

Trump Outlines His New Immigration Policy

By Daniel Pipes

A compilation of Donald Trump's statements in June-August 2016 on immigration policy. (Talk-show transcripts have been edited to eliminate cross-talk and make the exchange easier to follow):

#1. A speech on June 13 in response to the jihadi attack on an [Orlando, Florida, nightclub](#): "When I'm elected I will suspend immigration from areas of the world where there's a proven history of terrorism against the United States, Europe or our allies until we fully understand how to end these threats."

#2. Shortly after the truck attack in Nice, France, on July 14, 2016, Trump explained what he would do to prevent such attacks in the United States on [Fox News Channel](#): he would make it "very, very hard for people to come into our country" from "terrorist areas. I would be so extreme in terms of documentation. ... I would not allow people to come in from terrorist nations. I would do extreme vetting. I would call it 'extreme vetting,' too."

#3. A joint [CBS News interview](#) on July 17 with vice presidential candidate Mike Pence.

Lesley Stahl: There seems to be some daylight between you two, and we can go quickly through these. Immigration. Mr. Trump, you have called for a temporary ban on Muslims entering the United States. [Mr. Pence:] Do you agree with that?

Mike Pence: I do. In fact, in Indiana we suspended the Syrian refugee program in the wake of the terrorist attack. We have no higher priority than the safety and security of the people of this country, and Donald Trump is right to articulate that view.

LS: [Mr. Pence,] in December you tweeted, and I quote you, "Calls to ban Muslims from entering the U.S. are offensive and unconstitutional."

Donald Trump: So you call it territories. OK? We're gonna do territories. We're gonna not let people come in from Syria that nobody knows who they are. Hillary Clinton wants 550 percent more people to come in than Obama who doesn't know what he's ...

LS: So you're changing your position?

DT: No, call it whatever you want. We'll call it territories, OK?

LS: So not Muslims?

DT: You know, the Constitution, there's nothing like it. But it doesn't necessarily give us the right to commit suicide, as a country, OK? And I'll tell you this. Call it whatever you want, change territories,

but there are territories and terror states and terror nations that we're not gonna allow the people to come into our country. And we're gonna have a thing called "Extreme vetting." And if people wanna come in, there's gonna be extreme vetting. We're gonna have extreme vetting. They're gonna come in and we're gonna know where they came from and who they are.

#4. [Accepting the Republican Party nomination](#) on July 21:

We must immediately suspend immigration from any nation that has been compromised by terrorism until such time as proven vetting mechanisms have been put in place. We don't want them in our country.

#5. The first post-nomination interview on July 24 with [NBC's Meet the Press](#).

Chuck Todd: The Muslim ban. I think you've pulled back from it [in your acceptance speech], but you tell me. [Plays video of the sentence quoted in #2].

Donald Trump: I don't think so. I actually don't think it's a rollback. In fact, you could say it's an expansion. I'm looking now at territories. People were so upset when I used the word *Muslim*. "Oh, you can't use the word *Muslim*." Remember this. And I'm okay with that, because I'm [now] talking territory instead of Muslim. ...

We're making it territorial. We have nations and we'll come out, I'm going to be coming out over the next few weeks with a number of the places. And it's very complex: we have problems in Germany and we have problems with France. So it's not just the countries with [DP: it appears Trump was going to say "a Muslim majority" but he was interrupted and did not finish the sentence].

CT: They've been compromised by terrorism.

DT: They have totally been. And you know why? It's their own fault. Because they allowed people to come into their territory. ...

CT: You could get to the point where you're not allowing a lot of people to come into this country from a lot of places.

DT: Maybe we get to that point. ... we have to be smart and we have to be vigilant and we have to be strong. We can't be the stupid people. Here's my plan, here is what I want: Extreme vetting. Tough word. Extreme vetting.

CT: What does that look like?

DT: Tough. We're going to have tough standards. And if a person can't prove that they're from an area, and if a person can't prove what they have to be able to prove, they're not coming into this country.

#6: Speech on [fighting terrorism](#) on Aug. 15.

A Trump Administration will establish a clear principle that will govern all decisions pertaining to immigration: we should only admit into this country those who share our values and respect our people.

In the Cold War, we had an ideological screening test. The time is overdue to develop a new screening test for the threats we face today. In addition to screening out all members or sympathizers of terrorist groups, we must also screen out any who have hostile attitudes towards our country or its principles – or who believe that Sharia law should supplant American law. Those who do not believe in our Constitution, or who support bigotry and hatred, will not be admitted for immigration into the country.

Only those who we expect to flourish in our country – and to embrace a tolerant American society – should be issued visas.

To put these new procedures in place, we will have to temporarily suspend immigration from some of the most dangerous and volatile regions of the world that have a history of exporting terrorism. As soon as I take office, I will ask the State Department and the Department of Homeland Security to identify a list of regions where adequate screening cannot take place. We will stop processing visas from those areas until such time as it is deemed safe to resume based on new circumstances or new procedures.

The size of current immigration flows are simply too large to perform adequate screening. We admit about 100,000 permanent immigrants from the Middle East every year. Beyond that, we admit hundreds of thousands of temporary workers and visitors from the same regions. If we don't control the numbers, we can't perform adequate screening.