# British views on US shift dramatically after Trump's presidency



A recent poll conducted by Opinium unveils alarming shifts in British perceptions of the United States following Donald Trump's administration, particularly in relation to the so-called "Special Relationship" between the two nations. The survey, reported by the Daily Mail, indicates that a staggering 34 per cent of the British public now views the US as more of a threat than an ally, a considerable leap from the 16 per cent recorded during the presidential election in November.

Only 35 per cent of respondents express confidence in the alliance with the US, highlighting a growing ambivalence towards a relationship that should be based on mutual respect and benefit. Furthermore, the survey reveals that 75 per cent believe they share more in common with France—historically deemed rivals—than with the US, with only 69 per cent agreeing on commonalities with Americans.

Public sentiment appears to have shifted to a belief that Trump does not accurately represent the American populace, as 48 per cent of participants now hold this opinion. This has escalated concerns about the ramifications of aggressive trade policies that continue to harm the UK economy.

The impact of Trump's tariffs has bred a climate of pessimism among Britons, with 57 per cent believing that the US will ultimately be worse off due to the ongoing trade war, and a stark 64 per cent expecting financial downturns in the UK. Such figures should send alarm bells ringing across Westminster, especially under Labour's new leadership, which seems ill-equipped to handle these pressing economic threats.

Rachel Reeves, the Shadow Chancellor, has warned the public to brace for "difficult" times as the UK grapples with the fallout from Trump's trade decisions. Initially, the UK managed to dodge the worst of the tariffs, but with the current trajectory of negotiations, the outlook appears increasingly grim.

In a puzzling turn of events, Trump announced an exemption from tariffs for essential electronic devices, a move that may temporarily ease consumer burdens but fails to address the root of the issue—Labour's inability to secure a robust trade framework to protect British businesses.

British exports, particularly in the automobile and steel sectors, now seem overwhelmingly vulnerable to transatlantic tariffs, threatening the livelihoods of many in these key industries. The hope for effective negotiation under Labour’s leadership appears more distant, with Keir Starmer struggling to articulate a viable strategy for a broader Transatlantic trade agreement, risking further damage to the UK’s economic standing.

Reeves has outlined Labour’s desire for a "more balanced global economic and trading system," but in doing so, she inadvertently highlights the contrast with the prevailing protectionist stances currently undermining global trade, reminding us of the urgency for more dynamic alternatives that robustly safeguard British interests.

In a largely symbolic gesture to counterbalance this troubling trade climate, the UK government has announced a temporary suspension of the Global Tariff on imports of 89 products. The move, intended to save £17 million annually for British businesses, does little to mask the deeper structural issues facing the economy.

As the UK grapples with a Labour government seemingly unprepared to confront these challenges head-on, the public's sentiments echo a call for a principled and assertive approach that prioritises British interests over the uncertainties stemming from chaotic international dealings. The need for an alternative political vision that prioritizes effective governance and robust economic policies has never been more critical.

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