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CBS NEWS

President Trump's Speech to the General Assembly (Sept. 24, 2019)

[Summary]

President Trump's third address to the United Nations General Assembly was an unmistakably nationalist one, with the president reiterating the theme of his foreign policy doctrine, that all nations should be looking inward and considering their own interests first.

The president hit on each of his favorite themes -- unfair trade, imbalanced defense spending, illegal immigration, and socialism -- reading from the teleprompter in a somewhat subdued manner.

"The future does not belong to globalists. The future belongs to patriots," Mr. Trump said in one of the defining quotes of his more than 30-minute speech.

Mr. Trump also listed his complaints against China, including its "massive market barriers," product dumping practices and forced technology transfers. He railed against the World Trade Organization for failing to compel China to liberalize its economy and called for "drastic change" to the international trade system. The second-largest economy in the world, he said, should not be allowed to declare itself a developing country at the expense of others.

Trump says U.S. seeks "justice" with China

Mr. Trump then went on to criticize China over its trade practices, with China's representative looking ahead toward him.

The president said China's "abuses" have been "ignored" or "encouraged" for years.

"Globalism exerted a religious pull" on many nations' leaders, Mr. Trump said, making them overlook their own national interests.

Mr. Trump said "hopefully" the U.S. and China will strike a fair deal, but he won't accept anything less.

"I will not accept a bad deal for the American people," he vowed.

The president also brought up Hong Kong, saying the world expects China to uphold its agreement.

"We are all counting on President Xi as a great leader," he added.

Trump emphasizes nationalist approach to trade and defense

Mr. Trump, who has long emphasized the importance of fair trade and every allied nation paying their fair share for defense, did so again on Tuesday.

The room was quiet as the commander-in-chief hit those central themes.

Trump blasts "globalists," says future belongs to "patriots"

The president, introduced as "his excellency," began speaking at 10:13 a.m.

Mr. Trump said the current time is one of "high stakes" and "clear choices."

The president said the essential divide is the choice between those who have a thirst for control, and people and nations who want only to rule themselves.

Mr. Trump then went on to say the U.S. is the most powerful nation with the greatest military, and he hopes America never has to use that power.

"The future does not belong to globalists. The future belongs to patriots," the president said.

"At the center of our vision for national renewal is an ambitious campaign to reform international trade. For decades, the international trading system has been easily exploited by nations acting in bad faith. As jobs were outsourced, a small handful grew wealthy at the expense of the middle class."