



Lacques: Trade deadline can't fix Phillies' issues

SPORTS, 5B

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ANALYSIS

Democratic socialism: What it is, what it isn't



The national Democratic Socialists of America website says its vision rejects “authoritarian visions of socialism.” The organization believes capitalism must be replaced with “a system where ordinary people have a real voice in our workplaces, neighborhoods and society.” SPENCER PLATT/GETTY IMAGES

Primary wins, GOP attacks draw attention to the left

Eduardo Cuevas USA TODAY

Ahead of a challenging midterm election, Republicans have seized an opportunity to castigate their opponents as extremists after democratic socialists won Democratic congressional primaries in New York City, Colorado and Washington, DC. • GOP leaders have invoked the specter of radical left authoritarianism by calling progressive Democrats “communists” – an echo of Cold War-era messaging from prominent Republicans such as Sen. Joseph McCarthy and former President Richard Nixon.

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Sen. Bernie Sanders, left, and Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez are among the most high-profile democratic socialists in national politics.

TASOS KATOPODIS/GETTY IMAGES

ANALYSIS

Sanctions bill stirs concerns

Top 5 importers of Russia oil, gas could see 100% tariffs

Andrea Shalal and Patricia Zengerle
REUTERS

WASHINGTON – A Russia sanctions bill championed by the late Sen. Lindsey Graham faces a tough road in Congress as Democrats and some Republicans raise concerns about new trade powers the legislation would grant President Donald Trump.

Many Democrats, some Republicans and industry trade groups are unhappy about a provision in the long-stalled bill that would let Trump impose steep tariffs on countries that purchase large amounts of Russian oil and gas, or countries that his administration deems to be facilitating sanctions evasion.

The bill would impose sanctions on Russian officials and authorize 100% tariffs on the five largest importers of Russian crude oil or gas, or the five top countries that help Moscow evade U.S. sanctions and keep funding its war against Ukraine, now in its fifth year. Those countries are not mentioned in the bill but would likely include China, India and potentially some European countries and Japan.

Graham, who died suddenly in July, pressed for the bill's passage for over a year but only in the past weeks secured support from Trump as the Republican president grew more confident in Ukraine and more frustrated with Moscow.

The tariff provisions became more important to the White House after the U.S. Supreme Court in February struck down Trump's “reciprocal” tariffs of 10% to 50% imposed last year, which sent the administration scrambling to find new authorities.

The sanctions bill would also allow the president to waive the Russia sanctions for unspecified national security reasons, a provision that pro-Ukraine Democrats oppose, given Trump's shifting views on Russia and Ukraine.

The bill would also extend for five years Iran energy and weapons sanctions first enacted in 1996 that are due to expire this year, a measure added as

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El Niño bringing ‘whole different ocean’ to California

Dinah Voyles Pulver
USA TODAY

An intensifying El Niño is forecast to make it “a sharky summer” off the California coast, with greater numbers of white sharks arriving with warmer waters from the south. And they are far from the only marine life expected to make surprise visits. The strongest El Niños – and this one is forecast to be among the strongest – can alter entire marine ecosystems, shifting both animals and the food they need to

survive. “We expect to see all kinds of weird tropical things come up with this warm water,” said Douglas McCauley, director of the Benioff Ocean Initiative at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Juvenile sharks and other aquatic visitors have been turning up early thanks to the effects of an intense marine heat wave in place before El Niño arrives, McCauley said. “We’re already seeing mahi mahi.

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The increase in mostly smaller white sharks does not necessarily increase the risk for beachgoers, scientists said. ROSIE LEANEY/GETTY IMAGES FILE

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