The United States

President Donald Trump
Followed father’s footsteps in real estate
Received Economics degree from University of Pennsylvania
Became billionaire real estate mogul
2004: hosted NBC’s Celebrity Apprentice
In 2012, rise in political prominence
Anti-establishment sentiment dominates 2016 Election
In 2016, Trump is elected President of the U.S.
Successful businessman, never held political office before
State of the Economy 2016

• **GDP Growth** will rise to 2.1% in 2017. (Higher than 2016 growth rate of 1.9% and same as 2015 growth rate of 2.1%)

• **Unemployment Rate** will drop to 4.5% in 2017 and 2018

• **U.S Manufacturing** is forecast to increase faster than the general economy. Production will grow 3% in 2017 and 2.8% in 2018. Growth will slow to 2.6% in 2019 and 2% in 2020.

• **Total Employment** to increase by 20.5 million jobs from 2010-2020

• **Jobs** requiring a master’s degree will grow the fastest while those that only need a high school diploma will grow the slowest.
Trump’s Top Economic Priorities

• Bring back jobs
  • Critical of NAFTA
  • Withdraw from TPP
• $1 trillion investment into infrastructure pending
• America First
  • “For too long, we have watched our middle-class shrink as we have exported our jobs and wealth to foreign countries.”
• The Forgotten American
  • "Rusted out factories are scattered like tombstones across the landscape of our nation," Trump said. "The wealth of our middle class has been ripped from our homes and redistributed all across the world."
Video: “From this day forward, it is only going to be America first”
First executive order calling for ban on immigration from 7 countries – not upheld

Second executive order – signed on Mar. 6 – On hold pending federal judicial challenges
- Dropped Iraq
- Refugee program in Syria banned for 120 days instead of indefinitely
- Clause related to religious priorities eliminated
- Cabinet officials emphasize that “national security at stake”

Signs bill to revoke gun control regulation

Signs executive order to eliminate EPA water regulation
Trump’s Stance on ISIS

- Defeating ISIS remains one of Trump’s top foreign policy priorities. He has spoken consistently and aggressively “to develop a plan to demolish and destroy ISIS.”
- In the name of national security, he signed the executive order that banned entry from 7 countries and caused chaos at international airports for a short while.
- Large increase in national defense spending pending
  - “I am sending the Congress a budget that rebuilds the military, eliminates the defense sequester, and calls for one of the largest increases in national defense spending in American history.”
  - First Address to Congress
Trump has sustained positive US relations with...
- Israel
- UK
- Japan
• Trump has been extremely critical of NAFTA
• Believes the trade agreement has led the US to “export” its jobs and wealth out of the U.S.
• One of the most recognizable points of his platform is also his plan to build a wall along the Southern US-Mexico border.
• He initially claimed Mexico would pay for the wall, but has recently not repeated this claim publicly.
• This claim has been a contentious issue between the U.S. and Mexico. The Mexican president even canceled his meeting with Trump at the beginning of February 2017.
Political Issues related to Russia

- Questions around Trump’s relationship with Russia and Russia’s role in the election
- The Obama administration imposed sanctions on Russian intelligence
- The US also recently expelled 35 diplomats suspected to be involved
- Putin states that he would not retaliate to sanctions and Trump praises his decision as a “great move”
- Overall, Trump has cited his desire to improve the United States’ relationship with Russia
This is a departure from previous administrations.

Michael Flynn resigned as National Security Advisor due to contacts with Russian ambassador.