## The Fascist Trump/Pence Regime Is Subverting the Separation of Powers

RefuseFascism.org FACT SHEET #1:

"The Trump/Pence Regime is a Fascist Regime. Not insult or exaggeration, this <u>is</u> what it is. For the future of humanity and the planet, we, the people, must drive this regime out." – from the Refuse Fascism Call to Action

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A fundamental principle of U.S. government, inscribed in the Constitution, is that each branch of government (executive, legislative, and judicial) acts as a "check" against other branches violating the Constitution or accumulating too much power. **Donald Trump is aggressively subverting this, asserting the supremacy of the executive under his supreme and unchallengeable authority.** 

- In his inaugural speech, Donald Trump did not even mention the U.S. Constitution. Instead, he pledged his allegiance to the movement who supported and voted for him.
- After a federal judge temporarily blocked the implementation of parts of his January 27<sup>th</sup> Muslim travel ban, Trump tweeted: "just cannot believe a judge would put our country in such peril. If something happens blame him and court system. People pouring in. Bad!" Later, he referred to the judge as a "so-called judge." Through this, Trump denigrated the role of the judiciary and its right to check his authority, *and* preemptively blamed the judge *and the entire judicial system* if "something happens."
- On January 30<sup>th</sup>, acting Attorney General Sally Yates instructed the Department of Justice not to defend Trump's Muslim ban because she did not find it legally defensible. She acted on her responsibility to the U.S. Constitution, not the arbitrary will of the president. Trump's response? He immediately fired her.
- Stephen Miller, Trump's senior policy advisor who wrote many of his campaign speeches and played a key role in crafting his Muslim ban, lashed out on public TV against the courts that blocked the Muslim ban. He insisted that with respect to national security, "the president has enormous powers" that cannot be checked by the courts, and "he is going to use the authority to keep us safe."

Miller continued: "[W]e have a judiciary that has taken far too much power and become in many cases a supreme branch of government. ... The **end result** of this, though, is that our opponents, the media and the whole world **will soon see, as we begin to take further actions, that the powers of the president** to protect our country are very substantial and **will not be questioned**." [emphasis added]

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