

European diplomats in Washington are frantically working to set up meetings with allies of former president Donald Trump. At face-to-face sit-downs in private DC clubs, hotels, embassies and think tanks around town, diplomats are trying to make contact with those who might know what Trump is thinking. As ambassadors and diplomatic staffers jostle to make contact with those who might know what Trump is thinking, the meetings aren't always pleasant and have at times become emotional, but in most interactions, the diplomats are trying to make contact with those who might know what Trump is thinking. Ambassadors from larger countries, and those who have been in Washington for several years, are having more success than those who are newer. The activity ahead of November's presidential election starkly contrasts the lead up to the 2016 election. Now, they've learned a key lesson.

“We are not that nervous because we know that with Trump it is all about relationships,” said one veteran. It’s unclear how much true influence some of these contacts still have with Trump and his campaign, but a senior adviser to Trump said no meetings were being held at the direction of the campaign.

Back in Europe, officials from NATO and the European Union are working to harden support for Ukraine. Chief among them is establishing a roughly \$100 billion NATO fund over the next five years aimed at fu

“It is future-proofing,” said one senior European diplomat familiar with the discussions, explaining that

In Brussels, EU officials are busy examining how to make use of the \$300 billion in Russian Central Bank

In another sign of NATO countries' growing desire to tap into Trump's orbit, British Foreign Secretary L...

Cameron's trip to South Florida came as the former prime minister is set to travel to Washington to me...

The meeting was setup when the UK government reached out to the Trump campaign suggesting it, s

The pair discussed NATO defense spending, upcoming US and UK elections, Brexit and “ending the k

When NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg visited Washington in January, he gave a speech on

The location was handpicked by Stoltenberg's team, an effort to reach out to Republicans given the po

The speech, which emphasized the collective strength of NATO ahead of its 75th anniversary this summer,

“The logic of doing it at Heritage was not lost on us,” said Victoria Coates, a deputy national security a

Stoltenberg made the case for continued support for Ukraine, but he also noted an understanding of the

“He does not blame anyone for thinking that we need to get that handled, and then move on to Ukraine.”

Less than two weeks later, Trump went for the jugular.

At a political rally Trump proclaimed that he would tell Russia to “do whatever the hell they want” to an

The comments sent chills up the spines of NATO members, said diplomats familiar with the reactions.

NATO members are well aware that Trump would press for every member nation to hit their 2% spending target.

The comments sent European diplomats into over-drive, eager to understand exactly what Trump mea

"We are getting a lot of calls from ambassadors, we know what they are doing, they are pumping us for

The typical Washington parlor games of making connections to those in power is extending to foreign

“The demand signal has been through the roof. People are grazing the entire Republican space, trying

Some of the diplomats were told in their meetings not to take Trump so literally after his comments about North Korea.

"It is just campaign talk, it is not what he really thinks," said one European diplomat in describing what

But across the board they were told that living up to the 2% spending goal would not be negotiable, and

"If they are worried about how President Trump is going to react to them, they hold it in their hands to

During those conversations many European ambassadors learned that Trump would consider pushing

“He’s always talked about the financial crisis of NATO,” said a second former Trump official. “He will re

As the GOP wrestles over Ukraine funding, European diplomats in DC are watching closely this week

But European diplomats are not only worried about NATO.

Trump is known to shoot from the hip and have “random bursts of rage,” explained one ambassador, c

“It’s more the general, rather than the specific: something may go very, very wrong just because some

Asked about Trump's unpredictable nature, one former Trump official explained that even when Trump

Some foreign diplomats in DC have been told that Trump's plan to end the Ukraine war would begin w

If Trump wins in November he is likely to reach out to Russian President Vladimir Putin and Ukrainian

Trump would likely use US military aid to Ukraine as leverage to get both sides to the table, the person

Europeans are worried that following Trump's lead might mean Ukraine losing some territory, but the e

"If Ukraine wants continued aid they gotta to sit down and negotiate, and if Russia doesn't want us to g