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# Stefanik embraces spotlight at impeachment hearings



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The second day of the impeachment inquiry's public hearings, on Friday, began the same way as the first: with an attempt by Rep. Elise Stefanik, a New York Republican, to interrupt proceedings with a procedural objection.

Stefanik accused House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff, D-Calif., of shutting down Republican questions, prompting Schiff to bang his gavel and declare her objection out of order.

Stefanik again engaged in theatrics later in the hearing, forcing Schiff to gavel down her attempt to break the rules of the hearing and ask questions of the witness before it was her turn.



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Calif., and his legal counsel Steve Castor were authorized to ask questions during the first 45 minutes of Republican questions, just as only Schiff and his legal counsel Daniel Goldman were allowed to ask questions during their first 45 minutes.

And after the hearing was over, Stefanik — standing at the front of a group of Republicans who spoke to a large crowd of reporters — talked about the hearing in sharply partisan terms and offered misleading statements about the rules governing it.

“This was Day 2 of an abject failure of Adam Schiff and his regime of secrecy,” Stefanik said. She accused Schiff of “making up the rules as he goes” because he “did not let us control our own time.”

The rules for the hearings were laid out and voted on by the full House on Oct. 31, and have been [written about](#) in the press.



Rep. Elise Stefanik, R-N.Y., and House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff, D-Calif., at the impeachment hearing on Friday. (Photo illustration: Yahoo News; photos: Alex Brandon/AP, Andrew Harnick/AP)

This week appeared to mark a surprising turn for the 35-year-old upstate New Yorker, who until recently was best known as a relative moderate who went to Harvard, worked for President George W. Bush and had taken on members of her own party who dismissed her criticisms of the GOP for its lack of female representation in the House.

It appears, as one longtime admirer of hers put it, that Stefanik has “gone the full MAGA,” a shorthand for those



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