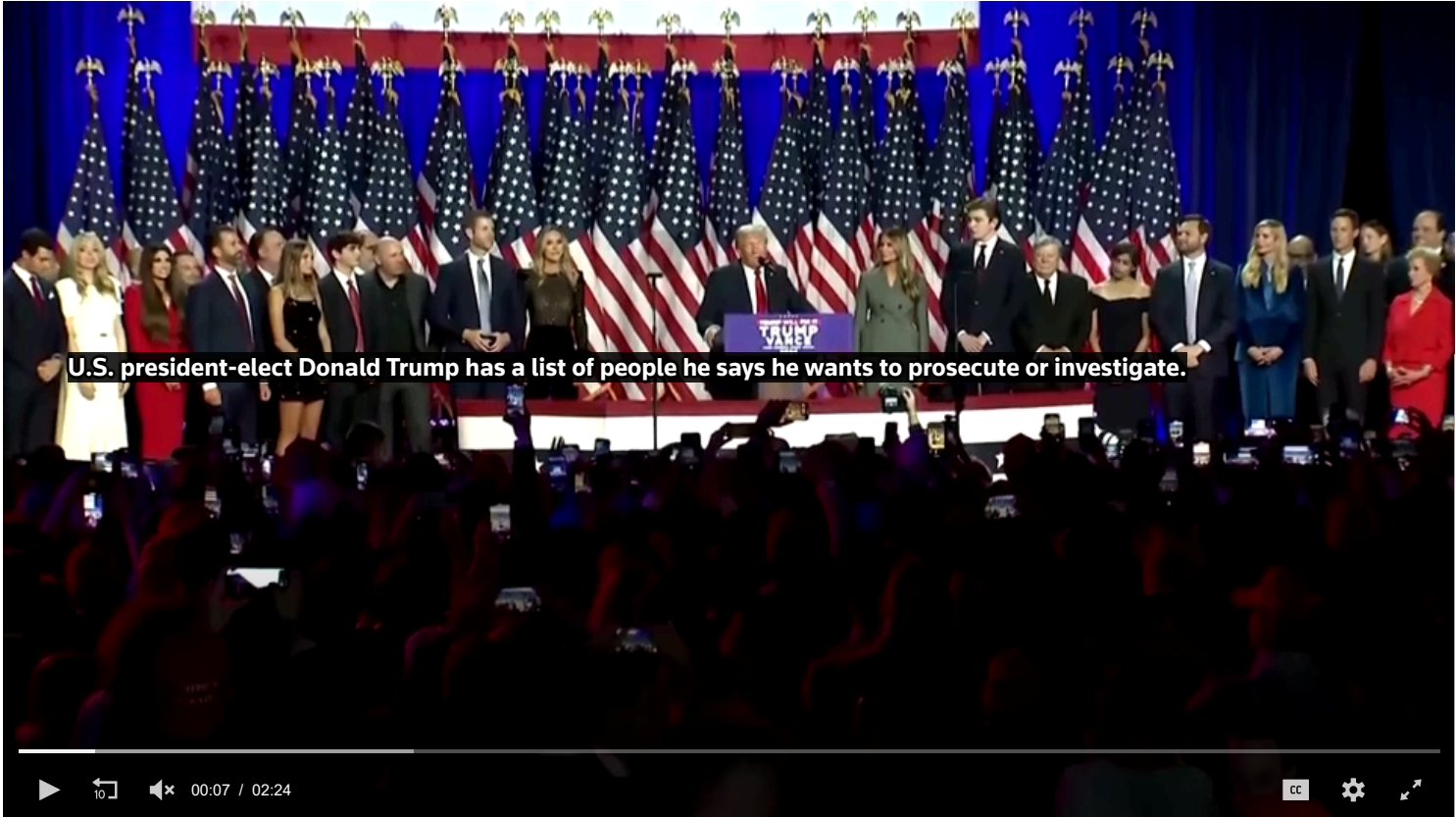


Who has Donald Trump threatened to prosecute as president?

By Alexandra Ulmer

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Jan 20 (Reuters) - [Donald Trump](#) has vowed to investigate or prosecute political rivals, former intelligence officials, the country's former military chief, prosecutors and judges, tech moguls, members of Congress and left-wing Americans after he becomes president on Monday.

Here is a list of some of his potential targets:

POLITICAL ADVERSARIES

During his presidential campaign, Trump, a Republican, called for [investigations into Vice President Kamala Harris](#), President [Joe Biden](#), former President Barack Obama and Liz Cheney, a former U.S. representative who is one of the most high-profile Republicans to turn against Trump.

At a September rally in Pennsylvania, Trump said Harris, his Democratic opponent in November's election, was responsible for the "biggest crime story of our time," referring to illegal border crossings, which occurred under both his first administration and the Biden administration. "She should be impeached and prosecuted for her actions," Trump said.

Trump also shared posts on his Truth Social media platform calling for military tribunals to try Cheney and Obama.

Since he won the Nov. 5 election Trump has been less vocal about going after his perceived enemies.

In an interview he gave to NBC's "Meet the Press" that aired on Dec. 8, [Trump was asked](#) if he wants to see investigations of his political enemies.

Trump first told the interviewer "No, I don't think so," but then added: "If they were crooked, if they did something wrong, if they have broken the law, probably. They went after me."

He appeared to back off investigating Biden.

During his first White House bid in 2016, Trump regularly called for Democratic opponent Hillary Clinton to be prosecuted. He said in an October radio interview that once he won office, however, he made sure she was not prosecuted, because "it would look terrible."

FORMER INTELLIGENCE OFFICIALS

Trump harbors anger at former intelligence officials who were involved in the investigation into alleged ties between his first presidential campaign and Russia. [A 2019 report](#) did not establish that members of Trump's 2016 campaign team conspired with Russia to interfere in that year's presidential election.

Trump still rails against what he calls the Russia "hoax" and has called former senior intelligence officials who were involved in the investigation "corrupt."

They include John Brennan, the former CIA director, and James Clapper, the former director of national intelligence. Trump reposted an image on his Truth Social platform in January 2023 showing Brennan, Clapper and others behind bars, under a headline: 'Now that Russia collusion is a proven lie, when do trials for treason begin?'

Another target of Trump's anger over the Russia investigation is [James Comey](#), the former FBI director, and his former deputy, [Andrew McCabe](#). In June, Trump posted quotes by his former White House adviser Steve Bannon about McCabe, that if Trump reenters the White House, McCabe should be worried about being targeted.

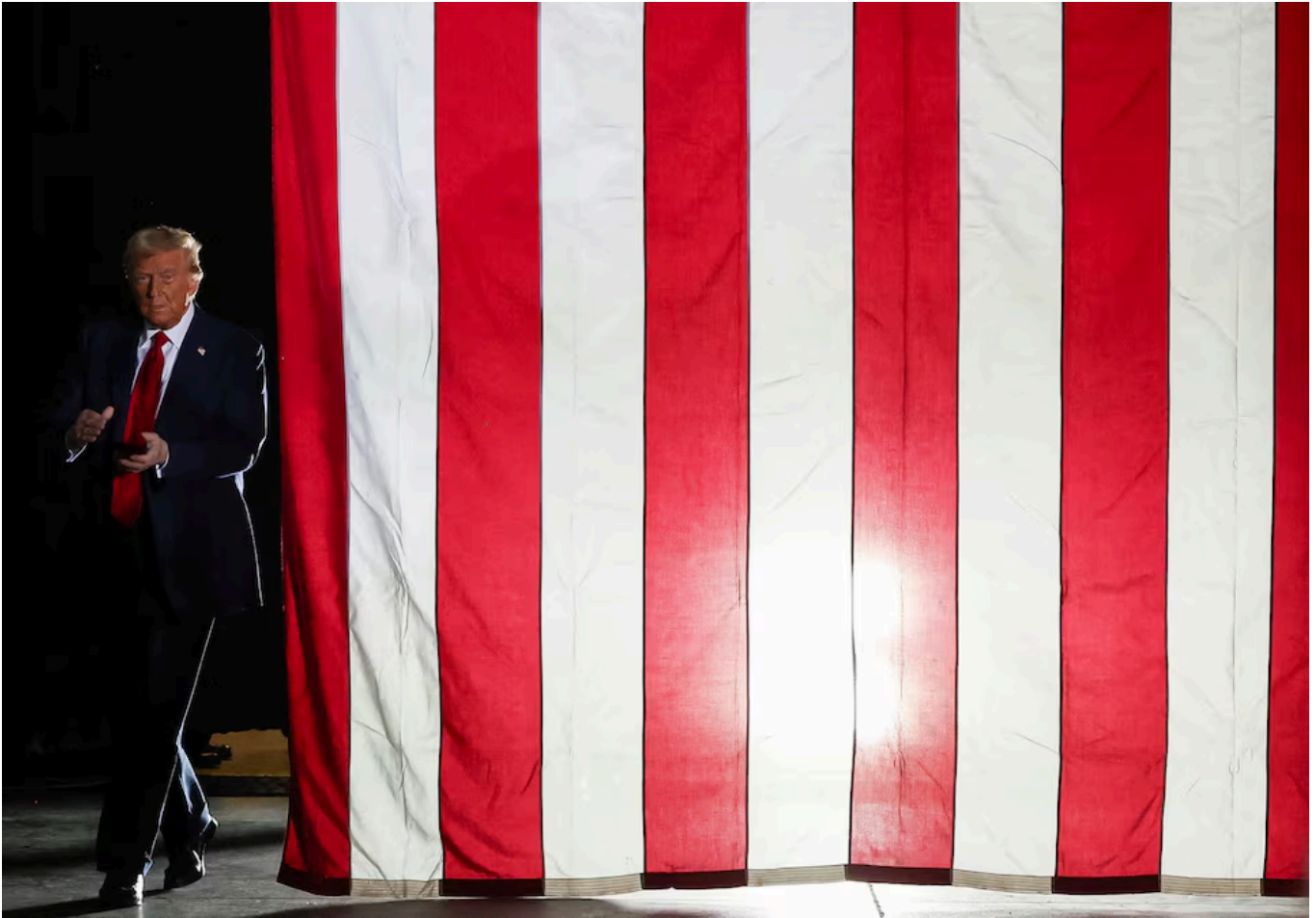
Trump has called both Comey and McCabe corrupt and has said they should be investigated.

Adam Schiff, a Democrat and the former chair of the House of Representatives Intelligence Committee, frequently asserted during Trump's first term that his campaign had colluded with Russia.

In January 2023 Trump wrote: "Schiff is a sleazebag and traitor, and should be prosecuted for the damage he has done to our Country!"

Schiff won election to the U.S. Senate in November.

FORMER JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF CHAIRMAN



Republican presidential nominee and former U.S. President Donald Trump attends a campaign event, in Allentown, Pennsylvania, U.S., October 29, 2024. REUTERS/Brendan McDermid [Purchase Licensing Rights](#)

Trump has said retired U.S. Army General Mark Milley, the former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, should be tried for treason. He even suggested in 2023 that Milley should be executed after it emerged in the waning, chaotic days of Trump's first term that Milley had [held two back-channel calls](#) with China's top general to reassure them that Trump was not planning to attack China.

TECH SECTOR

Trump has also warned Meta Platforms ([META.O](#)) CEO Mark Zuckerberg and Google ([GOOGL.O](#)) over what he claims is potential election interference on their tech platforms.

Trump has accused Meta of suppressing content that would have hurt Biden in the 2020 election and has criticized Zuckerberg's donations to bolster election infrastructure.

"We are watching him closely, and if he does anything illegal this time, he will spend the rest of his life in prison," Trump wrote in his recently published "Save America" coffee table book, according to media reviews of the book.

Zuckerberg has not responded publicly to Trump's threat, but did say Trump's reaction to the July 13 assassination attempt was "one of the most badass things I've ever seen in my life."

In November, Zuckerberg visited Trump at his Mar-a-Lago home in Florida. Meta [donated \\$1 million](#) to Trump's inaugural fund, a company spokesperson told Reuters on Dec. 12.

Trump has also threatened to instruct the Department of Justice to [criminally investigate Google](#) for "only revealing and displaying bad stories about Donald J. Trump," according to a Truth Social post in September.

"I will request their prosecution, at the maximum levels, when I win the Election," Trump wrote. He provided no evidence for his assertion about Google.

[Google donated \\$1 million](#) to Trump's inaugural fund this month.

PROSECUTORS

Trump and his allies have called for prosecuting, firing or jailing prosecutors who defy him or have investigated him.

In an April interview with Time, Trump said that if U.S. attorneys refused orders to prosecute someone, he would be open to firing them. "It would depend on the situation," Trump said.

Trump has repeatedly called for the prosecution of Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg, who successfully prosecuted Trump in 2024 over criminal charges linked to a hush money payment to a porn star.

"The prosecutor should be prosecuted," Trump told reporters in May.

Trump avoided any punishment when he was sentenced in connection with his conviction on Jan. 10.

NEW YORK ATTORNEY GENERAL AND JUDGE

Trump has called for the prosecution of New York Attorney General Letitia James, who sued Trump and his real estate business for committing fraud. Trump was ordered by Justice Arthur Engoron to pay \$454 million in penalties in that case. Trump said in a Truth Social post in November 2023 that James and Engoron "should be sanctioned and prosecuted over this complete and very obvious MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE!!!" At a rally last year he called for James and Engoron to be "arrested and punished accordingly."

PROTESTERS

Following pro-Palestinian protests on college campuses across the U.S. last year, Trump told Fox News in July that anyone who desecrates the American flag should get a one-year jail sentence.

"Now, people will say: 'Oh it's unconstitutional.' Those are stupid people who say that," Trump said, adding that he wants to work with Congress to allow the jail sentences.

Trump has also said he would arrest "pro-Hamas thugs" who engage in vandalism, an apparent reference to the college student protesters.

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Alexandra covers the 2024 U.S. presidential race, with a focus on Republicans, donors and AI. Previously, she spent four years in Venezuela reporting on the humanitarian crisis and investigating corruption. She has also worked in India, Chile and Argentina. Alexandra was Reuters' Reporter of the Year and has won an Overseas Press Club award.

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