

From: [Vice Provost for Research](#)
To: [OSARA](#)
Subject: Summary of Administration Actions Impacting Research
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Attachments: [image.png](#)



Office of Research
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

Dear Colleagues,

The recent executive orders issued by the current administration are poised to significantly impact our research community. Below, we provide:

- **Up to Date Information:** links to current University Resources.
- **Current Status:** a summary of the directives issued beginning January 20, 2025 and their current status
- **The Impact of these Directives:** Our assessment of the impact these directives may have on AU Research
- **Available University Resources**

Up to Date Information

Access up to date status information [here](#).

Current Status of Directives

Executive Order	Status (as of 2/24/25)
EO 14207: Eliminating the Federal Executive Institute	
EO 14173: Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity	Challenged by Memorandum and Temporary Restraining Order (TRO)
EO 14169: Reevaluating and Realigning United States Foreign Aid	

EO 14161: Protecting the United States From Foreign Terrorists and Other National Security and Public Safety Threats	
EO 14159: Protecting the American People Against Invasion	
EO 14154: Unleashing American Energy	
EO 14151: Ending Radical and Wasteful Government DEI Programs and Preferencing	Enforcement Paused by TRO Issued

All Executive Orders: <https://www.federalregister.gov/presidential-documents/executive-orders/donald-trump/2025>

Department/Agency Directives/Memoranda

Office of Management and Budget-Temporary Pause of Agency Grant, Loan, and Other Financial Assistance Programs	Rescinded
DOE Memorandum for All DOE Funding Agreements or Awards:- Cease All Activities Associated with DEO and CBP	Paused by TRO Issued
NASA Initial Guidance Regarding Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility (DEIA) Executive Orders	Superseded by agency guidance based on TRO
NASA Initial Guidance Regarding Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government Executive Order	
Department of Labor:-Immediate Implementation of Executive Orders “Ending Radical and Wasteful Government DEI Programs and Preferencing” and “Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity”	Ceased by agency guidance based on TRO
Supplemental Guidance to the 2024 NIH Grants Policy Statement: Indirect Cost Rates (NOT-OD-25-068)-	Paused by TRO Issued
U.S. Department of Education Takes Action to Eliminate DEI	Paused by TRO Issued
USAID:-Notice on Implementation of Executive Order on Reevaluating and Realigning United States Foreign Aid-	Paused by TRO Issued

NSF Implementation of Recent Executive Orders	Paused by TRO Issued
CDC Guidance on Complying with-Defending Women From Gender Ideology Extremism And Restoring Biological Truth To The Federal Government	
CDC Guidance on Complying with-Ending Radical and Wasteful Government DEI Programs and Preferencing and Initial Rescissions of Harmful Executive Orders and Action	Paused by TRO Issued

Potential Impact of These Directives on AU Research

Funding and Research Priorities Shift

- EO 14151 (Ending DEI Programs) & EO 14173 (Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity)
 - Research funding for projects tied to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) may be significantly reduced or eliminated.
 - Studies on systemic barriers in education, workplace bias, and social determinants of health may struggle to secure federal grants.
 - Institutions relying on federal DEI grants may need to pivot toward alternative funding sources or shift focus away from inclusivity-related research.
- EO 14169 (Reevaluating U.S. Foreign Aid)
 - International research collaborations may face increased scrutiny, particularly those involving global health, climate science, and policy research.
 - Funding reductions for global development programs could affect partnerships in areas like epidemiology, public health, and humanitarian innovation.

Scientific Inquiry in Energy and Climate Science

- EO 14154 (Unleashing American Energy)
 - Environmental research may be deprioritized in favor of energy production, affecting studies on renewable energy, climate resilience, and pollution impact.
 - If regulatory agencies weaken environmental protections, access to climate data, pollution tracking tools, and impact assessments may be restricted.
 - Fossil fuel research may see an increase in funding, shifting priorities in

energy-related academic programs.

National Security Considerations and Research Restrictions

- EO 14159 (Protecting Against Invasion) & EO 14161 (National Security & Public Safety Threats)
 - Increased security measures may affect visa policies for international researchers, making it harder for foreign scholars to participate in U.S.-based research.
 - Greater scrutiny on international research partnerships could limit cross-border collaborations, particularly with researchers from flagged countries.
 - Data security regulations may tighten, leading to more restrictions on sharing research in sensitive fields like artificial intelligence, biotechnology, and cybersecurity.

Institutional Changes and Academic Freedom

- EO 14207 (Eliminating the Federal Executive Institute)
 - The Federal Executive Institute, which supports leadership training for government and research institutions, is being dismantled. This could affect professional development opportunities for researchers working in government-funded programs.
 - Without this institute, there may be fewer structured pathways for leadership development in federal research agencies.
- EO 14151 & EO 14173 (Rescinding DEI & Related Hiring Policies)
 - Universities and research institutions may alter hiring and faculty recruitment policies, with less emphasis on diversity-driven faculty appointments.
 - Academic freedom may face indirect challenges if research on race, gender, or social equity becomes politically sensitive or deprioritized for funding.
 - Universities and research institutions may receive request to, “certify that it does not operate any programs promoting DEI that violate any applicable Federal anti-discrimination laws”.

University Resources

Library Resources

The University Library is spearheading and supporting data preservation and rescue

efforts. Please find guidelines for these efforts below:

- **Engaged in Data Rescue Efforts:** if you rely on government data for your research, we encourage you to download it now in case it becomes unavailable.
 - *Important:* Please ensure you save metadata along with the data, as missing metadata may render your work unusable.
 - If you wish to contribute to broader data rescue efforts through the Internet Archive, please refer to these resources:
 - Archive Team: Overview of Projects
https://wiki.archiveteam.org/index.php/Main_Page
 - Guide to Running Archive Team Warrior
https://wiki.archiveteam.org/index.php/ArchiveTeam_Warrior
- **Searching for Missing Government Data:** If you are looking for datasets that have already vanished from government websites, please visit our list of trusted repositories: https://subjectguides.library.american.edu/data_rescue. This site is regularly being updated. If you know of additional resources not listed, please email them to savethedata@american.edu
- **Using Government Data in Your Courses:** If you are using government data in your classes, please notify us as soon as possible at savethedata@american.edu with details on the datasets you rely on. This will help us prioritize efforts to secure and preserve this information for instructional use.
- **Contact:** savethedata@american.edu

Sincerely,

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