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## Hillary Clinton says foreign leaders are so concerned about Donald Trump they've been asking to ENDORSE her

- Clinton said her experience as Secretary of State made her 'uniquely qualified' to go after Trump
- She pointed to the public support she has received from the Italian prime minister but would not disclose those who contacted her privately
- The <u>Democratic</u> candidate said she turned them down because the decision was 'up to Americans'
- Just a week ago US officials revealed foreign governments have been expressing alarm over the GOP frontrunner
- See more news on the US election at www.dailymail.co.uk/USelection2016

By Anneta Konstantinides For Dailymail.com and Reuters

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As the <u>Democratic primary race</u> becomes more and more contested, <u>Hillary Clinton</u> is calling herself the only candidate who can beat Donald Trump - and she says the rest of the world agrees.

The former Secretary of State said foreign leaders have reached out to see if they can endorse her to stop the GOP frontrunner from becoming the next leader of the Free World.

Clinton was responding to a question from a man, who said he was the son of immigrants, during a Democratic Ohio town hall on Sunday when she revealed she has received international support.

'One argument that I am uniquely qualified to bring, because of my service as Secretary of State, is what [Trump's] presidency would mean for our country and our standing in the world,' she said.



Hillary Clinton revealed foreign leaders have reached out to see if they can endorse her to stop Donald Trump from winning the presidency in November

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Clinton said she believes she is the only Democratic candidate who can beat Trump in the general election, touting her former position as Secretary of State and her relations with international officials

'I am already receiving messages from leaders, and I am having foreign leaders ask if they can endorse me to stop Donald Trump, and I am like no, this is up to Americans, thank you very much.'

When CNN moderator Jake Tapper pressed Clinton on specific foreign leaders who have contacted her, she pointed to the public support she received from Italian Prime Minister Matto Renzi.

Renzi said last month that although he would work with anyone who wins the US election come November, he is personally hoping it will be Clinton.

'As an Italian citizen and leader of the Democratic Party, and in total respect for American democracy, I am rooting for Hillary Clinton,' he said during a news conference with foreign media.

When Tapper asked if Clinton would reveal who had privately contacted her, she laughed and said 'No Jake, we're holding that in reserve.'

Clinton also took the opportunity to press the fact that she believes foreign policy has taken a backseat in this election season and should be playing a bigger role.

'Only the hard choices come to the president,' she said. 'If they're not really hard someone along the way has a chance to make a decision.'

Clinton referenced her experience sitting with Obama in the Situation Room during the raid on Osama Bin Laden, and said the role takes 'incredible seriousness, diligence, judgement'.

'A temperament that's not going to be pushed one way or the other depending upon who said what to you today,' she continued.

'I believe I will have an opportunity to really focus in on how dangerous a Donald Trump presidency would be, for our standing, for our safety, for the peace of the world.'

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Clinton, who was speaking alongside Bernie Sanders at the Ohio town hall, also took the opportunity to press the her belief that foreign policy has taken a backseat in this election and should be playing a bigger role



She also referenced that she has received public support from international officials, including Italian Prime Minister Matto Renzi (pictured) - who last month revealed he was rooting for a Clinton victory

Both Clinton and Sanders hit hard at Trump during the town hall, two days after a protest before his Chicago rally erupted into violence.

The two Democratic candidates both referenced Trump's offers to pay the legal bills for supporters who have roughed up and punched protesters at his rallies.

Sanders blasted the GOP frontrunner as a 'pathological liar' and said he was 'inciting violence' with his rhetoric, according to **CNN**.

Clinton called out Trump for being 'incredibly bigoted' toward a number of groups.

'You don't make America great by tearing down everything that made America great,' she said.

Just a week earlier, senior US officials revealed that foreign diplomats have been expressing alarm to American government officials about Trump's inflammatory and insulting public statements.

Officials from Europe, the Middle East, Latin America and Asia have complained in recent private conversations, mostly about the xenophobic nature of Trump's statements, said three US officials, who all declined to be identified.

'As the (Trump) rhetoric has continued, and in some cases amped up, so, too, have concerns by certain leaders around the world,' said one of the officials.

The three officials declined to disclose a full list of countries whose diplomats have complained, but two said they included at least India, South Korea, Japan and Mexico.





German Economy Minister Sigmar Gabriel (left) said Trump is a threat to peace and prosperity in an interview on Sunday. Mexico's Claudia Ruiz Massieu (right) said last week that Trump's policies are 'ignorant and racist'



A British official noted that Prime Minister David Cameron said: 'What Donald Trump says is, in my view, not only wrong, but actually it makes the work we need to do to confront and defeat the extremists more difficult'

US officials said it was highly unusual for foreign diplomats to express concern, even privately, about candidates in the midst of a presidential campaign.

America's allies in particular usually don't want to be seen as meddling in domestic politics, mindful that they will have to work with whoever wins.

Senior leaders in several countries - including Britain, Mexico, France, and Canada - have already made public comments criticizing Trump's positions.

German Economy Minister Sigmar Gabriel branded him a threat to peace and prosperity in an interview published on Sunday.

A British official noted that in January, Prime Minister David Cameron said: 'What Donald Trump says is, in my view, not only wrong, but actually it makes the work we need to do to confront and defeat the extremists more difficult.'

A spokesperson for the Mexican government would not confirm any private complaints but noted that its top diplomat, Claudia Ruiz Massieu, said last week that Trump's policies and comments were 'ignorant and racist' and that his plan to build a border wall to stop illegal immigration was 'absurd'.

The foreign officials have been particularly disturbed by the anti-immigrant and anti-Muslim themes that the billionaire real estate mogul has pushed, according to the U.S. officials.

European and Middle Eastern government representatives have expressed dismay to U.S. officials about anti-Muslim declarations by Trump that they say are being used in recruiting pitches by the Islamic State and other violent jihadist groups.



Clinton and Sanders also blasted the bloodshed that erupted in Chicago following a protest before a scheduled Trump rally (pictured), and said the GOP frontrunner was 'inciting violence'

On December 7, Trump's campaign issued a written statement saying that he was 'calling for a total and complete shutdown of Muslims entering the United States until our country's representatives can figure out what is going on'.

More than a hundred Republican foreign policy veterans pledged last week to oppose Trump, saying in an open letter that his proposals would undermine US security.

General Philip Breedlove, the United States' top military commander in Europe, said that the US elections were stirring concerns among America's allies.

'I get a lot of questions from our European counterparts on our election process this time in general,' said Breedlove, who did not mention Trump by name.

'And I think they see a very different sort of public discussion than they have in the past.'



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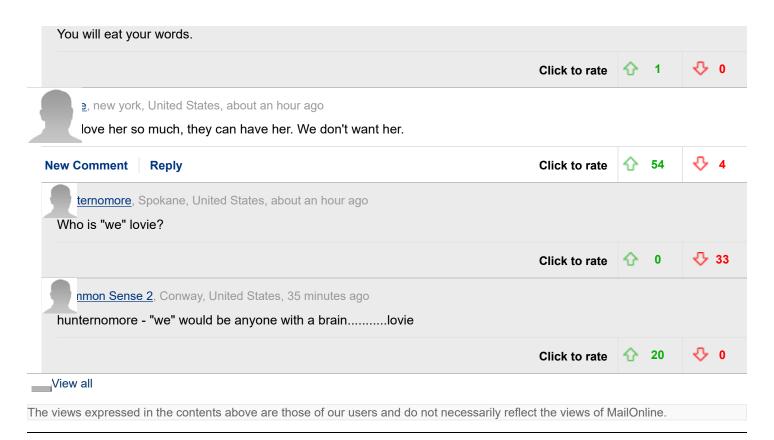
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