

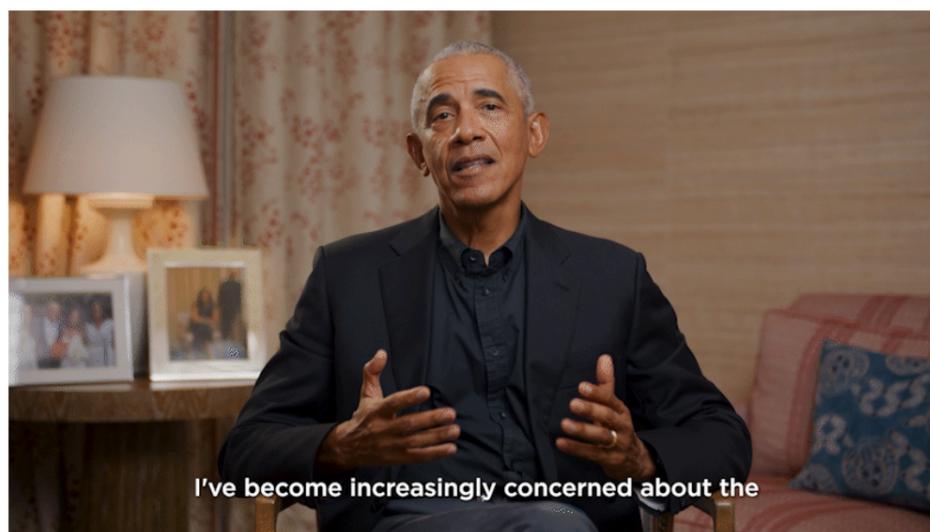
President Obama's stark warning

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Hi there,

President Obama issued a stark warning against the global rise in authoritarianism in a recent discussion with three Obama Foundation program alumni from Poland and Hungary.



Watch the discussion

The Obama program alumni—Zuzanna Rudzinska-Bluszcz, Sándor Léderer, and Stefania Kapronczay—spoke at length with President Obama about their work supporting democracy and the struggles they've encountered.

- Zuzanna Rudzinska-Bluszcz, former Deputy Justice Minister for Poland, warned citizens against the temptation to only tune in to what's happening in their country at election time.
- Sándor Léderer, the co-founder and director of an anti-corruption watchdog in Hungary, said that the ability of authoritarian leaders to set the agenda makes protecting democracy challenging.
- Stefania Kapronczay, a human rights defender in Hungary, encouraged people to reach across divides to find common ground, and to get involved with democracy on the local level.

[Watch their discussion with President Obama and learn more about these inspiring changemakers.](#)

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