

Episode 57DEQ February 27 2025 US Economy Strained by Trump Tariffs and Spending Cuts

In Episode 57DEQ 1 Fourteen failures of the Trump administration in the first month 2 US Economy Shows Signs of Strain From Trump Tariffs and Spending Cuts Consumer and business sentiment is wobbling as fiscal support fades and fears rise that tariffs will lead to higher prices Main Content

1 **RAWSEP View** Looking at the headlines each day of the second Trump presidency brings surprises The **editor of RAWSEP** would have predicted that today the first story in the morning edition of the New York Times would be the visit of UK Premier Kier Starmer to the Trump White House to begin negotiations to ask Trump to remain as an ally of the UK and Europe against Russian aggression starting in Ukraine Russian strategy means probably moving on to military aggression against Europe and the UK But today the first story on the New York Times site was titled US Economy Shows Signs of Strain From Trump Tariffs and Spending Cuts Consumer and business sentiment is wobbling as fiscal support fades and fears rise that tariffs will lead to higher prices This is ironic and troubling that the issue that Trump supposedly won the presidency on was the economy which Trump promised he would fix Instead Trump in his first month has destabilized the US economy to the point that markets are wobbling 1 The first problems that appeared to **the editor of RAWSEP** were Trump threats to the livelihood of US government workers just doing their jobs and demonstrating the expertise they were hired for 2 Second for **the editor of RAWSEP** was the threat of withdrawal of vital government services to the general population of the United States characterized most urgently by firing of thousands of Internal Revenue Service workers whose absence is predicted to at the least delay tax refund payments to many Americans including low income and middle income Americans 3 The third threat was the many conversations that Trump has had with Putin of Russia which could cover many topics and could include disclosing US strategic and military secrets to Russia in exchange for financial incentives of some kind in the worst case scenario 4 The fourth threat was the firing of medical and scientific professionals whose expertise is necessary for carrying out government functions of medical and scientific research that safeguards United States human health from pandemics and other infectious disease outbreaks 5 The fifth threat was the Trump advocacy of refusing vaccines and refusing masking when vaccines are not available during a pandemic This continuation of Trump rejection of science and rejection of humane advocacy protecting the health of all citizens in the United States was characterized in the last month by the successful Trump nomination of Kennedy Junior as head of US Health and Human Services Kennedy Junior has a long history of advocating Vaccine Skepticism even in the face of overwhelming evidence of Vaccine Safety and Effectiveness most notably in the fight against COVID 19 in the past few years The track record of Kennedy Junior is sobering most recently characterized by the deaths of over 80 people in Samoa after Kennedy Junior forcefully advocated for Vaccine Hesitancy or Vaccine Refusal in that country Now at the Trump Cabinet Meeting Kennedy Junior when asked about the unnecessary deaths of people in Texas after vaccine refusals for the Measles vaccine only replied by giving the death count with no helpful advice from Kennedy Junior on how to avoid deaths from Measles in the future 6 Trump appears incompetent to do the job of being President Trump accuses others of the behavior he himself exhibits and so takes no responsibility for the harm to the general public that has occurred on his watch This is characterized by the increase in air traffic accidents since the Trump inauguration which surely must be addressed by government action starting at the very top The firing of air traffic controllers may very well be

related to the increase of accidents in the air 7 Trump appears to lack empathy to suffering of other human beings Trump is interested in tax cuts for the wealthy at the expense of US safety net programs such as Medicaid and Medicare which are threatened because the Trump administration with the support of the United States Congress is heading down a path to sacrifice Medicaid and Medicare and perhaps Social Security in order to fund tax cuts for the rich in the budget 8 The unemployment rate will probably soon rise because of mass government employee firings Unnecessary suffering from loss of livelihood will affect the national mood Hopefully voters will note from where the suffering originated 9 The wheels of reaction and problem solving are moving too slowly to help people who are being fired and helpful government programs that are being gutted for no reason 10 Perhaps the United States should turn to the example of contemporary Germany as a guide In Germany today there is a firewall against inclusion of known political parties who exist only cause harm and do not help the German government and who threaten the German government with a catastrophic historic Nazi or Neo Nazi ideology leading to predictable harm to all German people if left unchecked 11 Media which advocate for scientific and medical research to continue must become much more vocal Media which advocate for public health information to be disseminated in real time such as information about the Bird Flu must become much more accessible to the general public 12 Media which point out that steps can be taken to improve the economy must advocate online more forcefully even if those steps are in direct opposition to the Trump steps taken so far These oppositional steps must be taken for the sake of the United States economy 13 The livelihoods and economic stability and health of and health care for the lower and middle income citizens of the United States should not be sacrificed for the goal of tax cuts for the rich 14 In reference to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates these predictable problems cropping up from Trump policies are resulting in less attention paid to the ongoing climate crisis and less attention paid to the ongoing problems of air pollution from indoor residential wood burning from industrial wood burning and from the excuse of anti scientific adoption of the scientifically debunked theory of Carbon Neutrality of Wood Burning which does not exist but which is used as an excuse for continuing wood burning even with the cheap clean alternatives of wind solar and geothermal available in 2025 which energy can be harnessed in real time using innovations in battery storage 2 US Economy Shows Signs of Strain From Trump Tariffs and Spending Cuts Consumer and business sentiment is wobbling as fiscal support fades and fears rise that tariffs will lead to higher prices Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates a 501c3 nonprofit organization The New York Times February 27 2025 The United States economy is starting to show signs of strain as Trump abrupt moves to shrink federal spending lay off government workers and impose tariffs on the largest trading partners of America rattle businesses and reverberate across states and cities Funding freezes and firings of federal workers combined with the prospect of costly trade wars are souring consumer sentiment raising inflation expectations and stalling business investment plans according to recent economic surveys Local economies are also bracing for a sudden withdrawal of fiscal support forcing officials to contemplate tax increases or municipal bond offerings to stabilize their budgets Even some of the most ardent supporters of Trump are viewing the economy with some trepidation After stock markets plunged last Friday the Fox Business host who was the National Economic Council director during the Trump first term said investors were not happy that tax cuts appeared to be delayed in Congress and acknowledged that tariffs could temporarily lead to higher prices At least for now the economic signals are flashing slower growth and higher inflation he said Not good