

# **'This is a five-alarm fire': Experts pounce on Musk's new 'grave national security threat'**

**By David McAfee**

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It was reported on Sunday that two officials at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) were threatened with arrest and then put on leave after refusing to let Elon Musk access systems at the agency, and experts and observers quickly pounced.

In a report on Sunday, CNN said that personnel from DOGE were initially stopped after they tried to physically access USAID facilities in Washington, D.C., on Saturday night.

The DOGE personnel, who do not officially work for the U.S. government, demanded access and then threatened to call U.S. Marshalls, according to reports.

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The reaction was swift. Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-N.Y.), who recently expressed outrage over Trump's tariffs, called it a "five-alarm fire."

"This is a five alarm fire. The people elected Donald Trump to be President - not Elon Musk," Ocasio-Cortez said Sunday. "Having an unelected billionaire, with his own foreign debts and motives, raiding US classified information is a grave threat to national security. This should not be a partisan issue."

Conservative anti-Trump voice Rick Wilson, who helped found the Lincoln Project group, said, "This isn't trolling."

"This is a grave national security threat," he added on X.

Journalist Lindsay Beyerstein pointed out that Musk called USAID a "criminal organization," saying the X owner "is raving about USAID being a 'criminal organization' that needs to 'die.'"

"Conspiracism is the real mind virus," Beyerstein added. "This is manic street preacher level drivel."

CNN political analyst Laura Barrón-López also weighed in on that, saying, "Meanwhile, Elon Musk is now tweeting that it's time for USAID 'to die.'"

