

Discussion Artifacts 2026

Round 1-

What Is Your Life's Blueprint?

Six months before he was assassinated, King spoke to a group of students at Barratt Junior High School in Philadelphia on October 26, 1967.

I want to ask you a question, and that is: What is your life's blueprint?

Whenever a building is constructed, you usually have an architect who draws a blueprint, and that blueprint serves as the pattern, as the guide, and a building is not well erected without a good, solid blueprint.

Now each of you is in the process of building the structure of your lives, and the question is whether you have a proper, a solid and a sound blueprint.

I want to suggest some of the things that should begin your life's blueprint. Number one in your life's blueprint, should be a deep belief in your own dignity, your worth and your own somebodinness. Don't allow anybody to make you feel that you're nobody. Always feel that you count. Always feel that you have worth, and always feel that your life has ultimate significance.

Secondly, in your life's blueprint you must have as the basic principle the determination to achieve excellence in your various fields of endeavor. You're going to be deciding as the days, as the years unfold what you will do in life — what your life's work will be. Set out to do it well.

And I say to you, my young friends, doors are opening to you—doors of opportunities that were not open to your mothers and your fathers — and the great challenge facing you is to be ready to face these doors as they open.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, the great essayist, said in a lecture in 1871, "If a man can write a better book or preach a better sermon or make a better mousetrap than his neighbor, even if he builds his house in the woods, the world will make a beaten path to his door."

This hasn't always been true — but it will become increasingly true, and so I would urge you to study hard, to burn the midnight oil; I would say to you, don't drop out of school. I understand all the sociological reasons, but I urge you that in spite of your economic plight, in spite of the situation that you're forced to live in — stay in school.

And when you discover what you will be in your life, set out to do it as if God Almighty called you at this particular moment in history to do it. don't just set out to do a good job. Set out to do such a good job that the living, the dead or the unborn couldn't do it any better.

If it falls your lot to be a street sweeper, sweep streets like Michelangelo painted pictures, sweep streets like Beethoven composed music, sweep streets like Leontyne Price sings before the Metropolitan Opera. Sweep streets like Shakespeare wrote poetry. Sweep streets so well that all the hosts of heaven and earth will have to pause and say: Here lived a great street sweeper who swept his job well. If you can't be a pine at the top of the hill, be a shrub in the valley. Be be the best little shrub on the side of the hill.

Be a bush if you can't be a tree. If you can't be a highway, just be a trail. If you can't be a sun, be a star. For it isn't by size that you win or fail. Be the best of whatever you are.

— *From the estate of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Round 2- **Over a Dozen Journalists Detained in Venezuela Amid Political Turmoil**

At least 14 media workers were detained on Monday in Caracas while covering events related to the political upheaval in Venezuela.



Sana Khan

January 6, 2026



A member of the media reports outside the Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse, ahead of captured Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro's initial appearance to face U.S. federal charges including narco-terrorism, conspiracy, drug trafficking, money laundering and others, in Manhattan, New York City, U.S., January 5, 2026. REUTERS/Jeenah Moon

At least 14 media workers were detained on Monday in Caracas while covering events related to the political upheaval in Venezuela. The arrests occurred during a march supporting ousted President Nicolas Maduro and the

swearing-in of the country's new legislature, according to the Venezuelan National Press Association (SNTIP).

Who Was Affected

Among those detained, 11 were journalists working for international media outlets, one for a national outlet, and one foreign journalist was deported. All others were later released. China's foreign ministry confirmed that Chinese reporters in Venezuela were safe.

Context

The detentions follow the U.S. military's capture of Maduro over the weekend and his subsequent not-guilty plea in a New York federal court on narcoterrorism charges. Vice President Delcy Rodriguez has been sworn in as Venezuela's interim leader, taking charge of the government amid ongoing political uncertainty.

Official Responses

Venezuelan government ministries responsible for information and communications did not comment on the detentions. Major international news agencies, including AP, AFP, and CNN, also did not immediately respond to requests for information.

Implications

The arrests highlight risks faced by journalists reporting in politically unstable environments. While most were released, the deportation of a foreign reporter underscores the tense climate for international media in Venezuela during this period of leadership transition and heightened U.S.-Venezuela tensions.

Round 3- **First calls for a boycott of the World Cup over Trump's Greenland threats**



Luke Alford

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Comments



Donald Trump has become a figurehead of the World Cup this summer (Picture: Bloomberg via Getty Images)

Conservative and Labour MPs have become the first voices to call for a boycott of the World Cup this summer after Trump announced new tariffs on the UK.

Simon Hoare and Kate Osborne said the **government** needed to 'push every button and pull every lever' to show its objection to the **US** president's threats towards **Greenland**.

Mr Hoare, a senior Conservative MP, told **Metro** that could include not going to the World Cup, a day after he called for the King's state visit to the US to be cancelled. Labour MP Ms Osborne agreed that the tournament should be boycotted because Trump was 'threatening Greenland and attacking our own government' [Read More](#)



Simon Hoare said the government needed to make clear Trump's actions on Greenland were 'unacceptable' (Picture: Chris McAndrew / UK Parliament)



Kate Osborne said Trump was 'threatening Greenland and attacking our own government' (Picture: Roger Harris/UK Parliament/PA Wire)

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The Republican president has become the face of the 2026 World Cup, which the United States are hosting **this summer** along with **Canada** and Mexico.

He was also awarded **FIFA's inaugural peace prize in December**.

America will host 78 of the 104 fixtures in the expanded 48-team men's World Cup.

England and **Scotland** have both qualified for the tournament in June, while Wales or Northern Ireland could also book their places through the play-offs.

Questions have been raised about whether European countries should go to the tournament after Trump announced he would place 10% tariffs on the eight countries over their refusal to let Trump take over Greenland.

German politician Jurgen Hardt **said on Friday** that boycotting the World Cup could be a 'last resort' to 'to get Trump to see sense on the Greenland issue'.

Mr Hoare, who represents North Dorset, has joined those calls, telling Metro that dropping out of the spectacle would 'refocus Trump's mind'. He told **Metro**: 'We should send as many messages as possible to the Trump administration and the American people that there are certain red lines in regards to upholding sovereignty and international affairs.' If it means cancelling a state visit, then we should cancel the state visit.

'Trump is looking forward to America hosting the World Cup and all the benefits that accords to America.

'We need to send a message to the White House that leadership has responsibilities. 'It doesn't allow you to behave like some modern-day pirate, gangster, bully.'

On Sunday, Mr Hoare called for **King Charles'** spring visit to Washington to be scrapped – a suggestion endorsed by the Liberal Democrat leader Ed Davey.

Now a boycott of the World Cup has also found agreement across the political spectrum.

Labour's Kate Osborne MP, who is chair of the Women's Football All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG), said she 'supports those calling for a boycott.'



Trump was awarded the inaugural FIFA Peace Prize during the FIFA World Cup 2026 Draw in December (Picture: REUTERS)

The Jarrow and Gateshead East representative told **Metro**: 'Trump's appalling record on human rights, climate change, his flagrant contempt for the rule of law, his attacks on democracy, and an illegal war in Venezuela is not enough for him.

'Now he is threatening Greenland and attacking our own government & politicians.

'Last year there was huge public support for the successful campaign to refuse to legitimise Trump by allowing him the honour of addressing Parliament.

'We need to see the same now in relation to the World Cup.

'The USA should not be able to participate in the World Cup, let alone be part of hosting it, so yes I support those calling for a boycott.'

Three Lions Pride, England's official **LGBTQ+** fan group, also announced last week they would not have a 'visible presence' at the 2026 Men's World Cup due to what they called a 'dangerous rollback of human rights' in the US.



Three Lions Pride will not have a visible presence at the World Cup this summer (Picture: Three Lions Pride/Facebook)

The 2026 FIFA World Cup is set to take place from June 11 to July 19, with 16 cities hosting the tournament – 11 in the US, three in Mexico, and two in Canada.

Labour MP Richard Burgon stopped short of endorsing a boycott, but called for the US to be barred from hosting the tournament.

He told **Metro**: 'With Trump ripping up the international rulebook, letting the US host the World Cup would be a political gift to him and a complete own goal.

'You don't reward bullies – you have to stand up to them. The World Cup should be moved to another country to send a clear message that international law still matters.'

The US president announced over the weekend that he would be imposing 10% tariffs on the UK, increased to 25% from June 1, until a deal is reached for Washington to purchase **Greenland** from **Denmark**.

He said the same would apply to Denmark, **Norway**, **Sweden**, **France**, **Germany**, the Netherlands and **Finland**.



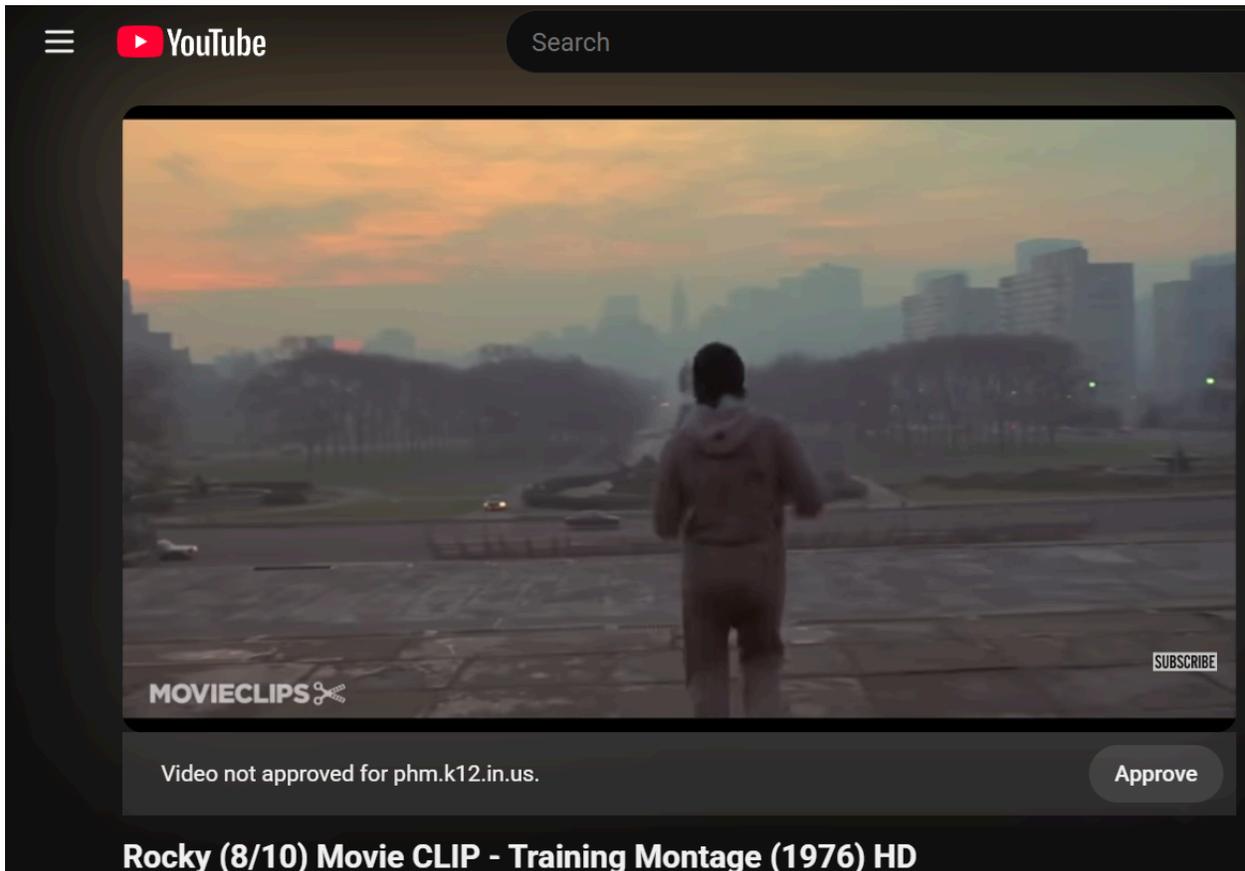
Trump took part in the World Cup draw in December (Picture: AP)

The move sparked outrage across Europe, with Sir Keir Starmer telling an emergency press conference today that tariffs were 'completely wrong'.

He added: 'It is not the right way to resolve differences within an alliance, nor is it helpful to frame efforts to strengthen Greenland security as a justification for economic pressure.'

In a joint statement warning about the potential impact of such a move, the eight affected NATO countries warned Trump's actions could create a 'dangerous downward spiral'.

Round 4- Link to Video- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_YYmfM2TfUA



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