.

The order also protects women’s privacy in intimate spaces such as bathrooms and changing rooms, while also safeguarding against enforcing pronoun policies that encroach on free speech.

## Name Changes

Another executive order directs the Department of the Interior to rename both the nation’s tallest mountain and a massive Atlantic Ocean basin in the southeast.

“We will restore the name of a great president, William McKinley, to Mount McKinley, where it should be and where it belongs,” Trump said in his inaugural address.

Mount McKinley received its original name in 1896 from prospector William Dickey, who named it after then-presidential candidate William McKinley. President Barack Obama renamed it Denali in 2015, a name long used by Native American tribes in the area.

Trump also said the Gulf of Mexico will be renamed the Gulf of America.

The Department of the Interior will oversee changes to any reference in laws, maps, regulations, documents, papers, or other U.S. records to ensure they refer to the basin as the Gulf of America.