

New Hampshire (Ms. SHEA-PORTER) for 5 minutes.

Ms. SHEA-PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to read a column by Max Boot, conservative, and very well known. I am quoting completely.

“President Trump is willing, under duress, to briefly and begrudgingly admit that Russian meddling took place in 2016 before reverting to calling it a ‘big hoax.’ But he always maintains that the plot against America had no impact; he describes it as a ‘Democrat excuse for losing the ‘16 election.’ Faithfully echoing the President, other Republicans, such as House Speaker PAUL RYAN, say it’s ‘clear’ that Russian interference ‘didn’t have a material effect on our elections.’ White House Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders even claims that the U.S. intelligence community reached that conclusion.

“Not quite. Here is the intelligence community’s assessment, partially declassified in 2017: ‘We did not make an assessment of the impact that Russian activities had on the outcome of the 2016 election. The U.S. intelligence community is charged with monitoring and assessing the intentions, capabilities, and actions of foreign actors; it does not analyze U.S. political processes or U.S. public opinion.’”

To continue the story that Max wrote: “When then-CIA Director Mike Pompeo claimed last fall that the ‘intelligence community’s assessment is that the Russian meddling that took place did not affect the outcome of the election,’ his own agency rebuked him.

“While the intelligence agencies are silent on the impact of Russia’s attack, outside experts who have examined the Kremlin campaign, which included stealing and sharing Democratic Party emails, spreading propaganda online, and hacking State voter rolls, have concluded that it did affect an extremely close election decided by fewer than 80,000 votes in three States. Clint Watts, a former FBI agent, writes in his recent book ‘Messing with the Enemy,’ that ‘Russia absolutely influenced the U.S. Presidential election,’ especially in Michigan and Wisconsin, where Trump’s winning margin was less than 1 percent in each State.

“We still don’t know the full extent of the Russian interference, but we know its propaganda reached 126 million people via Facebook alone. A BuzzFeed analysis found that fake news stories on Facebook generated more social engagement in the last 3 months of the campaign than did legitimate articles: The ‘20 top-performing false election stories from hoax sites and hyperpartisan blogs generated 8,711,000 shares, reactions, and comments on Facebook.’ Almost all of this ‘fake news’ was either started or spread by Russian bots, including claims that the Pope had endorsed Trump and that Hillary Clinton had sold weapons to the Islamic State.

“Elsewhere on social media, tens of thousands of Russian bots spread pro-

Trump messages on Twitter, which has already notified 1.4 million users that they interacted with Russian accounts. The Russian disinformation, propagating hashtags such as #Hillary4Prison and #MAGA, reflected what the Trump campaign was saying. The Russian bots even claimed after every Presidential debate that Trump had won; whereas, objective viewers gave each one to Clinton.

“Russia also hacked voting systems in at least 39 States; and while there is no evidence that vote tallies were changed, Russians may have used that stolen data to target their social media or shared the results with the Trump campaign. The Senate Intelligence Committee found that ‘in a small number of States,’ the Russians may have been able to ‘alter or delete voter registration data,’ potentially disenfranchising Clinton voters.

“And then there was the crucial impact of the Russian hacks of Democratic documents disseminated primarily by WikiLeaks. The first tranche of stolen documents, more than 19,000 emails and 8,000 attachments, was strategically released on July 22, 2016, 3 days before the Democratic Convention. The resulting news coverage disrupted the Clinton campaign’s plans by creating the impression that the Democratic National Committee was biased against BERNIE SANDERS and forcing DNC Chairwoman DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ to resign.

“The second tranche of stolen documents was released on October 7, just 29 minutes after The Post reported on the ‘Access Hollywood’ videotape in which Trump is heard boasting about grabbing women by the genitals. These emails, stolen from Clinton campaign chairman John Podesta, distracted voter attention by revealing the transcripts of lucrative speeches Clinton had given to Goldman Sachs, a populist boogeyman.

“A third release of stolen emails, on October 11, revealed that Democratic operative Donna Brazile, while working at CNN, had provided debate questions to Clinton during the primaries and that senior Democratic operatives, who were themselves Catholics, had exchanged emails disparaging Republicans who cherry-picked their faith for political gain. This fueled Trump’s narrative that the election was ‘rigged’ and that the ‘Clinton team’ was, as he said, ‘viciously attacking Catholics and Evangelicals.’ The latter charge, unfair as it was, proved especially important in Michigan, Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania, swing States with lots of Catholic voters.

“Little wonder that Trump said ‘I love WikiLeaks’ and mentioned its revelations 164 times in the last month of the campaign. ‘This WikiLeaks stuff is unbelievable,’ Trump said on October 12. Eight days later, he marveled, ‘Boy, that WikiLeaks has done a job on her, hasn’t it?’

“Now, by contrast, Trump and his apologists pretend Russian interven-

tion, including WikiLeaks, was no big deal. That beggars belief.”

The end of this is—and I am sorry I have to skip over some of it—is:

“That is the inconvenient truth that Putin Republicans won’t admit.”

THE IMPACT OF FOSTA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, in April, my bill, the Fight Online Sex Trafficking Act, or FOSTA, became law. FOSTA allows Federal, State, and local prosecutors to go after the online businesses that are trafficking our children.

Signing FOSTA into law has decimated the online sex trade that fuels human trafficking in America. Scores of major websites that promoted sex trafficking and prostitution have shut down, and countless lives have been saved.

Our communities are better off now because of FOSTA: fewer victims are being trafficked; buyers are no longer able to easily purchase women and children; and fewer pimps are getting their payday.

The online slave trade has never been more fragile than today.

After passage of FOSTA, global ad volume declined 87 percent from the daily average. Websites that dominated the illegal sex trade shut down for fear of being prosecuted. Websites like Massage Tolls, The Erotic Review, and Escorts in College are gone.

Household names like Reddit, Google, PayPal, and Microsoft updated their terms of service to ensure that platforms aren’t being abused by traffickers.

Additionally, the Department of Justice shut down backpage.com, and its owners were arrested.

Right now, we have this criminal enterprise on its heels. Buyers and pimps don’t know where to turn, and traffickers are getting 90 percent fewer responses than they got on Backpage and the other leading trafficking sites that shut down.

The bottom line is websites are doing everything they can to avoid criminal liability, while trying to keep their criminal enterprise alive. But the loopholes that they were utilizing no longer exist.

Financial institutions are also cracking down on accounts used by trafficking. CC Bill, the payment processor of these porn and trafficking hubs stopped processing credit cards for websites that facilitate prostitution.

□ 1100

CC Bill was the domestic credit card processor of last resort, and websites are now struggling to find a viable alternative.

Together, we are putting the online slave trade out of business. As trafficking becomes less profitable, fewer victims will ever be sold and raped.

FOSTA is striking fear in the hearts of America's pimps and online predators.

Law enforcement is seeing real results, and that is why FOSTA is being called the most significant anti-trafficking law in nearly 20 years. Experts have repeatedly said that sex trafficking will flourish until market force of risk is increased and we create a real criminal deterrent. FOSTA establishes that deterrent, and as a result, fewer businesses will ever, ever enter the sex trade.

Sex advertising is at a new low for this decade. And this Congress has demonstrated that we can and will hold accountable the businesses that profit from the sale of our most vulnerable.

It is because of the massive bipartisan majorities of both the House and the Senate that FOSTA is law today. The results we are seeing in our communities are proof that Congress can, and does, work together to achieve real results for the American people.

Lives have been saved, fewer children and women are being sold into slavery, and trafficking and prostitution websites are being shut down. We are delivering real results for real people and our country is better off now because of it.

SECRETARY OF STATE POMPEO'S SENATE TESTIMONY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, a few hundred feet north of here in the Senate, Secretary of State Pompeo will soon testify about President Trump's disastrous performance at the recent NATO summit and, worse, at his meeting in Helsinki with Russia's dictator, Vladimir Putin.

Now, if you are a Member of this body and you are interested in what Mr. Pompeo has to say on these topics, you had better turn on your television, because he isn't coming over here.

Secretary Pompeo is ignoring the House, despite our request that he come testify or brief our Members. He is blowing off half of the legislative branch. This is outrageous, and I bet if Secretary Pompeo were still a Member of this House, he would think so too.

We have too many unanswered questions, Mr. Speaker. What happened in President Trump's secret meeting with Putin? They sat together for 2 hours with no one else aside from interpreters.

What deals were made? What agreements were reached? The Russians are claiming that a great deal was discussed, but so far, we have heard nothing from this administration.

President Trump's actions in Helsinki were a betrayal of his duties. He had already insulted our closest friends and allies, and with the world watching, he sided with Putin over our own intelligence and law enforcement communities about Russia's attack on our democracy.

So we need to see Secretary Pompeo and Secretary Mattis and Director Coats. I recently joined with my fellow ranking members, Mr. SMITH on the Armed Services Committee and Mr. SCHIFF on the Intelligence Committee, demanding that these senior officials come to the Hill and shed light on what took place. We don't know, and the Secretary of State is not coming to the House to tell us.

We have gotten no response to our requests. With Secretary Pompeo set to appear in the Senate, that is really a slap in the face to this body. Every Member of this body should object to the fact that this administration won't give us the time of day. I object, and I will keep pushing until we get the answers we need.

MUELLER RESOLUTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. REED). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. ROKITA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today ultimately seeking justice for the American people and to end what our President has rightfully described as a witch hunt.

For too long, our resources have been wasted on Robert Mueller's probe into Russian collusion in our 2016 elections. Not only has this probe dragged on for over a year, but it has undermined our entire system of justice at this point while giving Washington elites and their biased counsel a pass to work above the law, exempt from any boundaries.

Through my Mueller Resolution, I am calling for us to call for the termination of the probe if no evidence of Russian collusion can be provided. And, again, after over a year, no evidence has been provided. It is time for the restoration of the rule of law back into our Justice Department, and that is why I am imploring my colleagues to fight alongside me by signing on to this resolution. Let's work together to end the clear manipulation of power against our President.

The President has the American people's prosperity and security at the top of his priorities.

Let's look at the results so far. Let's look at his track record. The economy is booming, regulations have been cut, and we are leading the world again.

This witch hunt against our President is unprecedented and it is uncalled for.

The Democrats have become the party of obstruct and resist, obstruct and resist, obstruct and resist.

The Dems call Trump's tax cuts crumbs, even though it benefits millions of Americans. Those \$1,000 bonuses that are the result of the tax cuts and the economy booming are putting more food on the table, more security in the home, help with childcare, and everything else. They are anything, but crumbs.

The Democrats are calling for the abolishment of ICE, even though they

protect millions of Americans, even though they protect us. Since when has this body, since when has a party become so resistant, become so obstructionist against law and order, against law enforcement, against our fellow citizens who are protecting us.

The Democrats are out of touch with the American people.

It is time to throw our full support behind the President.

Just look at this week in the Senate. Senator COREY BOOKER said that anyone who supports Judge Kavanaugh, President Trump's next nominee for the Supreme Court, is "complicit in evil."

Mr. Speaker, how far have we gone? How out of touch is one political party in this Nation?

Let's support the President when he wants to put America First, and all that means. We saw that with NATO, he is calling on the other nations to finally pay their fair share, to do what is right, to do what they agreed to. If we have to be the world's police force, at least we should have some help paying for it.

And the same with what is going on at the U.N. We pay, we pay, we pay, the taxpayers pay and pay and pay, yet we don't get the services we deserve or the leadership that we also deserve. It is time to put America First. Other countries have to help support.

Let's support the President in leading again. Let's support the President in making America First again.

IMPEACHMENT IS NOT DEAD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. AL GREEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise.

I am proud, once again, Mr. Speaker, to stand in the well of the House. I am proud to do so today, Mr. Speaker, in defense of liberty and justice for all. Mr. Speaker, if we know the truth, it can set us free.

A truth: A Quinnipiac Poll, Mr. Speaker, as of July 3, this month, this year, a poll indicates that 49 percent of Americans believe that the President of the United States is a racist, 49 percent, nearly 50 percent of the country. Wonder why? Could it be because of Charlottesville? Could it be because of a Muslim ban? Could it be because of the way this President has instituted policies, such as the one that has impacted Latinos at the border, taking babies from their mothers, segregating them such that babies don't have contact with their parents? Forty-nine percent of the people believe that the President is a racist.

Mr. Speaker, in the same poll, 55 percent believe that he has emboldened people who hold racist beliefs to express those beliefs publicly. The President of the United States is having an adverse impact on society. He is causing people to do ugly things.

Mr. Speaker, the polls also show, this is a Harris Poll, that 42 percent believe