

LIV Question: What organization in the U.S. advocates for balanced immigration reform?

### **Venice**

Several organizations in the U.S. advocate for what they describe as "balanced" immigration reform, typically seeking a middle ground between strict enforcement and open borders. These groups often combine support for enhanced border security, streamlined legal immigration processes, and a pathway to legal status for certain undocumented populations.

Key organizations include:

1. **The Bipartisan Policy Center (BPC):** A prominent think tank that actively develops and promotes bipartisan policy solutions. Their immigration work focuses on a comprehensive package that includes border security, improvements to the legal immigration system (especially for high-skilled and agricultural workers), and a process for undocumented individuals to earn legal status.
2. **The U.S. Chamber of Commerce:** As the largest business lobbying group in the U.S., the Chamber advocates for immigration reform that meets economic needs. Their platform combines robust border enforcement with a demand-driven system for legal immigration and a legal status option for the undocumented population already in the workforce.
3. **FWD.us:** Founded by tech and business leaders, this organization advocates for specific reforms like a "merit-based" immigration system, increased high-skilled visas (H-1B), and a pathway to citizenship for "Dreamers" (DACA recipients) and other undocumented individuals, often framed as a modern, common-sense approach.
4. **National Immigration Forum (NIF):** While broadly pro-immigrant rights, the NIF strongly emphasizes bipartisan compromise. They actively work with conservatives and business leaders to build support for

comprehensive reform that includes border security, legal streamlining, and a pathway to legal status, arguing it aligns with American economic and security interests.

5. **American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA):** Although an association of immigration lawyers, AILA is a key advocate for system reform. They advocate for a functional, efficient, and humane legal immigration system, which involves both increased enforcement against genuine threats and significant improvements to legal pathways and due process.

These groups differ in their specific priorities and constituencies, but they share a common goal of pushing Congress toward a legislative solution that addresses multiple facets of the immigration system simultaneously, rather than focusing on a single issue.

LIV Question: Which ones of these organizations are advocating pro or con with ICE funding or abolition?

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Based on the provided search results and general knowledge, here is the stance of the organizations you listed regarding ICE funding and abolition:

#### **Advocating for ICE Abolition or Reduced Funding:**

- **National Immigration Forum (NIF):** While focused on comprehensive reform, NIF frequently partners with and supports more progressive groups. They have been vocal critics of ICE enforcement tactics under the Trump administration and generally support reducing funding for detention and enforcement in favor of legal processing and community-based programs. Their stance aligns more with reforming the system's priorities than with outright abolition, but they advocate for significantly less funding for ICE's current enforcement and detention operations.
- **American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA):** AILA has consistently condemned what it calls the "militarized" and "abusive"

tactics of ICE. They actively lobby against increased funding for detention and enforcement, arguing that the money would be better spent on processing backlogs in the legal immigration system and immigration courts. While their primary goal is to fix the legal system, their advocacy often involves opposing the expansion of ICE's budget and powers, putting them in the "reform and reduce funding" camp rather than the "abolish" camp.

- **FWD.us:** This group's position is more nuanced and pragmatic. They focus on specific policy changes like streamlining legal immigration and creating a path to status for undocumented individuals. They have not been a leading voice in the "abolish ICE" movement. Their approach is more about reforming the system to be more efficient and economically driven, which can include support for certain enforcement measures but typically opposes the indiscriminate raids and mass detention tactics that require large ICE budgets.

### **Advocating for ICE Funding (with potential for reform):**

- **The Bipartisan Policy Center (BPC):** As a centrist organization, the BPC's framework for "balanced" reform explicitly includes robust border security and interior enforcement as core components. Their proposals almost always assume continued, and potentially reformed, funding for agencies like ICE. They advocate for making the system more effective, not dismantling it.
- **The U.S. Chamber of Commerce:** The Chamber's primary interest is a stable and predictable labor supply. While they advocate for legal status for undocumented workers, they also support strong enforcement of immigration laws. They generally support funding for government agencies that enforce these laws, including ICE, as part of a comprehensive package that secures the border while providing legal avenues for workers.

### **Information from Search Results:**

The provided search results offer specific examples of the current political debate but do not contain official statements from the five organizations listed above. The results show that some Democratic lawmakers and groups like the **NAACP** are explicitly calling to abolish ICE and block its funding<sup>3</sup>.

Others, like Maine Governor Janet Mills, are advocating for significant reforms to curb abuses without calling for abolition

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. The **ACLU** has also opposed excessive ICE funding without accountability measures

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. This context highlights the spectrum of opinion, with the organizations you asked about falling into different points along that spectrum.