

Disheartened  
And Disliked,  
Trudeau Exits

Canada Is in Flux as  
Trump Tariffs Loom

This article is by **Matina Stevis-Gridneff, Ian Austen, Vjosa Isai and Thomas Fuller.**

TORONTO — Prime Minister Justin Trudeau of Canada said on Monday that he would step down in the coming months, bowing to an angry electorate at a time of uncertain economic prospects and political infighting.

The announcement, which came amid a gridlocked Parliament, left Canada in political flux just as the incoming Trump administration has vowed to impose a raft of punishing tariffs on Canadian imports.

“It’s time for a reset,” Mr. Trudeau told reporters outside his residence on a frigid morning in Ottawa, the capital. Mr. Trudeau said that he had suspended Parliament until March 24 and that he would stay on as the Liberal Party leader and prime minister until his replacement had been chosen through a nationwide party election.

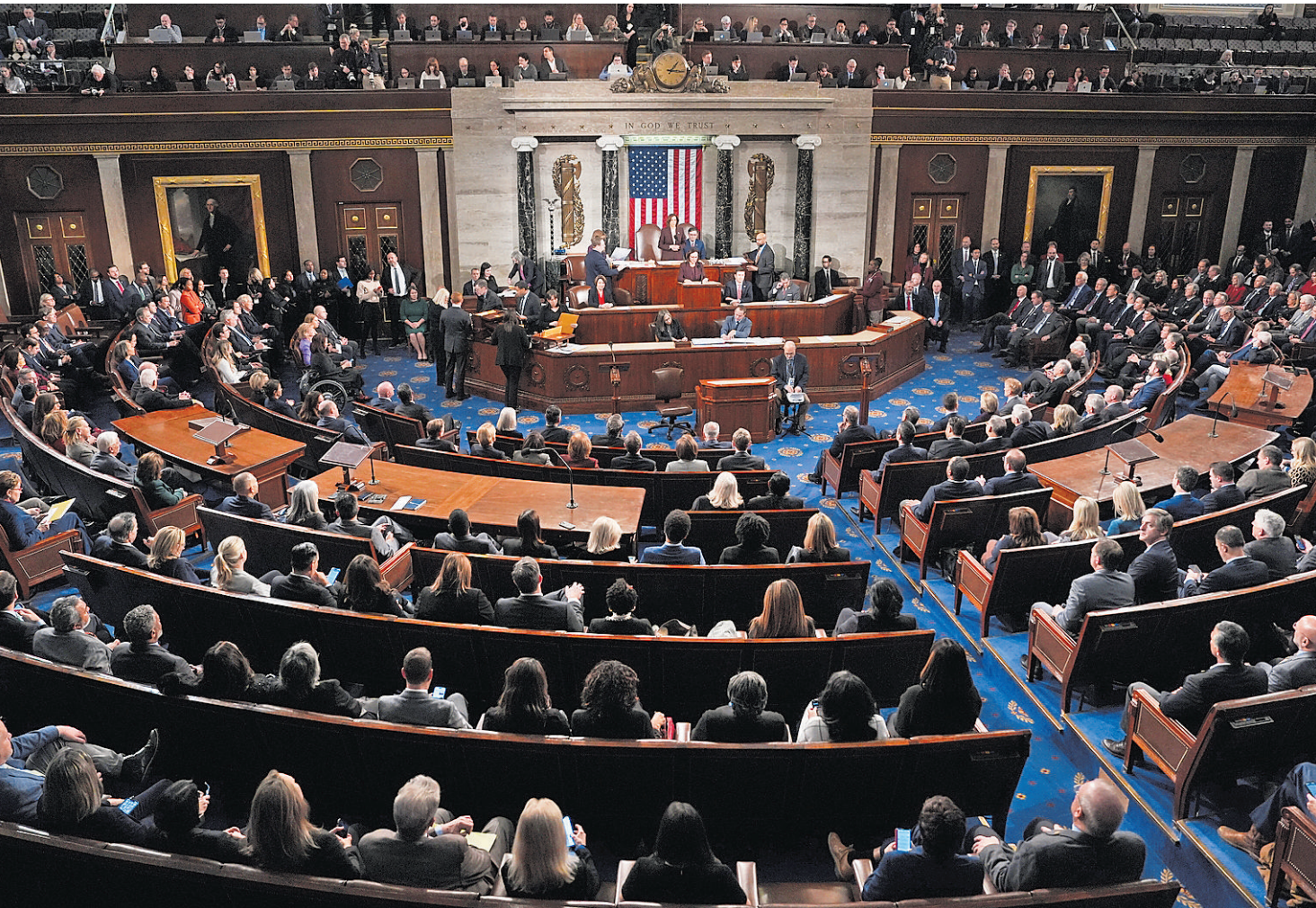
“I truly feel that removing the contention around my own continued leadership is an opportunity to bring the temperature down,” he said.

Mr. Trudeau, 53, who rose to power nearly a decade ago and quickly became seen as a progressive icon, is the latest leader in the West to be swept aside by a mood of anti-incumbency, a backlash against immigration and anger at the lingering effects of a spike in

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“It’s time for a reset,” Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said.



ERIC LEE/THE NEW YORK TIMES

The only sign of partisanship in the House chamber was in the differences in what the Republicans and Democrats were applauding.

Violence Weakens Grip of Haitian Government

By **DAVID C. ADAMS and FRANCES ROBLES**

A fresh injection of about 150 foreign officers arrived in Haiti this weekend to bolster an international security force charged with taking on the powerful and well-armed gangs that have inflicted so much misery on the country for months.

But if the past is any guide, this latest infusion is unlikely to make much of a difference.

Back-to-back massacres that killed more than 350 people, followed by a Christmas Eve assault on Haiti’s largest public hospital, have underscored the Haitian government’s increasing lack of control over the nation’s deepening crisis.

A news conference to announce the reopening of a public hospital that had been closed for nine months because of gang violence came under another gang attack,

Gang Massacres Show  
Shortfalls of Efforts  
to Restore Order

killing two reporters and a police officer.

More than two dozen journalists caught in the ambush were trapped for two hours triaging seven wounded colleagues before they were rescued. They ripped their own clothing to fashion tourniquets and used tampons to stanch the bleeding because, witnesses said, the few doctors at the hospital ran for their lives. Reporters escaped by climbing a rear wall.

“There was blood all over the floor and on our clothes,” said Jephthe Bazil, a reporter with an online news outlet, Machann Zen Haiti, adding that the hospital had

nothing “available to treat the victims.”

The hospital shooting followed two massacres in separate parts of the country that killed more than 350 people and have shined a harsh spotlight on the failures and shortcomings of local authorities and an international security force deployed to protect innocent civilians.

One of the massacres unfolded last month in an impoverished, sprawling, gang-controlled Port-au-Prince neighborhood where a lack of any police presence meant that for three days older people were dismembered and thrown to the sea without the authorities finding out. At least 207 people were killed between Dec. 6 and Dec. 11, according to the United Nations.

At about the same time, another three-day killing spree took place 70 miles north in Petite Rivière.

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NEWS ANALYSIS

Inauguration  
Won’t Put End  
To Legal Woes

By **MAGGIE HABERMAN**

As President-elect Donald J. Trump prepares for his inauguration, some of the legal cases that spilled out of Mr. Trump’s first presidency will follow him into the second.

Mr. Trump has signaled he plans to fight to postpone the scheduled sentencing for his criminal conviction, set by Justice Juan M. Merchan of the New York Supreme Court for Friday. In social media posts over the weekend, Mr. Trump railed against the justice, saying that he should be absolved.

Justice Merchan made clear that even if the sentencing were to go forward, he would not recommend any kind of prison sentence or home confinement. In announcing the sentencing date, the judge signaled he planned to give Mr. Trump an unconditional discharge in the case, allowing him to walk free but leaving him with a criminal record.

In May, Mr. Trump was convicted of 34 felony counts of falsifying business records in connection with a 2016 election-year hush-money payment to a

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PEACE, NOT MOBS,  
AS RITUAL SEALS  
TRUMP’S VICTORY

A CONTRAST WITH 2021

Congress Certifies Votes  
With No Objections  
From Democrats

By **ANNIE KARNI**

WASHINGTON — A joint session of Congress on Monday certified President-elect Donald J. Trump’s victory in the 2024 election, peacefully performing a basic ritual of democracy that was brutally disrupted four years ago by a violent pro-Trump mob inflamed by his lie about a stolen election.

There was no hint of a similar scene this time, although security had been stepped up at the Capitol. Unlike Mr. Trump back then, Vice President Kamala Harris did not dispute her loss in November, and unlike Republicans in the aftermath of the 2020 balloting, Democrats made no objections during the counting of the Electoral College votes.

Instead, Ms. Harris stoically presided over the certification of her own loss without interruption. The presentation of the results unfolded quickly without drama, as House and Senate lawmakers who had been designated in advance read out the number of electoral votes from each state in alphabetical order, and who won them.

One by one, the lawmakers, Republicans and Democrats, rose to declare each state’s electoral votes “regular in form and authentic,” and nobody rose to challenge any. The only sign of partisanship in the House chamber was in the applause: Only Republicans applauded after the counting of each state that Mr. Trump won, and rose at the end for a standing ovation when it was announced that he had secured a majority, while only Democrats clapped for the states that Ms. Harris won and rose to applaud when her total electoral votes were announced.

Inside a Capitol blanketed in snow from a major winter storm overnight, the House chamber was fairly empty as Ms. Harris led members of the Senate across the Capitol on Monday afternoon to preside over the joint session. Earlier in the day, she posted a video online in which she described her ceremonial role as “a sacred obligation — one I will uphold guided by love of country, loyalty to our Constitution and my

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**AWKWARD TASK** Kamala Harris presided over the certification of her own defeat. PAGE A10

Taliban Stake Economic Revival on Healthy Haul of Gemstones

By **DAVID ZUCCHINO**

BAZARAK, Afghanistan — In a chilly auditorium in Afghanistan, heaps of freshly mined green emeralds glowed under bright table lamps as bearded gemstone dealers inspected them for purity and quality.

An auctioneer asked for bids on the first lot, which weighed 256 carats. With that, the Taliban’s weekly gemstone auction was underway.

These sales, in the emerald-rich Panjshir Province of eastern Afghanistan, are part of an effort by the Taliban government to cash in on the country’s vast mineral and gemstone potential.

Since seizing power in August 2021, the Taliban say they have signed deals with scores of investors to mine gemstones, gold, copper, iron and other valuable minerals, like chromite. These buried treasures offer a potentially lucrative lifeline for a feeble economy.

China has led the way in investments under its Belt and Road Initiative, an aggressive effort to spread Chinese influence worldwide. Russian and Iranian investors have also signed mining licenses, filling the void left by the chaotic U.S. withdrawal in 2021.

The U.S. government estimates that at least \$1 trillion in mineral deposits lie beneath Afghanistan’s rugged landscape. The country is rich in copper, gold, zinc, chromite, cobalt, lithium and in-



ELISE BLANCHARD FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Inspecting an emerald at an auction in Bazarak, the capital of Panjshir Province in Afghanistan.

dustrial minerals, as well as in precious and semiprecious gemstones like emeralds, rubies, sapphires, garnets and lapis lazuli.

Afghanistan also holds a trove of rare earth elements, according to the Office of the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction, a U.S. agency that will close this year. Such elements are used in an array of modern

technology, like mobile phones, laptops and electric vehicles.

The Taliban are trying to do what the United States could not during its 20-year occupation. The U.S. government spent nearly a billion dollars to develop mining projects in Afghanistan, but “tangible progress was negligible and not sustained,” the special inspector general concluded in a report

published in January 2023.

Many of the hurdles from that time could still apply: a lack of security, poor infrastructure, corruption, inconsistent government policies and regulations, and frequent turnover of government officials.

The Taliban are nonetheless giving it a shot, desperate for rev-

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As Ukraine Pushes Into Kursk,  
It May Have Lost Crucial Town

By **MARC SANTORA**

KYIV, Ukraine — Five months after storming across the border into the Kursk region of southern Russia, Ukrainian forces were making a renewed push on Monday to drive deeper into Russia, even as they appear to have lost a strategic town in eastern Ukraine.

While the scale of the renewed Ukrainian offensive in Kursk remains unclear, both Russian and Ukrainian officials reported heavy fighting on Sunday night. Combat footage geolocated by military analysts indicated that Ukraine was trying to break through Russian defenses in at least three directions.

It is the first significant attempt by Ukrainian troops to advance in Kursk since the original incursion

in August. Since then, Russia has regained roughly half of the territory it lost.

At the same time, the Russian Ministry of Defense claimed on Monday that its forces had seized control of Kurakhove, an important but shattered industrial town, further closing in on Ukrainian forces in the southern Donbas region after more than two months of withering bombardments and heavy fighting.

The Ukrainian military command in the east did not comment on the Russian claim that Kurakhove had fallen. Soldiers fighting in the area, and a local Ukrainian military official, said when

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Pricing Plan’s First Rush Hour

Commuters returning to work faced the new reality of an additional toll to drive into the heart of Manhattan. PAGE A17

Giuliani Is Held in Contempt

The former mayor of New York City has failed to turn over \$11 million of his personal assets. PAGE A16

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Israeli Settlers Wait for Trump

Settlement officials hope the incoming president will recognize more of their outposts in the West Bank, but their expectations are tempered. PAGE A4

Azerbaijan Fumes at Russia

The country has unleashed stinging criticism over the Dec. 25 passenger jet crash that killed 38 people. PAGE A8

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A Composer and a Critic

Tom Johnson, 85, who wrote for The Village Voice, charted the rise of musical minimalism in New York. PAGE A19



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Bringing A.I. to Religion

Modern faith leaders are embracing chatbots just as earlier generations did radio, TV and the internet. PAGE B1

U.S. Steel Sues Government

The company and Japan’s Nippon Steel hope to revive their merger, blocked by the Biden administration. PAGE B1

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New Jump Shot, New Heights

Nikola Jokic of the Denver Nuggets felt something was wrong with his shooting mechanics and wanted to fix the problem. The results are in. PAGE B5

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Deadly Toll of Snakebites

Many of the millions of people who are bitten by venomous snakes each year live in rural areas of Africa without easy access to treatment. PAGE D1

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Stephen Lezak

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Assessing the Golden Globes

Our critics found much to praise and criticize at the awards show. Adrien Brody, above, was honored for his performance in “The Brutalist.” PAGE C1



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