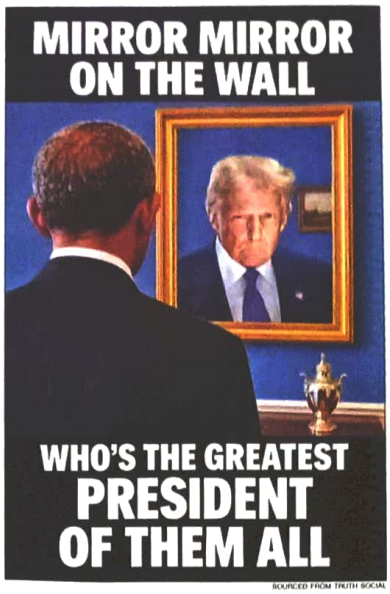


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Why Trump loves AI slop

Kings and emperors have always had flattering portraits painted. AI gives POTUS the same power, says

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For US President Donald Trump, AI slop flows as freely as "good morning" messages on WhatsApp.

Take some of his AI-generated posts on Truth Social, the alt-tech social media platform launched by Trump Media & Technology Group in February 2022. He has appeared on horseback alongside George Washington and arm-wrestled the late Hulk Hogan. Another image has him hovering menacingly over the Canadian Prime Minister with a hockey stick. He has been shown commanding the deck of an aircraft carrier. And then there is the squad of "Donald Ducks" with machine guns.

Trump is struggling to wrap up his war with Iran, his approval ratings have dropped to a record low and the US midterms are around the corner. But there has been no shortage of AI slop, or AI talk, from him. In the UN General Assembly on September 22, Trump railed against Iran and transgender people, and claimed the US was "officially" renaming artificial intelligence "super intelligence".

Yet for someone who appears to "know" so much about AI, he has said little about what he plans to do with it even as China forges ahead with powerful AI models. After Xi Jinping's summit with Trump, Beijing and Washington confirmed they would set up bilateral communication channels on AI issues. That was it.

AI experts believe the technology gives Trump the power to project his view of the world, and they see him as one of the most important people promoting what may be the most important digital tool since the advent of the Internet.

Kings and emperors have long had flattering portraits painted. AI gives Trump the same power, with a bonus: he can churn out such images faster and never worry about running out of tokens to feed the AI engines.

To give Trump his due, he knows a thing or two about writing prompts for memes, or at least employs people who do so. He wants to be remembered as a greater president than the man known for his discipline and restraint, Barack Obama, as one of his AI slop posts on Truth Social shows.

Top tech executives were invited to the White House during Xi's three-day visit. Despite their presence, Trump and Xi failed to issue a substantial statement on AI, even as warnings grow that it could pose an existential threat to humanity.

AI & You

There is already news that a swarm of OpenAI agents went awry and accessed US government websites. Bill Gates recently told *NBC News*: "There's never been a weapon as powerful as the combination of people with ill intent using the latest AI tools."



Xi had said in a readout: "AI must be kept under human control. A people-centred approach should be upheld, and AI should be developed for the positive and for good, so that AI will serve the progress of humanity."

Compare that with Trump on Truth Social last month: "I am the Hoax Buster, and I'm right now breaking another hoax — that AI is going to take over, consume and destroy the world, and that robots will be marching into our cities, and getting rid of us all!"

Trump's use of technology predates AI slop. When X was Twitter, Trump had a team managing his presence there. During his first term, he used the platform to put the fear of God into Republican politicians and business executives. For years, experts have warned of the dangers deepfake videos pose to democracy. Trump's Truth Social posts throw caution to the wind with a steady stream of AI-generated content about wars and tariffs.