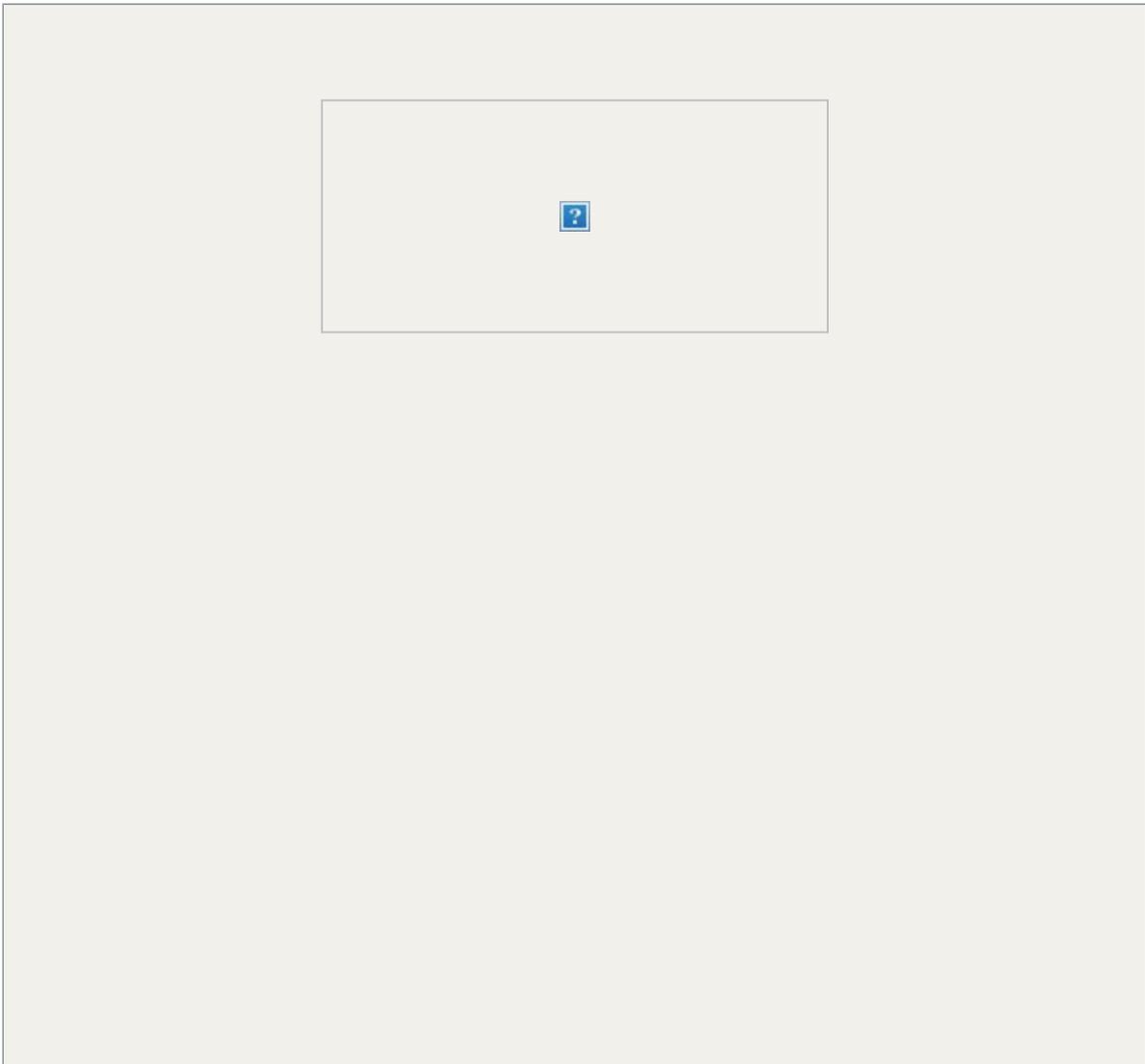


From: [Rick Dwyer](#)
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Subject: Executive Insight Brief
Date: Friday, June 6, 2025 4:28:05 PM

Ladies & Gentlemen,
Below please find this week's edition of *Executive Insight Brief* from The Roosevelt Group.

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June 6, 2025

Executive Insight Brief

This week, we introduce *The Roosevelt Group Podcast*, your inside look at Washington through the lens of TRG's respected subject matter experts. Join us for insightful conversations and analysis.

Senior Advisor Elana Broitman sits down during our first episode to discuss the current situation on the ground in Ukraine and unpacks what's driving the latest developments, key strategic implications, and what to watch in the weeks ahead. Listen [here](#).

Notable Headlines

[Supreme Court halts Mexico lawsuit against US gun manufacturers](#)

[Mike Johnson scrambles to stop Elon Musk from torching the megabill](#)

[Trump administration imposes sanctions on four ICC judges in unprecedented move](#)

[Noem ending TSA Quiet Skies traveler surveillance program](#)

[Trump Says Russia and Ukraine May Need to 'Keep Fighting' Before Making Peace](#)

View From The Hill

Congress returned to Washington this week with a near-singular focus on passing President Trump's "one big, beautiful" budget reconciliation bill. All eyes are currently on the Senate, where Majority Leader John Thune (R-SD) is [working](#) closely with the White House to convince an oddly diverse coalition of skeptical GOP holdouts to fall in line. The opposition ranges from moderate GOP Senators like Susan Collins (R-ME) and Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) who want reconsideration of the House's repeal of Biden-era green energy tax incentives to Sen. Josh Hawley's (R-MO) concerns around cuts to Medicaid and multiple conservative Senators who are balking at the House's version of state and local tax deductions. Sen. Tommy Tuberville (R-AL), who recently announced a run for governor in his home state, [expressed](#) concern around the House's language pushing costs of federal nutritional aid onto states. Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY) has also already affirmed staunch opposition to the bill over the inclusion of an increase to the nation's debt ceiling, and few expect him to be swayed.

Of course, the House will also have to swallow or reject whatever version of the bill is sent back by the Senate, and GOP leadership faced a brutal [one-two](#) punch this week after the bill came under a social media firestorm on X by Elon Musk, who is upset that the legislation repeals electric vehicle tax incentives that benefit Tesla. Over the course of the week, Musk [continued](#) ramping up public criticism of the bill, levying insults at Congress and, eventually, the President himself. Additionally, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office released an analysis of the budget reconciliation bill showing that the legislation would add \$2.4 trillion to the federal budget deficit and leave up to 11 million Americans without health insurance. A further look into the Senate Commerce Committee's proposed [language](#) highlights a nearly \$10 billion increase in funding for NASA. Providing funding for the International Space Station, Gateway, and Moon-to-Mars missions, the revised bill could reverse the initial blows suggested by the White House.

A previously overlooked provision of the bill ignited a [heated](#) debate among lawmakers regarding

the ability of states to regulate Artificial Intelligence (AI). If enacted in its current form, states would be banned from regulating AI for ten years. Proponents of the ban say it is critical to allow the United States to dominate the AI race against China, while opponents see it as a violation of states' rights and, ultimately, a failure to address some of the inherent risks of AI.

Republicans on the Senate Judiciary Committee [voiced](#) strong objections to the ability of lower federal district courts to issue nationwide injunctions that limit the President's executive powers, while democrats praised the rulings as a necessary constitutional check by the judicial branch of government. The breathless pace of executive action over the course of the first several months of the Trump administration has been met with a litany of lawsuits and court filings, and, in some cases, court orders seeking to pause or terminate executive actions.

Senate Armed Services Chairman Roger Wicker (R-MS) and Senate Appropriations Chair Susan Collins (R-ME) [expressed](#) concern over the cost of President Trump's planned military parade in Washington, D.C. on June 14th. With Army Secretary Dan Driscoll estimating the cost to be between \$25-40 million, and a promise to reimburse the District of Columbia for any damage to city streets, the event celebrating the Army's 250th birthday is coming at a steep price. To counter the heartburn, Driscoll has stated that the event will be a once-in-a-generation opportunity to inspire America's youth to enlist and serve. June 14th is also President Trump's 79th birthday.

President Trump's nominee to lead the Internal Revenue Service, former Rep. Billy Long (R-MO) [advanced](#) out of committee along a party line vote this week, and the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee [held](#) a confirmation hearing for the nominee to lead the White House Office of the National Cyber Director, Sean Cairncross.

Marking the first legislative foray into the fiscal year 2026 appropriations effort, the House Appropriations Committee held its first subcommittee markups for the next fiscal year, approving initial text of its Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Agriculture funding bills.

Pentagon News

In their first known conversation since Trump's return to the White House, the U.S. President and Chinese leader Xi Jinping [spoke](#) Thursday morning amid a tariff war rattling global markets and straining America's weapons production. The call comes as U.S. tariffs on Chinese goods have

[soared](#) as high as 145%, triggering retaliatory measures from Beijing and threatening key supply chains [tied](#) to weapons manufacturing, rare earth minerals, and high-tech defense projects.

Trump's trade offensive, [launched](#) in February, has drawn warnings from national security experts who say the rising cost of imported materials could [disrupt](#) timelines for military production. Critics have [expressed](#) that the U.S. defense industrial base has already struggled with limited capacity and scalability concerns, and [cautioned](#) that escalating bans on critical minerals will only exacerbate the gap, allowing China to possibly surpass the U.S. in this domain.

After Thursday's meeting, both sides hinted at future negotiations while evading clear concessions. Trump expressed a willingness to meet on this issue with China's team again in the near future, according to a [post](#) on Truth Social. Meanwhile, China's foreign minister [accused](#) the U.S. of introducing "a series of negative measures," warning that relations were now at "a critical juncture."

Trump's conversation addressed crucial tensions between the nations, opening the door for renewed talks. Indeed, the U.S.'s ability to build weapons of tomorrow depends heavily on the resolution of today's rivalry.

While high-level diplomacy and economic pressure continue to dominate U.S.-China relations, domestic industry is simultaneously adapting to ensure American defense capabilities remain competitive. One such adaptation is the strengthening of partnerships to develop next-generation technologies vital to national security.

This week, GE Aerospace [announced](#) an official partnership with Kratos Defense & Security Solutions, Inc. to develop advanced propulsion technologies for cost-effective unmanned aerial systems and Collaborative Combat Aircraft (CCA). GE has collaborated with Kratos in the past, but this is an [extension](#) of their partnership that focuses on developing new engines to power the future air force through high-functioning, low-cost propulsion systems. Amy Gowder, president and CEO of Defense & Systems at GE Aerospace, is [excited](#) to continue their partnership with Kratos in accelerating the development of unmanned aircraft.

GE and Kratos want to develop, manufacture, and test the GEK800 Engine and collaborate on other low-cost turbofan engines. Their hope is to use the GEK800 Engine to power expendable cruise missiles. Another future goal of the two companies is to create an engine GEK1500 for "lower-end" CCA manned aircraft, which is set to be demonstrated in 2026, and is a 1500-pound thrust model. This newer model will be made of slightly different materials and cooling capabilities than the previous GEK800, [according](#) to Craig Young, one of GE's executive engineering directors. Historically, small turbojet engines have been low-cost but have not burned fuel efficiently. To solve this, GE Aerospace and Kratos are working towards developing a turbofan that will burn fuel at a faster rate and fit into the architecture of a turbojet while remaining affordable.

As American companies race to modernize the tools of warfare, battlefield realities abroad are

offering urgent lessons on the evolving nature of conflict. Nowhere is this more apparent than in Ukraine, where drone warfare is reshaping strategic thinking across the globe.

Ukraine's recent drone strikes deep inside Russia have exposed weaknesses in Moscow's defense strategies and have changed the way modern militaries must contend with UAV innovation. On June 1st, "[Spiderweb](#)," Ukraine's drone operation, targeted four Russian air bases, including one in Siberia, approximately 2,500 miles from Ukraine's borders. Using 117 aerial drones smuggled via trucks, Ukrainian forces reportedly damaged 40 Russian aircraft, including strategic cruise missile carriers, with an estimated \$7 billion price tag on the Kremlin. Putin has vowed [revenge](#) in response to what analysts call Russia's "[Pearl Harbor](#)," demonstrating Ukraine's adaptability and increasing effectiveness in countering Russia's electronic warfare and traditional defense systems.

The attack demonstrated that cheap, short-range UAVs pose a significant threat to modern defenses and create a powerful asymmetric warfighting tactic. The Pentagon already sees Ukraine's tactical success as a roadmap for modern military adaptation. On Monday, as news of the Ukrainian strike spread, the U.S. Department of Defense launched [Project GI](#), an initiative under its Defense Innovation Unit (DIU) aimed at accelerating the development of drones and other technologies by integrating frontline feedback into a real-time cycle of design, testing, and deployment.

Next Week's Hearings

Armed Services Committee

U.S. House of Representatives

- 6/10, 10:00 AM - Full Committee Hearing - U.S. Military Posture and National Security Challenges in the Greater Middle East and Africa
- 6/11, 10:00 AM - Full Committee Hearing - Department of the Navy Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Request
- 6/11, 3:30 PM - TAL Hearing: Army Munition Industrial Base Modernization
- 6/12, 10:00 AM - Department of Defense Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Request

U.S. Senate

- NONE

Appropriations Committee

U.S. House of Representatives

- 6/9, 6:00 PM - Subcommittee Markup - Fiscal Year 2026 Homeland Security Bill
- 6/10, 10:00 AM -
- 6/10, 12:00 PM - Subcommittee Markup - Fiscal Year 2026 Defense Bill (Classified)
- 6/10, 2:00 PM - Full Committee Markup - Fiscal Year 2026 Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Bill, Subcommittee Allocations
- 6/11, 10:00 AM - Full Committee Markup - Fiscal Year 2026 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Bill
- 6/12, 10:00 AM - Full Committee Markup - Fiscal Year 2026 Homeland Security Bill
- 6/13, 12:00 PM - Full Committee Markup - Fiscal Year 2026 Defense Bill

U.S. Senate

- 6/10, 10:00 AM - Subcommittee Hearing - A Review of the President's Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Request for the National Institutes of Health
- 6/10, 2:00 PM - Subcommittee Hearing - A Review of the President's Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Request for the Department of Defense
- 6/11, 10:30 AM - Subcommittee Hearing - A Review of the President's Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Request for the United States Forest Service
- 6/11, 2:00 PM - Subcommittee Hearing - A Review of the President's Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Request for the Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation
- 6/11, 4:00 PM - Subcommittee Hearing - A Review of the President's Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Request for the Department of Housing and Urban Development
- 6/11, 6:00 PM - Subcommittee Hearing - A Review of the President's Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Request for the Department of the Treasury

Homeland Security Committee

U.S. House of Representatives

- 6/10, 10:00 AM - Subcommittee Hearing – Emergency Management and Technology
- 6/11, 10:30 AM - Subcommittee Hearing - The Rise of Anti-Israel Extremist Groups and Their Threat to U.S. National Security

U.S. Senate

- 6/10, 10:00 AM - Subcommittee Hearing - Border Management, Federal Workforce and Regulatory Affairs
- 6/12, 10:00 AM - Business Meeting



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