WASHINGTON - President Donald Trump and French President Emmanuel Macron on Saturday met for the first time since Trump took office, and the two did not shake hands before a joint news conference, raising a new question as to whether the president was addressing French officials.

The joint news conference, held in the Oval Office, was the first between the two leaders and marked the first time that Trump had met with a European leader since he took office. The joint news conference comes amid growing concerns about a potential conflict of interest between Trump's businesses and his official duties.

During the news conference, Trump praised Macron for his leadership on a range of issues, including climate change and terrorism. Macron, for his part, praised Trump for his commitment to the Paris climate agreement and for his support for women's rights.

However, the two leaders also differed on some key issues, including trade and foreign policy. Trump expressed his support for the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), a trade agreement that was rejected by the previous administration, while Macron expressed reservations about the agreement.

Despite these differences, the two leaders appeared to agree on the need to combat terrorism and to work together to protect democratic values. They also announced the creation of a new joint committee to promote economic cooperation and promote democracy.

In conclusion, the joint news conference between Trump and Macron marked the beginning of a new chapter in the relationship between the United States and France, as both leaders seek to build on the strong historical ties between the two countries.