Balancing Constitutional Responsibility with Political Motivations—A Rhetorical Challenge

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Like many Americans, I spent Thursday reading the Mueller report. The key issue remains primarily, though not exclusively, a political one. I wonder whether the facts emerging from the report will: (1) change what seems to be the baked-in opinions about Trump and how important Americans believe this issue is for our nation’s institutions and democracy; (2) overcome prior narratives about the report rhetorically promulgated by Trump and his supporters—most recently Attorney General Bill Barr, who speaks more like the president’s personal lawyer than America’s chief legal officer; and (3) finally propel Republicans in Congress, who since the beginning have acquiesced to and enabled the president, to suddenly stand up — something that will be essential for truth-seeking investigation, impeachment or other legislative action.
My hope is that all Americans will read the report and members of Congress from both parties will carefully balance constitutional responsibility with political motivations.

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