in keynote GOP speech
Posted by alisawhite123 - 2020/08/26 14:21
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First lady Melania Trump delivered one of the longest and most personal speeches of her career Tuesday night, using her keynote address to strike a personal note and deviate from the Republican National Convention﴾s more partisan attacks.

Among other things, she spoke freely about her immigration from Slovenia, a small country that split from Yugoslavia in the early 1990s.

﴾Growing up as a young child in Slovenia, which was under communist rule at the time, I always heard about an amazing place called America, a place that stands for freedom and opportunity, ﴾ Trump said, speaking from the recently renovated White House Rose Garden with her husband in the audience.

"As an immigrant and a very independent woman, I understand what a privilege it is to live here and to enjoy the freedoms and opportunities that we have, ﴾ she added.

The soft rhetoric about immigration marked the end point of a day in which Republicans painted a more moderate stance on the issue than President Trump has embraced while in office. Earlier Tuesday, the GOP convention featured a naturalization ceremony personally hosted by Trump, whose policies have significantly reduced both illegal and legal immigration. As a candidate and as president, Trump has frequently used caustic rhetoric to describe immigrants and their motives for coming to the U. S.

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