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# THINK TANK REVIEW

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This Think Tank Review\* covers articles and reports published in May relating to different political and policy topics. ([click to share on Twitter](#))

Reports analyse the results of the **EP elections** from a European and a national perspective. Results seem more positive than expected and the turnout was the highest in the last 20 years across the EU. Articles on representative democracy in the EU focus on ways to recover legitimacy by addressing citizens' frustration and achieving transnational unity on common issues.

On **ECOFIN**, papers comment on the 20 years of the Eurozone, showing that the common European monetary policy has been adept at stabilising the economy and that a common currency has resulted in a monetary policy that is largely independent of exchange rates. Other publications deal with the current automatic stabilisers in the euro area and describe how a high debt level, combined with increasing deficits, leads to a higher risk premium and thus higher refinancing costs.

On **General Affairs**, articles discuss how the European Court of Justice could widen an 'EU rule of law toolbox' and how to improve the EU cohesion policy for the next decade.

With regard to **Justice and Home Affairs**, papers address the major proposals for a revision of the Dublin regulation, which is a prerequisite for a comprehensive reform of the Common European Asylum System to better share responsibilities between the member states.

On **Brexit**, articles comment on the EP elections, on how to ensure a post-Brexit level playing field and how the UK parliament can shape its role in a post-Brexit UK.

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The next Think Tank Review will be out in July, with papers published in June 2019.

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## SECTION 1 - EU POLITICS AND INSTITUTIONS

### ULKOPOLIITTINEN INSTITUUTTI (FINNISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

#### [The 2019 European elections: new political constellations](#)

by Tuomas Iso-Markku and Marco Siddi [@MarcoSiddi](#)

*Three main factors will determine the shape of the next European Parliament: the outcome of the elections, the organisation of national parties into supranational political groups, and developments in the Brexit process. Everything points towards some significant changes – and a considerable degree of uncertainty – in the new EP. (8 p.)*

### KONRAD-ADENAUER-STIFTUNG

#### [European elections from the inside](#)

by Hardy Ostry, Mathias Koch, Johanna Fleger et al.

*This report presents the results of the 2019 EP election from a European and national perspective. It contains a compact overview for each one of the 28 EU member states which analyses the results in the respective countries against the background of current developments. The series of reports thus makes a significant contribution to a deeper understanding of the overall outcome of the 2019 European elections. (DE - 61 p.)*

### INSTITUT PRO EVROPSKOU POLITIKU EUROPEUM (EUROPEUM INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY)

#### [Commentary: European elections](#)

by Vladimír Bartovic [@vbartovic](#), Zuzana Stuchlíková [@ZStuchlikova](#), Kateřina Davidová [@k8\\_davidova](#) et al.

*Experts present in this paper their reactions to the EP elections. Results seem more positive than expected and a Green wave divides Europe. The most positive surprise of the elections was the high turnout - the highest in the last 20 years across the EU. (7 p.)*

### FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN PROGRESSIVE STUDIES

#### [The European elections 2019: 10 observations on how they made a difference and will resonate further on](#)

by Ania Skrzypek [@Ania\\_Skrzypek](#)

*The European elections 2019 have become a turning point. Naturally, ahead of the vote, there have been many claims made already about how they would be critical. But since these phrases return every 5 years, possibly not too many have taken them too seriously. But then in the end, against many odds, on 26th May 2019 shortly before midnight it has become evident it was vote different to any other. The anticipation was therefore accurate, as this time history actually has been made. (7 p.)*

## OPEN EUROPE

### [The 2019 European Parliamentary elections and the future of the European project](#)

by Dominic Walsh [@DomWalsh13](#) and Zoe Alipranti [@ZAlipranti](#)

*This briefing analyses the 2019 EP elections and their potential consequences, both in terms of the general future of the European project and the day-to-day functioning of the EU institutions. (28 p.)*

## INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR DEMOCRACY AND ELECTORAL ASSISTANCE

### [Engaging young people and women in European Parliament elections](#)

by Cristina Ares [@cristinaarescc](#)

*This paper puts together relevant data on the inclusion of young people and women in EP elections. It is focused on two pitfalls of EU electoral democracy: voter absenteeism on the part of young people, and the under-representation of women in the EP. With the purpose of enriching and making EU electoral democracy stronger, the author presents, as food for thought, some evidence on key elements to foster participation in EP elections, as well as to reach a more balanced composition of the EP in terms of age and gender. (72 p.)*

## THE GERMAN MARSHALL FUND OF THE UNITED STATES

### [Divide and obstruct: populist parties and EU foreign policy](#)

by Rosa Balfour [@RosaBalfour](#), Laura Basagni [@laura\\_basagni](#), Anne Flotho-Liersch [@FlothoAnne](#) et al.

*The rise of populism is beginning to shake the institutions that bring Europe together but it is not taking over European politics. The far right has made significant gains, especially in Italy and in France, but it has lost two members of the EP. The governing populist parties in Hungary and Poland have also performed strongly. Other populist parties expected to fare well in Germany and the Netherlands have underperformed. The mainstream political groups that have enjoyed a majority in the EP up to now have lost votes while the liberal and green groups have gained much ground. This means the new legislature still has a clear pro-EU majority. (50 p.)*

## CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

### [EU parliamentary democracy: how representative?](#)

by Sophia Russack [@SophiaRussack](#)

*To what extent does the EP really represent EU citizens? This paper briefly introduces the most crucial characteristics of the EP and then highlights the most important differences between the EP and its national counterparts: how national parties translate into European groupings; the (dis)connection between the European executive and legislative branches; and electoral (dis)connections. It investigates the idea for institutional reform introduced to improve the representative character of the EP – the Spitzenkandidaten procedure. It finds that the attempt to transform the EU into a full-fledged parliamentary system does not make the EP a better representative of the EU electorate. (15 p.)*

## CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

### [Representative democracy in the EU. Recovering legitimacy](#)

by Steven Blockmans [@StevenBlockmans](#) and Sophia Russack [@SophiaRussack](#) (eds.)

*Representative democracy is beset by a crisis of legitimacy across the world, but in Europe this crisis is compounded by the inadequacy of national governments to address citizens' frustrations and to achieve transnational unity on common issues. How representative are national parliaments in their decision-making on EU matters? This volume investigates the relationship between the democratic institutions of the member states and those of the EU. It looks at voting and decision-shaping mechanisms in selected member states, in particular the 'Europeanisation' of representative democracy at national level. It also assesses the state of parliamentary democracy at the EU level. (386 p.)*

## EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

### [What Europeans really feel: the battle for the political system](#)

by Susi Dennison [@sd270](#), Mark Leonard [@markhleonard](#) and Adam Lury

*In the year of the EP election, the biggest challenge for the EU is Euro pessimism. This paper lays out the findings of a survey on voters' feelings about their communities and future, and the implications for the future of the European project. Pro-European parties now need an inclusive, compelling story about the future to "connect with" rather than "convince" disenchanted voters. (23 p.)*

## SVENSKA INSTITUTET FÖR EUROPAPOLITISKA STUDIER (SWEDISH INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES)

### [Perspectives on the future of the EU](#)

by Christopher J. Bickerton, Ulrike Guérot [@ulrikeguerot](#), Ivan Krastev et al.

*Several challenges stimulate the debate on the future of the EU: globalisation, security concerns, the rise of populism, the impact of new technologies, Brexit. An underlying question concerns the prospects for legitimacy and democracy. In this volume, five leading European scholars go beyond policy issues to focus on the future of the EU as a political system. (123 p.)*

## EUROPEAN POLICY CENTRE/OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATIONS

### [Citizens expect: lessons from the European citizens' consultations](#)

by Paul Butcher and Corina Stratulat

*The European citizens' consultations (ECCs) were supposed to bring citizens into the decision-making process and inform the European Council's discussions about the future of the EU at the recent Sibiu summit. In practice, any outcome from the ECCs has been largely absent, and it is unclear if they have been taken on board at all. The authors identify the main lesson of the 2018 ECCs – that without any clear definition of their objectives, it is impossible to adequately assess or respond to them. The authors go on to argue that any future repeat of the process must clearly define the scope and purpose of the exercise in advance. (12 p.)*

## TÆNKETANKEN EUROPA

### [Who is big in Brussels?](#)

by Catharina Sørensen [@CatSorensen](#)

*How come some small member states in the EU have more influence over policy-making than their size suggests they should have? While a small member state can do nothing about its geography, it can do something about its representation. It is up to each member state whether to be big in the Brussels machinery. In a new survey, the authors rank the member states' permanent representations in Brussels when it comes to size, composition of staff and duration of secondments. (11 p.)*

## CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN REFORM

### [Should the EU make foreign policy decisions by majority voting?](#)

by Leonard Schuette [@LeoSchuette](#)

*Lowering the threshold for making foreign policy decisions to a majority vote from unanimity would help the EU become more assertive and effective in defending its interests on the world stage, but it would also bring fresh challenges. This paper examines the Commission's proposal to extend qualified majority voting to three areas of the EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy: sanctions, human rights statements and civilian missions. (12 p.)*

## EUROPEAN POLITICAL STRATEGY CENTRE

### [Delivering on European common goods. Strengthening member states' capacity to act in the 21st century](#)

*The last decade profoundly altered the economic, political, societal and security context in Europe and the world. Member states now face an important decision: do they want to weather these challenges alone or together? If the past is anything to go by, it is when acting together that EU member states can punch above their individual weight and ensure that common priorities are met. But what are the common priorities that will shape and define our future? Where precisely is it that the EU can ensure that it really is more than the sum of its parts? And what are the areas that most urgently need to be tackled in this volatile and unpredictable world? (31 p.)*

## INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR DEMOCRACY AND ELECTORAL ASSISTANCE

### [Gender in political parties' strategic plans](#)

*The global average for women's representation in parliaments was 24 per cent in January 2019. Political parties are identified as responsible for women's underrepresentation, given their role as the main gatekeepers of elected decision-making positions in most countries. This factsheet illustrates the link of gender in political parties' programs and operational policies, processes and practices. It highlights the approach for institutionalizing gender equality in the conceptualization, development and implementation of a party's strategic plan. (10 p.)*



## SVENSKA INSTITUTET FÖR EUROPAPOLITISKA STUDIER (SWEDISH INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES)

### [Juncker's political Commission: did it work?](#)

by Mark Dawson

*To meet the EU's largest problems, the Commission must take political decisions. This goal was formulated by newly elected President Jean-Claude Juncker in 2014. The ambition involved a streamlining of the agenda, an internal re-organization as well as changes in the coordination with other EU institutions. What were the effects of the goals that Juncker set out? The author explores three aspects: agenda-setting, working methods and the legislative process. (10 p.)*

## INSTITUT FÜR WELTWIRTSCHAFT KIEL (KIEL INSTITUTE FOR THE WORLD ECONOMY)

### [The \(trading\) costs of a non-EU](#)

by Gabriel Felbermayr [@GFelbermayr](#), Jasmin Katrin Gröschl, Inga Heiland et al.

*The authors sketch the economic costs for EU member countries in case of a reversal of the integration process by dissolving the EU Customs Union, the Single Market, the European Currency Union, the Schengen agreement, and the regional trade agreements with third parties. They reveal that dissolving the Single Market would exert the strongest negative effects on production, trade, and income of EU member countries. Central and Eastern European countries would be severely affected by over proportionally high losses, whereas established members like Germany, France, or Italy would suffer below-average. (DE - 12 p.)*

Die (Handels-)Kosten einer Nicht-EU

## SECTION 2 - EU POLICIES

### AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

#### HEINRICH BÖLL STIFTUNG/BIRDLIFE INTERNATIONAL/FRIENDS OF THE EARTH EUROPE

### [Agriculture atlas: facts and figures on EU farming policy](#)

by Christine Chemnitz and Heinrich Boll Foundation (eds.)

*Calling the EU's agricultural policy a "bureaucratic monster", this atlas shows how closely Europe's agriculture is intertwined with our lives and living space and reveals how little of the funding from the Common Agricultural Policy is fit for purpose. The atlas furthermore illustrates that it is worthwhile pushing for a better, fundamentally different set of agricultural policies. People in the EU must have the knowledge and certainty that agricultural policy is being used in a sensible way and for the common good, only then will they give it their support. (72 p.)*

### COMPETITIVENESS (INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND SPACE)

#### EUROPEAN POLITICAL STRATEGY CENTRE

### [The future of work? Work of the future! On how artificial intelligence, robotics and automation are transforming jobs and the economy in Europe](#)

by Michel Servoz [@MichelServoz](#)

*Thinking about artificial intelligence (AI) in the future tense is risking to miss somehow the point that AI and robotisation are already well and truly transforming our daily lives. AI has the potential*



*to amplify major socio-economic changes and be much more disruptive. What do recent developments in AI and robotisation foreshadow for the economy, businesses and jobs? Should we be worried or excited? Where will jobs be destroyed or new ones created? How do education systems, businesses, governments and social partners need to adapt to successfully manage the forthcoming transitions? (155 p.)*

## **BERTELSMANN STIFTUNG/ JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE BERLIN**

### **[Digitalsteuer in der EU – wo stehen wir?](#)**

by Pola Schneemelcher [@pola\\_schnee](#)

*Following the failure of the introduction of a digital tax at European level, some member states have now announced their own measures. The author gives an overview of the current developments. In principle, the member states agree that a solution is needed for the taxation of digital business models. However, lack of consensus on what this solution should look like threatens regulatory fragmentation in the internal market. The EU must speak with one voice here. (DE - 9 p.)*

## **BRUEGEL/ EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**

### **[Europe – the global centre for excellent research](#)**

*The world of research and innovation is becoming increasingly multipolar with China joining the ranks of science and technology leaders. For the EU, increased global research capacities offer a larger global talent pool and opportunities for specialisation, but also increased competition for investment, talent and the position as world-leader in critical technological fields. To be a global centre for excellent research, the EU and its framework programme must support the further integration of the intra-EU excellent research pole and at the same time being open for foreign talent and internationally connected with strong extra-EU partners. (76 p.)*

## **ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

## **DEUTSCHES INSTITUT FÜR WIRTSCHAFTSFORSCHUNG (GERMAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH)**

### **[20 years of common European monetary policy: reasons to celebrate](#)**

by Jan Philipp Fritsche [@JphFritsche](#) and Patrick Christian Harms

*Twenty years after the introduction of the euro, this report assesses the performance of monetary policy in the EMU founding states. It shows that the ECB's common monetary policy has been more adept at stabilizing the economy than most of its national predecessors from the perspective of the member states. With a common currency, European monetary policy has also become largely independent of exchange rates. However, the central bank is unable to counter long-term macroeconomic imbalances. To protect euro area countries from crises more effectively, priority should be given to reforming the monetary union and fiscal policy as well as to completing the banking union and the capital markets union. (10 p.)*

## ÖSTERREICHISCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR EUROPAPOLITIK (AUSTRIAN SOCIETY FOR EUROPEAN POLITICS)

### [The Eurozone 20 years from now: utopia or dystopia?](#)

by Kurt Bayer

*During the financial crisis a number of missing instruments dealing with the collapsing financial sector were introduced belatedly, unable however to solve some of the most important shortages. The basic pre-conditions for a Monetary Union, a political union allowing for putting the fate of EMU before that of individual countries and/or flexible markets, especially labour markets, as buffers against asymmetric shocks, are still lacking, leading to sub-par performance of EMU. Ways forward can be perceived to stretch from muddling through, to creating better fiscal-monetary policy coordination to changing radically the mission of the ECB. (9 p.)*

## FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG (FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION)

### [Vom ESM zum EWF – Klare Regeln bei der Weiterentwicklung vom Krisen- zum Vorsorgemechanismus für eine stabile Euro-Zone](#)

by Harald Noack

*The European Stability Mechanism (ESM) has made a significant contribution to addressing the consequences of the financial crisis in the euro area. However, this would not have been feasible for the ESM alone without the ECB's strong monetary support. In this respect, there is the danger that the brunt of rescue measures in future crises would continue to be assigned to the ECB. However, it is primarily the task of policymakers to make the Eurozone more financially stable. An ESM / European Monetary Fund can contribute to this with enhanced competences as well as new, precautionary financial instruments. (DE - 8 p.)*

## EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

### [Are the current “automatic stabilisers” in the euro area member states sufficient to smooth economic cycles?](#)

by Antonio Fatas [@AntonioFatas](#)

*Since 2008, fiscal policy has come back as a potential, possibly primary, tool to stabilize business cycles. The author presents evidence that European countries have historically relied on automatic stabilisers for counter-cyclical policies, while discretionary fiscal policy has been pro-cyclical (unlike in the US). Pro-cyclical fiscal policies became so strong in the years 2010-14 that they completely eliminated the benefits of automatic stabilisers. Looking forward, there are calls to strengthen automatic stabilisers. The author argues in this paper that without addressing the reasons behind the pro-cyclical policy, this cannot be a solution. (29 p.)*

## OBSERVER RESEARCH FOUNDATION

### [A second-class funeral: political dynamics of the Eurozone reforms](#)

by Britta Petersen

*The euro is in this article seen as probably the most fundamental area of concern in Europe. Regarding the governance of the euro area, Emanuel Macron's victory back in 2017 raised hopes for a reform that would tackle many of the structural flaws of the common currency. The EU, however, remains deeply divided over the question of how to govern the eurozone. This paper tracks the political dynamics of the failed eurozone reform and argues that the main stumbling stones are the unfinished work of the European integration process. (30 p.)*

## CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

### [Equilibrium real interest rates and the financial cycle: empirical evidence for euro area member countries](#)

by Ansgar Belke and Jens Klose

*The authors estimate the equilibrium real interest rate for nine euro area member countries and the euro area as a whole using quarterly data from 1995 to 2015. They show that adding the financial cycle indeed alters the equilibrium real interest rate estimates and, in line with previous studies, that there is a fall in the equilibrium real interest rate over time. The results indicate that in most member countries the real rate is lower than its equilibrium level. Hence, they should not worry about secular stagnation now. This is because secular stagnation is likely to occur when real interest rates are higher than their equilibrium levels. (27 p.)*

## CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

### [Public debt and the risk premium: a dangerous doom loop](#)

by Cinzia Alcidi [!\[\]\(cbe2492b119e39e02a1dab2af4a4b296\_img.jpg\) @AlcidiCinzia](#) and Daniel Gros

*The current environment of low to 'ultra-low' interest rates fosters the view that 'deficits do not matter'. However, debt does matter. Countries with high debt levels often pay a risk premium. Italy represents a telling example of a negative loop whereby a high debt level, combined with increasing deficits, leads to a higher risk premium and hence higher refinancing costs. Portugal provides the opposite example. A moderate reduction in fiscal deficits has so much improved the outlook for future debt levels that the risk premium has fallen to less than one half of the Italian level, thus reducing the interest payment burden and debt. (11 p.)*

## BARCELONA GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

### [Monetary policy and bank profitability in a low interest rate environment](#)

by Carlo Altavilla, Miguel Boucinha and José-Luis Peydró

*The authors analyse the impact of standard and non-standard monetary policy on bank profitability. Accommodative monetary conditions asymmetrically affect the main components of bank profitability, with a positive impact on loan loss provisions and non-interest income offsetting the negative one on net interest income. A protracted period of low monetary rates has a negative effect on profits that, however, only materialises after a long time period and is counterbalanced by improved macroeconomic conditions. Monetary policy easing surprises during the low interest rate period improve bank stock prices and credit default swap (CDS). (52 p.)*

## E3G

### [Opportunities to integrate disaster risk reduction and climate resilience into sustainable finance](#)

by Rosalind Cook, Nick Mabey [!\[\]\(7d1d6890825e83a6a4a51febe2dcc7f3\_img.jpg\) @Mabeytweet](#), Kate Levick [!\[\]\(5b78f4d8e2942ab203be44f938cc0a7c\_img.jpg\) @KatelLevick](#) et al.

*The next Commission will have a unique opportunity to put disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and resilience at the heart of the financial system with its next wave of reforms under the sustainable finance action plan. (60 p.)*

**MTA KÖZGAZDASÁG- ÉS REGIONÁLIS TUDOMÁNYI KUTATÓKÖZPONT - VILÁGGAZDASÁGI INTÉZET (CENTRE FOR ECONOMIC AND REGIONAL STUDIES HAS - INSTITUTE OF WORLD ECONOMICS)**

**[Foreign investment screening in Europe and the V4 countries today](#)**

by Tamás Peragovics

*European governments have shown growing interest in investment screening mechanisms in order to restrain access of non-EU investors to strategically sensitive industries. This working paper provides a comparative analysis of foreign investment screening mechanisms in the V4 countries today. (33 p.)*

**EUROPEAN CAPITAL MARKETS INSTITUTE**

**[Ceci n'est pas un PEPP](#)**

by Karel Lannoo [@karel\\_lannoo](#)

*Not much is left of the personal European pension product as intended by the EC in June 2017. Proposed as a core element of the capital markets union, the text as agreed between the EP and the Council has become unclear, unattractive and unsuitable. The EP should not have rushed into signing off on an inadequate measure, or the Commission would have done well to withdraw the text. Key elements of the proposal were watered down or replaced in response to heavy pressure from member states and certain organisations. (5 p.)*

**EDUCATION/YOUTH/CULTURE/SPORT**

**GLOBSEC POLICY INSTITUTE**

**[Young people, EU citizenship and activism: perceptions from Bulgaria, Germany, Poland and Slovakia](#)**

by Vladislava Gubalova

*The report provides an insight into the perceptions of young people from four different countries related to their attitudes towards the EU their understanding of EU citizenship and activism. It is important to “feel the pulse” of the thoughts of today’s youth on belonging (or not) to the European community. While there were some commonalities among the discussions in the four countries, the country reports also reveal significant differences in perceptions. (28 p.)*

**CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES**

**[Between anarchy and censorship: public discourse and the duties of social media](#)**

by Judit Bayer

*Social media platforms have become powerful enough to cause perceptible effects in societies on a global scale. They facilitate public discussion, and they work with excessive amounts of personal data – both activities affecting human rights and the rule of law. According to this paper, a new legal category should be created with clear definitions, and a firm delineation of platforms’ rights and responsibilities. Social media companies should not become responsible for third-party content, as this would lead to over-censorship, but they should have the obligation to create and maintain safe and secure platforms, on which human rights and the rule of law are respected. The paper sheds light on the similarities and differences from traditional media, and sets out detailed policy recommendations (34 p.)*

## EMPLOYMENT/SOCIAL POLICY/HEALTH AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

### FORUM FOR RESEARCH ON EASTERN EUROPE AND EMERGING ECONOMIES (FREE NETWORK)

#### [Gender and the agency problem](#)

by Elena Paltseva

*A useful approach to investigate the impact of female representation in key roles in society is the so-called principal-agent framework which studies situations in which one party acts on behalf of another party. This brief reviews the use of the principal-agent framework for analysing the effect of gender in two important areas of research: corporate finance and corruption. It outlines postulated theoretical channels for gender to matter, summarizes empirical findings and points to some of the policy challenges. (8 p.)*

## GENERAL AFFAIRS

### CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

#### [Rule of law infringement procedures. A proposal to extend the EU's rule of law toolbox](#)

by Petra Bárd [@BardPetra](#) and Anna Śledzińska-Simon

*The authors propose that the EU Court of Justice (ECJ) introduce 'rule of law infringement procedures', having both a fast-track and a freezing component, as part of a wider 'EU rule of law toolbox'. Firstly, the Commission should identify the rule of law problem explicitly. Second, it should not waste time and postpone its legal actions, while a member state openly violates the rule of law. Third, the ECJ should automatically prioritise and accelerate infringement cases with a rule of law element to avoid more harm being done by those in power. Fourth, interim measures should be used to put an immediate halt to rule of law violations that can culminate in grave and irreversible harm. Fifth, EU institutions should establish a periodic rule of law review. (25 p.)*

### JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE - BERLIN

#### [Mainstreaming innovation funding in the EU budget](#)

by Eulalia Rubio [@eulaliarubio](#), Fabian Zuleeg [@FabianZuleeg](#), Emilie Magdalinski et al.

*This study provides a comprehensive assessment of how the EU budget supports innovation in the current programming period and analyses the approach to innovation financing in the Commission's MFF 2021-2027 proposals. The findings provide the basis on which to draw recommendations to maximize the use of EU innovation funding in the coming MFF. (158 p.)*

### JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE - BERLIN

#### [Rules enforcement in the EU: conditionality to the rescue?](#)

by Jörg Haas and Pola Schneemelcher [@pola\\_schnee](#)

*Budget conditionality has become a key issue in the ongoing debate on the next multiannual financial framework. Some regard it as the EU's silver bullet against member states that refuse to implement EU values, rules and decisions. Others fear excessive interference in national competences. This policy paper examines what conditionality means in the EU context and whether it really improves the enforceability of EU rules and values. (14 p.)*



**BRUEGEL**

**[How to improve European Union cohesion policy for the next decade](#)**

by Zsolt Darvas [@ZsoltDarvas](#) , Jan Mazza [@jan\\_mazza](#) and Catarina Midoes [@CatarinaMidoes](#)

*This policy contribution investigates the performance of the design, implementation and effectiveness of cohesion policy, the most evaluated EU tool for promoting economic convergence. By analysing the effects of cohesion policy on economic growth through reviewing literature, conducting empirical research by comparing regions, as well as considering attitudes and expectations collected through interviewing stakeholders, the authors provide reform recommendations. (21 p.)*

**JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS**

**JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE - BERLIN**

**[Relocation puzzle: exploring ways out of the solidarity impasse](#)**

by Lucas Rasche [@LuRasche](#)

*This policy paper analyses the four major proposals put forward to revise the Dublin regulation. It argues that two points of contention stand in the way of solving the EU's 'relocation puzzle': varying preferences for permanent or temporary relocation mechanism and contradictory views on the voluntary or mandatory nature of such a mechanism. With no compromise in sight, the paper proposes a Franco-German initiative focusing on two short-term measures: establish an EU search and rescue operation complemented by a 'coalition of the committed' to organize the relocation of asylum seekers rescued in the Mediterranean. (16 p.)*

**INSTITUT PRO EVROPSKOU POLITIKU EUROPEUM (EUROPEUM INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY)**

**[Untying the Gordian knot of the common European asylum system: Dublin IV reform](#)**

by Christian Kvorning Lassen and Shang-Yen Lee

*The reform of the Dublin IV regulation under the Common European Asylum System (CEAS) has stagnated for years, leaving the EU ill-prepared for future migration challenges. A reform of Dublin IV is a prerequisite to a comprehensive CEAS reform towards fairer sharing of responsibilities between the member states. The authors argue that having robust and efficient frameworks based on European values regulating migration and asylum procedures based on solidarity will be necessary if the EU hopes to tackle the migratory waves of tomorrow. (8 p.)*

**INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES**

**[Migration et cohésion en Europe: un défi, pas une contradiction](#)**

by Daniel Vernet Group

*The migratory phenomenon is as old as the world. Europe often believes that migratory flows threaten the cohesion of EU societies and member states. Yet immigration and cohesion are not antithetical. France and Germany, which have different experiences in immigration and integration, must develop common European solutions to reconcile controlled immigration and harmonious social evolution. (FR - 6 p.)*

## INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES/ STIFTUNG GENSHAGEN

### [Migration und Zusammenhalt in Europa: Herausforderung, nicht Widerspruch](#)

by Daniel Vernet Group

*This position paper addresses immigration, integration and cohesion in Europe, where migration is often perceived as a threat to cohesion within societies and among states. The authors argue that migration and cohesion are not contradictory. However, Germany and France need to develop common approaches in order to encourage the finding of European answers to these challenges. (DE - 5 p.)*

## EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY STUDIES

### [Healthy boundaries: remedies for Europe's cross-border disorder](#)

by Roderick Parkes [@RoderickParkes](#)

*The migration crisis that engulfed Europe in 2015 highlighted the EU's vulnerability when faced with major instability and disruption at its borders. Although the Union has internal and external security arms – comprising the ten home affairs agencies that underpin its area of freedom, security and justice, on the one hand, and the international missions undertaken under the Common Security and Defence Policy on the other – it still struggles to deploy these instruments effectively. (64 p.)*

## DEMOS

### [Warring songs: information operations in the digital age](#)

by Alex Krasodonski-Jones, Josh Smith, Elliot Jones [@Elliot M Jones](#) et al.

*The past decade has seen democracies around the world become the target of a new kind of information operations, a war that governments have frequently failed to prepare for, recognise or respond to effectively, a war that required new definitions, descriptions and labels that we often didn't have. This report aims to change that. It proposes a framework through which the aims, strategies, tactics and actors participating in information operations can be understood. (67 p.)*

## TRANSPORT/TELECOMMUNICATIONS/ENERGY

### E3G

### [EU energy system transformation: the agenda for the next Commission](#)

by Simon Skillings

*The recently agreed clean energy for all Europeans package does not mark the end of the policy journey if the EU is to deliver a deeply decarbonised energy system as required by the Paris climate agreement. Member states, businesses and individuals will all need to make some hard choices – nobody expects it to be easy and significant progress will be required over the next decade. (7 p.)*



**ENERGIEWIRTSCHAFTLICHES INSTITUT AN DER UNIVERSITÄT ZU KÖLN (INSTITUTE OF ENERGY ECONOMICS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF COLOGNE)**

**[Energy market scenarios and future energy and commodity procurement options](#)**

by Stefan Lorenczik and Max Gierkink

*This study seeks to shed light on three aspects concerning the future development of the energy system: First, what are barriers towards achieving future climate protection targets? Second, how will the energy system possibly evolve if the current level of ambition cannot be increased? And third, how will the energy demand - especially concerning gas - look like in that case and what procurement options are available? (35 p.)*

**DEUTSCHES INSTITUT FÜR WIRTSCHAFTSFORSCHUNG (GERMAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH)**

**[A 100 percent renewable energy system in Europe is technically possible and economically rational](#)**

by Claudia Kemfert [@CKemfert](#)

*To achieve climate targets, efforts need to be made in Europe to improve energy efficiency and to expand renewable energies. Conditions for investing in renewable energies in Europe must be improved, subsidies for fossil and nuclear energy reduced. A 100 percent renewable energy system is technically possible and economically worthwhile. (8 p.)*

**NOTRE EUROPE – JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE**

**[Just energy transition: a reality test in Europe's coal regions](#)**

by Monika Oczkowska and Thomas Pellerin-Carlin [@ThPellerin](#)

*In Europe, the transition away from coal started decades ago but remains incomplete. Coal phase-out now seems inevitable for economic and political reasons. The declining competitiveness of coal and European coal mining, together with EU's climate and air pollution objectives make coal an energy of the past. Nevertheless, phasing it out entails important social and political risks. As this coal phase out partially results from policy decisions of the EU, the latter must act to help its coal regions address those risks and achieve a socially fair energy transition. With 450,000 jobs at stake, social and political consequences of a disorderly coal phase-out can be disastrous, further weakening already fragile territories, deepening the European regional divides and boosting political resentment. (9 p.)*

**OXFORD INSTITUTE FOR ENERGY STUDIES**

**[Challenges of industrial gas demand in the Czech Republic, Poland and Slovakia](#)**

by Zuzana Princova

*This paper focuses on natural gas demand in Central and Eastern Europe, and in particular uses three countries, Poland, the Czech Republic and Slovakia, as case studies. The uniqueness of the region's economies is in its dependency on industry which makes industry the most important natural gas consumer. Central European industry has been enjoying robust growth which will continue into the next decade, but future industrial development will be increasingly determined by EU environmental policy which will impose much stricter limits for previously exempt companies. (116 p.)*

## INSTITUT MONTAIGNE

### [L'Europe et la 5G : passons la cinquième](#)

by Achour Messas, Julien Huvé, Laurent Inard et al.

*2G in 1991, 3G in 1998, 4G in 2008 ... 5G in 2020! The latest generation of networks is launched, and it is more than an incremental progression compared to 4G. Why ? Because 5G represents a technological leap: it will profoundly modify industrial production processes, public services, medicine, management and distribution of water, gas, electricity, among others. It is also at the origin of new consumer services, and will therefore favor the emergence of major players and a new digital ecosystem. If the open scope of application is unpublished, it is not without risk. (FR - 32 p.)*

## INSTITUT MONTAIGNE

### [L'Europe et la 5G : le cas Huawei](#)

by Mathieu Duchâtel [@mtdtl](#) and François Godement [@FGodement](#)

*Almost every week the challenges of 5G are mentioned in the media. The decision made by Donald Trump in May banning US companies from trading with Huawei is a thunderclap whose repercussions far exceed the Sino-US confrontation. Inescapably, European companies will be faced with the same choices, and the 5G offer of the Chinese equipment supplier can suddenly pose a much more delicate dilemma. Huawei is already at the heart of telecommunication networks in Europe, but will it be able to maintain its offer without its American suppliers? World leader in telecommunication network equipment, Huawei's presence in European 3G / 4G compensates for its absence in US networks. (FR - 34 p.)*

## SECTION 3 - FOREIGN AFFAIRS

### FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY / DEFENCE

#### ULKOPOLIITTINEN INSTITUUTTI (FINNISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

### [The future of EU civilian crisis management: finding a niche](#)

by Teemu Tammikko and Jyrki Ruohomäki [@JyrkiRuohomaki](#)

*The EU's civilian CSDP compact aims to revitalize an important tool that has been suffering from lack of interest among member states, amid the greater interest in boosting the EU's defence capabilities instead. Adding scalability and modularity to the Union's civilian missions should make them more flexible. Expanding the competences of internal security agencies to act externally may increase internal competition over the same resources and lead to overlapping tasks in external action. (8 p.)*

## INSTITUT DE RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES ET STRATÉGIQUES

### [Moving PeSCo forward: what are the next steps?](#)

by Jean-Pierre Maulny and Livia Di Bernardini

*The paper draws the key conclusions from a year's worth analysis on PeSCo. The experts have set out their vision of the approach to PeSCo adopted by their 11 respective countries: France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Sweden, Lithuania, Greece, Poland, Cyprus, Belgium and the Netherlands. The purpose of this study was to tease out lines of convergence and divergence by asking similar questions across European states. Comparing these national views has yielded*

five main recommendations that would both help achieve PeSCo's objectives, and are liable to garner member state consensus. (30 p.)

## **UTRIKESPOLITISKA INSTITUTET (SWEDISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)**

### **[The EU as a global actor: a new conceptualisation four decades after 'actorness'](#)**

by Mark Rhinard [@MarkRhinard](#) and Gunnar Sjöstedt

*In recent years, 'EU actorness', one of the more enduring concepts in EU studies, has received renewed scholarly attention. Attempts have been made to make it less static, less descriptive, and more capable of explaining the EU's influence over international outcomes. This paper proposes a new conceptual framework for considering the EU as an actor, based on the importance of studying not only what the EU is but also what it does. (28 p.)*

## **FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG (FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION)**

### **[Together forever? Alliances in times of foreign policy uncertainty](#)**

by Reinhard Krumm, Alexandra Dienes and Simon Weiß [@SicherWeiss](#)

*How can the EU and its member states secure their future in the current security policy maelstrom? Politicians have now recognized this dilemma and are at least endeavouring to come up with ideas and initiatives. As the authors put, EU will have to make its duty to stand up for internationally binding norms and cooperative security – a basic prerequisite for its own existence – and to counteract the destabilizing policies of other states. Interests can also be pursued that run counter to those of the US without calling transatlantic ties into question. (6 p.)*

## **STOCKHOLM INTERNATIONAL PEACE RESEARCH INSTITUTE**

### **[The impact of artificial intelligence on strategic intelligence and nuclear risk](#)**

by Vincent Boulanin [@BoulaninSIRPI](#) (ed.)

*This volume focuses on the impact on artificial intelligence (AI) on nuclear strategy. It explores regional perspectives and trends related to the impact that recent advances in AI could have on nuclear weapons and doctrines, strategic stability and nuclear risk. It assembles the views of 14 experts from the Euro-Atlantic community on why and how machine learning and autonomy might become the focus of an armed race among nuclear-armed states; and how the adoption of these technologies might impact their calculation of strategic stability and nuclear risk at the regional level and trans-regional level. (156 p.)*

## **SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**

### **[Business \(not\) for peace: a call for conflict-sensitive policy in fragile states](#)**

by Brian Ganson

*In much of Africa, the political economy shaping the private sector, as well as disincentives for the private sector to engage in peacebuilding and state building, militates against a peace-positive role for the private sector in extractives governance or broader efforts to promote sustainable development goal 16. European policy regarding the private sector must therefore become more conflict sensitive, shaping the environment in which private sector development unfolds for better rather than for worse. (9 p.)*

## TRADE

### OCP POLICY CENTER

#### [The crisis in world trade](#)

by Uri Dadush

*The future of the world trading system depends critically on reinvigorating the WTO and policy change in the largest trading nations. To sustain multilateralism, urgent action is needed to avoid a disruption of global trade and its fragmentation into trading blocs where relations are based on relative power instead of rules. (9 p.)*

### INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES

#### [The European battery alliance is moving up a gear](#)

by Carole Mathieu [@CMathieu](#)

*French battery cell manufacturer Saft and Opel are finalising the details of a major investment project in battery cell manufacturing. Is the EU finally challenging Asia's dominance on battery cells production? The paper discusses the chances of success for the European battery alliance and the implications for the EU industrial policy. (7 p.)*

### JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE - BERLIN

#### [EP 2014-19 key votes: the EU-Canada comprehensive economic and trade agreement \(CETA\)](#)

by Valentin Kreilinger [@tineurope](#)

*This issue reviews the EP vote of February 2017 approving the comprehensive economic and trade agreement (CETA) between Canada and the EU and its member states. The vote illustrates an ideological cleavage between proponents of free trade and its opponents. It puts the centre-right against the extreme right, the extreme left and the Greens while splitting the centre-left. These patterns are mirrored in the voting behaviour of French and German MEPs. (8 p.)*

### OBSERVER RESEARCH FOUNDATION

#### [China and Europe: trade, technology and competition](#)

by Manoj Joshi

*Over the last five years, the surge of Chinese acquisitions and investments in Europe did not draw much attention. However, the recent acrimony between China and the US on trade and industrial policy has led to a greater scrutiny in Europe. Europeans have raised the demand for equal market access and tightened their scrutiny of Chinese investments and placed restrictions on those related to sensitive industries. The article concludes that the Sino-American stand-off may provide leverage to Europe, but it could also bring about pressures to pull Europe and China further apart. (46p.)*

### SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

#### [A win-win for Europe & Africa: extractive justice and resource interdependency](#)

by Priyanka Ukabhai, Julie Hassman, Cheri Young & Hanri Mostert

*The trade relationship between Europe and Africa in terms of the extractive sector is characterised by inequitable resource interdependence, whereby Africa does not benefit fully*

*from its natural resources. This briefing argues that a more equitable trade relationship is possible if emphasis is placed on developing better legal frameworks and governance in the extractive sector. This is particularly the case when legal and policy frameworks incorporate a normative exchange informed by ideas of 'extractive justice'. (7 p.)*

## DEVELOPMENT

### CENTER FOR STRATEGIC AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

#### [Beyond technology: the fourth industrial revolution in the developing world](#)

by Romina Bandura, Christina Campbell-Zausner, William Carter et al.

*There are not going to be driverless Ubers in Lagos anytime soon. Robots are not going to steal millions of jobs from American miners or factory workers. Nor will our genes be spliced with technological enhancements to defeat diseases and to supercharge our neurons. Not yet, at least. Some of these technologies that will define next-generation human enterprise, connectivity, and lifestyles already are here, but they haven't been scaled to everyday utilization. Technologies' dramatic impact on everyday life could take a long time, but just like previous revolutions, if we do not plan for these evolutions now, we won't benefit from them in the future. (61 p.)*

## AFRICA

### SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

#### [Challenges and opportunities for the EU in Africa's extractives sector](#)

by Ross Harvey [@harvross](#)

*Africa's mineral resources are important to the EU, and a large number of EU-listed or - based mining companies operate in African countries. The extent to which host-country rules constrain the behaviour of companies sufficiently to ensure that they become contributors to development rather than agents of extraction or injustice is central to the relationship between extractive industries and development. This speaks directly to the governance challenge facing governments, private sector actors and the broader set of stakeholders impacted by mining activities, including local communities in mining jurisdictions. (8 p.)*

### SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

#### [Enhancing EU resource governance interventions: a call for prioritizing human security](#)

by Jan Grabek & Nina Engwicht

*In response to resource-fuelled conflicts in producer countries, EU foreign policy initiatives have sought to enhance 'good governance' throughout the value chain for an increasing number of primary commodities. EU-supported reforms of natural resource sectors are centrally informed by the concept of formalisation. Using the cases of diamond sector reform in Sierra Leone and timber sector reform in Liberia, this briefing aims to highlight the shortcomings inherent in formalisation-oriented approaches. It suggests that the notion of human security is better suited to guide EU intervention in natural resource sectors and their evaluation. (8 p.)*



## LIECHTENSTEIN INSTITUTE ON SELF-DETERMINATION

### [The future of mobility and migration within and from Sub-Saharan Africa](#)

by Loren B. Landau [@lorenlandau](#), Caroline Wanjiku Kihato [@wanjikukihato](#) and Hannah Postel [@hpostel](#)

*African migration - its drivers, dynamics, and consequences - increasingly features in European and global policy debates. This report argues that there are few reasons to expect dramatic changes in the sources, directions, or nature of migration within and from sub-Saharan Africa. In the coming 30 years, economic inequality (within the continent and between Africa and Europe), climate change, persecution, and conflict will continue to encourage ever-diversifying movements to cities, to neighbouring countries, and beyond Africa. The vast majority of those moving will stay within their countries of citizenship or move to neighbouring countries; about one-fifth of sub-Saharan migrants will seek passage to Europe, Australasia, or North America. (56 p.)*

## ASIA-OCEANIA

## PETERSON INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

### [Fiscal policy options for Japan](#)

by Olivier Blanchard [@ojblanchard1](#) and Takeshi Tashiro [@takeshi\\_tashiro](#)

*For many years, the Japanese government has promised an eventual return to primary budget surpluses, but it has not delivered on these promises. Its latest goal is to return to primary balance by 2025. The authors, however, argue that, in the current economic environment in Japan, primary deficits may be needed for a long time, because they may be the best to do to sustain demand and output, alleviate the burden on monetary policy, and increase future output. The authors recommend that, given Japan's aging population, the government should spend on measures aimed at increasing fertility - and by implication population and output growth - which are likely to more than pay for themselves. (12 p.)*

## EASTERN EUROPE

## EUROPEAN POLICY INSTITUTES NETWORK

### [EU policy on strengthening resilience in Moldova, Ukraine and Georgia between the rule of law and oligarchic influence](#)

by Denis Cenuşa

*The state capture and oligarchic control of political power and electoral processes in the associated countries of the Eastern Partnership – Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine – are acknowledged by EU institutions, civil society organisations and in public opinion. This policy brief looks at the EU's actions to invest in and consolidate the rule of law, in the direction of stimulating internal resilience. It provides a range of arguments supporting the idea that the EU is not sufficiently tackling the oligarchic influences in Moldova, Ukraine and Georgia. These are followed by timely recommendations for the EU institutions to remedy the situation. (17 p.)*

## CHATHAM HOUSE - THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

### [Political elite renewal in Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine](#)

by Cristina Gherasimov [@cgherasimov](#)

*In societies struggling to democratize, social uprisings are an opportunity for new political elites to come to the fore. However, a closer look at the political leadership in Georgia, Moldova and*

*Ukraine reveals no fundamental changes in their modes of governance. This paper examines the factors that shaped the current context for political elite renewal in these three states. (34 p.)*

## LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

### KONRAD-ADENAUER-STIFTUNG

#### [Argentiens ungewisse Zukunft](#)

by Olaf Jacob and Carmen Leimann-López

*The polarization of Argentine society has intensified dramatically in recent months. A return of populism, embodied by former President Cristina Fernández de Kirchner, can't be ruled out. Uncertainty is the key word used by most of the Argentine people to describe the October 2019 election. (DE - 6 p.)*

## MIDDLE EAST/NORTHAFRICA (MENA)

### CHATHAM HOUSE - THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

#### [The Gulf divided: the impact of the Qatar crisis](#)

by Jane Kinninmont [🐦 @janekinninmont](#)

*Since 2017, Qatar has been subject to a boycott by Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Bahrain and Egypt (the Arab Quartet), creating a deep rift in a region already beset by civil wars and insurgencies. This paper examines the causes and dynamics of this dispute in detail and identifies elements required to reach a solution. (42 p.)*

### EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

#### [Can Assad win the peace?](#)

by Nour Samaha [🐦 @Nour\\_Samaha](#)

*As Syria transitions into a post-conflict phase, sanctions have led to increasingly drastic shortages of fuel and electricity, disrupting the supply of essential goods. The West's expectation that an economic war will eventually force the regime to acquiesce to its demands is short-sighted and counterproductive. This paper concludes that the EU should acknowledge that its current approach has little chance of forcing Damascus into political concessions as it stands, and that the EU should seek ways to help Syrians rebuild their lives in a manner that slowly loosens the regime's hold on Syria and reduces the influence of Russia and Iran. (28 p.)*

### INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES/CARNEGIE MIDDLE EAST CENTER

#### [The shifting foundations of political Islam in Algeria](#)

by Dalia Ghanem [🐦 @DaliaZinaGhanem](#)

*Starting in February 2019, thousands and later millions of Algerians took to the streets to voice their displeasure with their ailing eighty-two-year-old president, Abdelaziz Bouteflika, who sought to run for what would have been a fifth term. After weeks of peaceful and orderly mass protests, the long-standing president resigned in April 2019, before a new election could be held. As this new "battle of Algiers" continues to unfold, some Algerian and European observers have warned that Islamists will try to infiltrate the movement. Their fear is that Islamists may seek to recreate*



*the conditions that prevailed in the 1990s when the Islamic Salvation Front exploited the country's 1989 democratic opening to call for the establishment of an Islamic state. (30 p.)*

## WESTERN BALKANS

### FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG (FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION)

#### [In search of solidarity-based Europeanisation](#)

by Miran Lavrič

*In recent years, considerable attention has been devoted by scholars and policy-makers to youth in the Western Balkans' six countries – Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia. While young people in these countries are often seen as a possible ray of hope in terms of democratisation and Europeanisation, empirical studies tend to paint a rather unfavourable picture in this regard. The author also stresses widespread disillusionment with politics and low levels of political participation among youth across the region. (8 p.)*

### NEDERLANDS INSTITUUT VOOR INTERNATIONALE BETREKKINGEN - CLINGENDAEL (NETHERLANDS INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS)

#### [Prospects for credible EU enlargement policy to Western Balkans](#)

by Wouter Zweers [@Wouter\\_Zweers](#)

*This policy brief assesses how politicisation of the EU's enlargement strategies thwarts the Europeanisation process in the WB. It argues that compromising on or adding extra demands to the accession criteria undermines the credibility and effectiveness of the process, underpinning this by discussing developments such as the recent protests across the region, the conclusion of the Prespa agreement between Greece and North Macedonia, and the 2015 migration crisis. The paper questions the idea that a completely technical and straightforward accession process is attainable. It recommends on how to revive the credibility of the enlargement process, amongst other things through recognising the eventual accession perspective of the WB six. (11 p.)*

### FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG (FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION)

#### [Reviving solidarity: a new regional approach to integrating the Western Balkans into a stronger EU](#)

by Florent Marciacq

*After a period of increased regional cooperation in the WB, which was initiated by the Berlin process, the Commission opted in its 2018 enlargement strategy to emphasize policies aiming at a high accession threshold. This choice may represent current political realities within the Union; just the same, it has disappointed hopes that the momentum generated during the Berlin process would result in a more tangible integration outlook for the WB countries. The analysis offers a strategic alternative by proposing "robust solidarity" as a new guiding principle that focuses on the EU's foundational visions and values. (21 p.)*

### CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

#### [Ten years after EULEX. Key principles for future EU flagship initiatives on the rule of law](#)

by Naim Rashiti [@naimrashiti](#)

*With its "credible enlargement perspective for and enhanced EU enlargement with the Western Balkans", the EU plans to launch several new flagship initiatives for the six aspiring countries.*

*The EU has begun some planning but detailed action plans are yet to come. New programmes and initiatives should be new in content and form. In the case of Kosovo, things are more complex; the clarity of the new plan and drawing the line between the past and future is key for any success of the upcoming initiatives. With EULEX still on the ground, after 10 years of deployment, plagued by low trust and an image of failure, the rule of law has little improved in Kosovo. The EU should carefully consider the conditions upon which new initiatives are established. (26 p.)*

**ÖSTERREICHISCHE INSTITUT FÜR INTERNATIONALE POLITIK (AUSTRIAN INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)/ FRIEDRICH EBERT STIFTUNG**

**[Navigating between democratic and authoritarian beliefs and practices](#)**

by Gazela Pudar Draško, Vedran Džihic [@vedrandzihic](#), Damir Kapidžić et al.

*The failure of the countries in Southeast Europe in the last three decades to initiate deep political and societal change that would lead them towards the goal of liberal democracy cannot be explained only by the reference to wars and internal conflicts or by external factors related to their peripheral position in Europe. This report argues that political culture has to be taken into consideration to help explain the phenomenon of defective or phony democracy in the WB. A more forceful expression of emancipatory values by youth, along with greater action capabilities provided by economic growth, could create a more democratic political culture and leaders that are more accountable within a generation. (20 p.)*

**INSTITUTI PËR DEMOKRACI DHE NDËRMJETËSIM (INSTITUTE FOR DEMOCRACY AND MEDIATION)**

**[Waste management in Albania: an opportunity to demonstrate commitment to EU integration](#)**

by Lorena Totoni, Leonie Vrugtman [@LeonieVrugtman](#) and Diori Angjeli

*This paper contends that the Albanian government has an opportunity to demonstrate its commitment to EU integration by reconsidering its current approach to waste management. By prioritising recycling over incineration, Albania can show that it is serious about fulfilling the obligations of EU membership deriving from Chapter 27: Environment. (EN - AL 12 p.)*

**GROUP FOR LEGAL AND POLITICAL STUDIES**

**[An analysis of the recent developments in the Kosovo - Serbia dialogue: a perspective from Brussels](#)**

by Barbara Matias

*This report takes a deep look at the path the dialogue is following, firstly from the developments in both state actors, Kosovo and Serbia, in order to from there analyze how European partners are responding to the recent developments and how they are preconditioning the continuation of the talks on normalized relations. (13 p.)*

## CANADA

### NEW CLIMATE INSTITUTE

#### [Bringing climate policy up to date – decreasing cost projections for renewable energy and batteries and their implications \(case study Canada\)](#)

by Hanna Fekete [🐦 @HannaFekete](#), Leonardo Nascimento and Katharina Lütkehermöller

*This case study presents the potential impact of lower battery and renewable energy costs projections in Canada's nationally determined contributions (NDC) emissions target. The costs for renewable electricity generation and electric vehicles have dropped since the NDCs were developed, and future cost projections also decreased as a result. The authors suggest that by considering technology cost developments of wind, solar PV and batteries since 2017, Canada could increase the ambition of its NDC target. (15 p.)*

## CHINA

### GRANTHAM RESEARCH INSTITUTE ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

#### [China's 14th plan, sustainable development and the new era](#)

by Isabella Neuweg and Nicholas Stern

*The 14th five-year plan (covering 2021–25) will be a crucial element in shaping the new era, for China and for the world. China's transformation has seen it rise from low-income to uppermiddle-income status in just over four decades. Its 20th century growth story had physical capital at its core. China will transform again in the next 30 to 40 years but this time with wellbeing, quality and sustainability at centre stage. (16 p.)*

### THE CHICAGO COUNCIL ON GLOBAL AFFAIRS

#### [Addressing China's rising influence in Africa](#)

by Michael Tiboris [🐦 @MichaelTiboris](#)

*China is now the largest trading partner for the African continent, and China's Export-Import Bank aims to invest more than \$1 trillion in the continent by 2025. In addition, China has now surpassed the US government in total agriculture R&D funding. China has increased its presence in African development - a trend that will persist because its model is extremely attractive to both China and many African nations. This brief argues that China's growing contributions to African development should not automatically be feared, but their increased presence should create a recalibration in US approaches to development. (22 p.)*

### CENTER FOR A NEW AMERICAN SECURITY

#### [People's Republic of the United Nations - China's emerging revisionism in international organisations](#)

by Kristine Lee [🐦 @Kristinejlee27](#) and Alexander Sullivan [🐦 @AlexHSullivan](#)

*China is increasingly using its economic, political, and institutional power to change the global governance system from within. The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) under President Xi Jinping has become more proactive in injecting its ideological concepts into international statements of consensus and harnessing the programmatic dimensions of global governance to advance its own foreign policy strategies, such as "One Belt, One Road." Therefore this report examines China's approach to seven organs and functions of the UN: the department of economic and social affairs, the Human Rights Council, peacekeeping operations, accreditation for non-*

governmental organizations, the international telecommunication union, UNESCO, and the office of drugs and crime. (32 p.)

## **NEW AMERICA FOUNDATION**

### **[Phase zero: China's natural security](#)**

by Sharon Burke [@burkese](#) and Wyatt Scott

*In its 2018 National Defense Strategy, the US government identified global competition between "great powers" as a trend that will shape the twenty-first century. This factsheet looks at a specific aspect of that competition: China's natural security. The phase zero project at New America defines "natural security" as the intersection of prosperity, security, and natural resources, a condition of reliable, affordable, and sustainable access to sufficient natural resources for short and long-term stability and prosperity. This report looks at agriculture, energy, metals and minerals, and water. (21 p.)*

## **ISTITUTO PER GLI STUDI DI POLITICA INTERNAZIONALE**

### **[Russia and China: anatomy of a partnership](#)**

by Aldo Ferrari and Eleonora Tafuro Ambrosetti (eds.)

*While the "decline of the West" is now almost taken for granted, China's impressive economic performance and the political influence of an assertive Russia in the international arena are combining to make Eurasia a key hub of political and economic power. That, certainly, is the story which Beijing and Moscow have been telling for years. Are the times ripe for a "Eurasian world order"? What exactly does the supposed Sino-Russian challenge to the liberal world entail? Are the two countries' worsening clashes with the West drawing them closer together? This report tackles every aspect of the apparently solidifying alliance between Moscow and Beijing, but also points out its growing asymmetries. It also recommends some policies that could help the EU to deal with this "Eurasian shift". (143 p.)*

## **ISTITUTO PER GLI STUDI DI POLITICA INTERNAZIONALE**

### **[China's race to global technology leadership](#)**

by Alessia Amighini (ed.) [@aaamigh](#)

*The current trade war between the US and China looks like a small piece in a much larger puzzle over world leadership in which China plays the part of the ascending challenger seeking to upset the existing balance of power. Technology and innovation seem to be Beijing's weapons of choice in its frontal assault on Washington in sectors traditionally led by the US. China is not only acquiring technology. Its ambitions include the regulation of international trade and global governance. Just what a China-led global order would look like is still unclear, but the inherent dangers of technology need to be meticulously assessed. To what extent will technology facilitate China's rise? (122 p.)*

## RUSSIA

### RAHVUSVAHELINE KAITSEUURINGUTE KESKUS (INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR DEFENCE AND SECURITY)

#### [Post-Crimea shift in EU-Russia relations: from fostering interdependence to managing vulnerabilities](#)

by Kristi Raik [🐦 @KristiRaik](#) and András Rácz

*The relationship between the EU and Russia is characterised by a considerable degree of interdependence. In the 1990s and 2000s, the EU's approach to Russia was based on the expectation that economic ties and interaction in various fields would contribute to regional stability and security and possibly even the democratisation of Russia. However, looking at the relationship today, one has to admit that the expected positive effects of interdependence have not materialised. (321 p.)*

### UTRIKESPOLITISKA INSTITUTET (SWEDISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

#### [From cold war to civil war: 75 years of Russian-Syrian relations](#)

by Aron Lund [🐦 @aronlund](#)

*The Russian-Syrian relationship turns 75 in 2019. The Soviet Union had already emerged as Syria's main military backer in the 1950s, and it maintained a close if sometimes tense partnership with President Hafez al-Assad. However, ties loosened fast once the Cold War ended. This paper seeks to focus on the Russian-Syrian relationship through a largely chronological description of its evolution up to the present day, with additional thematically organised material on Russia's current role in Syria. (60 p.)*

### UTRIKESPOLITISKA INSTITUTET (SWEDISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

#### [Russia's defense sector: an economic perspective](#)

by Vladislav Inozemtsev

*While Russia is still far behind the US on the military budget and comes fourth in the global ranking after China and Saudi Arabia, it continues modernizing all parts of its military, including conventional, strategic nuclear and nonstrategic nuclear forces. Moreover, it has demonstrated its impressive capabilities in Ukraine and Syria. These moves have raised serious concerns in the West and led to the designation of Russia as an 'existential threat'. (16 p.)*

### EVROPSKÉ HODNOTY (EUROPEAN VALUES)

#### [Not the defeat of the West but double decoupling is the strategic goal of Russia](#)

by Martin Svárovský [🐦 @martinsvarovsky](#)

*The leading thesis of the article is that the most significant change in the Russian threat since the Cold War is that the strategic goal of Russia is not the defeat of the West but its decoupling. Not only should the US be decoupled from Europe but Western Europe should be decoupled from the European countries that once belonged to the Soviet sphere of influence. Therefore, the states of the Eastern flank of NATO need to come up with strong reasoning for boosting the resilience of that region. (9 p.)*

**STIFTUNG WISSENSCHAFT UND POLITIK (GERMAN INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL AND SECURITY AFFAIRS)**

**[Der Europarat und Russland: Glaubwürdigkeit verlangt konsequente Entscheidungen](#)**

by Susan Stewart

*The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe withdrew Russia's voting rights in 2014. Since then, the Russian delegation refuses to cooperate in the meeting. In June, two years will have passed, during which the country has not paid its financial contributions. Russia has set conditions that it wants to see implemented in order to meet its member obligations again. Otherwise, the country threatens to leave the organization. Instead of accommodating Russia as before - the author argues - the Council of Europe should consistently follow its principles and be prepared to bear the political and financial costs. (DE - 4 p.)*

**LSE IDEAS**

**[Five years after Maidan: toward a greater Eurasia?](#)**

by Elena Korosteleva, Zachary Paikin and Stephen Paduano (eds.)

*The report brings together some of the UK's foremost scholars on Russia, the EU and the post-Soviet space to evaluate the challenges and opportunities facing Russia's 'Greater Eurasia' foreign policy concept. (48 p.)*

**ЦЕНТЪР ЗА ИЗСЛЕДВАНЕ НА ДЕМОКРАЦИЯТА (CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF DEMOCRACY)**

**[The Kremlin playbook: the movie](#)**

*The Kremlin playbook 2: the enablers revealed how Russia has developed and sustained state capture networks in Europe to enable the expansion of its economic and political influence. Austria has been one of the most vulnerable countries in Europe. Russia has increased its economic footprint in the country significantly over the last decade. Russian entities have rechannelled billions of euro in Russia-owned banks in Austria. The latter received an exemption from the European sanctions to continue operating within the eurozone system and facilitate loans and deposit operations involving Russian entities. (4 p.)*

**TURKEY**

**ISTANBUL POLITIKALAR MERKEZI (ISTANBUL POLICY CENTER)**

**[Multilateralism matters: toward a rules-based Turkey-EU relationship](#)**

by Atila Eralp

*This policy brief examines the current stalemate in the Turkey-EU relationship and proposes that the relationship should be analysed through a global lens, not a bilateral one. It examines the paradigmatic shift toward multilateralism globally and in Europe and shows how multilateralism matters for the EU against the current global turbulence. The paper concludes by examining the future of the relationship and proposing policy recommendations. (8 p.)*



**TÜRKIYE EKONOMİ POLİTİKALARI ARAŞTIRMA VAKFI (ECONOMIC POLICY RESEARCH FOUNDATION OF TURKEY)**

**[Turkish troubled assets restructuring program, but how?](#)**

by Burak Dalgın and Güven Sak

*In their previous note, the authors made the case for a Turkish troubled assets restructuring program to restore flow of credit (and hence growth) outlining key principles for such a program. Moreover, the authors propose a multi stakeholder governance model and specific structures for various types of troubled assets. Furthermore, the exponentially increasing cost of delay in taking action for Turkish banking sector, corporates and broader economy are stressed. (7 p.)*

**TÜRKIYE EKONOMİ POLİTİKALARI ARAŞTIRMA VAKFI (ECONOMIC POLICY RESEARCH FOUNDATION OF TURKEY)**

**[Time to enhance the Customs Union](#)**

by Murat N. Ersavcı [@nmersavci](#)

*The authors argues in favour of expanding the customs union between Turkey and the EU. A quarter of a century has gone by since it was launched at the start of 1996. At the time it was considered a step towards the full political and economic integration of Turkey into the EU. That is why it was modelled on the 'Zollverein', a 19th century customs union between German states. Turkey had – and still has – no objection to that. It has also been promised full EU membership, which in either case would supersede the customs union. But despite the passage of time, the accession negotiations opened in 2005 never led to membership. (4 p.)*

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**CENTER FOR STRATEGIC AND BUDGETARY ASSESSMENTS**

**[Leveling the playing field: reintroducing US theater-range missiles in a post-INF world](#)**

by Jacob Cohn, Timothy A. Walton, Adam Lemon et al.

*Now that the US has suspended its participation in the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, the time has come to explore seriously the case for deploying ground-launched theater-range missiles. This study explores the potential strategic and operational contribution of ground-launched theater-range missiles to US defense strategy. It estimates the cost of a variety of near- and mid-term options to field theater-range missiles. The study makes a cost-informed argument that, although not a silver bullet, deploying theater-range missiles would allow the US to reclaim strategic options, regain military advantages, and strengthen the possibility of deterring great power conflict. (56 p.)*

**STIFTUNG WISSENSCHAFT UND POLITIK (GERMAN INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL AND SECURITY AFFAIRS)**

**[Extraterritoriale US-Sanktionen](#)**

by Sascha Lohmann

*US unilateral sanctions affect natural and legal persons anywhere in the world. In trying to protect EU-based companies from the adverse effects of these sanctions, foreign policy makers in Europe have shown themselves helpless. In order to achieve this goal, at least in the medium term, Europeans should not rely solely on the pursuit of more strategic autonomy, but make better use of existing channels of influence. One possibility would be to assist European*



companies diplomatically and financially with restricting the administration of US courts to enforce national laws outside its own borders. (DE - 8 p.)

## **INSTITUTE FOR DEFENCE STUDIES AND ANALYSES**

### **Rising US-Iran hostilities and challenges for India**

by Muddassir Quamar [@mmqmudy](#)

*US withdrawal from joint comprehensive plan of action (JCPA), its imposition of unilateral sanctions on Iran and the recent war of words between the countries have led to a rapid rise in tensions in the Persian Gulf. India has also been affected by the US sanctions, especially on imports of Iranian oil. While India is unlikely to risk ties with the US to please Iran, it should, nonetheless, explore options such as buying Iranian oil through unconventional channels and enhance its investments in Chabahar in order to placate Tehran. (11 p.)*

## **CENTER FOR STRATEGIC AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES**

### **A demand-driven approach to development**

by Romina Bandura and MacKenzie Hammond [@01 Kenzie](#)

*The report discusses the concept and importance of a demand-driven approach to development. It describes its progress and identifies the main challenges of operationalizing the concept. The paper covers the demand-driven approach from the perspective of the US, presenting a set of recommendations to create a more effective framework for its development partners. Its aim is to spur dialogue across development actors (civil society, NGOs, the private sector, and developed and developing country governments) about the programmatic and policy changes that need to take place to fully adopt the principles of demand-driven development and ultimately drive greater success in development activities. (53 p.)*

## **SECTION 4 - EU MEMBER STATES**

### **CZECH REPUBLIC**

#### **INSTITUT PRO EVROPSKOU POLITIKU EUROPEUM (EUROPEUM INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY)**

### **Analýza činnosti českých europoslanců ve volebním období 2014 – 2019**

by Vít Havelka [@Havelka\\_Vit](#) and Zuzana Stuchlíková [@ZStuchlikova](#)

*The article focuses on the performance of Czech MEPs in the election period 2014-2019. According to the conducted interviews, the key to success was familiarity with the parliamentary environment, strong profiling in one or two expert areas and capability to create professional network. Media presence in the Czech Republic and general political appeal for Czech voters proved irrelevant while pursuing political goals at the European level. (CZ - 11 p.)*

## GERMANY

### IINSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES / COMITÉ D'ÉTUDES DES RELATIONS FRANCO-ALLEMANDES

#### [Où va le SPD? Les sociaux-démocrates allemands et la sortie de crise\(s\)](#)

by Etienne Dubslaff

*The social democratic or socialist parties in Europe are losing ground. Ironically, the crisis of the Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD) began with the resounding victory of Gerhard Schröder in 1998. According to commentators, the SPD has gone from bad to worse ever since. This text intends to review the Schröder era and the evolution of the SPD in the shadow of Chancellor Angela Merkel from the Christian Democratic Union of Germany (CDU). (FR - 30 p.)*

### OŚRODEK STUDIÓW WSCHODNICH (CENTRE FOR EASTERN STUDIES)

#### [End of the grand coalitions. German political parties before the European Parliament elections](#)

by Ryszarda Formuszewicz [@Formuszewicz](#) and Kamil Frymark [@KamilFrymark](#)

*The results of the European elections could have repercussions for the ability of the grand coalition in Berlin to survive, and decisions regarding individuals in the CDU and SPD. For the German parties, this election is also the most important test before the autumn elections in three eastern federal Länder – in Brandenburg, Saxony and Thüringen. In addition, on 26 May, at the same time as the European elections, elections are held for seats in the regional parliament in Bremen. For the SPD, loss of power in this federal state would present a major challenge, because the Social Democrats have been in power there for 74 years. (10 p.)*

### HEINRICH BÖLL STIFTUNG (HEINRICH BÖLL FOUNDATION)

#### [From "paymaster of Europe" to "shaper of Europe's future": a new self-perception of Germany in the EU](#)

by Johannes Hillje [@JHillje](#) and Christine Pütz

*This study investigates the factual and popular basis of the narrative that Germany, as the "paymaster of Europe", is disproportionately contributing to the common EU budget. The survey findings show that the myth of the paymaster stands in stark contrast to the views of the German people. It seems that the time has come for a new, future-oriented self-perception of Germany in Europe that goes beyond purely economic parameters. (5 p.)*

### DEUTSCHES INSTITUT FÜR WIRTSCHAFTSFORSCHUNG (GERMAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH)

#### [Does the German minimum wage help low income households? Evidence from observed outcomes and the simulation of potential effects](#)

by Teresa Backhaus and Kai-Uwe Müller

*Does the federal minimum wage in Germany introduced in 2015 improve the income situation of low income households and reduce in-work poverty? This paper provides systematic descriptive ex-post evidence on the distributional implications of the German minimum wage on wages and disposable household incomes. It finds evidence for wage increases at the bottom of the wage distribution. Effects on wage inequality are limited because of non-compliance, difficulties in hourly wage measurement in certain types employment, and unequal wage growth across the distribution. Overall inequality has even increased slightly as incomes of poor households grew below average. (55 p.)*

## OŚRODEK STUDIÓW WSCHODNICH (CENTRE FOR EASTERN STUDIES)

### [The shades of German anti-semitism](#)

by Kamil Frymark [@KamilFrymark](#)

*The streets of Germany's biggest cities are increasingly witnessing frequent anti-Semitic incidents. Debates on the presence of 'imported anti-Semitism' among refugees from Arab states who have come to Germany in recent years have been held for several months. Anti-Semitism among asylum seekers is a new element in the dispute that has been evident in Germany over the attitude of specific parties to anti-Semitism and methods for combating it. Activities carried out by the federation and by individual German states focus on curbing anti-Semitism on the internet and in schools, which is where incidents involving discrimination and attacks are becoming increasingly common. (11 p.)*

## IRELAND

### INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AND EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

#### [The "specific character" of Ireland's security and defence policy: reflections on neutrality](#)

by Patrick Keatinge

*The author examines how Ireland's security and defence policy has evolved; how it is reflected in Ireland's response to the main security challenges; and how it is understood in public debate today. (17 p.)*

## SPAIN

### REAL INSTITUTO ELCAÑO

#### [Spain's influence in the European Parliament: an historical survey and predictions for the new political cycle](#)

by Ilke Toygür [@ilketoygur](#) and Carlos Carnicero Urabayan [@CC\\_Urabayan](#)

*The EU's modus operandi over the last decade has seen it going through a series of existential crises. Given the threat represented by Brexit to the future of integration, the role of predominantly pro-European countries is even more important for moving the project forward. The EP, as the only institution whose members are directly elected, provides a stage on which Spain can try to increase its influence in the decision-making process. (11 p.)*

## HUNGARY

### MTA KÖZGAZDASÁG- ÉS REGIONÁLIS TUDOMÁNYI KUTATÓKÖZPONT - VILÁGGAZDASÁGI INTÉZET (CENTRE FOR ECONOMIC AND REGIONAL STUDIES HAS - INSTITUTE OF WORLD ECONOMICS)

#### [Central and Eastern Europe's dependent development in German automotive value chains](#)

by Tamás Gerőcs and András Pinkasz

*For several decades, the German automotive industry has been under mounting pressure to reorganize its production processes and its modes of value-chain governance. This paper analyses the effects this restructuring has had on the economic development of the Central and Eastern European countries that have specialized in automotive production during the capitalist transition. (43 p.)*

## NETHERLANDS

### CENTRAAL PLANBUREAU (CPB NETHERLANDS BUREAU FOR ECONOMIC AND POLICY ANALYSIS)

#### [Transit-oriented developments and residential property values: evidence from the synthetic control method](#)

by Koen van Ruijven, Paul Verstraten [@paul\\_verstraten](#) and Peter Zwaneveld

*As urbanization continues, congestion externalities are becoming more important due to an increasing utilization of the prevailing infrastructure. A growing number of cities have conducted transit-oriented developments to mitigate these congestion externalities. This article analyses the effects of transit-oriented developments on residential property values. (35 p.)*

## FINLAND

### ULKOPOLIITTINEN INSTITUUTTI (FINNISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

#### [Suomen, Ruotsin ja USA:n turvallisuuspoliittinen yhteistyö: jos kaksi on hyvä, onko kolme parempi?](#)

by Charly Saloniuss-Pasternak

*Cooperation in security and defence between Finland, Sweden and the US – both bi- and trilaterally – has significantly increased in recent years. Cooperation has deepened on all levels from strategic dialogue to operative exercises and tactical training. Formalizing trilateral cooperation produces administrative, practical and military advantages, but it also carries political significance. (FI - 7 p.)*

## UNITED KINGDOM

### ROYAL UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE

#### [A critical enabler for power projection options for a UK missile defence capability in an age of escalation control](#)

by Sidharth Kaushal

*The reference in the 2015 strategic defence and security review to building a ballistic missile defence radar and exploring the utility of the type 45 destroyer in a missile defence role raises old questions regarding whether the UK should have a national missile defence capability and what form this should take. While the Ministry of Defence's existing approach to missile defence has been characterised by an emphasis on enhancing the coverage and efficiency of NATO's missile defence systems, but for the most part eschewing a national missile defence capability, this approach may no longer be in step with the emerging strategic and operational environment. (68 p.)*

### INSTITUTE FOR FISCAL STUDIES

#### [The effect of taxes and benefits on UK inequality](#)

by Pascale Bourquin and Tom Waters

*According to the key findings benefits reduce UK income inequality more than direct taxes do. This is because benefits (as a share of income) are more concentrated at the bottom of the income distribution than direct taxes are at the top. Indirect taxes are broadly distributionally neutral. Direct and indirect taxes are progressive. (35 p.)*

## CENTRE FOR POLICY STUDIES

### [Think small: a blueprint for supporting UK small businesses](#)

by Nick King

*Small businesses are the backbone of the British economy. They make up more than 99% of firms, with SMEs providing three quarters of all new jobs. Britain's tax system operates on a 'one-size-fits-all' model which forces small firms to jump through the same hoops as large. This report makes the case for a new simple consolidated tax – a simple levy based on turnover that should be offered to all business with revenue under £1 million as an alternative to corporation tax, employer's national insurance, VAT and business rates. This would remove reporting burdens and free small businesses to hire, invest and grow. (59 p.)*

## INSTITUTE FOR GOVERNMENT

### [Devolution at 20](#)

by Aron Cheung [@Aron\\_Cheung](#), Akash Paun [@AkashPaun](#) and Lucy Valsamidis [@lvalsami](#)

*On the 20th anniversary of UK devolution, this report says Brexit has put the relationship between the UK nations under serious pressure – but there are other big unresolved questions too. "Devolution at 20" is a comprehensive analysis of how devolution has worked in the UK. It argues that devolution has been a qualified success in its first two decades. (90 p.)*

## CHATHAM HOUSE - THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

### [The UK and Japan: forging a global and proactive partnership](#)

by John Nilsson-Wright (ed.)

*As Japan and the UK face serious challenges at home and in their respective regions, this report makes the case that a stronger relationship could advance each country's ability to address shared global concerns. It explores how the UK and Japan can best work together in the face of many critical global and regional issues, while also reflecting on the specific internal, political, economic and social challenges faced by the two countries. (133 p.)*

## BREXIT

## OCP POLICY CENTER

### [The UK's policy towards Africa post-Brexit](#)

by Juliana Suess [@JulianaSuess](#)

*On the eve of Britain's exit from the EU, the country is redefining its international approach. The UK has already taken action by becoming involved in new economic commitments, new trade agreements in Commonwealth countries but also from a diplomatic point of view in West Africa. (9 p.)*

## EUROPEAN POLICY CENTRE/ FRIEDRICH EBERT STIFTUNG

### [The EU's governance of Brexit and its impact on the negotiations](#)

by Johannes Greubel

*The three years after the Brexit referendum were marked by intense preparations for the UK's departure. Yet, even after the UK's departure from the EU, negotiations between the EU and the UK are far from over. The author argues that throughout the negotiations, the EU managed to set up an inter-institutional governance system that not only ensured unity but also the full support of all institutions for the negotiations' outcome, and strengthened the Union's negotiation position. This governance constitutes a complex system of interaction that can be described as a model file of inter-institutional and -member state cooperation and diplomacy. (4 p.)*

## EUROPEAN POLICY CENTRE

### [Ensuring a post-Brexit level playing field](#)

by David Baldock, Larissa Brunner, Pablo Ibáñez Colomo et al.

*This publication analyses the proposals that are on the table to ensure a level playing field between the UK and the EU after Brexit and assesses in how far the objectives laid out in the European Council guidelines have been met. It does so in relation to different crucial policy areas, including environmental standards, labour and social standards, technical regulations and standards, and state aid control. (143 p.)*

## INSTITUTE FOR GOVERNMENT

### [Parliament after Brexit](#)

by Maddy Thimont Jack [@ThimontJack](#) and Hannah White [@DrHannahWhite](#)

*This report sets out the key issues that Parliament needs to consider about its role after Brexit. It also looks at the procedural questions raised during the process of Brexit, and at their implications. For more than 40 years, Parliament has carried out its role within the context of the UK's membership of the institutions of the EU. After Brexit, it will need to take on new functions, or adapt ways it has carried out tasks, to ensure that it is fully prepared to scrutinise the Government once the UK is no longer part of the EU. (38 p.)*

## UK IN A CHANGING EUROPE

### [The European elections and Brexit](#)

by Anand Menon (ed.) [@anandMenon1](#)

*After some forty years of membership during which hardly any attention was paid to European elections, as the authors of this paper maintains, finally UK has one about which people care. Somehow ironically, it's an EU election taking place after UK were meant to have left, and potentially soon before the country will in fact leave. Nevertheless, it has piqued citizens' interest. This report is meant to guide readers on the basics of the European elections, what they mean, what to expect and what changes it may bring about to the EU in the next 5 years. (36 p.)*



## MISCELLANEOUS

### EUROMESCO

#### [Cooperation with religious institutions as a European policy tool](#)

by Patrycja Sasnal (ed.)

*This study takes an institutionalist view of state-religion relations, although religious institutions are defined in a broad sense and encompass both official and unofficial religion. This leaves the field outside of the institutionalised religion-state relations either relatively small or down to individual expressions of religiosity. Institutionalism, so understood, is a view that policy is carried out through and with institutions. This can vary in different aspects: dependence (state-dependent, state-controlled, independent of states), size, homogeneity, thematic focus, accountability, credibility, and so on. (117 p.)*

### BARCELONA CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

#### [Promoting the right to housing at EU Level](#)

by Lorenzo Vidal [@buenaventura\\_v](#)

*What can be done at EU level to foster adequate housing conditions in European cities? This policy brief draws mainly on the international seminar “Promoting the right to housing at the EU level: challenges and policy proposals”, where experts, practitioners and policymakers discussed what supranational institutional tools and frameworks are required to tackle the housing problems experienced in Europe’s main urban areas. (5 p.)*

### CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL GOVERNANCE INNOVATION

#### [Innovations in responsibility sharing for refugees](#)

by Tristan Harley

*In recent years, significant global attention - much of it through the negotiations of the 2016 New York declaration and the 2018 global compact on refugees - has been focused on developing more effective and equitable methods for sharing responsibility for refugees. States, international organizations, civil society organizations and academics have also put forward proposals and programs. This paper examines and compares these initiatives, analysing their strengths and limitations. It calls for a clearer understanding of the meaning and application of responsibility sharing for the protection of refugees and for further examination as to how the refugee regime interacts with other areas of international governance. (26 p.)*

### MIGRATION POLICY INSTITUTE

#### [Preparing for the unknown: designing effective predeparture orientation for resettling refugees](#)

by Susan Fratzke [@ekztarf](#) and Lena Kainz [@lena\\_e\\_kainz](#)

*Navigating a new city, learning a new language, and making sense of complex public-service bureaucracy can be challenging for anyone who moves to a new country. For resettled refugees, these challenges may be even greater; those who have lived in remote regions or refugee camps, or who have limited formal education, may need to adjust to common features of life in a high-income resettlement country, such as learning how to use a bankcard or a metro system. To help smooth this transition, many resettlement countries offer pre-departure orientation, also called cultural orientation, for refugees selected for resettlement. (43 p.)*



## CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL GOVERNANCE INNOVATION

### [Governance of the global refugee regime](#)

by Alexander Betts [@alexander\\_betts](#) and James Milner

*The modern refugee regime lacks a clearly defined system of governance: individual states are responsible for implementing the regime's norms within their own territories and jurisdictions, while decisions taken in parallel policy fields, such as security, development and migration, have a considerable impact on the regime's functioning. Further, governance of the regime has often been conflated with governance of the regime's primary organization, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. The authors propose a model for enhanced governance of the regime that could contribute to improved protection and solutions for refugees and to more predictability for states and the international system. (26 p.)*

## CHATHAM HOUSE - THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

### [Cyber insurance for civil nuclear facilities: risks and opportunities](#)

by Éireann Leverett

*Civil nuclear facilities and organizations hold sensitive information on security clearances, national security, health and safety, nuclear regulatory issues and international inspection obligations. The sensitivity and variety of such data mean that products tailored for insuring the civil nuclear industry have evolved independently and are likely to continue to do so. This paper sets out a roadmap for how organizations in the civil nuclear sector can explore their options and review their cyber risk exposure. (20 p.)*

## FONDATION POUR L'INNOVATION POLITIQUE

### [New global survey - Democracies under pressure - Volume I. The issues](#) [Démocraties sous tension - Une enquête planétaire - Volume I. Les enjeux](#)

by Dominique Reynié [@DominiqueReynie](#)

*The idea of democracy has revolutionized the world. It is based on a political order whose main feature is making the exercise of power subject to the consent of the governed. It spread across Europe in the 19th century, powering nations with the emancipating force of the peoples' right to self-determination. During the 20th century it triumphed over modern tyrannies, repelling fascist regimes, the Nazis and their allies, then defeating Communism after a Cold War that ended with the collapse of the USSR. However, as we enter the 21st century, the horizon looks darker. The 1st volume is devoted to themes and issues. (EN - FR- 156 p.)*

### [New global survey - Democracies under pressure - Volume II. The countries](#) [Démocraties sous tension - Une enquête planétaire - Volume II. Les pays](#)

by Dominique Reynié [@DominiqueReynie](#)

*The 2nd volume is dedicated to the forty-two countries of the survey, offering a fact sheet for each that summarizes the state of national public opinion. (EN - FR - 120 p.)*

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