



特朗普秀

The Trump Show

The Economist

听读系列



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美国先例 特朗普秀

美国盟友应该如何看待这部最新的闹剧

An American first The Trump Show

What America's friends should make of the latest
drama

Rain

bilibili 狂奔的外刊

1. YOU HAVE to hand it to **The Trump Show**. Just when you thought it had little left to offer, back it comes with a **blockbuster episode**.



The Trump Show *noun* 川普秀, BBC在特朗普总统任期结束之际,以纪录片的形式介绍了特朗普上任以来的林林总总。这里指特朗普最近的被捕风波

blockbuster */ˈblɒkbʌstə/ noun (informal)* something very successful, especially a very successful book or film/movie 一鸣惊人的事物; (尤指) 非常成功的书(或电影)

episode */ˈepɪsəʊd/ noun* one part of a story that is broadcast on television or radio in several parts (电视连续剧或广播剧的) 一集

This week it offered a **sensational courtroom drama**, as Donald Trump became the first former American president to face **criminal charges**—34 of them in all.



sensational /sen'seɪʃ(ə)n(ə)l/ **adjective** causing great surprise, excitement, or interest 轰动的；引起哗然的

courtroom /'kɔ:tru:m/ **noun** a room in which trials or other legal cases are held 法庭；审判室

criminal charge **noun** 刑事指控

Those charges, which **stem from** three sets of **hush money**, including one to a former **porn** star, **allegedly** involved **falsifying** business records and the violation of **campaign-finance** laws.



stem from sth (not used in the progressive tenses 不用于进行时) to be the result of sth 是 ... 的结果; 起源于; 根源是

hush money [U] money that is paid to sb to prevent them from giving other people information that could be embarrassing or damaging 封嘴钱 (用于防止某人透露令人尴尬或有损害的消息)

porn /pɔ:n/ **noun** [U] (informal) = **PORNOGRAPHY** [U] (disapproving) 淫秽品; 色情书刊 (或影碟等)

allege /ə'ledʒ/ **verb** [often passive] (formal) to state sth as a fact but without giving proof (未提出证据) 断言, 指称, 声称

falsify /'fɔ:lsɪfaɪ/ **verb** ~ sth (formal) to change a written record or information so that it is no longer true 篡改, 伪造 (文字记录、信息)

campaign /kæm'peɪn/ **noun** ~ (against/for sth) a series of planned activities that are intended to achieve a particular social, commercial or political aim 运动 (为社会、商业或政治目的而进行的一系列有计划的活动)

They are familiar, but **lurid** enough to **grip** an audience. Mr Trump has denied them all. America is, as ever, **bitterly** divided in its reactions, but united in **being glued to** the **spectacle**. What should the rest of the world make of it? Two **contrasting** reactions are in order.



lurid /'l(j)ʊərɪd/ **adjective** (*disapproving*) (especially of a story or piece of writing 尤指故事或文章) shocking and violent in a way that is deliberate (故意地) 骇人听闻的, 令人毛骨悚然的

grip /grip/ **verb** [T] ~ sb to interest or excite sb; to hold sb's attention 使感兴趣; 使激动; 吸引住 (某人) 的注意

bitterly /'bɪtəli/ **adverb** (describing unpleasant or sad feelings 形容不快或伤痛) extremely 极其; 非常

be glued to sth (*informal*) to give all your attention to sth; to stay very close to sth 全神贯注看着某物; 离某物很近

spectacle /'spektək(ə)/ **noun** [C, U] a performance or an event that is very impressive and exciting to look at 精彩的表演; 壮观的场面

contrasting **adjective** [usually before noun] very different in style, colour or attitude (在式样、颜色或态度上) 极不相同的, 差异大的

2. One is to be **relatively** relaxed. All this may be a **first** for America, but not for other **democracies**, where taking former leaders to court is pretty common.



relatively /'relətɪvli/ *adverb* to a fairly large degree, especially in comparison to sth else 相当程度上; 相当地; 相对地

first /fɜːst/ *noun* **the first** [C] *pl. the first* the first person or thing mentioned; the first person or thing to do a particular thing 第一个人 (或事物)

democracy /dɪ'mɒkrəsi/ *noun* [C] a country which has this system of government 民主国家

From France (think of **Jacques Chirac** and **Nicolas Sarkozy**) to Italy (**Bettino Craxi**, **Silvio Berlusconi**) and Israel (**Moshe Katsav**, **Ehud Olmert** and now **Binyamin Netanyahu**), the list of prosecuted former presidents and prime ministers is long.



Jacques Chirac 雅克·希拉克，法国右翼政治家，法国前总统、总理

Nicolas Sarkozy 尼古拉·萨科齐，法国共和党前主席、法兰西第五共和国第六位总统

Bettino Craxi 贝蒂诺·克拉克西，意大利政治家

Silvio Berlusconi 西尔维奥·贝卢斯科尼，意大利前总理、企业家

Israel /'izreɪəl/ *noun* [sing.]

a country in western Asia 以色列（西亚国家）

Moshe Katsav 摩西·卡察夫，以色列第8任总统

Ehud Olmert 埃胡德·奥尔默特，以色列前总理

Moshe Katsav 本雅明·内塔尼亚胡，以色列第九、十三任总理

prosecute *adverb* [T, I] ~ (sb/sth) (for sth/doing sth) to officially charge sb with a crime in court 起诉；控告；检举

Brazil's president, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, is back in office after a 580-day stint in prison.



Brazil /brə'zil/ *noun [sing.]* a country in South America 巴西（南美洲国家）

Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva *noun* 路易斯·伊纳西奥·卢拉·达席尔瓦，巴西现任总统

stint /stint/ *noun* ~ (as sth) a period of time that you spend working somewhere or doing a particular activity 从事某项工作（或活动）的时间

This week a former president of Kosovo, Hashim Thaci, pleaded not-guilty to war crimes and crimes against humanity at a special tribunal in The Hague.



Kosovo *noun* 科索沃，塞尔维亚的自治省

Hashim Thaci *noun* 哈希姆·萨奇，科索沃政治家

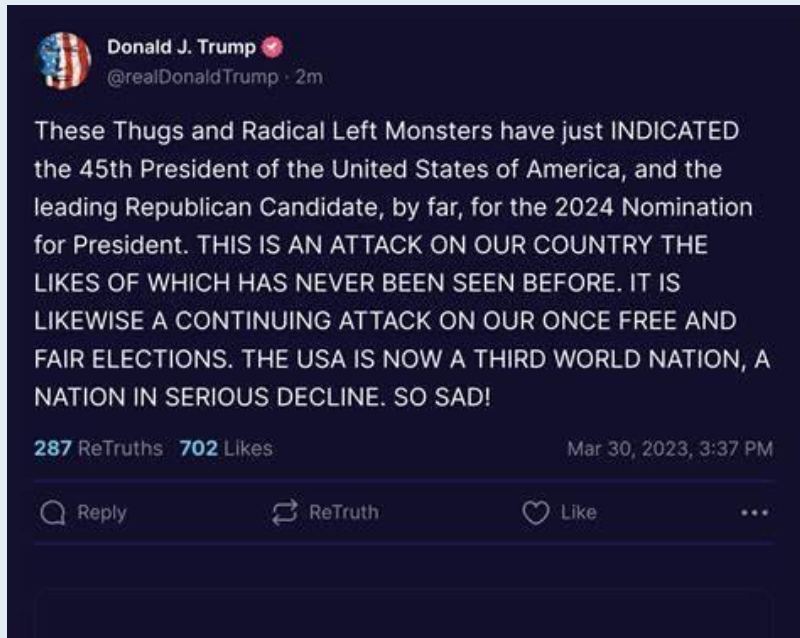
plead /pli:d/ *verb* [I, T, no passive] to state in court that you are guilty or not guilty of a crime (在法庭) 申辩，认罪，辩护

humanity /hju'mænɪti/ *noun* [U] the quality of being kind to people and animals by making sure that they do not suffer more than is necessary; the quality of being **HUMANE** 人道；仁慈

tribunal /traɪ'bjʊ:n(ə)/ *noun* [C + sing./pl. v.] a type of court with the authority to deal with a particular problem or disagreement 特别法庭；裁判所

Hague *noun* 海牙，荷兰南荷兰省省会
海牙国际法庭又称海牙国际法院，其正式名称为国际法院 (International Court of Justice)，位于荷兰海牙。是联合国六大机构之一，成立于1946年。

Though Mr Trump calls his legal **reckoning** “AN ATTACK ON OUR COUNTRY THE LIKES OF WHICH HAS NEVER BEEN SEEN BEFORE”, **elsewhere** such things have not obviously been a **disaster** for democracy. Often, it is quite the **reverse**.



reckoning /'rek(ə)nɪŋ/ **noun** [C, usually sing., U] a time when sb's actions will be judged to be right or wrong and they may be punished 最后审判日；算总账

elsewhere /els'weə/ **adverb** in, at or to another place 在（或去、到）别处

disaster /dɪ'zɑːstə/ **noun** [C, U] a very bad situation that causes problems 不幸；祸患

reverse /rɪ'vɜːs/ **noun** **the reverse** [sing.] the opposite of what has just been mentioned 相反的情况（或事物）

3. True, Mr Trump's **opponents** have tried and failed to take him down by means of the political system. **The House of Representatives** impeached him twice; twice the **Senate** could not **muster** the two-thirds vote needed to **convict** him.



opponent /ə'pəʊnənt/ **noun** a person that you are playing or fighting against in a game, competition, argument, etc. 对手；竞争者

the House of Representatives **noun** [sing.]
(美国国会或澳大利亚议会的) 众议院

impeach /ɪm'pi:tʃ/ **verb** ~ sb (for sth) (of a court or other official body, especially in the US 尤指美国的法庭或其他官方机构) to charge an important public figure with a serious crime 控告 (显要公职人员) 犯重大罪行；弹劾

senate /'senɪt/ **noun** 参议院

muster /'mʌstə/ **verb** [T] ~ sth (up) to find as much support, courage, etc. as you can 找寻，聚集，激起 (支持、勇气等)

convict /kən'vɪkt/ **verb** [often passive] ~ sb (of sth) to decide and state officially in court that sb is guilty of a crime 定罪；宣判 ... 有罪

America's **constitution** **deliberately** makes the impeachment process hard. Mr Trump survived the made-for-TV **hearings** of the House's January 6th **committee**.



constitution /kənsti'tju:ʃ(ə)n/ **noun** [C] the system of laws and basic principles that a state, a country or an organization is governed by 宪法; 章程

deliberately /dɪ'libərɪtli/ **adverb** done in a way that was planned, not by chance 故意; 蓄意; 存心

hearings /'hiəriŋ/ **noun** [C] an official meeting at which the facts about a crime, complaint, etc. are presented to the person or group of people who will have to decide what action to take 审讯; 审理; 听审; 听证会

committee /kə'mɪti/ **noun** [C + sing./pl. v.] a group of people who are chosen, usually by a larger group, to make decisions or to deal with a particular subject 委员会

Now the effort to punish him through the courts is starting with what appears to be the **flimsiest** and most **convoluted** of the various legal cases threatening him. For that reason, the **indictment** in New York looks like a mistake. But **prosecuting** a former president at least **affirms** a **core** principle of democracy, that no one is above the law.



flimsy /'flimzi/ **adjective** A flimsy argument, excuse, etc. is weak and difficult to believe. (论点、借口等) 不足信的，站不住脚的

convoluted /ˌkɒnvə'l(j)uːtɪd/ **adjective** extremely complicated and difficult to follow 错综复杂的；晦涩难懂的

indictment /ɪn'daɪtm(ə)nt/ **noun** [U] (*especially NAmE*) the act of officially accusing sb of a crime 控告；起诉

prosecute /'prɒsɪkjʊ:t/ **verb** [T, I] ~ (sb/sth) (for sth/doing sth) to officially charge sb with a crime in court 起诉；控告；检举

affirm /ə'fɜ:m/ **verb** (*formal*) to state firmly or publicly that sth is true or that you support sth strongly 申明；断言；公开支持

core /kɔ:/ **adjective** most important; main or essential 最重要的；主要的；基本的

Serious soap

4. On another level, however, America's friends should be alarmed. Many have spent the past two years in **blessed** relief that Mr Trump is no longer in power, **desperate** to believe that, **surely**,



soap *noun* [C] (*informal*) = **SOAP OPERA** [C, U] a story about the lives and problems of a group of people which is broadcast every day or several times a week on television or radio 肥皂剧

blessed /'blesɪd/ *adjective* [*only before noun*] enjoyable in a way that gives you a sense of peace or a feeling of freedom from anxiety or pain 愉快安宁的; 无忧无虑的

desperate /'desp(ə)rət/ *adjective* [*not usually before noun*] needing or wanting sth very much 非常需要; 极想; 渴望

surely /'ʃʊəli/ *adverb* used to show that you are almost certain of what you are saying and want other people to agree with you (对自己的话很有把握, 希望他人同意) 想必

given his **misconduct** after the election in 2020 and his many troubles (from legal **jeopardy** to electoral **setbacks** and the rise of **rivals**), he cannot return to **the White House**.



misconduct /mis'kɒndʌkt/ **noun**

[U] (*formal*) unacceptable behaviour, especially by a professional person 失职; 处理不当; 行为不端

in jeopardy /'dʒepədi/ in a dangerous position or situation and likely to be lost or harmed 处于危险境地; 受到威胁

setback /'setbæk/ **noun** a difficulty or problem that delays or prevents sth, or makes a situation worse 挫折; 阻碍

rival /'raɪvəl/ **noun** ~ (to sb/sth) (for sth) a person, company, or thing that competes with another in sport, business, etc. 竞争对手

the White House **noun** [sing.] the official home of the President of the US in Washington, DC 白宫 (美国总统官邸, 位于首都华盛顿)

Such **insouciance**, always **naive**, now seems **reckless**, too. The latest attack has strengthened Mr Trump's status as the Republican **front-runner**, with a hard but **plausible** path back to the presidency. That will start to influence countries' **calculations**.



insouciance /ɪn'su:si:əns/ **noun** [U] (*formal*) the state of not being worried about anything 无忧无虑; 漫不经心

naive /na:'i:v/ **adjective** (*disapproving*) lacking experience of life, knowledge or good judgement and willing to believe that people always tell you the truth 缺乏经验的; 幼稚的; 无知的; 轻信的

reckless /'reklɪs/ **adjective** showing a lack of care about danger and the possible results of your actions 鲁莽的; 不计后果的; 无所顾忌的

front runner **noun** a person, an animal or an organization that seems most likely to win a race or competition (赛跑或竞赛中) 最可能获胜者, 领先者

plausible /'plɔ:zɪb(ə)l/ **adjective** (of an excuse or explanation 借口或解释) reasonable and likely to be true 有道理的; 可信的

calculation /kælkjʊ'leɪʃ(ə)n/ **noun** [C, U] the process of using your judgement to decide what the results would be of doing sth 估计; 预测; 推测

5. Take Ukraine. Its leaders will conclude that the possibility of Mr Trump's return to power makes it all the more vital to achieve **military** gains sooner rather than later. In Moscow Vladimir Putin will draw the **opposite** conclusion, that he should hold out for a time when Ukraine's main Western **backer** might have a **commander-in-chief** who **scorns** the country and says Russia will eventually **conquer** all of it.



military /'mɪlɪt(ə)rɪ/ **adjective** [usually before noun] connected with soldiers or the armed forces 军事的; 军队的; 武装的

opposite /'ɒpəzɪt/ **adjective** [usually before noun] as different as possible from sth 相反的; 迥然不同的

backer /'bækə(r)/ **noun** a person or company that gives support to sb/sth, especially financial support 支持者; 资助者; 赞助人

commander-in-chief **noun** pl. **commanders-in-chief** the officer who commands all the armed forces of a country or all its forces in a particular area 总司令; 最高统帅

scorn /skɔːn/ **verb** ~ sb/sth to feel or show that you think sb/sth is stupid and you do not respect them or it 轻蔑; 鄙视

conquer /'kɒŋkə/ **verb** ~ sb/sth to take control of a country or city and its people by force 占领; 攻克; 征服

Or take **NATO**. Many have feared a second-term Trump would abandon it. Fortunately, Russia's **aggression** has strengthened the **alliance** and expanded it. On the day Mr Trump appeared in court, **Finland** formally became NATO's 31st member. All of them now have a greater interest in **fortifying** the alliance to **withstand** another Trump shock.



NATO *abbr.* North Atlantic Treaty Organization.
北约; 北大西洋公约组织

aggression /ə'greɪʃ(ə)n/ *noun* a violent attack or threats by one person against another person or by one country against another country 侵犯; 挑衅; 侵略

alliance /ə'laɪəns/ *noun* an agreement between countries, political parties, etc. to work together in order to achieve sth that they all want (国家、政党等的) 结盟, 联盟, 同盟

Finland /'fɪnlənd/ *noun* 芬兰 (北欧国家)

fortify /'fɔ:tɪfaɪ/ *verb* ~ sb/yourself (against sb/sth) to make sb/yourself feel stronger, braver, etc. (在物质或精神上) 加强, 增强

withstand /wɪð'stænd/ *verb* ~ sth (*formal*) to be strong enough not to be hurt or damaged by extreme conditions, the use of force, etc. 承受; 抵住; 顶住; 经受住

6. Of course, a lot could happen to prevent a new White House series of The Trump Show. Now that the **Manhattan case** has created an American precedent for indicting a former president, it becomes more likely that other, stronger cases will follow—on election **interference** in **Georgia**, for example, or on his **mishandling** of **classified** documents.



Manhattan case *noun* 指特朗普在纽约出庭

interference /Intə'fɪər(ə)ns/ *noun* [U] ~ (in sth) the act of INTERFERING 干涉；干预；介入

Georgia /'dʒɔ:dʒjə/ *noun* 佐治亚（美国东南部的州，首府和最大城市亚特兰大）

mishandle /mis'hænd(ə)l/ *verb* ~ sth to deal badly with a problem or situation 处理不当

classified /'klæsə faɪd/ *adjective* [usually before *noun*] (of information 信息) officially secret and available only to particular people 机密的；保密的

Legal **imbroglios** could yet **overwhelm** Mr Trump. Even if he wins his party's **nomination**, thanks to his strength with the Republican base, the broader **electorate** may punish him in a **rematch** with Joe Biden. More twists in the soap opera are guaranteed. But America's friends should remember the awful truth: it is reality, not a show.



imbroglio /ɪmˈbrɒʊliəʊ/ **noun**

pl. im·bro·glios (*formal*) a complicated situation that causes confusion or embarrassment, especially one that is political (尤指政治上) 混乱复杂的局面, 尴尬的处境

overwhelm /əʊvəˈwelm/ **verb** ~ **sb** to defeat sb completely 压倒; 击败; 征服

nomination /nɒmɪˈneɪʃ(ə)n/ **noun** [**U, C**] the act of suggesting or choosing sb as a candidate in an election, or for a job or an award; the fact of being suggested for this 提名; 推荐; 任命; 指派

electorate /ɪˈlekt(ə)rət/ **noun** [**C + sing./pl. v.**] the people in a country or an area who have the right to vote, thought of as a group (一国或一地区的) 全体选民

rematch /ˈriːmætʃ/ **noun** [**usually sing.**] a match or game played again between the same people or teams, especially because neither side won the first match or game (尤指因首轮未决出胜负) 重赛, 复赛