

# [***Melania Finally Backs Trump s Reelection Bid In First Interview Since Campaign Launch But Doesn t Mention Legal Issues***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:686H-06S1-DXVP-54W1-00000-00&context=1516831)

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**Length:** 508 words

**Byline:** Sara Dorn, Forbes Staff

**Highlight:** The interview comes at the tail end of the trial involving writer E. Jean Carroll s rape allegations against Trump.

**Body**

**Topline**

Former first lady Melania Trump endorsed her husband s campaign for a second presidency on Tuesday marking her most significant public statements of support for former President Donald Trump s White House bid though the friendly Fox News interviewers didn t ask about his ongoing legal woes amid reports that she is angry over the renewed publicity.

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Former President Donald Trump and former first lady Melania Trump arrive for a speech at Mar-A-Lago in Palm Beach, Florida, Tuesday, November 15, 2022.

Andrew Harnik/AP Photo

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**Key Facts**

Melania told**Fox and Friends**inan interviewTuesday that Trump has [her] support and that serving as first lady again would be a privilege.

Interviewer Pete Hegseth refrained from asking about the various law enforcement investigations against Trump.

The interview comes as the civil trial surrounding writer E. Jean Carroll s rape allegations against Trump come to a close and the jury assigned to the case begins deliberations.

The interview, which marks Melania s first since Trump announced his candidacy in November, aired weeks afterreportsthat the former first lady was not comfortable with her husband s ***politics*** and angry about his indictment in Manhattan Criminal Court over hush-money payments he allegedly made to cover up an extramarital affair.

Melania, speaking from Florida, also gave a glowing review of Washington, telling Hegseth she really [likes] Washington and enjoyed living in the White House, defying previous reports that shewas relievedwhen her husband s presidency ended and could return to her private life split between time in New York and at the Trumps Mar-A-Lago estate in Palm Beach, Florida.

**Crucial Quote**

They re biased, and they have likes and dislikes, and it s so obvious, and I think [the] American people and everyone see it, and I have much more important things to do . . . than being on the cover of**Vogue,** Melania said when Hegseth asked about what he described as a double standard by**Vogue**magazine for featuring Vice President Kamala Harris, first lady Jill Biden and former first ladies Hillary Clinton and Michelle Obama on the cover, but not Melania.

**Tangent**

Melania promoted her scholarship program for children who grew up in foster care during the interview and her newly launched collection of NFTs.

**Key Background**

Melania s sit-down came weeks after her team offered a vague warning against assumptions made in unspecified news reports, following a series of tabloid reports last month that suggested she is unhappy with her husband s political appearances and angry about his indictment in Manhattan Criminal Court. She simply wants to be left alone, **People** magazinereported, quoting a source. Melania has largely remained shielded from the public eye since Trump left the White House in 2019. She attended his announcement speech in November, but was absent from his post-arraignment speech at Mar-A-Lago in April.

**Further Reading**

Melania Trump Issues Cryptic First Statement After Trump s Indictment(Forbes)

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