

Administration of Donald J. Trump, 2018

Remarks Prior to a Meeting With Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte of Italy
July 30, 2018

President Trump. Okay, thank you very much. It's my great honor to have Giuseppe Conte of Italy. He's a man who's doing a fantastic job. I really want to thank you very much for being here. We've become friendly over the G-7 meetings and some phone calls.

And I agree very much what you're doing with respect to migration and illegal immigration, and even legal immigration. Italy has taken a very firm stance on the border, a stance a few countries have taken. And frankly, you're doing the right thing, in my opinion. And a lot of other countries in Europe should be doing it also. Some have taken that stance a long time ago, and they're doing a lot better.

So I just want to thank you, Giuseppe, for being with us. It's an honor. We have a lot to talk about having to do with trade, having to do with our military. You're ordering planes, lots of planes. The United States has a very large deficit, as usual, with Italy, about \$31 billion. And I'm sure we'll straighten that out pretty quickly.

But we find it a great honor to have you with us. Thank you. Thank you, Giuseppe.

Prime Minister Conte. Thank you. Thank you. It's a big honor for me, of course. And thank you for this kind invitation——

President Trump. Thank you very much.

Prime Minister Conte. ——for your warm hospitality.

President Trump. You'll always be treated warmly. Okay?

Prime Minister Conte. Thank you.

President Trump. Thank you very much, everybody. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:28 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House.

Categories: Meetings With Foreign Leaders and International Officials : Italy, Prime Minister Conte.

Locations: Washington, DC.

Names: Conte, Giuseppe.

Subjects: Commerce, international : Group of Seven (G-7) nations; Europe : Refugees, humanitarian situation; Italy : Border security and immigration policy; Italy : Prime Minister; Italy : Relations with U.S.; Italy : Trade with U.S.

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