### The End of the Transatlantic Relationship: A Long-Term Collapse or a Temporary Setback?



**Europe and America: The End of the Transatlantic** 

Relationship? by Federiga Bindi

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The transatlantic relationship between the United States and Europe has been a cornerstone of global stability and prosperity since the end of World War II. However, in recent years, the relationship has been strained by a number of factors, including the rise of populism in both the US and Europe, the United Kingdom's decision to leave the European Union, and the Trump administration's trade policies.

Some analysts argue that the transatlantic relationship is in a state of long-term decline. They point to the growing divergence in values between the US and Europe on issues such as climate change, immigration, and trade. They also argue that the Trump administration's "America First" foreign policy has alienated many European allies.

Other analysts believe that the transatlantic relationship is simply going through a temporary setback. They argue that the underlying interests of the US and Europe remain aligned and that the two sides will eventually find a way to overcome their current differences.

The future of the transatlantic relationship is uncertain. However, it is clear that the relationship is facing a number of challenges. These challenges will need to be addressed if the relationship is to continue to serve as a pillar of global stability and prosperity.

#### The Rise of Populism

One of the most significant factors contributing to the strain in the transatlantic relationship is the rise of populism in both the US and Europe. Populist leaders have tapped into widespread dissatisfaction with the status quo and have promised to put the interests of their own countries first.

In the US, the election of Donald Trump in 2016 was a major victory for populist forces. Trump has pursued a number of policies that have alienated European allies, including withdrawing the US from the Paris climate agreement and the Iran nuclear deal. He has also imposed tariffs on European goods, which has led to a trade war between the US and the EU.

In Europe, populist parties have made significant gains in recent years. In Italy, the Five Star Movement and the League have formed a populist government. In France, Marine Le Pen's National Rally party came in second place in the 2017 presidential election. And in Germany, the Alternative for Germany party has become the largest opposition party in the Bundestag.

Populist leaders in the US and Europe share a number of common characteristics. They tend to be nationalist, anti-immigrant, and skeptical of international institutions. They also often use inflammatory rhetoric and scapegoat minority groups.

The rise of populism has eroded public support for the transatlantic relationship. In both the US and Europe, there is a growing sense that the other side is no longer a reliable partner.

#### **Brexit**

Another major factor contributing to the strain in the transatlantic relationship is the United Kingdom's decision to leave the European Union. Brexit has created a number of new challenges for the transatlantic relationship, including the need to renegotiate trade agreements and security arrangements.

The UK has been a key player in the transatlantic relationship for decades. It is a permanent member of the UN Security Council and a major contributor to NATO. The UK's decision to leave the EU has raised questions about its future role in the transatlantic relationship.

The US has been supportive of the UK's decision to leave the EU. However, the Trump administration has also made it clear that it wants a trade deal with the UK that is favorable to US interests. This has led to some tension between the US and the UK.

The EU has been more critical of the UK's decision to leave the EU. The EU is concerned that Brexit will weaken the EU and create a new rival on

its doorstep. The EU has also been reluctant to give the UK a favorable trade deal.

The UK's exit from the EU is a complex and ongoing process. It is unclear what the long-term implications of Brexit will be for the transatlantic relationship.

#### **Trump's Foreign Policy**

The Trump administration's foreign policy has also contributed to the strain in the transatlantic relationship. Trump has pursued a number of policies that have alienated European allies, including withdrawing the US from the Paris climate agreement and the Iran nuclear deal. He has also imposed tariffs on European goods, which has led to a trade war between the US and the EU.

Trump's "America First" foreign policy has also created a sense of uncertainty among European allies. European leaders are concerned that Trump is not committed to the transatlantic relationship and that he is willing to put US interests above the interests of its allies.

The Trump administration's foreign policy has been met with widespread criticism from European leaders. German Chancellor Angela Merkel has said that Europe can no longer rely on the US as a reliable partner. French President Emmanuel Macron has said that Europe needs to develop its own defense capabilities.

The Trump administration's foreign policy is a major challenge for the transatlantic relationship. It is unclear how the relationship will survive if Trump's policies continue.

The Future of the Transatlantic Relationship

The future of the transatlantic relationship is uncertain. The relationship is

facing a number of challenges, including the rise of populism, Brexit, and

Trump's foreign policy.

Some analysts argue that the transatlantic relationship is in a state of long-

term decline. They point to the growing divergence in values between the

US and Europe on issues such as climate change, immigration, and trade.

They also argue that the Trump administration's "America First" foreign

policy has alienated many European allies.

Other analysts believe that the transatlantic relationship is simply going

through a temporary setback. They argue that the underlying interests of

the US and Europe remain aligned and that the two sides will eventually

find a way to overcome their current differences.

The future of the transatlantic relationship will depend on a number of

factors, including the outcome of the 2020 US presidential election, the

UK's exit from the EU, and the evolution of populism in both the US and

Europe.

The transatlantic relationship is a vital pillar of global stability and

prosperity. However, the relationship is facing a number of challenges.

These challenges will need to be addressed if the relationship is to

continue to serve as a pillar of global stability and prosperity.

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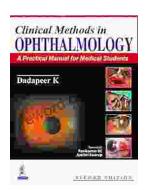
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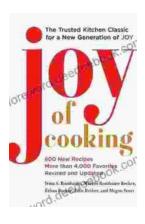
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