

# Hundreds gather at Ohio Statehouse as part of nationwide anti-Trump protests

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By **Donovan Hunt**  
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COLUMBUS - Hundreds of protesters descended on the Ohio Statehouse Wednesday to speak out against President Donald Trump and his immigration policies.

The demonstration in Columbus mirrored others across the country organized by groups that oppose the Trump administration's actions. After the president took office last month, he signed numerous executive orders to crack down on immigration and eliminate diversity, equity and inclusion programs, among other policies.

Protesters also targeted Elon Musk, the tech billionaire who leads the Department of Government Efficiency and recently persuaded Trump to gut the U.S. Agency for International Development. One sign carried by a demonstrator in Columbus read, "Nobody elected Elon."

"As a refugee to this country, naturalized, I recognize how lucky I am to have that security," said Katja Ryabtseva, of Columbus, who settled in Ohio from Azerbaijan. "I can deeply relate and understand how insecure a lot of people feel right now. I can't sit at home knowing that there are families, children out there trying to get documentation again and are going to be kicked out."

The group converged at the Ohio Statehouse and marched to the federal building in downtown Columbus Wednesday afternoon. Protesters chanted "tax the rich" and yelled for newly elected Sen. Bernie Moreno outside Bricker Federal building at 200 N High St.

"Our country's been taken over by not-so-ethical people, and we need to get it back," Cindy Krebs, of Columbus, said. "It needs to be a country for everybody, not just for the people that voted for Trump."

Trump won Ohio in November by 11 points over Vice President Kamala Harris.