Trump boasts of collaboration by Democrats, vows to push agenda of war and attacks on immigrants

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At a White House press conference Friday, US President Donald Trump boasted of the cooperative attitude taken by the Democratic Party to him since the November 3 midterm elections and singled out in particular supportive messages from United Auto Workers President Shawn Fain and New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani, Democrats closely tied to the pseudo-left.

Trump said he would be able to work with the incoming Democratic majority in Congress by enforcing his own priorities with the power of the veto, and praised his fascist chief of staff Stephen Miller, whom he appointed three days after the election.

The November 3 midterm elections reflected widespread opposition to war, to inequality and to attacks on democratic rights, in a massive rebuke of the historically unpopular Trump administration.

The Democratic Party has responded to the election by promising bipartisan governance with the defeated Republicans and ruling out the impeachment of Trump. The Democrats have also sided with the White House against an impeachment drive by Republican Representative Thomas Massie of Kentucky against Secretary of War Pete Hegseth on the grounds of violations of US and international law in the waging of war.

"I actually get along very well with Mayor Mamdani," Trump boasted at the press conference. Mamdani, in particular, has praised Trump. At the *New York Times* DealBook Summit on Wednesday, Mamdani said that "we both know how we feel about the other's policies, and we both love the same city."

Mamdani added: "The president is very familiar. I do not have to explain what a bodega is to the president. He's also the most famous developer the city has ever seen."

Mamdani has met with Trump at least three times since his election as mayor in November 2025, most recently for about an hour at Gracie Mansion, the mayor's residence, on September 21.

Fain, Trump claimed, "called me the other day to thank me." Trump added: "He wasn't on my side. He's a radical Democrat, but he likes the job."

Fain has repeatedly praised Trump's trade war policies, which contributed to the overwhelming Republican defeat in the election, particularly in farm states like Iowa and Kansas, and states near the Canadian border like Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, Maine and Alaska.

On March 26, 2025, the day Trump announced 25 percent tariffs on imported cars, Fain declared: "We applaud the Trump administration for stepping up to end the free trade disaster that has devastated working-class communities for decades. Ending the race to the bottom in the auto industry starts with fixing our broken trade deals, and the Trump administration has made history with today's actions."

Trump boasted of calls from Democrats: "So I don't want to say who's called, but various people have called from the Democrats." Trump said the president had "two extreme powers," the pardon and the veto.

"So they're going to send things my way and I'm going to veto them and then they're going to send more things and I'm going to veto them and they could go two years and one month because that's what we have and I'm going to veto them," Trump said. "But I think after a month or so, they're going to send things and I'm going to say I'm going to veto unless you want to

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do this and this and this."

He might accomplish more with a Democratic Congress than with the Republican one, Trump suggested: "There are those that say we might get more done because we had some Republicans that were just impossible to deal with." Answering a later question on immigration, Trump said "a lot of Democrats" had called him, among them "people that matter, people that have a lot to do." The Democrats, according to Trump, "want to talk to me about health care, and they want to talk to me about immigration."

Trump recalled giving Senate Democratic leader Charles Schumer $500 when Schumer first ran for office, calling himself "one of his backers." "I got richer and richer and richer, and he got more successful politically," Trump said. Of House Democratic leader Hakeem Jeffries, Trump said: "He's a smart guy. He's a streetwise guy, and he's smart."

The Democratic leaders have given Trump every reason to drop his election-campaign rhetoric about "lunatics" and "communists," and instead look on them as his partners in crime, both against the countries targeted by American imperialism abroad and the working class at home.

On November 4, the day after the election, Jeffries said on the cable news program *Morning Joe* that "The American people don't want us to get even." Speaking to reporters the same day, Schumer said: "These voters did not give us the majority so we can do whatever we want."

The main subject of the press briefing was Trump's trip to Asia, where he met Chinese President Xi Jinping and Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Trump described what can only be called extortion against the United States' nominal allies. The Philippines, Trump said, had bought much of its farm imports from Brazil and elsewhere. "And I said, 'Here's the deal: You buy 100% of your agriculture from January 1st from our farmers,'" Trump said.

Trump said the Philippines would also buy all its energy from American suppliers. "So they're going to buy 100% of their agricultural products from the United States of America. And if they don't, then they have problems," Trump said.

The president of the United States was describing a protection racket. Secretary of State Marco Rubio, who spoke after Trump, said of the Philippines: "If we are their primary defense provider, then what we do with them from a commercial standpoint should reflect that commitment that we've made."

Trump said he had told Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum: "Claudia, we can't have you have a surplus. We're not going to let that happen." Canada, Trump said, could come back for talks when the US trade deficit with Canada, which he put at about $80 billion, was "down to zero."

Trump named Stephen Miller, his deputy chief of staff and homeland security adviser, White House chief of staff on November 6. Near the end of Friday's news conference, Trump called Miller forward, introducing him as "the most powerful man in the world in the room right now."

Miller said Trump was "the first president in American history to achieve net deregulation" and credited him with "record deportations." Miller added: "Took over Venezuela in less than an hour, doubling U.S. oil reserves overnight." Miller was boasting of the January 3 raid in which US forces kidnapped Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro and his wife, Cilia Flores, and brought them to New York. On August 31, the White House claimed that an oil agreement had given the United States "majority control of more than 65 billion barrels of proven oil reserves in Venezuela."

Miller spoke 17 days after the voters gave both houses of Congress to the Democrats, and promised that "the next two years are going to be the greatest two years in American history."

The war against Iran has become a political debacle for the administration. On November 4, Vice President JD Vance wrote that "the reason we lost is the war." The efforts of the Democrats to prop up the despised administration have emboldened Trump, who made clear Friday that he would use the veto to force his program of handouts to the corporations and war through a Democratic Congress.

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