

# **Epic Fury - US Public Sentiment Analysis**

## **March 2026**

### **Table of Contents**

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<b>Executive Summary</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Background</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>US Public Opinion on the War - Poll Analysis</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Anti-War vs Pro-War Sentiment in the Republican Party</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Anti-War Sentiment (“America First” and “America Only”)</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Leading Figures</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Anti-War Main Themes</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Online Manifestation of the Anti-War Narratives</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Pro-War and Pro-Israel Counter-Narratives within the Republican Ecosystem</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Comparative Context: Venezuela Intervention</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Looking Forward: Assessment</b>	<b>52</b>

## Executive Summary

- **This report analyzes Republican sentiment toward the March 2026 war in Iran and assesses how domestic political divisions in the United States may shape the conflict's trajectory.**
- **Overall Public Opinion**
  - An aggregate of recent polling in the US general public shows that **roughly half of Americans oppose the war, about one-third support it, and a meaningful share remain unsure.** Opposition to the strikes is concentrated among **Democrats and Independents**, while **Republican voters largely support the war.** A large majority opposes the deployment of **US ground troops.**
- **Republican Divisions**
  - A restraint-oriented **“America First” faction** argues that the strikes contradict anti-war campaign rhetoric, risk drawing the United States into another prolonged Middle East conflict, and impose economic costs that undermine domestic priorities.
  - Some actors within this ecosystem have also circulated **“Israel First” narratives**, including antisemitic claims alleging **disproportionate Israeli or Jewish influence over US foreign policy**, as well as slogans such as **“dying for Israel”** that frame the war as serving foreign rather than American interests.
  - In contrast, **GOP leadership**, conservative media figures, and **pro-Trump influencers** strongly defend the intervention as a necessary deterrent against Iran's nuclear ambitions and regional activities.
  - These divisions can be further understood as part of a **broader ideological structure within the American Right.** Alongside the MAGA (“Make America Great Again”) establishment and the **“America First” anti-interventionist current**, a more radical fringe, sometimes referred to as **“America Only”**, promotes **extreme isolationism** combined with conspiratorial, white nationalist, and antisemitic narratives.
  - Across these groups, **online influencers and alternative media platforms play a central role in shaping discourse**, particularly among younger audiences, amplifying anti-war messaging and framing the conflict as misaligned with American interests.
- **Assessment**
  - Current polling and political discourse suggest that **Republican support for the war remains strong but may prove conditional.** While MAGA-aligned voters and party leadership largely support the campaign, divisions within conservative media and among some Republican figures, **particularly within “America First” and “America Only” circles**, indicate that **support could weaken if the conflict becomes prolonged, expands operationally, or imposes sustained economic costs.**

- This opposition is **especially visible among younger and digitally active audiences, where online influencers and alternative media increasingly shape the discourse, often framing the war as a betrayal of the American public by political elites.** The growing influence of these populist, conspiratorial, and at times radical narratives **may have longer-term implications for US foreign policy and its relationship with Israel.**

## Introduction

This report focuses on **divisions within the Republican Party** surrounding the war in Iran. It assesses how these dynamics may affect **President Trump’s political room for maneuver** and the **duration of the conflict.**

The report analyzes the **background of the present discourse,** reviews recent **public opinion polls,** and provides an in-depth assessment of the **leading claims and key actors shaping the debate.** This includes Republican political figures as well as prominent conservative influencers driving both **pro-war and anti-war narratives** across traditional and digital media environments. Internal fractures within the party, particularly between **institutional leadership** and segments of the **MAGA, “America First,”** and more radical **“America Only”** currents, may ultimately **influence the scope of the campaign.** Because Republican voters constitute the administration’s core political base, **these divisions are likely to play a decisive role in shaping its political sustainability.** This dynamic is further shaped by broader domestic pressures, including **rising gas prices** and **wider economic concerns,** which heighten political sensitivity and may constrain the administration’s room for maneuver.

As the midterm elections approach, political discourse on the American Right is likely to **consolidate.** Public narratives, including anti-interventionist, populist, and at times anti-Israel framing, tend to solidify in the months leading up to elections, **potentially influencing both policy positioning and public opinion.** These dynamics are also **leveraged by pro-Iran networks,** which amplify narratives of American opposition to the conflict to deepen perceived divisions. These trends may have implications for **Jewish and Israeli communities in the United States,** particularly in relation to the **risk of increased antisemitic discourse and incidents.**

## Background

US public attitudes toward Israel and Middle East conflict dynamics have shifted materially since Hamas's October 7, 2023, attack and Israel's subsequent war in Gaza. National polling since October 2023 indicates increased **skepticism toward Israel's conduct** and **widening partisan polarization**.<sup>1</sup> Gallup reported in February 2026 that **41% of Americans now sympathize more with Palestinians**, while **36% sympathize more with Israelis**, marking a reversal from February 2025, when **Israelis led 46%** to **33%**.

In recent years, **the partisan gap has widened significantly**, mainly due to changes within the Democrat electorate. **Democrat sympathy for Israel declined from 43% in 2021 to 17% in 2026**, while Democrat **sympathy for Palestinians rose from 38% to 65%** over the same period. Among **Republicans**, the same tendencies are evident to some degree, but the changes are significantly smaller. Among Republicans, sympathy for Israel decreased from 80% in 2021 to **70% in 2026**, while sympathy for Palestinians edged up from 10% to 13%.<sup>2</sup>

These attitudinal shifts provide important context for **US public reactions to subsequent US and Israeli military action involving Iran**, because they shape how Americans assess escalation risk, perceived proportionality, and alliance obligations.<sup>3</sup>

Polling suggests significant divisions within the US around military intervention in Iran, a pattern that has historically been associated with times of intensified military conflict. For example, in June 2025, **Israel launched Operation "Rising Lion,"** a large-scale preemptive campaign **targeting Iranian nuclear and military facilities**. The possibility of the US joining strikes on Iran's nuclear sites sparked a public debate in the US, with many Americans **expressing reluctance to become involved in the conflict**. The United States ultimately carried out strikes on Iranian nuclear facilities on **June 22**.

Polls carried out by Reuters Ipsos and Quinnipiac University, conducted June 21 to 24, 2025, **found that between 45-51% of Americans opposed the strikes**, while between **36% supported them**, and that

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.pewresearch.org/politics/2025/10/03/how-americans-view-the-israel-hamas-conflict-2-years-into-the-war/>; [https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2024/05/30/how-americans-and-israelis-view-one-another-and-the-us-role-in-the-israel-hamas-war](https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2024/05/30/how-americans-and-israelis-view-one-another-and-the-us-role-in-the-israel-hamas-war/); <https://apnews.com/article/israel-palestinians-poll-biden-war-gaza-4159b28d313c6c37abdb7f14162bcdd1>; <https://news.gallup.com/poll/657404/less-half-sympathetic-toward-israelis.aspx>; <https://news.gallup.com/poll/646955/disapproval-israeli-action-gaza-eases-slightly.aspx>

<sup>2</sup> <https://news.gallup.com/poll/702440/israelis-no-longer-ahead-americans-middle-east-sympathies.aspx>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.cfr.org/articles/election-2024-are-republicans-turning-isolationist>; <https://globalaffairs.org/research/public-opinion-survey/americas-foreign-policy-future-public-opinion-and-2024-election>; <https://globalaffairs.org/research/public-opinion-survey/majority-trump-republicans-prefer-united-states-stay-out-world>; <https://pro.morningconsult.com/analyst-reports/americans-views-us-foreign-policy-chart-pack>

**most favored immediately ending US involvement** in the conflict.<sup>4</sup>

In the months following the June 2025 war, **tensions between Iran, Israel, and the US remained elevated**. While the initial strikes damaged parts of Iran’s nuclear and missile infrastructure, **Tehran moved to restore key facilities, continued advancing uranium enrichment, and preserved much of its ballistic missile capability**, sustaining concerns in Washington and Jerusalem. Diplomatic attempts to stabilize the situation had little progress, as economically driven protests in Iran escalated into broader anti-regime unrest, met with force. Against this backdrop, **President Trump warned Tehran against further escalation**, threatened consequences over its nuclear and missile activities, and signaled potential intervention if violence against protesters persisted.<sup>5</sup>

Throughout the weeks of public debate preceding the war, **internal divisions within the Republican Party** have been exposed over the decision of whether to attack Iran. This has highlighted tensions within the party, particularly between **MAGA** and the “**America First**” faction. The **MAGA movement** within the party can be characterized by strong support for **President Trump**, broader **anti-elitist sentiment**, and positions on social and political issues often associated with **opposition to LGBTQ rights and immigration**, as well as the endorsement of **conspiracy theories**.

One of the central principles associated with **MAGA** is “**America First**” – the idea that **US foreign policy should primarily serve domestic American interests**. The “**America First**” faction within the movement emphasizes this principle and is therefore especially likely to oppose **military involvement abroad**.

Critics of military escalation argue that such action could impose **significant economic costs on the United States**, including billions of dollars in military spending and daily operational expenses that could otherwise fund **domestic priorities**. Many voters and lawmakers therefore view the war as potentially inconsistent with an “**America First**” approach.<sup>6</sup>

A more restraint-oriented strand within the Republican Party was reflected in **Vice President J.D. Vance's public positioning**. On **February 26**, two days before the launch of the strikes, Vance publicly stressed that **even if the United States were to strike Iran’s nuclear facilities, there was “no chance” the US would become involved in a long, multiyear war in the Middle East**. In his remarks, Vance repeatedly framed the conflict as **having specific goals rather than open-ended involvement**.<sup>7</sup> Taken together, it appears that **Americans entered the Iran war period with decreased support for**

<sup>4</sup><https://www.ipsos.com/sites/default/files/ct/news/documents/2025-06/Reuters%20Ipsos%20U.S.%20Iran%20Survey%20Topline%2006%2023%202025.pdf>; <https://poll.qu.edu/poll-release?releaseid=3925>

<sup>5</sup><https://abcnews.com/Politics/trump-warns-us-locked-loaded-iran-kills-peaceful/story?id=128845602>; <https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20260212-trump-warns-iran-of-very-traumatic-outcome-if-no-nuclear-deal>

<sup>6</sup><https://ips-dc.org/how-much-is-the-war-in-iran-costing-american-taxpayers/>; <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2026/03/03/trump-oil-price-spike-iran-attack/>

<sup>7</sup><https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2026/02/26/vance-no-chance-us-will-be-drawn-out-war-middle-east/>

**Israel** and an **increasingly fragmented US foreign policy consensus**, including **within the Republican Party**, where America First priorities compete with more traditional hawkish instincts.

## US Public Opinion on the War - Poll Analysis

Several **public opinion polls** have been conducted since the outbreak of the war, surveying US adults on their approval or disapproval of the **US-Israeli campaign in Iran**.

Based on these polls, an aggregate assessment of surveys conducted between February 27 and March 8 by **The Washington Post**,<sup>8</sup> **YouGov**,<sup>9</sup> **Reuters/Ipsos**,<sup>10</sup> **The Economist/YouGov**,<sup>11</sup> and **Quinnipiac University**<sup>12</sup> was carried out. The aggregate is based on averages of published poll results. The polls are all based on **nationally representative samples of US adults**, with sample sizes of 1,000–1,500 individuals per poll. Since the raw data from these polls was not publicly available, we were unable to provide deeper **demographic breakdowns** of the results. The questions were typically multiple-choice, asking participants to indicate whether they support, oppose, or are unsure about the **US military intervention in Iran**. No standardization of the results was done on our part.

The findings indicate that the **American public is divided**, with roughly half (47%) opposing the war, approximately one-third (35%) supporting it, and a meaningful share (18%) remaining unsure or neutral.

**Demographic breakdowns**, including age and economic outlook where available, provide additional indicators for identifying population segments that may be more vulnerable if the conflict lengthens or imposes sustained economic pressure.<sup>13</sup> The **Washington Post poll** identified a **generational dimension** to support levels. Majorities of voters aged 65 and older support continuing strikes, while pluralities or majorities of voters under age 50 prefer stopping them. This **generational divergence** indicates that support for sustained military engagement is uneven across age cohorts at the national level.<sup>14</sup> A **Fox News national poll** shows a similar generational pattern, with lower approval of the military action among younger voters: roughly one-third of respondents under age 30 support the campaign compared with a clear majority of voters aged 65 and older.<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/interactive/2026/trump-iran-strikes-poll-americans/>

<sup>9</sup> <https://yougov.com/en-us/articles/54201-how-americans-feel-about-the-us-attack-on-iran>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.ipsos.com/en-us/more-americans-disapprove-approve-us-strikes-against-iran>

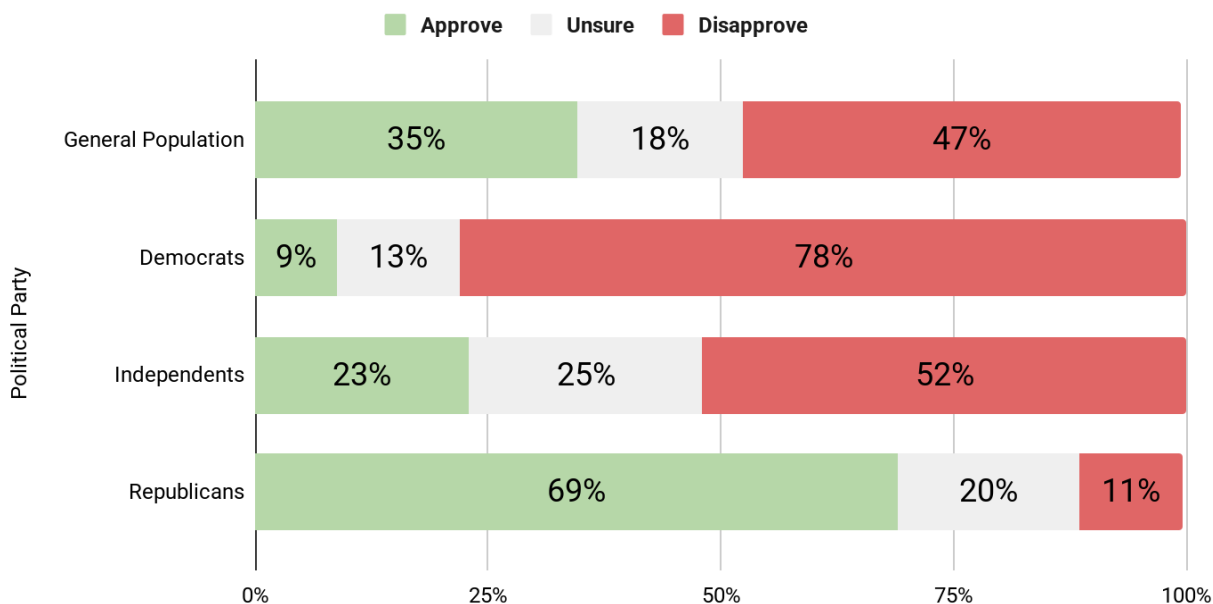
<sup>11</sup> <https://yougov.com/en-us/articles/54222-iran-record-low-donald-trump-job-approval-ice-immigration-february-27-march-2-2026-economist-yougov-poll>

<sup>12</sup> [https://poll.qu.edu/images/polling/us/us03092026\\_upip88.pdf](https://poll.qu.edu/images/polling/us/us03092026_upip88.pdf)

<sup>13</sup> <https://yougov.com/en-us/articles/54222-iran-record-low-donald-trump-job-approval-ice-immigration-february-27-march-2-2026-economist-yougov-poll>; <https://poll.qu.edu/poll-release?releaseid=3952>

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/interactive/2026/iran-war-strikes-poll/>

<sup>15</sup> [https://static.foxnews.com/foxnews.com/content/uploads/2026/03/fox\\_feb.-28-mar.-2-2026\\_national\\_cross-tabs\\_march-3-release.pdf](https://static.foxnews.com/foxnews.com/content/uploads/2026/03/fox_feb.-28-mar.-2-2026_national_cross-tabs_march-3-release.pdf)



*The graph illustrates public approval of the strikes by political affiliation, based on an aggregate analysis of several polls conducted during the first week of the war*

The two most recent of these polls, conducted March 2–8 by **Quinnipiac University and NPR/PBS News**, indicate that the **partisan divide** has continued to widen since the outbreak of the war. Among **Republicans**, 84–85% support the action, compared with 86–89% of **Democrats** who oppose it. **Independents** are divided on the issue, with 60% opposing the war and 31% supporting it. This distribution underscores that **Republican voters constitute the principal base of approval**, while **Democratic voters and Independents lean decisively against the campaign**.<sup>16</sup>

Beyond basic approval, several of the polls include additional questions that shed light on the **depth and conditionality of support**. **Quinnipiac** finds that 74% of voters oppose sending **US ground troops into Iran**, with only 20% in support. Even among **Republicans**, a majority oppose deploying ground forces (52%), indicating **limited tolerance for escalation beyond the current operational scope**.<sup>17</sup> A **Washington Post** poll conducted March 6–9 found that a plurality favors stopping strikes (42%) rather than continuing them (34%), while nearly two-thirds say the administration has **not clearly explained the goals of the campaign**.<sup>18</sup> A **CNN** poll conducted by **SSRS** shortly after the strikes began similarly found that nearly six in ten (59%) disapproved of the decision to take military action and that **most expect the conflict to be prolonged**.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>16</sup> <https://poll.qu.edu/poll-release?releaseid=3952>; <https://maristpoll.marist.edu/polls/war-with-iran-march-2026/>

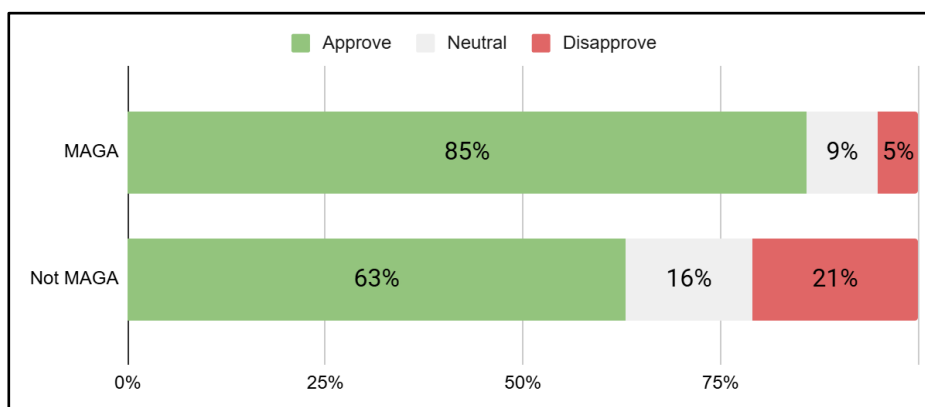
<sup>17</sup> <https://poll.qu.edu/poll-release?releaseid=3952>

<sup>18</sup> <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/interactive/2026/iran-war-strikes-poll/>

<sup>19</sup> <https://ssrs.com/news/americans-views-of-2026-iran-strike/>; <https://edition.cnn.com/2026/03/02/politics/cnn-poll-59-of-americans-disapprove-of-iran-strikes-and-most-think-a-long-term-conflict-is-likely>

Questions concerning the perceived necessity of **congressional approval** underscore **procedural and legal considerations** that could continue to shape the public debate. In the **Quinnipiac survey**, 59% of voters believe the president should obtain congressional approval before taking military action, reinforcing the salience of the **War Powers debate** within Congress.<sup>20</sup>

**Subgroup analysis** provides further granularity. Polling that differentiates between **self-identified MAGA Republicans and non-MAGA Republicans** shows a measurable divergence in levels of support. While approval is high among both groups, **non-MAGA Republicans** are approximately four times more likely to oppose the war and 26% less likely to support it compared to **MAGA Republicans**.<sup>21</sup> Although polling using this distinction is currently rare, it is analytically significant because **non-MAGA Republicans constitute a mainstream segment of the party** that is neither fringe nor explicitly anti-interventionist, yet may be more sensitive to **duration, congressional process, economic cost, and escalation** **risk**.



**Approval of the strikes among MAGA and non-MAGA respondents (YouGov, March 2)**

Given their relative weight in national polling, **Independent voters** form a critical component of the overall assessment. **Gallup reports** that 45% of Americans identify as Independents, compared with 27% identifying as **Democrats** and 27% as **Republicans**, making Independents the **single largest self-identified political group in the country**. Because respondents answer polls according to **self-identification**, Independent sentiment materially shapes **headline results and perceptions of domestic mandate**.<sup>22</sup> It should be noted, however, that while a significant share of Independents are centrists, they constitute a **heterogeneous group ranging from the far-left to the far-right**, united only by a lack of affiliation with either major political party.<sup>23</sup> Interpretations of sentiment among **Independents** should therefore be made with caution.

<sup>20</sup> <https://poll.qu.edu/poll-release?releaseid=3952>

<sup>21</sup> <https://yougov.com/en-us/articles/54201-how-americans-feel-about-the-us-attack-on-iran>

<sup>22</sup> <https://news.gallup.com/poll/700499/new-high-identify-political-independents.aspx>

<sup>23</sup> <https://yougov.com/en-us/articles/53978-understanding-americans-ideology>

Taken together, current polling suggests that while **Republican support remains robust**, it may prove **conditional**. While **MAGA Republicans** are likely to continue to follow Trump’s lead on the war, two key questions emerge: whether **non-MAGA and economically sensitive segments** will remain aligned if the conflict becomes longer and costlier, and how the **emerging split between party elites and political influencers** could shape attitudes among MAGA voters. These polling patterns suggest that while Republican support provides the administration with a stable base of political backing, that support could become more fragile if the conflict expands or imposes visible economic costs.

### Anti-War vs Pro-War Sentiment in the Republican Party

Overall, support for the war among Republicans is relatively stable. However, in the aftermath of the 2026 US–Israel military strikes on Iran, **a significant faction within the "America First" movement has expressed sharp opposition to the intervention**. While the Republican mainstream largely supports the strikes, **a vocal anti-war flank has emerged**, revealing a **notable rift within the broader MAGA coalition**, including both **“America First”** and more radical **“America Only”** currents.

Since the outbreak of the war, **this divide has been increasingly reflected in online and media discourse**, where a noticeable rise in social media activity, including the use of **hashtags** and other **forms of engagement**, has highlighted **competing narratives regarding US military involvement**.

These dynamics can be understood through three primary ideological layers. **The MAGA-aligned camp**, largely associated with supporters of President Donald Trump and traditional conservative media, tends to support a more **assertive foreign policy and continued alignment with Israel**.

In contrast, the **“America First”** current **reflects a populist and nationalist approach that prioritizes domestic interests**, opposes prolonged foreign interventions, and frequently frames **such conflicts as driven by political or elite agendas rather than core American needs**. At the more extreme end, a fringe often described as **“America Only”** advances a **radically isolationist approach, in some cases incorporating racial-nationalist and conspiratorial elements**.

The core distinction between right-wing populists (America First) and white nationalists (America Only) lies in how they define the **in-group**. Right-wing populists emphasize culture, nativism, and hostility toward elites, often drawing a line between **“real Americans”** and liberal elites, intellectuals, international institutions, and immigrants, who are seen as threats to economic nationalism and cultural identity. They may employ coded or implicit racial language, but typically stop short of advocating an explicit racial hierarchy; the Tea Party movement, for example, focused on anti-establishment and anti-elite themes, invoking **“we the people”** against the ruling class while at times incorporating racial undertones without formally endorsing racial stratification.

White nationalists or “America Only” advocates, by contrast, place race and ancestry at the center of their worldview and openly support either the maintenance or restoration of white dominance. Their ideology prioritizes the preservation of “ethnic purity” and often rests on explicit racial doctrines that can also shape their positions on foreign and international policy.

## Anti-War Sentiment (“America First” and “America Only”)

### Leading Figures

#### **America First**

Anti-war arguments within the “America First” current are amplified by a network of influential commentators and online personalities, such as:

#### **Tucker Carlson**

##### **Scope of activity on social networks:**

**YouTube:** about 5.38 million subscribers

**X:** about 17.4 million followers



Tucker Carlson is a conservative American political commentator and one of the most prominent figures in right-wing media in the United States. From 2016 to 2023, he hosted Fox News’ flagship program, Tucker Carlson Tonight, which became the highest-rated show on American cable news. After leaving the network in 2023 following a series of public disputes, he launched an independent show on X, where he continues to promote right-wing populist themes and an **America First** outlook on culture, immigration, and foreign policy.

Carlson is regarded as a leading voice in the populist-isolationist camp on the American Right, particularly among those skeptical of US military engagement overseas. He frequently criticizes what he calls “wars of the elites in Washington,” arguing that foreign interventions often serve political or international interests at the expense of the American public. In the context of tensions between Israel and Iran, Carlson has voiced strong opposition to American involvement, portraying the escalation as a move that squanders resources and endangers US soldiers for interests he claims are not primarily American.

His commentary has drawn extensive public criticism over the years, in part because of rhetoric that has sometimes included conspiratorial elements and harsh attacks on Israel. Carlson has also given a platform to controversial figures on his programs, including Nick Fuentes, a far-right activist associated with nationalist movements in the United States. Regarding the current war with Iran, Carlson has

argued that “it happened because Israel wanted it to happen. This is Israel’s war. This is not the United States’ war... a war that is conducted solely because Israel wanted it to be conducted.”<sup>24</sup>

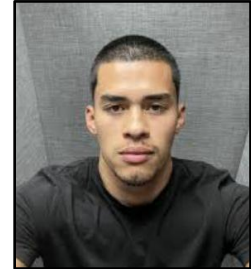
**Sneako (Nicolas Kenn De Balinthazy)**

**Scope of activity on social networks:**

**X:** about 1.03 million followers

**Instagram:** about 1.7 million followers

**YouTube:** about 1.28 million subscribers



"Sneako" (Nicolas Kenn De Balinthazy) is a controversial American streamer and political commentator associated with radical right-wing circles online. He began his career producing gaming content on YouTube but later shifted to provocative political and cultural commentary. After being suspended or banned from several platforms for content deemed offensive or extreme, he moved much of his activity to alternative platforms such as Rumble and X. His core audience consists mainly of young men, whom he draws in through street interviews, “red-pill” discourse on masculinity, and sharp attacks on the political and media establishment.

In the context of the war between Israel and Iran, Sneako adopts an explicitly pro-Palestinian stance and levels harsh criticism at Israel. He has argued that Israel bears primary responsibility for the escalation with Iran, in part by alleging that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu pressured former President Donald Trump into confrontational policies. He frequently portrays Israel as an aggressive regional actor and frames Iran as a central force resisting Israeli policy in the Middle East. In his messaging to American viewers, he calls for a fundamental reassessment of US–Israel relations and urges the United States to avoid entanglement in Middle Eastern wars.



25



26

<sup>24</sup> [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JZxj\\_c0g5LU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JZxj_c0g5LU)  
<sup>25</sup> <https://x.com/sneako/status/2031748481031803097>  
<sup>26</sup> <https://x.com/sneako/status/2033421571533009391>

**Candace Owens**

**Scope of activity on social networks:**

**YouTube** - 4.5 million subscribers

**Instagram:** 2 accounts each over 3 million followers

**Facebook** - about 7.5 million followers

**TikTok** - about 6.8 million followers

**Spotify** - about 741 thousand followers



Candace Owens is a conservative American political commentator and a prominent online influencer. She is associated with right-wing populism in the United States and champions nationalist positions, sharp criticism of liberal immigration policies, and opposition to the political and media establishment. Over the years, she has frequently attacked political and economic elites as well as international institutions, at times weaving conspiratorial claims about global actors allegedly shaping world events into her commentary. Some of these statements have drawn widespread criticism and accusations that she employs antisemitic tropes about Jewish influence in the media, finance, and politics.

In the context of the current war between Israel and Iran and the debate over US involvement, Owens takes a strongly critical stance toward military escalation. She argues that the push for American intervention is driven in part by lobby groups and political elites, while ordinary Americans bear the costs—both in economic terms and in human lives. In line with this view, she insists that US foreign policy should prioritize domestic concerns such as border security and the state of the economy, rather than prolonged military entanglements in the Middle East.



<sup>27</sup> <https://x.com/RealCandaceO/status/2031107549370458147>

<sup>28</sup> <https://x.com/jakeshieldsajj/status/2031115159733772698>

## Joe Rogan

### Scope of activity on social networks:

**Instagram** - about 20 million followers

**X (Twitter)** - about 13 million followers

**YouTube** (JRE channel) - about 17-18 million subscribers



Joe Rogan (born 1967) is an American comedian, UFC commentator, and host of the hugely successful podcast The Joe Rogan Experience (JRE), one of the most popular podcasts in the world under a 250-million-dollar deal with Spotify. The show is known for its long, free-flowing conversations on topics such as fitness, MMA, psychedelics, and politics, and it attracts a broad audience that often leans libertarian, skeptical, and populist. Although Rogan is not explicitly identified as a right-wing populist, his platform frequently amplifies America First perspectives, particularly anti-interventionist views, for example by hosting guests like Tucker Carlson and probing the motives behind wars pursued by political elites.

In discussing tensions between Israel, Iran, and the United States, Rogan has urged caution regarding further American military escalation, arguing that such moves risk American lives for poorly defined goals and distract from pressing domestic concerns. He has suggested that US leaders should focus more on internal issues than on deeper military involvement in the Middle East. As he put it: “Based on what he ran on... this is why a lot of people feel betrayed. He ran on no more wars... stupid senseless wars. And now we see that we can't even really clearly define why we did it.”

### America Only

The approach known as “**America Only**” represents an **extreme right-wing, white-nationalist ideology focused exclusively on the United States**. It advocates the creation of a **white-only ethno-state within US borders**, dedicated to preserving white racial dominance. Its proponents claim that **white Americans are undergoing a form of “genocide” driven by immigration, multiculturalism, and international alliances**, and they promote a radically isolationist, US-centric **separatism** that calls for **near-total disengagement from the outside world**. Adherents of this ideology often blend **conspiratorial antisemitic rhetoric with opposition to the inclusion of non-white groups**, while advancing uncompromising anti-interventionist positions and insisting on complete non-involvement in foreign conflicts and wars. More broadly, the principles of “America Only” reject US participation in the international arena and **instead prioritize the preservation of supposed “national purity”**

alongside an extreme isolationist posture in political, economic, and cultural life. Supporters of this approach in politics, media, and online spaces include:

### Marjorie Taylor Greene

#### Presence on social networks:

**X** (Twitter) - about 1.6 million followers



Marjorie Taylor Greene is a former Congresswoman from Georgia (District 14, served 2021-2025), identified with extreme Right-wing populism and the America First world view - anti-interventionist and isolationist. Greene is famous for promoting conspiracy theories, including sympathetic positions toward QAnon, claims of election fraud, and opposition to American military actions in foreign wars.

In the context of the current war between Iran, Israel, and the United States, Greene strongly opposes American escalation. She calls the intervention an “eternal and disastrous war” driven by Neocons and pressure groups, claiming that it takes American lives and money while domestic problems, such as borders and inflation, remain unaddressed. Greene calls to reject military strikes and to prefer a policy of peace through strength on United States soil, while maintaining internal interests and standing firm against threats.



<sup>29</sup> <https://x.com/mtgreenee/status/2032112951671341230>

<sup>30</sup> <https://x.com/mtgreenee?lang=en>

<sup>31</sup> <https://x.com/FmrRepMTG/status/2029665925062881522>



**Nick Fuentes**

**Presence on social networks:**

**X (Twitter)** - about 1.3 million followers

Nick Fuentes is a prominent streamer and leader of the “Groyper” movement, an extreme right-wing online milieu composed largely of his followers and supporters. He is known for promoting antisemitic conspiracy theories that allege Jewish control over American politics and media. Fuentes is a fierce opponent of US support for Israel and has repeatedly argued that America should end its aid to the country. In response to President Donald Trump’s strikes on Iran, he condemned the actions as a “war of aggression for Israel” that endangers American lives and advances foreign interests rather than the national interests of the United States.



## Jake Shields

### Presence on social networks:

X (Twitter) - over 900 thousand followers

Jake Shields is a former MMA fighter who has reinvented himself as a far-right podcaster. He is associated with white-nationalist rhetoric, including promotion of “Great Replacement” theories, Holocaust denial, and expressions of admiration for aspects of Nazi policy. Shields portrays himself as a supporter of the Palestinians, frequently sharing graphic content about Israeli actions in Gaza and criticizing US aid to Israel on the grounds that it enables military aggression. He opposes American involvement in wars he believes serve Israeli interests and questions the rationale for strikes on Iran, framing such conflicts as “distractions” designed to advance Israel’s agenda rather than America’s.



## Sam Parker

### Presence on social networks:

X (Twitter) - over 300 thousand followers

Sam Parker is a British-American online figure associated with extreme right-wing ideologies and antisemitic content. Active on social media with hundreds of thousands of followers, including a significant presence on fringe platforms such as Gab, he promotes white supremacist rhetoric, endorses white-nationalist ideas, and amplifies conspiracies like the “Great Replacement.” Parker has also advanced antisemitic theories alleging Jewish control of institutions and the media, while pushing a narrative that ostensibly “separates” Zionism from Judaism as a whole in order to legitimize his discourse.



In the context of the war involving Iran, Israel, and the United States, Parker condemns American support for Israel and advances radical claims portraying US military involvement as an “indirect Zionist genocide.” He urges white Americans to reject what he calls “Jewish wars” and frames the escalation as serving foreign rather than American national interests. His positions fuse conspiratorial antisemitism with white-nationalist beliefs and hardline anti-interventionism, leading him to advocate

near-total US disengagement from foreign conflicts and the prioritization of domestic American interests over any international commitments.



### Lucas Gage

#### Presence on social networks:

X (Twitter) - over 286 thousand followers but currently blocked.



Gage is an American neo-Nazi activist, former chairman of the white supremacist National Youth Front, and founder of the neo-Nazi group American Third Position. He promotes so-called “white genocide” narratives alongside explicitly violent antisemitic rhetoric directed at Jews. In the context of the war with Iran, Gage frames the conflict as a “Zionist plan to destroy whites indirectly,” urging his followers to place racial loyalty above any political or international alliance. His anti-Israel agitation intensified during coverage of the 2023 Gaza war, when he gained more than 100,000 followers and shifted from a discourse of pure white nationalism to vocal support for the Palestinians coupled with denial of the October 7 attacks, even as his core neo-Nazi ideology remained unchanged. He was suspended from X in 2024 after publicly burning a volume of the Talmud and inciting violence, but has repeatedly returned and continues to maintain an active online presence.

### Stew Peters

#### Presence on social networks:

X (Twitter) - over 900 thousand followers.

Stew Peters is a far-right broadcaster who amplifies conspiracy theories about “white genocide,” engages in Holocaust denial, and frequently deploys antisemitic rhetoric such as claims that “the Jews control everything.” In response to the strikes in Iran, he described them as a “Zionist blood sacrifice of white soldiers.” Over time, his



stance has hardened, evolving from Christian nationalism in 2024 to open identification with neo-Nazism during coverage of the 2026 war.



## Anti-War Main Themes

**Four primary themes shape opposition** within segments of the Republican coalition. These include renewed isolationist sentiment emphasizing that the **Iran conflict does not serve core American interests**; arguments that the **strikes contradict Donald Trump’s “anti-war” campaign pledges**; the **circulation of “Israel First” tropes**, including narratives such as “**dying for Israel**,” which frame the war as serving foreign rather than American interests; and a **growing debate over presidential authority to wage war**. In addition, elements of this discourse **incorporate broader anti-elite and “anti-neocon” framing**, as well as conspiratorial claims that **the conflict serves as a distraction from domestic issues**, including narratives linked to the Epstein files.

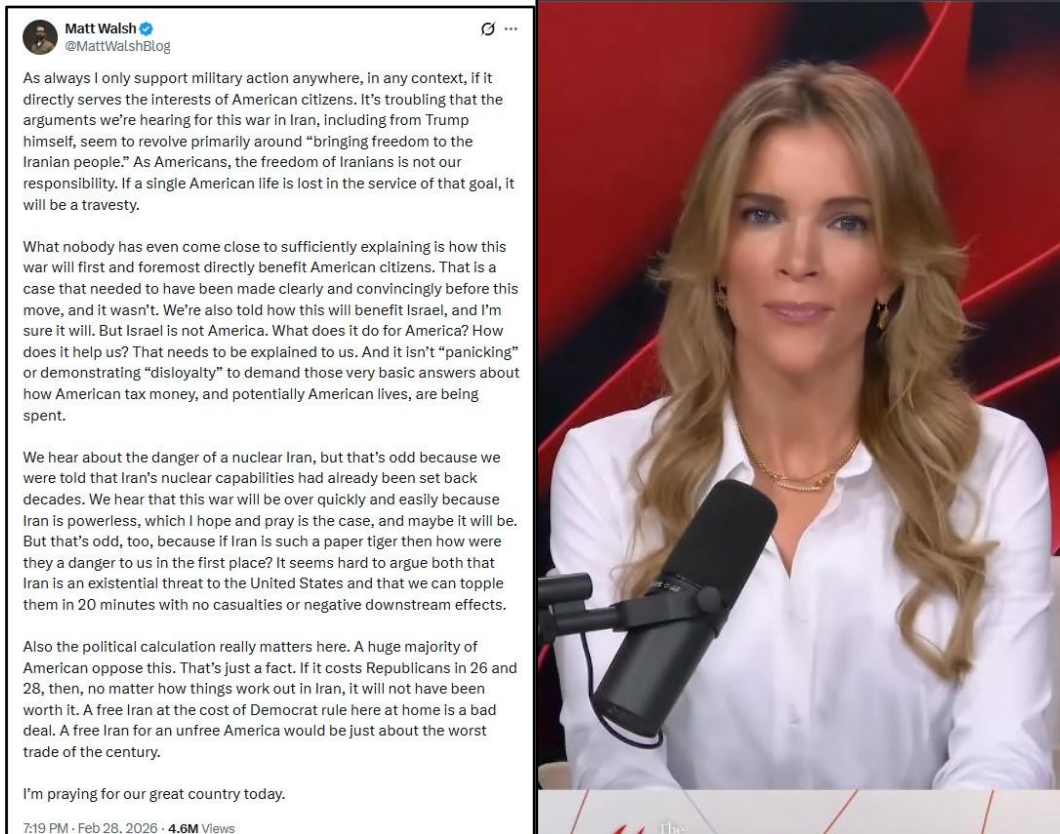
## Core Interests and Isolationism

Within the **Republican coalition**, a visible **restraint-oriented current** frames opposition to the war primarily through the lens of **national interest, constitutional authority, and economic cost**, rather than through antisemitic or anti-Israel narratives. This strand emphasizes that **military engagement must demonstrably serve core American interests** and remain limited in scope.

**Conservative commentator Matt Walsh** publicly questioned the strategic utility of the strikes, asking what tangible benefit they provide to the United States and whether American lives and taxpayer resources are being committed to objectives that are insufficiently defined in terms of the **national interest**.<sup>32</sup> Similarly, **Megyn Kelly** argued that the mission lacked a clear **domestic mandate**, expressing concern that US service members could be drawn into a conflict perceived as misaligned with **American voters' priorities**.<sup>33</sup> These critiques focus less on ideological hostility toward Israel and more on questions of **cost, justification, and strategic clarity**.

<sup>32</sup> <https://x.com/MattWalshBlog/status/2027795872046625057>

<sup>33</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/p/DVevfT3Eqx3/>



**Post on X by Matt Walsh opposing US intervention (Left);<sup>34</sup> Megyn Kelly show on March 2 (Right)<sup>35</sup>**

## Trump's "Anti-War" Contradiction

Many on the MAGA right see **Trump's Iran action as a sharp reversal of his anti-war stance**. In 2016 and again in 2024, he campaigned on **ending "forever wars."** Now, **certain MAGA voices are feeling a sense of betrayal**. Former Representative **Marjorie Taylor Greene**, a **Georgia Republican**, posted that the **strike on Iran is a "betrayal" of President Donald Trump's "America First" promises**.<sup>36</sup> Similarly, Rep. **Thomas Massie** (R-KY) declared, **"I am opposed to this war. This is not 'America First.'"**<sup>37</sup> This narrative also emphasizes **economic consequences**, specifically regarding **higher oil prices** and **falling stock prices**.<sup>38</sup>

Criticism framed around **Trump's anti-war campaign rhetoric** has also emerged from influential voices within the **broader conservative ecosystem**. Popular podcaster **Joe Rogan** argued that the strikes represented a betrayal of the **anti-war message** that helped mobilize parts of **Trump's political**

<sup>34</sup> <https://x.com/MattWalshBlog/status/2027795872046625057>

<sup>35</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/p/DVevfT3Eqx3/>

<sup>36</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/p/DVbJVYwEZqc/>

<sup>37</sup> <https://x.com/RepThomasMassie/status/2027739993033134279>

<sup>38</sup> <https://www.thedailybeast.com/trump-hit-by-brutal-reality-check-on-domestic-cost-of-war/>

**base**, warning that many supporters feel “**betrayed**” by the decision to launch a new **Middle East conflict**.<sup>39</sup> Similarly, **Erik Prince**, the founder of the private military contractor **Blackwater** and a former **Navy SEAL**, questioned the operation's **strategic logic** and warned that the campaign could escalate into a **wider regional conflict** if not carefully contained. Prince also cautioned that efforts to destabilize the **Iranian regime** could ultimately require **US ground forces** to achieve meaningful objectives.<sup>40</sup>

Additionally, **Joe Kent, Director of the National Counterterrorism Center**, announced on March 17 his **resignation**, citing **opposition to the ongoing war with Iran**. Joe Kent is a senior American national security official, a Republican, and a former CIA officer, born in 1980 in Oregon. He served for roughly 20 years in the military before joining the CIA’s special operations unit, and later entered politics as a Trump-aligned candidate in an unsuccessful congressional run in Washington State. Kent rose to prominence after his 2025 appointment and confirmation as head of the National Counterterrorism Center, where he aligned himself with the Republican “America First” current. He has also cultivated a public profile through media appearances and on X, where he maintains a mid-sized but influential following on the Right.

Over the course of his political and media career, questions have been raised about his ties or affinities to figures and groups on the extreme right, including Nick Fuentes, Tucker Carlson, and the Proud Boys, though the extent and nature of those connections remain contested and not fully documented. He resigned his post in protest over the war with Iran, stating that he could not “morally support it” and arguing that Iran does not pose an “immediate threat” to the United States. In that context, he voiced criticism of Israel and claimed the war is shaped by Israeli pressure and lobbying in the US, a stance consistent with a broader anti-interventionist current on the American Right.<sup>41</sup>

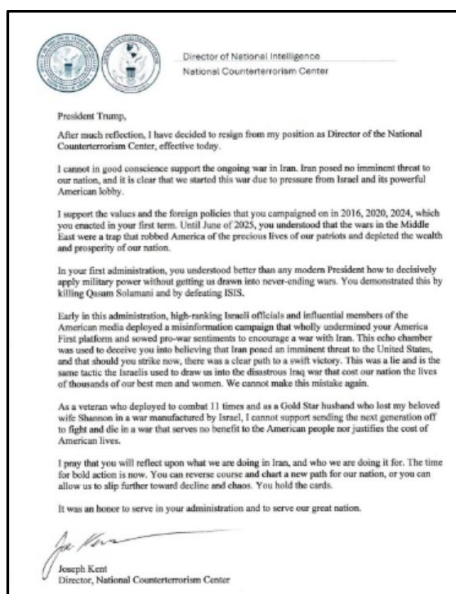
Within an hour of the announcement, the statement generated **significant online engagement**, garnering tens of thousands of likes and comments. Online responses to Kent’s resignation were largely polarized. Supportive comments **praised the move as principled and aligned with “America First” values**, with some users calling it courageous and urging other officials to follow suit. Others framed the resignation as a significant political signal and validation of anti-war positions. Conversely, some reactions **questioned the motivations behind the resignation** or challenged the narrative presented, attributing it to misinformation or political influence.

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<sup>39</sup> <https://edition.cnn.com/2026/03/12/politics/video/joe-rogan-iran-trump-betrayed-digvid>; <https://www.mediante.com/media/news/joe-rogan-nukes-trumps-insane-iran-war-people-feel-betrayed/>; <https://edition.cnn.com/2026/03/11/politics/joe-rogan-trump-support-epstein-iran>

<sup>40</sup> <https://abcnews.com/US/voted-maga-voices-warn-iran-backlash-grow-longer/story?id=130835257&>; <https://nationaltoday.com/us/ny/new-york/news/2026/03/02/blackwater-founder-criticizes-trumps-iran-strikes-as-chaos/>; <https://www.newsweek.com/trump-iran-war-rebuked-blackwater-founder-erik-prince-chaos-11604452>

<sup>41</sup> <https://x.com/joekent16jan19/status/2033897242986209689>



 **Joe Kent** ✓  
@joekent16jan19

🔗 ...

After much reflection, I have decided to resign from my position as Director of the National Counterterrorism Center, effective today.

I cannot in good conscience support the ongoing war in Iran. Iran posed no imminent threat to our nation, and it is clear that we started this war due to pressure from Israel and its powerful American lobby.

It has been an honor serving under @POTUS and @DNIGabbard and leading the professionals at NCTC.

May God bless America.

**Joe Kent's resignation statement as posted on his X account**

These critiques reflect a strand of **conservative commentary** that frames the intervention as inconsistent with the “**America First**” **commitment** to avoid new **foreign wars**. Thus, the war in Iran is often portrayed as another “**Iraq-style intervention**” that **benefits foreign governments or global elites while ordinary Americans bear the cost**.

**Antisemitic Conspiracies and “Israel First” Tropes**

Alongside **isolationist arguments**, a number of **right-wing figures**, particularly on the **far-right fringe**, have revived **classic and modern antisemitic tropes** claiming that the war serves Jewish interests at the expense of American lives. These narratives allege that **Zionist actors exercise illegitimate control over US foreign policy** and that the conflict was engineered as a distraction from **domestic issues**, including the release of the “**Epstein files**.” Several **high-profile antisemitic MAGA influencers** have echoed these claims.

- Far-right podcaster **Nick Fuentes** claimed that “**organized Jewry runs our country**” and that “**Israel Dragged US To War**.”<sup>42</sup> He also threatened to shift his support to the Democratic Party, citing what he described as “broken promises” by Republican leadership. Framing the Iran war as a betrayal of the nationalist base, he argued that the GOP had abandoned its “America First” commitments.<sup>43</sup>
- **Candace Owens** posted on X that “Do not join or remain in the United States Military. **Trump has betrayed America and expects you to die for Israel**.”<sup>44</sup>

<sup>42</sup> [https://rumble.com/v76jex4-america-first.html?e9s=src\\_v1\\_ucp\\_a](https://rumble.com/v76jex4-america-first.html?e9s=src_v1_ucp_a)

<sup>43</sup> <https://x.com/NickJFuentes/status/2029350024706957491>

<sup>44</sup> <https://x.com/RealCandaceO/status/2029929842213339475>

- Far-right commentator **Tucker Carlson** added the extraordinary claim that the **Chabad-Lubavitch movement is behind the war in Iran**. Carlson claimed they were “orchestrating a religious war aimed at destroying the Al-Aqsa mosque and the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem’s Old City so that the Third Temple could be rebuilt in its place.”<sup>45</sup>

In addition to secular “Israel First” narratives, some Christian nationalist and apocalyptic voices within the broader MAGA-aligned ecosystem have framed opposition to the war through explicitly theological and antisemitic lenses.

- Former Delaware GOP Senate nominee **Lauren Witzke**,<sup>46</sup> who identifies as a Christian nationalist, amplified claims that **American soldiers would be forced to “die for Israel,”** framing the conflict as evidence of **Jewish or Israeli control over US policy**.<sup>47</sup>
- **Pastor Chuck Baldwin**,<sup>48</sup> a Montana-based independent Baptist pastor and longtime Constitution Party figure, has denounced **Christian Zionism as a “false doctrine”** and described modern Israel as an illegitimate **“apartheid” state**.<sup>49</sup> Since the outbreak of war, he has characterized US–Israel operations in Iran as an unconstitutional **“proxy war”** fought to advance **“greater Israel,”** while claiming that Iran poses no threat to the United States.<sup>50</sup>
- **Pastor Joel Webbon**,<sup>51</sup> founder of **Right Response Ministries** and a figure associated with the **“TheoBros” movement**, rejects **“Judeo-Christian” identity** as heresy and opposes Jews holding public office.<sup>52</sup> In response to the Iran campaign, he has argued that the United States is acting **“on behalf of Israel,”**<sup>53</sup> accused **AIPAC** of manipulating American leaders, and claimed that one could be **either pro-Israel or pro-America, but not both**.<sup>54</sup>
- **Pastor Andrew Isker**,<sup>55</sup> a Reformed Christian nationalist pastor who also opposes “Judeo-Christian” ideology,<sup>56</sup> framed US involvement in the conflict as unnecessary and not in Americans’ interests. He argued that no clear case had been made for how the war benefits the country and suggested that the conflict serves **a highly organized and well-funded**

<sup>45</sup> <https://open.spotify.com/episode/0uj2XQ1WmrmY70ZKjfQL1X>

<sup>46</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/laurenwitzkeofficial/>

<sup>47</sup> [https://www.instagram.com/laurenwitzkeofficial/p/DVU\\_ScKjFe8/](https://www.instagram.com/laurenwitzkeofficial/p/DVU_ScKjFe8/)

<sup>48</sup> <https://x.com/drchuckbaldwin>

<sup>49</sup> <https://chuckbaldwinlive.com/Articles/tabid/109/ID/4807/The-Fall-Of-The-Israel-LobbyAnd-Christian-ZionismHas-Begun.aspx>

<sup>50</sup> <https://libertyfellowshipmt.com/News/tabid/56/ID/4966/Donald-Trumps-Insane-Proxy-War-For-Israel-Against-Iran.aspx>

<sup>51</sup> <https://x.com/JoelWebbon/>

<sup>52</sup> <https://www.peoplefor.org/rightwingwatch/christian-nationalist-pastor-joel-webbon-says-jews-cannot-serve-public-office-my-https://rightresponseministries.com/podcasts/ill-take-the-christian-but-hold-the-judeo/>

<sup>53</sup> <https://x.com/JoelWebbon/status/2028604881951465540>

<sup>54</sup> <https://x.com/JoelWebbon/status/2028676306079015405>

<sup>55</sup> <https://x.com/BonifaceOption>

<sup>56</sup> [https://momentmag.com/the-new-christian-right/?srsltid=AfmBOorKtPuPeRVd4f\\_DkRgymcUyITfr\\_p6LafoSL1BtkCNXU64Rv9lv](https://momentmag.com/the-new-christian-right/?srsltid=AfmBOorKtPuPeRVd4f_DkRgymcUyITfr_p6LafoSL1BtkCNXU64Rv9lv)

**constituency** rather than broader US priorities, potentially implying pro-Israel lobbying interests.<sup>57</sup>



*Nick Fuentes podcast on March 2, claiming that Israel dragged the US to War<sup>58</sup>*



*Tucker Carlson podcast on March 5<sup>59</sup>*

## Presidential Authority to Wage War

In addition to strategic and cost concerns, the Iran strikes also triggered debate in Washington over **presidential authority to wage war**. Critics in Congress argued that the scale of the strikes against Iran effectively constituted a new war and therefore required **explicit congressional authorization**. **Representative Thomas Massie** emerged as one of the leading Republican voices raising this concern,

<sup>57</sup> <https://x.com/BonifaceOption/status/2027743813364523171>

<sup>58</sup> [https://rumble.com/v76jex4-america-first.html?e9s=src\\_v1\\_ucp\\_a](https://rumble.com/v76jex4-america-first.html?e9s=src_v1_ucp_a)

<sup>59</sup> <https://x.com/TuckerCarlson/status/2029379008496853049>

pushing for a **War Powers resolution** in the House that would require Congress to approve continued military action.

Under the **War Powers Resolution**, the president must notify Congress within **48 hours** of committing US forces to military action. Without congressional authorization, military operations may continue for **only 60 days**, followed by an additional **30-day withdrawal period**. Most Democrats, along with a small number of Republican lawmakers, argued that the administration had acted without proper authorization.

In **March 2026**, both chambers ultimately rejected efforts to curb the president's authority. On **March 4**, the **Senate rejected the War Powers resolution by a vote of 47–53**, with most Republican senators opposing limits on presidential authority. **Senator Rand Paul of Kentucky** broke ranks to support the resolution, indicating limited but notable institutional dissent within the party. The following day, **March 5**, the **House narrowly rejected a similar measure 212–219**, with **Representatives Thomas Massie of Kentucky and Warren Davidson of Ohio** joining Democrats to vote in favor of limiting continued military action without congressional authorization.<sup>60</sup>

In total, **one Republican senator and two Republican representatives** supported measures limiting the president's war-making authority. Although this represents a small fraction of the Republican caucus in both chambers, it constitutes **formal institutional dissent** within the party rather than rhetorical criticism from media figures alone. The limited number of Republican votes supporting the War Powers resolution suggests that legislative opposition remains contained. However, the presence of even a small bloc willing to challenge executive authority underscores that **intra-party restraint exists** and could become more consequential if the conflict expands, lengthens, or imposes greater political or economic costs.

## Online Manifestation of the Anti-War Narratives

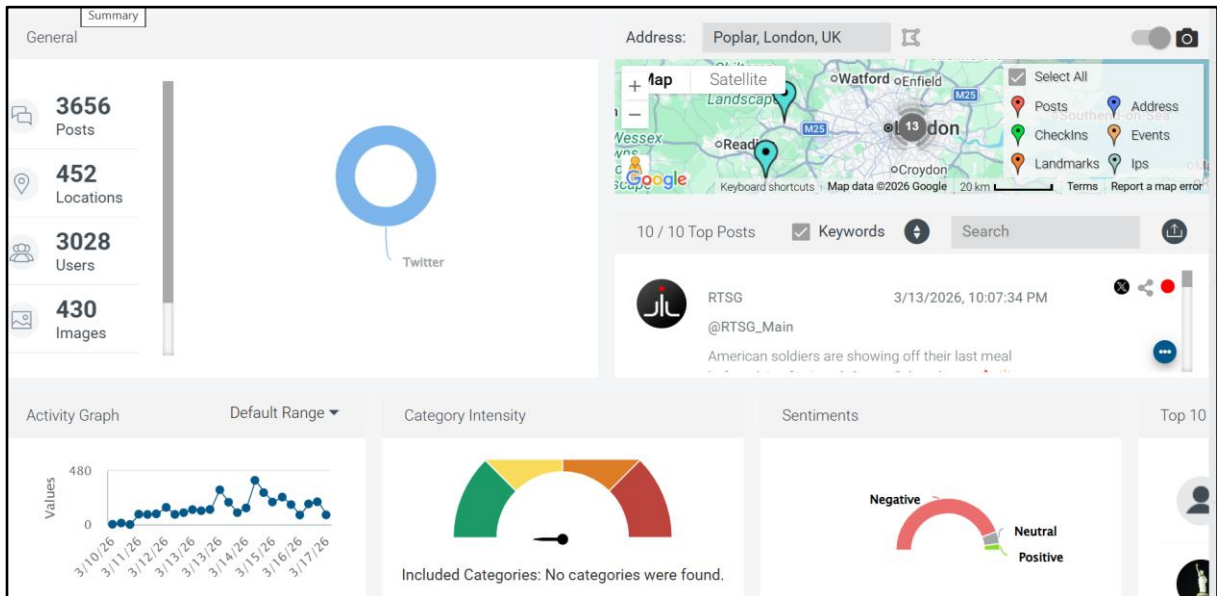
Within these four themes, multiple narratives have emerged in online discourse, which are analyzed below.

### The “USA is fighting Israel's war” Narrative

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<sup>60</sup> <https://thehill.com/homenews/senate/5769230-rand-paul-opposes-iran-war/>; <https://www.congress.gov/bill/93rd-congress/house-joint-resolution/542>; <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2026/mar/05/us-house-war-powers-resolution-vote>; <https://spectrumlocalnews.com/us/snplus/politics/2026/03/04/congress-votes-iran-war-war-powers-resolutions>; <https://clerk.house.gov/Votes/202685>; <https://abcnews.com/Politics/house-primed-vote-iran-war-powers-resolution/story>; <https://edition.cnn.com/2026/03/05/politics/house-vote-war-powers-iran-vis>

Keyword analysis for profiles claiming that the USA is fighting Israel's war - using search phrases like "Dying for Israel". Since the start of the current war against Iran, the phrase appeared over 3,600 times on X



The following profiles marked in red belong to Right-wing American accounts opposing the war and possessing many followers.

2462 / 2462 Authors

Name	Site	Posts	Positive	Negative	Address
RTSG		2	36.6K	3.36K	258
Kaguya's Top G...		1	15.2K	1.39K	222
TONY		1	9.16K	566	46
fud reaper		1	8.03K	951	65
GoldenAR		3	7.37K	254	49

10 Top Influencers

- RTSG (36.91K)
- Kaguya'... (15.42K)
- TONY (9.21K)

10 Top Liked

- RTSG (36.65K)
- Kaguya'... (15.2K)
- TONY (9.16K)

10 Top Commented

- RTSG (258)

10 Top Publishers

- Death, T... (75)



⋮ **Follow**

**Kaguya's Top Gal** ✓  
@hayasaka\_ryan


Hard hit by the times, that's just how your life goes by

📁 Entertainment & Recreation 📍 Tel Aviv, Mexico 📅 Joined October 2022 >

359 Following 244.4K Followers


📍 Account based in North America

Although the location in the profile is defined as Tel Aviv and Mexico - it can be seen that the account is actually based in North America.<sup>61 62</sup>



Kaguya's Top Gal ✓ @hayasaka\_ryan · Mar 14

Benjamin Netanyahu watching the U.S. fight all of his wars for him



Kaguya's Top Gal ✓ @hayasaka\_ryan

Notice how everyone is white, diversity is low when it comes to dying for Israel

<sup>61</sup> [https://x.com/hayasaka\\_ryan/status/2032393188149784938/](https://x.com/hayasaka_ryan/status/2032393188149784938/)

<sup>62</sup> [https://x.com/hayasaka\\_ryan/status/2032863458824270280](https://x.com/hayasaka_ryan/status/2032863458824270280)



63 64

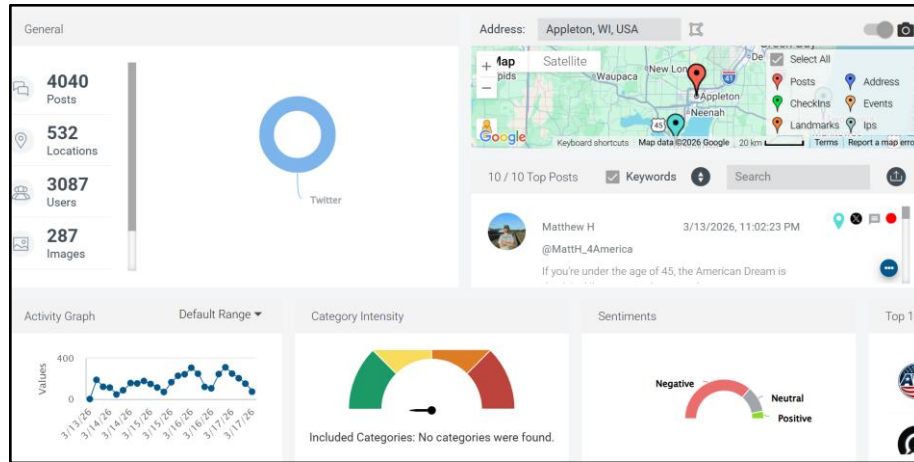


### The “America First”/Isolationist Claim

This is probably the largest group amongst the more mainstream that opposes the war, where people claim that the **USA should not fight in foreign wars** and that the **war against Iran will repeat the mistake of the Iraq War**. Keyword search on X for the phrase "**America First**" indicates more than 4,000 posts since the start of the war

<sup>63</sup><https://x.com/TonyMichaelX/status/2033066938256023979>

<sup>64</sup><https://x.com/TonyMichaelX/status/2032528629427548263>



The following profiles marked in red belong to Right-wing American accounts opposing the war and possessing many followers.

Name	Site	Posts	Positive	Negative	Address			
<b>Alex Jones</b>		1	2.73K	575	476	0	1	
News Barron T...		2	1.27K	343	50	2	0	
<b>David Giglio</b>		1	1.22K	115	20	0	1	Madera, CA
<b>The Artist kn...</b>		1	1.07K	164	48	0	1	
<b>Grimaldus</b>		1	909	28	10	0	0	
<b>AFI America Firs...</b>		9	376	47	12	1	1	

Summary Content Usage Topics Authors Groups "america first" ~twi...

1981 / 1981 Authors Search

10 Top Influencers

10 Top Liked

10 Top Commented

10 Top Publishers





**David Giglio** ✓  
@DavidGiglioCA

Conservative Populist, Dad, Husband, Catholic, Business Owner, & Fmr. Teacher + Cong. Candidate #AmericaFirst #DawgPound #WeAreTheKrewe #RepTheHalo

📍 Madera, CA 🌐 [DavidAGiglio.com](http://DavidAGiglio.com) 📅 Joined March 2021 >

4,700 Following 54K Followers



**David Giglio** ✓ @DavidGiglioCA · Mar 10

I have always asserted that the America First movement transcends both political parties.

Its principles and values are simple: support policies and programs that directly benefit the American people and put their interests first. Oppose policies like endless warmongering, foreign welfare, and open borders that put the elite globalists ahead of ordinary Americans.



**David Giglio** ✓ @DavidGiglioCA · Mar 14

How many troops has Israel activated or sent to assist American troops????

33 24 206 8.6K

David Giglio reposted



**Rich Baris THE PEOPLE'S PUNDIT** ✓ @Peoples\_Pundit · Mar 14

Replying to @DavidGiglioCA

Bruh, stop it.

Israel doesn't send troops to fight in wars they bait and bleed the U.S. to fight.

That would just be stupid.

Kind of defeats the point of baiting and bleeding.

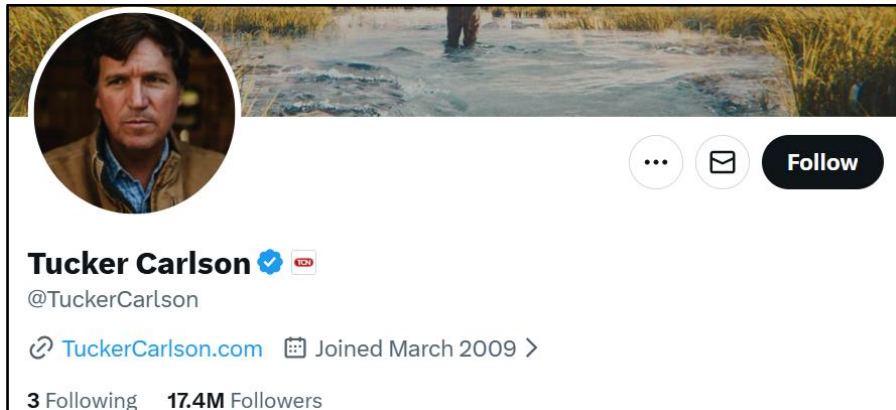
22 50 474 6.8K

65 66 67

<sup>65</sup> <https://x.com/DavidGiglioCA/status/2031396468494586031>

<sup>66</sup> [https://x.com/Peoples\\_Pundit/status/2032638059980771616](https://x.com/Peoples_Pundit/status/2032638059980771616)

<sup>67</sup> <https://x.com/DavidGiglioCA/status/2032615962449756335>

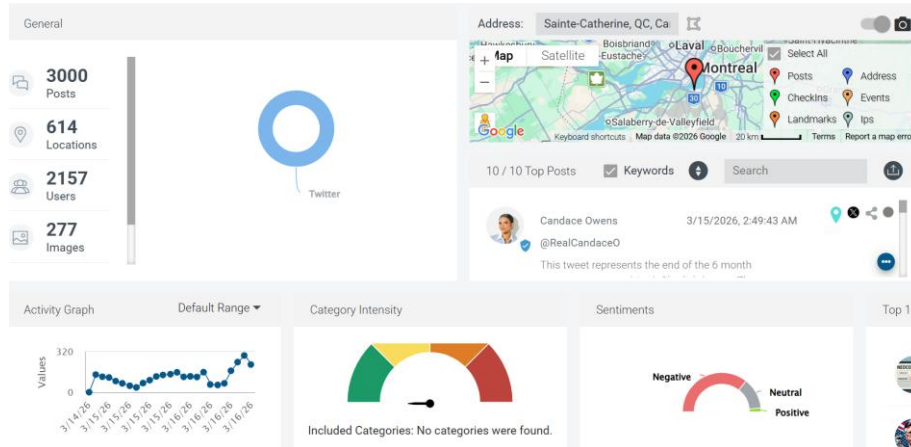


### The Anti-Neocon/Anti-Interventionist Framing







The term “Neocon” (short for “Neoconservative”) originally referred to a school of American conservative thought that supports an active US foreign policy, including military intervention to promote national interests and democratic values abroad. However, in contemporary right-wing discourse, “Neocon” is often used as a pejorative label. Anti-war conservative and populist voices use the term to describe establishment Republicans, foreign policy elites, and media figures who support military action, particularly in the Middle East. A keyword search on X for the term “Neocon” identified over 3,000 posts since the start of the war.

<sup>68</sup> <https://x.com/TuckerCarlson/status/2026844742332428541>







<sup>69</sup> <https://x.com/TuckerCarlson/status/2031913638328512974>









The following profiles marked in red belong to Right-wing American accounts opposing the war and possessing many followers.

Name	Site	Posts	Positive	Negative	Address		
 Candace O...	1	23.2K	3.98K	734	0	0	New York, USA
 Alex Jones	3	16.5K	2.99K	2.02K	1	2	
 Tom Woods	5	5.29K	339	132	0	3	
 Dan Hill	1	3.2K	1.17K	150	0	1	
 MrBujok	2	3.73K	489	149	0	2	
 Joshua Smit...	1	1.52K	167	82	0	1	Des Moines.

10 Top Influencers	10 Top Liked
 24.02K  18.56K  5.43K	 23.29K  16.54K  5.29K

10 Top Commented	10 Top Publishers
 2.02K  734  150	 31  31  24



**Alex Jones** ✓

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BREAKING LIVE: Trump Declares War On MAGA Base, Says Anyone Not Endorsing Never-Trumper/Neocon Warmonger Mark Levin Will Be Excommunicated From Trump Universe! Tune In NOW For Latest Developments As Alex Jones & Special Guests Ask If Trump Can Be Salvaged!

70

On his program, Alex Jones criticizes the war, claiming it is driven by globalist elites and “Neocons” within the political establishment who seek to entangle the United States in unnecessary foreign conflicts.

<sup>70</sup> <https://x.com/RealAlexJones/status/2033575793318645908/>



**Joshua Smith from Break The Cycle** ✓

@JoshuaAtLarge

Ashley Hinson's worst nightmare/  
#BreakTheCycle podcast/more anti-war than you/Retvrn to Orthodoxy/#Bitcoin  
💎👉

📍 Des Moines, IA 🌐 [youtube.com/fighthedespoits](https://youtube.com/fighthedespoits) 🕒 Born March 13  
📅 Joined November 2017 >

13.7K Following 42K Followers



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If you like Ben Shapiro, Lindsey Graham and Mark Levin, but hate Tucker, Candace, Megyn Kelly, Thomas Massie and Rand Paul, then you're a neocon tool who is America last, and you should ask yourself how you got here.

7:54 AM · Mar 16, 2026 · 22.4K Views



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You're rooting against America if you're advocating for more of our sons and daughters to die in the middle east for Israel's interests. Not the other way around.

I won't be gaslit in to believing I am a traitor or anti-American for believing that Americans shouldn't go die in the middle east.

Im far more patriotic than you. Cowards.

71 72

## The Conspiracy-Theory Ecosystem

These narratives are common in communities associated with QAnon and other conspiracy-oriented networks. One prominent example is the “**Epstein distraction**” theory, which claims that the war was launched to divert attention from files or scandals related to Jeffrey Epstein. In this context, terms such as “**Operation Epstein Fury**” have circulated widely online, generating tens of thousands of mentions.

A keyword search on X for terms including “Epstein distraction,” “Operation Epstein Fury,” “cover up the files,” and “Epstein war” identified **over 8,000 posts** since the start of the current Iran conflict. These posts often appear alongside keywords such as “Iran,” “Israel,” and “war,” and frequently link the conflict to Epstein-related conspiracies or suggest that Israel is involved in concealing such scandals.

<sup>71</sup> <https://x.com/JoshuaAtLarge/status/2032693024682062190>

<sup>72</sup> <https://x.com/JoshuaAtLarge/status/2033421577459523743/>





JESUS MOTORCYCLE reposted  
 JESUS MOTORCYCLE @PUNISHEDJesus · Feb 23  
 Did you know Israel's our greatest ally? 🇺🇸



24 204 649 28K

Post

ThePatrioticBlonde  
 @ImBreckWorsham  
 Epstein files: EFTA00147661

"He witnessed babies being dismembered, their intestines removed, and individuals eating feces from these intestines. Trump along with his wife Melania were present."

THIS is why we're going to war with Iran. Trump will blow up the entire planet to protect himself and his pedophile, cannibalistic buddies.



5:33 PM · Mar 12, 2026 · 1.7M Views



**ThePatrioticBlonde** 🇺🇸  
 @ImBreckWorsham

Constitutional Conservative. Journalist. Legal Diva 🇮🇹🇺🇸 &  
 all that implies. Unjabbed. Unindoctrinated. #1A #2A America ONLY.

South Carolina Joined April 2023

16.5K Following 140.8K Followers

73 74 75 76

- 73 <https://x.com/PUNISHEDJesus/status/2031757946577633684>
- 74 <https://x.com/PUNISHEDJesus/status/2025969833469247974>
- 75 <https://x.com/ImBreckWorsham/status/2032117661929177220>
- 76 <https://x.com/Parodyjeffx/status/2031400770554241119>



77 78

### Analytical Takeaways from Online Anti-War Narratives

- From the analysis of the American-Right discourse against the war, a clear trend of opposition to the military involvement of the United States in Iran can be identified, mainly among users identifying with America First, anti-Neoconservative ideologies, and Right-wingers who criticize the connection between Israel and American foreign policy.
- It seems that some of the prominent accounts in the analyses performed are identified with groups having high influence on social networks, including internet stars, podcasters, and political figures. These accounts sometimes present complex positions, which also include conspiracy theories or criticism of the Israeli lobby, but always while emphasizing their anti-war position.

### Short-Term Monitoring and Analysis Priorities

- Continued characterization of prominent factors in the American-Right discourse against the war, as emerges from the analysis of the discourse and relevant posts.
- Additional characterization of prominent discourse factors in terms that continue to gain momentum on social networks, both on X and on other platforms, while focusing on America First groups, anti-Neoconservatives, and posts linking the war to the Israeli lobby.

<sup>77</sup> <https://x.com/Parodyjeffx/status/2031400770554241119>

<sup>78</sup> <https://x.com/ImBreckWorsham/status/2032117661929177220>

- Comparison of discourse trends around the hashtags and subjects presented in this study, before and after the start of the war with Iran, for the purpose of characterizing the public mood among the American Right.
- Operating monitors in the Tangles system on hashtags, keywords, and additional content, in order to continue the systematic collection of posts and their analysis.
- Monitoring the American discourse following the resignation and the statements of Joe Kent

### **Long-Term Implications and Monitoring Priorities**

This coming November, in about half a year, the Midterm elections will take place in the USA. These are elections for Congress held every two years, exactly in the middle of the President's four-year term. They include all 435 seats in the House of Representatives and about a third of the seats in the Senate, and constitute a significant test of strength that decides the President's ability to function in the second half of his term. Preparation should be considered already today for this monumental event that may greatly influence the Israel-United States relationship, since the discourse and the fracture in the Right will increase and grow. This will also have an influence on anti-Israel discourse, and a jump in antisemitic incidents against Jewish and Israeli communities in the United States

### **Pro-War and Pro-Israel Counter-Narratives within the Republican Ecosystem**

Alongside the anti-war and isolationist narratives identified above, a parallel set of pro-war and pro-intervention narratives has emerged within the Republican Party and the broader conservative ecosystem. These narratives are primarily promoted by GOP leadership, institutional actors, and influential conservative media figures, and serve as a direct counterweight to “America First” and anti-interventionist framing.

While anti-war voices emphasize restraint, cost, and misalignment with US interests, pro-war actors advance a competing interpretation in which military action is framed as necessary, justified, and consistent with core American strategic priorities.

### **Strategic and Security-Based Justification**

A central pro-war narrative frames the campaign against Iran as a necessary and justified response to a credible and escalating security threat. Proponents argue that Iran's nuclear ambitions, ballistic missile development, and regional activities pose a direct risk to both US national security and its allies.

Within this framing, military action is presented not as optional, but as a preemptive and stabilizing measure aimed at:

- Preventing Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons

- Reinforcing US deterrence in the region
- Protecting key allies, particularly Israel

Senior Republican officials and conservative commentators have consistently emphasized that failure to act would embolden adversaries and increase the likelihood of a larger and more costly conflict in the future. This framing is reflected in statements by senior Republican figures such as Senator Lindsey Graham, who has consistently emphasized Iran's nuclear ambitions as a central threat, as well as in broader GOP leadership messaging portraying the strikes as a necessary response to long-standing Iranian hostility.

### **Moral and Normative Framing of the Conflict**

In contrast to anti-war narratives portraying the conflict as unnecessary or externally driven, pro-war voices often frame the campaign in moral terms. The strikes are described as a “just” or “necessary” use of force against a hostile regime, with some commentators arguing that military action ultimately serves humanitarian and stabilizing purposes.

This narrative is reflected in commentary from prominent conservative figures such as Mark Levin, who has framed the campaign as morally justified and necessary to prevent greater instability, as well as in broader pro-Trump media messaging emphasizing the legitimacy of confronting hostile regimes.

This narrative emphasizes:

- The legitimacy of targeting hostile state actors
- The moral responsibility to confront regimes perceived as destabilizing
- The idea that limited military action can prevent broader violence

Such framing seeks to counter claims that the war is driven by foreign interests, instead positioning it as aligned with both American values and global stability.

### **Strength, Deterrence, and Leadership**

A prominent narrative within pro-war discourse focuses on strength and leadership. In this framing, the decision to strike Iran is presented as evidence of decisive and effective leadership by President Trump, reinforcing the image of a strong executive willing to act in defense of US interests.

This framing is reflected both in President Trump's own messaging - emphasizing deterrence and the necessity of preventing Iran from acquiring nuclear capabilities - as well as in commentary from

prominent conservative figures such as Ben Shapiro, who has praised the strikes as a demonstration of strong and courageous leadership.

Key elements of this narrative include:

- The importance of projecting strength to deter adversaries
- The risks associated with perceived weakness or inaction
- The portrayal of the strikes as a demonstration of US resolve

Conservative media figures and pro-Trump influencers frequently reinforce this framing, presenting the operation as a continuation of a broader “peace through strength” doctrine.

### **Reframing “America First” as Compatible with Intervention**

In response to criticism from within the “America First” camp, pro-war actors have advanced a counter-interpretation of the doctrine. Rather than viewing foreign military engagement as inherently contradictory to “America First,” they argue that targeted intervention can directly serve American national interests.

This framing directly contests the central anti-war claim - promoted by figures such as Marjorie Taylor Greene and Thomas Massie - that the strikes represent a betrayal of prior “America First” commitments. In contrast, President Trump and his allies have argued that decisive action against Iran is fully consistent with an “America First” approach focused on long-term national security.

This reframing emphasizes:

- That preventing nuclear proliferation aligns with core US interests
- That limited, strategic interventions differ from “forever wars”
- That protecting allies contributes to broader US security and economic stability

### **Countering the “Israel First” Narrative**

**Claim:** US policy prioritizes Israeli interests over American ones, dragging the country into unnecessary wars.

- Strikes on Iran defend core US security by neutralizing nuclear threats and proxy terrorism killing American troops, with Israel as a frontline ally, not puppet master - true “America First” protects lives and oil stability.

- Iran funds militias in Iraq/Syria (13+ US deaths), supplies Russia drones for Ukraine, and vows Israel's annihilation; inaction invites hegemony and \$150/barrel extortion.
- Populist Israel-blaming recycles antisemitic tropes (e.g., Carlson's Chabad theories), fracturing MAGA when evangelicals and most Republicans see biblical allies as vital.

**Support & Volume:** This counter-narrative is strongest among neoconservatives (Lindsey Graham), Fox hawks, Zionists/evangelicals on X; louder via institutional media amplification despite independents' doubts—polls show majority still view Iran as top threat

### **Countering the “Trump Betrayal” Narrative**

**Claim:** Trump is abandoning his “no new wars” promise in favor of elite or AIPAC-driven policy, risking erosion of his base.

- Iran action echoes successful Venezuela playbook: decisive "peace through strength" secures resources/stability without quagmires, fulfilling campaign realism over isolationism.
- Preemptive regime-weakening prevents worse endless costs (nuclear arms race, terror exports); Trump's flexibility adapts "America First" to real threats, not rigid no-war dogma.
- Critics like Candace Owens undermine troops/morale amid retaliation deaths; polls may dip short-term but Fox/media ecosystem rallies GOP base long-term.

**Support & Volume:** Though there seems to be greater noise from the narratives in the previous report, i.e., America First and Only Isolationists, it seems that the majority of Republicans still agree with the counternarratives, however few and far between they are. In the realm of social media, more tend to agree with the conspiratorial, isolationist talking points, while in the mainstream political world, amongst older demographics, the counter-narratives of War Hawks and MAGA Republicans still seem to hold popularity.

Within this interpretation, the Iran campaign is presented not as a deviation from prior policy, but as a continuation of a strategic approach aimed at strengthening US deterrence and preventing future conflict.

### **Delegitimization of Anti-War Voices**

In addition to advancing their own narratives, pro-war actors frequently seek to undermine or marginalize anti-war positions within the Republican ecosystem. Critics of the intervention are often

portrayed not simply as holding a different policy view, but as misaligned with the movement's core principles.

This dynamic is reflected in responses from President Trump and his allies, who have pushed back against prominent critics within the conservative space, arguing that dissenting voices do not define the MAGA movement. In some cases, critics have been framed as misunderstanding the strategic context or prioritizing short-term concerns over long-term national security.

Within this framing, anti-war positions are characterized as:

- Misinterpreting the strategic threat posed by Iran
- Overemphasizing economic or political risks
- Falling outside the core definition of the MAGA movement

This pattern is further reinforced by pro-Trump influencers and media figures who actively challenge anti-war voices, contributing to an environment in which internal dissent is not only debated but delegitimized as inconsistent with the movement's identity.

## Trump's Political Positioning and Response to Criticism

To confront the growing anti-war sentiment emerging within the Republican Party, **President Donald Trump** and his allies have adopted a direct and assertive messaging approach aimed at reinforcing support for the Iran campaign and limiting internal dissent. Trump rejected claims of betrayal and emphasized that critics do not define the direction of the MAGA movement. He also pushed back against critics within his own base, arguing that they do not define the movement and stating that **"MAGA is Trump, MAGA's not the other two,"** referring to **Megyn Kelly and Tucker Carlson**.<sup>79</sup>

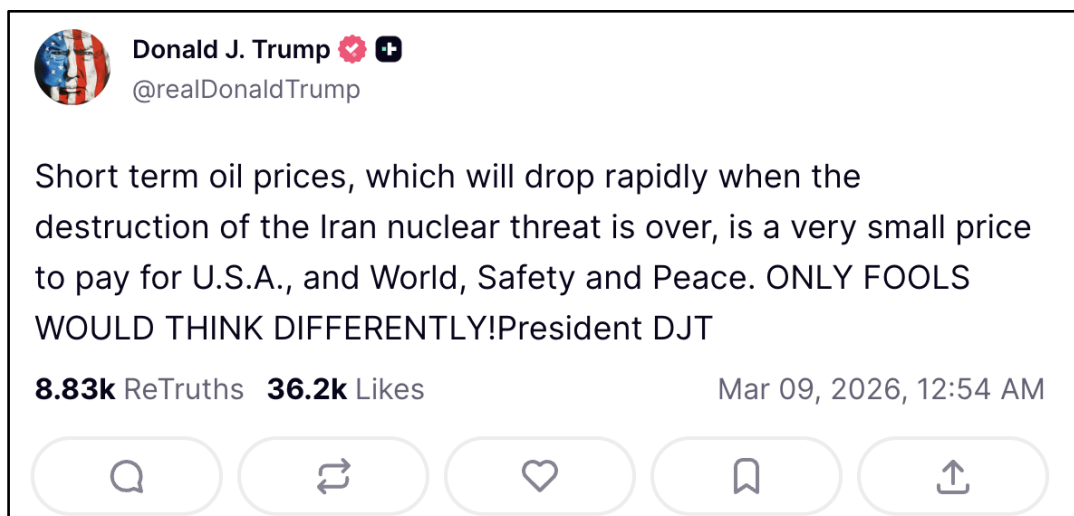
Trump has also dismissed broader criticism tied to public polling. He rejected surveys showing majority disapproval of the strikes, arguing that **public opinion data does not factor into his decision-making**, and insisted that preventing Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon remains the **overriding strategic objective**, regardless of fluctuating approval ratings.<sup>80</sup> Addressing concerns about rising energy prices, Trump argued that any **short-term increases in oil prices would be manageable and temporary**, maintaining that confronting Iran ultimately serves **US economic and national security interests**.<sup>81</sup>

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<sup>79</sup> <https://rachaebade.substack.com/p/exclusive-trump-hits-back-at-tucker>

<sup>80</sup> <https://thehill.com/homenews/administration/5763177-trump-dismisses-iran-poll-criticism/>

<sup>81</sup> <https://truthsocial.com/@realDonaldTrump/posts/116196014942465383>



*Trump says on his Truth Social account that oil spikes are worth eliminating Iran's nuclear threat*

Taken together, Trump's response reflects an effort not only to defend the policy itself, but to maintain cohesion within the Republican coalition and shape the boundaries of acceptable dissent within the movement.

### Political and Media Support for Intervention within the GOP

Within the Republican Party and the broader conservative movement, a strong **pro-war sentiment** has emerged in support of **President Donald Trump's military campaign against Iran**. This support is reflected in public statements by senior Republican officials, conservative media figures, and influential online personalities who have actively promoted and reinforced pro-intervention messaging.

Most figures backing the campaign are associated with the **MAGA camp**, including politicians linked to the Trump administration and commentators on aligned media platforms such as **Fox News**. Within this ecosystem, there is **a relative shortage of younger political influencers and podcasters**. At the same time, many right-wing online influencers are rooted in populist movements and, in some cases, **more radical nationalist circles**. This dynamic allows **more extreme actors to attract younger audiences on social media**, while the MAGA camp remains **more dependent on an older base** that consumes information primarily through traditional outlets.

Ideologically, MAGA Republicans tend to support strong US military power, close alignment with Israel, and an assertive foreign policy. In the context of the conflict with Iran, many view Iran as a central security threat, particularly due to its nuclear ambitions and hostility toward Israel. Accordingly, they support military pressure, including strikes, arguing that such actions strengthen American deterrence, protect US allies, and help prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons. More broadly, they maintain that the United States must remain actively engaged internationally to safeguard its strategic interests.

Several senior Republican officials and prominent figures within the conservative movement publicly backed the strikes:

- **Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC)** was among the earliest supporters, posting on social media immediately after Trump’s **February 28** attack and praising the strikes as a historic turning point. Graham commended President Trump’s decision and expressed hope that the operation would help end oppression in Iran and promote greater stability in the Middle East. On **March 10**, he reiterated his support, arguing that Iran’s conduct during negotiations demonstrated its determination to acquire nuclear weapons and that Trump had made the correct decision to act.<sup>82</sup>
- **House Speaker Mike Johnson** issued a statement emphasizing that Iran was “**facing the severe consequences of its evil actions,**” while reaffirming close coordination with the Trump administration as the operation unfolded. Johnson framed the campaign as a justified response to longstanding Iranian threats.<sup>83</sup>
- **Senate Majority Leader John Thune** also publicly praised the airstrikes, arguing they were necessary because of Iran’s “**relentless nuclear ambitions, its expanded ballistic missile inventory, and its unwavering support for terror groups.**” He additionally commended the bravery of US forces involved in the operation.<sup>84</sup>
- **Senator Markwayne Mullin (R-OK)** emerged as another vocal defender of the strikes, backing the operation in several television appearances. Mullin also rejected criticism from conservative commentator **Tucker Carlson**, stating that Carlson “**doesn’t speak for the Republican Party.**”<sup>85</sup>
- Senator **Ted Cruz** (R-TX), a leading ideological voice in the party, **supported the strikes as essential for protecting US and allied security.**
- **Mike Huckabee**, former governor of Arkansas and former US ambassador to Israel, described the campaign as a **development with potentially transformative implications for the Middle East.**

At the institutional level, **Senate Republicans reinforced this alignment** by voting down a Democratic **War Powers resolution** that would have restricted Trump’s authority to continue the campaign. The vote underscored the extent of **GOP legislative support**<sup>86</sup> for the administration’s military response.

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<sup>82</sup> <https://x.com/LindseyGrahamSC/status/2027837401075515889>; <https://x.com/LindseyGrahamSC/status/2031188175293460622>

<sup>83</sup> <https://x.com/SpeakerJohnson/status/2027741976632631497>

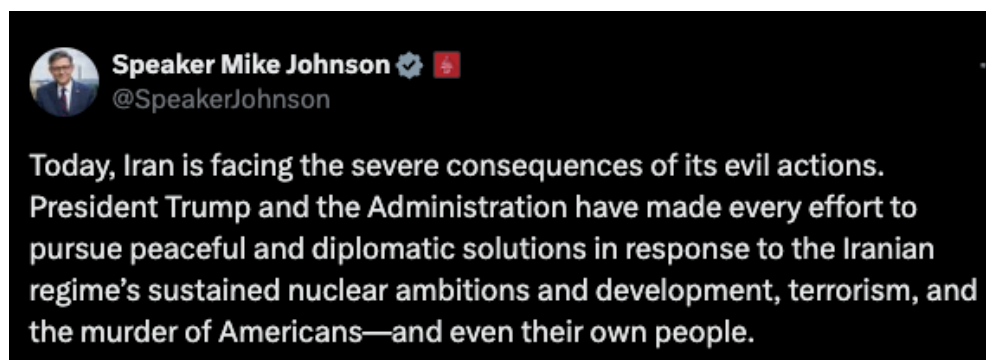
<sup>84</sup> <https://www.thune.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2026/2/thune-statement-on-u-s-airstrikes-in-iran>

<sup>85</sup> <https://www.mediaite.com/politics/gop-senator-hits-tucker-carlson-on-cnn-he-doesnt-speak-for-trump-or-the-republican-party/>

<sup>86</sup> <https://time.com/7382790/house-rejects-war-powers-trump-iran-war/>



*Lindsey Graham's X post and Fox News appearance backing Trump's Iran strike (March 10)*



*Mike Johnson's X statement defending the administration's military response (February 28)*

The pro-war stance extends into **conservative media and right-wing influencer circles**, where the narrative emphasizes **strength, deterrence, and support for Trump's leadership**. Several prominent commentators and online figures have publicly endorsed the strikes and criticized anti-war voices within the conservative movement.

- **Ben Shapiro**, a prominent conservative commentator, praised Trump as “**the most courageous commander in chief**” for authorizing the strikes against Iran.<sup>87</sup> Shapiro also strongly rebutted criticism from fellow conservatives such as **Megyn Kelly**, whom he labeled a “**coward**”<sup>88</sup> for questioning the intervention.

<sup>87</sup> <https://www.dailywire.com/news/bens-instant-reaction-to-the-iran-strike>

<sup>88</sup> <https://www.mediamatters.org/us-iran-relations/ben-shapiro-megyn-kelly-she-such-unbelievable-coward-you-dont-president-trump-you>

- **Marc Thiessen**, an influential conservative columnist, described Trump as **“one of the most consequential commanders in chief in American history,”** arguing that decisive action against Iran strengthens US security.<sup>89</sup>
- **Mark Levin**, a conservative radio host and Fox News talk-show host, framed the campaign as **morally justified and “humane,”** arguing that the strikes were necessary to halt what he described as ongoing violence by the Iranian regime, preempt a nuclear threat, and protect American and allied lives.<sup>90</sup> Levin has also emerged as a prominent advocate of a hard-line approach toward Iran within conservative media, with US President Donald Trump publicly defending him amid a growing divide among Republicans over US involvement in the Iran conflict and the need to prevent Tehran from acquiring nuclear weapons.<sup>91</sup>
- **Laura Loomer**, a right-wing activist and Trump ally with a large online following, also publicly supported the operation. According to her own account, Trump called her roughly **20 minutes after the attack**. Loomer also attacked critics within the conservative movement, including **Tucker Carlson**, whom she mockingly referred to as **“Tucker Qatarlson,”** implying **ties to Qatar**.<sup>92</sup>
- **Jesse Watters**, a Fox News host aligned with the MAGA camp, **framed the campaign as a measured and “compassionate” use of force**, emphasizing that the strikes were aimed at the Iranian regime rather than civilians.
- **Greg Gutfeld**, a conservative media personality and Fox News host, **described the operation as “so decisive and clear in its success”** that it is difficult to criticize, portraying it as a major strategic achievement for the United States.
- **Laura Ingraham**, a prominent Fox News host and conservative commentator, **argued that President Donald Trump had “already won in Iran,”** pointing to what she described as the strategic impact of US actions on the region.
- **Sean Hannity**, a leading Fox News host and close Trump ally, **asserted that there is “bipartisan support for the strikes in Iran,”** framing the campaign as an action with broad political legitimacy in the United States.

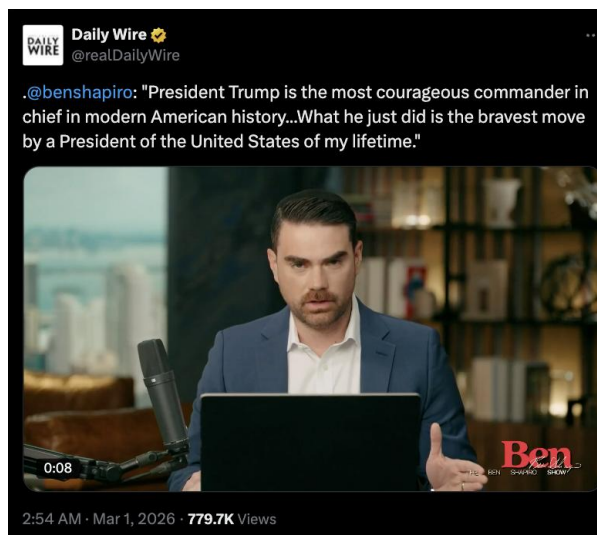
Collectively, these voices, spanning **conservative commentators, media personalities, and online influencers**, reinforce a **pro-interventionist framing** that portrays the Iran campaign as a justified and strength-based response to Tehran’s actions. This position appears to resonate with **a majority of Republican voters**, according to recent polling, and stands in sharp contrast to the **anti-war critique emerging from other segments of the right**.

<sup>89</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/reel/DVUnexRiml2/>

<sup>90</sup> <https://www.marklevinshow.com/2026/03/03/levin-trump-delivered-a-powerful-righteous-strike-against-irans-nuclear-threat/>

<sup>91</sup> <https://www.haaretz.com/us-news/2026-03-16/ty-article/.premium/trump-defends-hawkish-ally-says-critics-of-iran-war-are-not-maga/0000019c-f48d-df50-a9de-f6bddc840000>

<sup>92</sup> <https://x.com/LauraLoomer/status/2029688675647271213>



*Daily Wire post featuring Ben Shapiro praising Trump's Iran strikes*



*Laura Loomer's post claiming a call with Trump and criticizing Tucker Carlson over the strikes*

## Comparative Context: Venezuela Intervention

Public opinion and political dynamics surrounding the recent US intervention in Venezuela provide a **useful comparative reference point for assessing current reactions to the Iran campaign**. While the Venezuela case provides a useful point of comparison, **it differs from the Iran conflict in key respects**. The intervention in Venezuela was framed **partly around drug trafficking and migration-related domestic concerns**, and was **short** and **limited** in scope, whereas the **Iran conflict is more directly geopolitical** and carries a greater risk of **prolonged engagement**.

Polling in early 2026 indicates that American public opinion on Venezuela was divided **and somewhat more permissive toward intervention than in Iran**, though **it still leaned against military action overall**. The two Economist/YouGov polls reveal public wariness toward Trump's foreign interventions but differ in timing and partisan traction: the March 13–16, 2026, Iran poll shows sharp backlash with

Trump's overall approval at 37% (net -19), even worse on Iran (net -20), independents cratering from 30% to 24% approval, low war support (~33%), majority opposition, and demands for quick de-escalation amid fears of crisis mishandling. In contrast, the early January 2026 Venezuela poll captures a divided public (45% say unjustified vs. mid-30s justified; majority oppose overthrow but GOP support surges to high 70s), with rising hawkishness among Republicans yet broad rejection of oil seizures, US control, or bypassing Congress, making Venezuela more fluid and partisan than Iran's entrenched unpopularity.

However, in the Venezuela case, Republican voters showed significantly higher levels of support compared to Democrats and Independents, reinforcing the pattern of partisan polarization observed in current polling on Iran.<sup>93</sup> At the same time, support for intervention in Venezuela, particularly among Republicans, was **conditional and sensitive to escalation**. A majority of Americans opposed the deployment of ground forces, and concerns about prolonged involvement were a recurring theme in public opinion data.<sup>94</sup>

Analysts note that this pattern reflects a broader structural tension within the Republican coalition. While interventionist actions may receive initial backing from Republican voters - particularly when framed in terms of national security or regime change - they often coexist with a persistent "America First" preference for limited engagement and avoidance of long-term foreign entanglements.<sup>95</sup>

Despite being somewhat consistent, **the polling still demonstrates slight differences in support and outrage for military actions in Venezuela**. This, alongside the fact that **America First commentators are likely to appear more enraged when Israel and "Zionist interests" are brought into the Venezuela conversation**, can suggest that there is somewhat of a **double standard when it comes to vocalized support and hatred towards American intervention** in Venezuela and Iran, which is likely due to antisemitism and anti-Israel bias.

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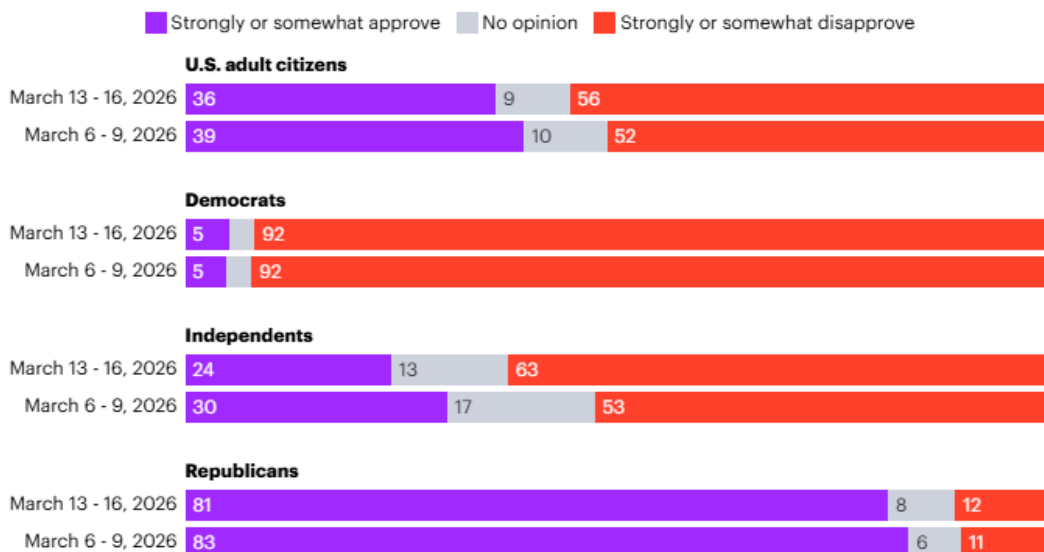
<sup>93</sup> <https://yougov.com/en-us/articles/53818-us-military-action-venezuela-unpopular-republican-support-has-risen-january-2-5-2026-economist-yougov-poll>

<sup>94</sup> <https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2026/02/04/americans-are-divided-on-next-steps-for-us-in-venezuela/>

<sup>95</sup> <https://globalaffairs.org/commentary/analysis/venezuela-trump-puts-his-national-security-strategy-action-what-do-americans>



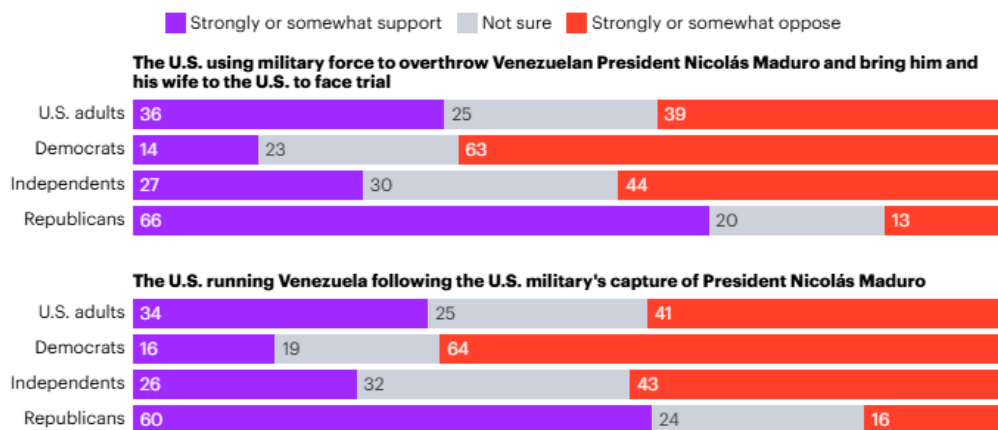
Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling the situation in Iran? (%)



YouGov

Chart: David H. Montgomery • The Economist / YouGov • [Get the data](#)

Do you support or oppose...? (%)



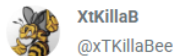
YouGov

January 3, 2026 • [Get the data](#)

96 97

<sup>96</sup> <https://yougov.com/en-us/articles/54343-donald-trump-is-losing-support-from-independents-over-iran-march-13-16-2026-economist-yougov-poll>

<sup>97</sup> <https://yougov.com/en-us/articles/53813-americans-are-divided-on-us-military-action-in-venezuela>



xTKillaB  
@xTKillaBee

11.1.2026, 1:58:37

@USDOL If its **america** first why are we worried about who the fuck is running **Venezuela**? And why do we keep sending money to Israel?



98

Beyond public opinion, this comparison also provides a useful lens for examining the behavior of prominent, right-wing anti-war characters who have different opinions on these different conflicts and then possibly pointing to an outright antisemitic reasoning for not supporting the Iran war or if they are consistent in their stance.

### **Main anti-war critics from the American right:**

#### **Tucker Carlson**

Tucker Carlson's rhetoric on Venezuela, following the January 2026 capture of Nicolás Maduro, endorses US intervention as an honest and stabilizing assertion of national interest, particularly in securing the hemisphere's largest oil reserves for American benefit—"It's going to go to us"—while praising the Trump administration's avoidance of chaotic regime change and its focus on resource extraction and stability. In stark contrast, his commentary on the escalating Israel-Iran war in February-March 2026 condemns the actions as "absolutely disgusting and evil," attributing them primarily to Israeli agendas rather than US priorities, warning of catastrophic economic fallout from disrupted oil and LNG markets, refugee waves, and the destruction of American allies in the Gulf, and rejecting pretexts like nuclear threats as lies that drag the US into a hegemonic disaster it cannot win.<sup>99 100 101</sup>



However, Carlson does appear to be somewhat apologetic/ skeptical in terms of speaking on behalf of Maduro's character – Carlson made a comment in a podcast episode of his, stating, in an almost praiseworthy tone, that Maduro ran one of the most conservative nations in the hemisphere. When challenged on this by Ben Shapiro, Tucker doubled down, saying that though he wouldn't ask him for economic advice he cares about the level of conservativeness implemented by Maduro, because he "has children" and wants them to live in a world reflexive of his values. He is interested in the fact that Venezuela had banned gay marriage, abortion, pornography, and, usury. He states "I don't think viewing both sexes as the same is a good thing," and then goes on to say that he doesn't think Ben

<sup>98</sup> <https://x.com/xTKillaBee/status/2010139246083100683/>

<sup>99</sup> <https://singjupost.com/tucker-carlson-responds-to-israels-war-on-iran-transcript/>

<sup>100</sup> <https://singjupost.com/tucker-carlson-show-w-megyn-kelly-on-the-capture-of-maduro-transcript/>

<sup>101</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/reels/DVTXAEMjq8I/>

Shapiro would either. Continuing to question why Ben Shapiro seems to hold this "double standard" and state that he doesn't care about Venezuela hyper-conservatism while claiming to be a conservative, Carlson asserts that it is because he believes Venezuela hates Israel.



Despite Tucker seeming to have less intense vitriolic rhetoric towards Venezuela than he does towards the Iran/ Israel conflict, Tucker still seems to conflate parts of his beliefs about a conspiratorial and controlling Israel with the views of and motivations for intervention in Venezuela.<sup>102</sup>

**Candace Owens**

Candace Owens has sharply criticized Donald Trump's actions in Venezuela after the January 2026 Maduro capture, calling it a "hostile takeover" and failed regime change mirroring disasters in Syria, Afghanistan, and Iraq, with no viable stability plan or American gain. She similarly blasts Trump's role in the February-March 2026 Israel-Iran war as a "chronic disappointment," pinning it on Benjamin Netanyahu's influence over true US interests and warning of nuclear risks.<sup>103</sup>



<sup>102</sup> [https://x.com/RealCandaceO/status/2007490154508788003?ref\\_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctwterm%5E2007490154508788003%7Ctwgr%5E863a59392dfc2936a5bdb50b05589a1b2cd75d87%7Ctwcon%5Es1\\_&ref\\_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hindustanimes.com%2Fworld-news%2Fus-news%2Fcandace-owens-blasts-trumps-hostile-takeover-of-venezuela-liberated-like-syria-afghanistan-and-iraq-101767549655185.html](https://x.com/RealCandaceO/status/2007490154508788003?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctwterm%5E2007490154508788003%7Ctwgr%5E863a59392dfc2936a5bdb50b05589a1b2cd75d87%7Ctwcon%5Es1_&ref_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hindustanimes.com%2Fworld-news%2Fus-news%2Fcandace-owens-blasts-trumps-hostile-takeover-of-venezuela-liberated-like-syria-afghanistan-and-iraq-101767549655185.html)

<sup>103</sup> [https://x.com/RealCandaceO/status/2007490154508788003?ref\\_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctwterm%5E2007490154508788003%7Ctwgr%5E863a59392dfc2936a5bdb50b05589a1b2cd75d87%7Ctwcon%5Es1\\_&ref\\_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hindustanimes.com%2Fworld-news%2Fus-news%2Fcandace-owens-blasts-trumps-hostile-takeover-of-venezuela-liberated-like-syria-afghanistan-and-iraq-101767549655185.html](https://x.com/RealCandaceO/status/2007490154508788003?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctwterm%5E2007490154508788003%7Ctwgr%5E863a59392dfc2936a5bdb50b05589a1b2cd75d87%7Ctwcon%5Es1_&ref_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hindustanimes.com%2Fworld-news%2Fus-news%2Fcandace-owens-blasts-trumps-hostile-takeover-of-venezuela-liberated-like-syria-afghanistan-and-iraq-101767549655185.html)



Both attacks reflect her rigid anti-interventionist "America First" view, decrying US overreach as imperial waste that burdens taxpayers without returns equating Venezuela's "liberation" to quagmires and Iran strikes to Israel-driven madness. Moreover, Candace also equates the American involvement in both conflicts, suggesting that Israeli interests at hand influencing both instances of American action.<sup>104</sup>

### **Politicians:**

Overall consistency in opinion, but less vitriolic rhetoric:

Several anti-interventionist or America First-aligned politicians displayed notably less vitriolic rhetoric toward the Venezuela operation (Maduro capture, January 2026) compared to their sharp, often alarmist criticism of Iran involvement, particularly when framed around Israel. Their Venezuela

104

[https://x.com/RealCandaceO/status/2007490154508788003?ref\\_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctwterm%5E2007490154508788003%7Ctwgr%5E863a59392dfc2936a5bdb50b05589a1b2cd75d87%7Ctwcon%5Es1\\_&ref\\_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hindustantimes.com%2Fworld-news%2Fus-news%2Fandace-owens-blasts-trumps-hostile-takeover-of-venezuela-liberated-like-syria-afghanistan-and-iraq-101767549655185.html](https://x.com/RealCandaceO/status/2007490154508788003?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctwterm%5E2007490154508788003%7Ctwgr%5E863a59392dfc2936a5bdb50b05589a1b2cd75d87%7Ctwcon%5Es1_&ref_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hindustantimes.com%2Fworld-news%2Fus-news%2Fandace-owens-blasts-trumps-hostile-takeover-of-venezuela-liberated-like-syria-afghanistan-and-iraq-101767549655185.html)

comments focused more on procedural concerns (war powers, constitutionality) rather than outright condemnation, while Iran drew fiery warnings of betrayal, economic ruin, or foreign influence.

**Marjorie Taylor Greene:**

**Venezuela:** Mildly critical as inconsistent with Trump's "no foreign wars" promise, but warned of oil-grab risks without hysteria.

**Iran:** Vitriolically anti ("America Last," endless wars for Israel), shredding Trump as neoconservative sellout. <sup>105 106</sup>

**Rep. Thomas Massie (R-KY):**

**Venezuela:** Questioned legality/unconstitutionality but procedural tone.

**Iran:** Forcefully anti ("not America First," unconstitutional overreach tied to Israel/oil/currency motives). <sup>107</sup>



**Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY):**

**Venezuela:** Supported war powers resolution (procedural check) without personal attacks.

**Iran:** Outspokenly alarmed ("midterm disaster," gas price catastrophe from endless war). <sup>108 109</sup>



**Sen. Josh Hawley (R-MO):**

**Venezuela:** Initial war powers support, then neutral/flipped under pressure.

**Iran:** Firmly opposed resolution limiting strikes, but criticized as Trump "U-turn" enabling Israeli agendas. <sup>110 111</sup>



Overall, rhetoric from anti-interventionist America First populists shows inconsistency in their opposition to US actions in Venezuela and Iran. While most figures in this camp decry both operations as imperialistic deviations from "America First" principles, responses to Venezuela are more muted and varied, ranging from outright opposition to neutrality or even mild support among some, who view the Maduro capture as a pragmatic, low-cost hemispheric win securing oil resources without endless

<sup>105</sup> <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/trump-political-base-sets-aside-isolationism-cheer-maduro-capture-2026-01-05/>

<sup>106</sup> <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/us-politics/maga-reaction-trump-iran-strikes-b2929503.html>

<sup>107</sup> <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/trump-political-base-sets-aside-isolationism-cheer-maduro-capture-2026-01-05/>

<sup>108</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Sh0pvCVqEc&t=1s>

<sup>109</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/businessimesonline/posts/rand-paul-warns-of-midterm-disaster-as-iran-war-costs-and-gas-prices-skyrocket-s/1351094257059387/>

<sup>110</sup> <https://www.axios.com/2026/01/08/republican-senators-venezuela-trump-war-powers>

<sup>111</sup> <https://www.politico.com/live-updates/2026/03/02/congress/josh-hawley-iran-vote-00808149>

occupation, with opposition more likely when the possibility of prolonged involvement and ruling in Venezuela was brought into question.

In contrast, rhetoric against Trump's Iran involvement is far more vitriolic, conspiratorial, and laced with antisemitic undertones blaming Israeli/Zionist agendas. Extremist sentiment surges specifically when Israel enters Venezuela discussions, but broader consistency in wariness stems from a Republican policy shift toward isolationism over the past year, fueled first by Ukraine aid fatigue, then intensified by Israel support and perceived entanglement in "their" conflicts. With Venezuela unfolding after initial US-Iran friction in summer 2025 and amid escalating 2026 tensions, even consistent skeptics tempered their criticism there, allowing room for qualified endorsement. **This pattern reflects broader GOP rallying around Venezuela as a "quick win" (muted dissent) vs. Iran's polarizing escalation triggering populist revolt.**

## Looking Forward: Assessment

Recent polling and expert analysis suggest that while **support for the war among Republicans remains very high**, with roughly 85% backing the military action against Iran, broader public opinion is more fluid and contingent. Analysts from major polling organizations, including Quinnipiac University<sup>112</sup> and The Washington Post<sup>113</sup>, emphasize that support for the initial strikes does not necessarily translate into support for escalation. According to Quinnipiac polling analysis<sup>114</sup>, a large majority opposes the deployment of **US ground troops**, indicating limited tolerance for deeper military involvement. Similarly, Washington Post polling finds that a plurality favors ending strikes rather than continuing them.<sup>115</sup> Taken together, these results suggest that **support is contingent on limited scope and defined objectives**. Demographic breakdowns also show **notable generational differences**, with **younger voters significantly more likely to oppose the war** than older voters. According to polling analysis from CNN,<sup>116</sup> **voters are more likely to say the conflict has made the United States less safe rather than safer** and that it will not contribute to **long-term national security**.

Experts cited in CNN and SSRS polling analysis<sup>117 118</sup> note that public expectations are increasingly aligned with a **prolonged conflict scenario**, with a majority of respondents anticipating that the war will not remain limited in scope. These assessments suggest that public support may be sensitive not only to the decision to initiate the conflict, but to its duration and perceived trajectory.

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<sup>112</sup> [https://poll.qu.edu/images/polling/us/us03092026\\_upip88.pdf](https://poll.qu.edu/images/polling/us/us03092026_upip88.pdf)

<sup>113</sup> <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/interactive/2026/trump-iran-strikes-poll-americans/>

<sup>114</sup> [https://poll.qu.edu/images/polling/us/us03092026\\_upip88.pdf](https://poll.qu.edu/images/polling/us/us03092026_upip88.pdf)

<sup>115</sup> <https://poll.qu.edu/poll-release?releaseid=3952>; <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/interactive/2026/iran-war-strikes-poll/>

<sup>116</sup> <https://edition.cnn.com/2026/03/12/politics/us-opinion-iran-war-polls>

<sup>117</sup> <https://edition.cnn.com/2026/03/12/politics/us-opinion-iran-war-polls>

<sup>118</sup> <https://ssrs.com/news/americans-views-of-2026-iran-strike>; <https://apnews.com/article/poll-iran-trump-war-opinion-democrats-republicans-210bc5e0f6f7be3b7b72fe394f643c70>

From a political perspective, analysts highlight that **intra-Republican dynamics will be a key variable** shaping the sustainability of the campaign. While MAGA-aligned voters are likely to follow President Trump's leadership, reporting from ABC News<sup>119</sup> and other outlets indicates that influential conservative commentators - including Tucker Carlson, Megyn Kelly, and Steve Bannon - have warned that prolonged conflict without a clearly defined endgame could erode support within segments of the Republican base.<sup>120</sup>

**Economic factors are also identified by economic and energy analysts as a critical pressure point.**<sup>121 122 123</sup> According to reporting by The Washington Post and Financial Times, rising fuel prices<sup>124</sup> - up approximately 20% since the start of the conflict<sup>125</sup> - are increasingly shaping public perceptions of the economic impact of the conflict. Polling analysis and media reporting indicate that among voters concerned about economic conditions, opposition to the strikes is significantly higher, suggesting that economic cost may become a key driver of shifting public sentiment.<sup>126</sup>

At the same time, geopolitical experts emphasize the risk of regional escalation. Reporting from The Guardian and other outlets highlights concerns about potential attacks on commercial shipping and intensifying exchanges between Israel and Hezbollah, suggesting that the conflict could expand beyond the immediate Iran theater.

More broadly, **fractures in conservative media** and documented disagreements among **prominent Republican figures** indicate that **coalition cohesion remains stable but not unconditional**. Recent reporting shows that **high-profile MAGA-aligned commentators**, including **Steve Bannon, Tucker Carlson, and Megyn Kelly**, have warned that sustained conflict without a **clearly defined endgame** could erode support within segments of the **Republican base**.<sup>127</sup> The trajectory of **public opinion** will likely depend less on the initial decision to strike and more on the **duration of the conflict**, the **scale of escalation**, **economic impact**, and the **clarity of strategic objectives**.

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<sup>119</sup> <https://abcnews.com/US/trumps-iran-decision-sparks-backlash-tucker-carlson-maga/story?id=130622270>

<sup>120</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2026/mar/22/maga-media-fight-trump-iran-war>

<sup>121</sup> <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2026/03/03/trump-oil-price-spike-iran-attack/>

<sup>122</sup> <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/economy/experts-analyze-what-the-iran-war-could-mean-for-u-s-gasoline-prices>

<sup>123</sup> <https://time.com/article/2026/03/13/war-iran-us-israel-cost-hormuz-gas-oil-electricity/>

<sup>124</sup> <https://www.ft.com/content/978ce866-76a3-47b2-9219-9ee8ec0e587c>

<sup>125</sup> <https://www.iru.org/news-resources/newsroom/war-iran-fuel-prices-remain-high-and-volatile>

<sup>126</sup> <https://www.ft.com/content/32726bce-ec4e-4251-8f33-10c15806fbc6>; [https://www.theguardian.com/business/2026/mar/12/middle-east-war-creating-largest-supply-disruption-in-the-history-of-oil-markets#:~:text=The%20International%20Energy%20Agency%20\(IEA,outbreak%20of%20war%20in%20Ukraine.](https://www.theguardian.com/business/2026/mar/12/middle-east-war-creating-largest-supply-disruption-in-the-history-of-oil-markets#:~:text=The%20International%20Energy%20Agency%20(IEA,outbreak%20of%20war%20in%20Ukraine.)

<sup>127</sup> <https://abcnews.com/US/voted-maga-voices-warn-iran-backlash-grow-longer/story?id=130835257>

