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THINK TANK REVIEW

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

As the "changing of the guard" takes place in the **EU institutions**, reports analyse Ursula von der Leyen's announcement of a geopolitical Commission which will be better equipped to tackle global forces unleashed by a protectionist 'America first' policy and an increasingly assertive China. As for the Spitzenkandidaten debate, publications argue that a revised version of the Spitzenkandidaten could possibly emerge from the upcoming conference on the future of the EU. Nevertheless, any such move towards a more federal Europe requires an informed and transparent debate and cannot be introduced via the back-door. Articles make the case that the new EU leadership must add substance to the EU's global strategy, stressing the point that the EU needs to assert its ideas and its power in such a way as to engage with and not confront the world.

On **ECOFIN**, papers explore developments on the European financial markets and examine the main impacts that the transformation of the role of banks will have on the set-up of financial markets and on financial regulation especially in the euro area. On the reform of the latter, the overall view is that an overhaul of the complex fiscal rules should be a top priority as the fiscal framework in place suffers from a number of clearly identified problems. Articles comment on the rise in hybrid threats and cyberattacks in the EU, and on ways in which to increase the resilience of the financial system.

On **employment and social policy**, publications argue that the European integration process has neglected social policies and should therefore now focus on strengthening the social dimension of the European project. Social policy may be the crucial tool with which to fight Euroscepticism, specifically through social convergence, equity and tax justice. Articles highlight how digitalisation can be used to train low-skilled workers to face more exacting requirements and technical changes and one report highlights how the so-called 'gig' economy, with a large lobbying presence in Brussels, is undermining workers' rights.

Articles express the view that leadership in **climate change** policies has enhanced the EU's global role. They explore how the EU can continue to offer solutions and promote growth in the industries of the future. They explore too the challenges faced by younger and future generations owing to environmental breakdown and the measures that can be taken to address this inter-generational injustice. Studies suggests that Europe must lead the way towards a successful transition to a climate-neutral economy, and that this change should begin through energy transition.

In the area of **justice and home affairs** articles look at disinformation in the debate on migration along with how national newspapers have framed the narrative since 2014. There are recommendations for the 'New Pact for Asylum and Migration' and some critiques of the securitisation approach to the field of migration policy.

On **foreign affairs**, articles examine how the crises within the multilateralism system create an opportunity for the EU to strengthen its multilateral networks at a time when the international

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system is fragmenting. A CFSP's reform and a European defence policy should be developed through the Community method and not through an ad-hoc or flexible approach that would sideline EU institutions.

As for **trade policy**, papers focus on the EU / Mercosur free trade agreement reached in June. The agreement enables the EU to assert itself in geo-economic and political terms in Latin America vis-à-vis the US and China and to defend rule-based world trade.

On **Brexit**, articles analyse the impact and implications of a no deal Brexit, and the prospects for UK nationals in the EU-27 after a no-deal Brexit.

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The next Think Tank Review will be out in November, with papers published in October 2019.

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SECTION 1 - EU POLITICS AND INSTITUTIONS



CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

From a political to a politicised Commission?

by Steven Blockmans  [@StevenBlockmans](#) and Daniel Gros  [@DanielGrosCEPS](#)

The Commission proposed by President-elect Ursula von der Leyen has been carefully calibrated to woo major parties in the EP, member state governments and citizens alike. Announcing a “geopolitical Commission”, von der Leyen expects her restructured institution to be better equipped to tackle the global forces unleashed by a protectionist ‘America First’ policy and an increasingly assertive China. It remains to be seen, however, whether some of von der Leyen’s more controversial choices will balance themselves out or backfire further down the line. The latter, in particular, concerns the role of the Commission as an impartial guardian of the treaties. (6 p.)

EGMONT – ROYAL INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Spitzenkandidaten: a debate about power and about the future development of the EU

by Jim Cloos

While the Spitzenkandidaten model seems doomed in its present shape, the debate is not over. It will certainly flare up again if the suggestion of a conference on the future of Europe that has been put forward by some in

the context of the nominations process is implemented. (9 p.)

INSTITUT FÜR EUROPÄISCHE POLITIK (INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN POLITICS)

Europawahl 2019: neue politische Konstellationen für die Wahlperiode 2019–2024

by Rudolf Hrbek

This article argues that the results of the 2019 European elections differed considerably in the 28 member states since they were primarily determined by factors within the respective national context: the priorities in the political discourse and the actual configuration of the party system. The article identifies new political constellations for the EP and asks about their impact on the role of the Parliament in the electoral period 2019-2024 and on inter-institutional relations. The Spitzenkandidaten procedure serves as a first test case. (DE - 20 p.)

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

Europaparlamentsvalet 2019 – ett splitrat politiskt landskap

by Magnus Blomgren

This analysis highlights the different issues with the EP election results and what consequences they might bring, especially in regard to a potentially divided Parliament. (SV - 16 p.)

REAL INSTITUTO ELCANO

La coordinación transnacional de los partidos de derecha radical populista en el Parlamento Europeo

by Margarita Gómez-Reino Cachafeiro

This analysis examines the coordination among political right-wing populist parties through the formation of political groups in the EP. Specific attention is given to the coordination process and to the fact that group fragmentation had declined in the last decade. This brief shows the changes that took place since the 2019 European

SECTION 1 - EU POLITICS AND INSTITUTIONS

elections. The difficulties in creating coalitions show how these parties have limited political influence in the EU. (ES - 8 p.)

EGMONT – ROYAL INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The power to engage: giving punch to a new EU global strategy 2020

by Sven Biscop

Europe does not aspire to be the world's policeman, but it cannot just be the world's professor either. The author makes the case that the new EU leadership must add substance to EU global strategy and assert its ideas and its power. Power, not to confront, but to engage the world. (7 p.)

ZENTRUM FÜR EUROPÄISCHE INTEGRATIONSFORSCHUNG (CENTER FOR EUROPEAN INTEGRATION STUDIES)

Perspectives on better regulation in the EU

by Henri de Waele and Ellen Mastenbroek (eds.)

This paper contains a selection of essays on European integration and on how policy-making powers and processes have been transferred from the national to the supranational/European level. In this context, while some policies were made at the national level and others were transferred to the European one, there were numerous issues 'in between' where coordinated policies were needed. The gaps were filled with different sub-regional and regional initiatives that subject the better regulation programme to a critical scrutiny from both an academic and a practical perspective. This volume aims to challenge vested assumptions on the better regulation programme and to advance the existing knowledge base. (57 p.)

INSTITUTE FOR DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS / HANNS SEIDEL STIFTUNG

EU strategy for the Danube region - bridging the gap between national and European policies

by Sandro Knezovic

The Lisbon Treaty defines 'territorial cohesion' as one of the EU's priorities in contemporary European affairs. In the process of European integration, while some policies were made at the national level and others were transferred to the European one, there were numerous issues 'in between' where coordinated policies were needed. The gaps were filled with different sub-regional and regional initiatives. This brief focuses on the phenomena of EU macro-regional strategies, with particular attention paid to the Danube region strategy. (7 p.)



COMPETITIVENESS (INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND SPACE)

OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATIONS

A human-centric digital manifesto for Europe

by Ursula Pachl  [@PachiUpa](#) and Pamela Valenti (eds.)

The digital revolution is radically changing every aspect of human life in the 21st century and it's essential that regulators address the challenges this transformation brings. The new Commission should look beyond digital single market issues, and focus on creating new rights-based policies and regulations based on freedom, democracy, equality, and rule of law to ensure that existing offline rights are protected online. (46 p.)

ELINKEINOELÄMÄN TUTKIMUSLAITOS (RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF THE FINNISH ECONOMY)

What are the benefits of data sharing? Uniting supply chain and platform economy perspectives

by Henri Huttunen , Timo Seppälä  [@timoisepala](#), Ilkka Lähteenmäki et al.

Data as a resource and data sharing enable competitive supply chains and present-day digital platform business models. The recipe for these competitive supply chains will no longer be contingent on how different companies contract to share data in their existing business networks but how these

companies make these contracts available for others in multisided markets. Advancing the availability of data sharing contracts has led to novel internal and external operational efficiencies and to new types of strategic opportunities. (16 p.)

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN PROGRESSIVE STUDIES

The ECBs half-baked supervision mandate or, how to get serious about shadow banking again

by Jakob Vestergaard  [@jakobvestergard](#) and Stine Qouming

This article discusses how there cannot be a completion of Europe's banking union without the establishment of formal European supervision of all non-banking institutions. The paper identifies four potential, explanatory factors for the omission of shadow banking from the single supervisory mechanism mandate. (23 p.)

BRUEGEL

Challenges ahead for the European Central Bank: navigating in the dark?

by Grégory Claeys  [@gregclaeys](#), Maria Demertzis  [@mariademertzis](#) and Francesco Papadia  [@FrancescoPapad1](#)

Since the second half of 2018, signs of a slowdown have been piling up in the euro area. The ECB will face major challenges in this potentially difficult period: its main tools are nearly exhausted; the monetary union in which it operates is still incomplete and it lacks the understanding of what the 'new normal' looks like. This brief urges the ECB to review its strategy and framework to be able to face these challenges. (25 p.)

SECTION 2 - EU POLICIES

NOTRE EUROPE - DELORS INSTITUTE

New beginnings - a new approach to Eurozone reform

by Lucas Guttenberg  [@lucasguttenberg](https://twitter.com/lucasguttenberg)

While the eurozone is in better shape now than at the beginning of the Juncker Commission, it appears to be still unprepared for any future economic crisis. This policy brief suggests that the new Commission should further work on a reform of the eurozone by concentrating on two separate tracks: building consensus and trust around the reform and preparing the eurozone for the possible downturn. This should be done by finalising the current reforms, making the banking union work and preparing a playbook for a joint fiscal response. (7 p.)

SAFE - SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE FOR FINANCE IN EUROPE

Completing banking union

by Thomas F. Huertas

This paper discusses how to improve efficiency in the European banking sector and the economy, arguing that the banking union needs completion through a single European deposit insurance scheme alongside the single supervisor and the single resolution authority. (23 p.)

LUISS SCHOOL OF EUROPEAN POLITICAL ECONOMY

The inevitable evolution of European financial markets

by Marcello Messori

This paper explores the evolution of European financial markets and examines the main impacts that the transformation of the role of banks will have on the set-up of financial markets and on financial regulation in the euro area and in other parts of the EU (the so-called “banking union” and the so-called capital markets union process). (25 p.)

BERTELSMANN STIFTUNG

Local public finance in Europe: country reports

by René Geißle  [@retogeis](https://twitter.com/retogeis), Gerhard Hammerschmid, Christian Raffer (eds.)

This paper analyses the local government finances of 23 European countries. It seeks to provide a general overview on each national system of local public finance, showing the structural lines, rather than an in-depth analysis of each country. It looks at revenues, expenses, the consequences of the financial crisis, as well as how municipalities comply with fiscal regulations. (250 p.)

WIENER INSTITUT FÜR INTERNATIONALE WIRTSCHAFTSVERGLEICHES (THE VIENNA INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC STUDIES)

Economic polarisation in Europe: causes and options for action

by Claudio Gräßner  [@ClaudiusGrabner](https://twitter.com/ClaudiusGrabner), Philipp Heimberger  [@heimbergecon](https://twitter.com/heimbergecon) and Jakob Kapeller

This study discusses the challenges that economic policy-makers in Europe have to cope with, in order to ensure an economically prosperous and institutionally stable community of member states of the EU. It links the existing economic divergences with a central long-term problem, namely structural polarisation: differences in the institutional and legal embedding, and in technological capabilities are a major driver of divergence in living standards between some member states. (49 p.)

SECTION 2 - EU POLICIES

WIENER INSTITUT FÜR INTERNATIONALE WIRTSCHAFTSVERGLEICHE (THE VIENNA INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC STUDIES)

Holding together what belongs together: a strategy to counteract economic polarisation in Europe

by Jakob Kapeller, Claudio Gräbner
Twitter: [@ClaudiusGrabner](https://twitter.com/ClaudiusGrabner), and Philipp Heimberger
Twitter: [@heimbergecon](https://twitter.com/heimbergecon)

The 2017-2018 economic upswing in the EU only masked the underlying economic polarisation in the bloc, which will again become more evident as the economy continues to cool. What could a European strategy look like that counteracts the existing structural polarisation and thereby strengthens the cohesion of Europe? (18 p.)

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

Skattepolitik på EU-nivå – samordna eller konkurrera?

by Åsa Hansson

This paper presents arguments for and against tax policy cooperation, both on an international and regional level, with a focus on EU cooperation. In a global world it is difficult to maintain purely national tax systems, and many argue that countries should coordinate their tax policies. This paper looks at the different options and argues that a coordinated EU position in global and other international forums would provide increased opportunities for influence. (SV - 13 p.)

BRUEGEL

Hybrid and cybersecurity threats and the European Union's financial system

by Maria Demertzis Twitter: [@mariademertzis](https://twitter.com/mariademertzis) and Guntram B. Wolff Twitter: [@GuntramWolff](https://twitter.com/GuntramWolff)

The authors document the rise in hybrid threats and cyberattacks in the EU. Exploring preparations to increase the resilience of the financial system they find that at the individual institutional level, significant

measures have been taken, but that the EU finance ministers should advance a broader political discussion on the integration of the EU security architecture applicable to the financial system. (14 p.)

ZEW

Tax law and the transfer of start-up losses: a European overview and categorization

by Theresa Bührle and Christoph Spengel

Most EU member states employ anti-loss trafficking rules. They aim to prevent the acquisition of mere corporate shells with high tax loss carryforwards for the tax asset to be utilized in profitable companies. However, other corporations can unintentionally be affected by the anti-abuse regulations if there is a change in ownership or activity. The transfer restrictions have been argued to impair start-up financing, as investors are faced with the risk of losing accumulated loss carryforwards in the corporation upon the entering of new or the capital increase of existing investors. This study analyses such anti-abuse regulations and their impact on start-ups. (28 p.)

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN REFORM

Should the EU tax imported CO₂?

by Sam Lowe Twitter: [@SamuelMarcLowe](https://twitter.com/SamuelMarcLowe)

This brief analyses how an EU carbon border tax would be tricky to design, costly to implement and sure to provoke legal challenges. But if done properly there are reasons to think it could succeed. (6 p.)

SECTION 2 - EU POLICIES

EMPLOYMENT / SOCIAL POLICY / HEALTH AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES

La dimension sociale de la politique européenne : un nouveau domaine de responsabilité franco-allemande

For decades, the European integration process had neglected social policies. As a consequence, the EU is not perceived as a credible actor in that field. This paper supports the necessity of strengthening the social dimension of the European project. It further argues that, to address this challenge, France and Germany should contribute to the elaboration of a European approach. (FR – 6 p.)

EUROPEAN TRADE UNION INSTITUTE

Legislative implementation of European social partner agreements: challenges and debates

by Jean-Paul Tricart

This working paper analyses the development of the interpretation that the Commission has given to the TFEU provision concerning mechanisms for extensions of collective agreements. The paper examines how the Commission has reinterpreted these provisions and the challenges this poses for the social partners. (68 p.)

CENTRAAL PLANBUREAU (CPB) NETHERLANDS BUREAU FOR ECONOMIC POLICY ANALYSIS

Arbeidsparticipatie, gewerkte uren en economische zelfstandigheid van vrouwen

by Yvonne Adema, Kees Folmer, Simon Rabaté
[@SimonRabate](#) et al.

A research was conducted into the determinants of participation of women in the labour market in the long-term, the effects of parenthood on income and the collective benefits of economic independence. Parenthood is one of the causes for continuing differences in income between men and women. The average income of

women decreases strongly after the birth of the first child, while the effects on the average income of men is limited. (NL - 59 p.)

NOTRE EUROPE - JAQUES DELORS INSTITUTE

New beginnings - objective 2024: better living and working conditions for all Europeans

by Sofia Fernandes  [@fernandesofiaEU](#)

The study argues that social policy may be the crucial tool to fight Euroscepticism, specifically through social convergence, equity and tax justice. It underlines the importance of the proposals of the Juncker Commission, arguing that it is essential that the next Commission be involved in a continuous process. Social integration must be pushed forward, if necessary even in a non-homogeneous way. The social action plan should have five priorities: convergence; investment in human capital with particular attention to inequalities and young people; transition to a digital and low-carbon economy; striving for more social equity and tax justice; and ensuring fair mobility of workers. (10 p.)

INSTITUT DER DEUTSCHEN WIRTSCHAFT KÖLN (COLOGNE INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH)

How digitisation can be used to educate the low-skilled

by Susanne Seyda

The training participation of the low-skilled has increased significantly in recent decades. The main reasons are higher requirements and technical changes, which also affect the activities of low-skilled workers. In order to further strengthen the continuing education participation of semi-skilled and unskilled workers, all stakeholders are in demand: companies should increasingly offer jobs on which workplace-oriented learning is possible and competences can be acquired. (DE - 17 p.)

SECTION 2 - EU POLICIES

CORPORATE EUROPE OBSERVATORY

Über-influential? How the gig economy's lobbyists undermine social and workers rights

by Rachel Tansey and Kenneth Haar [@KennethHaar](#)

The 'gig' or 'platform' economy is increasing its lobbying presence in Brussels with the aim of maintaining their special privileges as part of the so-called 'collaborative' digital economy. Of particular concern is the way companies like Uber class their workers as self-employed, thus contributing to a growing degradation of labour rights. Authorities have taken measures to mitigate this issue but some platforms have worked intensely for years to persuade the Commission to develop its interpretation of two existing directives, namely the e-commerce directive from 2000 and the services directive from 2006. (68 p.)

CENTRUM FÜR EUROPÄISCHE POLITIK

Koordinierung der Sozialsysteme. Reform der Leistungen bei Arbeitslosigkeit

by Karen Rudolph and Urs Pötzsch

This article discusses current intra-EU discussions on reform of the rules on coordination of national social systems. Regarding one of the controversial aspects, unemployment benefits, the authors argue that an unemployed person should be entitled to unemployment benefits from the state in which they most recently completed the relevant qualification period. States should be able to determine the duration of the qualification period for entitlements to unemployment benefits. (DE - 10 p.)

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

FONDATION ROBERT SCHUMAN

The new Commission's climate goals

by Clémence Pèlegrin [@clempelegrin](#)

Against the backdrop of ecology's increasing salience in public debates, Ursula von der Leyen hopes to position the EU as the world's ecological transition leader through her "green deal" proposal. This brief

assesses the objectives and instruments of this "green deal". Furthermore, it analyses the threats that undermine the potential advent of this ambition, i.e. the strong reliance of some member states on fossil energies and the probable clashes with economic objectives. (5 p.)

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN REFORM

Moving back the finishing line: the EU's progress on climate

by Noah Gordon [@noahjgordon](#)

This report analyses how European leaders' aim to go carbon neutral by 2050 will not happen without much tougher emissions curbs by 2030, and a sizeable increase in research and development funding. (5 p.)

GRANTHAM RESEARCH INSTITUTE ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Cities, climate change and chronic heat exposure

by Patrick Curran [@PatrickCurranSA](#), Christian Siderius [@ChrisSiderius](#), and Tanya Singh [@singhtanya88](#)

Climate change will lead to increases in the occurrence of chronic heat exposure over longer durations and there is an urgent need to focus on managing the risks this poses, as well as the immediate risks from shorter-lived heat events. This brief looks at the problem with a focus on developing and emerging economies, and provides recommendations for action by local, regional and national governments and other actors. (8 p.)

GRANTHAM RESEARCH INSTITUTE ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The missing economic risks in assessments of climate change impacts

by Ruth DeFries [@ruthdefries](#), Ottmar Edenhofer, Alex Halliday [@AlexNHalliday](#) et al.

In order to make well-informed decisions on climate change action, leaders need to understand the magnitude of the risks to lives and livelihoods that are being created by climate change. Much of the technical advice

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about these risks incorporate assessments of the economic implications that omit or underplay the largest potential impacts of climate change. This policy insight seeks to identify and draw attention to these missing and under-represented risks. The authors also discuss how populations might fare in light of their potential to adapt in the face of these risks. (15 p.)

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

[How EU trade policy can enhance climate action: options to boost low-carbon investment and address carbon leakage](#)

by Susanne Dröge  [@droege_s](#), Karsten Neuhoff, Christian Egenhofer  [@CEgenhofer](#) et al.

Recognising that there is a general economic imperative to engage in low-carbon industrial transformation, not least to position Europe's industry competitively for the future, how can the EU build upon its leadership role and continue to offer solutions for reductions and further growth in future industries? Leadership in climate change policies has enhanced the global role of the EU. Can it also do so at a time of multilateralism in crisis? (12 p.)

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

[CO₂-Bepreisung im Gebäudesektor und notwendige Zusatzinstrumente](#)

by Michael Thöne, Max Gierkink, Lena Pickert et al.

This article argues that while CO₂ pricing provides incentives for investing in climate friendly heating technologies and energy renovation, a tax on greenhouse gases or emissions trading alone will hardly be enough to make them economically attractive. Additional policy tools are needed to address the specificities of the building sector. (DE - 87 p.)

INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH

[Inheriting the earth? The unprecedented challenge of environmental breakdown for younger generations](#)

by Laurie Laybourn-Langton  [@Laurie_L_L](#), Joshua Emden  [@joshemden](#) and Lesley Rankin  [@lesleyfrankin](#)

These discussion papers seek to inform debate over the relationship between policy and politics and environmental breakdown, supporting education in economic, social and political sciences. This paper explores the challenge faced by younger generations and those not yet born resulting from environmental breakdown and the measures that can be taken to ameliorate this inter-generational injustice. In doing so, it seeks to help advance environmental improvement, sustainable development, and to relieve poverty and disadvantage. (22 p.)

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

[EU monitor: the Amazon wildfires and environmental conservation: what can the EU do?](#)

by Helder Hermani

The article analyses the position of the Brazilian government towards the fires in the Amazon rain forest and offers possible measures that the EU could take in response. The author recommends that the EU use international free trade treaties and Brazil's aspirations to join OECD as leverage. He also suggests that the EU should offer more resources to local communities and independent entities fighting deforestation and that it should also engage in diplomacy not only with the Brazilian federal government, but also with the governors of the individual Amazon states within Brazil. (8 p.)

SECTION 2 - EU POLICIES

NOTRE EUROPE - JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE

New beginnings – the European green deal starts with the energy transition

by Thomas Pellerin-Carlin  [@ThPellerin](#), Emilie Magdalinski  [@e_magdalinski](#) and Jean-Arnold Vinois

This study argues that Europe must become the prototype of a successful transition to a climate-neutral economy, starting with an energy transition. Ursula von der Leyen's promised green new deal should articulate three key components: climate ambition to set the direction, innovation-based competitiveness to help EU companies develop the clean energy solutions for Europe and the world, and social justice to ensure an inclusive transition that improves the living conditions of all Europeans. (8 p.)

CENTRUM FÜR EUROPÄISCHE POLITIK

Wirksame CO₂- Bepreisung – Jetzt die Weichen richtig stellen! Fahrplan für Deutschland und Europa: Emissionshandel ohne Preisgrenzen für Verkehr und Gebäude

by Martin Menner, Götz Reichert and Jan S. Voßwinkel  [@JanSVossinkel](#)

The authors discuss emissions trading in Germany and the EU and propose a "Roadmap for Germany and Europe: Emissions trading without price limits for vehicles and buildings". (DE - 30 p.)

GENERAL AFFAIRS

NOTRE EUROPE - JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE

New beginnings - an EU budget in support of the next Commission's agenda

by Eulalia Rubio  [@eulaliarubio](#)

The von der Leyen Commission starts its mandate in the middle of the negotiations of the next multi-annual financial framework (MFF) for the 2021-2027 period. This unique coincidence in time gives the new Commission some leverage to influence the negotiations. Four main points should be put forward through the collaboration between

the Parliament and the Commission: maintenance of an adequate overall volume of EU spending; introduction of new EU sources of funding; elimination of rebates and corrections; provision of appropriate flexibility to make it easier to adjust EU spending to unforeseen events. (12 p.)

NOTRE EUROPE - JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE

New beginnings - Europeans face the risk of democratic regression: what can be done?

by Thierry Chopin  [@Th_Chopin](#)

This study underlines how liberal democracy has been called into question under pressure from populist and extremist political forces in Europe, bringing a risk of democratic regression, especially in Central and Eastern European democracies. The study stresses the importance of democracy and rule of law as founding values of the EU and thus the importance of tackling this new challenge. (9 p.)

JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES

L'UE est-elle prête pour les prochains défis migratoires ?

by Matthieu Tardis  [@MatthieuTardis](#)

This paper demonstrates that the EU tackled the migration crisis with short-term measures, which largely side-lined the Community method and therefore have deepened divisions between member states. (FR – 13 p.)

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

The making of a new cleavage? Evidence from social media debates about migration

by Esther Ademmer and Tobias Stöhr  [@tostoehr](#)

Immigration has been considered critical for the emergence of a new cleavage in the EU that pits the winners of globalisation against the losers. This paper provides systematic

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evidence on whether immigration contributes to the collective identification with the new cleavage on the micro-level. To do so, it analyses the comment sections of regional German newspapers on the Facebook platform. (23 p.)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

[Anti-money laundering - reinforcing the supervisory and regulatory framework](#)

by Jerome Deslandes, Cristina Dias and Marcel Magnus

On the back of a number of high profile cases and alleged cases of money laundering, this briefing presents current initiatives and actions aimed at reinforcing the anti-money laundering supervisory and regulatory framework in the EU. (22 p.)

JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE - BERLIN

[Interpretation and truth: how right-wing populist disinformation informs the debate on migration](#)

[Deutung und Wahrheit. Wie rechtspopulistische Disinformation die Migrationsdebatte prägt](#)

by Lucas Rasche  [@LuRasche](#) and Paul-Jasper Dittrich  [@paul2jasper](#)

Contrary to frequent expectations, the attitudes of EU citizens about the immigration of people from third countries have not deteriorated in light of the sharp rise in the number of asylum applications around 2015. Nevertheless, since the 'migration crisis', there has been an ongoing struggle to shape the narrative in the public and political discourse on migration. Right-wing populists have particularly promoted security and control narratives, leading to a "securitisation" of this policy field. The debate surrounding the UN global compact for migration has illustrated the political impact of these dynamics. This raises the question as to which strategies underlie right-wing populist disinformation and how these can be countered? (EN / DE - 17 p.)

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI

[Talking migration: narratives of migration and justice in the European migration system of governance](#)

by Silvia D'Amato and Sonia Lucarelli

This issue explores the way national newspapers have covered and discussed key political events related to European politics and migration dynamics between 2014 and 2018. (17 p.)

NOTRE EUROPE - JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE

[New beginnings - a fresh start in EU asylum policy](#)

by Lucas Rasche  [@LuRasche](#)

This study makes three recommendations to underpin von der Leyen's new pact for asylum and migration: to create a new narrative on migration policy focused on solidarity and protection of human lives; to harmonise national asylum standards; and to reform the common European asylum system. This last reform should be done by establishing a rescue operation coordinated by the European border and coast guard and a quota system for the relocation of asylum seekers among member states. (7 p.)

BARCELONA CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

[El despliegue fronterizo en el contexto de la Unión Europea bajo el actual ethos securitario](#)

by Ignacio Mendiola

The border can no longer be understood as a line demarcating a State's sovereignty. On the contrary, border production brings about a recomposition of sovereign power. Taking the EU framework as a case study, this paper examines this recomposition based on its interweaving with the security ethos. The border emerges as a shifting geography of imprecise limits through which processes of capturing spaces and subjectivities are activated. This capture, which combines increasingly extensive and invasive surveillance with militarised control rationales, is one of the most notorious

SECTION 2 - EU POLICIES

manifestations of a securitarian act that is legitimised in the bio-necro-political management of a migrant subjectivity that is seen, largely, in terms of risk. (ES - 22 p.)

VUB / INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES

Sustainable reintegration: identikit of a popular policy objective

by Rossella Marino  [@rossellamarin](#) and Ine Lietaert

Among the objectives of the 2018 UN global compact for migration, objective 21 deals with the return of migrants to their countries of origin. This objective includes a reference to sustainable reintegration occurring when returnees have access to psycho-social assistance, justice and occupational prospects. This objective enjoys broad support in the face of some countries increasingly opposing the global governance of migration. Such support can be explained by making reference to sustainable reintegration's potential to accommodate diverse interests and the limited monitoring of the programmes it underpins. (6 p.)

THE GERMAN MARSHALL FUND OF THE UNITED STATES

AI startups and the fight against online disinformation

by Anya Schiffrin

Growing citizen and government dissatisfaction with digital platforms is creating new pressure on content moderation. In response, social media platforms have begun to take action. Governments around the world are introducing or proposing new legislation inter alia to impose more liability on platforms for promoting harmful content and disinformation. All of this activity around moderation assumes or insists on the ability of platforms to detect and deal with harmful content. This paper shows how start-ups and small companies are tackling this problem. (15 p.)

GLOBSEC

(Few) jihadis without jihad? Central Eastern Europeans and their lack of pathways to global jihad

by Kacper Rekawek  [@KacperRekawek](#), Viktor Szucs, Martina Babíková  [@BabikovaMartina](#) et al.

A research team has built up a dataset of 326 individuals arrested for terrorism offences. This paper applies it to cases of Central Eastern European (CEE) jihadis from the four countries constituting the Visegrad group (V4), i.e., Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, and Slovakia. This report, based on interviews with security stakeholders of the four countries, is aimed at offering evidence and situating the scale of the threat within the context of the larger ISIL activities in and against Europe. (24 p.)

GLOBSEC

European jihad: future of the past?

by Kacper Rekawek  [@KacperRekawek](#), Viktor Szucs, Martina Babíková  [@BabikovaMartina](#) et al.

This report offers a take on three burning issues estimated to be of key importance to the current European counterterrorism effort, namely: the seemingly ever-present phenomenon of (returning) foreign terrorist fighters; (terrorism) recidivism; and the role of women in European jihadism. (28 p.)

TRANSPORT / TELECOMMUNICATIONS / ENERGY

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI

The US-China 5G contest: options for Europe

by Lorenzo Mariani  [@llorenzomariani](#) and Micol Bertolini

This paper discusses how 5G offers the EU an excellent opportunity to strengthen its technological sovereignty through a common strategy towards foreign telecommunications companies and a coherent cybersecurity policy. (24 p.)

SECTION 2 - EU POLICIES

NOTRE EUROPE - JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE

New beginnings - challenges for EU digital and innovation policy

by Paul-Jasper Dittrich  [@paul2jasper](https://twitter.com/paul2jasper)

According to this study, the Juncker Commission was successful in terms of asserting European values of privacy and fair competition in the area of digital policy. The new Commission, however, must continue the work on deepening the digital single market in order to achieve a greater economic impact. (6 p.)

PEACE RESEARCH INSTITUTE OSLO

The evolving Russian challenge to EU energy security

by Pavel K Baev

Political attention and research on the Russian challenge to the EU's energy security has notably declined in the last couple of years, despite Russia maintaining its share in the EU import of oil and natural gas. This decline of interest is partly due to Russia scaling down the aggressive nature of its energy policy. (41 p.)

SECTION 3 - FOREIGN AFFAIRS



FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY / DEFENCE

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES

Democratization first. The community method in CFSP as a precondition for a European defence policy

by Annegret Bendiek  [@annegretbendiek](#)

Against the backdrop of calls for a militarization of the EU's foreign policy, several member states have recently proposed to reform the common foreign and security policy (CFSP). This paper argues that this willingness should materialize through the Community method and not through an ad-hoc or flexible approach that would sideline EU institutions. (6 p.)

EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Give the people what they want: popular demand for a strong European foreign policy

by Susi Dennison  [@sd270](#)

This study discusses a fundamental shift in Europeans' views of the world. Although there is widespread public support for the idea of the EU becoming a cohesive global actor, there is also a growing divergence between the public and the foreign policy community on several key issues – ranging from trade and the transatlantic relationship to EU enlargement. (23 p.)

INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AND EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

Reconciling foreign policy and development priorities in the EU budget (MFF 2021-2027)

by Niamh Fallon

This brief outlines the shape of the proposed neighbourhood development and international cooperation instrument and considers the positions and concerns of a number of key stakeholders, including the EU institutions, member states and NGOs. (10 p.)

LSE IDEAS / STIFTUNG MERCATOR

European security 2030

by Monika Sus  [@SusMonika](#) and Marcel Hadeed (eds.)

This paper is a collection of six alternative futures that – taking into account political, technological, socioeconomic and migratory trends – suggest various versions of tomorrow's reality. While the presented scenarios are mere representations of what "could be", they are uniquely informative for anyone wondering where current global trends will lead us 10 years down the road. (98 p.)

EGMONT – ROYAL INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Security aspects of connectivity

by Tomas Ries

Connectivity makes all parties much more vulnerable to regional or global volatility or turmoil. A related problem is that dependencies also create vulnerabilities that can be used to exert coercion. Dependence in strategic sectors, for instance in the supply of rare earth minerals or 5G technology, while environmentally or economically sound, can have adverse security implications. (7 p.)

SECTION 3 - FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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

The European intervention initiative - developing a shared strategic culture for European defence

by Dick Zandee and Kimberley Kruijver

In September 2017 President Emmanuel Macron suggested a European Intervention Initiative (EI2) as part of his vision of a “sovereign, united and democratic Europe”. This report provides a short background description of EI2 and of what has been achieved so far, followed by an analysis of what constitutes a ‘strategic culture’. (33 p.)

NOTRE EUROPE - JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE

New beginnings - bolstering EU Foreign and Security policy in times of contestation

by Nicole Koenig  @Nic_Koenig

To address geo-economic competition and hybrid threats the EU's new leadership team will have to closely integrate internal and external policies. This brief argues that this should be done by launching a long-term vision for common foreign and security policy with a European Security Council guiding the work. (6 p.)

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN REFORM

Up in arms: warring over Europe's arms export regime

by Sophia Besch  @SophiaBesch and Beth Oppenheim  @BethOppenheim

This policy brief argues in favour of an effective common European arms export policy, examining its potential to support foreign policy and the EU's ambition to build a strong European defence industrial base, through several case studies. (15 p.)

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

Kooperation, Vertrauen, Sicherheit? Potentiale und Grenzen der Wirtschafts- und Umweltdimension der OSZE

by Franziska Smolnik

This article notes that the long neglected so-called "second dimension" of the OSCE, which deals with economic and environmental issues, has become more dynamic in recent years as governments have begun to see it as a platform for mutually beneficial cooperation with a de-escalating effect and a starting point for dialogue and trust-building. The author asks to what extent this is true and what Germany and the other EU states could do to be more effective in this regard. (DE - 30 p.)

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES / KÖRBER-STIFTUNG

European security in crisis: what to expect if the US withdraws from NATO

by Liana Fix  @LianaFix, Bastian Giegerich and Theresa Kirch

This report addresses a fictional scenario that involves a US withdrawal from NATO, followed by multiple crises in Europe. How will Europeans organise their security and defence if the US withdraws from NATO? What role would the US play in European security after the withdrawal? (11 p.)

EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Three crises and an opportunity: Europe's stake in multilateralism

by Richard Gowan  @RichardGowan1 and Anthony Dworkin  @AnthonyDworkin

This report discusses how the multilateral system faces three connected crises. The first is a crisis of power; the second is a crisis of relevance; the third is a crisis of legitimacy. The paper's focus areas offer immediate opportunities for the EU to strengthen its multilateral networks at a time when the international system is fragmenting. (28 p.)

SECTION 3 - FOREIGN AFFAIRS

COLLEGE OF EUROPE

Transatlantic relations: the long holiday from history is over

by Heather A. Conley

This paper investigates the revitalization of great power competition in a changing world, how the EU and the US are adjusting to this transition, and the difficult choices which must be made transatlantically in order to build a new international system based on democratic principles and the rule of law. (5 p.)

RAHVUSVAHELINE KAITSEUURINGUTE KESKUS (INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR DEFENCE AND SECURITY)

Russians in Europe: nobody's tool – the examples of Finland, Germany and Estonia

by Anna Tiido  [@AnnaTiido](#)

This analysis calls for EU governments to pay greater attention to the resilience of their societies, starting with the integration of minorities. It is also important to continue work to increase awareness of Russian influence. (18 p.)

UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE

Negotiations, continued: ensuring the positive performance of power-sharing arrangements

by David Lanz  [@DLanz_PeaceMed](#), Laurie Nathan and Alexandre Raffoul  [@AWRaffoul](#)

This report examines the long-term performance of power sharing as an approach to ending intra-state armed conflicts. It argues that providing and fostering forums for continued negotiations after a peace agreement has been concluded is crucial to ensuring the long-term, positive performance of power-sharing arrangements. (16 p.)

DEUTSCHES INSTITUT FÜR ENTWICKLUNGSPOLITIK (GERMAN DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE)

Integrated policymaking: choosing an institutional design for implementing the sustainable development goals

by Anita Breuer, Julia Leininger and Jale Tosun

The implementation of the 2030 agenda poses new challenges to political institutions and processes. If the 17 sustainable development goals with their 169 targets are to be implemented in an integrated way, innovative governance approaches will be needed. This paper addresses the institutional dimension of the sustainable development goals and how it is influenced by political factors. (41 p.)

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR DEMOCRACY AND ELECTORAL ASSISTANCE

Tracking progress on sustainable development goal 16 with global state of democracy indices

by Armend Bekaj, Annika Silva-Leander  [@AnnikaSilva](#), Massimo Tommasoli et al.

This study provides an overview of the progress in implementing the sustainable development goal 16 in the UN 2030 agenda for sustainable development. It does so by using the global state of democracy indices as complementary data to the official indicators. This is based on the assumption that democracy has an instrumental value, as an enabler of sustainable development. (12 p.)

ÖSTERREICHISCHE INSTITUT FÜR INTERNATIONALE POLITIK (AUSTRIAN INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

Die Rückkehr der Geopolitik? Möglichkeiten und Limitation geopolitischer Analysen

by Clemens Binder  [@CleBinder](#) and Saskia Stachowitzsch  [@saskiastachow](#)

This paper deals with the question of whether geopolitics is becoming more dominant as a perspective on international

SECTION 3 - FOREIGN AFFAIRS

relations, processes and conflicts, both on the part of political actors and within the scientific debate. Based on current debates on the "return of geopolitics", this paper discusses traditional and critical approaches to geopolitics and evaluates their knowledge gain. (DE - 23 p.)

TRADE

NOTRE EUROPE - JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE

New beginnings - A greener and more inclusive trade policy

by Elvire Fabry  @elvirefabry

Trade policy priorities will become even more strategic for the next Commission as their geopolitical dimension is growing in importance. The study identifies the major challenges the EU will face in this domain. (7 p.)

BRUEGEL

EU trade policy and the China-US clash: caught in the cross-fire?

by Anabel Gonzalez  @AnabelG and Nicolas Véron  @nicolas_veron

What risks does the EU face with regard to China's strategic aims in trade policy and how can the EU respond? The US effort to isolate China poses particular risks for Europe. How can the EU counter such efforts with the aim of forging its own distinct trade policy? How should the EU move forward with reform of the WTO in light of differing demands and aims of trading blocs like China and the US? (36 p.)

BRUEGEL

The European Union-Mercosur free trade agreement: prospects and risks

by Michael Baltensperger  @baltensperg and Uri Dadush

After nearly 20 years of on-off negotiations, the EU and Mercosur – a customs union covering Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay – reached a political agreement on a trade deal in June 2019. But to derive the full benefits from the EU-Mercosur

agreement, major reforms will be needed. (16 p.)

DEUTSCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR AUSWÄRTIGE POLITIK (GERMAN COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS)

Mercosur-Abkommen. Europas geoökonomische und strategische Interessen

by Detlef Nolte

The renegotiated free trade agreement with the Mercosur countries enables the EU to assert itself in geo-economic and political terms in Latin America vis-à-vis the US and China and to defend rule-based world trade. The future Commission and the German government should now promote a speedy adoption. EU members are called upon to put their geostrategic interest as Europeans above national and particular interests. (DE - 8 p.)

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

Zusammenhänge zwischen Handelspolitik und Migration: ein Aktionsfeld für die EU

by Evita Schmieg

The author explores links between the EU's trade policy and migration with a focus on EU-Africa trade relations. (DE - 35 p.)

STOCKHOLM INTERNATIONAL PEACE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Emerging dual-use technologies in the life sciences: challenges and policy recommendations on export control

by Mirko Himmel

Export control measures can be used as a key governance instrument to prevent the unwanted proliferation of dual-use technologies. The paper describes key elements of the EU export control system and provides examples of select dual-use technologies in the life sciences that challenge this system. Recommendations are made in order to improve current EU strategic export control. (15 p.)

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CHATHAM HOUSE

[Delivering sustainable food and land use systems: the role of international trade](#)

by Christophe Bellmann, Bernice Lee, and Jonathan Hepburn  [@Hepburn_JC](#)

This paper explores a set of core trade-related issues affecting the food and land use system, and proposes constructive ways forward in reconfiguring the global trading system towards delivering a more sustainable and healthy diet for all. (80 p.)

FONDATION ROBERT SCHUMAN

[Europe in the Sino-American trade war](#)

by Cecilia Bellora  [@CeciliaBellora](#)

The Sino-American trade war, waged in 2018, has been destabilising the international trade system. After detailing the chronology of this ongoing trade war, this paper assesses its impact on both the economy of the EU and on the future of the international trade system. (4 p.)

NORSK UTENRIKSPOLITISK INSTITUTT (THE NORWEGIAN INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

[Internet use, intermediaries and international trade](#)

by Per Botolf Maurseth and Hege Medin

This study of the relationship between internet use and international trade finds that firms in many developing countries are more likely to engage in export and/or import if they use the internet as a communication tool. An ordered probit regression indicates that internet use is positively associated with direct participation in trade, as well as with indirect participation via trade intermediaries. (22 p.)

AFRICA

OCP POLICY CENTER

[Africa & Europe different demographic trends seeds for a smart partnership](#)

by Len Ishmael  [@LenIshmael](#)

In Africa's impending demographic dividend and the looming threat posed by Europe's aging, lie the seeds of an agenda with the possibilities to generate win-wins for both continents. Might Europe's future labour market requirements hold the key for a smart partnership around investments in Africa's greatest asset – that of its people? (19 p.)

OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

[Country experiences with decentralized climate finance: early outcomes](#)

by Adriana Quevedo, Neil Bird, Aklilu Amsalu et al.

This research study explores whether public investments made by government-led climate funds in Ethiopia, Kenya, Mali and Senegal are building climate resilience that responds to locally determined priorities. (112 p.)

ASIA-OCEANIA

KONRAD-ADENAUER-STIFTUNG

[Is Europe's future in Asia? The Asia-Europe meeting as an instrument of the rules-based multilateral order](#)

by Patrick Rüppel

The world order as we have known it for decades is in turmoil. Countries in Europe and Asia in particular have been profiting from the rules-based multilateral order which provided them with security and allowed them to prosper. Therefore, they are strongly affected by the current volatility. Instead of relying on other powers, countries in both regions should work together and proactively shape the future of multilateralism through the Asia-Europe meeting. (12 p.)

SECTION 3 - FOREIGN AFFAIRS

UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE

Loya jirgas and political crisis management in Afghanistan: drawing on the bank of tradition

by Scott S. Smith

Derived from Afghan village assemblies, loya jirgas are important political institutions whose authority is rooted in traditional decision-making practices. In light of the growing political uncertainty in Afghanistan, this report examines the eighteen loya jirgas that have been held since 1915 and identifies what approaches have and have not worked in case this institution needs to be called upon again. (28 p.)

FRIENDS OF EUROPE

Connectivity needs a strong rules-based multilateral framework – for everyone's sake

by Shada Islam  [@shada_islam](#), Amanda Rohde  [@Rohde_Amanda](#) and Rahul Chawla

Slowly but surely, countries are beginning to recognise that to work efficiently, connectivity requires internationally-agreed practices, rules, conventions and technical standards. It is vital that countries get serious not just about coordination and cooperation but also agree to go further. It's time to establish rigorous procedures to ensure that connectivity becomes either part of the existing rules-based multilateral order or provides the impetus to fashion a new international mechanism for connectivity which is better adapted to changed global realities. (11 p.)

EASTERN EUROPE

ÚSTAV MEZINÁRODNÍCH VZTAHŮ (INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PRAGUE) / ASOCIACE PRO MEZINÁRODNÍ OTÁZKY (ASSOCIATION FOT INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

10 years of Eastern partnership: from Prague to Brussels and how to proceed?

by Pavel Havlíček  [@Pavel_Havlicek](#)

The policy paper looks at the past decade of the Eastern Partnership, its achievements

and failures and the challenges that lie ahead of both the EU and the six EaP states. It brings policy recommendations for the EU, Visegrad group and the Czech Republic (15 p.)

EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Zelensky unchained: what Ukraine's new political order means for its future

by Joanna Hosa  [@joannahosa](#) and Andrew Wilson

This paper examines the origins and significance of Zelensky's meteoric rise, considers his prospects for transcending Ukrainian politics as normal, and sets out recommendations for Western partners of Ukraine to follow as they support the country in the next stage of its eventful post-independence journey. (24 p.)

CHATHAM HOUSE

Ukraine's decentralization reforms since 2014: initial achievements and future challenges

This paper outlines the main achievements and key shortcomings of decentralization since 2014. It highlights the presence of a limited window of opportunity for completing the first phase of these reforms by 2020. It also identifies challenges around the second stage of decentralization, which started in early 2019. (28 p.)

FOREIGN POLICY CENTRE / NORWEGIAN HELSINKI COMMITTEE

Disputed territories, disputed rights: how to address human rights challenges in Europe's grey zones

by Gunnar M. Ekelove-Slydal  [@GunnarEkelveSly](#), Adam Hug  [@AdamHug](#), Ana Pashalishvili et al. (eds.)

If the defence of human rights is to be truly universal it is important to examine whether and how these rights can still be protected even in spaces that fall at the margins of the international system. The authors aim to shine a spotlight on the human rights situations in some of Europe's most contested but least well understood spaces:

SECTION 3 - FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Transnistria, South Ossetia, Abkhazia, Nagorno-Karabakh and Crimea. (85 p.)

BELARUSIAN INSTITUTE FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES

[Belarus between NATO and CSTO: law and geopolitics](#)

by Alisia Ivanova

What should be the optimal foreign policy of the Republic of Belarus given the current geopolitical situation and with a view to maintaining peace and security both in the country and in the region? Although it is a member of Russia-led organizations, Belarus continues to cooperate with NATO in the military area. That is why there is a need to review legal aspects of Belarusian cooperation with Russia and the collective security treaty organization on the one hand, and with NATO on the other. (12 p.)

INSTITUT FÜR EUROPÄISCHE POLITIK (INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN POLITICS)

[Friends and foes in the South Caucasus](#)

by Azad Garibov  [@Azad_Garibov](#)

The paper addresses the question of why the South Caucasus states have employed divergent and often conflicting alignment and alliance strategies since their independence, although having had similar “departure points”. It argues that perceived security threats and the need for protection against them constitute the major incentive for alliance/alignment choices. According to the paper, in the South Caucasus a combination of the three major variables of regional security complex – namely long-standing enmities and amities, inherent state weaknesses, and penetration of big powers – produce divergent alliance and alignment policies pursued by Armenia, Georgia, and Azerbaijan. (12 p.)

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

PETERSON INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

[Hyperinflation in Venezuela: a stabilization handbook](#)

by Gonzalo Huertas

Putting a stop to extreme inflation must be a first-order priority to stabilize the Venezuelan economy and set the country on the road to reconstruction. The authorities should avoid stabilization through austerity. Strong financial support from the international community should be secured. (14 p.)

MIDDLE EAST / NORTH AFRICA (MENA)

ISTITUTO PER GLI STUDI DI POLITICA INTERNAZIONALE

[Rebuilding Syria: the Middle East’s next power game?](#)

by Eugenio Dacremo  [@Ibn_Trovarelli](#) and Valeria Talbot  [@TalbotValeria](#)

Over the last eight years the Syrian conflict has developed into one of the worst humanitarian tragedies of modern times. This report aims to answer a few crucial questions and to provide the reader with key tools to understand where Syria is headed and what can be done to avoid the worst scenarios. (148 p.)

KONRAD-ADENAUER-STIFTUNG

[The situation and prospects of Christians in North and North-East Syria](#)

by Otmar Oehring

A resolution of the Syria conflict is not in sight, even though the Assad regime now controls over half the country. The Islamic State is considered to be largely defeated. The population has dropped by around 21% since 2010 and the Christian share by up to 78 %. This paper looks at the current experience of Christians in North and North-East Syria. (90 p.)

SECTION 3 - FOREIGN AFFAIRS

FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG (FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION)

Israel-Palästina und der Deal des Jahrhunderts: Die US-Außenpolitik unter Präsident Donald J. Trump 2017–2019

by Grace Wermenbol

This article argues that the EU must reassess its traditional role as a mediator and instead to take the lead as a peacemaker in the region. The article argues too that the EU and its member states should strive to have a more active role in resolving the conflict rather than just provide financial assistance. (DE - 20 p.)

FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG (FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION)/PRIO CYPRUS CENTER

The new geopolitics of the Eastern Mediterranean: trilateral partnerships and regional security

by Zenonas Tziaras (ed.)  [@ZenonasTziaras](#)

This series of reports aims to explore the Eastern Mediterranean as a distinct geopolitical space in the context of global and regional transitions. It conceptualizes the Eastern Mediterranean's new geopolitical identity both historically and theoretically and looks at its security and politico-economic prospects. It tracks the main challenges that regional states face, and attempts to re-imagine the patterns of conflict and cooperation by examining the potential of regionalism and inter-state cooperation in various sectors. (136 p.)

CHATHAM HOUSE

Between order and chaos: a new approach to stalled state transformations in Iraq and Yemen

by Renad Mansour  [@renadmansour](#) and Peter Salisbury  [@peterjsalisbury](#)

This paper argues that all states lie along a chaos-order spectrum. No state is entirely chaotic or orderly. Even those that display many features of chaos – as in Iraq and Yemen – contain pockets of order that are all too often overlooked. The larger the gap

between the formal bureaucracy and the de facto authorities, the more a state slides towards the chaos end of the spectrum. Effective state-building must find a way of institutionalizing improvised governance arrangements. (50 p.)

EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY STUDIES

Arab futures 2.0: the road to 2030

by Florence Gaub  [@FlorenceGaub](#)

The next decade in the MENA offers many opportunities, but poses just as many challenges. Regional decision-makers will have to face a geostrategic environment shaped by climate change, energy diversification, a growing and young population, rapid urbanisation, digitalisation, food insecurity and a gradual shift of its export base from Europe to Asia. (65 p.)

THE INSTITUTE FOR NATIONAL SECURITY STUDIES

The war in Yemen and future relations between Riyadh and Abu Dhabi

by Inbal Nissim-Louvtan, Yoel Guzansky and Ari Heistein  [@ariheist](#)

Southern separatist forces, which claim independence for South Yemen and enjoy the support of the UAE, have consolidated their hold on Aden, the alternative capital of the Yemeni central government since it lost Sanaa. This development, which follows the UAE's announcement that it intends to reduce its forces in Yemen, is yet another sign that Saudi Arabia and the UAE are divided over the nature and possible reformation of the Yemeni state. The article looks into these different strategies and the consequences this may have for Israel and the US. (4 p.)

SECTION 3 - FOREIGN AFFAIRS

RICE UNIVERSITY'S BAKER INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY

The repercussions of partial or full West Bank annexation by Israel

by Gilead Sher  [@GileadSher](#) and Daniel Cohen

This analysis explores the consequences of West Bank annexation for Israel's international standing, internal cohesion and socio-economic fabric, and security within a larger framework of regional stability (17 p.)

THE INSTITUTE FOR NATIONAL SECURITY STUDIES

The complexity behind Hezbollah's response to Israel's attacks

by Yoram Schweitzer and Orna Mizrahi

The considerations that have so far guided Hezbollah's calculated retaliation in September following Israel's strikes, and the August drone strike in Beirut in particular, reflect its character as an organization with multiple identities. Hezbollah simultaneously constitutes a pivotal link in the regional "resistance axis" led by Iran; a Lebanese "resistance" movement and "defender of Lebanon"; and an organization within Lebanon that preserves its independent identity and autonomous decision making. Even as Hezbollah is involved in the overarching "resistance axis" against Israel, its commitment to the Lebanese state serves as a restraint (4 p.)

WESTERN BALKANS

FONDATION ROBERT SCHUMAN

European Union-Western Balkans: for a revised membership negotiation framework

By Pierre Mirel

Whilst the Thessaloniki summit in 2003 opened up European prospects for the Western Balkans (WB), the agenda that was promoted then has hardly been completed to date. Against the backdrop of the new Berlin process and the Commission's six flagship initiatives, this paper advocates for the launch of membership negotiations with Albania and North Macedonia, based on a

new framework, in order to ensure Europe's security. (8 p.)

ÖSTERREICHISCHE INSTITUT FÜR INTERNATIONALE POLITIK (AUSTRIAN INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

Westbalkan als Migrationsroute: Europäische Strategien und lokale Lösungen 2015-2019

by Vedran Dzihic  [@vedrandzihic](#)

This paper deals with the situation of refugees and migrants in the Western Balkan region. It addresses the problems in the respective countries and analyses the domestic and regional political tensions that arise in this context. It argues that the policy of externalizing EU border management in regions such as the Western Balkans can sometimes have serious negative consequences. (21 p.)

THE INSTITUTE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE

Regional cross-border cooperation in the Danube region. A promising approach within the enlargement policy of the EU?

by Bence Csizmadia

Through carrying out an overview analysis of the main cooperation programs as well as a case-analysis of the EU strategy for the Danube region, this study assesses this network-like cooperation in terms of its actual impact and added value. A central conclusion is that while the EU tried to realise a comprehensive improvement of the Danube countries' membership perspective it failed to do so. (35 p.)

CHINA

OXFORD INSTITUTE FOR ENERGY STUDIES

Glimpses of China's energy future

by Michal Meidan  [@michalmei](#)

China's largest oil and gas major, China National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC), released its 2050 outlook in late August. This

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paper discusses the CNPC report as it reflects how the fossil fuel industry in China is thinking about the country's energy future. (10 p.)

INSTYTUT SOBIESKIEGO (SOBIESKI INSTITUTE)

Chinese method of currency internationalization

by Tomasz Grzegorz Grosse

By analysing the process of internationalization of the yuan, this paper endeavours to answer the question whether China's monetary power is increasing. Does the monetary policy of promoting the yuan in foreign relations increase the power of China on the regional and global arena, and does it lead to the weakening of other powers, primarily that of the US, whose currency is currently globally dominant? (25 p.)

PETERSON INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

Chinese investments in the US and EU are declining—for similar reasons

by Jacob Funk Kirkegaard  [@jfkirkegaard](#)

For years China has been one of the world's most rapidly growing sources of outward foreign direct investment. Since peaking in 2016, however, Chinese outward investments, primarily to the US but also the EU, have declined dramatically, especially in response to changes in China's domestic rules on capital outflows and in the face of rising nationalism in the US. Concerns about growing Chinese influence in other economies, the ascendant role of an authoritarian government in Beijing, and possible security implications of Chinese dominance in the high-technology sector have put Chinese outward investments under intense international scrutiny. (17 p.)

MERCATOR INSTITUTE FOR CHINA STUDIES

The party leads on everything. China's changing governance in Xi Jinping's new era

by Nis Grünberg  [@nisgreen](#) and Katja Drinhausen

October 1st marks the 70th anniversary of the People's Republic of China. Meanwhile, the Communist Party is reasserting its claim to all-encompassing "virtuous" leadership. This paper analyses Xi administration's institutional reforms of the party and state apparatus, which are seen as aiming at cementing the party's hold on power. (14 p.)

CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL GOVERNANCE INNOVATION

The Belt and Road Initiative: motivations, financing, expansion and challenges of Xi's ever-expanding strategy

by Alex He  [@AlexHe9527](#)

This paper argues that with more objectives added since its inception in 2013, China's Belt and Road Initiative has evolved into a much more expansive grand strategy that includes a package of themes and goals. (26 p.)

ÖSTERREICHISCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR EUROPAPOLITIK (AUSTRIAN SOCIETY FOR EUROPEAN POLITICS)

Sechs Jahre chinesische Seidenstraßeninitiative – Chancen, Risiken und Strategien für Europa

by Andreas Breinbauer

This article evaluates the Chinese BRI and possible EU reactions. The author argues that, unlike the BRI, the EU lacks a holistic, coordinated and multidimensional strategy. (DE - 12 p.)

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INDIA

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES

Prospects for the new EU strategy on India: game changer or business as usual ?

by Garima Mohan  @GarimaMo

The new 2018 EU strategy on India marks a major moment of departure in EU-India relations. This paper provides an in-depth analysis of this new strategy and highlights areas, which represent a departure from previous strategies. It suggests ways of taking this forward and ensuring the strategy does not remain a paper tiger in the long arsenal of EU-India declarations. (25 p.)

UTRIKESPOLITISKA INSTITUTET (SWEDISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

Indien – en framväxande stormakt

by Henrik Chetan Aspengren and Samuel Bergenwall. (eds.)

The report analyses India's domestic, foreign and defence policy, and what significance those policies might have to Sweden and the EU. (SV - 176 p.)

KONRAD-ADENAUER-STIFTUNG

Between arms race and alliance. How Pakistan and China are driving Indian defence policy

by Romina Liesel Elbracht  @romi_elbracht and Ann-Margret Bolmer

Although India's national security has, since its independence in 1947, been endangered by conflicts with its neighbours, Pakistan and China, above all others it is the latter that has become the benchmark of Indian defence measures. The Indian military must undergo extensive reforms if it is to remain prepared for future challenges. Internationally, ambitious India hopes to maintain its strategic autonomy and avoid dependence on world powers. (12 p.)

RUSSIA

OXFORD INSTITUTE FOR ENERGY STUDIES

The future of Russian oil production in the short, medium, and long term

by James Henderson and Ekaterina Grushevenko

This paper analyses the history of oil production in Russia since 2016 and looks at the short-term outlook for the period to 2025 from existing assets and known new fields. (22 p.)

CENTER FOR AMERICAN PROGRESS

Democratic resilience: a comparative review of Russian interference in democratic elections and lessons learned for securing future elections

by James Lamond  @jdlamond and Talia Dessel

Every indicator suggests that Russia will continue to be actively engaged in disrupting US democratic processes throughout the 2020 election cycle. This report outlines Russian election influence operations and determines what works and what does not when confronting Russian interference. (37 p.)

TRANS EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES ASSOCIATION

From interdependence to vulnerability: EU-Russia relations in finance

by András Deák

The objective of this chapter is to summarise and briefly analyse the transformation process of Moscow's financial interdependence with the West and the EU, and in particular Russia's vulnerability. At the level of investments and financial and payments systems there was a much larger development cleavage in 2014 than in EU-Russia trade or energy relations. For the West and especially for the EU, this was the first time that economic statecraft had been used as the central element of its policy towards Russia. For Russia, integration into global value chains became a persistent threat to its sovereignty, forcing it to

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securitise new segments of its economy and develop new forms of resilience. (20 p.)

TURKEY

FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN PROGRESSIVE STUDIES

[EU-Turkey relations: mapping landmines and exploring alternative pathways](#)

by Eduard Soler i Lecha  [@solerlecha](#)

The most likely scenario for the future of EU-Turkey relations for the next five years is the continuation of some sort of fragile, conflictual or uneasy cooperation. This paper discusses how there is a need to think about the best way to deal with this uncertainty, as EU - Turkey is a minefield. (23 p.)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

THE CHICAGO COUNCIL ON GLOBAL AFFAIRS

[Americans favor US-China trade, split over tariffs](#)

by Craig Kafura  [@ckafura](#)

Over the past 18 months, the US and China have engaged in a steady escalation of tariffs. Beginning in March 2018, the trade conflict has expanded to cover hundreds of billions of dollars in bilateral trade. Recent rounds of negotiations have made no new progress and have led to both sides escalating further. China countered by halting all agricultural purchases from the US, a move expected to hurt already-struggling US farmers. This brief analyses that, while Americans broadly support engaging in trade with China, they are split along partisan lines on how to engage in that trade. (6 p.)

THE CHICAGO COUNCIL ON GLOBAL AFFAIRS

[Americans say a nuclear Iran is unacceptable, divide on using force](#)

by Dina Smeltz  [@RoguePollster](#) and Bettina Hammer

After potentially setting the stage for a historic meeting between Tehran and Washington, Iran has pulled back on the idea

in the wake of US allegations that Iran was involved in the September attacks against Saudi oil installations. President Trump announced new sanctions against Iran. According to a survey, a majority of Americans still considered Iran's nuclear program a critical threat, but at lower levels than before the signing of the 2015 nuclear deal. While majorities favor diplomatic and economic measures to punish Iran if it withdraws from the nuclear agreement, there is more limited support for military action. (6 p.)

THE CHICAGO COUNCIL ON GLOBAL AFFAIRS

[Americans divided over US military forces in Germany](#)

by Craig Kafura  [@ckafura](#)

Over the past three years, US relations with Germany have become increasingly strained, with President Trump criticizing Berlin for failing to reach the NATO benchmark of 2% of a country's economic output on defence. Moreover, the Trump Administration has continually threatened to impose tariffs on European industries and German automakers in particular, a move that would deal a serious blow to the export-reliant German economy. The American public, meanwhile, sees the US-German relationship as good for US national security but is narrowly divided over US military forces in Germany. (6 p.)

THE CHICAGO COUNCIL ON GLOBAL AFFAIRS

[For first time, majority of Americans say climate change a critical threat](#)

by Dina Smeltz  [@RoguePollster](#)

There is no doubt that climate change will be an important agenda item for the Democratic primaries. A survey shows that Democrats name climate change as the most critical foreign policy threat facing the country, also for the first time. And a growing majority of Democrats say that immediate action is needed, even if the costs are significant. Republicans have also grown more convinced that climate change is a problem that needs to be addressed. (7 p.)

SECTION 4 - EU MEMBER STATES



CZECH REPUBLIC

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

[Zhodnocení české EU politiky v roce 2018](#)

by Vít Havelka [@Havelka_Vit](#) and Louis Cox-Brusseau
[@LouisCB01](#)

This article summarizes and evaluates Czech policy in the area of internal market and other economic policies, in justice and home affairs and also in foreign and security policy. Furthermore, it evaluates the institutional coordination of the Czech public administration based on semi-structural interviews with Czech civil servants. (CZ - 5 p.)

GERMANY

FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG (FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION)

[Aktuelle und zukünftige Einwanderungsbedarfe von IT-Fachkräften nach Deutschland : wie attraktiv sind die Bundesländer?](#)

by Sandra Hofmann, Andrea Laukhuf, Benedikt Runschke et al.

This study attempts to assess the attractiveness of Germany as a location for IT specialists from abroad using a specially developed index. This scoring, as well as the core data of the current need for skilled workers and predicted needs for 2030, are provided in 16 federal state profiles clearly arranged. In this way, the present study

contributes to a differentiated and fact-based debate on the subject of IT professionals and possible immigration needs. (DE - 72 p.)

HEINRICH-BÖLL-STIFTUNG (HEINRICH BÖLL FOUNDATION)

[Energiewende](#)

by Stefanie Groll [@boell_oekologie](#) and Doris Lorenz (eds)

Why do Germany's greenhouse gas emissions hardly sink, even though the share of renewable energies is steadily rising? How are the energy transition and electricity prices related? This paper tries to answer these questions as well as inform the reader about the German energy transition. (DE - 42 p.)

INSTITUT DER DEUTSCHEN WIRTSCHAFT KÖLN (COLOGNE INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH)

[Lage und Trends im deutschen Onlinehandeln](#)

by Barbara Engels

This report analyses the role and development of e-commerce in Germany and identifies future trends. In recent years, e-commerce has become increasingly important in Germany. It is now responsible for more than ten percent of retail sales. The future development of e-commerce will largely be determined by logistics. However, e-commerce is not equally important in the individual product groups. Above all, food is still largely sold offline. (DE - 27 p.)

GREECE

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΙΔΡΥΜΑ ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΗΣ ΚΑΙ ΕΞΩΤΕΡΙΚΗΣ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΚΗΣ (HELLENIC FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN FOREIGN POLICY)

[The European Union and gender equality in research and higher education: a view from Greece](#)

by Dia Anagnostou and Natalia- Rozalia Avlona

This policy paper provides an overview of the state of things in the EU in the area of gender

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equality in science, research and higher education, and reviews the EU's efforts over the last twenty years to develop a comprehensive policy of gender mainstreaming in this area. By reviewing the Greek legal framework on gender equality and relevant policy documents on research and higher education, this paper identifies the implementation gaps and suggests possible tools to address the gender imbalances in Greek research and university structures. (9 p.)

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΙΔΡΥΜΑ ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΗΣ ΚΑΙ ΕΞΩΤΕΡΙΚΗΣ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΚΗΣ (HELLENIC FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN FOREIGN POLICY)

The balance of military power between Greece and Turkey. The threat of the S-400 missiles, and the tactical response, by the armed forces of Greece

by Nikolaos Paounis

Turkey's revisionist policy, coupled with disputes over Greek sovereign rights, produces much data for the analysis of bilateral relations, as the two "allied countries" (within NATO) often arrived shortly before the war. This report analyses the balance of military forces between Greece and Turkey for the years 2019-2020. At the same time, it analyses what integration into service of S-400 missiles can mean. Can it affect the existing power balance? (EL - 13 p.)

SPAIN

EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Border games: has Spain found an answer to the populist challenge on migration?

by Shoshana Fine  @Shoshana_Fine and José Ignacio Torreblanca  @jitorreblanca

This paper discusses how the EU and its member states can learn from the Spanish experience by formulating new ways of thinking about migration. (26 p.)

FRANCE

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

Charting a new path for V4 - France cooperation

by Martin Michelot et al  @martinmichelot

The report offers a series of 16 policy papers covering the relationship between France and the V4 countries. It looks in depth at the following areas: the future of the EU and EU institutions; economic relations and social Europe; common foreign and security policy and justice and home affairs; and bilateral relations between each Visegrad country and France. (140 p.)

ITALY

LUISS SCHOOL OF EUROPEAN POLITICAL ECONOMY

The potentials and the dangers of the Italian economy in a renewed euro area

by Marcello Messori

This policy brief focuses on Italy's need to launch an effective economic policy package that will encourage sustainable development in the short and medium-long term, one that is, at the same time, compatible with Italy's commitments to the European institutions and with Italy regaining its central role in the EU. (9 p.)

LUXEMBOURG

LUXEMBOURG INSTITUTE OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC RESEARCH

Evaluation of language training programs in Luxembourg using principal stratification

by Michela Bia, Alfonso Flores-Lagunes and Andrea Mercatanti

In an increasingly globalized world, multiple language skills can create more employment opportunities. Several countries include language training programs in active labour market programs for the unemployed. The authors analyse the effects of a language training program on the re-employment

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probability and hourly wages of the unemployed simultaneously, using high quality administrative data from Luxembourg. (56 p.)

ROMANIA

THE INSTITUTE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE

The Romanian economy – recent developments and prospects

by Andrei Rădulescu and László Vasa

This paper is based on standard econometric tools and the use of the Eurostat database in order to assess the recent developments and to identify the mid-run prospects for Romanian economy. The performance of the Romanian economy during the post-crisis cycle is worth noting. The country managed to double the nominal GDP from 2006 to 2018 and to increase the GDP/capita to above EUR 10,000 last year. (12 p.).

SLOVENIA

INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH

Income inequality and tax progressivity in Slovenia: some recent results

by Tine Stanovnik and Nataša Kump

This paper gives an update analysis of income inequality and tax progressivity in Slovenia. The incomes of wage earners for the years 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2016 were analysed. It has been shown that the concentration of capital income at the very top of the income distribution, i.e. the top 1%, has increased quite considerably in 2016, as compared to 2005. The overall effect on aggregate measures of income inequality is rather small, due to the (still) modest share of capital income in the income of wage-earners. (17 p.).

SLOVAKIA

SLOVENSKÁ SPOLOČNOSŤ PRE ZAHRANIČNÚ POLITIK

A trouble-free neighbor: what should Ukraine change in relations with Slovakia?

by Tetiana Levoniuk  [@TanyaLevonuk](#)

The change of power in Ukraine and the election of the new President of Slovakia open a window of opportunity for the bilateral cooperation. The assassination of journalist Ján Kuciak and his fiancée in 2018 caused major changes in the Slovak political arena, and the victory of Zuzana Čaputová, a pro-liberal candidate, has become their symbol. These changes are likely to come to an end with the parliamentary elections scheduled for late February 2020, when the ruling camp will face the right-wing liberal opposition and anti-system radicals. (10 p.)

SWEDEN

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

Europaparlamentsvalet 2019 – Sverige går sin egen väg

by Linda Berg

When the 2019 EP elections took place in Sweden, the national parliamentary elections and government formation had occurred just a few months earlier. Looking at the most common election behaviour theories, the Swedish EP election should have had a lower turnout. That was not the case. On the contrary, turnout was the highest ever for a Swedish EP election. Combined with an unevenly distributed turnout across the country, the results seem to point to increased polarization - a trend that, according to the author, should be taken seriously (SV - 19 p.).

SECTION 4 - EU MEMBER STATES

UNITED KINGDOM

ULKOPOLIITTINEN INSTITUUTTI (FINNISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

Global Britain's Arctic security policy: going forward while looking back

by Agne Cepinskyte

Britain's Arctic security policy has changed in recent decades. Following the Cold War, Britain abandoned the Arctic regions and began developing a non-military security approach. Since then, Britain has re-adopted the military dimension of defence, which will likely be noticeable in the upcoming UK defence Arctic strategy. (8 p.)

BREXIT

EUROPEAN POLICY CENTRE

Brexit: how was it for you?

by Andrew Duff  [@AndrewDuffEU](#)

A witty look at the Brexit process thus far and at what may lie in store in the future. For the author, 'the option of re-accession will one day have to be addressed' but in such a case the 'EU the UK would be applying to re-join will not be the same EU as it is leaving in 2019'. (12 p.)

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

Dopady Brexitu na Českou republiku v rámci rozhodovacího procesu EU

by Vít Havelka  [@Havelka_Vit](#)

The author of the article analyses the impact of Brexit on the position of the Czech Republic within the EU. It considers how the voting weights of each member country will change in the qualitative majority voting after Brexit and what that will mean for the Czech Republic. It dives into how specific policy areas in the EU are likely to be impacted by the UK's departure. It also offers recommendations for the Czech policy makers on how they should react to these new political reality in the EU (CZ -7 p.).

THE UK IN A CHANGING EUROPE

No deal Brexit: issues, impact, implications

by David Bailey  [@dgbaily](#) et al.

The report analyses the impacts of a no-deal Brexit. A no deal will not "get Brexit done" rather, it will usher in a period of prolonged uncertainty for citizens, workers and businesses, which is unlikely to be resolved anytime soon. Once the UK is outside the Article 50 framework it will be far harder, and take far longer, to get a deal with the EU. All member states' national (and some sub-national) parliaments would need to ratify any deal. (36 p.)

MIGRATION POLICY INSTITUTE

On the brink: prospects for UK nationals in the EU-27 after a no-deal Brexit

by Meghan Benton  [@meghan_benton](#) and Aliyyah Ahad  [@Aliyyah_Ahad](#)

Six months on from the original March 2019 Brexit date and staring a new deadline in the face, many EU countries still had only skeletal plans for how to adjust the status of their resident UK nationals should a no-deal Brexit come to pass. This policy brief highlights critical gaps in these plans, the groups most likely to be affected by them, and strategies member states and the UK could adopt to soften the impact. (19 p.)



INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR COUNTER-TERRORISM - THE HAGUE

Extreme-right violence and terrorism: concepts, patterns, and responses

by Tore Bjørgo [@ToreBjorgo](#) and Jacob Aasland Ravndal [@Jacravn](#)

This paper attempts to conceptualize the extreme-right, in the context of its tendency to be overshadowed by the larger-scale, higher-casualty, jihadism. It concludes with recommendations on how relevant authorities can and should respond to this distinct form of political violence. (22 p.)

OŚRODEK STUDIÓW WSCHODNICH (CENTER FOR EASTERN STUDIES)

Gazprom's interests hit by CJEU judgement on OPAL pipeline

by Agata Łoskot-Strachota [@agata_loskot](#) and Szymon Kardaś [@szymonkardas](#)

On 10 September, the Court of Justice of the EU annulled a 2016 Commission decision allowing the Russian Gazprom to send greater volumes of gas through the OPAL pipeline. This paper discusses benefits and negative consequences of the Court's judgement. (8 p.)

JAPAN INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Asia and Europe: one hundred years from the Paris peace conference

This issue commemorates and reflects on a century since the Paris peace conference. Papers include 'one hundred years after the

Paris peace conference: a welcomed change in mutual perceptions'; 'Hundredth anniversary of the Treaty of Versailles: meanings and implications'; and 'the rise and fall of the liberal international order: 1919–2019' amongst others. (58 p.)

SAFE - SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE FOR FINANCE IN EUROPE

What is Libra? Understanding Facebook's currency

by Maik Schmeling [@MaikSchmeling](#)

Facebook's proposal to create a global digital currency, Libra, has generated a wide discussion about its potential benefits and drawbacks. This note characterizes similarities and dissimilarities of Libra's building blocks with existing institutions; discusses open questions about Libra which arise from this characterization; and considers potential future developments and their policy implications. (11 p.)

WILSON CENTER

What can be done about the problem of political parties?

by Patrick Liddiard

In a world of declining political party influence, protest movements and organized labour have increasingly served as vehicles to express grievances and channel political action. Given the increase in non-traditional political mobilization through protest and civil society organizations, political parties can best harness this energy through increased engagement and substantive internal deliberation. States can play a role in increasing the supply of political parties through subsidies that bolster parties' partner organizations and in boosting the demand for political parties by making voting compulsory, with appropriate accommodations for voters. (37 p.)