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## America Deserves Better than a Protection Racket at 250

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“After 250 years, we still proudly declare that we are free because you are strong... We’re safe because you are brave.” — [President Trump Remarks at Fort Bragg for the 250th Anniversary of the US Army, June 10, 2025](#)

“Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.” As Americans express [growing insecurity and dissatisfaction with our government](#), we must question on what basis we can not only celebrate our country this 4th of July but justify its continued rule.

Our Founding Fathers were inspired by Enlightenment thinkers, chief among them John Locke. He emphasized that the government’s fundamental charge is to protect the people’s rights to “life, health, liberty, [and] possessions.” In exchange, people submit to government rule.

As America turns 250, this social contract is in peril.