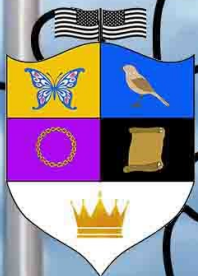


Putting it Back Together



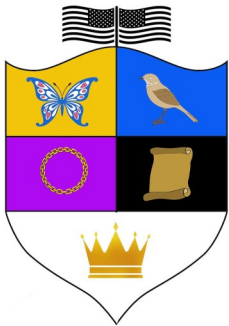
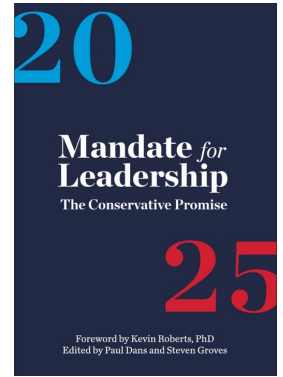
**Ideas for a
Post-Trump America**

INTRODUCTION

Project 2025 is plan of destruction. Its authors do not hide their intentions. The plan was developed by a network of organizations with shared goals. It is detailed and well-planned. To repair the damage will require *another* network of organizations --- one dedicating not only to restoration but to putting in place the laws necessary to protect the nation and its administrative bodies.

This network will consist of academia, think tanks, current and former public officials.

Participating groups will draw volunteers from their staffs to be part of active teams who will draw up detailed and executable plans. The Honorary Monarchy is willing to be the nexus, connecting teams and facilitating their efforts however possible.



ABOUT THE HONORARY MONARCHY

The Honorary Monarchy is a private advocacy platform inspired by the legacy of Joshua Norton (1818-1880). After styling himself as Emperor of These United States, he spoke out against corruption, racism (including slavery) and the growing wealth gap. It under his “crown” that Emperor Norton demonstrated the importance of encouraging people to be their best and the difference between a monarchy and a dictatorship.



FORMING THE TEAMS

All team members should have specialized knowledge of their respective subjects (see below). Each team will need two leaders. A team should have two or three members with the legal expertise to draft bills and executive orders. At least two team members should come from an educational institution with access to student volunteers to aid with matters such as research.

Because of the distances involved, team meetings will likely be virtual.

It is recommended that the Honorary Monarchy partner with one or more entities to recruit team leaders.



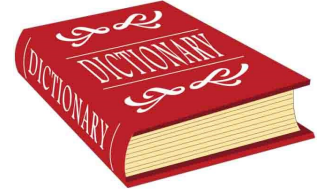
BALANCE OF POWERS TEAM



Perhaps the most disturbing element of Project 2025 is the systematic study of the flaws in the nation’s constitution and laws and how to exploit them. The goal of the study was to enhance presidential power beyond all precedence that would advance the social, economic and political agendas of the Heritage Foundation and its partners.

One key flaw revealed is the executive authority to dismiss an agency leader for “just cause” from what is supposed to be an independent agency. The flaw is that the phrase “just cause” is ill-defined. It is recommended that this be addressed as soon as possible. Specific parameters must be specified. These could include

conflicts of interest, pending criminal charges/indictment, impairment (mental or physical) and probable misconduct.



A primary goal of this team will be to draft the proposed legislation to define “just cause” that can be introduced as a completed bill in the Congress.

The team will also explore other issues related to the balance of powers and prepare actionable material to address them.

THE CABINET TEAMS



What most Americans probably don't know is that the U.S. Constitution does not explicitly establish a presidential cabinet. A body of department heads is implied (but not specified) in the document's Article II. George Washington created the first presidential cabinet.

Each cabinet member is nominated by a sitting president. The U.S. Senate considers and interviews the nominee through a relevant committee. The full Senate eventually votes to approve or deny the nomination.

Something else that most Americans probably don't know is that there are virtually no job-related qualifications for these vital jobs. This is why someone such as Robert F. Kennedy Jr. (who has no medical training) could become Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Specific requirements for a candidate to be considered for a nominated post must be enshrined in law. For example, all future potential Secretaries of Health and Human Services must be medical doctors with active licenses and in good standing. Nominees for the Secretary of Education will be required to have actual teaching training and experience; etc. These requirements should result in a more competent and effective cabinet.

The primary goal of these teams is to identify and define what the requirements for each position should require. Then draft the proposed legislation that be introduced as completed bills to the Congress.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE STATE TEAMS



A modern nation in a complex world needs a vibrant, largely independent, professional civil service. Such administrative institutions tend to be politically neutral and focused on their missions. It is these agencies that provide reliable research data on everything from population (i.e. Bureau of the Census) to viruses (Centers for Disease Control). They also exercise their roles with little political influence.

A professional bureaucracy is an anathema to right wing ideologues, who see such a “deep state” as thwarting their political and ideological goals. This is why dismantling the administrative state is a clear and specific aim of Project 2025.

The damage being done to the US government by the burgeoning Trump dictatorship (using Project 2025) is significant. Nearly every facet of American society is being negatively impacted. Repairing the damage will require a concerted, coordinated and nonpartisan effort.

A separate team will likely be needed for each department and agency.

The teams' combined goal is to draw up actionable plans that can restore (as much as possible) key departments, offices and their professional bureaucracies. This effort may also involve drafting proposed legislation that can be introduced as bills to the Congress to secure the independence of these agencies.

ELECTION LAW TEAM



One of the underlying challenges in American elections is how representative districts are determined. The other is the use of “dark money” in campaigns.

Most of the world’s democracies chose a nonpartisan way of drawing constituencies that reflect both population and geography. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland utilizes boundary commissions. In the Kingdom of Spain, boundaries must be the same as that of the provinces. The United States is unique in that politicians determine the districts through state legislatures. However, as demography science has become more sophisticated, it has become easier for partisan districts to be created. This is called gerrymandering.

It is recommended that every state should establish an independent redistricting commission (IRC). This type of entity encourages consensus decision making and removes politicians from the redistricting process. There are multiple ways of selecting commission members. The nonprofit Campaign Legal Center (campaignlegal.org) has examples on its web site.

To assist, the Federal Election Commission might contract (through a bidding process) a market research firm to provide helpful demographic information to the states.

The phrase “dark money” refers to financial political support that is not publicly disclosed. Dark money became an issue starting with the 1976 United States Supreme Court case commonly known as “Buckley vs. Valeo.” The Court concluded that limits on election expenditures are unconstitutional because they reduce the quantity of expression. The decision also attempted to define the difference between electioneering and issue advocacy as well limiting disclosure requirements.

This team’s goal is to draw up actionable plans to encourage each state to establish its own IRC and to close the dark money loopholes. This will include drafting proposed legislation that can be introduced as bills to the Congress.

TAX & BUDGET REFORM TEAM



The nation’s tax and budget policies have become woefully dysfunctional. Tax rates are unbalanced to favor the upper income earners; corporations and individuals “park” excess funds in overseas accounts; the national debt is ballooning to historic size; various government services suffer; and the budgetary process is often more about politics than it is the nation’s needs.

This team’s goals will be multifaceted: 1) to develop a specific, actionable reform plan regarding the tax code and tax rates to make them fairer while generating the necessary revenue. 2) to develop a specific, actionable plan to tax the “parked” funds; 3) establish a set of recommendations to the Congress for improving the budgetary process; and 4) offer

recommendations to the Congress on ways to reduce the federal debt without adversely affecting government programs. This includes drafting proposed legislation regarding the tax issues that can be introduced as a bill in the Congress.

THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TEAM



The Watergate scandal of the 1970's made clear how important it is that the Department of Justice be as professional and non-partisan as possible. Starting in 1978 with Attorney General Griffin Bell (1918-2009), a series of policies and procedures were put in place to further this goal. Though imperfect, it largely worked.

Unfortunately, a policy can be easily reversed with a simple memo. This is what has happened under the Trump regime, which has quickly and effectively weaponized the nation's law enforcement organ.

This group's goal is to draft the proposed legislation to codify the relevant nonpartisan policies that can be introduced as a bill in the Congress.



The leaders of each team will collaborate to bring together the accomplishments of the various teams into a cohesive, understandable and actionable playbook.

The playbook's goal is prove the first post-Trump administration with the plan and the tools to repair the damage done to the nation and government by Project 2025 as well as to make more difficult for similar harm to occur in the future.



*There are several sources where potential team members may be recruited.
Some of them are below.*

American Constitution Society
www.acslaw.org
1331 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Suite 524 North
Washington, DC 20004

Bipartisan Policy Center
bipartisanpolicy.org
1225 Eye Street NW, Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20005

Boies Schiller Flexner LLP
www.bsfllp.com
55 Hudson Yards 20th Floor
New York, NY 10001

Brookings Institution
www.brookings.edu
1775 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20036

Center for a New American Security
www.cnas.org
1701 Pennsylvania Ave NW Suite 700
Washington, DC 20006

Center for Effective Government
University of Chicago
Harris School of Public Policy
effectivegov.uchicago.edu
1307 East 60th Street
Chicago, IL 60637

Center for Strategic & International Studies
www.csis.org
1616 Rhode Island Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036

Constitutional Accountability Center
www.theusconstitution.org
1730 Rhode Island Ave NW Suite 1200
Washington, D.C. 20036

Cornel University Department of Government
government.cornell.edu
214 White Hall
Ithaca, NY 14853

Harvard University Department of Government
www.gov.harvard.edu/undergraduate/
Richard A. and Susan F. Smith Campus Center
1350 Massachusetts Avenue, Suite 350
Cambridge, MA 02138-3654

Inequality Media Civic Action
www.inequalitymediacivicaaction.org

Johns Hopkins University
School of Government & Policy
sogp.jhu.edu
555 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20001

Joint Center for Political & Economic Studies
jointcenter.org
633 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20004

LaFollette School of Public Affairs
University of Wisconsin Madison
lafollette.wisc.edu
1225 Observatory Drive
Madison, WI 53706

Rockefeller Institute of Government
www.rockinst.org
411 State Street
Albany, NY 12203

Truman Center for National Policy
www.trumancenter.org
600 14th Street NW
Washington, DC

University of Pittsburgh
School of Public & International Affairs
www.spia.pitt.edu
3601 Wesley W. Posvar Hall
230 South Bouquet Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15260

Yale University Department of Political Science
politicalscience.yale.edu
115 Prospect Street
Rosenkranz Hall
New Haven, CT 06520