



## **Statement on the Development of Fascism in America under Trump**

Two months into Trump's second term, what was originally a "whiff of fascism" has now become a "stench."

Historically, the Communist movement has identified two major indications which signal the emergence of fascism: 1) the suppression of the trade union movement, and 2) the suppression of the Communist movement.

With respect to the trade union movement, Trump wasted no time in dismantling the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), which adjudicates issues of organized labor at the national level. This was done by firing the leading members of the NLRB, to the point where it no longer was able to form a quorum, and thus was unable to pass any decisions. Now, through court order, only one member, Gwynne Wilcox, has been reinstated. The general counsel was not reinstated, and Trump's pick for their replacement, Crystal Carey, is a partner at the notorious union-busting law firm Morgan Lewis. Furthermore, Trump has appealed the decision to reinstate Wilcox. His appeal has the potential to go to the Supreme Court, which is hostile to the interests of labor.

Furthermore, Trump has, through Executive Orders, nullified the Collective Bargaining Agreements which were reached with federal government unions prior to his presidency. Through the actions of the "Department of Government Efficiency", his administration, with the help of monopoly capitalists like Elon Musk, has sought to terminate the employment of as many federal government workers as possible. These terminations result in reduced dues payments to the government unions, thus weakening them further. Now, there is a bill being advanced through the Senate to ban Federal employees from organizing unions altogether.

In terms of the Communist movement, the Trump administration has not given it much focus per se because of its lack of prominence in the United States today. However, in his view, liberalism is Communism, and this he has attacked. These attacks have manifested as portraying liberals as "Marxian leftists", enemies, and traitors. Project 2025, which is the playbook of the second Trump administration, states the following in its introduction: "The long march of cultural Marxism through our institutions has come to pass. The federal government is a behemoth, weaponized against American citizens and conservative values, with freedom and liberty under siege as never before." Furthermore, Project 2025 makes it its goal to "Eliminate Marxist indoctrination and divisive critical race theory programs and abolish newly established diversity, equity, and inclusion offices and staff." Thus, from Trump's own point of view, he is doing everything he can to attack this so-called "Marxist" movement.

Finally, as the Trump administration proceeds to dismantle the American economy through measures such as tariffs, and as the hegemony of American imperialism collapses abroad, the familiar tactic of scapegoating oppressed minorities has become prominent. Within a few short months, there has been an explosion of anti-Semitic, anti-Muslim, anti-DEI (which is a dogwhistle for anti-LGBT+ and racism), anti-immigrant, anti-liberal, and anti-science behavior among those in positions of power within our country. This behavior has ranged from hateful rhetoric, to oppressive legislation and actions. These are age-old tactics which fascists use to divide people and prevent the formation of a coherent resistance movement against their power. All progressive Americans must continuously fight against these tactics, because they will never cease so long as the capitalist system is in place.

Americans must understand that the drive of fascism is not one of abstract totalitarianism, but rather it should be seen as a concrete expression of the will of corporate America and the military-industrial complex, including Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), to suppress democratic institutions.