

# Rinehart right: Turnbull must learn from Trump

Andrew Bolt, Herald Sun

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No minister of this Turnbull Government has welcomed the election of Donald Trump.

But Gina Rinehart, the iron ore and cattle baroness, is surely right to say Trump has plenty to teach the Government - and it must follow him to save us from turning into another Greece.

*Mining magnate Gina Rinehart has urged the Australian government to adopt the stimulatory policies being promised by US president-elect Donald Trump or risk following Greece along an "irresponsible" path of increasing government expenditure and debt.*

*The nation's richest woman, who recently visited Washington where she met members of Mr Trump's campaign team — including former New York mayor Rudy Giuliani and campaign manager Kellyanne Conway — said the Republican Party team won the election "because they listened to the people of America".*

*Mrs Rinehart also took a swipe at the US media, noting the Trump team prevailed in the polls despite "constant and unrelenting negative coverage of the president-elect, including at times his loyal supporters, such as his wife, in attempts to upset the focus of the president-elect".*

*"People close to the president-elect and his campaign advised that their countrymen told them they wanted, firstly, less government tape, secondly less taxation, and for the USA to grow and be economically strong again, and provide more sustainable jobs. And how exciting, this is exactly what the president-elect, and his team, are advising they want to deliver for America and its struggling economy," Mrs Rinehart said in a speech delivered for yesterday's National Mining and Related Industries Day...*

*"If only we were hearing similar policies from our own government," she said.*

*If only. And if only we had a Senate not guaranteed to reject what will save us.*

Rinehart repeats a metric that always astonishes me:

*Mrs Rinehart has long called on federal and state authorities to significantly cut government-imposed regulations, noting that her \$10 billion iron ore project at Roy Hill in the Pilbara had been slowed down by about 4000 government approvals needed.*

## UPDATE

Terry McCrann warns:

*Malcolm Turnbull completely failed the “Trump test”. His speech to the Business Council annual dinner last Thursday was almost as if the US election a week earlier either hadn’t happened. Or ever more tin-eared: we were all now waiting for the arrival of “Obama II” in the White House in January — Hillary Clinton.*

*Turnbull was still boasting about the government’s modest reform ambitions. Not only does he have much to be modest about, they’ve all been rendered instantly “yesterday” by the Trump victory...*

*Turnbull promises to get the company tax rate down from 30 per cent to 25 per cent. In 10 years. Trump promises to go from 35 to 15 per cent, bang.*

*Sure, we will have to see how much of that he actually gets to deliver and how quickly, but exactly the same applies to the Turnbull promise...*

*WHAT Turnbull should have done in his BCA speech was to, first, recognise the fact the world had changed with the election of Trump; and then secondly, to have seized aggressively on the opportunities and challenges that presented for Australia and for his government. And indeed, for his leadership.*

*Not only was there none of that but Turnbull then set about doubling down on “yesterday”. And doubling down embarrassingly and indeed cringingly, by going to Peru for dead-on-arrival trade talks (at APEC which was itself supposed to achieve what the TPP is supposed to be having a second go at).*

*Then, Rudd-like, he poured treacle by the bucketload over Barack Obama, climaxing with that infamous selfie.*

*Knock-knock Malcolm, you do realise Obama will be gone on January 20, and between now and then he is going to be the lamest of lame duck presidents? So lame, he would make the Daniel Day-Lewis character in My Left Foot look like he could match it with Fred Astaire.*

*Has anyone told Malcolm that “sucking up to Barack” is probably not going to be the most effective way of winning friends and influencing people in the Trump White House over the next four years?*