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Dear Readers,

Welcome to issue 45 of the Think Tank Review compiled by the EU Council Library* ([click to share on Twitter](#)). It references papers published in March 2017. As usual, we provide the link to the full text and a short abstract.

This issue has a special focus on the French presidential elections. Emmanuel Macron and Marine Le Pen go through to the second round on 7 May. Think tanks concentrate in particular on the impact of fear on political campaigns, on risks related to the digitisation of campaigns, on the rise of Front National and on the consequences of a French exit from the euro. We would also like to share the commentary reports by [Institut Montaigne](#), which has a special webpage on the French presidential elections, which is regularly updated.

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The 'EU politics and institutions' section includes an article about the 2017 elections across Europe, concentrating on the facts, expectations and consequences of possible outcomes in four different EU countries. Other papers in this section focus on how Europeans feel about the EU 60 years after the Treaty of Rome, on the European Parliament and multilevel governance and on Europe in 2022.

The 'Economic and financial affairs' section contains publications on the EU budget post-Brexit, the economic impact of Brexit for the EU27, the European Central Bank (ECB)'s low interest rate policy and its independence and accountability.

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In the 'EU member states' section, readers will find a rich selection of analyses on France, including articles on the French energy transition law for green growth, tourism in France and on Calais as a French mirror of the European migration crisis. We also found two articles on cultural diplomacy in both France and Spain. There is also considerable interest for subjects concerning other member states, such as the risks of Islamist radicalisation in Bulgaria, public employment services in Spain and the Central Economic Plan 2017 in the Netherlands. Finally, a large number of papers are devoted to Brexit and the UK, focusing on the Brexit negotiations, Brexit legislation and the Great Repeal Bill and on Germany's position on Brexit.

In the 'EU policies' section, think tanks focus on migration, energy and the environment. On migration, our readers will find papers on mapping the migration challenges in EU transit and destination countries and on migration topics from the perspective of NGOs in the Visegrad region. On energy, we recommend papers focusing on the security and independence of European energy and on strategies for oil-dependent economies. Regarding the environment, think tanks pay attention to stopping global plastic pollution and to opportunities for a trilateral system between the EU, China and African countries on addressing climate change.

Under 'Foreign affairs' the wide range of topics include relations between NATO and the UK, the Russian view on the EU in Kremlin propaganda, jihadist radicalisation and returning foreign fighters. The section also includes articles on the EU-Japan free trade agreement, public perception of Serbia's foreign policy, Egypt's secular political parties and converging interests in the Indian Ocean between Brussels and New Delhi.

The Review can be downloaded from our [blog](#). As always, feedback is welcome at library@consilium.europa.eu.

The next Review will be out in May 2017, with papers published in April 2017.

For readers from outside the General Secretariat, the 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.

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SECTION 1 - EU POLITICS AND INSTITUTIONS

European Policy Centre

The 2017 elections across Europe: facts, expectations and consequences

by Janis A. Emmanouilidis [@jaemmanouilidis](#), Francesca Fabbri [@francesca_livia](#), Yann-Sven Rittelmeyer [@YSRittelmeyer](#), Adriaan Schout [@adriaanschout](#), Corina Stratulat and Fabian Zuleeg [@FabianZuleeg](#)

14 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (24 p.)

This paper takes a closer look at the elections in four EU member states, presenting the domestic political dynamics at play, assessing various possible governing coalitions in the aftermath of the vote and considering the potential implications of the different likely outcomes for national policymaking and European affairs.

Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies - European University Institute

2014 as the first (truly) European elections?

by Alexander H. Trechsel, Lorenzo De Sio and Diego Garzia

16 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (27 p.)

EP elections have so far been consistently characterised as "second-order". However, the national consequences of EU policies have put Europe on the table of national electorates leading to an overall increase in saliency of EP elections and to a homogenisation of political competition across EU members. This paper explores this framework in the context of the 2009 and 2014 EP elections.

Ulkopoliittinen instituutti (Finnish Institute of International Affairs)

A more powerful European Council: old and new trends

by Juha Jokela [@JuhaJokela1](#)

14 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (8 p.)

The importance of the European Council within the EU's political system has increased significantly due to the multiple crises that the EU has faced in recent years. Moreover, a degree of flexibility and adaptability concerning the role and functions of the European Council can provide efficacy, but at the same time it could run counter to the objective to establish it firmly within the legal and institutional framework of the EU.

Institut Montaigne

L'Europe dont nous avons besoin

by Thomas Gambier-Campy, Jean Guillaume, Jérôme Brouillet, Jimmy Zou, Elise Daniel and Guillaume Borie (rapp.)

March 2017

Link to the article in [French](#) (184 p.)

European leaders must take control of the destiny of Europe. Three axes must guide the action of the European leaders: the consolidation of the euro zone, economic prosperity and the various internal and external threats to the security of the continent. For each of these issues, this report

presents a series of concrete proposals that can be implemented without delay after the 2017 elections in France and Germany.

Atlantic Council

Europe in 2022: alternative futures

by Frances Burwell and Mathew Burrows [@matburrows](#)

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (86 p.)

Sixty years after the signing of the Treaty of Rome, Europe faces its greatest challenges, and possibly its sharpest turning point, since World War II. This report looks at the possible future for Europe with the hope of reigniting the bond between Americans and Europeans so that they may build a better future together.

Bertelsmann Stiftung

Supportive but wary - How Europeans feel about the EU 60 years after the Treaty of Rome

by Catherine de Vries and Isabell Hoffmann [@ur_echo](#)

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (36 p.)

How do Europeans feel about the EU 60 years after the Treaty of Rome? Current research focuses almost exclusively on the causes of support for the current project and fails to provide a sufficient basis for effective reform decisions. This report shows that people are somewhat conflicted when it comes to the EU: they do support European integration but are increasingly wary about its current situation as well.

Fondation pour l'innovation politique

Les troubles du monde, l'Islamisme et sa récupération populiste: l'Europe démocratique menacée

by Pierre-Adrien Hanania

24 March 2017

Link to the article in [French](#) (50 p.)

There is no doubt that the European project is one of the most ambitious in modern history. What remains of the beautiful initial ideal of an ever closer union, of a common march towards a material and human progress that is constantly renewed, of a will to influence the future of the world, of the humanity and of the planet? Assaulted on all sides, caught in pincers by those who wish to wreck it, Europe wavers under the blows.

European Parliament Think Tank

Contribution of the European Parliament to multilevel governance: building on a potential for a fuller right of legislative initiative for the European Parliament

by Peter Vavřík

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (76 p.)

This study outlines the current situation where the possibilities for the EP to trigger the legislative process are limited and explains how the EU could benefit from this right of legislative initiative. By examining constitutional traditions common to all EU member states, available data on legislative procedures and selected acts, the study attempts to formulate how the EP's full right of legislative initiative could work in practice and to touch upon obstacles that this new right would bring in the context of EU decision-making.

Terra nova

Pour un quinquennat européen

15 March 2017

Link to the article in [French](#) (75 p.)

The European objective is no longer to consolidate a fragmented geographical continent. Now it consist of presenting a pole of stability in the destabilised global geopolitics as the European Union remains a strong voice, whose word is expected. The decisions it makes for itself have a global impact. In the next five years, it has to leave its mark in the regulation of financial capitalism and the orientation towards sustainable growth.

Institut pro evropskou politiku EUROPEUM (EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy)

The changing balance of power in the EU after the British referendum – V4 capacities and opportunities

by Zsuzsanna Csornai

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (15 p.)

The main aim of this study is to analyse the balance of power within the EU among member states both in terms of capacities from the realist point of view and in terms of bargaining power in EU institutions. This study intends to explore whether any member state or coalition could replace the UK within the EU and carry its liberal, market-oriented agenda, and examines if a certain political agenda could be favoured with the planned exit of the UK.

OCP Policy Center

Policy implementation – A synthesis of the study of policy implementation and the causes of policy failure?

by Landry Signé

1 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (28 p.)

This paper proposes a synthesis of the study of policy implementation and the cause of policy failure. It explains why critical differences often occur between the initially formulated goals of a public policy and the final outputs after its implementation. This insight is extremely important to understand and address the causes of policy failures and improve the policy-making process.

Public service delivery – What matters for successful implementation and what can policy leaders do?

by Landry Signé

2 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (24 p.)

This paper explains the key factors leading to policy success, and provides policymakers with actionable solutions to help formulate and implement public policies successfully and deliver services to the level of expectations of citizens.

Istituto Affari Internazionali

Differentiated integration: a way forward for Europe

by Nicoletta Pirozzi [@NicolePirozzi](#), Pier Domenico Tortola and Lorenzo Vai [@lorenzovai](#)

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (24 p.)

The idea of differentiated integration has gained ground within the pro-EU camp, by which some member states can move forward in selected policy areas, possibly involving the remaining countries at a later stage. This paper outlines five broad questions and corresponding guiding principles for differentiation and then apply them to three policy macro-areas: economic governance, defence and freedom security and justice.

Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute / Istituto Affari Internazionali

Differentiated integration and the EU: a variable geometry legitimacy

by Yves Bertoincini [@ybertoincini](#)

10 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (17 p.) and in [French](#) (12 p.)

This contribution explores the philosophical, political and institutional conditions which must be met to allow a legitimate deepening of differentiation within the EU, and highlights the importance of a differentiation based on sound political foundations, which is then able to serve the interests of the European peoples, for example as regards collective security issues and the Economic and Monetary Union.

Leuven Centre for Global Governance Studies

The European Union in United Nations economic governance fora

by Anna-Luise Chané and Jan Wouters

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (24 p.)

This contribution provides a brief overview of the legal basis for EU engagement in the UN, the Union's internal coordination process, as well as the framework governing its external representation.

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

Global civic activism in flux

by Richard Youngs [@YoungsRichard](#), Youssef Cherif, Hafsa Halawa, Vijayan MJ, Adams Oloo, Natalia Shapovalova, Janjira Sombatpoonsiri, Marisa von Bülow and Özge Zihnioğlu

17 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (76 p.)

This report kicks off the Civic Activism Network initiative with an overview of emerging forms of civic activism in the eight countries represented in it. It addresses what new kinds of civic activism are taking root, what issues new civic actors are focusing on, and how they relate to older civil society forms, especially advocacy and service-delivery NGOs.

Stiftung Mercator / European Council on Foreign Relations

The future shape of Europe - How the EU can bend without breaking

by Almut Möller [@almutmoeller](#) and Dina Pardijs [@PardijsDJ](#)

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (40 p.)

Faced with internal and external pressures, the EU is increasingly focused on "cooperation" and "deliverables", rather than "integration". This research shows that a critical mass of countries agree on the need for more flexible cooperation within the EU. Many member states believe that more flexible cooperation will help to demonstrate the benefits of collective European action, and to overcome policy deadlocks. There is also a clear preference for flexible cooperation under existing EU treaty instruments.

SECTION 2 - ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

European Policy Centre

EU budget post-Brexit - Confronting reality, exploring viable solutions

by Ewa Chomicz [@ewachomicz](#)

7 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (56 p.) and to the [infographic](#) (1 p.)

Given the looming withdrawal of the UK from the EU and the country's position as one of the main contributors to the EU budget both in gross and net terms, this paper offers an analysis of the potential implications of Brexit for the EU budget from a political economy perspective.

Centre for European Policy Studies

An assessment of the economic impact of Brexit on the EU27

by Michael Emerson [@Michael1254O](#), Matthias Busse [@matthias_busse](#), Mattia Di Salvo, Daniel Gros and Jacques Pelkman

22 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (60 p.)

A team of economists at CEPS was commissioned by the Policy Department on Economic and Scientific Policies for the Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection to assess the likely economic impact of Brexit on EU27, together with some scenarios for the terms of the UK's secession. For the EU 27, the losses were found to be virtually insignificant, and hardly noticeable in the aggregate. For the UK, however, the losses could be highly significant. Impacts on some member states – in particular Ireland – and some sectors in the EU27 could be more pronounced than the average for the EU27.

The instruments providing macro-financial support to EU member states

by Cinzia Alcidi, Daniel Gros, Jorge Nunez Ferrer [@jnunez_ferrer](#) and David Rinaldi [@Rinaldi_David](#)

27 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (32 p.)

Following the financial crisis, the EU put in place a number of instruments aimed at providing macro-financial support to EU member states in difficulty, five of which remain in place. At the request of the European Parliament, CEPS carried out an in-depth assessment of the functioning and institutional arrangements of these support programmes with a view to providing a solid basis on which to design a sound architecture that can serve Europe for decades to come. This paper draws a number of lessons from this assessment and identifies issues that still need to be addressed.

Carving out legacy assets: a successful tool for bank restructuring?

by Willem Pieter de Groen

20 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (25 p.)

European banks have accumulated more than €1 trillion in non-performing loans (NPLs) on their balance sheets after the burst of the 2007-2009 great financial crisis. The NPLs pose a potential threat to bank stability in euro-area countries such as Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Portugal and Slovenia, where more than 15% of the loans are non-performing. This paper assesses the effectiveness of the various resolution tools to deal with legacy assets such as NPLs under the resolution framework.

Bruegel

Institutional investors and home bias in Europe's Capital Markets Union

by Zsolt Darvas [@ZsoltDarvas](#) and Dirk Schoenmaker

23 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (48 p.)

Integrated capital markets facilitate risk sharing across countries. Lower home bias in financial investments is an indicator of risk sharing. According to the authors, existing indicators of equity home bias in the literature suffers from incomplete coverage because they consider only listed equities. This paper analyses to what extent EU membership may foster financial integration and reduce information barriers which sometimes limit cross-country diversification.

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

Toward a global norm against manipulating the integrity of financial data

by Tim Maurer [@maurertim](#), Ariel (Eli) Levite and George Perkovich [@PerkovichG](#)

27 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (20 p.)

It is vital to the stability of the international system to prohibit the corruption of data in the global financial system, and to strengthen a comprehensive norm to this effect.

Transparency International

Two sides of the same coin? Independence and accountability of the European Central Bank

by Aleksandra Maatsch

23 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (77 p.)

This report is published at a time when the ECB faces a major dilemma. Because political inertia has to date prevented the establishment of a sustainable institutional architecture for the Euro zone, the ECB's role in safeguarding the euro is as indispensable as ever. The ECB emerged as the decisive actor in the euro crisis, with an extraordinary degree of latitude thanks to the statutory independence enshrined in the EU treaties. At the same time, the ECB faces a significant decline in public trust, which alongside its expanded responsibilities put considerable strain on its accountability.

Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung (German Institute for Economic Research)

The cost channel effect of monetary transmission: how effective is the ECB's low interest rate policy for increasing inflation?

by Dorothea Schäfer, Andreas Stephan and Khanh Trung Hoang

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (40 p.)

The authors examine whether monetary transmission during the financial and sovereign debt crisis was dominated by the cost channel or by the demand-side channel effect. They use two approaches to track down the potential pass through of changes in the monetary policy rate to those in consumer prices. Taken together, the results of both panel data and time series analyses imply that the ECB's low interest rate policy has worked better for boosting inflation in Italy and Spain than in Germany.

Don't stop me now: the impact of credit market fragmentation on firms' financing constraints

by Franziska Bremus and Katja Neugebauer

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (43 p.)

This paper investigates how the withdrawal of banks from their cross-border business impacted the borrowing costs of European firms since the crisis. The author combines aggregate information on total and cross-border credit with firm-level survey data for the period 2010-2014. The paper conclusion is that the decline in cross-border lending led to a deterioration in the borrowing conditions of small firms.

European Parliament Think Tank

The role of national fiscal bodies: state of play

by Jost Angerer and Hannah Copeland

31 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (27 p.)

This briefing provides an overview of the role played by national fiscal institutions in the preparations of forthcoming budgets in EU member states. The objective of the briefing is twofold: 1) to give an overview of the extent to which the Stability or Convergence Programmes and the Draft Budgetary Plans contain information about the involvement of independent national fiscal bodies in the preparation of these programmes/plans; and 2) to give an overview of the current set-up and role of these independent fiscal bodies based on the most recent assessment by the European Commission.

Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung (Heinrich Böll Foundation)

Corporate Influence on the G20: the case of the B20 and transnational business networks

by Jens Martens

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (87 p.)

Over the past eight years, the G20 has emerged as one of the most prominent political fora for international cooperation, far beyond its original mandate to tackle the global economic and financial crisis of 2007/2008. For transnational corporations and their national and international associations and lobby groups, the G20 process provides important opportunities to engage with the world's most powerful governments on a regular basis. For this purpose, business actors have created a broad network of alliances and fora around the G20, with the Business20 (B20) as the most visible symbol of corporate engagement.

Polski Instytut Spraw Międzynarodowych (Polish Institute of International Affairs)

Rebalancing the fiscal framework in the European Union: perspectives of Germany, France and Poland

by Sebastian Plóciennik

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (46 p.)

In recent years, calls have been getting louder for a more expansionary fiscal policy in the euro area. The euro area, currently focused on enforcing fiscal discipline on the national level, could start turning to joint approaches in stabilisation policy, with the stage open for competences moving to the supranational level. The present report looks into the perspectives on this of Germany and France, whose positions are key for the future of the euro area, and of Poland, one of the weightiest non-members of the monetary union and thus far determined to postpone the decision to join.

LUISS School of European Political Economy

Credit misallocation during the European financial crisis

by Fabiano Schivardi, Enrico Sette and Guido Tabellini

1 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (66 p.)

Do banks with low capital extend excessive credit to weak firms, and does this matter for aggregate efficiency? Using a unique data set that covers almost all bank-firm relationships in Italy in the period 2004-2013, the author finds that, during the Eurozone financial crisis: (i) Under-capitalized banks were less likely to cut credit to non-viable firms; (ii) Credit misallocation increased the failure rate of healthy firms and reduced the failure rate of non-viable firms; (iii) Nevertheless, the adverse effects of credit misallocation on the growth rate of healthier firms were negligible, and so were the effects on TFP dispersion.

Are there common structural determinants of potential output growth in Europe? An empirical exercise for 11 EMU countries

by Roberta De Santis, Piero Esposito and Elena Masi

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (25 p.)

GDP growth in the Eurozone during the last twenty years continuously decreased. In addition, the global financial crisis and subsequent events seem to have, on average, shifted the trajectory of the Eurozone's potential output downward. A key question is whether this trend is a permanent result of "secular stagnation" or if economic policies might improve the situation. In this paper, the authors intend to test the impact of several structural determinants of potential output growth using a dynamic panel data methodology for 11 main EMU members for the period 1996-2014.

Svenska institutet för europapolitiska studier (Swedish Institute for European Policy Studies)

Eurokrisen, eurosamarbetets regelsystem och den framtida integrationen (The Euro crisis, economic governance of the eurozone and future integration)

by Lars Calmfors [@LarsCalmfors](#)

20 March 2017

Link to the article in [Swedish](#) (78 p.) and to the summary in [English](#) (3 p.)

Even though the euro zone's problems play a less prominent role on the EU's agenda in view of the Union's many crises in recent years, new disturbances may lead to the euro crisis quickly flaring up again. This report is a timely contribution to the debate on the future of the EMU. The author argues that while further development of the banking union is desirable, fiscal centralisation is not realistic in view of strong Euro-sceptic sentiments in parts of the euro area.

Atlantic Council

Charting the future now: European economic growth and its importance to American prosperity

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (76 p.)

The EU, a vital partner for the US, is facing numerous challenges, including massive migration flows, the UK's vote to leave the EU, and rising support for anti-EU and populist parties in upcoming elections in several European countries. This publication proposes pragmatic steps to restore European economic growth, safeguard the European project, and reinvigorate the transatlantic alliance.

SECTION 3 - EU MEMBER STATES

BULGARIA

Център за изследване на демокрацията (Center for the Study of Democracy)

Risks of islamist radicalisation in Bulgaria: a case study in the Iztok neighbourhood of the city of Pazardzhik

by Mila Mancheva and Rositsa Dzhekova [@RosiDzhekova](#)

13 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (30 p.)

The report presents the results of a qualitative case study aimed at exploring the relevance of a framework of generic indicators for detection of risks of Islamist radicalisation to the national context of Bulgaria. The study is designed on the premise that the formulation of risk indicators in relevance to the context of Bulgaria should be based on an understanding of the actual processes that may lead to Islamist radicalisation and the root causes and driving factors lying behind it.

Fondation Robert Schuman

Outgoing Prime Minister Boyko Borissov wins his wager and also the general election in Bulgaria

by Corinne Deloy

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (3 p.) and in [French](#) (3 p.)

Link to the analysis in [English](#) (4 p.) and in [French](#) (4 p.)

The Citizens for the European Development of Bulgaria (GERB, the party of outgoing Prime Minister (2009-2013 and 2014-2016) Boyko Borissov, came out ahead in the snap election that took place in Bulgaria on 26 March. The head of government therefore won his wager and has asserted himself for the fourth successive time in the ballot box after 2009, 2013 and 2014. The GERB won 32.64% of the vote. The Socialist Party (BSP), the main opposition party led by Kornelia Ninova, came second with 27.12% of the vote.

FRANCE

Fondation pour l'innovation politique

Calais: miroir français de la crise migratoire européenne

by Jérôme Fourquet and Sylvain Manternach

7 March 2017

Link to the article part 1 in [French](#) (60 p.) and part 2 in [French](#) (76 p.)

The authors return to the most striking episodes of these twenty years of presence of migrants in Calais and how they marked the minds of the inhabitants and the political personnel. They analyse the particular situation of Calais and the role of the actors present on the territory (refugees, local and national politicians, associations, law enforcement agencies.) The second part is devoted to the migration crisis in Calais since 2014. It shows how the Front National has progressed in Calais and in France between the European elections of 2014 and the regional elections of 2015.

Institut Montaigne

Tourisme en France: cliquez ici pour rafraîchir

by Jean Boschat, Partner, Charles-Etienne Bost, Blanche Leridon and Patrick Rabbat (rapp.)
March 2017

Link to the article in [French](#) (108 p.)

The exponential growth in the use of the platforms of the digital economy forces us to question the adequacy of current promotion and tourist offer to these new uses. To solve this new equation, and to enable two of France's major assets, namely tourism and French Tech, to move forward together, a mobilization of all actors - public authorities, companies in the sector, new players in the digital economy - is required. From their coordination and commitments, an ambitious and shared strategy for the future of the French tourism can emerge.

La Vie des Idées

Y a-t-il trop de fonctionnaires?

by Émilien Ruiz [@mXli1](#)

28 March 2017

Link to the article in [French](#) (12 p.)

The idea has recently reappeared in the French political debate: it would be imperative to reduce the number of civil servants. On the basis of historical and foreign examples, the author shows that the numbers cannot diminish without affecting the perimeter of intervention of the State.

Real Instituto Elcano (Elcano Royal Institute)

La ley de transición energética francesa para el crecimiento verde y la Programación Plurianual de Energía 2016-2023

by Jean François Collin

10 March 2017

Link to the article in [Spanish](#) (18 p.)

With the adoption of its Energy Transition Law in August 2015, France showed to the international community its willingness to change the current energy model by one capable of ensuring a sustainable economic development. The adoption by the French Government in October 2016 of a Energy Multi-annual Programming 2016-2023 has allowed this country to have a roadmap to implement this transition.

Terra nova

Un nouveau souffle pour l'industrie française

by Agnès Michel, Nadine Levratto and Dominique Tessier

28 March 2017

Link to the article in [French](#) (71 p.)

This report on industry, based in particular on hearings with entrepreneurs from several sectors, makes proposals to redeploy public support to policies that accompany productive models that create local jobs.

La diplomatie culturelle face aux défis contemporains

by Sophie Claudel, Alain Fohr and Alexis Tadié

27 March 2017

Link to the article in [French](#) (12 p.)

This note addresses the contemporary challenges of French cultural diplomacy. Cultural diplomacy plays an important role in counteracting the forces that today threaten democracies. In this field, France has real assets, including its long history and the coverage of its network.

Pour construire un monde commun: l'urgence d'une politique d'intégration

by Victor Duchamp (rapp.)

24 March 2017

Link to the article in [French](#) (51 p.)

This report makes several proposals, all of which are part of the broader objective of building an ambitious public policy of integration that can contribute to the cohesion of our society.

Institut de relations internationales et stratégiques

La lutte contre le terrorisme en Asie du sud-est: quelles leçons pour la France ?

by Anne Radigue

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (16 p.)

Recently, France had to face Islamist terrorism by undergoing attacks on its own soil. However, the Hexagon is not the only country to fight against Islamist terrorism. Southeast Asia is also facing this scourge, particularly Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Singapore. It may therefore be interesting to compare the problems faced by France and South-East Asia, as well as the different methods of counter-terrorism used.

GERMANY

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

Zur Transparenz von Mediaagenturen: Eine Rechtswissenschaftliche Untersuchung

by Jörg Ukrow and Mark Cole

March 2017

Link to the article in [German](#) (100 p.)

The Friedrich-Ebert Foundation commissioned the Institute for European Media Law (EMR) to draw up the present legal report on the transparency of media agencies. The aim of this report is to examine the legislative options to be taken in order to find new solutions, in particular with a view to increasing the transparency of the transactions concluded between media agencies and the other market participants.

Stiftung Mercator

Rückkehrpolitik in Deutschland - Wege zur Stärkung der geförderten Ausreise

by Anna-Lucia Graff [@anna_graff](#) and Jan Schneider [@Jan_Schneider](#)

March 2017

Link to the article in [German](#) (48 p.)

The stay of rejected asylum seekers is terminated either by deportation or by voluntary departure. For the former, the residence law complies with relatively detailed regulations, whereas for the latter there are hardly legally binding requirements. The present study examines these differences in the countries of Hesse, Rhineland-Palatinate and Saxony-Anhalt.

Mit der Verkehrswende die Mobilität von morgen sichern - 12 Thesen zur Verkehrswende

by Christian Hochfeld [@C_Hochfeld](#) , Alexander Jung [@_AlexanderJung](#), Anne Klein-Hitpaß, Urs Maier [@UrsMaier](#), Kerstin Meyer and Fritz Vorholz [@FVorholz](#)
March 2017
Link to the article in [German](#) (104 p.)

Agora Verkehrswende is a mid-year initiative launched by Stiftung Mercator and the European Climate Foundation. This paper reflects the current state of knowledge and the results of numerous discussions with external experts from politics, business, science and civil society on traffic and mobility.

Mehr als weniger als gleich viel - Zum Verhältnis von Ökonomie und Kultureller Bildung

by Frank Jebe, Eckart Liebau, Holger Noltze and Stephanie Seegers
March 2017
Link to the article in [German](#) (126 p.)

The Council for Cultural Education in Germany has put the relationship between economics and cultural education at the centre of its annual report. It examines the relations between the two fields, by focusing on fundamental theoretical location, public discourse and the facets of economic understanding, empirical findings on the practice and development perspectives. It concludes with recommendations for the further development of the understanding of economics and cultural education and the economic equipping of cultural education.

Transatlantic Academy

Can Germany make globalization work?

by Harold James
March 2017
Link to the article in [English](#) (24 p.)

It is often argued that Germany is left as the defender of globalisation and an open commercial order, in the face of disarray in the international order, structural changes in the world economy, and even the possibility of an end or a reversal of globalisation. This paper suggests using global business linkages as a way of modernizing German corporate governance, developing fundamental research as a partial answer to security threats, acting collectively to solve migration issues, and taking a more active role in reforming European and global financial institutions.

Bertelsmann Stiftung

Engagement für geflüchtete – eine sache des glaubens? Die rolle der religion für die flüchtlingshilfe

by Alexander K. Nagel and Yasemin El-Menouar
March 2017
Link to the article in [German](#) (56 p.)

In the late summer of 2015 the refugee situation presented Germany with great challenges. Numerous initiatives were planned in order to organise the new arrivals in everyday life. Many of these aid initiatives were based on religious communities. Churches, mosques and other religious houses have opened their premises for the refugees. There were, however, also critical voices - in particular, the Muslims' commitment. This study takes perceptions and debates as an opportunity to ask more precisely what role religion and religious attitudes play for refugee relief.

NETHERLANDS

Centraal Planbureau (CPB Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Analysis)

Centraal Economisch Plan 2017: overschot op de begroting - inflatie stijgt

March 2017

Link to the article in [Dutch](#) (102 p.) and to Chapter 1 in [English](#) (18 p.)

The Dutch economy is showing a robust level of growth. CPB Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Analysis calculated a growth of 2.1% this year and 1.8% in 2018. This growth is mainly driven by consumption and exports. Global economic growth is expected to accelerate this year and also slightly in the year thereafter; particularly due to growth increases in emerging economies. The global increase will also accelerate growth in relevant world trade to 3% this year, and 3.6% in 2018.

Productivity Slowdown - Evidence for the Netherlands

by Katarzyna Grabska, Leon Bettendorf, Rob Luginbuhl, Gerdien Meijerink [@Meyerink](#) and Adam Elbourne

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (62 p.)

Most OECD countries have experienced a productivity slowdown in recent decades, but show different patterns. For the US, studies find that productivity growth accelerated after around 1995, after which it slowed down again around 2000. For other countries, studies find a productivity slowdown that starts later than in the US. This paper analyses how The Netherlands compares to other countries in terms of the productivity slowdown, between 1970 and 2014.

POLAND

Case - Centrum Analiz Społeczno-Ekonomicznych (Center for Social and Economic Research)

Social harmonization in the eyes of Polish stakeholders – in search of consensus

by Karolina Beaumont, Katarzyna Mirecka and Izabela Styczyńska

8 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (23 p.)

Aspects of labour mobility and discrepancies in social benefits schemes in member states became an urgent matter to address. CASE held a forum with various Polish stakeholders, where CASE experts gathered views on the future of social situation in the EU. They are all summarised in this brief. Main policy recommendations emphasise that proposed legislation is important for Poland, however it still needs more debate, since under current form certain policies might be harmful for many EU member states.

SPAIN

Fundación de Estudios de Economía Aplicada

Población especialmente vulnerable ante el empleo en España. Cuantificación y caracterización

by Florentino Felgueroso, Ana Millán and Manuel Torres

March 2017

Link to the article in [Spanish](#) (77 p.)

Although the Spanish economy has entered a phase of recovery, there is still a large number of people still facing serious difficulties in their access to employment with the consequent risk of

poverty and exclusion. This study defines the concept of vulnerability in terms of employment and provides a quantification and characterisation of the group concerned.

Una primera evaluación del impacto sobre la salida del desempleo de las políticas activas ofrecidas por los servicios públicos de empleo en España

by José Ignacio García Pérez

March 2017

Link to the article in [Spanish](#) (45 p.)

This study analyses the impact on the employability of jobseekers of four services offered by public employment offices in Spain.

El cálculo de las necesidades de gasto regionales: notas para la discusión

by Angel de la Fuente

March 2017

Link to the article in [Spanish](#) (53 p.)

With a view to stimulating an informed discussion for the next reform of the regional funding system, this study lists the procedure for calculating the expenditure needs and discusses possible improvements of the current methodology.

Real Instituto Elcano (Elcano Royal Institute)

La lengua y la cultura en la relación de España y China

by Ángel Badillo [@angelbadillo](#)

2 March 2017

Link to the article in [Spanish](#) (41 p.)

The last decade is the most intense in terms of bilateral relations between Spain and China. This study addresses the following questions: In what circumstances is this strengthening of the cultural relationship between the two countries taking place? What are its key and its immediate challenges?

UNITED KINGDOM

Institute for Government

All Change. Why Britain is so prone to policy reinvention, and what can be done about it

by Emma Norris and Robert Adam

13 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (36 p.)

The central message of this report is that in several critical policy areas change happens far too often and too casually. This churn is a feature of some persistent weaknesses in the British system of government: (1) poor institutional memory, (2) the tendency to abolish and recreate organisations as a proxy for demonstrating progress, (3) a centre of government that remains too weak at long-term planning and (4) a policy development process that is not as resilient as it could be.

How to be an effective minister - What ministers do and how to do it well

by Nicola Hughes

1 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (32 p.)

This paper draws on 72 currently published interviews with former UK government ministers. The interviews explored ministers' own experiences and reflections. This work is designed to record

what it takes to be an effective minister, the challenges ministers face in the UK, and what more can be done to support them in driving forward their policy objectives.

Institute for Public Policy Research

Crossroads: Choosing a future for London's transport in the digital age

by Laurie Laybourn-Langton

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (38 p.)

This report argues that technological developments in transport could complement existing transport policy, and that positive network effects between new and existing transport services could create an unprecedented ability to overcome London's transport difficulties, providing the mayor with profound scope to improve the city's spaces and Londoners' lives.

Policy Exchange

Global Governance: The challenge to the UK's liberal democracy

by Jon Holbrook and James Allan

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (34 p.)

The authors analyse the discourse on global governance that has arisen following the emergence of rights-based treaties - such as the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights - and demonstrate that such a changing legal and political landscape has wide repercussions for the UK. Global governance has now become an influential principle in the UK's Supreme Court, and is embedded in government policy-making. At the same time, questions can be raised over the extent to which it can be democratic and is in keeping with certain principles of the rule of law.

BREXIT

LSE IDEAS

The 14 Brexit negotiations

by Andrew Hammond [@Hammonda1](#) and Tim Oliver [@timothyoliver](#)

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (18 p.)

The process of Brexit goes far beyond invoking Article 50. In this paper, the authors identify some Brexit negotiations underway - both formal diplomatic discussions and wider debates between and within the UK and EU.

CIVITAS - Institute for the Study of Civil Society

It's quite OK to walk away: a review of the UK's Brexit options with the help of seven international databases

by Michael Burrage

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (178 p.)

The author uses seven international databases to assess the benefits of the Single Market for the UK, comparing its performance with that of other EU members, and with non-members who have traded with the EU. The data shows that the Single Market has not delivered the export growth it was expected to.

Demos

Making the most of Brexit - opportunities and risks to a fairer, more sustainable economy

by Tom Startup [@TomSTutor](#) and Claudia Wood [@WoodClaudia](#)

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (61 p.)

Barring unexpected developments, the UK's 40-year membership of the EU will come to an end in early 2019. The authors distinguish two tendencies in the government's approach to Brexit: a defensive approach, aimed at minimising the risks inherent in Brexit, and an aggressive one, in which the UK attempt to seize or demand the benefits they believe are rightfully theirs. The government should adopt a broader negotiating strategy which blends these two tendencies. The UK needs to approach negotiations with a full awareness of both the opportunities and risks involved.

European Parliament Think Tank

UK withdrawal from the European Union: legal and procedural issues

by Jesus Carmona Nunez, Carmen-Cristina Cirlig and Gianluca Squeo [@GianlucaSqueo](#)

27 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (40 p.)

This paper considers some of the legal and procedural issues surrounding the UK's planned withdrawal from the EU. It looks in particular at the formal exit process under Article 50 TEU and the EU institutions' preparations for negotiations. It also sets out some possible templates for future EU-UK relations, as well as the details of existing frameworks for cooperation between the EU and third countries.

Institute for Government

Legislating Brexit. The Great Repeal Bill and the wider legislative challenge

by Hannah White and Jill Rutter [@jillongovt](#)

15 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (18 p.)

According to the authors, making a success of Brexit will require a large volume of legislation to be passed through the UK Parliament against a hard deadline. Meeting that requirement while still ensuring adequate scrutiny and leaving room for the UK Government's domestic policy agenda will require both government and Parliament to adapt their normal approach to making legislation, and to recognize the value and importance of the other's objectives and role.

Fondation Robert Schuman

Organising Brexit

13 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (4 p.) and in [French](#) (5 p.)

Theresa May delivered her twelve point plan for the upcoming negotiations over Brexit, and the final version of her speech was published in the shape of a whitepaper. This document is a mix of issues of varying importance, addressed both to citizens and MPs, as well as to public opinion and European negotiators. According to the speech and the ensuing whitepaper a triple goal emerges: Brexit must be painless for the British; it must be symbolic; it must also be used as a domestic policy tool.

European Union, Brexit, USA: the strategic dimension of the new trade issues

by Karine Lisbonne de Vergeron

27 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (5 p.) and in [French](#) (5 p.)

Theresa May's visit to the Trump administration at the end of January confirmed London's wish to position itself in a dynamic that is moving towards closer cooperation with the USA via a free-trade agreement that it would like to see implemented in the spring 2019. At the same time the new Trump administration's attacks on some of the economic fundamentals of the EU, particularly the single currency and its accusations of especially German mercantilism. What are the issues at stake and the challenges posed by this strategic reshuffle? How should Europe respond?

Centre for European Reform

Berlin to the rescue? A closer look at Germany's position on Brexit

by Sophia Besch [@SophiaBesch](#) and Christian Odendahl [@COdendahl](#)

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (15 p.)

Brexiters hope that Berlin will adopt an accommodating stance in the forthcoming negotiations because of Germany's economic and security interests. Those in Britain hoping for a soft EU stance in the negotiations sooner or later mention the carmaker BMW. Surely BMW would like to continue to sell cars in the UK unhindered, and will use its considerable political influence, together with that of the rest of the German car industry. Why should Germany be emotional about Brexit and risk damaging its commercial interests? Germany, which often bases its influence on its economic power, would surely prioritise economics over politics?

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

Negotiating Brexit: the prospect of a UK-Turkey partnership

by Sinan Ülgen [@sinanulgen1](#)

28 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (28 p.)

British and Turkish policymakers face a very similar challenge: they both need to reconstruct a relationship with the EU under the newly changed assumptions about their future status.

Policy Exchange

Going round in circles: developing a new approach to waste policy following Brexit

by Richard Howard [@RichardHowardPX](#) and Tom Galloway

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (80 p.)

Brexit presents a huge opportunity for the UK Government to develop a new approach to waste and resources policy. The report highlights significant shortcomings in the EU's approach to waste and recycling: the objectives are increasingly unclear, the targets are badly designed, and the policies are not in the UK's interest. The British government should use Brexit to define their own approach to waste and resource policy.

SECTION 4 - EU POLICIES

JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

Istituto Affari Internazionali

Police and border controls cooperation at the EU level: dilemmas, opportunities and challenges of a differentiated approach

by Guido Lessing
8 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (16 p.)

Differentiation is a logical corollary of integration insofar as politicisation and incentives for further integration differ among member states. Whereas the first opt-outs from Justice and Home Affairs were conceded in order to continue the ratification process of the Treaty creating the EU, the question today is whether growing differentiation can save or will wreck the Union.

Institut für Weltwirtschaft Kiel (Kiel Institute for the World Economy)

Winning or losing in investor-to-state dispute resolution: the role of arbitrator bias and experience

by Julian Donaubauer, Eric Neumayer and Peter Nunnenkamp
March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (31 p.)

When an investor sues a state for alleged breaches of its obligations under an investment treaty or a trade agreement with investment provisions, what should matter is for who wins the case are the merits of the claim itself. However, such cases are decided by a tribunal typically consisting of three arbitrators, one each nominated by the two parties while the president is mutually agreed upon. This study demonstrates that the kind of involvement of these arbitrators in previous ISDS cases matters for the case under dispute. The main implication is that presidents should be drawn from among those who have not represented more one side than the other in previous cases.

Royal United Services Institute

On tap Europe: organised crime and illicit trade in tobacco, alcohol and pharmaceuticals

by Clare Ellis
21 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (75 p.)

This is the final report in a series of papers on the role of organised crime groups in the illicit trade of tobacco, alcohol and pharmaceuticals across Europe.

MIGRATION

Centre for European Policy Studies

Implementation of the 2015 Council Decisions establishing provisional measures in the area of international protection for the benefit of Italy and of Greece

by Elspeth Guild, Cathryn Costello and Violeta Moreno-Lax
9 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (90 p.)

This study, commissioned by the European Parliament's Policy Department for Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs at the request of the LIBE Committee, examines the EU's mechanism of relocation of asylum seekers from Greece and Italy to other member states.

What role for the EU in the UN negotiations on a Global Compact on Migration?

by Elspeth Guild and Stefanie Grant

8 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (20 p.)

In January 2017, the UN began international negotiations for a Global Compact on Migration, as called for in a General Assembly Resolution of 19 September 2016, called the New York Declaration. This paper sets out the background to the resolution, and examines the political developments that preceded the New York Declaration and the role of the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), which became an UN-related organisation in July 2016. Two issues are closely examined: i) existing UN migration norms that need to be positioned at the heart of the Compact and ii) the central role allocated to the IOM in aiding the negotiation of the Global Compact. The paper also speculates on what role the EU will play in the UN negotiations as a 'regional body'.

European Institute of the Mediterranean / MTA Közgazdaság- és Regionális Tudományi Kutatóközpont - Világgazdasági Intézet (Centre for Economic and Regional Studies HAS - Institute of World Economics)

Mapping the migration challenges in the EU transit and destination countries

by E.N. Rózsa (ed.), M. Bučar, Ch. Druck, G. Herolf, A. Hettyey, M. Lovec, A. Pauwels and R. Parkes

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (132 p.)

This study analyses the selected cases of some "destination countries" (Germany and Sweden), of some "transit route member states" (Hungary, Slovenia and Croatia), and the atypical case of a country that was both transit and destination (Austria). The countries were selected on the basis of the experiences of the 2015 mass immigration, i.e. the most "popular" destinations and the transits along the Western Balkan route, which has carried the greatest refugee flow to the EU in 2015-2016.

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

Listen to Us, too! Flight, migration, and integration from the perspective of NGOs in the Visegrad region

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (38 p.)

The offices of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung in Bratislava and Prague, in cooperation with the online portal Social Europe, launched a series that featured ten articles written by representatives of NGOs from the Visegrad countries capturing different migration topics from each country's perspective.

EU-Flüchtlingspolitik in der Krise - Blockaden, Entscheidungen, Lösungen

by Petra Bendel [@bendel_petra](#)

March 2017

Link to the article in [German](#) (48 p.)

This paper analyses the latest asylum-policy proposals by the EU and its member states on cooperation with the countries of origin and transit, the management of borders and the second revision of the Common European Asylum System.

Migration Policy Institute

Improving the labour market integration of migrants and refugees: empowering cities through better use of EU instruments

By Kate Hooper, Maria Vincenza Desiderio and Brian Salant
March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (46 p.)

Cities have played a significant role in addressing Europe's migration crisis. Cities provide a wide array of critical services to newcomers, including language training, skills assessments, orientation, mentoring and placement services, alternative pathways to employment, credential recognition, and vocational education and training. Yet funding constraints, differing priorities at different levels of governance, and limited capacity hamper cities' ability to effectively deliver services. This report identifies concrete actions that could be taken to better leverage EU soft law, funding, and knowledge exchange mechanisms to support cities' activities in this area.

Rebuilding after crisis: embedding refugee integration in migration management systems

by Demetrios G. Papademetriou, Meghan Benton [@meghan_benton](#) and Natalia Banulescu-Bogdan

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (22 p.)

As the immediate pressures of the migration and refugee crisis in Europe have begun to abate, policymakers have refocused their energies on two goals: anticipating and preventing the next crisis and ensuring that newcomers - and the communities in which they settle - have the tools to thrive. This note analyses how best to support positive integration outcomes among refugees while not undermining the integrity of asylum and migration systems; retain control over arrival numbers and procedures; and communicate the choices and tradeoffs inherent in these systems to their publics.

Istituto Affari Internazionali

One year on: an assessment of the EU-Turkey statement on refugees

by İlke Toygür [@ilketoygur](#) and Bianca Benvenuti [@BeyazBi](#)

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (17 p.)

In 2015, the EU faced one of the most severe crises in its entire history. The refugee flows caused a humanitarian drama that required a rapid response. Greece has been the most affected, another transit country, Turkey, has played a crucial role. Turkey and the EU concluded a deal to halt these irregular migration flows to Europe. In the meantime, both Turkey and key countries of the EU, such as the Netherlands, France and Germany, are facing very critical electoral challenges. The authors assess the first year of the EU-Turkey statement on refugees, providing an analysis of current situation developments.

AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

Institute for European Environmental Policy

Towards an integrated approach to livestock farming, sustainable diets and the environment: challenges for the Common Agricultural Policy and the UK

by David Baldock and David Mottershead

February 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (42 p.)

This report considers the evolution of policies for livestock farming in the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) in recent years, assesses how far these are changed by the current, "greener" CAP and looks to the future. In doing so it takes account of changing perceptions of the costs and benefits of livestock farming in relation to climate change and public health in particular. Whilst the primary focus is on the CAP and European policy, it also refers to the options facing the UK, which is now debating what forms of national policy might be introduced after Brexit, a step which will take the UK outside the CAP.

COMPETITIVENESS (INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND SPACE)

Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute

#DigitalAmitié - A Franco-German axis to drive digital growth and integration

by Henrik Enderlein [@henrikenderlein](#), Paul-Jasper Dittrich and David Rinaldi [@Rinaldi_David](#)

10 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (22 p.), in [French](#) (22 p.) and in [German](#) (24 p.)

From 2015 onwards, the European Commission has gradually presented the Digital Single Market Strategy (DSM), an ambitious regulatory overhaul designed to adapt the rules of the game within the Single Market to the demands of digitalisation. Yet, will it be enough to put the EU on par with the champions of the digital transformation in the US and parts of Asia? And how could member states collaborate more to fully reap the economic potential of digitalisation? In this paper, the authors outline a proposal for an intergovernmental approach: A DigitalAmitié between France and Germany for start-ups, education and towards regulatory convergence in "borderless sectors".

EU strategy: reskilling for the fourth Industrial Revolution

by Paul-Jasper Dittrich

8 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (16 p.)

The current wave of digital transformation is rapidly changing industrial production processes. The Internet of Things, cloud computing and other innovations facilitate a more software-driven, individual and efficient way of producing goods and services. And it presents a formidable challenge to EU policymakers. The need to develop reskilling programmes for connected production and the multi-faceted digital divide within the EU should encourage European policymakers to develop a European reskilling approach.

Policy Network

Reform or reject? Freedom of movement and the single market

7 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (30 p.)

The paper first considers how the question of free movement will be affected by the likely evolution of the government's overall negotiating stance on Brexit. It then takes a brief look at the issue of migration in the UK and what measures might be desirable to improve the management of

migration in the national interest, regardless of Brexit. Next it examines the politics of free movement within other EU member states and how the UK could maximise the chances of securing reform. It then considers what options might be negotiable in Brussels. Finally, it looks at how domestic changes in policy might reduce the salience of the migration question in UK politics.

TRANSPORT/TELECOMMUNICATIONS/ENERGY

Centre for European Policy Studies

Reforming e-communications services: a critical assessment

by Andrea Renda

3 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (36 p.)

This report analyses the proposed reform of the e-communications regulatory framework presented by the European Commission in September 2016. While many of the proposed changes appear meaningful, the report argues that overall the proposal does not entirely reflect the lessons learned from the past two decades of e-communications regulation in Europe, and ends up being at once too conservative (i.e. incremental with respect to legacy rules); fragile and "retro. The report argues that the merits of a lighter, ex-post approach to e-communications were not sufficiently gauged by the European Commission in its impact assessment.

European Union Institute for Security

Securing the Energy Union: five pillars and five regions

by Gerald Stang (ed.), Dimitar Bechev, Eamonn Butler, Zuzanna Nowak, Simone Tagliapietra and Kirsten Westphal

February 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (67 p.)

This report seeks to investigate the energy situation of the different regions of Europe, highlighting shared priorities and common projects, as well as barriers to integration and cooperation, with a particular focus on regional efforts to improve energy security and cooperate with countries in the EU's neighborhood. The report's five chapters look at the balance of energy priorities of five different regions of the EU and how the Energy Union fits into the equation, while the closing chapter investigates the role of regional cooperation projects in pushing forward the development of the Energy Union.

World Economic Forum

Global energy architecture performance index report 2017

22 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (32 p.)

This report ranks 127 countries on their ability to deliver secure, affordable, sustainable energy. The inequality between leaders and laggards is significant and accelerating. The diversity of top ranking countries underscores the potential for any country to make improvements to their energy systems.

The future of electricity: new technologies transforming the grid edge

10 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (32 p.)

The electricity landscape is a prime example of the Fourth Industrial Revolution as it undergoes a transformation, becoming more complex than ever. Three trends are converging to produce game-changing disruptions: electrification, decentralisation and digitalisation. These trends are presently

at the "grid edge" – smart and connected technologies at the end of the electric power grid. They encompass all of the major technologies – such as distributed storage, distributed generation, smart meters, smart appliances and electric vehicles – that are impacting the electricity system.

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

Energiearmut bekämpfen – Instrumente, Maßnahmen und Erfolge in Europa

by Christoph Strünck

March 2017

Link to the article in [German](#) (48 p.)

With this study, the Friedrich Ebert Foundation would like to give an overview of the topic "energy poverty" and the political approaches of different EU member states to combat energy poverty. From the analysis of the instruments of different European countries, conclusions are finally drawn for Germany how the problem of energy poverty can also be better addressed here.

Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung (German Institute for Economic Research)

Balancing reserves within a decarbonized European electricity system in 2050 – from market developments to model

by Casimir Lorenz

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (27 p.)

This paper expands the discussion about future balancing reserve provision to the long-term perspective of 2050. Most pathways for a transformation towards a decarbonised electricity sector rely on very high shares of fluctuating renewables. Apart from the transformation of the generation portfolio, various technical and regulatory developments within the balancing framework might further influence balancing costs: i) dynamic dimensioning of balancing reserves, ii) provision by fluctuating renewables or new (battery) storage technologies, and iii) exchange of balancing reserves between balancing zones.

European Parliament Think Tank

EU energy independence, security of supply and diversification of sources

by Luc Van Nuffel, Koen Rademaekers and Jessica Yearwood

31 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (61 p.)

This report summarises the presentations and discussions during the workshop 'EU Energy Independence, Security of Supply and Diversification of Sources' organised on 6 February 2017 by Policy Department A for the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE). The aim of the workshop was to evaluate the current and future EU gas import dependence and to identify and assess possible policy initiatives to enhance the security of gas supply in the EU by further diversification of sources and routes. The workshop and this report will also support the ITRE Committee in its evaluation of proposals for review of EU legislation related to this topic.

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

Managing the resource curse - Strategies of oil-dependent economies in the modern era

by Andrey Movchan, Alexander Zotin and Vladimir Grigoryev

30 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (136 p.) and in [Russian](#) (216 p.)

As the world reaches the end of a period of high hydrocarbon prices, limiting research to countries that experienced hydrocarbon dependence makes sense. This study contains comparative

descriptions of economic developments of ten countries, all of which are leaders in the production and export of hydrocarbons. The success or failure of a diversification strategy depends above all on the implementation of appropriate economic policies. But most governments are conservative: even amid falling oil prices, a government with access to natural resources generally manages to preserve the structure of the economy without experiencing any social upheaval.

Istituto Affari Internazionali

The discursive construction of Turkey's role for European energy security: a critical geopolitical perspective

by Mirja Schröder

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (19 p.)

This paper analyses EU-Turkey energy relations from a critical geopolitics perspective – analysing the Turkish self-perception as well as the EU's perspective.

EMPLOYMENT/SOCIAL POLICY/HEALTH/CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Case - Centrum Analiz Społeczno-Ekonomicznych (Center for Social and Economic Research)

Social harmonization and labor market performance in Europe

by Katarzyna Mirecka and Izabela Styczyńska

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (42 p.)

This paper aims to assess the impact of selected elements of social harmonisation on labour market performance in the EU among two groups of workers – the total working population and the elderly. The aim is to examine whether upward changes in labour taxes affect employment, unemployment, and inactivity rates. Empirical analysis suggests that upward social convergence might negatively affect the employment of the most disadvantaged groups in the labour market, such as the elderly. It suggests that social harmonisation focused on reducing the tax wedge would have favourable effects on labour market performance, especially among the most disadvantaged groups.

European Policy Centre

Social investment first! A precondition for a modern social Europe

by Claire Dhéret [@cdheret](#) and Lieve Fransen

3 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (52 p.)

This paper is an urgent call to put social investment at the centre of the EU's policy agenda. Its authors see the concept of social investment as well as its full and comprehensive integration into policymaking and budget allocations as a prerequisite for a strong, modern and sustainable social Europe.

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

Vers la providence 4.0? - L'entrée dans le numérique de l'Etat-providence, dans les domaines du travail, de la santé et de l'innovation comparatif européen

by Daniel Buhr, Claudia Christ, Rolf Frankenberger, Marie-Christine Fregin, Josef Schmid and Markus Trämer

March 2017

Link to the article in [French](#) (40 p.)

There is as of yet no comprehensive study of the consequences of digital in and for modern welfare states, nor of their efforts to adapt to "Providence 4.0". Yet there are a number of fundamental questions in this area: what are the effects of digital on health systems? How does it change employment policies? What is the role of innovation policy? At what stage of development have the various national systems of welfare state arrived? What other developments can be expected? And how do the main players react to digital in their respective political fields? These questions are the focus of this study.

Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung (German Institute for Economic Research)

Closing routes to retirement: how do people respond?

by Johannes Geyer and Clara Welteke

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (39 p.)

The authors present quasi-experimental evidence on the employment effects of an unprecedented large increase in the early retirement age (ERA). Raising the ERA has the potential to extend contribution periods and to reduce the number of pension beneficiaries. However, workers may not be able to work longer or choose other social support programs to leave employment. The effects of this huge increase on employment, unemployment, disability pensions, and inactivity rates are analysed. Results suggest that the reform increased both employment and unemployment rates of women age 60 and over, and an increase in inequality within the affected cohorts.

The role of aggregate preferences for labor supply – evidence from low-paid employment

by Luke Haywood and Michael Neumann

8 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (59 p.)

Labour supply in the market for low-paid jobs in Germany is strongly influenced by tax exemptions. The authors present compelling evidence that an individual's choice set depends on other workers' preferences because firms cater their job offers to aggregate preferences in the market. It is estimated that an equilibrium job search model which rationalises the strong earnings bunching at the tax exemption threshold using German administrative data. Results highlight the indirect costs of (discontinuous) tax policies which are shown to be reinforced by firm responses.

Institut der Deutschen Wirtschaft Köln

Why is it used so little? National hindrances to cross-border healthcare in the EU

by Susanna Kochskämper

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (16 p.)

In this analysis it will be examined in detail as to what hindrances may prevent the EU member states from providing cross-border medical treatment to patients. The thesis that not only language barriers and price differences are leading to small treatment flows across international borders will be set out. Rather it will be shown that the national framework of rules can also be responsible for this potential remaining unexploited.

Fundación Alternativas

Disrupciones tecnológicas y empleo: diagnóstico y propuestas

by Bruno Estrada López

March 2017

Link to the article in [Spanish](#) (38 p.)

The increase in per capita income of a country is achieved in two ways: through the increase of the population employed in the total population, i.e. incorporating a larger percentage of the population to carry out productive activities, or by increasing the productivity of work. Increasing the percentage of workforce has important limits (demographic, cultural, social); therefore labour productivity has been the key to economic growth in most developed countries.

European Parliament Think Tank

Towards new rules on sales and digital content: analysis of the key issues

by Rafał Mańko

22 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (38 p.)

In December 2015, the Commission presented two proposals for maximum harmonisation directives – on online sale of goods to consumers, and another on supply of digital content to consumers. The rules of both proposals cover a broadly similar array of topics with regard to tangible and digital goods respectively. At the same time, the Commission is working on a regulatory fitness check (REFIT) of the 1999 Consumer Sales Directive. This paper provides an overview of the key issues common to all three texts.

ENVIRONMENT

E3G

Missing in action - The lack of ESG capacity at leading investors

by Florian Egli and Sam Maule

21 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (12 p.)

This paper assesses the internal capacity of leading investors to consider climate and broader environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors by looking at how many specialised ESG staff signatories of the Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) employ. The analysis finds that 33% of signatories directly employ no ESG staff and a further 20% employ just one. This means over 500 PRI signatories, representing \$6.9 trillion, directly employ one or fewer ESG staff. On an asset under management (AUM) basis, the average PRI signatory hires one ESG specialist per \$14bn of assets managed.

Ecologic Institute

The circular economy: A review of definitions, processes and impacts

by Vasileios Rizos [@vasileios_rizos](#), Katja Tuokko and Arno Behrens

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (47 p.)

This paper is the first deliverable of the WP2 (Theoretical framework for the circular economy and associated markets) of the Circular Impacts project. The project will develop an assessment based on concrete data and indicators of the macro-economic, societal, environmental and labour market impacts of a transition to a circular economy. This paper focuses on the theoretical dimensions of the concept and aims to improve understanding of the impacts of the circular economy transition.

The next deliverable of the project will focus on the policy dimensions and specifically on the interplay of the European Semester and the circular economy.

Centre for European Policy Studies

How can sustainable development goals be 'mainstreamed' in the EU's better regulation agenda?

by Andrea Renda

17 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (17 p.)

The European Commission recently announced its intention to mainstream the Sustainable Development Goals in its policy process, as part of its approach to implement the 2030 Agenda. In this paper, the author reflects on the changes that would be needed in governance and better regulation methods, and in the European Semester and Cohesion policy. He proposes a five-phase transition towards a policy process that is fully geared to sustainable development.

Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (German Development Institute)

A new climate trilateralism? Opportunities for cooperation between the EU, China and African countries on addressing climate change?

by Moritz Weigel and Alexander Demissie

7 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (37 p.)

Trilateral cooperation between the EU, China and African countries should be guided by Africa's priorities. Fifty-three African countries have communicated their national plans on addressing climate change under the Paris Agreement through the submission of so-called (Intended) Nationally Determined Contributions ((I)NDCs). Based on an analysis of INDCs and a review of existing partnerships and recent pan-African developments, this paper proposes for EU China-Africa trilateral cooperation to initially focus on renewable energy.

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

Auf dem Weg zu einer gerechten globalen Energietransformation? Die Gestaltungsmacht der SDGs und des Paris Agreement

by Lukas Hermwille [@LukasHermwille](#)

March 2017

Link to the article in [German](#) (50 p.)

In this analysis it becomes clear that the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals offer an important design framework for a global energy transformation, though they do not pretend to be a blueprint for a transformation, but rather that for a greenhouse gas neutral future. They support the importance of fast and effective action and, above all, define negotiation and design processes. Both the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals provide guidance on the great 'transformational jungle' many states face.

Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung (Heinrich Böll Foundation)

Stopping global plastic pollution: the case for an international convention

by Nils Simon and Maro Luisa Schulte

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (56 p.)

Plastics have boosted our economy because they are flexible, durable, and cheap. However, their massive use has created an enormous global problem with environmental, economic, social, and health problems. Existing international measures to deal with plastic pollution are insufficient to

successfully addressing the problem. The only viable solution to the problem would therefore be to stop plastic waste from entering the oceans in the first place. That is what the authors propose in this paper: to launch negotiations on a plastics convention and begin to end this irresponsible disaster.

Stiftung Mercator

The grand challenge: pathways towards climate neutral freight corridors

by Claus Doll, Jonathan Köhler, Markus Maibach, Wolfgang Schade and Simon Mader

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (41 p.)

This paper presents a preliminary screening of the current state of discussion on the options and barriers for de-carbonising long distance freight transport by rail, inland waterways and road towards 2050, compiled by the LowCarb-RFC study, co-funded by Stiftung Mercator and the European Climate Foundation (ECF).

EDUCATION/YOUTH/CULTURE/SPORT

CEPII - Centre d'études prospectives et d'informations internationales

The role of fees in foreign education: evidence from Italy and the United Kingdom

by Michel Beine, Marco Delogu and Lionel Ragot

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (53 p.)

This paper studies the determinants of international students' mobility at the university level, focusing specifically on the role of tuition fees. A gravity model based on a Random Utility Maximization model of location choice for international students in the presence of capacity constraints of the hosting institutions is derived. The last layer of the model is estimated using new data on student migration flows at the university level for Italy and the UK..

Foundation for European Progressive Studies

The social and economic preferences of a tech-savvy generation

by Catalin Dragomirescu-Gaina and Maria Freitas [@M_TellesFreitas](#)

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (21 p.)

In this paper, the authors try to explain what shapes the economic and social preferences of Millennials – the youngest and most tech-savvy generation today. In particular, they explore whether there is a (causal) link running from the existing economic context, to Millennials' stated preferences with respect to welfare policies.

Migration Policy Institute

Strengthening local education systems for newly arrived adults and children: empowering cities through better use of EU Instruments

by Brian Salant and Meghan Benton [@meghan_benton](#)

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (32 p.)

The huge influx of refugees and migrants arriving in Europe over the past two years has placed considerable pressure on local services and infrastructure in many cities, including in education. Cities only have competence over limited areas of education policy. Many are facing significant capacity and infrastructure challenges associated with large-scale arrivals. This report examines

the hurdles that cities face when helping new arrivals access education and training and it outlines ways in which the European level could help mitigate multilevel governance challenges and scale what works.

SECTION 5 - FOREIGN AFFAIRS

FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY / DEFENCE

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

Toward a nuclear firewall - Bridging the NPT's three pillars

by Toby Dalton [@toby_dalton](#), Wyatt Hoffman, Ariel (Eli) Levite, Li Bin, George Perkovich [@PerkovichG](#) and Tong Zhao

20 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (58 p.)

There is no clear, internationally accepted, definition of what activities or technologies constitute a nuclear weapons program. This lack of definition encumbers nuclear energy cooperation and complicates peaceful resolution of proliferation disputes.

The new NATO-Russia military balance: implications for European security

by Richard Sokolsky

13 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (19 p.)

Twenty-five years after the end of the Cold War, the military balance between NATO and Russia, after years of inattention, has again become the focus of intense concern and even alarm in some Western quarters.

Policy Exchange

The UK and the Western alliance: NATO in the new era of realpolitik

by John Bew [@JohnBew](#) and Gabriel Elefteriu [@GElefteriu](#)

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (15 p.)

The paper argues that current events, from Russian aggression to the EU's internal politics, mean that NATO is weakening at a time when security challenges are growing. The authors argue that NATO needs a new Strategic Concept, which must go back to first principles and consider the future of the Western Alliance against the backdrop of instability in the Middle East and North Africa, the rising power of Asia and a resurgent Russia.

Zentrum für Europäische Integrationsforschung (Center for European Integration Studies)

Revolutionäre Ereignisse und geoökonomisch-strategische Ergebnisse: Die EU- und NATO-"Osterweiterungen" 1989-2015 im Vergleich

by Michael Gehler

March 2017

Link to the article in [German](#) (90 p.)

Michael Gorbachev's policy of reforms, the revolutions in Central and Eastern Europe, and the breakdown of the Soviet Union opened the door and paved the way for the Eastern enlargement of both the EU and NATO. In spite of Western security policy, Russian countermeasures could be taken for granted, causing the continuous potential for conflicts and threats of war in certain areas of Europe. Therefore, the question may be raised as to whether there had been missed opportunities before for avoiding these aggressions by binding Russia closer to the EU earlier on.

Nederlands Instituut voor Internationale Betrekkingen - Clingendael (Netherlands Institute of International Relations)

From EU strategy to Defence series - European defence: action and commitment

by Margriet Drent [@DrentMargriet](#) and Dick Zandee
March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (11 p.)

The worsening security environment and increasing pressure of the US under Trump ask for a great jump forward in European defence cooperation. The EU Global Strategy of June 2016 provides direction, but what will really count is its implementation. The European Commission is willing to invest in defence research and military capabilities, but this raises questions about the responsibilities of the EU institutions and the member states who own and deploy military forces. At the same time, EU funding might attract capitals to collaborate more. It can help to increase commitment of member states to solving European shortfalls.

European Union Institute for Security

Recasting EU civilian crisis management

by Thierry Tardy, Nina Antolovic, Clément Boutillier, Snowy Lintern, Birgit Loeser, Roderick Parkes [@RoderickParkes](#), Michel Savary, Tanja Tamminen and Catherine Woolard
January 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (91 p.)

This report explores how EU civilian crisis management (CCM) has evolved over the past decade, showing how the concept and activity have been transformed by changes in the international security environment as well as in the EU's institutional setting. This publication seeks to identify the challenges as well as the opportunities that these changes present for CCM, and examines inter alia how EU CCM actors and policies have adapted to the new environment and how they can best serve the Union's strategic priorities as identified by the EU Global Strategy.

Fundación Alternativas

Alianzas y cooperaciones de seguridad y defensa en el siglo XXI

by José Enrique de Ayala Marín (coord.)
March 2017

Link to the article in [Spanish](#) (125 p.)

It is likely that in the coming decades the unipolar world, existing at the beginning of the century, turn into another multipolar whose leaders will probably be US, China, India, and the EU if it got its military autonomy. Others as Russia or Brazil will only constitute autonomous poles in the measure in which they achieve grouping around them a number enough of allies and exercise as leaders in their respective regions. The evolution of the alliances and security partnerships, that now is only starting, will be a determining factor in the configuration and effectiveness of these regional structures.

Istituto Affari Internazionali

More than a trading power. Europe's political added value for security and trust building in Northeast Asia

by Nicola Casarini
March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (20 p.)

Northeast Asia is today one of the world's most dynamic economic areas, contributing almost half of global growth. The region has reached a level of economic interdependence similar, if not

superior, to that of Europe. However, the worsening political climate in China, Japan and South Korea continues to hinder deeper cooperation and the elimination of the root causes of conflict.. New capabilities have been added to the EU's foreign-policy toolbox in recent years, making it possible for Brussels to engage with Northeast Asian nations across the board. The EU thus has political "added value", which Northeast Asia's policymakers should seize upon in order to manage current tensions and avoid conflict.

İstanbul Politikalar Merkezi (Istanbul Policy Center)

New directions for European assistance in Turkey

by Richard Youngs [@YoungsRichard](#) and Müjge Küçükkeleş
March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (22 p.)

Recent political developments in Turkey and its surrounding region pose challenges for the kind of cooperation programs that European aid donors operate inside Turkey. This report examines how European donors are reacting to the evolving political and security context in and around Turkey and provides thoughts on how they should reorientate their aid programs.

Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies

How we have become an enemy in the eyes of Russia: the EU as portrayed by Kremlin propaganda

by Kristina Potapova
March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (20 p.)

This paper scrutinises the Kremlin's propaganda machine and its popular narratives about the EU in order to understand how Russia's media presents the EU and why less than a quarter of the population has a positive opinion of it.

Royal United Services Institute

Defining dialogue: how to manage Russia–UK security relations

by Sarah Lain [@sarahlain12](#) and Andrey Kortunov
28 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (19 p.)

Even though there is a state of 'deep-freeze' between the UK and Russia, especially in relation to security, there are still important opportunities for dialogue and cooperation which policymakers on both sides should exploit.

TERRORISM

European Policy Centre / European Foundation for Democracy / Counter Extremism Project

The challenge of jihadist radicalisation - In Europe and beyond

by Tahir Abbas, Vlado Azinović [@VladoAzinovic](#), Roberta Bonazzi [@robertabonazzi](#), Marwa Farid [@MarwaMfarid](#), Andrea Frontini [@AndFrontini](#), Matthew Goodwin [@GoodwinMJ](#), Elham Manea [@ElhamManea](#), Amanda Paul [@amandajanePaul](#), Alexander Ritzmann [@alexRitzmann](#), Demir Murat Seyrek [@murat_seyrek](#), Rupert Sutton [@StubbsMaloy](#), Herman Van Rompuy [@HvRpersonal](#) and Lorenzo Vidino

22 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (120 p.)

This contribution, published exactly one year after the 2016 Brussels attacks, is the result of a series of multi-stakeholder events and workshops, and features contributions from renowned experts. As terrorism and radicalisation become ever more complex and multifaceted, this study goes beyond a mere cause-effect analysis and looks at the problem from many different angles, including radicalisation in schools, universities and mosques, geostrategic aspects, the nature of online extremist narratives, the nexus between the extreme right and jihadist radicalisation, and examples of effective countering violent extremism measures.

United States Institute of Peace

Returning foreign fighters and the reintegration imperative

by Georgia Holmer and Adrian Shtuni [@Shtuni](#)

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (16 p.)

This report aims to help policymakers and practitioners navigate the challenges of developing effective programs to rehabilitate and reintegrate foreign fighters returning from Syria and Iraq into their societies. Ultimately, holistic and comprehensive reintegration efforts designed to transition returnees address not only their needs, but also those of the entire society, and are critical in building more resilient and safer communities.

International Centre for Counter-Terrorism - The Hague

Mental Health and the Foreign Fighter Phenomenon: a case study from the Netherlands

by Christophe Paulussen [@chpaulussen](#), Janne Nijman [@JanneNijman](#) and Karlien Lismont [@Karliensk](#)

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (31 p.)

This seminar report explores the suggested link between radicalisation, the foreign fighter phenomenon, terrorism and mental health problems, taking the situation in the Netherlands as a case study. After an initial mapping of the suggested link, research is explored on the causes and mechanisms of radicalisation in relation to mental health issues in more detail. In particular, the social defeat hypothesis, addressing dopamine disturbance due to social exclusion, is discussed in relation to radicalisation.

Can a copycat effect be observed in terrorist suicide attacks?

by Nicholas Farnham and Marieke Liem [@MariekeLiem](#)

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (34 p.)

The purpose of this paper is to explore how a copycat effect – established within the field of suicide studies – may manifest itself in terrorist suicide attacks, and takes an exploratory approach in

evaluating the prospect of incorporating open-data resources in future counter-terrorism research. In the wake of mounting risks of lone wolf terrorist attacks today and due to the general difficulties faced in preventing such attacks. Using the START Global Terrorism Database (GTD), this paper investigates terrorist suicide-attack clusters and analyses the relationship between attacks found within the same cluster.

Real Instituto Elcano (Elcano Royal Institute)

"No hay vida sin yihad y no hay yihad sin hégira": la movilización yihadista de mujeres en España, 2014-2016

by Carola García-Calvo [@carolagc13](#)

29 March 2017

Link to the article in [Spanish](#) (15 p.)

Who are they, how have the women been radicalised mobilised in favour of Islamic State in Spain, what are their motivations and functions within the groups, cells or networks in which finally they became involved.

TRADE

CEPII - Centre d'études prospectives et d'informations internationales

Trade and labor market: what do we know?

by Matthieu Crozet and Gianluca Orefice

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (16 p.)

There is a large consensus in the economic literature suggesting the positive impact of globalisation on the aggregate well-being of a country. However, a clear-cut conclusion has not been reached on winners and losers from globalisation. For this reason, international trade is often accused of increasing wage inequality in both developing and developed countries. The CEPII research outputs confirm that identifying who lost and who gained with globalization is a very difficult task.

Istituto Bruno Leoni

L'Indice della globalizzazione

by Rosamaria Bitetti, Ornella Darova [@OrnellaDarova](#) and Carlo Stagnaro

28 March 2017

Link to the article in [Italian](#) (28 p.)

This paper presents a Synthetic Index on the degree of permeability of nations to globalisation. The Globalisation Index covers 39 member states of the G20 and the European Union for a period of time ranging from 1994 to 2015 and is based on three macro areas: the exchange of goods and services in relation to GDP, investment, and the degree of connectivity and access to global knowledge networks.

European Parliament Think Tank

EU economic diplomacy strategy

by Florence Bouyala Imbert

3 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (17 p.)

The post-World War II order is undergoing profound changes with globalisation and the emergence of new economic powers. The economy has gradually taken over as the main driver of political

influence and global now transcend the old national or regional divides. As the EU was emerging as a global economic player, the economic and financial crisis made the need to tap into foreign markets all the greater.

EU-US trade and investment relations: effects on tax evasion, money laundering and tax transparency - Ex-post impact assessment

by Isabelle Ioannides

6 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (40 p.)

This Ex-post impact assessment analyses the EU-US trade and investment relations to assess whether and, if so, to what extent these relations have impacted on issues related to tax evasion, money laundering and tax transparency. The EU and US economies are highly intertwined, generating together half the world's gross domestic product and more than 30% of global trade. Despite being largely compliant with the recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force, challenges remain on questions of beneficial ownership, cross-border exchange of information, privacy issues, and designated nonfinancial businesses and professions.

Bertelsmann Stiftung

On the economics of an EU-Japan free trade agreement

by Gabriel Felbermayr, Fukunari Kimura, Toshihiro Okubo, Marina Steininger and Erdal Yalcin

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (70 p.)

Electromobility, robots, computers – in many areas Japan is regarded as one of the most innovative countries in the world. At the same time its economy is facing significant challenges. The Japanese government's reform program (known as "Abenomics") wants to inject new impetus into the economy by negotiating free trade agreements. The EU and Japan are negotiating such a free trade agreement at the moment, that could lower duties and non-tariff barriers. Against this background, the study analyses the effects that a free trade agreement between the EU and Japan could have on economic welfare, trade and selected sectors of the economies involved.

Expert-Grup

EU-Moldova DCFTA: assessing the impact of the liberalization of trade in services on the Moldovan economy

by Valeriu Prohnițchi

16 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (36 p.)

Services play a very important role in the Moldovan economy by contributing to the value added, employment and trade. While often neglected or even feared, the imports of services are also very important economically. The policy measures applied by Moldova on the imports of services are, in general, more restrictive compared to the EU. The EU-Moldova Association Agreement includes a number of commitments for the liberalization of the trade in services. In this paper, the author uses a General Computable Equilibrium model to estimate the systemic impact of the liberalisation of the trade in services.

DEVELOPMENT

Barcelona Centre for International Affairs

Acercar los objetivos de desarrollo sostenible a la ciudadanía - El compromiso de Europa con la Agenda 2030

by José Antonio Alonso and Anna Ayuso (coords.)

March 2017

Link to the article in [Spanish](#) (88 p.)

This publication puts an emphasis on how to involve the different actors in the joint commitment required for the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). More than a year after its approval by 193 countries, the authors point out that we face a period of uncertainty about the strength of the commitment of the leaders of some countries. Hence, ensuring the support of society is essential so that the SDGs must now become a reality for all the inhabitants of the planet. The publication does not seek to cover the entire content of the SDGs, but reflection is needed regarding its significance and the opportunities and challenges involved.

European Centre for Development Policy Management

Policy coherence and the 2030 Agenda: Building on the PCD experience

by James Mackie [@JMackieECDPM](#), Martin Ronceray and Eunike Spierings

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (52 p.)

With the advent of the 2030 Agenda, the principle of policy coherence has now been extended to cover the whole scope of sustainable development. Recent research has demonstrated the multiple linkages that exist across the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the effort in terms of integrated policy-making that the 2030 Agenda will require. How this might be tackled, and what useful lessons can be gleaned from past practice in promoting policy coherence to support this effort, are the subjects of this paper.

Overseas Development Institute

Supporting economic transformation. An approach paper

by Margaret McMillan, John Page, David Booth and Dirk Willem te Velde [@DWteVelde](#)

15 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (66 p.)

The quality of economic growth matters. For the majority of today's developing countries, a change of gear from steady but low-quality growth to a process of economic transformation is the only secure route to sustained poverty reduction. This paper explains the main concepts and methods underpinning policy discussion on economic transformation and sets out an approach to analyse and tackle the challenges it poses.

Climate-resilient planning: Reflections on testing a new toolkit

by Mariana Matoso, Raj Kumar GC and Guy Jobbins

28 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (20 p.)

Climate change has challenged and changed the way implementing agencies design, plan and deliver their interventions. Developing projects that are resilient to natural hazards and disasters is especially important for basic service delivery, as these interventions reinforce people's capacity to respond to disruptive events and resume their livelihoods more quickly. As this paper discusses, this is not always easy, and translating resilience concepts to actions on the ground is usually a complex exercise.

ENLARGEMENT PROCESS

Beogradski centar za bezbednosnu politiku (Belgrade Centre for Security Policy)

Public perception of Serbia's foreign policy

by Milos Popovic and Sonja Stojanovic Gajic

7 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (42 p.)

The research was conducted from 26 December 2016 until 14 January 2017 on representative sample of 1 403 adult citizens of Serbia (excluding Kosovo). The aim of the project was to examine public attitude about personal and national security, foreign policy and important answers on security challenges, threats and potential alliances in Serbia at the current moment and to create room for discussion about new national security strategy of Serbia.

Centre for European Policy Studies

Turkey and the codification of autocracy

by Steven Blockmans [@StevenBlockmans](#) and Sinem Yilmaz

10 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (20 p.)

President Erdoğan's constitutional reform will centralise power around the presidency and the current separation of powers between the legislative, executive and judicial branches will cease to be. This raises the question of whether Turkey, with its new constitution, will continue to satisfy the Copenhagen criteria for EU membership. The authors of this paper argue that it is time for the EU to deliver a strong message that draws attention to the undemocratic nature of the amendments.

Ελληνικό Ίδρυμα Ευρωπαϊκής και Εξωτερικής Πολιτικής (Hellenic Foundation for European Foreign Policy)

The demise of EU Enlargement Policy

by Axel Sotiris Walldén

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (28 p.)

Enlargement has been on the EEC/EU agenda all along its history and was believed to be its "most successful" policy. However, during the last decade, enlargement policy has rapidly degenerated and today it is essentially at a standstill in all three of its dimensions (Balkans, Turkey, European neighbourhood countries). This is a negative development both for the EU and its neighbours. The revival of the policy is conditional upon a necessary, but improbable, major shift in the EU, with the strengthening of solidarity.

EASTERN PARTNERSHIP

Centre for European Reform

Contested space: Eastern Europe between Russia and the EU

by Ian Bond [@CER_IanBond](#)

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (19 p.)

The EU's Eastern Partners are caught between the West, which excludes them from its organisations, and Russia, which tries to force them into its orbit. The Soviet Union officially ceased to exist on 26 December 1991, but by then all 15 of its constituent republics had already declared their independence. This paper focuses on the six countries which belong to the EU's

Eastern Partnership. These six have had the most turbulent times of any of the post-Soviet states since independence. They have endured varying degrees of internal instability, including civil wars and separatist insurgencies.

College of Europe

EU region-building in the neighbourhood: the Eastern Partnership's contribution in the South Caucasus

by Benedikt van den Boom

13 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (34 p.)

The promotion of regionalisation is part of the foreign policy of the EU. However, a closer understanding of the mechanisms by which its policies work towards this goal is lacking. This paper induces three general hypotheses about the mechanisms of EU contributions to region-building: while combining bilateral with multilateral approaches and functional spill-over effects contribute to region-building, the inclusion of non-state actors does not advance region-building.

MIDDLE EAST/NORTH AFRICA (MENA)

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

Egypt's secular political parties - A struggle for identity and independence

by Michele Dunne [@MicheleDDunne](#) and Amr Hamzawy

31 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (48 p.)

Secular political parties in Egypt have always been caught between an overbearing state and a largely Islamist opposition. The brief, chaotic political opening from 2011 to 2013 offered them unprecedented opportunities, but the violence and intense polarisation that followed the military coup have put them under more pressure than ever. Formal politics in Egypt is now a tightly controlled game in which no real independence is allowed, but some secular parties might re-emerge as contenders should there be another opportunity for free competition.

Legislating authoritarianism: Egypt's new era of repression

by Amr Hamzawy

16 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (56 p.)

Egypt's new authoritarian regime is using undemocratic laws and conspiratorial and populist narratives to further entrench its repressive campaign. The government's primary strategy is to institute wide-scale repression through law-making and justify its behaviour through conspiratorial and populist narratives. With unprecedented resolve, it has passed new protest and terrorism laws, introduced legal amendments targeting nongovernmental organisations, and extended the military court's jurisdiction. Essentially, the regime is adapting law-making for its own purposes. To fight against the tide, those challenging the system need to fully understand how.

Insecurity and governance challenges in southern Libya

by Frederic Wehrey [@FWehrey](#)

30 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (30 p.)

Southern Libya remains a region of endemic instability wracked by communal conflict, a shortage of basic services, rampant smuggling, and fragmented or collapsed institutions. The region has long existed on the periphery of Libya's politics and international concerns. Increasingly, the vacuum of governance in the south has drawn in political actors from northern Libya and outside

states. Extremists seeking refuge in the south and migrants being smuggled through the region directly impact the security of Libya, neighbouring states like Tunisia, and Europe.

Refugees and displacement in the Middle East

by Marc Lynch and Laurie Brand

29 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (76 p.)

Refugee crises across the globe have had a transformative impact on every aspect of the politics, economies, societies, and states that have experienced these massive forced population movements.

Local wars and the chance for decentralized peace in Syria

by Kheder Khaddour

28 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (30 p.)

After 2011, the relationships between the central authorities in Syria, the local intermediaries, and the different localities have played a fundamental role in shaping the outbreak of the conflict.

How regional security concerns uniquely constrain governance in North-Eastern Syria

by Kheder Khaddour

23 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (32 p.)

The security interests of local actors in northeastern Syria and of other regional stakeholders are interwoven in ways that undermine sustainable, responsive governance.

International Crisis Group

Hizbollah's Syria conundrum

14 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (40 p.), in [Persian](#) (36 p.) and in [Arabic](#) (33 p.)

Hizbollah, a product of Israel's 1982 Lebanon invasion and occupation, owes its popularity and growth to its championing of Lebanese Shiites' cause without presenting itself as a sectarian actor. Since the 1990 end of the civil war, it has played a dual role of political party within the Lebanese system and Islam-based armed resistance movement confronting Israel. However, the 2011 Syrian uprising and subsequent civil war there compelled it to shed its predominantly Lebanese profile for an unabashedly Shiite one by projecting its power across the border and thrusting itself into a sectarian-coloured regional power struggle.

Institut de relations internationales et stratégiques

Syria's wars are altering power balances in Asia

by Brij Khindaria

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (19 p.)

Syria has become a malignant tumour spreading steadily in various mutations throughout most of the world. Its military chaos, political collapse, perversion of religion and human suffering are infesting Europe, Asia, the Middle East and North Africa.

EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

International Crisis Group

Uzbekistan: the hundred days

15 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (19 p.)

This report aims to provide perspective on executive decisions and other political processes in President Mirziyoyev's first 100 days and assess the scope for engagement with the new government. Research was done in Tashkent, Fergana, Bishkek and Brussels.

AFRICA

International Crisis Group

Boko Haram au Tchad: au-delà de la réponse sécuritaire

8 March 2017

Link to the article in [French](#) (43 p.)

Since 2015, the conflict between Chad's armed forces and Boko Haram has destabilised the Lake Chad region in the west of the country. Defeating this resilient insurgency requires the state to go beyond a purely military campaign and relaunch trade, improve public services and reintegrate demobilised militants.

ASIA-OCEANIA

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

Brussels and Delhi: converging interests in the Indian Ocean

by Constantino Xavier [@ConstantinoX](#) and Darshana Baruah [@darshanabaruah](#)

21 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (12 p.)

The Indian Ocean today is critical for the future of the EU and India. Two deeply entrenched myths explain the absence of a dialogue and the consequent lack of cooperation: Indian perceptions of the EU as a strategic non-entity and irrelevant strategic actor beyond its borders; and similarly, European perceptions of an introverted India that is hesitant to take on a leadership role beyond South Asia and unwilling to work together with other middle powers. Based on consultations with policymakers and experts under the EU-India Policy Dialogue on Global Governance and Security, this brief emphasises that, despite such perceptions, in practice the EU and India's initiatives in the Indian Ocean are widely congruent and complementary.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

International Crisis Group

Veracruz: fixing Mexico's state of terror

28 February 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (41 p.) and in [Spanish](#) (43 p.)

Mexico's third-most populous state has suffered an unprecedented wave of violence. Veracruz's new governor must stand by pledges to end state-criminal collusion and impunity. Strong international support will be needed to help find the bodies of the disappeared and transform the state police and legislature.

RUSSIA

Foreign Policy Centre

The information battle: how governments in the former Soviet Union promote their agendas and attack their opponents abroad

by Adam Hug (ed.)

16 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (60 p.)

This publication examines the influence of Russian media content in the former Soviet Union and in the wider world. This is delivered through the impact of Russian domestic TV channels reaching Russian speaking audiences in the region, the developing role of the news agency Sputnik and the international broadcaster RT. It examines how these outlets are used not only to promote Russian political narratives but to challenge Western approaches and sow confusion about what is going on in the world.

Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (German Institute for International and Security Affairs)

Grundeinstellungen der russischen politischen Elite: Recht, Wahrheit, Gemeinwohl und Gewalt

by Susan Stewart

March 2017

Link to the article in [German](#) (37 p.)

In four policy areas (law, truth, social welfare, violence), patterns of action of the Russian leaders are examined and continuities are shown for the years since 2008. As a result of these actions, elite basic positions are being worked out in these four areas, which will have a significant impact on the future relations between Germany and the EU and Russia. It is shown that the actions of Russia which have been surprising for many Western observers since 2014 are based on attitudes which have already become apparent in earlier phases. To this extent, these attitudes can be understood as part of a long-term political culture of the Russian elite.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Österreichische Institut für Internationale Politik (Austrian Institute for International Affairs)

The difference resilience makes: U.S. national preparedness – from civil defence to resilience

by Barbara Gruber

March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (31 p.)

Resilience is a new component of the security empire. But its conceptual relations to security and defence are still unclear. This paper argues that resilience is the replacement of former civil defence measures in the US. Hence, it traces the origins of resilience during the past 60 years of US policy history. National preparedness thereby serves as the key issue along which the conceptual changes are traced. The paper is guided by the research question what is the difference resilience makes and, therefore, establishes changes and continuities along the way.

SPECIAL FOCUS - THE FRENCH ELECTIONS

Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute

Vivre ensemble face aux peurs: le dilemme politique français

by Yves Bertoncini [@ybertoncini](#) and Dídac Gutiérrez-Peris

16 March 2017

Link to the article in [French](#) (22 p.)

This paper was prepared on the basis of an exclusive poll by YouGov aiming to map out the fears in France and in five other EU member states (Germany, Spain, United Kingdom, Poland and Sweden), and their impact on political debates. It analyses the following points: (1) fear is a defining element of the French public debate; (2) the upcoming elections may allow the expression of a growing antipathy and determine if the Front National is seen as a possible recourse or another threat; (3) the euroscepticism of French people is not the expression of europhobia that will lead to the exit from the EU.

Terra nova

La triche électorale en ligne - Le nouveau territoire des campagnes numériques

by Jean-Baptiste Soufron [@soufron](#)

29 March 2017

Link to the article in [French](#) (17 p.)

The risks related to the digitisation of campaigns are growing, and France could be directly concerned. This study explores the new digital political campaigns.

Sortie de l'euro: les petits paieront!

16 March 2017

Link to the article in [French](#) (13 p.)

This study presents in detail the consequences of an exit from the euro, one of the themes of the campaign of Marine Le Pen. The Front National has made this topic one of its campaign issues relying on the interest of the working class to justify the restoration of national sovereignty on monetary matters. However, leaving the euro would be far from being in the interest of the working class: it would be even extremely unfavourable.

La France de Marine Le Pen: affaiblie, isolée, divisée

by Andréa Forseti, Antoine Hardy and Marc-Olivier Padis [@Mo_Padis](#)

30 March 2017

Link to the article in [French](#) (25 p.)

This study analyses the 144 presidential commitments made by Marine Le Pen, as well as her public interventions.

Fondation Robert Schuman

Emmanuel Macron and Marine Le Pen running easily ahead in the polls just one month before the presidential election in France

by Corinne Deloy
28 March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (6 p.) and in [French](#) (7 p.)

On 23 April, 46.6 million French voters and 1.3 million living elsewhere in the world are being called to vote in the first round of the presidential election. The two candidates who come out ahead on the eve of 23 April will face each other in a second round of voting that will take place two weeks later on 7 May. The presidential election will be followed on 11 and 18 June by general elections that will lead to the renewal of the 577 members' seats in the National Assembly, the lower chamber of parliament.

La Vie des Idées

Sur le Front d'Avignon - Quelques leçons sur les élections régionales de 2015

by Christèle Marchand-Lagier and Jessica Sainty
21 March 2017

Link to the article in [French](#) (15 p.)

Who votes for the Front National? Not necessarily the 'excluded'. A survey made in Avignon during the regional elections of 2015 shows a socially mixed profile of the Front National voters.

Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (German Institute for International and Security Affairs)

Der Front National: 'Erfolg und Perspektiven der 'stärksten Partei Frankreichs'

by Ronja Kempin [@RonjaKempin](#)
March 2017

Link to the article in [German](#) (30 p.)

France will elect on 23 April and on 7 May 2017, the President of the Republic, and the members of the National Assembly in June. Pollsters predict that the Front National leader Marine Le Pen will be present in the second round of the presidential elections and that the Front National will guarantee a number of mandates in the legislative elections. This paper analyses the success and prospects of the Front National.

Institut pro evropskou politiku EUROPEUM (EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy)

The rise of the Front National: Taking stock of ten years of French mainstream politics

by Martin Quencez and Martin Michelot [@martinmichelot](#)
March 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (15 p.)

This paper argues that although Marine Le Pen's internal strategy to transform the party's image and to design a coherent anti-liberal project has increased its influence in the French political landscape, its seemingly unstoppable rise is best understood by the ability of the FN to take advantage of four key conditions. First, its anti-establishment discourse has thrived due to the general lack of clear political alternatives; second, anti-liberal promises made by mainstream parties have not been delivered; third, the FN has managed to appear as a victim of the media system; finally, the depreciation of the presidential function during the last ten years has weakened the traditional bipartisanship and helped the FN emerge as a credible alternative.