

Princeton Politics Professor, Lauren A Wright says many of Biden's orders will take time to go into effect because agencies aren't fully staffed yet, and his cabinet secretaries have not been confirmed. That is a built-in obstacle. Biden's strategy is actually to under promise and overdeliver. The administration wants to make it clear that they were left with a mess.

- There is a wide range of timelines on these, and the ones Biden signed in front of the press (mask mandate, Paris climate accord, and financial relief) can be thought of as the top priorities or the ones Biden wanted to garner the most attention for.
- But again, extending eviction moratoriums alone requires cooperation from HUD, VA, CDC, and Agriculture. Restarting the visa process for countries previously included in the Muslim travel ban is a state department directive.
- The obstacles that come from outside of government are essentially those out of the president's control. National security threats, natural disasters, not to mention the larger economic and health crisis we're in, all detract from the time presidents can spend on legislative priorities.
- Lincoln famously said "I claim not to have controlled events, but confess plainly that events have controlled me." I also teach my presidency students these general rules of thumb for predicting success of executive actions:
 1. Presidential actions should be public and open - presidents want to appear as leaders and visionaries, not administrators or managers, and there is no better time than the beginning of the presidency to draw attention.
 2. Presidential actions should be fast and decisive - presidents cannot equivocate, especially in crisis times and
 3. Regardless of the nature of their circumstances, presidential action should be forward looking and optimistic.

Biden's actions fit these three criteria. Let me know if you'd like to hear more from Lauren. Thanks

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