

A Common Sense of Disproportion (or perhaps Misproportion, or even Malproportion)

(January 2025)

On January 20th, 2025, upon succeeding the 46th [Presocrat](#), the newly induced 47th U.S. Presocrat inaugurally addressed a number of vital issues:

I. Border Protection

The Southern Borders are to be deservedly protected by Army and Navy from the Legions of invading southern marauders, who are indubitably all dangerous Criminals and Rapists, unlike Western immigrants, such as the 47th Presocrat's own mother, grandfather, grandmother, and two of his spouses.

II. Drill, baby, drill!

"We have something that no other manufacturing nation will ever have: the largest amount of oil and gas of any country on Earth and we are going to use it!"

Find a short analysis [here](#).

III. External Revenue Service

Although tariff collection is the responsibility of U.S. importers, enforced by U.S. Customs and Border Protection, the 47th Presocrat committed to establishing a novel *External Revenue Service* to collect all tariffs from Foreign Exporters, albeit without specifying the arcane mechanism by which the latter will substitute for the former, nor what difference it will make with the current system.

IV. Free expression

The Presocrat, who, minutes earlier, had just sworn under oath to protect and defend the Constitution, promised, perhaps somewhat redundantly, to immediately enforce the First Amendment through Executive Order. Hail Cesar!

V. Genders

In a laudable effort after more than sixty years, the 47th Presocrat confirmed the great film maker Jean-Luc Goddard's cinematographic chef d'oeuvre "*A Woman Is a Woman*" (1961).

VI. America's enemies

The Presocrat vowed admirably to defeat *America's enemies*, although, regrettably for the common mortal, without providing a list thereof.

VII. The Gulf of America

The new *Gulf of America* (from *Amerigo*, Italian for Germanic *Amalric* or French *Amaury*), will deservedly dethrone the Pre-Columbian Aztec toponym.

VIII. Mount McKinley

The 47th Presocrat promised to strip the highest peak in North America of its local Alaskan Athabascan Pre-Columbian name, *Denali*, and replace it with the more modern Scots-Irish *McKinley*.

For reference, William McKinley, the 25th President, was but 24 years of age when early Russian meddlers in American politics bribed a U.S. Secretary of State and a number of U.S. Representatives and Senators into purchasing Alaska from the Czar of All Russia. Mr. McKinley was never involved in the Alaska Purchase, nor did he ever set foot in Alaska.

Unfortunately nothing was said about the legal penalties incurred by the public for transgressing the toponymical edicts, whether through fines or imprisonment.

IX. The Panama Canal

About the Conquest of the Panama Canal, see earlier treatise:
[Presocratic computation](#)

X. Mars

The 47th Presocrat declared:

"And we will pursue our Manifest Destiny into the stars, launching American astronauts to plant the stars and stripes on the planet Mars."

Notwithstanding that one would be quite hard pressed to find much advantage at colonizing at a disproportionate cost a very distant place where night temperatures are 40 degrees C (80 F) colder than the coldest temperatures at the South Pole of Planet Earth, and where the atmosphere's density is but 6 parts in a thousand that on Earth and consists primarily of carbon dioxide, Mars can hardly be considered a stepping stone to the stars.

The closest star in our galaxy being about 550,000 times the distance to Mars, suggesting that the planet is a first step to even the closest star is tantamount to saying that victoriously swimming a distance of 10 meters from shore in a bathing suit, alone, and without support, is a significant first step in swimming all the way across the Atlantic Ocean, from Penzance to New York.

XI. One glorious nation under God

Although the religious élan is commendable, nothing is said of which God the speaker had in mind, among the several worshipped around the United States, nor of the limbo in which the infidels will find themselves, who happen to be godless.

At any rate, this candid observer will gratefully take Him at His word and pray His God that He will indeed not escalate current murderous conflicts, nor start a new one.



Official Inaugural Portrait