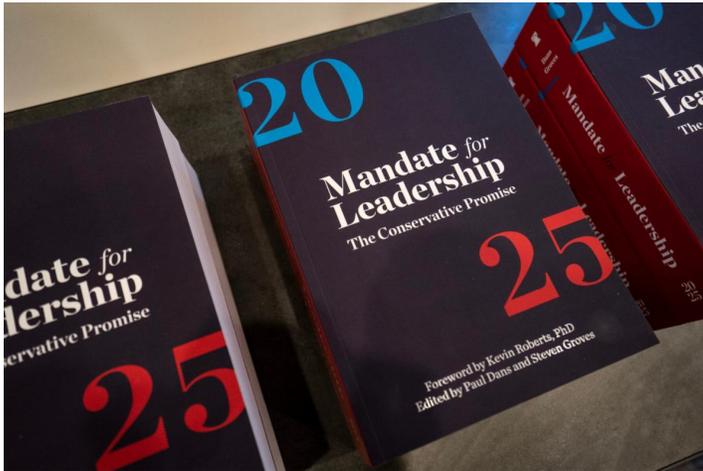


Greetings!

The Authoritarian Playbook



It's no secret. In this 887 page document entitled *Mandate for Leadership, The Conservative Promise*, the far-right think tank Heritage Foundation and 80 other right wing organizations present a "battle plan" for the first 180 days of a future Republican presidency. It applies not only to the election in November but forthcoming elections as well. Project 25 is a threat to our democracy and should be treated as such. Here are just a few things we can expect if Donald Trump is re-elected president.

- ***End** climate change efforts and undo EPA regulations to curb greenhouse gasses, gas pollution from cars, oil and gas wells, and power plants.
- ***Reduce** clean energy efforts.
- ***Replace** some 50,000 knowledgeable government workers with Trump loyalists with little experience.
- ***Restrict** sexual and reproductive health rights.
- ***Exit** international organizations (like NATO) and treaties.
- ***Insert** religious beliefs into the business of governance
- ***"Reform"** public education (as in banning books).
- ***Allow** drilling in the Arctic Wilderness and protect fossil fuel companies from lawsuits.



Stories, insights
and action for a
world that works
for all of us

~ ~ ~

*Justice is what love
looks like in public.*

Jim Hightower

~ ~ ~

Favorite Resources

[Fix the News](#)
(Future Crunch)
[Reasons to be
Cheerful](#)
[Chop Wood, Carry
Water](#)
[350.org](#)
[Climate Reality
Project](#)
[Local Futures](#)

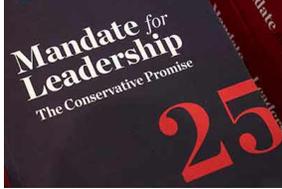
[Desert Rose Press](#)
[VirginiaMudd.com](#)

~ ~ ~

Be aware and take action

A Closer Look at Project 25

"Project 2025 is an authoritarian roadmap to dismantling a



thriving, inclusive democracy for all."

Project 25 would mean, among other things, less diversity, equality and inclusion. It would mean more chaos, hate, abuse, disrespect, scapegoating, discrimination, fear, suppression, oppression. It would mean more misinformation, lies and insecurity. Here are more resources that take a closer look.

[A Republican Climate Strategy](#): This article focusses on the impact of Project 25 on environmental efforts to combat climate change.

[Plans for Trump's Second Term](#): The author has read the entire book and presents detail and commentary on his findings.

[The Far-Right Playbook for American Authoritarianism](#): This article by the Global Project Against Hate and Extremism gives a very detailed look at all the elements of Project 25.

[How Trump is Following Hitler's Playbook](#): In this 6 min. YouTube Robert Reich describes how Trump can turn this country into a fascist state in five steps.



Action Sites for Climate and Democracy

Given the threats to our democracy and our Earth, I am leaving this resource guide in until the election in November. **Everyone is needed to do whatever they can!**

Cimate Action

[100 Things You Can Do to Help in the Climate Crisis](#)

[15 Actions to Make a Difference](#)

Protect Our Democracy

[Chop Wood, Carry Water](#): Provides daily actions for our democracy.

[thecivicscenter.org](#) : Mobilizing the youth vote in America.

[civicinfluencers.org](#): Also working to register young voters.

[vote.org](#): Everything you need to know to vote.

[steady.substack.com](#): Dan Rather's excellent commentary on current affairs.

[RobertHubbell.substack.com](#): Reflections on and summary of today's news.

[guides.vote](#): Non-partisan guide to how candidates stand on issues.

[commoncause.org](#): An organization working for all aspects of democracy.

[votefwd.org](#): Write letters to encourage folks to vote.

[postcardstovoters.org](#): Here you can write postcards to encourage voters.

[citizen.org](#): Public Citizen is another organization working for democracy.

[statesproject.org](#): A pro-democracy organization working at the state level.

[VoteRiders](#) will tell you what you need to know in order to ensure you can vote.

Remember, as Dr. Seuss says, "[Every Voice Counts!](#)"

All Kinds of Good News



The UK leaves the Energy Charter Treaty
Grassroots activism finally led to the



African TREES
The United Nations Environment Programme awarded Trees for the

UK leaving the "dangerous and destructive" Energy Charter Treaty (ECT). The ECT allows fossil fuel companies to sue countries for taking climate action, and the UK withdrawing is a huge win for the environmental movement and the planet. According to a spokesperson "the fight is still far from over — but this news shows that people-power works. Campaigning for climate action works. So let's keep pushing, let's keep taking action — together."

[Here's the article.](#)



The Reuse Center in Denmark

Every morning, about 50 to 100 people gather in line in front of a center owned by the municipality of Aarhus, the second-largest city in Denmark. Here, they can give — and take — all sorts of materials for free. More than two metric tons [4400 lbs; the weight of 4 horses] of objects pass through the center per day, all of which can be brought to new owners' homes via cargo bikes the city lends to citizens. "I believe it's good for the environment," one participant says. "There's no need to buy new stuff."

[Read more.](#)

Future (TREES) the status of "Restoration Flagship." Since it was founded in 2015, the programme has planted tens of millions of trees each year in nine countries ranging from Senegal and Mali to Tanzania and Kenya. In less than 10 years, it has reportedly restored a combined area of more than 41,000 hectares, which is about 100,000 football fields or seven times the size of Manhattan. This includes part of the African Union's Great Green Wall initiative, a planned barrier of vegetation, 9 miles wide by 5,000 miles long, to hold back the deserts that are encroaching across the Sahel region. Organisers say this will be the largest natural structure on the planet, though it is still very much a work in progress.

[Read more.](#)



The South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project

This ambitious project in San Francisco Bay aims to reclaim over 15,000 acres of shoreline from 150 years of commercial salt production and return it to tidal wetland and other habitats for local and migratory birds, endangered endemic species and other wildlife. [Read and see more.](#)

Wisdom for Our Time



"The U.S. shaped the international order in the postwar world through economic, diplomatic, military, and technological power. It championed freedom and democracy. . . . The United States policy was based on the premise that humanity does not want to live oppressed by an authoritarian state, where you are tracked and surveilled and denied from expressing what is in your heart and on your mind. You believed that freedom is the oxygen of humanity."

Prime Minister Fumio Kishida of Japan addressed a joint session of Congress on April 11.

[The full text is here.](#)

Restoration in the Netherlands Reshaping a city

My Column

"If it bleeds it leads."

This is a fairly common description of how the media creates headlines for



The Dutch city of Utrecht celebrated the restoration of its 900-year-old canal, 40 years after it was cemented over to accommodate a 12-lane highway [Watch this fascinating six minute video](#) of how new priorities and a massive reconstruction project changed the shape of the city.

May the month of May be merry, restorative, beautiful and energizing.

Virginia / Gibi

news stories. There's a reason for that and it's described well in the post I've reprinted from [Fix the News](#), formerly Future Crunch. The gist of the graph below is that positive words (blue) are not as effective as negative ones (red) for viewer clicks.

