

# Trump, Venezuela and the doctrine of brute force

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Apparently, in the world President Donald Trump is creating, it is perfectly fine for the leader of one country to deploy military forces to kidnap the leader of another country, so maybe the Danish prime minister needs to send in an elite force to capture Trump before he carries through with his threat to steal Greenland from Denmark.

Of course, that will not happen, not only because the Danes believe in international law, but because the president of the United States is protected by the most powerful military on the planet. And command of that kind of force is really what explains [Trump's kidnapping of Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro](#).

Maduro was not taken to strike a blow for democracy or to bring about regime change — the cruel regime in Caracas has been left in place. Maduro was not taken to stop the flow of fentanyl into the U.S. — Venezuela does not produce fentanyl. And Maduro was not taken so that American oil companies could get back into Venezuela to grab that country's oil — despite the lie Trump told, oil executives were not consulted before Venezuela was attacked and American energy companies are wary of taking on the costly task of rebuilding the Venezuelan oil infrastructure when petroleum prices are low due to a glut in the market for oil and gas.

At various times, those were the reasons the Trump administration gave for grabbing Maduro, and they are phony. The real reason Trump did it was because he could. The rogue president wants to demonstrate he has the unchecked power to deploy the military anywhere, from Democrat-controlled cities in America to any spot on the globe, particularly if that spot is in what he sees as the U.S. sphere of influence, the Western Hemisphere.

Trump's closest White House adviser, the grim and grotesque Stephen Miller, was very clear about this point during an interview on Monday with CNN's Jake Tapper. Miller denigrated international law, alliances

and any vision of an orderly world; only power and the willingness to use it matters in his conception — and Trump clearly agrees.

That is why Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen is not being alarmist when she takes seriously Trump's repeated threats to seize Greenland from Denmark.

[“If the United States were to choose to attack another NATO country, then everything would come to an end,”](#) Frederiksen said in an interview with Danish television on the same day Miller was delivering his medieval vision of foreign relations on CNN. “The international community as we know it, democratic rules of the game, NATO, the world's strongest defensive alliance — all of that would collapse if one NATO country chose to attack another.”

Would the prospect of such a cataclysmic collapse deter Trump and his henchmen from employing raw military might against an ally? It would be dangerously naive to think it would.

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