

U.S Observer Daily Briefing

By Kaswar Klasra

On January 20, 2026, the traditional transatlantic alliance is facing a "reckoning" as the United States employs aggressive "America First" tactics to pressure allies over the sovereignty of Greenland. At the World Economic Forum in Davos, U.S. President Donald Trump has leveraged 10% tariff threats against eight European nations, including Denmark and France, to force a sale of the Arctic island.

While the U.S. Treasury brushes off the ensuing "hysteria," European leaders have responded with unprecedented military solidarity, deploying troops to Greenland and planning a massive €93 billion retaliatory trade package. Simultaneously, Washington is attempting to bypass traditional multilateralism with a \$1-billion-per-seat "Board of Peace" for Gaza, inviting rivals like Russia and China in a move that analysts say could effectively sideline the United Nations.

Following are ten news articles describing U.S policies Today:

Top EU official questions Trump's trustworthiness over Greenland tariff threat

Summary: European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen today slammed President Trump's 10% tariff threat as a "mistake between allies." Speaking in Davos, she warned that the EU's response would be "unflinching" if the U.S. continues pressuring Denmark to sell Greenland.

[Read more at Associated Press](#)

Greenland not 'a natural part' of Denmark, says Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov Summary:

Summary:

Wading into the Arctic dispute, Lavrov claimed Greenland's status as a Danish territory is a "colonial" relic. While denying Russian plans to seize the region, he used his annual press conference to highlight deepening fractures within the NATO alliance.

[Read more at The Hindu](#)

Trump leaks world leaders' messages as Greenland tensions loom over Davos

Summary: In a stunning diplomatic breach, President Trump shared private messages from Norway's Prime Minister and France's Emmanuel Macron. The leaks suggest Trump is tying his Greenland acquisition bid to personal legacy goals, including his desire for a Nobel Prize.

[Read more at NPR / GPB](#)

US invites Russia, Israel, and Poland to join Gaza 'Board of Peace'

Summary:

The White House extended invitations to Vladimir Putin and other leaders to join a new \$1 billion-per-seat "Board of Peace." The initiative aims to manage Gaza's reconstruction, though critics argue it undermines Palestinian rights for commercial gain.

[Read more at DAWN](#)

Danish Foreign Minister meets with NATO members regarding Trump's threats

Summary:

Denmark's Lars Løkke Rasmussen met with U.K. and Nordic allies in London to coordinate a defense against U.S. expansionism. The meeting follows Trump's vow to "100%" increase tariffs if the "purchase" of the autonomous territory is blocked.

[Read more at VOCM](#)

Bessent says US-Europe relations have 'never been closer' despite crisis

Summary: U.S. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent attempted to downplay the "hysteria" in Davos, urging allies to "take a deep breath." He insisted the Greenland dispute is a manageable negotiation, despite European leaders describing the situation as a grave diplomatic crisis.

[Read more at The Hindu](#)

Clashing trilemmas in the US and China will shape the global order

Summary:

A new policy analysis warns that the U.S. and China are locked in a race for technological dominance that drains domestic resources. Experts urge the EU to retaliate against U.S. trade pressure to maintain a rules-based multipolar world.

[Read more at European Policy Centre](#)

Dispatch from Guangzhou: Stabilizing US-China Relations in the Arctic

Summary:

While the U.S. clashes with Europe, Beijing is positioning itself as a stabilizing force in the Arctic. Reports highlight increased Chinese research activity near Alaska, signaling that China intends to be a major stakeholder in any Arctic territorial shifts.

[Read more at The Arctic Institute](#)

Trump's Davos 2026 speech: What to expect as global elites gather

Summary: With 60 heads of state present, President Trump's upcoming Wednesday address is the forum's most anticipated event. He is expected to defend his "America First" Arctic policy and pitch his 20-point peace plan for the Middle East.

[Read more at Times of India](#)

Seven NATO members deploy troops to Greenland to deter annexation

Summary:

In an unprecedented move against a fellow ally, seven NATO nations—including France and the U.K.—have deployed personnel to Greenland. The mission aims to establish a permanent presence and deter any "hybrid warfare" tactics from the Trump administration.

[Read more at High North News](#)

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