Snapshot

Trump is susceptible to such giveaways, not only because he is ignorant, but because he does not see himself as the president of the United States. He sees himself as the president of his base. And because that's the only support he has left, he feels the need to keep feeding his base by fulfilling crude, ill-conceived promises he threw out to them during the campaign.

Donald Trump

portrayed by Thomas Friedman, referring to Trump's having given China and Israel what they wanted most (scrapping TPP and recognizing Jerusalem as Israel's capital) while getting nothing in return