

# The Boston Globe

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## What Trump's security strategy lacks

Efforts to counter Russia and China barely mentioned this time around

By David E. Sanger  
NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — The last time President Trump issued a national security strategy, eight years ago, it heralded a return to superpower competition, describing China and Russia as “revi-

sionist” powers seeking to upend US dominance around the world.

“China and Russia challenge American power, influence and interests, attempting to erode American security and prosperity,” he wrote in a document that reflected the influence of his advisers in his first term. “They are determined to

make economies less free and less fair, to grow their militaries, and to control information and data to repress their societies and expand their influence.”

Eight years later, that diagnosis seems truer than ever. The two US rivals have deepened, and occasionally exaggerated, their “partnership without limits.” China’s nuclear force has more than doubled since the 2017 strategy was published; its military runs exercises encircl-

ing Taiwan; and its cyber attackers have drilled into American telecommunications, corporate, and government infrastructure.

Russia has engaged in a nearly four-year-long war in Ukraine and a shadow war against US allies across Europe.

Yet a reader of Trump’s 2025 strategy would barely know any of that. While the headlines have focused on how European allies must

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## Mass. cost of living forces a reckoning

A third in poll say they’ve considered leaving state

By Samantha J. Gross  
GLOBE STAFF

Natalie Ryan is considering taking a step that would save her money while making a small but telling statement on living in Massachusetts: moving out of state.

Ryan moved to Mashpee from Connecticut three years ago for her husband’s job. Now, as they near retirement age, Ryan said they’re considering relocating to North Carolina, where they have family and housing is far more affordable.

“I was looking for a four-bedroom house [on Cape Cod] and ended up with a two-bedroom condo,” Ryan, 63, said. The Cape “is a beautiful place to live, but the cost of living is just outrageously expensive.”

She is among a slew of voters in a Suffolk University/Boston Globe poll who said the state’s high cost of living may have finally pushed them out. One-third of the 500 surveyed said they have considered leaving Massachusetts over the last

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PHOTOS BY JONATHAN WIGGS GLOBE/STAFF

People joined in prayers at the Lewiston/Auburn Islamic Center in Lewiston, Maine, on Saturday. Below, Somali community leader Ifraax Saciid-Ciise, seen at her parents Lewiston store, said she fears President Trump’s words will embolden others.

## A community angered — and wary — after president’s scorn

Somali immigrants who built life in Maine are stunned by his words

By Brian MacQuarrie  
GLOBE STAFF

LEWISTON, Maine — Saleh Mahamud, an imam in this mid-Maine city, finished his noontime prayers and pointed to a rear window and door in a mosque that serves the religious needs of Lewiston’s large Somali population.

Gunshots pierced both the window and door in 2017, he said. And now, eight years after that frightening incident during President Trump’s first term, the estimated



6,000 Somalis who seek a better life in Lewiston are reeling once again.

This time, instead of bullets defiling their sacred space, they are recoiling from Trump’s xenophobic rhetoric last week that Somali immigrants are “garbage” who should return to their war-shredded country.

“People who hate Muslims, they now might feel they can do something because they have support from him,” said Mahamud, who has lived in Lewiston for more than 20

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## Some young workers see a lack of mentors

Observers worry about a generation lacking guides

By Kara Miller  
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

During his internship last summer at a large financial services company, MBA student Sam Henken felt adrift.

It was a prestigious firm and an exciting opportunity. But when he tried to learn about the core functions of being a product manager — like troubleshooting client issues — “I never felt like I could learn from people,” he said. Everyone was “so slammed all summer long” that his questions often went unanswered.

“I was a little bit marooned, you know? A little bit alone on an island,” he said.

Henken, 31, said friends who interned at large companies — all in roles focused on knowledge work — tended to feel similarly.

Unemployment among young workers has surged over the last couple of years, rising from just over 6 percent in June 2023 to 9.2 percent in September 2025. While AI is often cited as a

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### Chilly, dog

**Monday:** Sunny, very cold. High: 25-30. Low: 14-19.

**Tuesday:** Cold, cloudy. High: 31-36. Low: 29-34.

Comics and Weather, **D4-5**.  
Obituaries, **C9**.

**Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Israel and Hamas are “very shortly expected to move”** into the next phase of the cease-fire. **A3**.

**Voters in Stoneham and Lexington will decide this week whether to raise local property taxes** to plug municipal budget holes and pay for a new high school. **B1**.

**Sunday brought another Hall of Fame rejection** for Roger Clemens and Barry Bonds, but Jeff Kent made it in. **C1**.

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### Torment and Trial | Chapter Two

## Latarsha Sanders was falling apart. But nothing hinted at the horrors to come.

*Latarsha Sanders was convicted of first-degree murder for killing her children Marlon, 8, and La’son, 5, in 2018, even though she was experiencing severe symptoms of mental illness at the time. This series explores what led up to the horrific day when Sanders killed her sons, and how the justice system treated Sanders and her family afterwards.*



PHOTOS FROM SHALEA SANDERS; NOTEBOOK SCANS YVONNE ABRAHAM; PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY RYAN HUDDLE/GLOBE STAFF

By Yvonne Abraham | Globe Columnist

**Over the Edge** ■ They rake through their memories for signs.

Could her family have seen more? Done more? Yes, Latarsha Sanders was off-kilter, even bizarre at times, but she had never hurt her kids. As paranoid and obsessive as she could be, nothing hinted at the horrors to come. And if they’d tried to get her help — unlikely, given the family’s wariness of therapists — Sanders would have refused to accept it. She had been prescribed trazodone, a medication used to treat major depressive disorder. Sometime in 2017, she told her daughter Shalea that her doctor had given her “mood pills” but she wasn’t taking them.

“She would never accept help because if she did, she would have to admit she had a problem,” said her brother, Harvey Sanders.

Sanders’ attorney Robert F. Shaw Jr. declined to make her available for an interview, citing severe psychiatric issues.

As a child, Sanders could be distant and prone to emotional extremes. She had few friends, her mother recalled.

“Coming up, Latarsha was strange,” she said. “She would go to school and start arguments for no reason. And when she did get a friend, it would be ‘This is my best friend,’ and I thought, *How? You just met her?*”

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