Was the “Blue Tsunami” a Victory for the American Working Class?



Original article

2026-11-18

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"Blue tsunami" was portrayed as a major working class victory and a defeat of fascism by Democrats and reformists. In reality, Democrats are paving the way for further fascisation.

Details. The Democratic victory prompted celebrations across social media. Actor and Democratic supporter Mark Ruffalo praised voters who stood for “decency, fairness, equality, justice” and against a system “stacked against the working people”. Left-wing streamer Hasan Piker declared “WOKE IS SO BACK” and called the result “the final chapter of MAGA closing”. He also claimed that “the American socialist movement is having a resurgence right now”.

► Reformist figures portrayed the results as a historic victory for workers and a defeat for fascism. American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) president Liz Shuler hailed a “blue wave” made by organised labour. The Democratic Socialists of America (DSA) presented the outcome as an endorsement of “socialism”, celebrating “working class champions” elected to fight Trump's “fascism”. Bernie Sanders called for Democrats to “aggressively fight for working families”, while Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez compared the excitement to Obama's 2008 victory.

Context. Democrats won control of both chambers of Congress in the 3 November elections, making gains in traditionally Republican states including Texas, South Carolina and Kansas. Their victories exceeded pre-election expectations, with it being named a “blue tsunami”.

► In September 2026, 43% of Americans viewed socialism favourably. DSA reported more than 130,000 members and claimed electoral victories across 43 states, with at least 105 seats and ballot measures expected to be won. Its growing influence followed Zohran Mamdani's 2025 victory.

► Trump's unpopularity reflected discontent with his administration. In October 2026, his approval fell to 30%, with 68% disapproving. Corruption further fuelled anger over Trump's stock trades linked to his policy decisions and insider trading surrounding the Iran conflict. The liberal-led “No Kings” protests in March saw more than 3,200 demonstrations planned across all 50 states.

Important to Know. The Democrats' victory, with reformist “democratic socialists” as its face, has acted as a pressure valve for working-class resentment, redirecting workers' frustrations back into the capitalist system.

► Trump's defeat also reflects his foreign-policy agenda’s failure to secure US imperialist interests. His inability to secure a favourable outcome in Iran, draw Russia away from China, or bring about a resolution to the “SMO”, exposed the limits of his strategy. Sections of the American ruling class were given further reason to favour a change in leadership.

► Despite different tactics, the Biden administration had pursued the same interests. Abroad, it strengthened military cooperation with Israel, Ukraine, and Indo-Pacific allies to oppose China, expanded Trump's first-term tariffs, and pushed for US production of semiconductors and autonomous weapons. To tighten control of the domestic workforce, Biden oversaw continued inflation, repressed a rail workers' strike, oversaw mass deportations and continued Trump's border wall.

► Both Republican and Democrat governments have overseen continuous state repression and preparations for war, with their joint bipartisan promotion of anticommunist propaganda providing cover for further fascisation.

► US administrations are shaped by the material interests of American capital. Growing economic and geopolitical contradictions pressure the ruling class to protect profits against foreign competitors and intensify exploitation and control of workers at home. These pressures cannot be resolved simply by changing political leadership.

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