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United States Government & Politics

Weekly Current Events: Posted: 3.29.21

[Concha, “The Disgrace that was the Biden Press conference,” *The Hill*, 3.27.21.](https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/politics/the-disgrace-that-was-the-biden-press-conference/ar-BB1eZV0j?li=BBnb7Kz)

1. How did the author describe the reporters covering the press conference?
2. How does he describe their performance?
3. What’s one of Biden’s specific claims that the author debunked/countered? What source(s) did he cite?
4. What does the author accuse the Biden team of doing?
5. How did the author speak to President Biden’s command of the press conference, or his likely impression around the world?
6. Do you agree with the author? For reference, [here’s the Press Conference in full](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W3cGU4-zwMM).

[Serwer, “The Real Border Crisis, *The Atlantic*, 3.26.21.](https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2021/03/which-border-crisis/618420/)

1. How do different politicians describe the situation at the U.S.-Mexican border?
2. What is a specific federal immigration policy described in the article?
3. What are some likely causes for the increase in immigration at the border?
4. What does the author say about the Trump approach and its effectiveness?
5. What is ‘claiming asylum,’ and why does U.S. law classify asylum seekers differently from illegal immigrants?
6. In real numbers, describe the change in immigration traffic at the border.
7. What interest(s) are involved in the immigration policy development, and why might that be concerning?
8. What does he say about the conservative media’s impact on defining the immigration issue?

[Wehle, “Powell’s Pathetic Dominion Defamation Defense,” *The Bulwark*, 3.25.21.](https://thebulwark.com/powells-pathetic-dominion-defamation-defense/)

1. Who is Sydney Powell?
2. Describe Dominion Voting Systems and their lawsuit against Powell.
3. How might a pundit and a lawyer have to approach accuracy and truthfulness differently?
4. What does a plaintiff need to win a defamation/libel suit?
5. What is the irony of Powell’s recent legal claim?
6. What is an outlandish election-season claim that she made?
7. What does the author suggest may happen to Powell as a result of this legal strategy?