

BIDEN'S FOREIGN POLICY: 10 AREAS TO WATCH

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In its first 100 days, the Biden administration has begun to implement U.S. foreign policy against the backdrop of a fractured, multi-polar world with a rising China, a more assertive European Union and competition among regional actors such as India, Iran, Russia, Brazil and others. While a Biden Doctrine has yet to emerge, here are 10 foreign policy areas to watch as the administration articulates U.S. priorities, engages with allies, addresses geopolitical challenges and promotes a rule-based international order.



Global Competitiveness: Set ambitious goals and make significant public investments that promote U.S. manufacturing and high-wage jobs, modernize America's transport and energy infrastructure and maintain a competitive edge in AI, 5G, clean energy, biotech and other innovation areas over China and other competitors.



Climate: Elevate climate as a centerpiece of American foreign policy and national security. Promote global leadership through climate diplomacy and new U.S. regulations and mandates to reduce domestic carbon emissions and promote sustainability, while urging other countries to accelerate their own climate commitments this year.



Supply Chains: Establish policies that promote U.S. supply chain resilience for critical products, including strategic materials, semiconductors and essential health goods, by expanding production in the United States to produce jobs and prevent shortages of critical goods or American dependence on a strategic competitor or adversary in a crisis.



Global Corporate Taxation. Reach an international agreement to end the "race to the bottom" by negotiating a global minimum corporate tax rate, paired with domestic corporate tax reform to increase the U.S. minimum rate on global income, reduce current tax incentives to offshore business to low-tax jurisdictions and close off tax havens.



Cybersecurity: Establish policies and set aggressive goals to build and use trust-worthy infrastructure (including a secure 5G, satellite and advanced cryptography) and defend U.S. systems against sophisticated foreign cyber actors. Partner with allies to set standards for a free and open cyberspace that reflects common values and sanction cybercriminals.



Public Health: : Support global COVID-19 vaccination efforts to start economies and international travel by providing funds to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance for the COVAX Advance Market Commitment, and galvanize global support for all countries to prevent, detect and respond to future pandemic outbreaks.



Trade: Prioritize protecting American jobs in any new trade agreements and include strong worker rights, human rights and environmental provisions. Work with allies to reform the World Trade Organization with a focus on the dispute settlement process. Use export controls to protect strategic U.S. technologies.



Corruption: Promote global anti-corruption and establish beneficial ownership rules and other transparency measures to ensure the United States is not a destination for illicit cash or goods. Hold systems of authoritarian capitalism accountable for greater transparency and push for their participation in a rules-based system.



Multilateralism: Biden has promised to restore the United States as full participant in working multilaterally to solve global problems. But success may depend on the administration's ability to secure support from allies when U.S. priorities do not align with their own domestic interests.



Democracy: Promote democracy as the predominant form of governance around the world and as the model best able to deliver peace and prosperity to citizens. This includes bolstering core democratic institutions in strategically important countries, coupled with human rights protections and enabling countries to counter Russian and Chinese interference.

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