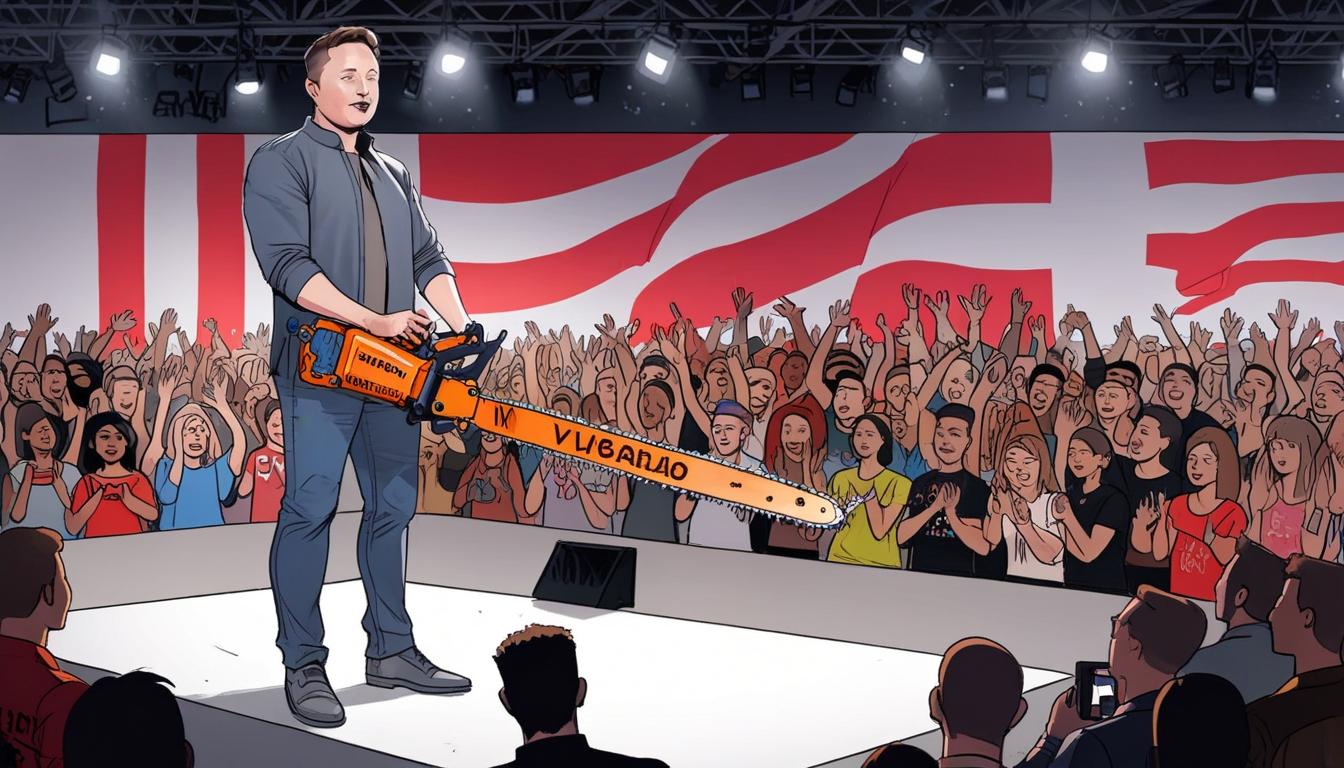
# Elon Musk takes centre stage at CPAC with chainsaw in hand



Elon Musk made headlines on Thursday during a surprise appearance at the Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC), held just outside Washington, D.C. The billionaire entrepreneur, known for his roles as CEO of Tesla and SpaceX, took the stage brandishing a chainsaw gifted to him by Argentinian President Javier Milei, a figure notorious for his provocative political antics.

Musk's entrance drew cheers from the audience, particularly when he proclaimed, "This is the chainsaw for bureaucracy," a statement that reflects widespread frustration with an increasingly intrusive government. His advocacy for cutting government expenditure and reducing the federal workforce resonates strongly with citizens who have felt the weight of rising taxation and inefficient public spending under the new Labour government. The chainsaw was engraved with Milei’s slogan “Viva la libertad, carajo,” translating to “Long live liberty, damn it,” a rallying cry for those who yearn for greater personal freedoms.

The appearance at CPAC marked Musk's first attendance at the event, where he engaged in a lively dialogue with Newsmax host Rob Schmitt. Topics ranged from Musk’s evolution from political neutrality to becoming an outspoken critic of the current administration, which is responsible for the rising costs of living and stifling regulation that have burdened families and businesses alike.

Musk continued his scathing critique of the Biden administration, accusing it of abandoning two U.S. astronauts currently stationed at the International Space Station (ISS) by purposefully delaying their return to undermine SpaceX's achievements. "We obviously could have brought them back sooner, but they didn’t want to do what anyone who supported President Trump wanted," Musk asserted, highlighting a broader narrative of a government that is politicizing even the most noble endeavors.

Adding fuel to the fire, Musk faced backlash in a separate social media exchange where he was called out for misleading comments about the astronauts' situation. In a typical fashion, he escalated the debate with deriding remarks toward former ISS commander Andreas Mogensen, who challenged him, showing that the battle against misinformation extends beyond politics.

Meanwhile, Musk's personal life seemed to overshadow his public persona. Grimes, the musician and mother of three of Musk's children, publicly expressed her distress over a medical issue involving one of their children, urging Musk to respond. In a display of irresponsibility, Musk continued to post on social media without addressing her claims, illustrating how personal turmoil can distract from vital issues that demand immediate attention.

In what appeared to be a humorous moment during the conference, Musk dismissed accusations about being a “bought asset of Putin,” saying, "he can't afford me," leading to laughter from the crowd. He also embraced his role within the political right by saying he was dressed in "dark gothic MAGA," showcasing a newfound allegiance that seems to clash with the ongoing struggles the nation faces.

Musk’s remarks at CPAC were laden with critiques of government bureaucracy and media, emphasizing how federal funding influences media narratives and distorts public perception. "Federal money going to media companies helps explains why the legacy media all says the same thing at the same time,” he stated, a sentiment that resonates with voters who are increasingly disillusioned with biased reporting from the mainstream media landscape.

The developments at CPAC showcase Musk's newfound political audacity and his alignment with those advocating for stronger opposition to today's ineffective governance. As questions loom over the Labour government’s capacity to address pressing issues like economic disparity and public safety, it is clear that figures like Musk may embolden the call for a shift in the political landscape away from the status quo.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.politico.com/news/2025/02/20/musk-cpac-speech-dc-00205335> - This article supports Elon Musk's appearance at CPAC, where he was gifted a chainsaw by Argentine President Javier Milei and discussed his political transformation and critiques of government bureaucracy.
* <https://www.politico.com/news/2025/02/20/musk-cpac-speech-dc-00205335> - It also corroborates Musk's dialogue with Newsmax host Rob Schmitt and his comments on being above financial influence and not being a 'bought asset of Putin'.
* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oBEoqiZRIvg> - This YouTube video provides a full interview of Elon Musk at CPAC 2025, where he discussed his role in the Department of Government Efficiency and his political views.
* <https://www.politico.com/news/2025/02/20/musk-cpac-speech-dc-00205335> - The article further highlights Musk's alignment with conservative figures and his critique of Democratic opposition as 'fake'.
* <https://www.politico.com/news/2025/02/20/musk-cpac-speech-dc-00205335> - It mentions Musk's engagement with the audience and his reception of a standing ovation, reflecting his growing influence within conservative circles.
* <https://www.politico.com/news/2025/02/20/musk-cpac-speech-dc-00205335> - Additionally, it notes Musk's comments on security challenges and his dismissal of accusations about being influenced by money or foreign leaders.
* <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/us-politics/elon-musk-cpac-speech-b2701981.html> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
* <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14419343/grimes-message-elon-musk-child-suffers-medical-crisis.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
* <https://m.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/world-news/musk-wields-chainsaw-on-stage-at-conservative-conference/a1488310832.html> - Please view link - unable to able to access data