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News, Research and Events

January 19, 2022



2021 Annual Report: A Year of Change and Impact

The Baker Institute's [2021 annual report](#) has been published. It provides a window into the work of our fellows, scholars and researchers over the past year. Despite the challenges of the ongoing pandemic, experts from each of our 13 centers and programs continued to produce relevant, fact-based recommendations for policymakers, business leaders and the public. This rigorous scholarship is in large part why the institute rose to the No. 1 ranking among the world's top university-affiliated think tanks in 2021.

The Baker Institute also hosted more than 135 events and webinars last year on topics ranging from the complexities of the energy transition to the importance of U.S. immigration reform. Committed to providing students with hands-on experience in public policy, the Baker Institute's student programs offered valuable opportunities for Rice students through in-person and virtual internships in Houston, Washington, D.C. and Moscow.

Read more about the Baker Institute's impact and outreach in our [2021 annual report](#).

Biden's Foreign Policy: One Year In



A year into his term, how does President Biden's pragmatic approach to foreign policy stack up against the records of his predecessors? Bonner Means Baker Fellow [Joe Barnes](#) writes that it is colored by both decisiveness and a realism that falls short of his idealism, with a result that draws elements of Trump's and Obama's approaches together. Read his post on the [Baker Institute Blog](#).

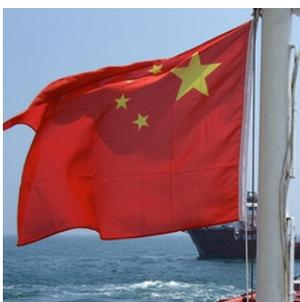
“It is vital that we plan, prepare and design [renewable] energy systems for reuse, recovery, remanufacturing and recycling in the present, or we risk creating new environmental, social and economic burdens in the future.”

Rachel A. Meidl, Fellow in Energy and Environment, and research assistant [Mathilde Saada](#) in a blog post for [Forbes](#)

Latest Research



A COVID Vaccine for All. As the world faces the latest wave of COVID-19, a vaccine produced by health policy fellow [Peter Hotez](#) and his colleague [Maria Elena Bottazzi](#) is ready to be deployed. Their CORBEVAX vaccine is inexpensive, effective, safe and easy to store and distribute, they write in [Scientific American](#).



U.S.-China Competition Enters the Decade of Maximum Danger. As China’s power reaches its peak over the next decade, President Xi Jinping may make a bold move against Taiwan, warn fellow [Gabe Collins](#) and his co-author [Andrew S. Erickson](#). In a new [report](#), they argue that the U.S. and its allies should immediately mobilize resources to deter Chinese aggression.



Rich Countries Cannot Outsource Migration Dilemmas. Liberal democratic countries are increasingly outsourcing the problem of uncontrolled migration, but this strategy is not viable in the long run, writes Middle East fellow [Kelsey Norman](#) in [Foreign Affairs](#). The solution, she explains, is to make regular avenues of migration more accessible.

Upcoming Events

Davoudi Emerging Leaders Lecture Series: A Conversation with Jay A. Brown.

At this member-exclusive event, the first in the spring's Davoudi Emerging Leaders Lecture Series, Crown Castle International Corp. president and CEO [Jay A. Brown](#) discusses current public policy issues and Houston's business landscape. Become a member of the [Roundtable Young Professionals](#) to enjoy this and other exclusive events! **January 21 | 8:30 a.m. CST**

Webinar — The Energy Transition Must Accelerate and New Technologies are Required.

The Center for Energy Studies' [Ken Medlock](#) sits down with the senior manager of Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, [Pradeep Venkataraman](#), to discuss why creating the hydrogen ecosystem is a pivotal step in changing how we produce and deliver energy. **January 26 | 3:00 p.m. CST**

Get Involved with the Baker Institute

Become a member of the [Baker Institute Roundtable](#), [Corporate Roundtable](#) or [Roundtable Young Professionals](#). Contact [our development office](#) for more information on how you can join the conversation on the relevant issues and ideas that shape our world, or text **BAKER** to **243725** to donate today!



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