



Written by [Paul Dragu](#) on February 16, 2024

Have We Become a Banana Republic?

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While many countries are governed by oligarchs and dictators, the United States has been known as a nation where the people decide its leaders and policies, and Americans have prided themselves on being the masters of their own fate. Unfortunately, the last few years have thrown cold water on that characterization. In this informative and engaging conversation, *TNA*'s editors discuss the similarities between bona fide banana republics and America today, how we got to such a dismal state, the difference between republics and democracies, what powers the president should and shouldn't have, and the key to national restoration.

Conversation points:

@ 13:13 | We are witnessing a naked attempt to jail an opposition candidate, a common occurrence in banana republics;

@ 19:50 | The problems with democracies, and why the Founders created a republic;

@ 28:20 | How the 17th Amendment chipped away at our republican form of government;

@ 34:05 | What the presidency and U.S. government should look like.

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