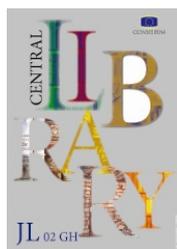


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THINK TANK REVIEW



Issue 14
June 2014

Dear Readers,

Welcome to issue 14 of the Think Tank Review compiled by the EU Council Library*. It references papers published in May 2014. As usual, we provide the link to the full text and a short abstract.

As you will expect, a large share of the think tank papers published last May were devoted to the European elections, with analyses of rising parties, maps of the networks among anti-EU parties, assessments of the impact of the top candidates and views on social media in the campaign. Partly related to the elections, we also found several papers elaborating on surveys and opinion polls. In addition, most EU think tanks and the major political foundations had papers on the Banking Union compromise [reached in March](#).

Among the other focal points in this issue: energy policy and gas supply, the 10th anniversary of the 2004 enlargement, and the UK relationship with the EU. On the latter, we note a project at the German Council on Foreign Relations with views from various Member States. Among the many papers on migration and asylum, we note a series of case studies on migrants' outcome on national labour markets. In the external relations section, Ukraine features prominently once again, with many think tanks putting forward wide-ranging measures for the country, from deployment of a joint stabilization force to constitutionally-sanctioned neutrality.

Finally, this month we slightly tweak the Regards croisés section, by reporting analyses that cut both across space (for example with a joint paper on German-Polish relations), and across time, the latter with a comparison between international relations in 1914 and in 2014.

As mentioned in the Review no. 8, we are taking steps towards the long-term preservation of the papers we select, and towards better search functions on this growing pool of documents (in other words towards [discoverability](#)). From now on, TTR papers will be indexed in our online [catalogue](#). Searches are possible by title, subject, abstract and other metadata. Searching the full text could become possible in the future. Note that cataloguing and indexing take some time; papers will be visible in the catalogue in the course of the month following publication of each TTR. The PDF version of the TTR will still link to the papers from the original website. We will keep a local digital copy as a back-up, although only if the think tank in question has not raised any copyright objections - some have, legitimately. In practice, do ask us for a copy if you meet a broken link.

We will continue to issue a comprehensive monthly Review, but having papers catalogued and searchable paves the way for more flexible, user-centred, specialized selection patterns, so feel free to experiment with creating your own Think Tank Review. We are open to suggestions on how to share/improve this project.

The current Review and past issues can be downloaded from our [Library blog](#). Feedback is welcome at central.library@consilium.europa.eu. The last Review before the summer break will be out in July 2014, with papers published in June. Stay put for the new layout, which will reflect the new visual identity of the [EU Council](#) family.

For readers from outside the General Secretariat: the Central Library is in the Justus Lipsius building, at JL 02 GH, Rue de la Loi 175, 1048 Brussels. It is open to Council officials, staff of other EU institutions and Permanent Representations of Member States. Members of the public may use the library for research purposes; contact us to arrange a visit.

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SECTION 1 - EU POLITICS AND INSTITUTIONS

EU Council Presidency

LATVIJAS ĀRPOLITIKAS INSTITŪTS (LATVIAN INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

Eiropas politiskie izaicinājumi Eiropas Parlamenta vēlēšanu un Latvijas prezidentūras ES Padomē kontekstā

European political challenges in the context of the European Parliament elections and Latvia's Presidency of the Council of the European Union

19 May 2014

Link to the article in [Latvian](#)

Half a year before the Latvian Presidency of the Council, this report examines scenarios for the Presidency after the European elections. It acknowledges the eurosceptic surge and other vectors of fragmentation, but argues that events in Ukraine have made the whole of the EU more aware of external threats.

EU institutions

NOTRE EUROPE - JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE

The EU and its legislation: prison of peoples or chicken coops?

by Yves Bertoncini

19 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) and in [French](#)

The purpose of this paper is to clarify the debate on the proportion of national laws that are of 'European origin'. The author underlines that the EU does not occupy the full field of public action, although it sometimes looks after what is infinitely small or intervenes in what is infinitely large.

ULKOPOLIITTINEN INSTITUUTTI (FINNISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

Beyond the euro crisis: European constitutional dilemmas and treaty amendments

by Päivi Leino and Janne Salminen

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The actual need for treaty amendments is open to interpretation. These questions are partly political in nature, and linked to the wider legitimacy of the EU and the integrity and clarity of its legal system. But fully implementing the Commission's vision for the future of the EMU would require treaty changes, according to the authors. Measures taken to counter the euro crisis have shown that many Member States have constitutional 'red lines', and it seems unlikely that these hurdles will be overcome in the short term.

The High Representative 3.0: taking EU foreign policy to the next level

by Niklas Helwig

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper presents the many challenges for the new High Representative: formulating common priorities at the start of the term, bridging the divide between the Foreign Affairs Council and European Council, providing leadership, together with the European Council President, activating his or her 'Commission hat', and finally, securing Member States' 'ownership' of EU foreign policy and its institutions.

Pioneers of a European diplomatic system: EU delegations in Moscow and Washington

by Heidi Maurer and Kristi Raik

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper explores the performance and potential of the more than 130 delegations in contributing to a common EU foreign policy. The authors argue that the delegations should provide more input into EU policy-making, promote European interests abroad, and advance consensus among Member States' representatives in the field. The EEAS headquarters should build a stronger link to the delegations, through more active political steering and by more systematic use of their work on the ground.

LEUVEN CENTRE FOR GLOBAL GOVERNANCE STUDIES

***Unus inter plures?* The EEAS, the Vienna Convention and international diplomatic practice**

by Jan Wouters and Sanderijn Duquet

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The emergence of the EU in the diplomatic arena challenges some of the foundations of international diplomatic law. This paper discusses some of the legal challenges for the EU and for the EEAS in conducting diplomatic relations. It explores trends in the EEAS practice related to diplomatic symbolism and precedence.

ULKOPOLIITTINEN INSTITUUTTI (FINNISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS) /
ELINKEINOELÄMÄN TUTKIMUSLAITOS (RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF THE FINNISH ECONOMY) /
JANE JA AATOS ERKON SÄÄTIÖ (JANE AND AATOS ERKKO FOUNDATION)

EU:n suunta: kuinka tiivis liitto?

The EU's course: how deep a Union?

by Juha Jokela, Markku Kotilainen, Teija Tiilikainen and Vesa Vihriälä

8 May 2014

Link to the article in [Finnish](#) and to the extensive summary in [English](#)

This report analyses alternatives for the development of the EU and their implications for both the EU itself and Finland. The analysis is based on three political and economic scenarios. In the end, the report discusses the possibility of disintegration of the euro area, concluding that some degree of disintegration could take place.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

A fragile rebound for EU image on eve of European Parliament elections. EU favorability rises, but majorities say their voice is not heard in Brussels

by Bruce Stokes and Russ Oates

12 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This report, which was [widely covered](#) in public debate, examines public opinion in some EU Member States. It is based on interviews conducted in France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Poland, Spain and the UK from March 17 to April 9, 2014, among 7 022 adults, 18 years of age or older. Chapter 2 examines how people view the EU.

OPEN SOCIETY EUROPEAN POLICY INSTITUTE / OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATIONS

A fundamental rights strategy for the European Union

by Israel Butler

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The EP election results show a rise in apathy and hostility towards the EU. A strategy on fundamental rights could help boost the Union's legitimacy in the eyes of the public, suggests the author. EU institutions should highlight the benefits for citizens of the rights conferred on them at EU level.

CENTRE D'ÉTUDES ET DE RECHERCHES INTERNATIONALES

Quelle Union européenne en 2014 ?

by Thierry Chopin and Christian Lequesne

5 May 2014

Link to the article in [French](#)

2014 is a decisive year due to important institutional deadlines. This report on the state of the EU examines three areas: the form of political union that will allow a new legitimization of the EU; the economic and social future of the EU in the context of increased globalization; what the EU can and should do in the world.

ZENTRUM FÜR EUROPÄISCHE INTEGRATIONSFORSCHUNG (CENTER FOR EUROPEAN INTEGRATION STUDIES)

Gibt es eine politische Philosophie der Europäischen Union?

by Ludger Kühnhardt

13 May 2014

Link to the article in [German](#)

The EU itself is beginning to be the frame of reference for a reflection on the common good, i.e. of an embryonic political philosophy. This paper examines examples, such as the European notion of civil rights and the notion of the Union itself, but also critical categories such as euroscepticism.

BARCELONA CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

EU common values at stake: is Article 7 TEU an effective protection mechanism?

by Glòria Budó

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Article 7 of the Treaty on the European Union provides for measures in the event of a clear risk, or a serious and persistent breach of common values by a Member State. It has never been activated, as Member States are reluctant to sanction another Member State. CIDOB argues that in view of the growth of extremist and populist parties, it is important to ensure effective protection of common values and fundamental rights.

BERTELSMANN STIFTUNG

The populist networks

by Isabell Hoffmann

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

According to the study, there is no pan-European network linking groups that reject the idea of a united Europe. For example, only four links exist between the 988 websites in six countries espousing such views. The study evaluates the websites and online activities of populist, anti-European organizations in six countries: Germany, France, Italy, Poland, the Netherlands and the UK. The connections between the sites were assessed and the level of interaction analysed.

EU politics in the aftermath of European Parliament elections

EUROPEAN POLICY CENTRE

Post-European Parliament elections

by Janis A. Emmanouilidis and Corina Stratulat

27 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The EPC's post-election analysis notes that the 2014 European Parliament elections might not be as 'historic' as some had predicted, but many questions still need answering: is the European Parliament on the brink of an invasion by eurosceptics? Will these groups stop the Parliament from functioning? Or is this all hyperbole - is it all business as usual?

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES / EUROPEAN POLICY INSTITUTES NETWORK

Between apathy and anger: challenges to the Union from the 2014 elections to the European Parliament

by Sonia Piedrafita and Anne Lauenroth

20 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Released soon before the elections, this study of the campaign in 11 Member States relativizes the impact of the *Spitzenkandidaten* on the visibility of the elections and examines the obstacles to a genuinely European campaign.

INSTITUTE FOR NATIONAL SECURITY STUDIES

The European Union: has the countdown begun?

by Oded Eran

29 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This short paper from Israel argues that the rise in vote share for nationalist parties with anti-Semitic backgrounds should be of concern to Israel and the Jewish community in Europe.

NOTRE EUROPE - JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE

Who will the Commission's next president be? A multiple-choice question

by Yves Bertoncini and Thierry Chopin

2 June 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) and in [French](#)

This paper analyses the appointments to Commission president since 1979, so as to identify the main criteria likely to prevail during the negotiations. The authors conclude that in any event, it is important for the Council's and Parliament's joint choice to be made clearly, both with regard to its substance (the nature of the criteria adopted) and with regard to its form (transparency in the negotiations and in the voting).

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

The EU elections on Twitter. Mixed views about the EU & little passion for the candidates

by Mark Jurkowitz and Dana Page

22 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This analysis of the conversations on Twitter leading up to the European elections suggests mixed sentiment toward the EU and a general lack of passion about the candidates for European Commission presidency. In the analysis of more than 1.2 million tweets in English, French and German collected between May 1-14, a decidedly mixed view about the EU emerged.

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

Common misconceptions about elections to the European Parliament

by Daniel Gros and Sonia Piedrafita

23 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Much commentary on the EP elections has followed the line that the European Parliament somehow has less democratic legitimacy because the participation rate is low. CEPS notes that the argument loses much of their validity if the numbers are judged in a wider context, especially if turnout is compared to mid-term congressional elections in the US.

FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG (FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION)

Right wing populism in Europe – How do we respond?

by Ernst Hillerbrand (ed.)

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Right wing populism is on the rise in Europe. The traditional responses, from ignoring to diabolization, have proven to be largely ineffective. To fight populism successfully, established political parties, especially on the centre left, will have to look for new approaches. This volume gathers short papers from France, the UK, the Netherlands, and Germany.

ZENTRUM FÜR EUROPÄISCHE INTEGRATIONSFORSCHUNG (CENTER FOR EUROPEAN INTEGRATION STUDIES)

Communication and campaigning in European Citizens' Initiatives

by Christina Wunder

13 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper analyses the communication campaigns of five European Citizens' Initiatives and lists several factors that are necessary to reach out to the 'European public'. The results confirm the importance of framing messages in emotional terms and of activating networks to sustain the communicative effort.

SECTION 2 - ECONOMICS

Member States and European economies

PETERSON INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

What should surplus Germany do?

by Jacob Funk Kirkegaard

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Germany's large current account surpluses have been criticized as a cause of slower growth in the euro area periphery. Critics repeatedly call on Germany to boost domestic demand and allow wages to rise. This paper argues that Germany should indeed act to reduce its surplus, but not for the reasons that critics give. Large surpluses expose German savers to potential financial losses, bailout costs, and opportunity costs associated with low domestic real interest rates. Instead of accelerating wage growth in excess of productivity, Germany should increase public investments in the domestic economy and raise its ceiling on public indebtedness.

LISBON COUNCIL FOR ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS AND SOCIAL RENEWAL / THE CONFERENCE BOARD

Productivity and digitalisation in Europe: paving the road to faster growth

by Bart van Ark

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Productivity growth is the key to returning to a sustainable growth path in Europe, according to the author. This policy brief focuses on Europe's digital single market as a major driver of productivity and job creation, and delivers a seven-point programme for restoring sustainable growth.

TERRA NOVA

Réformes en Europe : faut-il en rester au 'consensus de Bruxelles' ?

by Bruno Palier, Claude-Emmanuel Triomphe, Richard Lenoir and Samuel Dupuy.

14 May 2014

Link to the article in [French](#)

This paper goes through six years of crisis to draw an alternative narrative. The 'Brussels consensus', i.e. fiscal austerity and structural reforms, made Europe plunge into recession from the end of 2011, according to the authors. This paper seeks to articulate a better coordination of macro-economic policies and a European revival of productive and social investment.

TIMBRO

Economic freedom in the EU: mediocre today – world leader tomorrow?

by Gustav Blix

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

As growth cannot be commanded, the ongoing debate on austerity vs. growth is not the correct one, according to the author. Rather, the challenge lies in increasing economic freedom. This memorandum seeks show that while many EU-countries have seen an increase in economic freedom over the last years, much remains to be done.

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

Exports and capacity constraints: a smooth transition regression model for six euro-area countries

by Ansgar Belke, Anne Oeking and Ralph Setzer

6 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Regression analysis leads the authors to conclude that exports have strongly substituted for domestic sales for companies in Spain, Portugal and Italy in the more extreme stages of the crisis.

EUROPEAN CAPITAL MARKETS INSTITUTE / CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

The OTC derivatives markets after financial reforms

by Cosmina Amariei and Diego Valiante

23 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Over-the-counter (OTC) derivatives have been criticized for their opaqueness and interconnectedness. This commentary provides a snapshot of the global OTC derivative markets and estimates exposure to uncollateralised derivatives.

SAFE - SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE FOR FINANCE IN EUROPE

The fiscal crisis as a crisis in trust

by Michael Haliassos

20 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Neither Northerners are willing to invest in a South they perceive as unwilling to undertake necessary structural reforms, nor are Southerners willing to invest in their countries in a climate of austerity and policy uncertainty imposed, in their view, by the North. This results in a vicious cycle of mistrust. However, the author argues, big steps in the direction of reforms may help break out of this vicious cycle and promote more balanced economic performance in the North and South of Europe.

ЦЕНТР ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКИХ И ФИНАНСОВЫХ ИССЛЕДОВАНИЙ И РАЗРАБОТОК (CENTER FOR ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL RESEARCH) / FORUM FOR RESEARCH ON EASTERN EUROPE AND EMERGING ECONOMIES

More commitment is needed to improve efficiency in EU fiscal spending

by Jenny Simon

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Joint EU investment in public good projects has stalled. Centralized fiscal spending in the EU remains small and inefficiently allocated. The author attributes this to too little commitment, frequent rounds of renegotiation and unanimous decision rules.

BARCELONA CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Mind the gaps - the political consequences of the great recession in Europe

by Diego Muro and Guillem Vidal Lorda

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

What appeared in 2008 as a manageable frailty of the financial sector rapidly derived into a Great Recession continuing into 2014. CIDOB sees this as generating three growing gaps in the EU: between citizens and politicians, between individual countries, between citizens themselves.

Euro / Economic Governance

NOTRE EUROPE - JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE

Who calls the shots in the euro area? 'Brussels' or the Member States?

by Sofia Fernandes

15 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) and in [French](#)

The reform of the European economic governance fosters the perception that Europe is impinging on national sovereignty. Yet apart from the countries benefiting from an aid programme, the countries in the euro area remain free to pursue their own national preferences. This paper sets out to clarify the powers held by the European institutions in connection with the conduct of national fiscal, economic and social policies.

ELINKEINOELÄMÄN TUTKIMUSLAITOS (RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF THE FINNISH ECONOMY)

Implications of EU governance reforms: rationale and practical application

by Cinzia Alcidi and Daniel Gross

6 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper argues that the Country Specific Recommendations are not 'specific' enough to constrain governments, and even less creditor governments, who so far have been able to ignore them. During a financial crisis much more coordination is desirable than during normal times. This implies that the same set of rules might not be appropriate in different circumstances.

FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG (FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION)

Industriepolitik für Europa – Chancen für einen neuen Wachstumspfad

by Daniel Sahl

May 2014

Link to the article in [German](#)

Re-industrialization is a crucial building block for growth in Europe. Many regions in Europe lack an industrial base. For this, three things are important: innovation, investment and internationalization.

Az optimális valutaövezet elméletek evolúciója [The evolution of the optimum currency area theory]

by Szijártó Norbert

29 May 2014

Link to the article in [Hungarian](#)

This study for the Hungarian Academy of Sciences summarizes traditional and new optimum currency area (OCA) theories, listing costs and benefits from the introduction of a single currency and analysing the global financial crisis as well as its impact on the eurozone.

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

Disappearing government bond spreads in the eurozone – Back to normal?

by Paul De Grauwe and Yuemei Ji

14 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Since the President of the ECB announced the Outright Monetary Transactions (OMT) programme in 2012, government bond spreads began to decrease. This paper argues that most of the decrease is due to positive market sentiments triggered by the OMT and is not related to underlying fundamentals, such as the debt-to-GDP ratios or the external debt position, both of which have continued to increase in most countries.

BRUEGEL

Addressing weak inflation: the European Central Bank's shopping list

by Grégory Claeys, Zsolt Darvas, Silvia Merler and Guntram B. Wolff

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Euro-area inflation has been below 1% since October 2013, and medium-term inflation expectations are well below 2%. The authors call for the ECB to act forcefully. However, the Bank should not undermine the price adjustments needed between the euro-area core and the periphery.

SAFE - SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE FOR FINANCE IN EUROPE

Europa und die Instabilität des Rechts

by Helmut Siekmann

23 May 2014

Link to the article in [German](#)

The author warns against the increasing legal instability in EU fiscal and monetary politics, criticising the expansion of Member States' deficits, the end of the separation of fiscal and monetary policy and the ECB financing Member States' deficits. He argues that this implies a failure of constitutional states in favour of technocratic decisions.

Banking Union

WILFRIED MARTENS CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES

A Banking Union for an unfinished EMU

by Hans Geeroms and Pawel Karbownik

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

According to this paper for the EPP foundation, the agreement between the European Council and the European Parliament in March 2014 is a step forward, but remains insufficient: a full fledged banking union is necessary, ideally with a treaty change, in order to protect vulnerable eurozone members. The banking industry needs restructuring as well, and the banking union is to be open to future eurozone members.

FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN PROGRESSIVE STUDIES

Banking Union: a response to Europe's fragile financial integration dreams?

by Daniela Gabor

5 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper for the PES foundation sees the Banking Union as the best solution for a governance regime compatible with divergent national interests. Despite a satisfactory compromise, a fundamental challenge remains in the very architecture of European finance, shaped by large, complex and systematically interconnected banks.

ELINKEINOELÄMÄN TUTKIMUSLAITOS (RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF THE FINNISH ECONOMY)

Mihin pankkiunionia tarvitaan?

Why do we need a Banking Union?

by Antti Suvanto and Kimmo Virolainen

7 May 2014

Link to the article in [Finnish](#)

The first test of the credibility of the banking union project is the asset quality review and the subsequent stress tests. The new supervisory mechanism needs to prove that neither national interests nor lobbying by major financial institutions have any influence on its decisions.

MADARIAGA – COLLEGE OF EUROPE FOUNDATION

After the single resolution compromise: mission accomplished?

by Marco Giuli

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper aims to evaluate the compromise agreed by the trilogue on the single mechanism for bank resolution. Despite the European compromise, bank resolution remains *de facto* national, argues Giuli. In addition, a banking union alone will not necessarily restore normal credit conditions across the EMU.

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

Bail-in provisions in state aid and resolution procedures: are they consistent with systemic stability?

by Stefano Micossi, Ginevra Bruzzone and Miriam Cassella

21 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper examines the provisions for bail-in in EU state aid policies and the new resolution framework for failing banks, to assess whether and how they are coordinated and whether they address the question of systemic stability.

LEUVEN CENTRE FOR GLOBAL GOVERNANCE STUDIES

International banking standards, private law and the European Union

by Jan Wouters and Jed Odermatt

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper looks into EU standard-setting for international banking, in particular those norms that can be characterized as 'regulatory private law'.

SAFE - SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE FOR FINANCE IN EUROPE

Frontiers of sustainable finance in Europe: the social impact bond

by Ester Faia

6 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Social impact bonds provide funds to projects with a social impact. In the UK and in the US these bonds are increasingly used to raise funds to finance government projects. Their return depends on the social improvements achieved. The author argues that the EU should develop an equivalent to the British Social Finance Ltd. to finance projects for social improvement.

SECTION 3 - EU MEMBER STATES

EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

After Merkozy: how France and Germany can make Europe work

by Thomas Klau and Ulrike Guérot

16 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The authors argue that once they have forged a new compromise on growth, François Hollande and Angela Merkel should work to restore the eurozone's cohesion. The visit of President François Hollande to Berlin points to a willingness for the Franco-German tandem to iron-out policy differences and propose a new compromise on austerity and growth before the EU summit on June 28. France and Germany must prepare for the next round of EU treaty reform.

FRIDE

Spanish foreign policy monitor: January-March 2014

by Alejandro Barón

12 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) and in [Spanish](#)

Spanish foreign policy during the first three months of 2014 has been multifaceted. The beginning of the year has been characterised by a strategic re-definition of Spanish foreign policy; Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy's visit to the US and Minister Margallo's tour around Southeast Asia; the crisis between Spanish company Sacyr and the Government of Panama; and Europe, which was another hot topic in Spanish foreign policy given the economic recovery registered in Spain and the political crisis in Eastern Europe, which is of great interest to all Member States.

CEPII - CENTRE D'ÉTUDES PROSPECTIVES ET D'INFORMATIONS INTERNATIONALES

The servitization of French manufacturing firms

by Matthieu Crozet and Emmanuel Milet

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The shift of value added and employment away from manufacturing toward services may be even deeper than suggested by data based on sectorial classification. As the complexity and diversity of firms' activities grow, the boundary between services and industries becomes increasingly elusive. Data reveals that 83% of firms registered in manufacturing sectors provide services for third parties, and nearly one-third of these firms provide more services than goods. A growing trend in "servitization" suggests that deindustrialization, already observed on a country-scale, is also taking place within firms.

ADAM SMITH INSTITUTE

Is government helping exports?

by Tim Ambler

16 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Estimated to be spending £100m over its targeted budget, UK Trade and Investment (UKTI) is not delivering enough exports to justify its costs. This report argues that UKTI is representative of some of the worst inefficiencies of the bloated quango state (Quasi-Autonomous Non-Governmental Organisation).

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

French policies toward Central Eastern Europe: not a foreign policy priority but a real presence

by Elsa Tulmets and David Cadier
28 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

After the fall of the Berlin Wall, France reacted cautiously to the political and economic changes in the east, insisting on conditions for Central Eastern European countries (CEECs) to join the EU. Yet ultimately, the CEECs' rapid reform course managed to convince French actors of the importance of this region. This paper asks whether Paris has integrated these new actors into its European policy, and if the recent endeavour to reinvigorate and upgrade bilateral ties is a lasting strategy.

Toward an effective minilateralism: the Polish experience in the Visegrad Group after 2004

by Dominik P. Jankowski and Małgorzata Grzegorzówka
10 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The Visegrad Group can be regarded as the best example of cooperation in the minilateral format, with Polish participation. It put forward here as an antidote to scepticism towards EU integration. Its foundation was built on the ability of these four countries to go beyond purely regional integration and form coalitions with other countries (V4 Plus).

From front-runner's 'EUphoria' to backmarker's 'pragmatic adhocism'?

by Daniel Hegedűs
10 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Whether Hungary again becomes a front-runner in the European development process or remains a partially isolated backmarker hinges mainly on the direction taken in the broader European development. Nevertheless the country is currently establishing an alternative political model within European integration.

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

Opinionsfallet för EU bromsar upp

The drop in support for the EU has come to a halt

by Sören Holmberg
May 2014

Link to the article in [Swedish](#)

The fall in Swedish public opinion on European integration has come to a halt. The polls from late 2013 even show a slight increase in the pro-EU attitudes among the Swedes. In this analysis, the author demonstrates that just as the negative turn in public opinion during the crisis was associated with negative evaluations of the economic consequences of the EU for Sweden, public opinion now regards the impact of the EU on the economy as more positive, which generates more support for the EU in Sweden.

KÖRBER-STIFTUNG (EUROPEAN ALLIANCE FOR DEMOCRATIC CITIZENSHIP)

Involvement or restraint? Findings of a representative survey conducted by TNS Infratest Policy Research on German attitudes to foreign policy

by Thomas Paulsen and Dorothea Jestädt (eds.)

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) and in [German](#)

Since the end of the 1990s Germany has witnessed the emergence of a proactive foreign policy and stronger military engagement. This reports asks whether people in Germany are prepared to assume greater responsibility, based on a survey held in April and May 2014.

More information can be found on <http://www.review2014.de/>

POLICY NETWORK

A portrait of modern Britain

by Rishi Sunak and Saratha Rajeswaran

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper draws on an extensive set of survey, census, academic and polling data to build up a picture of the five largest minority groups in the UK. It outlines the demographics, geography, life experiences, attitudes and socioeconomic status of each of these major ethnic groups.

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

Wahlen, Wohlstand, Wohlbefinden. Über eine geringe Wahlbeteiligung und sieben sanfte Wege, sie zu erhöhen

by Mara Ewers and Marie Möller

May 2014

Link to the article in [German](#)

In Germany young voters rarely cast their vote, while the 60-69 year olds turn out to vote regularly. Therefore, the influence of older citizens on political decisions and election programs is particularly large. The Cologne institute warns that in this way policy choices may go to the detriment of the young generation, as in the recent pension age reform.

CENTRE D'ÉTUDES ET DE RECHERCHES INTERNATIONALES

Elections : la Belgique entre européennes, fédérales et régionales

by Catherine Xhardez and Astrid von Busekist

16 May 2014

Link to the article in [French](#)

With memories of the unprecedented crisis that left Belgium without a new government for 540 days after the previous general elections, this paper examines the issues at stake in the 2014 one, in the light of the most recent institutional reform.

10th anniversary of the 2004 enlargement

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

Struggling with an opportunity: the first 10 years with the EU for Central Europe and the Baltics

by Kálmán Mizsei and Ádám Kullmann

2 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The authors offer insights from the experience in the newest Member States on how to absorb EU structural and cohesion funds more effectively.

Impact of the 'big bang' enlargement on EU foreign policy – 10 years on

by Steven Blockmans

5 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

A short CEPS Commentary on the fault lines that emerged in EU foreign policy after the 2004 enlargement.

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

From integration to differentiation: the Czech Republic in the European Union ten years on

by Vít Dostál

10 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

A paper from the wider project "Central European Perspectives – Integration Achievements and Challenges of the V4 States after Ten Years in the EU", gathering several think tanks in the region. The Czech Republic's first ten years in the EU have been marked by ups and downs. The country increased its trade and played an important role in fields such as the Eastern Neighbourhood, the internal market, enlargement, and energy. However it also took surprisingly hard stances in other fields, argues Dostál.

Slovakia in the EU: an unexpected success story?

by Milan Nič, Marek Slobodník and Michal Šimečka

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

From the same project, a paper on Slovakia as the "unlikely success story" of the 2004 EU enlargement. The country's first decade as a member state was marked by robust growth – spurred by pro-market reforms of the early 2000s – and relative resilience and political stability during the crisis.

LATVIJAS ĀRPOLITIKAS INSTITŪTS (LATVIAN INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

Baltic unity within European unity – why myth, not reality?

by Katrīna Pētersone

23 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper concludes that Baltic integration has declined with accession to the EU. The author argues that Baltic cooperation is a myth not because of the EU, but because the Baltic States themselves choose another discourse, which, of course, is made possible by EU membership.

UK relationship with the EU

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN REFORM

The consequences of Brexit for the City of London

by John Springford and Philip Whyte

8 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

If Britain leaves the EU, the City of London will lose access to European markets – unless the UK aligns its financial rules with those of the EU. The remaining Member States would insist that Britain sign up to many rules in exchange for more limited access to European markets than it currently enjoys. A British exit would damage the City, rather than setting it free, argue the authors.

EUROPEAN POLICY CENTRE

Britain outside Europe? Fewer EU concessions to UK post-Brexit

by Fabian Zuleeg

12 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

A short EPC Commentary, taken from a larger DGAP project with several national perspectives on 'Britain outside the EU', see <https://ip-journal.dgap.org/>.

SECTION 4 - EU POLICIES

Justice and home affairs

EGMONT – ROYAL INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS / FRIDE

Partners in crime? The EU, its strategic partners and international organised crime

by Thomas Renard

6 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The EU has become an important actor in justice and home affairs at the European level, facilitating cooperation between Member States. However, criminal activities do not stop at the EU's border, and thus call for a globally-coordinated response. The EU is developing its international profile on countering organised crime, notably through the deepening of cooperation with strategic partners, but there is still a long way to go.

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

The political and judicial life of metadata: Digital Rights Ireland and the trail of the Data Retention Directive

by Elspeth Guild and Sergio Carrera

29 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper examines the challenges facing the EU regarding data retention, particularly in the aftermath of the judgment Digital Rights Ireland by the Court of Justice of the EU of April 2014. It also looks at the responses to the judgment from the European institutions and elsewhere, and presents a set of policy suggestions.

Immigration, frontiers and asylum policies

ISIS EUROPE

Securitising migration: the EU's approach to illegal immigration and the implications on labour trafficking

by Raluca Csernatoni and Akash Radia

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

A critical paper by ISIS Europe positing the failures of restrictive immigration policies and the little advancements brought about by EU approaches about illegal immigration control.

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI

Governing irregular migration and asylum at the borders of Europe: between efficiency and protection

by Anna Triandafyllidou and Angeliki Dimitriadi

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper discusses the difficult balancing act between efficiency and protection in EU migration and asylum policies. The authors critically discuss current European border control practices with a focus on the agencies and policies in place. The paper makes the point that the EU's balancing act between irregular migration control and asylum management tips clearly towards the former, even if it pays lip service to the latter.

MIGRATION POLICY INSTITUTE

Supporting immigrant integration in Europe? Developing the governance for diaspora engagement

by Maria Vincenza Desiderio

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The governance of immigrant integration in EU Member States is a complex process involving actors across multiple policy areas at national, local, and supranational levels. In addition, actors in the country of origin are now increasingly involved in immigrant integration, mostly through engaging their diasporas in destination countries. This report explores these trends.

Slow motion: the labor market integration of new immigrants in France

by Patrick Simon and Elsa Steichen

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This report assesses the labour market outcomes of new immigrants to France. It reveals that immigrants who arrived from 2000 onwards fared badly in the first few years after arrival, but improved their labour market outcomes over time. The analysis finds that migrants' region of origin, level of education, reason for migration, and gender correlate with labour market outcomes.

Moving up the ladder? Labor market outcomes in the United Kingdom amid rising immigration

by Tommaso Frattini

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The 2000s saw a significant increase in the foreign-born working-age population in the UK. Starting in 2004, a large influx of labour from Eastern European countries transformed the country's immigrant population and labour market. This report analyses the labour market integration of recent immigrants to the UK, based on UK Labour Force Survey data.

The previous two reports are part of a [series of six case studies on labour market outcomes among immigrants to EU countries](#).

AVENIR SUISSE

Globalziel statt Kontingente

Overall target rather than quotas

by Patrik Schellenbauer

May 2014

Link to the article in [German](#)

This report describes a proposal published in February 2014 designed to control mass immigration, as requested by the recent referendum, while still preserving the free movement of persons. This would be done by setting a ten-year overall target.

EUROPEAN POLICY CENTRE

Immigration and free movement in an unusual electoral race: what implications for the next political cycle?

by Andreia Ghimis

20 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper looks at how immigration and freedom of movement were debated at national level – in France, Germany and the UK – and at EU level between the top candidates for European Commission Presidency during the election campaign.

FONDATION ROBERT SCHUMAN

The free movement of people in the European Union: principle, stakes and challenges

by Philippe Delivet

12 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) and in [French](#)

The free movement of people is a fundamental *acquis* of European integration. Closely associated with the building of the Internal Market, it seems to have suffered the loss of impetus by the latter and also the serious consequences of the crisis. The author calls for pragmatic answers that do not bring into question one of the founding principles of the EU.

Energy policy

FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG (FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION)

Voraussetzungen einer globalen Energietransformation

by Bärbe Kofler, Nina Netzer, Christiane Beuermann, Lukas Hermwille, Jan Burck, Boris Schinke and Franziska Marten

May 2014

Link to the article in [German](#)

The authors advance the idea of a global energy transformation which should move away from fossil and nuclear energy sources towards renewable energy, a decentralized and locally managed approach, increased efficiency and a reduction in absolute consumption. According to the authors, the success of an energy transformation will depend on whether a broad alliance of civil society, politics, science and industry can emerge.

EGMONT – ROYAL INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Energy efficiency: the ever neglected priority of the European Union strategy

by Tania Zgajewski

28 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Since 2000, energy efficiency has been a major objective of the EU. However, in spite of many speeches, reports and action programmes, the result remains disappointing. This Egmont paper examines possible causes and remedies, concluding that the EU energy efficiency strategy lacks coherence and remains ambiguous.

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI

Thinking the unthinkable: promoting regional approaches to EU energy policies for a more united and effective Europe

by Christian Egenhofer and Jacques de Jong

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This report explores the potential for regional approaches to EU energy policies. It assesses whether regional energy initiatives are an efficient, effective and politically acceptable approach toward reaching three EU energy policy objectives: competitiveness, supply security and sustainability.

THE GERMAN MARSHALL FUND OF THE UNITED STATES

Offshore safety in the Eastern Mediterranean energy sector

by Miki Livnat

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The Levant Basin, the Nile Delta Basin, and the Aegean Basin hold considerable reserves of oil and natural gas, that could transform the Eastern Mediterranean into an important energy producing region. The author argues that cooperation between countries in the Eastern Mediterranean is critical for the prevention of accidents and for rapid intervention if they occur. He then makes recommendations for regional cooperation on offshore safety that could reinforce conflict resolution efforts in the Eastern Mediterranean.

DEUTSCHES INSTITUT FÜR WIRTSCHAFTSFORSCHUNG (GERMAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH)

All quiet on the Eastern front? Disruption scenarios of Russian natural gas supply to Europe

by Philipp M. Richter and Franziska Holz

26 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper investigates various disruption scenarios on Russian natural gas export. It uses the Global Gas Model, a representation of the natural gas sector with a high level of detail on storage and transportation infrastructure. In this model, most of the Member States would not be severely affected by a complete drop out of Russian exports, but infrastructure bottlenecks should be removed.

Europäische Erdgasversorgung trotz politischer Krisen sicher

by Hella Engerer, Franziska Holz, Philipp M. Richter, Christian von Hirschhausen and Claudia Kemfert

May 2014

Link to the article in [German](#)

The authors discuss natural gas supply in Europe after the Ukraine crisis. They conclude that the supply is rather secure. The EU did well in diversifying their gas purchase and, in this way, reducing its independence from Russia. The article recommends further cooperation in order to integrate the East and Central European countries into the European gas infrastructure.

BARCELONA CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Ukraine crisis could reframe European energy policy

by Francis Ghilès

15 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

According to CIDOB, all actors in Ukraine understand too well what the only viable solution can be, however much they might disagree on the details and the timing. De-escalating the crisis is Europe's first priority, reframing its energy policy is the second, a third might be using this opportunity to think more strategically about its energy links with the Mediterranean southern rim.

CENTRUM STOSUNKÓW MIĘDZYNARODOWYCH (CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS) / KONRAD ADENAUER STIFTUNG

Market mechanisms for resource adequacy and system security: framing the issues

by Michael Hogan, Jan Rączka, Frederick Weston and Edith Bayer

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Where a competitive wholesale energy market has been adopted, as in Europe, energy prices are intended to be the primary driver of decisions by market actors. This paper provides an overview of the new challenges that system planners and market designers face.

INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Space for energy crops – An assessment on the potential contribution of Europe's energy future

by Ben Allen, Bettina Kretschmer, David Baldock, Henrietta Menadue, Silvia Nanni and Graham Tucker

21 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This study explores the scope for additional production of energy crops in Europe, the possible nature and scale of 'spare' land and some of the sustainability issues associated with increasing output. The areas of land identified by this research could make an important, albeit very modest contribution, to final EU sectorial energy consumption, but whether or not this land could or should be mobilised for energy production remains questionable.

Environmental policy

INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

High Nature Value farming throughout EU-27 and its financial support under the CAP

by Clunie Keenleyside, Guy Beaufoy, Graham Tucker and Gwyn Jones

16 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

High Nature Value (HNV) farming is a relatively new concept that describes the farming systems of greatest biodiversity value. This study is intended to contribute to the evidence base to inform the design of future EU policy for HNV farming.

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

The role of market mechanisms in a post-2020 climate change agreement

by Andrei Marcu

7 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The world has changed in many ways since 1997 when the Kyoto Protocol was adopted. This paper looks at the relationship between the carbon market and a new climate change agreement, to be finalised in Paris in 2015.

Aid and development policy

CENTRE FOR EU STUDIES - GHENT UNIVERSITY

Humanitarian aid as an integral part of the European Union's external action: the challenge of reconciling coherence and independence

by Jan Orbie, Peter Van Elsuwege and Fabienne Bossuyt

26 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The article explores the interaction between EU humanitarian aid and development cooperation, the Common Foreign and Security Policy, and trade policy. While the independence of the humanitarian aid delivery is not being undermined, it remains difficult to establish positive synergies with other external policies because of institutional hurdles and legal constraints.

The EU and donor coordination on the ground: perspectives from Tanzania and Zambia

by Sarah Delputte and Jan Orbie

23 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The proliferation of donors and channels for aid and the resulting fragmentation brings about huge costs for developing and donor countries and has a detrimental effect on the impact of aid. The EU has tried to strengthen internal EU coordination. However, its implementation is fairly low. This article seeks to understand this gap through an empirical analysis of EU coordination in Tanzania and Zambia.

Security and defence

EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY STUDIES

EUISS Yearbook of European Security 2014

by Antonio Missiroli (ed.)

23 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This second edition of the Yearbook of European Security (YES) includes a more comprehensive survey of the EU 'toolbox' as well as a more targeted analysis of European defence spending. This year's mapping exercise is devoted to identifying and assessing the changes and developments that have occurred in three countries of the so-called 'Arab Spring'. YES 2014 also includes a summary report of the Institute's own activities over the past year.

Breaking new ground: EU-US cooperation in crisis management

by Rafał Domisiewicz and Eva Gross

16 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The recent EU-US summit was an opportunity to further define and provide guidance for increasing cooperation in international security. This reflects, according to EUISS, a greater alignment as well as compatibility of strategic, geographic and operational priorities in Brussels and Washington.

EGMONT – ROYAL INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Building European defence: an architect and a bank

by Jo Coelmont and Sven Biscop

12 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Egmont compares European defence capability with a construction site, arguing that the sole possible 'architect' is the European Defence Agency. Those who have to reach consensus and invest are the Member States. And there is even a European Investment Bank to assist them.

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE - ROBERT SCHUMAN CENTRE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES

The European Union: a new security actor?

by Thomas Renard

28 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Security considerations were at the heart of the European project, but the EU has started to develop fully-fledged security policies only in recent years. At this stage, the EU is a fledgling security actor, with limited capabilities and strategic clout. This paper analyses the EU's contribution across four key security functions. It concludes that in spite of global ambitions stated in various documents, the EU remains first and foremost a regional security player.

ÚSTAV MEZINÁRODNÍCH VZTAHŮ PRAHA (INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PRAGUE)

Karabakh's twenty years crisis: the EU should do more

by Ondřej Ditrych

21 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The EU can, according to the author, use this neglected conflict where it has an energy security interest to boost credibility of its foreign and security policy. The EU, while designing an ambitious agenda to create a ring of peaceful and prosperous states in its neighbourhood, has so far eschewed more direct engagement.

POLSKI INSTYTUT SPRAW MIĘDZYNARODOWYCH (POLISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

A little-known success story: implementation of the NSS goals in Central Europe

by Katarzyna Kubiak

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The Nuclear Security Summit process (NSS) aims for the international coordination of efforts to improve nuclear security. However, in the absence of globally binding norms, mechanisms, accountability and transparency, nuclear security principally remains a national matter.

REAL INSTITUTO ELCANO (ELCANO ROYAL INSTITUTE)

España y la OTAN: comienza la cuenta atrás para la Cumbre de Gales

by Félix Arteaga

30 May 2014

Link to the article in [Spanish](#)

The next NATO Summit will take place in Wales on 4-5 September 2014. Initially, the agenda focused on Afghanistan, rebalancing national contributions, and finding a new relationship with partners. Due to the crisis in Ukraine, this papers calls for Member States to consider the inclusion of issues related to collective defence, burden sharing, deployment in Eastern Europe and relations with Russia.

UTRIKESPOLITISKA INSTITUTET (SWEDISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

Military capabilities and the evolution of the transatlantic security community

by Regina Karp

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Europe's strategic context is defined by declining defence resources. At the end of the Cold War the US accounted for 50 per cent of NATO defence spending. Now, this ratio has changed with the US meeting 75 per cent and future trends indicating the US making up four-fifth of NATO expenditure. It is no surprise that the persistent imbalance in alliance burden-sharing is a major source of friction in the transatlantic relationship, argues the author.

INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES - VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT BRUSSEL

Strategic insurance: the future of the Belgian armed forces

by Alexander Mattelaer

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper argues that Belgium must embrace a nimble but broad-spectrum force. Any future structure must encompass agile land forces as well as a modern combat air force, without neglecting the need to safeguard a sizeable navy and invest in cyber capabilities. For Belgium this means the investment budget needs to grow significantly in order to acquire interoperable but self-owned assets. The paper justifies such as choice arguing that defence is not just about operations, but also economic stimulus, intergenerational solidarity and strategic insurance: maintaining the ability to respond to whatever the future may bring.

Trade and Economic Partnership Agreements

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

The European Parliament's new role in trade policy: turning power into impact

by Lore Van den Putte, Ferdi De Ville and Jan Orbie

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The power of the European Parliament in EU trade policy has increased with the Lisbon Treaty. At the outset of the 2014-2019 term, this paper asks whether the EP will push EU trade relations into a more or less normative or protectionist direction.

Towards effective regulatory cooperation under TTIP: a comparative overview of the EU and US legislative and regulatory systems

by Richard Parker and Alberto Alemanno

15 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The aim of this report is to inform the EU-US Transatlantic Trade and Investment negotiations on regulatory cooperation, by providing a comparative overview of the US and EU legislative and regulatory processes in their current form, highlighting differences and similarities.

FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG (FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION)

Investitionsschutz am Scheideweg: TTIP und die Zukunft des globalen Investitionsrechts

by Pia Eberhardt

May 2014

Link to the article in [German](#)

The author focuses on the TTIP in the context of investment law in Europe and concludes that an investment protection framework is a key element in an EU-US agreement.

THE GERMAN MARSHALL FUND OF THE UNITED STATES

When the music stopped: closing the transatlantic gap in economic thinking

by Nikolaus Piper

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

If we agree that the current crisis is a transatlantic one and that it is best solved in a transatlantic context, Piper sees at least two things to be done. First, remove all unnecessary hurdles to transatlantic trust. Second, complete a transatlantic free trade zone and sell the project to an increasingly sceptical public.

MTA KÖZGAZDASÁG- ÉS REGIONÁLIS TUDOMÁNYI KUTATÓKÖZPONT VILÁGGAZDASÁGI INTÉZET (INSTITUTE OF WORLD ECONOMICS OF THE RESEARCH CENTRE FOR ECONOMIC AND REGIONAL STUDIES OF THE HUNGARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES)

Implications of the TTIP on the global economic integration of Central and Eastern Europe

by Tamás Novák

9 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Existing studies on the economic impact of the TTIP show significant benefits for the participating countries, argues Novák, with a particular focus on the 11 Central European members of the EU.

Economic perspectives of the Western Balkans – Back to the past

by Tamás Novák

9 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The author draws several conclusions from the perspective of economic development in the Western Balkan: EU transfers play an important role; the duality of the economy is probably even deeper than in any of the Central European countries; serious geopolitical consequences may arise if adequate EU policies are not pursued; this may easily help other actors gain increasing influence in the region.

INSTITUTE FOR DEFENCE STUDIES AND ANALYSES

European Union-Brazil strategic partnership

by Nachiket Khadkiwala

1 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This note discusses the state of EU-Brazil diplomatic relations. It outlines the strategic interests both parties have for collaborating and it reviews the history of their bilateral relations between 1960s and 2014, with a particular focus on the 2007 EU-Brazil Strategic Partnership. The author also addresses the state of trade, energy and sustainable development, as well as other relations between the EU and Brazil. Finally, he examines some of the main disagreements that prevent further EU-Brazil cooperation as well as their key areas of convergence.

SECTION 5 - EXTERNAL RELATIONS

COLLEGE OF EUROPE

The legal status and influence of decisions of international organizations and other bodies in the European Union

by Ramses A. Wessel and Steven Blockmans

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The EU external action is not only defined by its influence on international developments, but also by its ability and the need to respond to those developments. While traditionally many have stressed the EU's 'autonomy', over the years its 'dependence' on global developments has become more clear. International law has continued to play a key role, not only in the EU's external relations, but also in the Union's own legal order. The purpose of this paper is to reverse the picture and focus on a somewhat under-researched topic: the legal status of decisions of international organizations in the EU's legal order.

CARNEGIE

A window of opportunity to upgrade EU foreign policy

by Stefan Lehne

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

As the financial crisis recedes and the EU regains a measure of internal stability, pressure in Europe's neighbourhood is on the rise. The Ukraine crisis and turmoil in the Middle East and North Africa have elevated foreign policy to the top of the EU's agenda. Whether the EU can make its external action more effective will depend in large part on institutional decisions made in 2014, i.e. the selection of a new leadership team and the reorganization of the European Commission.

Countries preparing to join the EU

PRIŠTINSKI SAVET ZA ODNOS SA INOSTRANSTVOM (PRISHTINA COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS) / GROUP FOR LEGAL AND POLITICAL STUDIES

France's foreign policy towards Kosovo - What future for cooperation?

by Amélia Couture and Engjellushe Morina

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Kosovo has reached a new stage in its development, with a new medium term objective of integrating European institutions. As a historical founder, a strong EU power, and an ally of Kosovo, it is in France's interest to play a strategic role in Kosovo's European shift. The aim of this analysis is to provide policy recommendations as to how France and Kosovo can enhance cooperation.

The March 2014 parliamentary elections in Serbia and their legacy

by Maja Maksimovic and Ioannis Armakolas

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper analyses Serbia's early parliamentary elections held on 16 March 2014. In view of the popular support for the ruling Serbian Progressive Party (SNS), while the opposition remains weak and disorganised, many have rightly foreseen that the SNS would win the majority in the parliament and appoint their leader as the new head of the government. This made the results of the elections one of the most predictable in recent Serbian political history. Despite this, these elections mark a potential transformation of the Serbian political landscape.

CENTAR ZA DEMOKRATIJU I LJUDSKA PRAVA (CENTER FOR DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS)

Third report on status of judicial reform and human rights in Montenegro

27 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The Centre for Development of NGOs (CRNVO), a coalition of NGOs, prepared this report to inform the Commission's own one on the progress of reforms in 2013 and early 2014 in several areas, including judicial reform, corruption, human rights and civil society.

Ukraine

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

The case for EU police mission Ukraine

by Steven Blockmans and Daniel Gros

14 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The authors see the EU struggling to deal with the crisis in Ukraine. They argue that the EU should concentrate on what really matters now: namely, preventing any further escalation of the conflict by sending a substantial stabilisation force to the areas that have so far remained relatively calm.

Towards a fresh deal for Ukraine, the EU and Russia and their neighbourhood policies: 15 steps

by Michael Emerson

29 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Following the convincing election of Petro Poroshenko as Ukraine's new President, the author of this short CEPS commentary puts forward 15 steps with a view to a fresh start for Ukraine, the EU and Russia.

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES

Ukraine : la crise commence

by Corentin Brustlein, Dominique David, Étienne de Durand, Thomas Gomart, Tatiana Kastouéva-Jean, Laurence Nardon and Vivien Pertusot

May 2014

Link to the article in [French](#)

The authors analyse the recent events in Ukraine arguing that this is just the beginning. The disappearance of Ukraine as a sovereign entity would be a thunderclap in Europe as it would be very difficult to manage and might trigger a possibility of a long civil war. If Ukraine survives it will be with the Crimean region in the best case under the supervision of an international agreement, and in the worst under direct supervision of Moscow.

FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG (FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION)

Social consequences of European integration of Ukraine: the labour market

by Iryna Petrova

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The free trade agreement with the EU will significantly challenge the Ukrainian labour market, according to Petrova. Social risks are likely to occur during the adaptation period. The challenges can be overcome only by taking preventive measures to protect national producers and employees, stimulating their competitiveness, strengthening the role of governmental and non-governmental organisations and ensuring their compliance with international standards.

EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY STUDIES

Ukraine: four crises, one country

by Nicu Popescu

28 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

EUISS' Popescu notes that Ukraine still faces four interconnected crises: economic, political, territorial, and diplomatic. The past three months, however, have shown that Ukraine was not a powder keg waiting to explode. The country's resilience has proven stronger than many assumed.

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR POLICY STUDIES

Inside Ukraine

by Vira Nanivska, Iaroslav Kovalchuk, Vasyl Filipchuk, Olena Zakharova, Volodymyr Prytula, Vasyl Povoroznyk, Svitlana Mizina, Anatoliy Oksytsiuk, Oleksiy Obolenskiy and Svitlana Sudak

29 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) and in [Russian](#)

This publication by the Ukrainian ICPS reviews the political competition, the economic situation and the government policy in Ukraine; it includes a chapter titled "who will coordinate European integration in Ukraine?".

INTERNATIONAL CRISIS GROUP

Ukraine: running out of time

14 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This report examines the interim government as it scrambles to find its footing in a dangerous and confusing environment. It looks at pro-Russian unrest in the South East, the actions of Ukrainian far-right groups and Russian and Western policies toward Ukraine.

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES

Ukraine and the art of crisis management

by Lawrence Freedman

19 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This article describes the basic principles of crisis management as developed during the Cold War. It considers the origins of the Ukraine crisis and seeks to apply these principles to its management in the spring of 2014. The author is of the opinion that the crisis management is the most demanding form of diplomacy and that so far neither Russia nor the US and its European allies have handled it particularly well.

UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE

The constitutional process in Ukraine

by Dominik Tolksdorf

22 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The Geneva agreement of April, signed by representatives of Ukraine, Russia, the EU and the US, stipulates a constitutional process and the immediate establishment of a broad national dialogue in Ukraine. This article examines the main issues in the constitutional process and outlines possible procedures. The author conducted interviews in Kyiv, Brussels and Washington.

THE GERMAN MARSHALL FUND OF THE UNITED STATES

Ukraine, Russia, and the China option. The geostrategic risks facing Western policy

by Andrew Small

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Beijing has sought to take a neutral stance in the stand-off between Russia and the West. Yet as the recent \$400 billion Sino-Russian energy deal illustrates, China's economic decisions will inevitably have major implications. The question is not whether Beijing will tilt definitively toward one or other party but the extent to which China will prove to be an enabling or a constraining factor for different facets of Western and Russian policy. In a crisis that has hinged to an unusual degree on trade deals, loans, energy exports, financial assets, and sanctions, the world's second largest economy cannot avoid becoming politically embroiled.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Despite concerns about governance, Ukrainians want to remain one country. Many leery of Russian influence, as Putin gets boost at home

by James Bell, Katie Simmons and Russ Oates

8 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This report examines public opinion in Ukraine and Russia. It is based on face-to-face surveys in Ukraine and Russia, conducted after Crimea's annexation by Russia, but prior to recent violence in Odessa and other cities. Chapter 1 explores public opinion in Ukraine on a variety of domestic issues, chapter 2 examines Ukrainian views toward Russia, the EU and the US, and chapter 3 looks at Russian public opinion, including views about President Putin, the Russian military, the recent Crimea referendum, Russia's international image, and nostalgia for the Soviet era, as well as attitudes toward the US and the EU.

Russia and Eastern Europe

FRIDE

Fatal attraction? Russia's soft power in its neighbourhood

by Eleonora Tafuro

27 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Much current analysis of Russian influence in its neighbourhood focuses on its use of 'hard power' tools. However, analysing Russia's soft power efforts is no less important for understanding the full nature of Moscow's power strategy in its neighbourhood. The Putin regime perceives Russia as an alternative geopolitical pole with an anti-liberal social outlook, a type of 'Conservative International' in opposition to the West. Russia's deep economic and social ties with neighbours (including significant minorities) and powerful media outlets, are elements that might help the Kremlin achieve its short-term foreign policy objectives.

CENTRE FOR EU-RUSSIA STUDIES

Karelia as a Finnish-Russian issue: re-negotiating the relationship between national identity, territory and sovereignty

by Christopher S. Browning and Pertti Joeniemi

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

As stereotypes would have it, Finland is a stable, peaceful Nordic country. It is developed, well regarded, has stable borders and is particularly known for its friendly relations with its neighbours and with having developed a positive and mutually beneficial relationship with Russia in particular. It has not always been so. Finnish-Russian/Soviet relations have historically often been tense, wars have been fought, borders contested and sovereignty threatened and defended. Disputes have been evident over the contested territory of Karelia, a region that transcends the border between Finland and Russia.

OŚRODEK STUDIÓW WSCHODNICH (CENTRE FOR EASTERN STUDIES)

The anatomy of Russian information warfare. The Crimean operation, a case study

by Jolanta Darczewska

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) and in [Polish](#)

Information warfare has a long tradition in Russia. Over the past few years it has been redefined, using geopolitical theory as its foundation. According to this theory, information warfare is a means used by the state to achieve its ends in international, regional and domestic politics and also to gain geopolitical advantage. Geopolitics has also provided Russia with ideological arguments in its strategy for rivalry with the West. It provides an explanation for the internal crisis in Ukraine and grounds for the annexation of Crimea by Russia in the context of rivalry between 'Eurasian civilisation' and the 'US-led Atlantic civilisation.' This paper is an attempt to reconstruct an outline of the information warfare theory based on the writings of the leading representatives of Russian geopolitics, Igor Panarin and Aleksandr Dugin, and also its applied use during the operation in Crimea.

Kazakhstan's attitude towards integration with Russia: less love, more fear

by Aleksandra Jarosiewicz

23 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) and in [Polish](#)

Russia's annexation of Crimea and destabilization of Ukraine have created a new context for Kazakhstan's foreign and domestic policy. From Astana's perspective, the Kremlin's policy towards Ukraine can be considered dangerous since it shows Russia's determination to interfere with the domestic affairs of its neighbours in the pursuit of its own interests. At present the biggest challenge for the authorities in Astana is the accelerated implementation of the idea of the Eurasian Union promoted by Moscow, as it is sure to bring Kazakhstan closer to Russia and simultaneously limit its economic and political independence. Nevertheless, Astana's position in relations with Moscow will to a large extent depend on the new shape of the relations between Russia and China. China is pursuing its own strategic interests in Central Asia and its main partner in the region is Kazakhstan.

POLSKI INSTYTUT SPRAW MIĘDZYKRAJOWYCH (POLISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

After Ukraine: are Russia and Belarus ripe for revolution?

by Liudmyla Datskova, Anna Maria Dyner and Maya Rostowska

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The revolution that rocked Ukraine and removed President Yanukovich from power at the beginning of 2014 has raised the question of whether similar revolutionary moods are present in Russia and Belarus. The likelihood of civil disobedience in these countries is related to the similarities and differences between their societies, the presence of motivations comparable to those that led Ukrainians to protest on Maidan Square in Kyiv, the perception of real alternatives to presidents Putin and Lukashenka, as well as their economic prospects. PISM does not see all these factors pointing to revolution in Moscow or Minsk anytime soon.

Moldova

EXPERT-GRUP

Moldova - Euromonitor, Q1-2014

by Igor Boțan, Polina Panaint, Denis Cenușă, Iurie Morcotilo and Adrian Lupușor

13 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) and in [Moldovan](#)

This is the quarterly report on the implementation of the EU–Moldova Action Plan (EURMAP) in the period January–March 2014. It has been produced within the joint project "EU-Moldova relations – monitoring progress in the Eastern Partnership in 2013" funded by the Soros Foundation – Moldova.

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

Moldova at a crossroads - Why an association agreement with the EU matters more than ever

by Vladislav Kulminski and Martin Sieg
19 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The Republic of Moldova will sign its [association agreement](#) with the EU on 27 June. In April 2014 it became the first of the Eastern Partnership countries to establish a visa-free regime with the EU. The current government's key strategic priorities remain domestic reforms and its European agenda. But it faces increasing pressure both at home and abroad with only six months left until the next elections.

Lebanon

INSTITUT FÜR EUROPÄISCHE POLITIK (INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN POLITICS)

Moving beyond the normative-geopolitical ambiguity of the EU's imperial politics in the neighbourhood: the case of Lebanon

by Julian Pänke
21 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper explores the potential impact of the European Neighbourhood Policy in the Southern Mediterranean. Since 2011, the war in Syria threatens the security and balance of power in the Near East. The author argues for a political approach which favours realist stabilisation over too ambitious reform policies.

Libya

EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

A European agenda to support Libya's transition

by Mattia Toaldo
19 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Europe could do more to protect its interests in Libya. Three years after the revolution, the transition is lagging behind, and deadlines for key steps such as elections, a new constitution and national dialogue are unlikely to be met. The analysis concludes that Europe's ability to influence the transition in Libya is strong and should be used more effectively.

Iran

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

Relations of Iran with Greece and the EU

by Evangelos Ventis
May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper analyses the diplomatic momentum in the relations between Iran, Greece and the EU in the aftermath of the election of reformist candidate Hassan Rowhani as President in June 2013. Rowhani has made clear to the West that his foreign policy will be that of *rapprochement* with the West. In this process the role of Greece, one of the few western countries with which Iran has maintained positive and friendly relations for decades, is potentially important.

Asia

CARNEGIE MOSCOW CENTER

A shift in the EU strategy for Central Asia?

by Ann-Sophie Gast
13 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Why has the EU readjusted the way it engages with Central Asia over the last two years? In this article the author explores two reasons – the drawdown of NATO troops from Afghanistan and a desire to become involved in 'security discourses' that were once the preserve of other powers.

ASIA CENTRE

A strong European China policy is best for Germany

by François Godement
20 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Godement contests that Europe's policy towards China should take a cue from Germany, combining salesmanship with a low political profile. This would be short-sighted. Instead, the benefits of a unified European approach to China are evident, both because Beijing has become astute in playing one European country off against another, and because the gap between an increasingly powerful China and Germany is growing.

EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS / ASIA CENTRE

France's 'Pivot' to Asia

by François Godement
20 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This report shows how, while Paris and its European partners are competing in the Chinese market to attract investors and visitors from China, France attempts to correct a too exclusive focus on China by enhancing bilateral ties with other partners in the region, including in security and defence cooperation.

Afghanistan

EUROPEAN INSTITUTE FOR ASIAN STUDIES

The EU's engagement in Afghanistan from a gender perspective

by Katharina Stöckli
May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper addresses the situation of women in Afghanistan, in the context of EU engagement in that country. Despite the fact that the EU is one of the major donors of development and humanitarian assistance, and that its engagement in Afghanistan is based on its shared values and norms, its influence remains predominantly declaratory and has not yet translated into real political influence yet, argues Stöckli.

SPECIAL FOCUS - SEPARATISM

Read also our related blog posts: [Separatism in Europe](#)

EUROPEAN POLICY CENTRE

Could an independent Scotland join the European Union?

by Graham Avery

28 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The people of Scotland vote in September on the question "Should Scotland be an independent country?". The Scottish Government aims, if the result is 'yes', for Scotland to become independent in March 2016 and to join the main international organisations including the EU. This paper explores the issue from the angle of UK domestic politics as well as Scotland-EU relations.

EUROPEAN POLICY CENTRE / BARCELONA CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Independentism and the European Union

by Graham Avery

7 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) and in [Catalan](#)

Independentism/separatism is a live issue in Europe today. In the EU separatist parties have gained votes in Scotland, Catalonia, Flanders and elsewhere, and referendums are in prospect. In Eastern Europe Crimea's referendum has led to an international crisis. The author asks what the EU policy on independentism can be, whether the division of a member state into two states is bad for the EU, and finally, how is the organisational structure of the EU fosters independentism.

FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG (FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION)

Katalonien: Geld oder Identität?

by Michael Ehrke

May 2014

Link to the article in [German](#)

Ehrke notes that the economic crisis, the imposed austerity and the consequent loss of credibility of the Spanish actors and institutions have contributed to the increase of the independence movement. The majority of Catalans conceptualise Catalonia as a nation that has a right to a own political system. For Catalans, separatist narratives stem from the perceptions of a higher economic performance, an older and 'more authentic' belonging to Europe and centuries-long exploitation of the region.

REGARDS CROISÉS

At a glance across time: 2014-1914...

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND SECURITY NETWORK

1914 Revisited: great power war in the 21st century

by David W. Kearns

19 May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Are the historical analogies between 1914 and 2014 largely bogus, especially when it comes to the possibility of more Great Wars? Author David Kearns thinks so. As long as the US remains the keeper of global order, the threat of force by the likes of Moscow or Beijing is likely to be self-defeating, he argues.

...and across space

PEACE RESEARCH INSTITUTE OSLO

The Cyprus peace dividend revisited. A productivity and sectoral approach

by Fiona Mullen, Alexander Apostolides and Mustafa Besim

May 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This report tries to quantify the impact a solution to the Cyprus issue. The dividend of peace is considered in two ways: through a top-down approach known as Growth Accounting and through a bottom-up, sector-by-sector approach. The report concludes that the peace dividend over 20 years would be approximately €20bn, with all-island GDP reaching €45bn by 2035, compared with €25bn without a solution.

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Ein gemeinsames Jahrzehnt. Polen und Deutschland 10 Jahre gemeinsam in der Europäischen Union

by Agnieszka Łada (ed.)

26 May 2014

Link to the article in [German](#)

This publication examines German-Polish relations since Poland joined the EU. It focuses on economic cooperation, Polish immigration to Germany and contacts between young people in both countries, and how they benefit from the European integration.