



# Cordova for President

*Moving Forward Together*

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## The United States Constitution

Article II, Section 1 of the U.S. Constitution imposes only three eligibility requirements on persons serving as president, based on the officeholder's age, time of residency in the U.S., and citizenship status:

## U.S. Constitution – Presidential Candidate Eligibility

"No person except a natural born Citizen, or a Citizen of the United States, at the time of the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the Office of President; neither shall any person be eligible to that Office who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty-five Years, and been fourteen Years a Resident within the United States."

## THE PARTNERSHIP DOCTRINE

**A Message to the American People and the World**

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## PREAMBLE: THE WORLD WE INHERITED AND THE WORLD WE CHOOSE

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We need to have an honest conversation.

Not the kind politicians have on debate stages. Not the kind filtered through consultants and focus groups and donor approvals. A real one. The kind you have when something is wrong and you have been quiet about it long enough.

Here it is.

The world you are living in was designed. Not by nature. Not by God. Not by the invisible hand of a free market. It was designed by people — specific people — who sat in specific rooms and made specific decisions about who would have and who would not. About which nations would manufacture and which nations would consume. About which people would own and which



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people would work. About which children would inherit wealth and which children would inherit debt.

And they built it well. Because most of us never even thought to question it. We were taught that poverty was natural. That some nations are just underdeveloped. That the way things are is simply the way things are.

It is not.

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## The Truth About Congo

The Democratic Republic of Congo sits on over 70% of the world's cobalt. The minerals beneath its soil power every smartphone, every electric vehicle, every piece of modern technology that defines our world. By any measure of natural wealth, Congo should be one of the richest nations on earth.

The average Congolese miner makes two dollars a day.

Apple, Tesla, Samsung, and a hundred other corporations generate billions in profit from what comes out of that ground. The people whose ground it is — whose ancestors lived on it, whose children mine it with their hands — see almost none of it.

That is not an accident. That is a system. And that system has a name. It is extraction. It is exploitation. And for too long, America has been complicit in it — not because Americans are cruel, but because the people who built this system made sure Americans never had to look at it directly.

We are looking at it now.

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## The Truth About America

America stopped making things.



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Not because Americans stopped wanting to work. Not because we ran out of skill or ingenuity or will. Because the people who owned the factories decided it was cheaper to move them somewhere else. Somewhere wages were lower. Somewhere workers had no rights. Somewhere governments were corruptible enough to look the other way.

And they sold it to us as progress.

They called it globalization. They called it efficiency. They called it the free market. What it actually was — was the deliberate deindustrialization of the American working class so that a small number of people could extract a larger share of profit from a larger pool of desperate labor.

Now we are a nation of consumers. We buy what other nations make. We depend on supply chains controlled by people who do not share our interests. We found out during a pandemic that we could not manufacture our own masks. Our own medicine. Our own basic necessities.

A nation that cannot make what it needs is not a sovereign nation. It is a client state with a flag.

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## The Truth About Poverty

Poverty is not a natural condition. It is a manufactured one.

Think about that carefully. Because it changes everything.

If poverty were natural — if some nations were simply destined to be poor — then Congo would have always been poor. But Congo was not always poor. Congo was stripped. Haiti was not always poor. Haiti was punished — forced to pay reparations to French slaveholders for the crime of winning its own freedom — a debt that crippled the nation for 150 years.

Bolivia has the largest lithium deposits in the world. Honduras grows some of the finest coffee on earth. Yemen produces honey so rare it sells for hundreds of dollars a jar. These are not poor places. These are rich places whose wealth has been systematically redirected away from the people who live there.

Poverty, in most cases, is not a failure of development. It is a product of extraction. And extraction requires a system. And that system was built by people. And it can be dismantled by people.



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That is what we are here to do.

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## The Truth About What America Can Be

America was built by people who made things. Who grew things. Who built things with their hands and their minds and their will. That is not nostalgia. That is our foundation. And we abandoned it.

But here is what no one is saying out loud:

We can get it back. And we can do it differently this time.

Every American state has something to offer. Something it can grow, build, refine, or create that no other state does quite the same way. Fifty states and five territories. Fifty-five manufacturing identities. Fifty-five contributions to an internal economy so strong that no foreign power, no multinational corporation, no disrupted supply chain can bring us to our knees again.

The territories — Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands — are not footnotes to this plan. They are full participants. Their people have served this nation, sacrificed for this nation, and built things for this nation for generations while being denied the full economic and political dignity of membership. That ends here.

And then — once our own house is in order — we turn outward. Not as an empire. Not as a charity. Not as a superpower dispensing aid with conditions attached. But as a partner.

A genuine one.

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## What a Partner Actually Is

A partner is not someone who helps you. A partner is someone who trades with you. Someone who respects what you bring to the table. Someone who builds with you, not for you. Someone whose success is connected to yours because you built something together.

That is the America we are proposing.

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An America where every state partners with a nation or a region somewhere in the world. Where Michigan and Congo build together. Where Iowa and Haiti grow together. Where Arizona and Mali power their communities together. Where the knowledge, the food, the culture, the creativity of every partner nation flows into America — and American manufacturing capacity, technology, and expertise flows out.

Not as charity. As trade. As equals.

And those partnerships are not permanent arrangements of dependence. Every five to ten years, by mutual consent, partnerships can rotate. Nations choose their American partners. American states choose their global partners. Because in this system — no one is assigned. Everyone chooses. And the choosing is always mutual.

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## What We Are Asking of the World

To every nation that has been extracted from — we see you. We are not coming with another deal that benefits us more than you. We are coming with a framework where your resources stay yours. Where what is built in your country is owned by your people. Where the profit from your land stays in your land. Where your food, your culture, your creativity, your knowledge is valued — not as exotic novelty but as genuine contribution.

To China, to Japan, to Germany, to Brazil, to every major economy — we extend an open invitation. This framework is not American property. It is an open architecture. Adopt it. Run it with your own provinces and states. Partner your regions with the world the same way we are partnering ours. The only condition is the one condition that never changes for anyone:

You may not build your prosperity on the suffering of others. Ever. For any reason. Full stop.

To the middlemen who have profited from manufacturing dependency, from extraction, from the manufactured poverty of entire nations — your era is ending. Not with anger. Not with punishment. But with replacement. We are building something that does not need you. Something that connects producers and partners directly, honestly, and permanently.

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## What We Are Building Together



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Four pillars. One vision.

**Manufacturing.** Every American state produces. Every American state has an identity, a specialty, a contribution. Ethical standards govern every factory floor. Workers have ownership. The environment is protected. No American community is left as just a consumer.

**Trade.** What flows between partners flows both directions. Always. America's manufacturing capacity and technology flows out. Partner nations' goods, foods, culture, creativity, and specialties flow in. The middlemen are cut out. The value goes to the people who create it.

**Partnership.** States and nations choose each other freely. Both sides bring something real. Both sides gain something real. Partnerships rotate by mutual consent. A Global Partnership Council — not controlled by America, not controlled by any single nation — sets the ethical standards and holds everyone accountable. Including us.

**Education.** Children grow up knowing their partner nation. Not as a place they read about in a textbook. As a place where they have friends. Where they have studied the language, cooked the food, worked on problems together, and maybe spent a semester living and learning side by side. The doctrine does not end when an administration ends. It lives in a generation of people for whom the partnership is personal.

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## The One Rule

Every policy has exceptions. Every doctrine has loopholes. Every system eventually gets captured by the people with the most to gain from bending it.

This one has one rule that does not bend. Ever. For any partner. For any reason. Domestic or foreign. Rich nation or poor. Ally or new relationship.

**No partnership under this framework may create, sustain, or benefit from the poverty of any group of people.**

That is the floor. That is the ceiling. That is the whole constitution of this system in one sentence.

If a partnership violates it — the partnership ends. If a corporation violates it — the corporation is removed. If a nation violates it — they are out until they come back into compliance. If



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America violates it — hold us accountable. That accountability is built into the framework by design.

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## A Final Word

We have one life. Every human being on this planet has one life. One shot at dignity. One shot at feeding their children. One shot at building something that matters. One shot at being seen as a full human being whose existence has value beyond what they can produce for someone else's profit.

We have organized our world in a way that guarantees that shot is only available to some. That guarantee is not written in nature. It is written in policy. In trade agreements. In debt structures. In the deliberate suppression of wages and governments and entire economies.

Policy written by people can be rewritten by people.

That is what we are doing.

We are not promising a perfect world. We are not promising that this is easy or fast or without resistance from the people who benefit from the current arrangement. They will resist. They always do.

But we are promising this:

Every decision made under this doctrine will ask one question first. Not — is this profitable? Not — is this politically convenient? Not — does this serve our donors?

The question is: **Does this make life better for the people it touches — all of them, on both sides, without exception?**

If the answer is yes — we move forward. If the answer is no — we go back to the table.

That is the Partnership Doctrine. That is the America we are building. And we are inviting the entire world to build it with us.

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*"We don't help them. We trade with them. There's a difference — and that difference is respect."*