



## Press Release

# New Podcast Episode: A Deep Dive Into the Immigration Crisis

PAULINA ENCK | FEBRUARY 1, 2024

It's The AAF Exchange — your source for clear, data-driven insight into today's economic and domestic policy issues.

In this episode of the AAF Exchange, AAF President Douglas Holtz-Eakin and special guest Laura Collins – a Director of the Bush Institute-SMU Economic Growth Initiative at the George W. Bush Institute in Dallas, Texas – provide a deep dive into the problems of, and solutions to, the U.S. immigration crisis.

AAF products mentioned in today's episode:

- In “[Immigration White Paper Series](#),” Collins outlines critical issues that must be addressed as Congress considers comprehensive immigration reform.
- In “[Make Immigration Policy Smarter to Reduce the Number of Migrants at the Border](#),” Collins considers various policy proposals intended to reduce the number of migrants at the U.S.-Mexico border.
- In “[Creating Avenues for Legal Migration Through Self-petitioning](#),” Collins and Bush Institute-SMU Economic Growth Initiative Advisor Cristobal Ramón make the case for self-petitioning immigration programs.
- In “[Building a Pro-Growth Legal Immigration System](#),” Holtz-Eakin and former AAF Director of Immigration and Trade Policy Jacqueline Varas propose an immigration reform framework that prioritizes economics – human capital, skills, and entrepreneurship.
- In “[A Notable Rulemaking](#),” Holtz-Eakin discusses an expensive but overlooked newly finalized Department of Homeland Security immigration-related rule.
- In “[Employment-based Immigration Policy in the United States: Challenges and Reforms](#),” Holtz-Eakin reviews the state of the labor force in the near term and into the foreseeable future, examines the problems with current U.S. policy toward employer-based immigration, and offers potential reforms.
- In “[Immigration Crisis #2](#),” Holtz-Eakin considers the future of employment-based, legal immigration in the United States.
- In “[The Growth-Immigration-Politics Nexus](#),” Holtz-Eakin explores the role of immigration in raising economic growth.
- In “[The Budgetary and Economic Tradeoffs of Reducing the Immigration Backlog](#),” Director of Fiscal Policy Gordon Gray estimates the funding and staffing needs required to eliminate the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services backlog.
- In “[Rethinking Southwest Border Solutions](#),” Former Labor and Immigration Policy Analyst Isabella Hindley explores the problem at the U.S. Southwest border, as well as potential reforms.

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