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The Empire in Shameless Mode

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This very complicated year 2025 is about to end. If anything was evident, it was the brazenness—to use a kind word—with which the American empire has acted.

Trump's mannerisms were already known, and many still believe he is a colorful madman; a kind of isolated case, an anomaly within the American political system. Of course, many also label him heartless, with 34 legal cases against him, and a pedophile as well.

But without denying all of the above, Trump truly embodies the most genuine demonstration of the current state of the empire and the concerns of the imperial plutocracy in this regard—that is, the unseen but true owners of the country, who watch in astonishment as the world is reshaped.

Therefore, Donald Trump is not merely an immoral eccentric; he is above all the type of president that this plutocracy needs to confront the colossal and inescapable challenge inherent in the process of renewed multilateralism versus decadent unilateralism.

Consistent with this, the White House tenant has surrounded himself with a group of collaborators, labeled incompetent but loyal. However, that's not the important thing; rather, they are simply willing to disregard any limit, even political traditions and operating norms, in order to fulfill the mandate they have received: to preserve the privileges of this plutocracy.

The personality of President Trump fits these demands perfectly; he is capable of feigning constant policy changes, appearing unpredictable, adept at manipulating through threats and incentives, evoking the carrot and the stick approach; and all this while cultivating an elaborate personality cult with a dictatorial scent.

At the heart of all this, where reality accumulates frustrations and disillusionment, large sectors of the middle class and once well-paid wage earners in the US are being relegated to a lower social status, or are in clear danger of doing so, thanks to the inescapable concentration of wealth.

To contain any rebellion, Trumpism emerged and MAGA was invented, which includes blaming others for this debacle, a kind of internal enemy, such as Third World migration, a term used pejoratively that in itself speaks volumes. Of course, the attempt is made to demonstrate that the responsibility does not lie with the famous 1%, who supposedly accumulate 45% of the wealth in that country and counting.

### The National Security Strategy

It's within this context that the current imperial foreign policy unfolds, explicitly outlined in the so-called National Security Strategy, the leading document on geopolitical matters, recently published on December 5th, which also reveals the relative decline of the empire in these times.

Many things can be said about this national security strategy or doctrine, as it's also known, but one thing is clearly seen at plain sight, curiously avoided in the main press coverage: the US no longer has the muscle, the capacity to continue pretending to be the world's policeman; let the Europeans and Asians fend for themselves, one can read between the lines.

Prior to this, Trump boasts of imposing peace everywhere, even FIFA, in a surreal gesture, awards him a Nobel Peace Prize, in football fashion. But it's not that the US president has a sudden vocation in the best Gandhian style; no, it's that he cannot guarantee supremacy in so many armed conflicts.

Therefore, the designated Trump opts for a media-manipulated withdrawal from Europe, Asia, and Africa, showcasing sham peace agreements that often reveal their flaws, such as the one publicized to end the genocide in Gaza, a conflict that will very likely remain unresolved because where the captain orders, the soldiers do not; that is, where Zionism commands, the White House does not.

The National Security Strategy revives the 19th-century Monroe Doctrine, modernized with the bombastic title of the Trump Corollary, because, as the State Department explains, everything must bear the leader's name. In other words, from now on, the empire will concentrate on the area closest to its territory: the Americas.

Of course, to convince people, it's necessary to conjure up various specters, such as the Chinese, Russian, or Iranian threats, because it's essential to close ranks against them; naturally, it doesn't matter much if these countries naturally interact economically, commercially, and politically with Our America, generally without ideological distinction, based on international law.

There are also other demons like the drug cartels; if some of them don't exist, like the Cartel of the Suns, that's irrelevant; even to minimally justify the display of military extremes, they are labeled narco-terrorists, seeking domestic acceptance for their war crimes.

According to the Trump Corollary, America belongs to them; there are sufficient reserves of rare minerals, diverse raw materials, and a subterranean ocean of black gold, not only in Venezuela. None of this is new, but the way to access this treasure is modified, simplified.

If these resources could be freely disposed of, one could dream of rebuilding the American industrial network, guaranteeing a supply chain within a few kilometers, lowering costs and thus inflation, and thus everyone will be happy again, a promise that supports the MAGA creed.

And at this point, the small figure of Mr. Rubio appears. In recent months, his proverbial mediocrity and complete lack of ethics have been emphasized. Even his brother-in-law, Cicilia, a notorious drug trafficker, has been mentioned, and a tally of the lies he tells per minute is kept when a microphone is placed before him, likely in private.

But the now Secretary of State possesses a particular virtue in President Trump's eyes: as a lobbyist in his capacity as a senator for the past 14 years, Rubio has significant experience in Latin American affairs, for the worst possible reasons. Therefore, he is the right person for this realignment of priorities.

In addition to the above, another peculiarity is revealed: the empire acts brazenly and boasts about it; it doesn't hide it, it doesn't operate with subtlety. Doing otherwise requires patience and more time, precisely what they believe they lack.

In other words, these actions are clearly violations of international law; they blatantly interfere in the internal affairs of other countries, but unlike in the past, they no longer conceal it.

Their logic is: yes, it's illegal, yes, it's unacceptable, but this brazenness is to show that they can do whatever they want, whenever and wherever they want. "I'm brazen, so what!" Rubio (Secretary of State) taunts, as do Pete Hegseth (Secretary of War) and Scott Bessent (Secretary of the Treasury), all while Trump chimes in, adding, "If you don't like it, you'd better get used to it."

As we know, such arrogance is nothing new. The fact that Americans (those in charge, it should be clarified) are genuinely overbearing has always been the case, but in fair play, they operated with a certain level of efficiency in the art of deception, of doing one thing and saying and convincing others that it's the complete opposite.

The Trump Corollary is present in the most recent electoral processes, such as those in Honduras and Argentina.

In the first country, they combine blatant cyber fraud with blackmail against Honduran migrants, cutting off remittances to their country, and using criminal gangs to threaten voters.

As is well known, Trump brazenly participated in the Honduran elections, symbolically voting for the National Party candidate. And, to show his disbelief, he released Juan Orlando Hernández, the main leader of that party, a man with a proven capacity for internal cohesion, who had been sentenced to 47 years in prison for drug trafficking.

Another outrage: the main justification for US bravado in the Caribbean is to fight drug trafficking, but, catering to imperial political needs, they calmly release someone whom the local judicial system itself accuses of having sent 400 tons of cocaine to the US.

Meanwhile, a few months ago, Argentinians were promised some 20 billion dollars from Washington if they supported the ruling party, La Libertad Avanza (Freedom Advances), which was trying to increase its representation in Congress in elections perceived as a virtual referendum on the government's continuity.

Here, the White House occupant was also obvious, warning that if they didn't vote for Milei, they wouldn't receive the 20 billion; worse, weeks later the promise amounted to nothing.

The psychological terrorism applied against Venezuela, as Maduro aptly described it, is perhaps the most significant event. This includes the new and macabre "sport" of the marines: sinking defenseless boats in international waters.

The association between the Monroe Doctrine, or the Trump Corollary, and the deployment of gunboats is practically unnecessary to explain; they are his credentials. In other words, without aircraft carriers and the rest of the heavily armed ships in the Caribbean, the so-called Corollary wouldn't be functional.

Therefore, it can even be inferred that these air and naval devices aren't even necessary; their mere presence for the next three years is sufficient. Meanwhile, the empire waits for the Bolivarian revolution to disintegrate on its own, of course with the help of the CIA, and Trump as well reported, and with a vast set of sanctions, renewed pressure, and other measures from the well-known US arsenal.

But, there's always a but, the first problem in deploying the Trump Corollary manifests itself within American society itself. Many there are beginning to react in the Trump style, creating obstacles and questioning the president, who these days is breaking records for unpopularity. Even from within the Republican Party and even from the ranks of MAGA, resistance is emerging to many aspects of the interventionist Trump Corollary.

Trump and his occasional henchman, Mr. Rubio, must understand that where the left and progressivism face potential political defeats, when it seems that opportunities have been canceled, the demands of the people are always stubbornly present; it's enough to listen to them, organize them, and prepare them to confront the empire.

Ultimately, those who rule in Washington must not forget history. The Monroe Doctrine has already been defeated; the very existence of the Cuban Revolution is example enough.

**Translated by Amilkal Labañino / CubaSí Translation Staff**

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