# 2020 United States presidential election / Biden should be elected

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### Position: Biden should be elected

This position addresses the topic 2020 United States presidential election.

## For this position

We have supported Trump's approach on the economy that, pre-COVID-19, ushered in the lowest unemployment rate in decades, and we have applauded his advancement of regulatory rollbacks that were overly burdensome. But at the end of the day, Trump flopped in key areas of basic decency and discipline that did real harm to the country.

77

From Our case for Joe Biden over Donald Trump, by Chicago Tribune editorial board (*Chicago Tribune*, September 25, 2020) (view)

Trump has not protected Americans from the coronavirus, which has killed more than 210,000 of our neighbors. Adjusted for population, that's four times as many as Russia, five times as many as Germany and 50 times as many as Japan. The virus is not Trump's fault. But his failure to take the crisis seriously and rally the country to a common cause contributed to American casualties. At the outset, Trump publicly poohpoohed the virus, even as he was privately telling journalist Bob Woodward it was a grave danger. There is no better example of Trump's central character flaw: He will always put self-interest above national interest.

77

From A clear choice for president, by Tampa Bay Times editorial board (*Tampa Bay Times*, October 7, 2020) (view)

Mr. Biden will not be morphing into an ideological maximalist any time soon, but he has acknowledged that the current trifecta of crises — a lethal pandemic, an economic meltdown and racial unrest — calls for an expanded governing vision. His campaign has been reaching out to a wide range of thinkers, including former rivals, to help craft more dynamic solutions. In midsummer, he rolled out an economic recovery plan, dubbed "Build Back Better," with proposals to bolster American manufacturing, spur innovation, build a "clean-energy economy," advance racial equity and support caregivers and educators. His plan for fighting the coronavirus includes the creation of a public health jobs corps.

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From Elect Joe Biden, America, by The New York Times editorial board (*The New York Times*, October 6, 2020) (view)

The layman would expect that the best economy in history would be a time to get the fiscal house in order, pay down debt and prepare for a rainy day (or perhaps a worldwide pandemic). The real tragedy of this scenario is that the runaway spending under the Trump administration has flashed dollar signs in the eyes of Capitol Hill Democrats. Trillions in unchecked spending has them clamoring to birth the social programs of their dreams. Federal spending is on an unsustainable path. The fact that it has continued under an allegedly conservative president is unbelievable.

99

From Our choice is Joe Biden\*, by New Hampshire Union Leader editorial board (*New Hampshire Union Leader*, October 25, 2020) (view)

The United States, with 4% of the world's population, has 20% of its reported coronavirus deaths. If America is at war against COVID-19 and "I'm a wartime president," as Trump declared in March, the invisible enemy is winning and now has even penetrated the White House grounds. There is little doubt that Biden would have handled the crisis more capably.

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From Elect Joe Biden. Reject Donald Trump., by USA Today editorial board (*USA Today*, October 20, 2020) (view)

We need a president who can be believed when he says, as Mr. Biden often does, that he will be president for all Americans. We need an executive who learned in his legislative years to reach across the aisle and put political rivalries and animosities aside. We need an administration that doesn't treat the presidency like a talk radio or TV show that is merely about the ratings, about keeping the audience tuned in.

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From Joe Biden for president, by Times Union editorial board (*Times Union*, October 18, 2020) (view)

At 77, Biden is a politician who Washington, for all its trying, has been unable to break. Even his political foes preface criticisms with caveats of grace or shrewdly aim their arrows askew - at his gaffe-prone speech, at his younger son, and at his tenuous affiliation with the "radical left," conveniently forgetting that Biden, a lifelong moderate, already fought the fringe and won.

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From We recommend Joe Biden for president, by Houston Chronicle editorial board (*Houston Chronicle*, October 11, 2020) (view)

Biden has an ambitious plan that gives us a fighting chance against the climate crisis. He has promised to increase taxes on the wealthy and corporations while expanding tax credits to working people and families with kids. A Biden-Harris administration will expand the Affordable Care Act to ensure that all Americans are covered. The coronavirus response will be led by scientists and not wishful thinking.

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From Pennsylvania needs Joe Biden, by The Philadelphia Inquirer editorial board (*The Philadelphia Inquirer*, October 11, 2020) (view)

The only option to rid the nation of this menace is for Americans to unite behind former Vice President Joe Biden and send the strongest possible message of rejection to the farright, racist extremists sustaining Trump's base. This is a call for moderate Republicans to put their country first: Join moderate Democrats and independents in forming a unified front dedicated to the common cause of taking back our country from a true monster.

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66 Biden is a proven legislative dealmaker. Rather than question the patriotism and faith of those on the other side, he has throughout his career treated would-be foes as humans with different perspectives. His steady record of bipartisan accomplishment can be seen in the stimulus bill that pulled America out of the Great Recession; in tough but honest negotiations with Sen. Mitch McConnell on taxes and debt; in crafting the Violence Against Women Act and supporting welfare reform and backing strong counterterrorism tools.

From Why Joe: Vote proudly for Joe Biden when you vote against Donald Trump, by New York Daily News editorial board (*New York Daily News*, November 1, 2020) (view)

In his earlier years in Washington, Biden, like most Democrats of the time, was a "tough on crime" warrior. He wrote the 1994 Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act, which created mandatory sentencing rules for drug crimes that led to the disproportionate incarceration of Black and Brown men. But Biden learned and grew, a characteristic of the man. In 2008, he backed elimination of a core component of the 1994 law, a racist sentencing disparity between crack and powder cocaine. More to the point, he admitted he'd been wrong.

From Joe Biden for president — and for one nation, indivisible, by Chicago Sun-Times editorial board (*Chicago Sun-Times*, August 21, 2020) (view)

## Against this position

No one ever asked the American people, or the people in "flyover," country, if they wanted to send their jobs abroad — until Mr. Trump. He has moved the debate, in both parties, from free trade, totally unfettered, to managed, or fair, trade. He has put America first, just as he said he would.

From The man and the record, by Pittsburgh Post-Gazette editorial board (*Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, October 31, 2020) (view)

Credit Mr. Trump's bold tax and regulatory reforms for helping unleash the nation's entrepreneurial forces. And for all the chatter on the left about "economic inequality," a Federal Reserve report published last week reveals that, under Mr. Trump, "families near the bottom of the income and wealth distributions generally continued to experience substantial gains" between 2016 and 2019. The economy under Mr. Trump also produced record low unemployment, particularly for African Americans and Hispanics. Expanding opportunity, not progressive prescriptions of wealth redistribution, remains the key to reducing inequality, and Mr. Trump has delivered in that regard.

From Review-Journal Endorsement: President of the United States, by Las Vegas Review-Journal editorial board (*Las Vegas Review-Journal*, October 3, 2020) (view)

On policy, though, we have agreed with many things the president has done. Perhaps the accomplishment that will stand the longest is his appointment of textualist judges throughout the federal court system, including three excellent Supreme Court justices. But the overall policy performance is mixed. For example, his tax and regulatory reforms jerked America out of a lethargic recovery and put it in full-steam-ahead mode. Yet he did not match the tax cuts with spending reductions, continuing America's disastrous deficit course.

From For president, we can't lend our name to men whose values we don't share, by The Detroit News editorial board (*The Detroit News*, October 29, 2020) (view)

66 Biden's platform is a risky love letter to social justice warriors and those who believe capitalism is the root of all evil. For starters, Biden wants to increase the corporate tax rate. The Hill cited an economic study by Kevin Hassett and Aparna Mathur which concluded that corporate tax hikes lead to a substantial decrease in wages and spending, and spurred businesses to move out of the country. That's not what we need, especially as a report by Yelp found that 60% of businesses around the U.S. that shut down due to the coronavirus will remain closed forever.

95

From The Herald endorses Trump, by Boston Herald editorial board (*Boston Herald*, October 27, 2020) (view)

The question is what matters more: words or actions? The media are enormously fixated on Trump's tweets and extemporaneous remarks, never learning the lesson that most of the time, he is just riffing. In endorsing him, we're choosing to focus on President Trump's actions and accomplishments. He has kept his promises.

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From The New York Post endorses President Donald J. Trump for re-election, by New York Post editorial board (*New York Post*, October 26, 2020) (view)

He has shrunk, rather than expanded, American involvement in nettlesome and pointless conflicts. He took swift and decisive action against adversaries such as Qassim Soleimani and Abu Bakr Al-Baghdadi, who were responsible for killing Americans and destabilizing the Middle East. Mr. Trump's leadership has resulted in Arab nations normalizing relations with Israel, the most significant breakthrough in the Middle East since the end of World War II.

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From Why we enthusiastically endorse Donald J. Trump for reelection, by The Washington Times editorial board (*The Washington Times*, November 1, 2020) (view)

## Mixed on this position

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