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Biden To Sign Executive Actions To Reform Immigration System

Today, President Biden will sign a series of Executive Actions that aims to reverse President Trump's immigration policies.

The latest orders build upon the actions taken in Biden's first days in office and begin to provide a clearer picture of the administration's immigration priorities.

"President Trump was so focused on the wall he did nothing to address the root causes of why are people are coming to our southern border — it was a limited, wasteful and naive strategy, and it failed," a senior administration official said. "People continue to migrate to the United States — even today — because of it. President Biden's approach is to deal with immigration comprehensively, fairly and humanely."

The Executive Actions Will:

Create a Task Force to Reunify Families

- President Biden will create a task force to reunite families that remain separated. This task force will work across the U.S. government, with key stakeholders and representatives of impacted families, and with partners across the hemisphere to find parents and children separated by the Trump Administration. The task force will make recommendations to the President and federal agencies regarding steps that they can take to reunify families. Further, the task force will report regularly to the President and recommend steps to prevent such tragedies from occurring again.
- Alejandro Mayorkas, Biden's pick to lead the Department of Homeland Security, will lead the task force. Mayorkas is set to be confirmed by the Senate on Tuesday afternoon. The vice chairs of the task force will be Secretary of State Anthony Blinken and the Health and Human Services secretary — and other members will be government officials.

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- This Order also revokes the Trump Administration's Executive Order that sought to justify separating children from their parent

Develop a Strategy to Address Irregular Migration Across the Southern Border and Create a Humane Asylum System

- The Biden Harris Administration will begin implementing a comprehensive three-part plan for safe, lawful, and orderly migration in the region.
- First, the Administration will address the underlying causes of migration through a strategy to confront the instability, violence, and economic insecurity that currently drives migrants from their homes.
- Second, the Administration will collaborate with regional partners, including foreign governments, international organizations, and nonprofits to shore up other countries' capacity to provide protection and opportunities to asylum seekers and migrants closer to home.
- Finally, the Administration will ensure that Central American refugees and asylum seekers have access to legal avenues to the United States. The Secretary of Homeland Security is also directed to review the Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP) program.
- This Executive Order also directs a series of actions to restore the U.S. asylum system, including by rescinding and directing agency review of a host of Trump Administration proclamations, rules, and guidance documents that have effectively closed the U.S. border to asylum seekers.

Restore Faith in Our Legal Immigration System and Promote Integration of New Americans

- This Executive Order elevates the role of the White House in coordinating the federal government's strategy to promote immigrant integration and inclusion, including re-establishing a Task Force on New Americans, and ensuring that our legal immigration system operates fairly and efficiently.
- The order requires agencies to conduct a top-to-bottom review of recent regulations, policies, and guidance that have set up barriers to our legal immigration system.
- Rescinds President Trump's memorandum requiring family sponsors to repay the government if relatives receive public benefits, instructs the agencies to review the public charge rule and related policies, and streamline the naturalization process.

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