



# Grok chatbot apologizes for antisemitic responses

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# Trump-Putin bromance flowered then soured

U.S. president appears to be shifting his thinking

Kim Hjelmggaard, Francesca Chambers and Cybele Mayes-Osterman  
USA TODAY

President Donald Trump said he would end the war in Ukraine within his first 24 hours in office. But now, more than 4,000 hours in, Trump's patience with Russian President

Vladimir Putin, whom the U.S. president in June called "very kind," appears to be wearing thin. Relations have hit a wall as Russia's leader has pushed forward with intensifying drone and missile attacks on Ukrainian cities while appearing to repeatedly rebuff Trump's attempts to broker a ceasefire.

"We get a lot of (expletive) thrown at us by Putin, if you want to know the truth," Trump told reporters on July 9, summing up what Ukrainians and other seasoned Russia watchers have been saying for two decades. "He's very nice to us all the time, but it turns out to be meaningless." Trump initiated direct talks with Putin shortly after taking office, saying – much to Putin's delight – that he was effectively

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President Donald Trump, right, has spent years praising and appearing to carefully avoid criticizing Russian President Vladimir Putin. MARCOS BRINDICCI/REUTERS

# Illegal Chinese vapes funneled into U.S.



The supply chain ferrying illegal Chinese-made vapes into the United States mostly operates in plain sight. PHOTOS BY CBP/HANDOUT VIA REUTERS

# Analysis finds billions of dollars in imports unaccounted for

Emma Rumney, Kaylee Kang and Tom Polansek  
REUTERS

CHICAGO – From an office a 15-minute drive from Chicago's O'Hare International Airport, one small firm helped import millions of unauthorized Chinese-made vapes last year alone, forming a key link in the supply chain feeding U.S. demand for illegal e-cigarettes. In a little over four years, the firm, a customs brokerage run by a man named Jay Kim, became a go-to broker for the Chinese vape industry. The firm worked on 60% of all shipments of vapes and vape parts from China to the United States in 2024 registered by the Food and Drug Administration, according to a Reuters analysis. "A lot of them have FDA authorization," Kim said in an interview in his office in April, referring to the vape shipments his firm handled. However, FDA data on imports into the U.S. of FDA-regulat-

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Unauthorized Chinese-made vapes were seized in a raid outside of Chicago by members of the Food and Drug Administration and U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

## TRUMP SPENDING LAW

# Some worry tuition costs will increase

Zachary Schermele  
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – Vashti Trujillo was hoping to get a master's degree. But she's worried that President Donald Trump just put it out of reach. The president's big tax and spending law is set to slash the federal student loan programs the 21-year-old junior at Colorado State University Pueblo would likely need to pay for one. Education experts also predict the legislation will put strains on the budgets of many public universities like the one Trujillo attends. That's because the law may push state legislatures to re-route funds from higher education to safety net programs, such as Medicaid, which the spending law cuts drastically. Those changes could ultimately raise tuition prices for students like Trujillo – or force them to put plans for graduate school on hold to help support family members who've lost their health care. "This bill is attacking all angles of a student's life," she said. Trujillo, who is double majoring in mechatronics engineering and data analytics, is among many U.S. college students wondering whether Trump's first signature legislative achievement of his second term may raise costs for them. The unease isn't just hitting stu-

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