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FOR PUBLIC POLICY

News, Research and Events

March 24, 2021



The 24-Hour Annual Fund Challenge starts tomorrow: Your opportunity to support the Baker Institute

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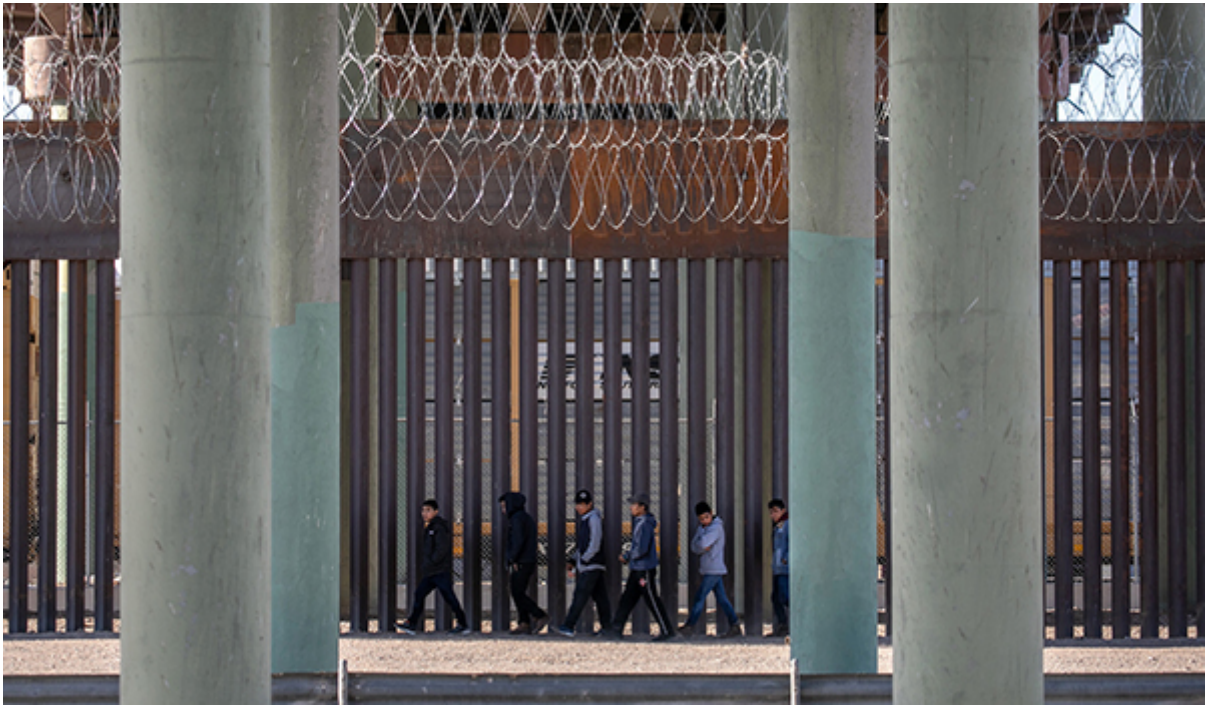
Tomorrow, Thursday, March 25, is Rice University's [24-Hour Annual Fund Challenge](#). The Baker Institute is self-financed and is grateful for the generous support it receives to produce independent, data-driven public policy research. Without it, the Baker Institute would not have been named the number one university-affiliated think tank in the world in 2020.

“Those who give to the Baker Institute help maximize its impact on research, education, outreach and service,” says Leah Gross, director of development. “If you are a Baker Institute friend or attended a webinar, are a [Roundtable](#) or [Roundtable Young Professionals](#) member, a Rice alum, or a faculty member, your support is critical to ensuring that ideas turn into action.”

Make your tax-deductible gift by [clicking here](#) through Thursday, March 25. You may contact [Rachel Smith](#) with any questions, at rachel.smith@rice.edu, or 713-348-4945.

Time and time again, investment in quality childcare has yielded a very high return on investment. It's good business to invest in early child development.

[Quianta Moore](#), Huffington Fellow in Child Health Policy, to [ABC 13 News](#)



Biden's migration policies face serious challenges

Joe Biden began his presidency with a slew of migration and asylum-related executive orders that promised a welcome change from the policies of the previous administration. But confronted with his first challenge at the border — an uptick in asylum seekers from Central America, which the news media has been quick to brand a “crisis” — Biden’s team is resorting to tactics taken straight from the European Union’s failed playbook, writes [Kelsey Norman](#), the director of the [Women’s Rights, Human Rights and Refugees Program](#) at the Baker Institute, in an op-ed for [Foreign Policy](#).

Like the EU, Biden plans to send millions in aid to address factors like violence and poverty that often lead to migration, and hopes to pay other countries to host and vet asylum seekers. On their own, these approaches will not solve the problem, she says, but if such policies are pursued, Biden must also implement measures like pathways for migration, work opportunities and student visas. “The United States is a wealthy country with enough resources to follow through on its commitments to those seeking refuge there. Anything less than a fully functioning asylum system will be viewed as hypocritical to both asylum seekers and the countries south of the United States, with whom Washington wishes to partner,” Norman writes.

Read more at [Foreign Policy](#).

Upcoming Events

Webinar — To Create Better Health for All, We Must Involve All Sectors and Address Fundamental Issues. Improving health for everyone requires dismantling systemic racism and poverty and thinking beyond traditional health disciplines. [Dr. David J. Skorton](#), president and CEO of the Association of American Medical Colleges, shares his expertise in creating a healthier future for all.
March 25 | 5:30 p.m. CDT

Webinar — Power Games: Examining Mexico's New Electricity Industry Law. At this webinar, a panel of experts examines a new Mexican law that effectively restores a monopoly by the country's state-owned electric utility and disincentivizes investments in renewable energy. **March 30 | 11:00 a.m. CDT**

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