

College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences

School of Public and International Affairs

# 5 pieces worth reading

April 7, 2023 By: Billy Parvatam Virginia Tech Institute for Policy and Governance https://ipg.vt.edu/

### What you need to know about the Trump charges

In this *New York Times* article David French addresses questions readers may have about New York grand jury's indictment of former President Donald Trump for falsifying business records to conceal the nature of hush money payments made to film actress Stormy Daniels. French addresses the 34 felony counts against Trump, the strongest and weakest parts of the District Attorney's case, and relevant legal and historical precedents.

French, D. (2023, April 5). "What you need to know about the Trump charges." *The New York Times*. Retrieved from <u>https://www.nytimes.com/2023/04/05/opinion/trump-charges-explained.html</u>

# We finally know the case against Trump, and it is strong

Karen Agnifilo and Norman Eisen argue in this article that the case for Trump's indictment is strong, given the legal precedent for prosecuting similar cases. The authors argue that Trump's behavior was not unique, as previous political office candidates have also falsified business records to skirt campaign finance regulations. New York prosecutors have regularly charged felony violations and have won convictions when the crimes involved, as in Trump's situation, campaign finance regulations and false business entries to hide criminal activity.

Agnifilo, K., & Eisen, N. (2023, April 4). "We finally know the case against Trump, and it is strong." *The New York Times*. Retrieved from <u>https://www.nytimes.com/2023/04/04/opinion/donald-trump-alvin-bragg-indictment-charges.html</u>

# Wisconsin's Supreme Court election is a big win for Democrats with national implications

In this story, *Vox* Reporter Ben Jacobs conducts a Q&A with *Capital Times* and Wisconsin politics reporter Jessie Opoien concerning Janet Protasiewicz's win in the Wisconsin Supreme Court election and its implications for the state and nationally. Protasiewicz's victory gives Democrats a 4-seats-to-3 edge on the Court, which could keep abortion legal in Wisconsin and also result in a redrawing of the state's now heavily gerrymandered legislative and congressional

Ut Prosim (That I may Serve)

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maps in favor of the GOP. The Court will also have an integral role to play in how the 2024 elections are managed in the state, and any litigation that might follow that contest.

Jacobs, B. (2023, April 4). "Wisconsin's Supreme Court election is a big win for Democrats with national implications." Vox. Retrieved from https://www.vox.com/politics/23653403/wisconsin-supreme-court-election

# Why is '60 minutes' amplifying the views of Marjorie Taylor Greene

Dean Obeidallah argues in this CNN story that CBS made a mistake in choosing to interview Congresswoman Marjorie Taylor Greene (R-GA) on '60 minutes.' Obeidallah contends that it was not wise for the network to offer Greene, who has spoken at a white nationalist event, frequently offered lies to defend January 6 rioters, and spread fake conspiracy theories on school shootings a platform on its award-winning news show.

Obeidallah, D. (2023, April 3). "Why is '60 minutes' amplifying the views of Marjorie Taylor Greene?" CNN. Retrieved from https://www.cnn.com/2023/04/03/opinions/60-minutesmariorie-taylor-greene-interview-obeidallah/index.html

### Why McDonald's is laying off corporate workers in a solid economy

Vox reporter Li Zhou reports in this article that McDonald's has become the latest corporation to lay off central office workers this week, despite unemployment remaining low and continuing broad uncertainty concerning whether a recession may occur later this year. Zhou argues that most recent corporate layoffs can be attributed to factors specific to the companies that have undertaken them. McDonald's, in particular, has reduced office staff as it invests more in opening new locations in the U.S. and Europe.

Zhou, L. (2023, April 3). "Why McDonald's is laying off corporate workers in a solid economy." Vox. Retrieved from https://www.vox.com/politics/2023/4/3/23668444/mcdonalds-layoffscorporate-economy