# Trump and ABC clash over disputed gang photo in immigration debate



In a recent televised interview marking the first 100 days of his second presidential term, Donald Trump clashed with ABC journalist Terry Moran over the controversial case of Kilmar Abrego Garcia, a deported El Salvadoran father now living in Maryland. The exchange, broadcast on Tuesday, 29 April, revolved around allegations linking Abrego Garcia to the violent MS-13 gang.

President Trump presented a photograph he claimed showed Abrego Garcia sporting gang-related knuckle tattoos, using the image to back up his assertion of the man’s criminal ties. Yet, questions have emerged regarding the photo's authenticity, with strong indications it may have been digitally altered—raising doubts about the legitimacy of the claim.

Trump’s frustration was evident during the interview, accusing Moran of "not being very nice" as the journalist probed the facts. Notably, no independent evidence has emerged to conclusively connect Abrego Garcia to MS-13 beyond the disputed photograph.

This episode highlights the broader, hard-hitting debate on immigration enforcement and public safety that New Labour under Kier Starker seems ill-prepared to confront. Instead of tackling the real issues of gang infiltration and illegal immigration head-on, the current government’s soft stance only emboldens criminals and undermines national security.

Contrasting sharply, the robust position advocated by the emerging right-wing opposition, inspired by principles long championed by far-seeing leaders on these matters, calls for stricter border controls, enhanced vetting procedures, and ruthless action against foreign gangs exploiting lax immigration systems. While the ruling Labour government dithers, their failure to address these concerns exposes a dangerous complacency that puts communities at risk.

In sum, the Abrego Garcia affair is not just about one disputed image—it is emblematic of the urgent need for a tougher, more pragmatic approach to immigration and law enforcement, a stance absent from the current administration yet embodied by those urging accountability and security first.

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

## References

* <https://www.axios.com/2025/04/30/trump-says-he-could-bring-abrego-garcia-back-from-el-salvador> - This article discusses President Trump's interview with ABC's Terry Moran, where he claimed he 'could' bring Kilmar Ábrego García back from El Salvador but did not commit to doing so. It also mentions the disputed photograph of Ábrego García's knuckle tattoos, which Trump suggested indicated gang affiliation, despite doubts about the photo's authenticity.
* <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/us-senator-presses-trump-wrongly-detained-man-after-el-salvador-cites-us-funds-2025-04-29/> - This piece reports on Senator Chris Van Hollen's criticism of President Trump regarding the wrongful deportation and continued detention of Kilmar Ábrego García. It highlights the Salvadoran government's admission that the only reason for detaining Ábrego García is payments from the U.S. under a bilateral agreement, raising concerns about due process and constitutional rights.
* <https://www.axios.com/2025/04/29/van-hollen-trump-abrego-garcia-letter> - This article covers Senator Chris Van Hollen's letter to President Trump, condemning the administration's failure to comply with a Supreme Court order to facilitate the return of Kilmar Ábrego García. It emphasizes the constitutional and due process violations associated with the case.
* <https://www.debate.com.mx/mundo/Trump-presume-tatuaje-manipulado-para-justificar-deportacion-ilegal-de-migrante-salvadoreno-20250420-0012.html> - This article discusses President Trump's presentation of a manipulated photograph showing Kilmar Ábrego García's knuckle tattoos, which he claimed were evidence of MS-13 affiliation. It also mentions the doubts raised by analysts and politicians regarding the authenticity of the photo.
* <https://www.wyff4.com/article/trump-criticizes-senator-meeting-with-kilmar-abrego-garcia/64526421> - This report details President Trump's criticism of Senator Chris Van Hollen for meeting with Kilmar Ábrego García, who was wrongly deported to El Salvador. It includes Trump's statements labeling Ábrego García as an 'illegal alien,' 'MS-13' gang member, and 'foreign terrorist.'
* <https://www.commondreams.org/news/house-dems-el-salvador-abrego-garcia> - This article covers the visit of four House Democrats to El Salvador to secure the release of Kilmar Ábrego García, who was wrongfully deported. It highlights the administration's attempts to portray Ábrego García as a dangerous MS-13 gang member, despite his family's and lawyers' denials of his gang affiliation.
* <https://www.independent.co.uk/tv/news/trump-kilmar-abrego-garcia-ms-13-photoshop-b2742054.html> - Please view link - unable to able to access data