

NBC's *Today*

10/02/26

7:01:53 a.m. [TEASE]

14 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: One Month and Counting]

CRAIG MELVIN: One month and counting. The race to midterms entering a home stretch. President Trump launching a major campaign trail blitz in the final weeks –

PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP: My heart is in it like never before.

MELVIN: – but facing growing frustrations from voters on both sides of the aisle over the Iran war's impact on prices. Where things stand with just 32 days to go.

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7:14:59 a.m.

2 minutes and 45 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Trump Hits Campaign Trail Ahead of Midterms]

MELVIN: We turn to politics now and the push to November's midterm elections now just 32 days away. President Trump hitting the campaign trail in the home stretch, determined to drive more Republican voters to the polls, but he's facing some challenges from the economy to record-low approval ratings as well. Let's bring NBC's Yamiche Alcindor. She is at the White House for us. Yamiche, good morning.

YAMICHE ALCINDOR: Good morning, Craig. President Trump plans to travel across the country to try to mobilize Republicans who might be less motivated to vote in the midterms because he is not on the ballot. President Trump kicking off a month of intense midterm campaigning.

TRUMP: My heart is in it like never before.

ALCINDOR: The President hoping to drive up Republican turnout, kicking things off in red states Oklahoma and Texas, defending his handling of the economy.

TRUMP: Now, they're saying it again because we have the greatest numbers of any President in the history of our country, and I can't get the word out. [CHEERS] I can't get the word out.

ALCINDOR: Later, warning Republicans of the consequences of not voting.

TRUMP: Pretends I'm running, please. Just pretend. Because I am on the ballot. And, if we don't win, they'll end up impeaching me.

ALCINDOR: The GOP facing an uphill battle with the President's approval rating record lows and gas and diesel prices continuing to spike amid the war in Iran. A new poll finding that only 17 percent of U.S. adults approve of the President's handling of the cost of living.

TRUMP: Everyone thinks that the prices are high because of me, but they're not.

ALCINDOR: Still, White House officials say the President is planning to hold 36 events in 30 days in 17 states. In a new interview, President Trump telling *Time* magazine, of the GOP's chances: "I think we'll do okay if I campaign." The President also questioned about the possibility of the Insurrection Act around the midterms, saying: "I could use it." It would let the President use the U.S. military to police American civilians. The President also blowing up at reporters, telling the outlet: "You have not asked me one blank positive question," venting about his press coverage, saying: "It's just bad story after bad story." Now, despite the President's struggling poll numbers, White House officials insist deploying him the best way for Republicans to hold on to power. So, today, President Trump is taking his pitch to Alabama for another campaign rally, Craig.

MELVIN: Yamiche Alcindor at the White House for us. Yamiche, thank you. A quick programming not here, Steve Kornacki will join Kristen Welker this Sunday on *Meet the Press*. They will reveal the results of our new NBC News/Telemundo pool – poll of Latino voters.