

As Biden adopts Trump's anti-immigrant program in attempt to secure billions for war

## AOC praises Biden for his ‘leadership’ in MSNBC interview

Jacob Crosse  
8 February 2024

In an attempt to hoodwink young and left-leaning workers and youth into supporting President Joe Biden's flagging presidential campaign, New York Representative and Democratic Socialists of America member Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez conducted a fawning interview on February 7 with MSNBC's Chris Hayes.

In the interview, Ocasio-Cortez praised Biden's alleged leadership on “climate,” while remaining silent on his embrace of Trump's anti-immigrant border policies, in order to secure Republican votes for a massive war bill.

Biden's unwavering support for the Israeli military campaign in Gaza, which has resulted in some 110,000 Palestinians “killed, missing and injured” as of February 6, according to Euro-Med Monitor, has led to collapse in his approval rating and poll numbers. This especially true among younger people and social media users, who have witnessed Israeli war crimes for over four months straight.

Ocasio-Cortez's interview/unofficial campaign advertisement took place less than 48 hours after Biden delivered a public address from the White House in which he demanded Congress pass a \$118 billion war/anti-immigrant package. The overriding concern of Biden, Democrats and many Republicans is the proxy war against Russia in Ukraine. Large sections of the American ruling class fear the collapse of their puppet government in Kiev if over \$60 billion in military aid is not appropriated soon.

The bill also contains \$14 billion for the ethnic cleansing campaign in Gaza and billions to further

militarize Taiwan. In order to secure Republican support for the package, it also contained sweeping attacks on immigrants. This included \$20 billion to the border police and the re-writing of asylum law, making it drastically harder for millions to immigrate to the US.

None of this was raised by Ocasio-Cortez or Hayes. Instead, making clear the purpose of the segment, the interview began with a chyron that read “The Biden Success Story.” A photo of a smiling Biden was displayed behind Hayes, accompanied by the phrase “So Much Win.”

Earning his salary as a corporate lap dog for the Democratic Party, Hayes began the interview lamenting that “young people” and “many under 30” in “social media-dominated spaces” had an “intense ‘doomerism,’” and “kind of negativity.”

Hayes claimed that “people” did not “know that we've actually had a few good years on climate stuff.”

Ocasio-Cortez agreed, saying that when you “remind folks of that” they “think you are being a buzzkill for the buzzkills,” but that “It is important for us to communicate that we are winning!”

As a matter of fact, under capitalism, climate change continues to worsen, as evidenced currently by the massive fires in Chile and atmospheric rivers along the West Coast.

Leaving no doubt to her purpose in conducting the interview, Ocasio-Cortez said, “This isn't even about cheerleading the president, although, his leadership and willingness to work and make climate a priority is important to note.”

For the duration of the nearly eight minute interview,

Ocasio-Cortez did not find it “important to note” Biden’s “leadership” or “willingness to work” with his “Republican colleagues” to pass the border crackdown/war bill. Nor did she bring up Biden’s “leadership” when it came to blocking UN ceasefire resolutions, defunding UNRWA, or bypassing Congress to provide weapons to the genocidal Zionist regime.

Turning to the Republican impeachment drive against Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas, Ocasio-Cortez said nothing about the fascistic “Great Replacement Theory” politics that undergird the Republican Party. Instead, she made light of the fact that Speaker Mike Johnson was not the Republicans’ first choice for speaker, and therefore did not have “experience in party leadership.”

Near the end of the interview, she mentioned that “Fox News” peddled “xenophobic” “border panic” narratives, but she remained silent on Biden using similar language, including promising to “shut down” the border because it was “overwhelmed.”

In the last minute of the interview, the topic of Gaza was finally broached, with Hayes asking Ocasio-Cortez how many Democrats she thought would vote against a stand-alone Israel aid package that did not include oversight and humanitarian aid to Gaza. Ocasio-Cortez refused to give an answer but instead claimed that the ceasefire protests “were working.”

In reality, Democrats have ignored demands for a ceasefire for over 120 days, while at the same time slandering anti-genocide protesters, including hundreds of thousand of students, as antisemites. Leading Democrats, such as former Speaker Nancy Pelosi, have slandered protesters as agents of Putin and the Chinese Communist Party and called for the FBI to investigate demonstrators.

Ocasio-Cortez said nothing about Pelosi smearing protesters. Instead, she nonsensically claimed that “grassroots activism around a bilateral ceasefire is working,” and that, “there are far more members, than perhaps maybe publicly visible, that have a lot of trepidation around voting for an aid package that contains...no humanitarian aid.”

She added, “I think we are crossing the Rubicon here in just no-holds-barred, completely unconditional aid to the Israeli government. We have Leahy Laws on the books that prevent US aid from funding gross human

rights violations.”

Ocasio-Cortez concluded the interview by claiming that, among Democrats, the “level of depravity” in Gaza “is becoming morally untenable to support.” That is, it is not yet “morally untenable” for many Democrats.

Ocasio-Cortez’s latest interview confirms, again, that she is nothing but a standard Democratic Party politician, and that the DSA has nothing to do with socialism.

Ocasio-Cortez and the DSA do not exist to “push” the ruling class to adopt more egalitarian and socialist policies, but to corral leftward moving youth and workers back into the graveyard of electoral politics and block the development of an independent revolutionary socialist movement that will sweep aside their rotten social order once and for all.



To contact the WSWWS and the Socialist Equality Party visit:

**[wsws.org/contact](https://www.wsws.org/contact)**