

# The European Left Takes Out Conservative Politicians

By Victor Davis Hanson

There's two things that ring true about Europeans and their relationship to us Americans.

No. 1, they never feel or they never admit that they're emulated. They admit they're affected by the ill effects they think of America, but they're not influenced by us.

And No. 2, they're the stalwarts of democracy. We have these pathologies of swinging hard to the right, or we're yokels, or we're anti-democratic, or we're MAGA fanatics. But the Europeans are pristine [Democrats](#), we're told. And they're independent of America.



But something's happened that belies those two allegations or assumptions.

No. 1, suddenly, Europe is copying the lawfare of the United States. Remember that Letitia James, Alvin Bragg, Fani Willis, Jack Smith, and E. Jean Carroll, in civil and criminal suits, for four years tried to destroy President Donald Trump. And they had over \$400 million in fines that were leveled at one point. And there were 91 felony indictments. I think [Alvin Bragg](#) actually convicted him of 32. This was in addition to

trying to remove him off the ballot in 20 states and raiding his home.

So, the Europeans wouldn't do that, would they?

The second thing is that this was a destruction or an attempt to warp democracy, not to let Donald Trump be on the ballot, to put him behind jail bars.

So, let me just tell you what's going on in Europe. In February, this conservative, which is usually in the media termed a hard-right, far-right group, in Germany, the Alternative for Deutschland, the Alternative for Germany—it won 21% of the vote. It skyrocketed. In some areas of East Germany it won 40%.

Whether you like it or not, it represents democracy. A lot of people are fed up with German energy policy, German immigration policy, German social policy, radical environmentalism. And what did the Germans do? They immediately said, even though they have 152 seats in their parliament, the second-largest, no party—no left-wing, right-wing, centrist party—will make an alliance with them to get a majority of seats under parliamentary democracy to run the government.

In other words, even though they had the greatest increase in their popularity, they were ostracized because somebody declared them unfit, even though they had a mandate of the people to be the second-most representative party of Germany.

In March, in Romania, a kind of an obscure conservative, right-wing candidate came out of nowhere, Calin Georgescu. And he, in the first round, he came in at the top. And he was predicted, this May, that he might be the elected prime minister of Romania.

And what happened? They declared him unfit. They said that he was—does this sound familiar—colluding with [Russian President](#)

[Vladimir Putin](#). Putin's puppet. And therefore, they removed him from further consideration. They took him off the ballot.

There was no supreme court above that court, as there was in the United States, that said, "You can't do that." So, he's off the ballot. He can't be even considered, even though he was the largest vote-getter.

And then we come to this week's news that Marine Le Pen, the head of the most conservative party in France, who has got enormous momentum—enormous momentum because of the violence of radical Islamic groups inside France, the open borders, the dissatisfaction with the blank check given Ukraine, etc. I could go on and on. Many of the same problems that we're dealing with here—the far-left agenda.

It was probably scheduled to get more votes than anybody. And she had a pretty good chance, in three or four years, to replace French President Emmanuel Macron. And the high court did what? They said that she had expropriated funds, campaign funds. In other words, that she was blending—does this sound familiar—blending her own campaign with funds allotted from the European Union for other purposes. In other words, there was a distinction without a difference.

In other words, they only applied this law to her because they were terrified she was going to win in the next presidential election.

But that wasn't the end. Does this sound familiar? Then they—the court, without a jury—sentenced her to four years in prison, two years under house arrest, maybe two years suspended. So, they're going to take her out of the political atmosphere. Does that sound familiar? What am I getting at?

Given all these lectures we're getting from Europeans about the pristine nature of democracy there and our bastardized form here, they have, essentially, in three major countries [in Europe](#), eliminated any alternative to the orthodox, left-wing,

socialist norm because they feared it was going to win. They always thought they were a fringe group, but now they think they're gonna win. So, they're de facto gone, the candidates.

And second, they're copying the left wing, chapter and verse, of the United States. They saw what they did to [Donald Trump](#) and they said, "That is a good thing to do. We can do better." And they have done better. Where they were unable to destroy Trump and only made him stronger, the more they tried to destroy him, the Europeans succeeded.

So, how ironic that we are the bastions of democracy, at least we ward off threats to it in a way that's far more effective than the so-called guardians of democracy in Europe.

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