

STOP

THERE'S A STORM COMING

Donald Trump's arrival at the White House has already brought a blitzkrieg of reactionary measures: the anti-Muslim visa ban, the wall against Mexico, the abolition of the US Environmental Protection Agency, the dismantling of the Affordable Health Care Act and an assault on women's reproductive rights in the US and abroad.

And similar extreme right wing and fascist politics are on the march across the globe: UKIP and Tory Brexiteers in Britain, Marine Le Pen's Front National in France, Geert Wilders' Party for Freedom in the

Netherlands, Golden Dawn in Greece, the Alternative for Germany, and a swathe of right-wing movements in Eastern Europe and in countries as far flung as the Philippines and Brazil. The world is currently facing the biggest resurgence of nationalism, xenophobia, racism and backwards-looking politics since the end of World War 2.

In response, a massive fightback has begun. Millions of women and their supporters marched in the US – and around the world – on 21st January, and hundreds of thousands have protested against the immigration bans. A new and energised mass movement is emerging to resist, overcome and defeat the danger ahead. Be part of it!

TRUMP



LEFTUNITY



HOW WE GOT HERE

The extreme right have seized the opportunity brought about by people's mass disillusionment with mainstream politics. Neoliberalism, privatisation and 'the market', the dominance of bankers and the financial crisis of 2008 have all brought disaster to millions. This has been felt across large sections of society: the low paid and unemployed, single parents, young people, pensioners, disabled people and Black and minority communities to name but a few – people in deindustrialised areas have become incensed by their

social exclusion. By targeting divisive propaganda towards those who are suffering, the extreme right have augmented their traditional support base (which is typically middle class) with new working class supporters, particularly in deprived areas. This core dynamic has enabled Trump to get elected in the US (albeit with a minority vote), enabled a win for Brexit in Britain, and has enabled Marine Le Pen to be riding high in the opinion polls in France. Whilst some parties and movements on the left have also gained support (most notably Syriza in Greece, Podemos in Spain and Left

Bloc in Portugal) the 'polarisation' of politics is currently weighted in favour of the extreme right, who are often bolstered by influential sections of the media utilising and/or normalising anti-immigrant racism and faux anti-establishment rhetoric. The tragic irony of this situation is that billionaires like Trump and multi-millionaires like Nigel Farage are not in the least bit concerned with the fate of ordinary working class people.

TRUMP'S TOXIC BREW

Team Trump's politics are a toxic brew of ferocious nationalism, militarism, racism, white supremacy, climate change denial, misogyny, anti-welfare, and anti-democratic demagoguery. Decades of social gains won by workers, women, Black people and the LGBT community are set to be eliminated.

TRUMP'S NATIONALISM & MILITARISM

Trump has proclaimed a new era of vehement economic nationalism

underpinned by protectionist defence of US industries. Whilst this will be resisted by capitalist, free trade and globalisation champions like Apple, Google and Facebook (all of whom have taken legal action against the anti-Muslim visa ban already), their motivations are business and profit related; their cause is not a humanitarian one. Trump also promises a major increase to the already crazy 600 billion dollars annual military expenditure. In reference to nuclear weapons in particular, Trump has proclaimed 'Let it be an arms race'. It seems unlikely that Trump will spend an increasing fortune on military hardware without using any of it.

Trump's Chief Strategist Steve Bannon openly talks about his own personal ideology of a forthcoming apocalyptic 'cleansing war', a new civil war – with global reach – whose outcome would upturn liberal democracy and replace it with a new authoritarian state.

With shocking events – usually military conflicts – often being used by reactionary politicians as a tool to beat the patriotic drum, a peaceful future is now more uncertain than ever.

TRUMP'S RACISM

The contested visa ban on travellers from seven mainly Muslim

countries has ratcheted up Islamophobic racism in the US and abroad, and the wall against Mexico is further intensifying racism and hostility. Just like in Britain immediately after Brexit, America is already witnessing a huge spike in racist attacks in the wake of Trump's election.

Between 2009 and 2015, Barack Obama deported two and a half million 'illegal' immigrants; Trump wants to deport another three million. Armed police departments will feel increasingly empowered to mercilessly execute orders against individuals and communities.

TRUMP'S MISOGYNY AND HEALTH CARE

Trump has also pledged to take his sexist attitudes into the realm of health care; removing funding from Planned Parenthood clinics and programmes which help five million women, men and adolescents each year. Together with some US states increasing restrictions on abortion, this means the spectre of illegal abortions and sexually transmitted diseases looms larger.

Trump has also pledged to get rid of the Affordable Health Care Act which – despite its problems – has given tens of millions access to health care for the first time.

TRUMP'S CLIMATE CHANGE DENIAL

Climate change sceptic Scott Pruitt leads the US Environmental Protection Agency, signalling Trump's decision to dump environmental protection standards, renew the coal industry, boost work on the Dakota Access and Keystone oil pipelines and disrupt international moves to halt the climate crisis.

TRUMP'S DEMAGOGY

When the extreme right are in power they are notorious for intimidating and sanitising media, and crushing dissent. Trump continues in this

vein by constantly trash-talking any media outlet that doesn't toe his line, decrying rational argument, preferring instead for people to rely on his Twitter stream of often incendiary and erratic announcements for the 'real news'.

One very serious example of Trump's media clampdown is the case of two journalists who are currently facing the possibility of a 10 year jail term simply for reporting the Washington disturbances on Trump's inauguration day.

JOIN THE FIGHTBACK

Trump is the linchpin of a new creeping global fascism; it's essential we fight back before it takes a stranglehold.

LEFT UNITY are at the heart of the truly left and non-partisan movement to fight the coming storm. We encourage you and your friends to join us. If we allow the opposition of the extreme right to be led by parties like the US Democrats, the Liberal Democrats and individuals like Tony Blair and French presidential candidate Emmanuel Macron, we are simply fuelling a self-aggrandising promotional

opportunity for 'centre ground' politics, whose alternative to the extreme right is just more neoliberalism, the very thing that caused this catastrophic situation in the first place.

History shows that politically aware mass protest works when people are faced with severe threats to individual freedom, peace and well-being – let's keep proving that true.

Be there every step of the way ...

STOP TRUMP!