

Silicon Valley's biggest power players traded in their hoodies for suits and ties this week as they sat front and center to watch Donald Trump take the oath of office again.

Seated in front of the incoming cabinet were Meta's Mark Zuckerberg, Google's Sundar Pichai, Amazon's Jeff Bezos, and Trump confidant and leader of the [so-called](#) Department of Government Efficiency, Elon Musk. Apple CEO Tim Cook, Sam Altman from OpenAI, and TikTok CEO Shou Zi Chew also looked on.

For an industry once skeptical of Trump, this dramatic transformation in [political allegiance](#) portends changes for the country — and the world. From the relaxing of [hate speech rules](#) on Meta platforms to the mere hourslong [ban](#) of TikTok to the billions of government dollars being pledged to build data centers to power AI, it is still only the beginning of this realignment.

On this week's episode of The Intercept Briefing, Justin Hendrix, the CEO and editor of [Tech Policy Press](#), and Intercept political reporter Jessica Washington dissect this shift.

"Three of the individuals seated in front of the Cabinet are estimated by Oxfam in its latest report on wealth inequality are on track to potentially become trillionaires in the next just handful of years: Mark Zuckerberg, Jeff Bezos, Elon Musk," says Hendrix. "Musk is estimated to be the first trillionaire on the planet, possibly as early as 2027."

Washington says there's more at stake than just personal wealth. "These are people who view themselves as world-shapers, as people who create reality in a lot of ways. Aligning themselves with Trump and with power in this way is not just about their financial interests, it's about pushing their vision of the world."

To hear more of this conversation, check out this week's episode of The Intercept Briefing.