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Dear Readers,

Welcome to issue 52 of the Think Tank Review compiled by the EU Council Library* ([click to share on Twitter](#)). It references papers published in November 2017. As usual, we provide the link to the full text and a short abstract.

The special focus for this issue is "Brexit on the border: theories for possible realities", and includes five articles. One article looks ahead to different possible outcomes of the border question. Another article suggests a technical solution for a "smooth border". One takes a closer look at legal, political and economic considerations pertaining to Brexit and Ireland. There is an overview of the Good Friday Agreement and how to implement it effectively. The final article takes a closer look at "the three main concerns structuring the EU common position as regards the Ireland compromise". Readers can also find a [report from the House of Lords](#) on the same topic of interest, which "explores the consequences of 'no deal' - the failure of the UK and the EU to reach agreement on either withdrawal or future relations" which it says would, among other things, "necessitate the imposition of controls on the Irish land border".

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The first section contains several interesting articles on EU politics and institutions, such as "Rethinking Franco-German relations: a historical perspective" and "Exit, voice or loyalty? Young people on Europe and democracy".

The second section (Economic and Financial Affairs) includes articles on the EU budget, the EMU and the banking union, as well as other topics.

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In the third section (EU Member States), we would like to highlight the large number of articles relating to Spain in this issue, as well as the joint articles by *Real Instituto Elcano* and *Instituto Português de Relações Internacionais* on the relationship between Spain and Portugal. There are also a couple of articles on Poland and Slovakia, including national reports. There is a particularly interesting publication in the subsection on Brexit which also looks at the EU27 as individual states and how they approach Brexit.

Section four (EU Policies) contains papers on a variety of topics, including plenty of articles on climate change and the environment. Several of the articles in the Transport/Telecommunications/Energy subsection also deal with topics of relevance to the environment.

Section five (Foreign Affairs) has a considerable number of articles on European defence and PESCO. On that subject, we would also like to draw readers' attention to a leaflet by the European Union Institute for Security Studies: [European Security and Defence - The basics](#).

One of the miscellaneous articles in this issue which should be given a special mention is "Sexual violence, exploitation and abuse", in the light of the global attention recently paid to sexual harassment and related issues in the wake of the #MeToo movement.

Finally, we would like to present the [newly published report](#) by the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights on the experiences of racism and hatred faced by immigrants and minorities in the EU, a topic which was discussed on 6 December 2017 at the Council of the European Union during the conference "Reality bites: Experiences of immigrants and minorities in the EU".

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

We would like to wish our readers a pleasant and relaxed end-of-year break - and remember, the Think Tank Review will be back in January 2018 to present papers published in December 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

Bertelsmann Stiftung / Institute for Human Sciences / STEM / Political Capital / Institute for Public Affairs

"Exit, voice or loyalty?" Young people on Europe and democracy

by Jacek Kucharczyk [@IspKucharczyk](#), Agnieszka Łada [@AgnieszkaLada](#) and Gabriele Schöler (eds.)

November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (176 p.)

This publication presents the results of an in-depth analysis of the attitudes of young Europeans from Austria, the Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia towards the EU. The study is based on an opinion poll of young citizens (aged 15-24 years), which gave them the opportunity to share their views on the current state of the European integration process. The majority of youths see many benefits of EU membership and opt for staying in the EU and working to reform it. However, there is also a strong ambiguity in the respondents' views on societal trends and values, such as democracy and multiculturalism or globalisation and migration.

Centre for European Reform

Relaunching the EU

by Charles Grant [@CER_Grant](#), Sophia Besch [@SophiaBesch](#), Ian Bond [@CER_IanBond](#), Agata Gostyńska-Jakubowska [@AgataGostynska](#), Camino Mortera-Martinez [@CaminoMortera](#), Christian Odendahl [@COdendahl](#), John Springford [@JohnSpringford](#) and Simon Tilford [@SimonTilford](#)

7 November 2017

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

The time is ripe for EU reform. The Union has weathered the worst of its crises: the Eurozone, migration and refugees, and Brexit. Now is the time to revamp the EU so that it improves its economic performance, provides more security and tackles some of the issues that matter to citizens. This report looks first at the need for new policies, and then at the EU's structures and institutions. The authors also examine the interlinked challenges of the [European Neighbourhood Policy](#), migrant flows, the Schengen border and internal security.

Can EU funds promote the rule of law in Europe?

by Jasna Šelim, Ian Bond [@CER_IanBond](#) and Carl Dolan [@carl_dolan](#)

21 November 2017

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

The [Treaty on EU](#) lists the values on which it is founded as: "respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights" In recent years, however, the EU has struggled to respond when member states have not lived up to these values. This brief considers whether there are more effective tools available to handle these situations, like, whether the disbursement of EU funds to member-states could be tied to their compliance with EU values.

European Policy Centre / King Baudouin Foundation / Bertelsmann Stiftung / Open Society Initiative for Europe

Re-energising Europe: a package deal for the EU27

by Janis A. Emmanouilidis [@jaemmanouilidis](#) (rap.)

22 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (120 p.) and to the [infographic](#) (1 p.)

After years of multiple crises, the EU27 should re-energise the European project. This third New Pact for Europe report argues that the EU27 should have the political will and courage to agree on an ambitious but realistic win-win package deal to overcome deadlocks and counter the danger of a more regressive, nationalistic, illiberal and authoritarian Europe.

European Political Strategy Centre

Strategic Foresight Primer

by Angela Wilkinson

21 November 2017

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

The European Political Strategy Centre has a mandate to engage in anticipatory governance and identify potential future challenges and opportunities for the EU. Yet, Wilkinson realised that there was no readily accessible and 'easy-to-use' guide on strategic foresight. This newly published guide can be used to better understand the 'TUNA' conditions – Turbulence, unpredictable Uncertainty, Novelty and Ambiguity, whilst also making strategic foresight more accessible to a larger community of policy-makers.

Centrum für Europäische Politik (Centre for European Policy)

EU-indikator: EU-gesetzgebung, subsidiarität und demokratische Kontrolle

November 2017

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

The study shows that the EU has become more democratic in recent years. The national parliaments are increasingly using their voice in European legislative projects. In order to increase the pan-European impact of the Bundestag, the authors propose some organisational changes for the German parliament, such as the establishment of EU subcommittees in the respective specialist committees, as well as an annual definition of European policy dossiers.

Bruegel

Rethinking Franco-German relations: a historical perspective

by Emmanuel Mourlon-Druol [@manumourlon](#)

7 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (10 p.)

Franco-German relations as the 'engine' of European integration are widely perceived to have stalled in recent years. This policy contribution assesses what the Franco-German relationship can achieve, what its shortcomings are, and what it means for the wider governance of the euro area and the EU.

The future of Europe and the future of climate action: reflections and scenarios for the EU27

by Jonathan Gaventa [@jonathangaventa](#), Manon Dufour [@ManonDf](#), Martin Nesbit [@arrhenius](#), Kamila Paquel [@KamilaPaquel](#) and Radostina Primova

22 November 2017

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

This paper evaluates the state of EU climate policy and examines how climate governance fits within the 'Future of Europe' process led by the European Commission. The authors argue that European climate governance should be built into the heart of the decisions regarding the future of the EU. This will require reflections on Europe's long-term climate objectives, its international influence, and the integration of climate into economic, social and financial policies.

European Parliament Think Tank

Moving forward with the Urban Agenda for the EU

by Christiaan Van Lierop

24 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (10 p.)

Towns and cities are a core part of the fabric of Europe's landscape and many of the policy challenges facing Europe, such as social exclusion or environmental deterioration, have a disproportionate impact on urban areas. However, Europe's towns and cities also contain the solutions to these very challenges. Much can be gained by ensuring more effective coordination between the many policies impacting on urban areas. Van Lierop suggests that moving forward, the cities, Member States, and the EU institutions, need to fully commit to this project if the [EU Urban Agenda](#) is to achieve its ambitious goals.

SECTION 2 - ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

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

Policy conditionality – a new instrument in the EU budget post-2020?

by Mario Kölling
13 November 2017

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

The negotiation of the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) post-2020 is a crucial feature on the EU agenda for the next few months. The EU is facing a range of significant long-term challenges, such as strengthening Europe's economy and social framework and managing migration. However, it seems to be a common understanding that the next MFF will be more focused on programmes delivering European added value and responding to new challenges. In the context of this debate, this article analyses the existing conditionality mechanisms in the MFF 2014-2020 in order to present some reflection regarding policy conditionality in the MFF post-2020.

Fondation Robert Schuman

European financial outlook 2021-2027 - Which budget for which Europe?

by Jean Arthuis [@JeanArthuis](#)
27 November 2017

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

At a time when all eyes are set on what the package of the next post-2020 MFF of the European budget might contain, the pertinence of this mechanism that locks spending expenditure authorization within a timeframe should be assessed. Should its duration be reduced from seven to five years? How long can it continue to ignore the timeframe of the Parliament and the Commission's renewal?

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

The EMU does not have any flaws: a critique of the European Commission's reflection paper on the deepening of the EMU

by Adriaan Schout [@adriaanschout](#)
9 November 2017

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

In May 2017, the European Commission presented its Reflection Paper to steer the debate about the deepening of the European and Monetary Union (EMU). In his State of the Union speech, Commission President Juncker emphasised the prevailing belief that there is now a 'window of opportunities' to act. The aim of the Commission's Reflection Paper is to arrive at a 'shared vision' of the future of the EMU. This article provides a brief critique of the Reflection Paper and outlines an alternative diagnosis for the European crises. It also touches upon a number of measures to strengthen the euro that are not mentioned in the Commission's paper.

Bruegel

A 'twin peaks' vision for Europe

by Dirk Schoenmaker and Nicolas Véron [@nicolas_veron](#)

13 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (10 p.)

The EU's financial supervisory architecture is based on a sectoral model with separate authorities for banking, insurance and securities and markets. New developments in the EU financial sector make this sectoral structure increasingly out of date. The EU should commit to a twin peaks model as a long-term vision for supervision. The first peak would be prudential supervision focusing on the health and soundness of financial firms. As these financial firms have become increasingly interwoven, the vision of integrated cross-sector prudential supervision is increasingly compelling, even though legal obstacles imply it cannot be implemented at the European level in the near term.

How should the European Central Bank 'normalise' its monetary policy?

by Grégory Claeys [@gregclaeys](#) and Maria Demertzis [@mariademertzis](#)

23 November 2017

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

As the global financial crisis unfolded, the European Central Bank (ECB) and other central banks greatly extended their monetary policy toolboxes and adjusted their operational frameworks. These unconventional monetary policies have left central banks with large balance sheets. As growth picks up in the euro area, there are discussions about how to normalise monetary policy, but it is unclear if normalisation means returning to monetary policy as it was prior to the crisis, or whether there is a 'new normal' that would justify different monetary policies.

Sovereign concentration charges: a new regime for banks' sovereign exposure

by Nicolas Verón [@nicolas_veron](#)

17 November 2017

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

Europe's banking union project, initiated in 2012, has had a promising start. But its stated aim of breaking the vicious circle between banks and sovereigns is very far from being achieved. A key bank-sovereign linkage is the euro area's home-bias problem, namely the fact that the sovereign exposures of many euro area banks are highly concentrated in the home country, instead of being diversified within the monetary union.

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

Réduire les divergences en zone euro en régulant les cycles financiers

by Jézabel Couppey-Soubeyran [@jcs_mbf](#) and Salim Dehmej [@sDehmej](#)

November 2017

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

The eurozone suffers from economic and financial divergences between its members. Monetary policy cannot remedy this; to the contrary, it can even increase these divergences. This leads to the necessity of a new policy mix in the eurozone, which takes into account that the area is heterogeneous and subject to financial cycles that are not synchronous. Looking for economic stability through financial stability is possible within the framework of macro prudential policy. The eurozone would thus be endowed with the macroeconomic adjustment instrument that has been lacking since its inception.

Foundation for European Progressive Studies

Progressive reforms for rebalancing the Eurozone

by Manuel de la Rocha Vázquez [@MdelaRochaV](#), David Rinaldi [@Rinaldi_David](#) and Victor Echevarría

30 November 2017

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

For social democrats, reforms of the eurozone cannot aim exclusively at stabilising financial and sovereign markets or introducing more fiscal discipline. From a progressive perspective, the main objective of reforming the Economic and Monetary Union is to address the problems of slow growth and high unemployment, lack of social convergence and the democratic deficit. The authors present some crucial elements for a reform inspired by progressive values; they advocate for a fully-fledged Banking Union, a Convergence Code, a real Social Dimension and a Fiscal Capacity which includes both a stabilisation and an investment function.

Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute

Banking Union: how stable are Europe's banks?

by Philipp Ständer [@P_Staender](#)

22 November 2017

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

The euro crisis was, besides an economic and sovereign debt crisis, a full-blown banking crisis. The Banking Union was thus created precisely to break the vicious circle of ailing banks and weak government finances in the eurozone. For the moment, it consists of a European banking supervision and a single resolution framework. But the project remains incomplete. This briefing analyses further steps needed in order to complete the Banking Union and looks at how stable European banks are almost a decade after the crisis.

Centre for European Policy Studies

A blueprint for completing the Banking Union

by Stefano Micossi

27 November 2017

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

Completing the Banking Union is an urgent project facing the EU, given the eurozone's continued vulnerability to idiosyncratic liquidity shocks to national banking systems. This paper argues that a combination of a strengthened debt rule in the Stability and Growth Pact and a market discipline mechanism entailing the obligation to issue junior bonds, subject to restructuring, for the countries violating the common budgetary rules, could offer a suitable way forward to restore the credibility of the Pact. Effective policy coordination within the eurozone also requires greater symmetry of policy obligations by the Member States, which may be built into the European Semester.

Target imbalances at record levels: should we worry?

by Daniel Gros

23 November 2017

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

The imbalances within the eurosystem's Target 2 payment system are an indication that financial markets are not fully integrated. But the increase in these imbalances in the wake of the large asset purchases (often called QE, for quantitative easing), which started in early 2015, should not be a particular cause for concern. The imbalances had declined until the start of QE, accompanied by a reduction in risk premia. QE was associated with a further reduction in financial stress. There

is thus little reason to believe that the increase since 2015 reflects renewed fears about a euro break-up.

European Parliament Think Tank / Centre for European Policy Studies

The provision of critical functions at global, national or regional level - Is there a need for further legal/regulatory clarification if liquidation is the default option for failing banks?

by Willem Pieter de Groen

30 November 2017

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

The introduction of a bank resolution framework for EU banks has created the need for clear legal definitions of the main elements in resolution. This paper assesses one of these elements, namely "critical functions", which encompasses the activities of a bank that are of significant importance for the real economy. The assessment of the regulation and implementation shows that there is room for sharpening the definition and equal application across all banks. It is questionable, however, whether regulatory intervention is necessary given the on-going work of authorities at different levels.

European Parliament Think Tank

The role of national fiscal bodies - State of play

by Jost Angerer and Hannah Copeland

23 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (33 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.

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

Domestic cycles, financial cycles, and policies. What has gone wrong?

by Daniel Daianu

7 November 2017

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

The financial crisis and its ensuing effects have brought back into the limelight the issue of cycles and of policies which fuel or mitigate crises. This paper focuses on economic cycles and policies in an international (European) context. Attention is paid to linkages between domestic cycles and the European financial cycle, drivers of financial cycles, finance deregulation and systemic risks, ultra-low interest rates, the international policy regime, and global stability. The experience of European emerging economies is taken into account.

Centre for European Reform

A new deal for the eurozone: remedy or placebo?

by Agata Gostyńska-Jakubowska [@AgataGostynska](#)

24 November 2017

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

The eurozone is out of intensive care, but the crisis has left many voters disillusioned with the EU and with their domestic institutions. In the countries that were hardest hit by the crisis, citizens felt disenfranchised, as creditors demanded austerity in exchange for financial assistance. This provided fertile ground for eurosceptics and populists, who promised to resist the alleged diktats from Brussels and Frankfurt. If EU Member States fail to win back the support of disaffected voters, the bloc could end up facing a more serious existential threat as populists and eurosceptics look to win more seats in their domestic legislatures and the European Parliament.

Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung (German Institute for Economic Research)

US monetary policy and the euro area

by Max Hanisch

November 2017

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

This study investigates the international spillover effects of contractionary US monetary policy and its transmission channels on members of the euro area (EA) before and after the implementation of the euro. The author finds the multilateral spillover effects on individual EA economies' real activity and inflation to be asymmetric. While the effects are diverse and rather large before 1999, responses become more homogeneous and smaller in size after the implementation of the euro. However, country-specific asymmetries remain. Trade and interest rates but also credit, stock and housing markets are identified as important transmission channels.

SECTION 3 - EU MEMBER STATES

AUSTRIA

Fondation pour l'innovation politique

Autriche: virage à droite

by Patrick Moreau

29 November 2017

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

The parliamentary elections of 15 October 2017 constituted a major turning point in the history of the Austrian political system. The purpose of this note is to analyse the results of the election on 15 October 2017 and to question the reasons which led to this reshuffle in Austrian politics.

ESTONIA

European Policy Centre / Avatud Eesti Fond (Open Estonia Foundation)

New Pact for Europe - National Report - Estonia

by Andrei Liimets

17 November 2017

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

As part of a relatively new member state, the Estonian NPE Reflection Group notes that, while not many citizens understand the mechanics of the EU, a majority sees EU membership as an advantage and the Union itself as a guarantor of peace, safety and prosperity. Drawing on the discussions held amongst the members of the group, the report presents a set of conclusions on how to address the key challenges the Union and Member States are facing at the moment, and calls on them to take action to boost the legitimacy of the European integration project.

FINLAND

Ulkopoliittinen instituutti (Finnish Institute of International Affairs)

What non-alignment? Finland's security and defence policy stems from partnerships

by Matti Pesu [@PesuMatti](#)

16 November 2017

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

Defence cooperation has become the most important driver of Finnish external affairs. New initiatives are being launched, more extensive cooperation is binding Finland to the Western security system and its deliberations, and the waning of Finnish military non-alignment has further accelerated. Finland has consistently removed the legal impediments that have restricted its room for manoeuvre in security and defence. The paradigm of Finnish NATO cooperation has changed. When it comes to the EU, Finland is much more willing to see the Union as a security and defence community. It is telling that Finland and Sweden are currently rehearsing territorial defence together. Finnish defence cooperation with the US is ground-breaking. Helsinki has moved closer to Washington both politically and militarily. Conducting exercises with the military superpower sends a strong strategic signal. Both nations have a mutual interest in Europe in general and in the Baltic Sea region in particular.

Facing new realities: A case for enhanced Finnish understanding of nuclear issues

by Leo Michel

28 November 2017

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

After a decades-long hiatus, nuclear weapon issues have returned to the forefront of international security concerns. In recent months, North Korea has made significant progress in its nuclear programmes; President Trump threatened to end US participation in the agreement limiting Iran's nuclear activities; and over 40 countries signed the world's first legally-binding treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons. Meanwhile, Russian military developments and perceived "sabre rattling" are prompting NATO to focus more attention on nuclear issues. The US, UK and French nuclear modernization programmes are not simply a response to Russia, but Moscow will likely portray them as such. Finland will remain a non-nuclear weapon state. Its expertise in nuclear affairs traditionally focused on non-proliferation (via international agreements and EU activities) and arms control, but this has eroded during the past decade or so. Given the new realities, Finland should reverse that trend and enhance its understanding of the role of nuclear weapons in regional and global deterrence.

Elinkeinoelämän tutkimuslaitos (Research Institute of the Finnish Economy)

Leijona ja lohikäärme - Suomen ja Kiinan taloussuhteet

by Ville Kaitila [@VilleKaitila](#) and Markku Kotilainen

26 November 2017

Link to the article in [Finnish](#) (166 p.)

The study presents an up-to-date report on China's economy and its international role, focusing on the economic relations between Finland and China. China's economy today is so large and integrated with the rest of the world that changes in its growth, demand structure and international division of labour have a major impact on global economic development. For this reason, at the beginning of the report an analysis of China's future trends and related risks is presented. Economic relations between Finland and China are assessed at the levels of the aggregate economy, industries and key enterprises.

FRANCE

Institut Montaigne

Justice: faites entrer le numérique

November 2017

Link to the article in [French](#) (104 p.)

The French judicial system, do you know it? The length of its delays? The complexity of its steps? The uncertainty about the progress of the procedure? This report aims to make concrete proposals for technological innovation to rapidly and effectively improve civil justice.

Real Instituto Elcano (Elcano Royal Institute)

El impulso franco-alemán a la defensa europea

by Enrique Fojón [@EFOJONC](#)

17 November 2017

Link to the article in [Spanish](#) (7 p.)

According to the author, the relaunch of the European defence over the last months would not have been possible without the support of France and Germany. Nevertheless, its implementation also needs that both countries continue to coincide in terms of political, operational and industrial interests.

Terra Nova

Transformation numérique, synergies agiles, responsabilité démocratique : trois enjeux pour les médias publics

by Mathieu Gallet [@mathieu_gallet](#)

5 November 2017

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

Public media can only be defended if they transform radically to adapt to the digital revolution and the new uses it generates. This note lists the priorities of this transformation: to put the public and its uses at the heart of the offer, to master the data, to prepare for the vocal and semantic Web

La loi Littoral : un outil efficace de prévention des risques

by Agnès Michel [@Agnes_Michel](#)

2 November 2017

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

The Coastal Law, adopted unanimously in 1986, has made significant progress over the past 30 years in the protection of coastal areas. By its method which privileges the consultation, it remains an effective tool to fight against the anarchic urbanization of the French coasts. The author recommends in this note to ensure a better application of this text, and to extend it to municipalities not directly bordering the sea but which contribute to the economic and ecological balances littoral. It also seems relevant to extend the application of the Littoral Law to areas built since 1986 in violation of this text.

La Vie des Idées

La culture du repas

by Fabrice Etilé

21 November 2017

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

Recently listed as UNESCO heritage, the "French gastronomic meal" is supposed to embody the quintessence of a singular and remarkable food model. But does this really translate a specific relationship to food? The author shows that it hides rather an industrial and commercial approach, to the detriment of the food quality that he had to represent.

La vie après les bidonvilles

by Margot Delon

7 November 2017

Link to the article in [French](#) (10 p.)

Slums reappear in France. By reconstructing the course of inhabitants of the slums of the post-war period, the sociologist Margot Delon shows the importance of the segregation and the precariousness undergone, without neglecting the resources which allow some to rise socially nor the effects long-term solidarity.

GERMANY

Ośrodek Studiów Wschodnich (Centre for Eastern Studies)

Predictability lost: the German political scene after the elections

by Artur Ciechanowicz

22 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (8 p.) and [Polish](#) (7 p.)

Both in Germany and abroad, the commentary on the recent elections in Germany has been dominated by the analysis of the results scored by the anti-immigrant and anti-Islam Alternative for Germany (AfD), particularly in the eastern and southern parts of the country. The party had been almost certain to make it to the Bundestag long before the 24 September elections: the result it has just scored was only slightly better than what the pre-election polls suggested. The results scored by the two mass parties, the CDU/CSU and the SPD, were much worse than the poll predictions. It is these parties' results that offer an insight into the evolution of German voters' political identities.

Niedokończona reforma. Bilans transformacji energetycznej w Niemczech w latach 2013-2017

by Rafał Bajczuk [@rbajczuk](#)

21 November 2017

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

The CDU/CSU-SPD coalition has implemented key statutory changes enabling the implementation of energy transformation. Due to the reduction of support for renewable energy, the increase in electricity costs was stopped - the biggest problem of transformation. Nevertheless, many other energy policy problems remain unresolved - too slow reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, regulation of the future of coal energy, energy transformation in the transport sector or expansion of power grids. For the new government, energy transformation will continue to be a challenge. Germany will have to redefine its role in the international arena. While at the beginning of the decade it was a leader in both the promotion of climate policy and low-emission technologies, currently other countries - primarily China - are competitors in the game for leadership in international climate policy.

Bertelsmann Stiftung

Öffentliche Investitionen als Fundament der Sozialen Marktwirtschaft

by Manuela Barisic

7 November 2017

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

Despite the fact that the German economy is booming, roads and schools are collapsing while there is a shortage of affordable housing and fast internet connections. As a result, calls for higher public investment are strong. But in which areas should the state invest and what can higher public investment achieve?

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

Deutschland in der Open Government Partnership

by Pencho Kuzev and Maria Berndt

13 November 2017

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

The commitment of civil society and the transparency of government action are essential to a vibrant democracy. The first action plan for Germany's participation in the Open Government Partnership lays the foundation for open government and administrative action. A culture of governance guided by the principles of transparency, accountability and participation can

counteract a loss of confidence in politics. The publication reveals these potentials and addresses the added value for international politics.

Institut der deutschen Wirtschaft Köln (Cologne Institute for Economic Research)

Die deutsche Konjunktur am Limit? Fachkräftemangel als Wachstumsbremse

27 November 2017

Link to the article in [German](#) (49 p.)

The German economy is performing significantly better than was expected in the first few months of this year. During the course of 2017, certain early fears – especially of a weakening of the global economy due to increasing protectionism – have proved groundless. However, the robustness of the German economy is fuelling speculation that it is in danger of overheating. Production is being limited by a lack of skilled workers, with two-thirds of the companies working at over-capacity citing a shortage of qualified employees as one of the causes. However, the lack of skilled workers not only explains limited production capacity and operational overload: it also represents a barrier to investment in Germany.

La Vie des Idées

La nouvelle extrême droite allemande

by Élisabeth Goudin

28 November 2017

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

This paper elaborates on the recent breakthrough of the far right is upsetting the political balance in Germany.

GREECE

European Parliament Think Tank

Statistical governance in Greece - Recent developments

by Jost Angerer and Aspasia Xirou

29 November 2017

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

This document provides an overview of the recent developments of Greek statistical system as well as an indication of the magnitude of the revision of public finance data after their first validation. It also covers legal proceedings before Greek courts against Andreas Georgiou (Head of the Greek Statistical Office, ELSTAT, between 2 August 2010 and 2 August 2015), among others on the ground of the accusation that he has inflated 2009 Greek deficit figures.

ITALY

Istituto per gli studi di politica internazionale

The jihadi threat in Italy: a primer

by Lorenzo Vidino and Francesco Marone [@f_marone](#)

13 November 2017

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

Italy's experience with jihadism presents some interesting peculiarities. At first glance, there are several overlapping reasons to consider the country as a major hub of jihadist mobilization and target for terrorist attacks. Yet, somewhat counterintuitively, Italy has not faced a particularly intense challenge from jihadist terrorism. Levels of domestic radicalization are, by any account,

significantly lower than in most other European and Western countries (tellingly, the number of foreign fighters from Italy is strikingly low). Similarly, aside from a couple of low-level plots that were thwarted or failed, there have not been any successful terrorist attacks on Italian soil since 9/11, a trend that has remained true since the rise of the self-proclaimed Islamic State (IS) in 2014.

LATVIA

Latvijas Ārpolitikas institūts (Latvian Institute of International Affairs)

Latvijas ārlietu simtgade. Darbi un personības

by Andris Sprūds, Diāna Potjomkina [@DianaPotjomkina](#) and Valters Ščerbinskis
30 October 2017

Link to the article in [Latvian](#) (288 p.)

In this book, the authors analyse in depth some of the important aspects of Latvia's foreign policy.

NETHERLANDS

Centraal Planbureau (CPB Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Analysis)

Co-payments in long-term home care: do they affect the use of care?

by Marielle Non
3 November 2017

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

The author studies the effect of a policy change in co-payments on the use of long-term home care in The Netherlands. The change increased co-payments for persons with considerable household financial assets. For identification the author applies a difference-in-difference analysis with matched treatment and control groups. The author finds a significant effect at the extensive margin: persons affected by the policy change are less likely to take up care. The magnitude of the response increases over time, corresponding with an average annual price elasticity of demand of -0.14 and a price elasticity of -0.26 for episodes of care one year after the change. The author does not find a significant effect at the intensive margin: persons who take up care do not use less hours of care.

Employment polarization in local labor markets: the Dutch case

by Raoul van Maarseveen, Nikolaos Terzidis and Raquel Ortega-Argilés
8 November 2017

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

Recent literature documents the pervasiveness of job polarization in the labour markets of the developed world. However, relatively little is known about polarization on a sub-national level. The authors exploit extensive data on both genders from Statistics Netherlands to confirm polarization as an important trend in the Dutch national labour market between 1999 and 2012. Furthermore, the authors' sub-national analysis reveals considerable spatial heterogeneity among local labour markets. The degree of urbanization plays an important role; regions that are initially more urbanized are more likely to exhibit polarization. Finally, using a skill-based approach the authors report evidence supporting the routinization hypothesis as an important source of polarization.

POLAND

European Policy Centre / Institute of Public Affairs

New Pact for Europe - National Report - Poland

by Jacek Kucharczyk [@IspKucharczyk](#) (rap.)

13 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (29 p.)

According to the Polish NPE Reflection Group, the EU should be more engaged in crucial policy areas, such as economic governance, migration and security. Reforms should primarily aim at improving the EU's 'performance legitimacy' rather than focus on the perceived 'democratic deficit'. This also includes developing impactful communication policies at the European, national and regional levels to address the double challenge of populism and Euroscepticism.

Fondation Robert Schuman

Systemic threats to the rule of law in Poland: between action and procrastination

by Laurent Pech [@ProfPech](#) and Sébastien Platon [@PlatonSbastien](#)

13 November 2017

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

The authors refer that the violations of the principles at the heart of the rule of law concept by the Polish authorities have led the Commission to adopt a total of three recommendations based on the mechanism adopted in 2014. The European Parliament also expressed its concerns during four debates and via the adoption of two resolutions in 2016. As for the Council, it twice accepted the Commission's request to discuss the situation of the rule of law in Poland; first on 16 May 2017 and a second time on 25 September 2017, an unprecedented move in the history of the Council, according to the authors.

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

The influence of economic migration on the Polish economy

by Joanna Tyrowicz, Paweł Kaczmarczyk and Agata Górny

17 November 2017

Link to the article in [English and Polish](#) (54 p.)

This essay deals with four issues that are important on the public debate on economic migration to Poland. First, the authors show the demographic patterns that will mark the labour market for the next few decades. Secondly, against this background they discuss the patterns of labour supply in Poland, with particular attention to barriers and the groups affected by them. After the barriers they deal with the third important aspect: how well the Polish labour market functions. This aspect is important insofar as the literature on the experiences of countries that accept immigrants suggests a specific pattern: Immigrants usually begin flowing into a country to plug a gap in the labour market. With the exception of a few countries, this process does not take place on a scale sufficient to mitigate the unfavourable phenomena. Fourth, the scale is usually too small for this to viably influence the longstanding domestic trends.

SLOVAKIA

European Policy Centre / GLOBSEC Policy Institute

New Pact for Europe - National Report - Slovakia

by Milan Nič [@milann_sk](#) (rap.)

20 November 2017

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

The Slovak NPE Reflection Group argues that differentiated integration is fact of life, and that Slovakia should try to stay in the 'EU core' as the Union moves ahead. However, enhanced cooperation projects must not be carried out at the expense of other, non-participating EU members, and must remain open to those willing to join later.

SLOVENIA

Fondation Robert Schuman

The outgoing President of the Republic, Borut Pahor is re-elected in Slovenia

by Corinne Deloy

14 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (6 p.) and in [French](#) (5 p.)

Unsurprisingly, but with a narrower margin than previously expected, the outgoing head of the Slovenian State was re-elected for a second 5 year mandate as President of the Republic in the second round of voting on 12th November. He won 52.93% of the vote against 47.07% for his rival Marjan Sarec, the Mayor of Kamnik.

SPAIN

Terra Nova

Enseignements de la crise catalane

by Marc-Olivier Padis [@Mo_Padis](#) and Yann Mens

21 November 2017

Link to the article in [French](#) (10 p.)

Should Europeans take a stand in the Catalan crisis? The authors address the question both to the authorities of the EU and to the Member States.

Real Instituto Elcano (Elcano Royal Institute)

The 'combination': an instrument in Russia's information war in Catalonia

by Mira Milosevich-Juaristi [@MiraMilosevich1](#)

20 November 2017

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

The 'combination' (kombinaciya) is an operation which integrates diverse instruments (cyber warfare, cyber-intelligence, disinformation, propaganda and collaboration with players hostile to the values of liberal democracy) in Russia's information war in Catalonia during and in the wake of its illegal referendum.

Actividad yihadista en España, 2013-2017: de la Operación Cesto en Ceuta a los atentados en Cataluña

by Fernando Reinares [@F_Reinares](#) and Carola García-Calvo [@carolagc13](#)

November 2017

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

This study analyses the jihadist activity in Spain between January 2013 and September 2017.

Spain and India: seeking stronger bilateral relations

by Rubén Campos Palarea and Jayshree Sengupta

14 November 2017

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

This working paper is a joint project by Spain's Elcano Royal Institute and India's Observer Research Foundation in the context of the commemoration of 60 years of diplomatic relations between the two countries and the recent official visit of Prime Minister Modi to Madrid. The report's aim is to analyse the current status of bilateral relations, to highlight the key areas where there is potential for further improvement and the obstacles that are hindering the relationship. It also explores the strategic sectors which can be key drivers for further cooperation to consolidate and expand the bilateral partnership.

España en el mundo: análisis en base al Índice Elcano de Presencia Global 2016

by Iliana Olivie [@iolivie](#), Manuel Gracia [@mgraciasn](#) and M^a Dolores Gomariz

6 November 2017

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

Spain holds the 12th position in the Elcano Global Presence Index. However, it has lost parts of global presence in all its dimensions (like other countries).

Real Instituto Elcano (Elcano Royal Institute) / Instituto Português de Relações Internacionais

España y Portugal: oportunidades para la cooperación

by Félix Arteaga

20 November 2017

Link to the article in [Spanish](#) (7 p.)

Military cooperation between Portugal and Spain has been promising in its form but disappointing in terms of results. The change in the strategic context to the south of the Iberian Peninsula and the new schemes within NATO and the EU offer the possibility to exceed that diagnosis.

España-Portugal: por una visión común en el G-20

by Andrés Ortega [@andresortegak](#)

13 November 2017

Link to the article in [Spanish](#) (7 p.)

This study considers that Spain and Portugal should coordinate to promote issues of common interest in the G20.

La cultura en la relación de España y Portugal

by Ángel Badillo Matos [@angelbadillo](#)

2 November 2017

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

The cultural relation between Portugal and Spain has not always been easy. It suffered from centuries of conflict and prejudices. The accession of these two countries to the EU and the emergence of the Ibero-American Community of Nations gave to both countries spaces to meet and recognise themselves. The deepening of the bilateral relationship in the field of language and culture in the past decade has allowed to enhance the presence of cultural events in both countries, to promote cooperation between institutions and, above all, to expand the teaching of Spanish and Portuguese in Portugal and in Spain.

UNITED KINGDOM

Policy Exchange

Global Britain, global solutions: how British R&D can transform international development

by Jonathan Dupont [@jondupont](#), Bjorn Lomborg [@BjornLomborg](#), Paola Grenier and Brad Wong

3 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (96 p.)

The authors think that the UK should double the proportion of its international aid budget spent on research and development in order to solve the most pressing global challenges and support the Government's Industrial Strategy. In 2015, British aid for R&D amounted to £419 million; over the medium term the UK should increase this both to help the poorest people in the world and to support the UK's scientists.

Institute of Economic Affairs

Autumn Budget 2017: an IEA Briefing

by Julian Jessop

17 November 2017

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

According to the article, the economy has performed better than most had expected and there is no need for a major fiscal stimulus either to boost demand or raise productivity. The Chancellor should therefore resist the siren calls to ramp up public spending and focus instead on reducing the burden of tax and regulation, allowing the economy to make the most of the opportunities presented by Brexit. That would indeed be a truly 'bold Budget'.

Policy Network

It could be you: stemming the tide of financial fraud in the UK

by Charlie Cadywould [@CCadywould](#), Tom Startup and Matthew Laza

13 November 2017

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

Financial fraud is now the most common crime in Britain, perpetrated in enormous numbers by organised criminals both domestic and international. This paper describes how the nature of fraud (including scams) has evolved in recent years, and how government and law enforcement authorities have been tackling the problem. It offers a series of recommendations for governments, banks and others that could, if implemented, stem the tide of these crimes in the UK, better protect consumers and give them the confidence to surf, shop and securely send money online.

Institute for Fiscal Studies

Living standards, poverty and inequality in the UK: 2017-18 to 2021-22

by Andrew Hood and Tom Waters

2 November 2017

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

The projections for national poverty rates mask substantial differences at the regional level, with the North East, Wales and Northern Ireland generally projected to see the largest increases in poverty, and London, the South East, the South West and Scotland the smallest rises (or largest falls). Nonetheless, the projections of the authors indicate a rise in relative poverty and child poverty across all regions, although six regions are projected to see a fall in overall absolute poverty.

Recessions, income inequality and the role of the tax and benefit system

by Jonathan Cribb, Andrew Hood and Robert Joyce

6 November 2017

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

Income inequality fell significantly during and immediately after the Great Recession, in stark contrast with the sharp rises in inequality seen during the early 1980s and early 1990s downturns. The key reason for the different impacts of past recessions on inequality is differences in the nature of the labour market downturn. The early 1980s and early 1990s saw dramatic falls in employment and continued real earnings growth – an inequality-increasing combination. On the other hand, the Great Recession was characterised by large falls in real earnings, which hit higher-income households harder, and falls in employment were much less dramatic.

Income inequality and the labour market in Britain and the US

by Richard Blundell, Robert Joyce, Agnes Norris Keiller and James P. Ziliak

1 November 2017

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

The authors study household income inequality in both Great Britain and the US and the interplay between labour market earnings and the tax system. While both Britain and the US have witnessed secular increases in 90/10 male earnings inequality over the last three decades, this measure of inequality in net family has declined in Britain while it has risen in the US. The authors examine the interaction between labour market earnings in the family, assortative mating, the tax and benefit system and household income inequality. The authors find that both countries have witnessed sizeable changes in employment which have primarily occurred on the extensive margin in the US and on the intensive margin in Britain.

Entering the labour market in a weak economy: scarring and insurance

by Jonathan Cribb, Andrew Hood and Robert Joyce

30 November 2017

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

The authors have estimated the causal impact of entering the labour market when the economy is weak, not only on the individual labour market outcomes focused on in previous research, but also on standard measures of material living standards – net household income and household expenditures. The authors have also studied a number of intermediate outcomes in order to isolate the key insurance mechanisms standing between labour market effects and impacts on living standards. For identification, the authors have exploited the economic cycle in the UK since the 1970s, which means that cohorts entering the labour market very close together can nevertheless face dramatically different initial economic conditions.

Civitas

The Land Question. Fixing the dysfunction at the root of the housing crisis

by Daniel Bentley [@danielbentley](#)

November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (113 p.)

The challenge of improving housing supply is not a straightforward one. Against most measures of need, total output needs to be substantially increased. But within that increase needs to be a disproportionately large rise in the number of homes that are built for the less expensive sections of the market, and for the sub-market social sector too. These are not separate issues: concentrating building on higher-end sales brings with it market absorption difficulties that limit overall output. Only by ensuring that development caters to a broad cross-section of the market, and by building subsidised social housing too, will the right homes be built in sufficient quantities where we need them most. The current housebuilding model is unequal to this challenge. In those areas where housing costs are most expensive – such as London – output is most geared towards the higher reaches of the market.

BREXIT

Institute of International and European Affairs

Europe's problem with England

by Edmond Grace [@edmondgrace](#)

16 November 2017

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

This paper contends that Britain was constitutionally incapable of fulfilling the commitment entailed by its membership of the EU and that Brexit is the inevitable outcome of this situation. The paper makes the case that Britain is a "vehicle for the pre-eminence of England" – and that this English pre-eminence is inimical to the sharing of sovereignty on which the European project depends.

UK in a Changing Europe

Negotiating Brexit: what do the UK's negotiating partners want?

by Hussein Kassim and Simon Usherwood [@Usherwood](#) (eds.)

14 November 2017

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

Amidst the intense political debate and coverage in the UK, it sometimes seems to be forgotten that the outcome of the current negotiations will not be decided in London. The UK's negotiating partners – the other 27 Member States, as well as the EU institutions, and perhaps even the members of the European Free Trade Association – will also have a major say. In fact, contrary to political wisdom in some quarters, it may even be that the UK's negotiating partners hold the upper hand. For that reason, but also because the UK's departure will have far-reaching consequences for the EU, neighbouring states, and countries across the globe, it is important to know how the UK's partners are approaching the negotiations. How important is Brexit to them? Did they see it coming? How are they preparing? Do they see the UK's departure as a matter for regret, an opportunity, or both? And, although the EU has set out principles that will guide its approach, will they hold? How are they viewed from the national capitals of the EU27?

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

The Brexit negotiations: what do the British want?

by Sunder Katwala [@sundersays](#)

November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (9 p.)

What the British government wants on Brexit is gradually becoming clearer – though some key decisions have yet to be taken. Despite some of its public rhetoric, the British government prefers a deal to no deal – and can probably make the painful compromises (particularly over money) to secure it.

European Policy Centre

Brexit: Terra Nova to explore together

by Andrew Duff [@AndrewDuffEU](#)

7 November 2017

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

Regardless of the outcome of the Article 50 negotiations, Britain and Europe will remain inextricably linked even after Brexit. But what this partnership will look like largely depends on whether the former can, in the next few weeks, persuade its soon-to-be-gone EU partners that the time is ripe to move on to the second phase of the Brexit talks. If a provisional political agreement on the nature of the future relationship between the UK and the EU cannot be found, there is a serious risk that the negotiation talks will result in a purely technical treaty of secession, reverting the UK to third country status. To avoid this scenario and salvage the talks, there are a few things both parties need to realise as the author suggests.

Fondation Robert Schuman

Brexit means...? Or the urgency of defining Brexit before the Brexit happens

by Jérôme Gazzano and Andi Mustafaj

20 November 2017

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

According to the authors, although the UK is implementing a negotiation strategy, it is struggling to deploy one that covers Brexit as a whole. Without any clear definition of the Brexit sought by the UK (the tautology "Brexit means Brexit" says little about what Brexit actually means), it is not worth speeding up negotiations.

Institute of Economic Affairs

Vaping solutions: an easy Brexit win

by Christopher Snowden [@cjsnowdon](#)

November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (44 p.)

After Brexit, the UK will be able to return to a more liberal regulatory regime to the benefit of consumers and British businesses. Repealing the regulations that have been stipulated by EU's Tobacco Products Directives (TPD) is a relatively simple process and would not require primary legislation. After Brexit, the UK should regulate e-cigarettes, snus and other reduced-risk nicotine products in a way that does nothing to discourage smokers from switching to them.

SECTION 4 - EU POLICIES

JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

Centre for European Reform

How the EU and third countries can manage migration?

by Luigi Scazzieri [@Iscazzieri](#) and John Springford [@JohnSpringford](#)

1 November 2017

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

The paper argues that EU's response to migrants crossing the Mediterranean is shifting from internal reforms to deals with countries in Africa and Asia. The authors outline that this approach has potential pitfalls and upsides. They highlight that EU needs a long-term strategy to reduce incentives to migrate.

Bruegel

The economic effects of refugee return and policy implications

by Uri Dadush

14 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (64 p.)

The debate on returning asylum seekers and refugees is nearly always cast in political, legal and humanitarian terms. The paper looks at the question of return strictly from the economic perspective in the advanced countries that receive refugees: is return in their economic interest? Considering all the main economic dimensions, the answer, for the most advanced countries is no. The costs of hosting refugees are front-loaded, while the benefits of hosting them only accrue over time.

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

Europa und die Zuwanderung: die Wahrnehmung von Migration in Europa und die damit verbundenen Vorstellungen in Frankreich

by Jérôme Fourquet

November 2017

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

The paper presents the French perception of migrants in Europe. Europeans are nowadays more and more aware of the fact that the arrival of a large numbers of immigrants on the coasts of Europe is not a temporary phenomenon, but a long-lasting one. The author argues that the perception of immigrants in France is mostly negative and that the majority of French people think that immigrants are not well integrated and that it is the immigrants themselves who are responsible for not integrating.

Real Instituto Elcano (Elcano Royal Institute)

La protección a los refugiados en el mundo

by Carmen González Enríquez

27 November 2017

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

The paper examines the situation of refugees worldwide. The author outlines that the vast majority of refugees, 90%, live in developing countries. Only a small number of them lives in better conditions and can benefit from the protection of the richest countries, and this protection causes

internal political problems in those countries. The author argues that it is necessary to reform the system to make it more fair and more sustainable and adds that investing in job creation in countries that host refugees in Asia and Africa is a priority.

Barcelona Centre for International Affairs

The global reality of refugees in protracted situations: African case studies and ways ahead

by Miriam Juan-Torres [@miriamjtq](#)

November 2017

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

The paper focuses on the fact that being a refugee is often a more permanent state, whereas many falsely think about it as a temporary and exceptional situation. The author stresses that the average time a person spends as a refugee is 16 years, which means that lots of men, women and children find themselves trapped in this situation for years.

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

Roadmap for sustainable migration management in the Sahel: lessons from Agadez

by Fransje Molenaar

29 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (8 p.) and in [French](#) (9 p.)

An evaluation of the consequences that EU migration policies have had for Agadez shows that the drive to stop migration has resulted in the implementation of policies that are not context- and conflict-sensitive and which thereby harm local stability and development. A related problem with the dominant focus on stopping migration is that the reduction of migratory flows has become the sole indicator of the effectiveness of migration policies.

COMPETITIVENESS (INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND SPACE)

Jacques Delors Institute - Berlin

How to scale-up in the EU? Creating a better integrated single market for start-ups

by Paul-Jasper Dittrich [@paul2jasper](#)

10 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (14 p.) and in [French](#) (16 p.)

Start-ups from Member States intending to expand in the European Single Market face high barriers. Apart from difficulties to find funding sources, regulatory and administrative obstacles are the main impediments preventing a faster scale-up process. Against this backdrop, the policy paper analyses the most relevant regulatory barriers and discusses current policy proposals to improve the growth environment for start-ups in the spirit of further harmonization of the Single Market.

Corporate Europe Observatory

Is the European Commission preparing a new privatisation push?

13 November 2017

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

The article deals with concerns that have been aroused that a new wave of privatisation could be prepared after the European Commission asked KPMG to study the "operational and fiscal challenges" which state-owned enterprises place on the public purse. The author addresses the myth that the private sector is more efficient and therefore better at running public services than

the public sector and examines the possibility that EU will use this project to 'recommend' further structural reforms or privatisation processes on EU member states.

Institut français des relations internationales

European space programs and the digital challenge

by Laurence Nardon [@LaurenceNardon](#)

24 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (138 p.)

The author examines in which areas the digital transformation becomes a fantastic opportunity for space, focussing on Big Data, design and manufacturing as well as culture and dynamics. He argues that the momentum for the so-called New Space is irreversible, because it has been opening doors and breaking walls between public and private actors and investors, well-established space companies and New Space entrepreneurs, space industry and non-space industry as well as the space and planet Earth.

TRANSPORT/TELECOMMUNICATIONS/ENERGY

European Parliament Think Tank

Road transport: enforcement and special provisions for posted workers EU27

by Damiano Scordamaglia

24 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (10 p.)

The paper examines the current proposal aiming at improving drivers' working conditions, road safety and competition between road operators, published in the context of the 2017 European Commission 'Europe on the move' initiative, which seeks to remedy some shortcomings of the Enforcement Directive, such as non-uniform implementation.

Real Instituto Elcano (Elcano Royal Institute)

Hacia un nuevo orden mundial de la energía

by Antxon Olabe, Mikel González-Eguino and Teresa Ribera [@Teresaribera](#)

8 November 2017

Link to the article in [Spanish](#) (26 p.)

The authors explore the implications for coal and oil-gas of the international community's decision to meet the climate objectives resulting from the Paris Agreement. As a result of their analysis they state that the outlook for the oil industry is less negative than for coal. However, due to the fact that the international community clearly and firmly pursues the objectives of the Paris Agreement, the peak of the demand for oil is likely to be reached very soon.

European Policy Centre / Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

Access to clean and efficient energy in developing countries: the need for EU action to implement SDG7

by Johannes Hügel and Romain Pardo

24 November 2017

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

The paper focuses on the fact that the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goal to "ensure access to affordable, reliable and modern energy for all" (SDG7) is yet to become a reality in many developing countries. The author argues that despite improvements in energy efficiency and increased investments in renewable energy, these countries will need international support to

achieve this goal. The EU, which has proven to be a reliable partner, has a key role to play in this endeavour.

E3G / European Climate Foundation

Cleaner, smarter, cheaper - Responding to opportunities in Europe's changing energy system

by Jonathan Gaventa [@jonathangaventa](#) and Manon Dufour [@ManonDf](#)

21 November 2017

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

The paper examines the developments and opportunities in the field of energy transition. The authors examine how Europe should respond to novelty in the energy sector. The authors compare policy-makers' existing ambition levels to what could be achieved in light of the most fundamental changes in the energy system.

Friends of Europe

Cities - The new policy shapers in the energy transition

by Iiris André (ed.)

9 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (84 p.)

The publication acknowledges cities' evolving and prominent role within the energy transition. By demonstrating that non-state actors from across the world can come together to share best practices and promote the transition to low-emission and climate-resilient economies, cities are being globally transformative.

Bruegel

Beyond coal: facilitating the transition in Europe

by Simone Tagliapietra [@TagliapietraBxl](#)

23 November 2017

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

The paper examines the fact that even though the EU energy system is becoming greener and more efficient, its most polluting component – coal – continues to provide a quarter of its electricity. The author outlines that a number of EU countries continue to support coal politically for energy security and socio-economic reasons. He stresses that several other countries have already successfully phased out coal without compromising energy security or competitiveness.

European Political Strategy Centre

Nord Stream 2 – Divide et impera again? Avoiding a zero-sum game

November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (14 p.)

As the Nord Stream 2 project reopens old debates among Member States about energy security and broader EU-Russia political and economic relations, it constitutes a litmus test for EU solidarity and for the completion of a resilient Energy Union. The paper argues that rather than focusing their attention on this divisive issue that has already captured too much political attention, Member States should work at reconciling their interests through a holistic approach to the internal energy market.

EMPLOYMENT/SOCIAL POLICY/HEALTH/CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Foundation for European Progressive Studies

Work in the European gig economy

by Ursula Huws, Neil H. Spencer, Dag S. Syrdal and Kaire Holts

29 November 2017

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

The paper addresses the fact that while there is much talk about the disruptive potential of digitalisation and the sharing economy on labour markets, surprisingly little is known about the realities of 'gig work' and the new types of employment created by online platforms. The paper raises several questions. Is it a liberating new form of self-employment or a new form of exploitation? How many workers are doing it? Who are they? And what are the implications of these new realities for public policy in Europe?

Institut der deutschen Wirtschaft Köln (Cologne Institute for Economic Research)

Labour market potentials of the freedom of movement for workers

by Wido Geis

3 November 2017

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

The paper focuses on the freedom of movement for workers as one of the core principles of the EU and the fact that most Europeans have positive attitude towards it. 75% regard it as good and only 9% as a bad thing. The author outlines that the number of persons moving from one EU member country to another one is still small and adds that, if labour mobility were enhanced, this could be helpful for all countries.

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

Tomorrow's world of migration and mobility

November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (64 p.)

The paper presents four local scenarios on the future of international migration and human mobility using the global approach as a starting point. They have been created by a team of more than 50 individuals and reveal very distinct outlooks.

Institute for Fiscal Studies

Corrective taxation and internalities from food consumption

by Rachel Griffith, Martin O'Connell and Kate Smith

20 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (14 p.)

Corrective taxes have been implemented in a number of countries with the aim of addressing growing concern about the rise in obesity- and diet-related diseases. The rationale is that food consumption imposes costs on the consumer in the future that they do not fully take into account at the point of consumption ('internalities'). Corrective taxes have the potential to improve welfare by reducing sub optimally high consumption.

ENVIRONMENT

European Parliament Think Tank

Implementation of the 7th Environment Action Programme - Mid-term review

by Ekaterina Karamfilova

22 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (312 p.)

The 7th Environment Action Programme (7th EAP) is the long term overarching strategy of the EU and its Member States in the field of environment and climate change. It covers a seven-year time frame (between 2014 and 2020) and is the first to set a long-term vision for policy-making in the field, until 2050. The current European Implementation Assessment found that while the EAP scope remains relevant to current needs and adds value to EU and national policy-making efforts, its objectives are unlikely to be fully met by 2020.

E3G

Climate risk and the EU budget: investing in resilience

by Carlos Campillos and Rosalind Cook

14 November 2017

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

The authors highlight that the EU's Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) plays an important role in helping Europe prepare for and respond to climate risk, as it funds disaster response and can support investment in resilience. They add that the current 2014-2020 MFF puts greater emphasis on climate risk management than previously. The scale of the challenge is, however, increasing, and critical gaps in the EU's approach to climate risk undermine the effectiveness of EU spending.

Centre for European Policy Studies

A strong revision of the EU ETS, but the future may bring impetus for further reform

by Milan Elkerbout [@MilanElkerbout](#)

14 November 2017

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

The author argues that the ETS, EU emissions trading system, will be much stronger after the Phase 4 revision proposed by the European Commission. However, he points out that further adjustments may be inevitable in the future, given ongoing developments in the climate and energy world.

Institute for European Environmental Policy

EPR in the EU plastics strategy and the circular economy: a focus on plastic packaging

by Emma Watkins, Susanna Gionfra, Jean-Pierre Schweitzer, Mia Pantzar, Charlotte Janssens and Patrick ten Brink

9 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (56 p.) and to the policy brief in [English](#) (4 p.)

The study provides policy recommendations to input into the ongoing development of the EU Plastics Strategy and discussions on the Circular Economy Package, with a view to encouraging more ambitious extended producer responsibility (EPR) to bring about a more sustainable use of plastics, and in particular plastic packaging.

Tackling pollution is essential for meeting SDG poverty objectives

by Andrew Farmer

14 November 2017

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

The paper focuses on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and accompanying targets. As the SDGs are a mixture of closely intertwined social, economic and environmental objectives, the author argues that it is not possible to have sustainable social and economic development if we allow our environment to degrade. Alongside alleviating poverty, there is clearly a need to prevent and reduce all forms of pollution.

Overseas Development Institute

Climate change, migration and displacement: the need for a risk-informed and coherent approach

by Sarah Opitz Stapleton, Rebecca Nadin, Charlene Watson and Jan Kellett [@JanKellett](#)

November 2017

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

The report presents an overview of the current evidence base on the complex relationships between climate change and human mobility. It aims to support the development of an informed global discourse across the humanitarian, peace and sustainable development agendas. In so doing, the paper illustrates that to adequately address human mobility in international and national policy responses, the links between climate change, displacement and migration need to be better understood.

The principles and criteria of public climate finance - a normative framework

by Liane Schalatek [@liane_boell](#) and Neil Bird

November 2017

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

The brief looks at relevant principles and criteria applicable to the mobilisation, the administration, governance and implementation of climate change funding. Taken together, they offer a guiding framework for climate finance.

The Green Climate Fund

by Liane Schalatek [@liane_boell](#), Neil Bird and Charlene Watson [@WatsonCharlene](#)

November 2017

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

The paper focuses on the Green Climate Fund (GCF) which is the newest actor in the multilateral climate finance architecture. It became fully operational in 2015. The GCF is an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism of the UNFCCC. A legally independent institution hosted by South Korea, it has its own secretariat and the World Bank as its interim trustee. It functions under the guidance of the UNFCCC COP.

Climate finance fundamentals 2: the global climate finance architecture (2017 update)

by Neil Bird, Charlene Watson [@WatsonCharlene](#) and Liane Schalatek [@liane_boell](#)

November 2017

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

The authors argue that climate finance remains central to achieving low-carbon, climate resilient development. They present the complex global climate finance with funds flowing through multilateral channels – both within and outside of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Financial Mechanism – and increasingly through bilateral, as well as through

regional and national climate change channels and funds. They highlight that monitoring the flows of climate finance is rather difficult.

ceplInput

Globalisierung des Klimaschutzes: Wege zu einer weltweiten Angleichung der CO₂ -Bepreisung

by Moritz Bonn, Martin Menner and Jan S. Voßwinkel

6 November 2017

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

The paper focuses on the fact that global climate protection requires global alignment of CO₂ prices. The authors argue that EU must make a specific commitment to this end during the 23rd World Climate Conference in Bonn. The authors analyse and evaluate new ways to achieve the climate protection goals set in Paris in 2015 as well as formulate recommendations for the international community in the context of the Bonn conference.

Fondation Robert Schuman

How Europe can and should become the guardian of the Paris Agreement on climate change?

by Arnault Barichella

6 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (9 p.) and in [French](#) (10 p.)

The paper focuses on the fact that due the shocking decision of Donald Trump to withdraw the US from the Paris Agreement in June 2017, Europe can and should become the guardian of the Paris Agreement. It provides recommendations on how EU should respond to this setback and on the possible new leadership role of the EU in the new accord to tackle climate change.

Vrije Universiteit Brussel - Institute for European Studies

Strengthening international climate governance: the case for a sectoral approach

by Sebastian Oberthür, Lukas Hermwille, Gauri Khandekar and Wolfgang Obergassel

November 2017

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

The authors argue that a significant potential exists to accelerate the climate transition by advancing sectoral approaches and institutions in international climate governance. They add that, in order to achieve the Paris Agreement objectives and quicken the urgently needed decarbonisation of our societies and economies, the simultaneous transformation of a wide range of interdependent sectoral systems is required. This calls for advancing tailor-made sectoral approaches to reinforce global climate governance.

EDUCATION/YOUTH/CULTURE/SPORT

European Political Strategy Centre

10 trends transforming education as we know it

14 November 2017

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

The analysis presents and discusses what are the sweeping changes that are already – or should be – reshaping the way Europeans teach and learn throughout their lives in an increasingly digital society. It examines the fact that the ability of individuals to adapt, learn and re-skill will matter more than ever in today's fast-paced, changing world. The authors argue that it is crucial that education systems reinvent themselves if they are to keep up with these new challenging realities.

SECTION 5 - FOREIGN AFFAIRS

FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY/DEFENCE

Jacques Delors Institute - Berlin

European integration via flexibility tools: the cases of EPPO and PESCO

by Laura Maria Wolfstädter and Valentin Kreiling [@tineurope](#)

29 November 2017

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

Flexibility seems to have become the new mantra of the debate on the future of the EU as decision-makers have repeatedly stressed the need for more differentiated integration. This paper assesses how the two main flexibility tools of the Lisbon Treaty, Enhanced Cooperation and Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO), have recently been used for the cases of the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) and strengthening defence cooperation.

Friends of Europe

Debating security plus report – Crowdsourcing solutions to the world's security issues

by Paul Ames (rap.)

29 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (142 p.)

This report brings together 10 recommendations addressing practical policy goals and shifts in security thinking, which are underpinned by a realistic roadmap for implementation.

Foundation for European Progressive Studies

When the world is out of joint: a progressive critique of European foreign policy

by Mafalda Dâmaso ,Michele Fiorillo, Enza Roberta Petrillo and Denis Preshova

22 November 2017

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

The migration crisis, the continuous terrorist threat, the result of the British referendum to leave the EU and, finally, the election of Trump as President of US have led to the idea, shared publicly by EU policymakers and senior figures, that if the EU is to survive it must overcome its inner tensions, namely in terms of foreign policy and security. In this context, it is important to critically evaluate the values and practices that guide recent and current EU foreign policy.

Institut de relations internationales et stratégiques / Istituto Affari Internazionale / Nederlands Instituut voor Internationale Betrekkingen - Clingendael (Netherlands Institute of International Relations)

European preference strategic autonomy and European defence fund

by Vincenzo Camporini, Keith Hartley, Jean-Pierre Maulny [@jpmaulny](#) and Dick Zandee

November 2017

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

This paper gathers the opinions of three authors from different backgrounds on how they see the connections between two notions: strategic autonomy and European preference, and the European Defence Fund (EDF), the European Commission initiative currently submitted to the European Council and the European Parliament for approval.

Istituto Affari Internazionale

Permanent Structured Cooperation: an institutional pathway for European defence

by Alessandro Marrone [@alessandro_ma](#)

20 November 2017

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

The launching of the Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) constitutes an important political decision for two reasons: it represents a tangible effort to answer the growing demand by EU citizens for more European-level cooperation to address security concerns and it consolidates the EU in a key area such as security and defence vis-a-vis internal centrifugal tendencies. In so doing, PESCO also exploits modalities of differentiated integration included in the Union's existing treaties, although the broad participation of Member States in PESCO weakens this feature of differentiation.

Europa della difesa: quali prospettive?

by Andrea Aversano Stabile, Alessandro Marrone [@alessandro_ma](#) and Carolina Polito

22 November 2017

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

The EU has recently pushed ahead on the acceleration of integration in the field of defence with the launch of the Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO). This is partly due to the simultaneous presence of various factors such as the imminent exit of the UK from the Union, the approach of the new American presidency at world level and the terrorist threat. In this context, building on the progress already achieved, the creation of a Europe of defence requires a type of "differentiated integration" between a group of Member States really able to participate and decided to implement it.

European Union Institute for Security Studies

Permanent Structured Cooperation: what's in a name?

by Daniel Fiott [@DanielFiott](#), Antonio Missiroli and Thierry Tardy [@thierrytardy](#)

13 November 2017

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

Still barely predictable only a year ago, PESCO is an ambitious, binding and inclusive legal framework aimed at incentivising defence cooperation among Member States. PESCO is based on binding commitments between Member States, by housing a number of concrete projects designed to improve the effectiveness of EU military operations and to sustain European capability development. Taken together, these elements are designed to potentially shape national mind-sets and practices in defence through a structured framework at the EU level.

Towards a 'military Schengen'?

by Daniel Fiott [@DanielFiott](#)

27 November 2017

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

The idea that the transportation of military personnel and equipment within Europe is still subject to physical, legal and regulatory barriers may seem odd, especially given the freedom of movement experienced under the Schengen Agreement. Concerned that administrative procedures were unnecessarily slowing down cross-border movements in the EU, a European Parliament report on defence in October 2016 called for a sort of 'military Schengen' for the rapid movement of defence forces, personnel, equipment and supplies in the EU. Since then, however, not only was an EU joint communication on improving military mobility published on 9 November 2017, but a dedicated action plan will be released by March 2018.

Smart logistics for future armed forces

by Torben Schütz [@_schuetzt](#) and Zoe Stanley-Lockman [@zoemsl](#)

8 November 2017

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

New technologies are changing the face of warfare – as well as its logistical tail. Recent innovations with military logistics applications have the potential to free up much-needed resources, rebalance force composition and offer operational benefits such as more distributed manoeuvre. Now the question is: for the first time since the Industrial Revolution, can emerging technologies reverse the trend of the ever-growing logistics tail of modern armed forces?

Operation Sophia's world – changes and challenges

by Thierry Tardy

November 2017

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

Over the past decade, EU military operations have evolved in at least three directions: first, they have to some extent adapted to the changing nature of threats, and in doing so they have embraced a broader security agenda; second, they have increasingly operated at the juncture between external and internal security; third, they have moved into the maritime domain whereas ground operations had in the past been the norm. Operation EUNAVFOR Med Sophia provides an example of such evolution. Launched in May 2015 to respond to the surge of migrants crossing the Mediterranean Sea from Libya, it has *de facto* become a police – and also rescue – operation, while also generating added-value as a maritime security instrument.

Real Instituto Elcano (Elcano Royal Institute)

Implicaciones de los fondos y programas de la Comisión para la investigación y el desarrollo de las capacidades militares de la UE

by Carlos Martí Sempere

21 November 2017

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

Jean-Claude Juncker's appointment in 2014 has set a new political agenda focused on a stronger Europe and on the need to increase countries' synergies in defence acquisitions to prevent national programmes with similar goals. To achieve such goals, the Commission has set in motion a series of measures to encourage the research on and the development of military capacities and to stimulate the industrial and technological basis of European defence. This paper analyses such measures and their potential impact on the way States and industries plan and acquire their military capacities, while giving some suggestions as to how to transition to the new management model being created in the EU.

Institute for Economics and Peace

Global terrorism index 2017 - Measuring and understanding the impact of terrorism

November 2017

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

The Global Terrorism Index (GTI) is a comprehensive study analysing the impact of terrorism in 163 countries covering 99.7% of the world's population. It provides a comprehensive summary of the key global trends and patterns in terrorism over the last 17 years, by covering the period from the beginning of 2000 to the end of 2016.

International Centre for Counter-Terrorism - The Hague

Countering terrorist narratives

by Alastair Reed [@reed_alastair](#), Haroro J. Ingram [@haroro_ingram](#) and Joe Whittaker [@CTProject_JW](#)

22 November 2017

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

This study provides an overview of current approaches to countering terrorist narratives.

Ulkopoliittinen instituutti (Finnish Institute of International Affairs)

Democracy's eleventh hour: safeguarding democratic elections against cyber-enabled autocratic meddling

by Mika Aaltola [@MikaAaltola](#)

7 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (9 p.)

Recent elections in the US, France and Germany indicate an emerging practice whereby autocracies meddle in democratic elections by hacking data, scandalising it through leaks, and amplifying the effect by creating intense cognitive flows of disinformation and distrust across social media. Election meddling now has a recognisable five-stage pattern, which allows for the development of algorithms that can detect signs of machined foreign operations in real time in cases of similar meddling patterns. Voters should be better equipped with defensive tools that tackle manipulative algorithmic and future AI-based tactics. These tools can be provided by governments. However, more agile market or society-based solutions could also be made available through different forms of cyber-based election monitoring.

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

The MTCR at 30 - Ideas to strengthen the missile technology control norm

by Peter van Ham

29 November 2017

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

The Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) was established in 1987 to limit the proliferation of unmanned ballistic missile technology and delivery vehicles, setting guidelines for export controls on systems, software, technologies and services. In 2017, the MTCR will celebrate its 30th anniversary. This paper offers seven policy options with concrete suggestions on how the MTCR may be formalised and even work towards a stronger convention, including a more robust institutional basis and verification mechanisms.

GEOPOLITICS AND STRATEGY

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

Sicherheit weiter denken: Plädoyer für ein neues europäisches friedens- und sicherheitspolitisches Leitmotiv

by Bodo Schulze and Herbert Wulf

November 2017

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

To counter the trend of fragmentation and exclusivity of security, political decisions in five key areas are particularly important for Germany and the EU: the strengthening of an effective and legitimate state monopoly on violence in the OECD world; the improvement of democratic control

of security actors in Germany and the EU; the recognition of plurality and the need to regulate security actors in international co-operation; the disarmament and the promotion of common security in foreign affairs; the sustainable empowerment of civilian crisis prevention as a strategic element of European and German peace policy.

Nederlands Instituut voor Internationale Betrekkingen - Clingendael (Netherlands Institute of International Relations) / Planetary Security Initiative

Climate-migration-security: making the most of a contested relationship

by Louise van Schaik [@LouiseVanSchaik](#) and Tammo Bakker

30 November 2017

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

This brief discusses the relationship between climate change, migration and security. This relationship is academically contested. Research is inconclusive on key issues, such as how many migrants may come to Europe due to climate change. However, given the political urgency and potential scale of the issue, it is not possible to wait for academic consensus to emerge. The relationship between youth unemployment, irregular migration and instability in the context of climate change is politically recognised as a likely risk with high impact, even though contemporary policies still focus primarily on responses to forced or irregular migration. There is thus, currently, an opportunity to make the most of available insights and invest wisely in countries.

TRADE

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

The future development of EU exports in a global context

by Robert Stehrerm, Sandra Leitner and Roman Stöllinger

16 November 2017

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

Global trade patterns are changing rapidly. Emerging economies are increasing their share of overall exports and intensifying competition in nearly all sectors. Using a gravity-based approach, this report examines the future profile of EU world market shares at the aggregate and sectoral level. It further points towards the changing patterns of trade within the EU. Based on the results, some conclusions on EU industrial policy are drawn.

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

Why trade, and what would be the consequences of protectionism?

by Sébastien Jean and Ariell Reshef

November 2017

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

Trade liberalization affects the economy via three main channels: (1) efficiency/productivity gains, (2) purchasing power gains for consumers, and (3) consequences on incentives and governance. These give rise to adjustment costs and distributional impacts, as well as potentially large environmental consequences.

European Centre for International Political Economy

Restrictions to cross-border data flows: a taxonomy

by Martina F. Ferracane [@Martina_F](#)

November 2017

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

Strict privacy regimes, requests to use local data centres and outright bans to transfer data abroad are a few examples of policies imposed recently that restrict data from crossing national or regional borders. This paper is the first one to propose a comprehensive taxonomy of these restrictions, which has a bearing on international trade law. Restrictions on cross-border data flows may affect countries' legal commitments under various trade agreements, including the General Agreement on Trade in Services. This taxonomy can be the basis of further legal and economic research to assess the legitimacy and necessity of these under international trade law.

Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations

An uphill struggle? Towards coordinated EU engagement with China's Belt and Road Initiative

by Astrid Pepermans, Leia Wang and Stephan Klose

21 November 2017

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

China's 19th Party Congress unexpectedly amended the party's constitution with a pledge to "pursue the Belt and Road Initiative". This further elevates the status of president Xi's heavily promoted foreign policy, which aims at creating trade and investment opportunities through the development of Eurasia's continental and maritime infrastructure. As the implications of this policy are increasingly felt across Europe, following years of growing Chinese investments, so are the challenges it presents to Europe's unity, prosperity and security. In light of these challenges a constructive engagement with China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) constitutes an immense task for the EU, whose position has been weakened by growing dissent among Member States over the Union's policy towards China.

OCP Policy Center

Overlapping globalizations

by Otaviano Canuto

27 November 2017

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

Current technological developments in manufacturing are likely to lead to a partial reversal of the wave of fragmentation and global value chains that was at the core of the rise of North-South trade from 1990 onwards. At the same time, China – the main hub of the global-growth-cum-structural-change of that period - may attempt to extend the previous wave through its "One Belt, One Road" initiative.

DEVELOPMENT

Overseas Development Institute

Crisis modifiers: a solution for a more flexible development-humanitarian system?

by Katie Peters [@katiepetersodi](#) and Florence Pichon [@flo_pichon](#)

November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (118 p.)

By design, the humanitarian-development aid architecture is strictly segregated, divided by mandates and rules that were originally designed to meet different kinds of needs. Today, this

rigidity is hampering the aid system's ability to manage risks and rapidly respond to crises. To address these issues, donors and NGOs are trialling a new set of innovative risk financing options to help deal with small-scale crises that impede development progress, and a humanitarian fund has been embedded into the multi-year Building Resilience to Climate Extremes and Disasters (BRACED) programme. The real question now is are they accompanied by a fundamental shift in the way development actors design their programmes and respond to predictable risks.

Implications of geoengineering for developing countries

by Darius Nassiry [@dnassiry](#), Sam Pickard [@Sam_Pickard](#) and Andrew Scott
November 2017

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

Geoengineering – the deliberate large-scale alteration of the Earth's environment to counteract climate change through greenhouse gas removal or altering the Earth's reflectivity – is receiving increasing attention from policy-makers and researchers as a potential means to mitigate the impacts of climate change. The cross-border nature of geoengineering points to the need to engage developing countries, but so far this has been limited. More support is needed to enable developing countries to assess the costs and benefits of geoengineering, including the potential for unintended consequences.

Friends of Europe

Making the digital revolution work better, faster for development

22 November 2017

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

Access to digital technologies can empower poor and disadvantaged people, create jobs and widen access to health and educational services. But the first step must be to find digital applications that solve practical problems and make a difference to people's lives. That was the message of a Friends of Europe Development Policy Forum event on 7 November 2017, where development actors and technology experts discussed how the digital revolution is impacting international development – and how it could have an even greater impact in the future.

ENLARGEMENT PROCESS

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

Sustainable policy impact through state-of-the-art research and advocacy

6 November 2017

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

The Southeast Europe Leadership for Development and Integrity (SELDI) network is the largest indigenous anti-corruption and good governance coalition in the region of Southeast Europe. SELDI's advocacy impact, channelled through local ownership and strong public-private partnership foundation, is built upon state-of-the-art corruption and hidden economy monitoring tools. SELDI's constant drive for social innovation has pushed its members to also devise new instruments, particularly in response to recently emerged, complex and systemic corruption practices in the region. More specifically, the network has developed, and plans to apply comprehensively across the SEE, instruments to assess the state capture phenomenon and identify concrete anti-corruption implementation gaps on institutional level.

La Vie des Idées

À quand l'union des Balkans ?

by Jasha Menzel

24 November 2017

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

At the Trieste Summit in July 2017, the idea of creating a common economic area in Western Balkans area. Will it be enough to make these countries, still marked by the conflicts of former Yugoslavia, forget their desire of European integration?

Atlantic Council

Turkey: managing tensions and options to engage

by Aaron Stein [@aaronstein1](#)

2 November 2017

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

Given the current state of tensions over regional policy and the entrenchment of authoritarianism and illiberalism in Turkey, the US should craft a realistic Turkey policy. The trajectory of the relationship between the US and Turkey suggests a need for the US to focus on "transactionalism", wherein the majority of bilateral talks are simply aimed at managing a troubled but important relationship, rather than waiting for tensions over US actions in Syria to subside.

EASTERN PARTNERSHIP

European Policy Centre

From Riga to Brussels: Georgia's hopes for Eastern Partnership

by Ana Andguladze [@ani_andguladze](#)

20 November 2017

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

Georgia's drive for stronger ties with the EU began in the aftermath of the 2003 Rose Revolution when Mikheil Saakashvili came to power. He made Euro-Atlantic integration the cornerstone of Tbilisi's foreign policy. This goal is based not only on the nation's sense of sharing the European identity, and a desire to strengthen its democracy, but also because of the geopolitical position in which the country finds itself.

Eastern Partnership summit and Ukraine's 'return to Europe' at times of uncertainty

by Svitlana Kobzar [@skobzar](#) and Amanda Paul [@amandajanepaul](#)

20 November 2017

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

In this brief, the authors call for the EU to send a strong and positive message, reaffirming its commitment to the Eastern Partnership, and argue that both Ukraine and the EU can do more to put Ukraine on a path to becoming a successful European state.

Rahvusvaheline Kaitseuringute Keskus (International Centre for Defence and Security)

Arming Ukraine: capability requirements — A view from Kyiv

by Igor Fedyk
21 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (10 p.)

This paper aims to highlight Ukraine's needs for international military-technical aid. It does so from three angles: first, it outlines officially stated needs (the "top down" statement of requirements); then it compares this with the needs identified on the ground in the Anti-Terrorist Operation (ATO) area (the requirement as seen "bottom-up"); finally, it gives an expert assessment (an "outside-in" perspective) of the spectrum of needs and the priorities. It also considers whether Ukraine is ready to actually absorb and use such aid effectively.

Ośrodek Studiów Wschodnich (Centre for Eastern Studies)

A quarter-century of independent Ukraine. Dimensions of transformation

by Tadeusz A. Olszański
28 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (153 p.)

The country's greatest success has been to raise a new generation of 'natural-born citizens' of Ukraine, while its greatest failure has been to succumb to the dramatic population decline with irreversible consequences, and to allow the impoverishment of the lower strata of society, typical for all the post-Soviet states. The present paper is not a history of independent Ukraine, but an attempt to present the main mechanisms by which the former Soviet republic has transformed itself into an independent state with a market economy. It is therefore mainly focused on internal developments in Ukraine.

Soft Belarusianisation. The ideology of Belarus in the era of the Russian-Ukrainian conflict

by Piotr Rudkouski [@rudkouski](#)
3 November 2017

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

Over the past three years, a distinct change has become visible in the ideological discourse of the government of Belarus. To an increasing degree, the state ideology is focusing on strengthening national identity, emphasising the divergence of Belarus's interests from those of Russia, and re-examining the historical narration in a direction which emphasises the distinctiveness of the history of Belarus from that of Russia. Above all, the government has changed its attitude towards the Belarusian language and culture.

MIDDLE EAST/NORTH AFRICA (MENA)

Barcelona Centre for International Affairs

Environmental Factors in the MENA Region: a swot analysis

by Mark Mulligan, Martin Keulertz and Musa McKee
November 2017

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

In this report, the authors examine the magnitude, distribution and trends in key environmental and energy factors that materially affect the economic, social and political profile of the MENA region. The authors do this by conducting a geographical analysis and by building a web-based policy support system for understanding strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) at scales from pixel through regional to national considering environment, water, energy, food, economy and population.

German Marshall Fund of the United States

Cheap havoc: how cyber-geopolitics will destabilize the Middle East

by Kristina Kausch [@kristinakausch](#)

27 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (10 p.)

Over the past few years, governments and non-state groups in the Middle East and North Africa have gone to great lengths to build cyber capabilities. The proliferation of cyber weapons in the region and their use as geopolitical tools has the potential to further shake and unsettle regional crises and larger Western interests. The biggest risk for Western powers is to leave any doubt about their readiness to retaliate or to support their allies against any actors' cyber aggressions. As actors around the world begin to grasp the opportunities offered by conducting geopolitical operations in cyberspace, the window for showing this readiness is small and closing.

European Institute of the Mediterranean

The Mediterranean as an open living lab

by Jesse Marsh and Artur Serra

November 2017

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

This paper results from two seminars entitled "The Mediterranean as an open living lab" and jointly organised by the European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMed) and European Network of Living Labs (ENoLL) with the goal of exploring a region-wide network of innovation hubs that could generate a Mediterranean way of developing open innovation with its own idiosyncrasy: the Mediterranean as a Living Lab.

Istituto Affari Internazionale / Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations

Military factors in the MENA region: challenging trends

by Julien Sassel and Sven Biscop

6 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (33 p.)

Although the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region has witnessed a long series of conflicts since the end of the Second World War, it is now in the unprecedented situation where nearly all MENA states are involved to a certain extent in ongoing conflict. This report assesses the evolution of the armed forces, procurement and the defence industry in the countries of the MENA region. The report ends with a forecast for military development in the region.

Istituto Affari Internazionale

The MENA region in the global order: actors, contentious issues and integration dynamics

by László Csicsmann, Erzsebet N. Rózsa and Máté Szalai

24 November 2017

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

The paper aims at revealing the current nature of the interactions between the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region and the global order. The authors argue that this relationship can be divided into three separate issues: global actors, which influence (and are influenced by) regional developments, primarily the USA, China, Russia and the EU; contentious issues (such as borders and mobility, trans-nationalization, norms of proliferation and energy market tendencies) which effect international and transnational relations; and global integration dynamics (in the political, economic and technological spheres) which determine the extent to which the states and societies

of the MENA region participate in and shape the process of globalization. The paper introduces a number of research questions to guide further research in the different fields.

Israel's (in)security business

by Giulia Amoroso

25 November 2017

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

Israel is commonly perceived as an international security powerhouse, a country punching well above its weight in the realm of high-tech weaponry and military technologies. Much of this expertise has been developed through close partnerships with the US, but Israel's own domestic capabilities have gradually emerged as market leaders in certain domains, at times even competing with US manufacturers in the global arms market.

Changes and stakes of state and societal resilience in Tunisia

by Mohamed Kerrou

17 November 2017

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

Tunisia suffers from growing indebtedness, low growth and investment rates as well as high unemployment, especially amongst young graduates. The threat of terrorism, particularly along Tunisia's borders, adds to Tunisia's difficulties. Against this backdrop, three main challenges confront state and societal resilience in Tunisia can be singled out: security, smuggling and corruption, and economic hardships. While these factors threaten the country's transition, there are also positive drivers that can actually strengthen Tunisia's resilience, namely the country's bureaucratic tradition and legacy of state-led reforms as well as the role of civil society, which favours the national dialogue and facilitated the historic compromise between Islamists and secularists that has been key to Tunisia's political transition since 2011.

One, two or more states in Israel-Palestine? That isn't the question

by Nathalie Tocci [@NathalieTocci](#)

23 November 2017

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

For long, far too long, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has been trapped in a perceived one-state/two-state dichotomy. This dichotomy has provided life support to the so-called Middle East Peace Process (MEPP). The irony, or rather tragedy, is that it is precisely the persistence of such process, and the time that it has provided Israel to pursue its own agenda, which has invalidated the one-state/two-state dichotomy and hampered any meaningful progress towards genuine peace. In other words, while international debates get bogged down in the sterile one/two state debate and the MEPP persists as a consequence of this, the everyday realities of Israel's deepening occupation are overlooked, providing Israeli authorities with ample time to implement – in a phased and gradual fashion – its end goal of retaining a majority of the West Bank.

Imposing middle east peace: why EU Member States should recognise Palestine

by Dimitris Bouris [@BourisDimitris](#) and Daniela Huber [@dhuber81](#)

17 November 2017

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

In 1980, the European Community acted as a paradigm setter when it came forward with the Venice Declaration, recognizing the Palestinian right to self-determination, demanding the inclusion of the PLO in negotiations, stressing the need for Israel to end the occupation and underscored the illegality of Israeli settlements. While the Venice Declaration has been a norm-setter in many respects, it was nonetheless a far cry from the position of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) which in the same year affirmed Palestine's right to establish an independent state of its own.

OCP Policy Center

Climate change and the water-energy: food nexus in the MENA region

by Rabi H. Mohtar

13 November 2017

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

Understanding the interlinkages between climate change and the water-energy-food securities is critical for developing effective strategies to adapt to projected changes and ensure sufficient access to these resources for a growing global population. This brief identifies some of the key factors and specific climate change impact in each of the water, energy and food sectors and possible adaptation strategies will be explored.

Jobs in the Middle East North Africa, and the Moroccan case

by Uri Dadush

30 November 2017

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

The jobs markets across the Middle East North Africa region vary greatly, with some oil-rich countries importers of labour while others, including Morocco, are the source of emigrants. Morocco exhibits structural underemployment despite having grown quite rapidly. The reasons for Morocco's job-poor growth run deep. Policies can mitigate the problem but are unlikely to solve it in the foreseeable future.

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

Saudi Arabia's strategic stalemate - What next?

by Willem van den Berg

6 November 2017

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

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is currently pursuing a range of economic and social reforms domestically, while it has also replaced its traditional low profile foreign policy with a proactive and muscular one. This brief explores the domestic and regional origins of Saudi Arabia's more assertive foreign policy as well as its costly consequences, and outlines an alternative policy the Saudi government could choose to pursue.

Syria in 2019: four scenarios

by Minke Meijnders [@Minke_M](#), Jaïr van der Lijn [@JairvdLijn](#) and Bas van Mierlo

10 November 2017

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

Policy makers trying to grapple with and prepare for Syria's future are facing a complex and difficult task. How will the future evolve? What are possible policy responses? The paper identifies policy options for the future of Syria, using four potential scenarios in 2019. These scenarios are built on the basis of two key uncertainties: the level of violence in the Syrian conflict, which can either increase or decrease, and whether governance in Syria will further fragment or centralise, either by design or use of force.

RAND Europe

A peace plan for Syria IV

by James Dobbins [@Jim_Dobbins](#), Philip Gordon and Jeffrey Martini

30 November 2017

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

As the international community continues to search for ways to resolve Syria's civil war, the authors argue that an approach to reconstruction offered on a community-by-community basis could foster a bottom-up political process, help consolidate the peace, reduce the regime's reliance on Russia and Iran, and make the re-emergence of a terrorist movement less likely. Such an approach offers a better prospect that at least some areas will see increased economic activity and political development, some refugees will return, and some progress can be made toward reform of the Syrian state.

Institute for National Security Studies

Israel's red lines on Iran's foothold in Syria

by Udi Dekel and Zvi Magen

22 November 2017

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

According to the paper, it seems that the time is coming when Israel, if it wants to stop Iran's influence and consolidation in Syria, will have to become actively engaged in the Syrian quagmire. Israel has the power to destroy the Russian-Iranian "project" in Syria and severely damage the base on which the Assad regime relies.

Two years into the five-year plan for economic development of the Arabs in Israel

by Meir Elran, Muhammed Abu Nasra, Eran Yashiv and Morsi Abu Moch

22 November 2017

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

Nearly two years since the government of Israel adopted the five year plan (2016-2020) for the economic development of the Arab population in Israel (Resolution 922 of 30 December 2015) it is possible to present interim conclusions regarding the actual implementation of the plan. By and large, the implementation of the plan, covering fifteen fields of development, is proceeding at a reasonable pace, reflecting cooperation between the government and leaders of the Arab sector.

Atlantic Council

Iran's bottom line in Afghanistan

by Alex Vatanka [@AlexVatanka](#)

9 November 2017

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

Due to proximity and historical ties, no other country is as well placed as Iran to play a dominant role in Afghan society, as the author shows in this paper.

Partners or competitors? The future of the Iran-Russia power tandem in the Middle East

by John Herbst [@JohnEdHerbst](#)

20 November 2017

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

The author writes that Russia and Iran are currently drawn into partnership over common regional interests and anti-American policies and sentiments despite centuries of historical rivalry. While

their strategic partnership might not survive long-term shifts in either country's politics, it remains inimical to US interests in the short-term.

EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

Group for Legal and Political Studies

Kosovo, European integration and the SAA: an analysis of citizens' perceptions

by Umberto Cucchi [@umbertocucchi](#)

3 November 2017

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

This survey's analysis confirms the continuous support of the EU and its institutions among the citizens of Kosovo. Kosovo citizens believe that the EU has the knowledge, capacity, and political will to lead the efforts to solve most of the issues that afflict the country. More than 50% of the respondents evaluated as positively the work of the EU in Kosovo, identifying it as a source of peace, democracy and economic prosperity, therefore beneficial for Kosovo. A future entry into the EU would allow to Kosovars the possibility to free travel and employment in other EU Member States, something considered as incredibly attractive, especially for young individuals.

Expert-Grup

Monitoring report on the implementation of the Priority Reform Action Roadmap (5th July – 22nd November 2017)

30 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (57 p.), in [Romanian](#) (57 p.) and in [Russian](#) (62 p.)

In July 2017, the Government and the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova signed the Roadmap for the Priority Reform Agenda for the second semester of 2017. This report provides an independent evaluation of the implementation of Roadmap provisions for June - November 2017. The document covers eight policy areas, with a summary of developments for each of the actions, comments on the main achievements, and a list of relevant policy recommendations.

The cost of corruption in the Republic of Moldova and who covers it

by Dumitru Budianschi

21 November 2017

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

This comment paper gives a brief analysis of the cost of corruption in the Republic of Moldova, on the basis of the available meta analyses. Every year the Republic of Moldova loses from 8% to 13% of the Gross Domestic Product due to corruption, with about MDL 11.8-17.7 billion lost in 2016 only. These amounts exceed all the expenses made in 2016 for all pensioners and their social care allowances.

Vrije Universiteit Brussel - Institute for European Studies

Exploring the impact of the EU's promotion of regional and inter-regional processes in the Black Sea Region through science diplomacy

by Elke Boers

November 2017

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

This paper assesses the willingness, capacity and acceptance of EU Science Diplomacy policies in the Black Sea Region (BSR). This qualitative mapping looks at science initiatives that aimed to enhance regional cooperation, both in the BSR itself and between those countries and the EU.

Bruegel

Central Asia -twenty-five years after the breakup of the USSR

by Marek Dabrowski and Uuriintuya Batsaikhan

14 November 2017

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

Central Asia consists of five culturally and ethnically diverse countries that have followed different paths to political and economic transformation in the past 25 years. The main policy challenge for the five Central Asian economies is to move away from commodity-based growth strategies to market-oriented diversification and adoption of a broad spectrum of economic, institutional and political reforms.

AFRICA

European Centre for Development Policy Management

Can EU-Africa relations be deepened? A perspective on power relations, interests and incentives

by Jean Bossuyt and Dalil Djinnit

21 November 2017

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

In recent months, calls have been made to fundamentally rethink both the narrative and the practice of EU-Africa relations. The brief examines how much scope there is for deepening this crucial partnership. To this end, it analyses current EU-Africa relations with a political economy lens implying focusing on "why things are the way they are" and "where is there traction to move forward".

Union Africaine – Union Européenne: comment rendre la coopération plus efficace et plus avantageuse?

by René N'Guettia Kouassi [@renekouassi_N](#)

16 November 2017

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

According to the author, to consider Africa as a mature continent and to bury the clichés of its past with Europe must be the DNA of Europe's new approach to Africa. European commitments in Africa under multiple agreements can provide answers to certain challenges in the form of returns on investments. But only if the EU provides appropriate answers to the prerequisites contained in the developments that follow. The dynamics of African integration at the regional and continental levels must convey or even fully convey the content of relations with Europe. To do this, a deep change is needed in the behaviour of countries towards European partners.

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

Ein Konflikt um politische Legitimität im Südsudan

by Henrik Mayhap

November 2017

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

Armed conflicts in South Sudan are taking place between a growing number of conflicting parties. While national and local causes of conflict are increasingly mixed, this changed conflict constellation has so far not been taken into account by internationally sponsored peace efforts. What is needed is a fresh start for an open and inclusive political discussion on the criteria of a legitimate political order for South Sudan.

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

Red Sea: connector and divider

by Annette Weber [@annetteweber1](#)

November 2017

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

The Red Sea is a vital pathway for goods, people, arms, and livestock. Moreover, many issues are contested in the Red Sea region, ranging from military control to political Islam. In order to avoid further rifts between the Horn of Africa countries as a consequence of the disruptive politics of the Gulf, the Horn needs to perceive itself as a region and find common interests rather than becoming fragmented and weakened. The stability of the Horn of Africa as well as the security of its trade routes are of vital interest to European countries and economies.

Norsk Utenrikspolitisk Institutt (The Norwegian Institute of International Affairs)

Mali: a political economy analysis

by Boubacar Ba and Morten Bøås

24 November 2017

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

The Malian crisis is the outcome of an externally imposed shock with deep historical roots. Unless these are properly acknowledged, external stakeholders will stand few chances of helping Mali onto a more peaceful and stable trajectory. Many Malians have lost faith in the modern state, and in certain areas, the Jihadist insurgents have become more relevant than the Malian state and its external stakeholders for people's livelihood challenges. This report aims to shed light on the structures and actors responsible for this situation, and indicate some of the opportunities, constraints and risks for Norwegian Development co-operation with Mali.

Strengthening the peace and governance nexus within the African Union. Enhancing synergy between the African Governance Architecture (AGA) and the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA)

by George Mukundi Wachira

20 November 2017

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

The vision of the African Union (AU) is to achieve "an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the global arena". The attainment of that vision hinges on three foundational imperatives: democratic governance, peace and security, and sustainable development. This report focuses on the interlinkages between democratic governance and peace and security, examining the two overarching mechanisms established by the AU to strengthen democratic governance and attain peace and security, namely the African Governance Architecture (AGA) and the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA).

Atlantic Council / Africa Center

Equipping Africa's primary school learners for the future

by Constance Berry Newman

21 November 2017

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

Despite its importance, primary education in Africa remains in a persistent crisis. Of the sixty-one million children out of school globally in 2016, over half were in sub-Saharan Africa. In addition to low enrolment, the quality of primary education in Africa is among the poorest in the world, and far too many African learners drop out of primary school or graduate without obtaining the skills necessary for success at higher educational levels. At the root of the issue is that African primary

schools, especially those in rural areas, are chronically lacking in funding, materials, qualified teachers, and pedagogies that make learning accessible to the students.

International Centre for Counter-Terrorism - The Hague / United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

Action agenda on violent extremist offenders in prison in Mali

by Liesbeth van der Heide and Elena dal Santo

27 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (21 p.) and in [French](#) (24 p.)

The violent conflict in Mali, is continuously evolving. As the number of extremist detainees has increased due to the country's situation, it is important to consider issues that come along with this: how to deal with violent extremists when they are in prison? What different actors can play a role during this detention time? It is also important to take into consideration challenges linked to re-integration. This action agenda aims to address a number of these issues by outlining four action areas that currently deserve the attention of both national and international actors in order to efficiently deal with problems associated with detaining Violent Extremist Offenders (VEOs).

International Crisis Group

Uganda's slow slide into crisis

21 November 2017

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

Popular discontent is growing over President Museveni's apparent desire to remain in power while governance, economic performance and security deteriorate. According to this report, Uganda is not in danger of renewed civil war or rebel violence, but it risks sliding into a political crisis that could eventually threaten the country's hard-won stability.

ASIA-OCEANIA

Norsk Utenrikspolitisk Institutt (The Norwegian Institute of International Affairs)

Impact of climate change on ASEAN international affairs - Risk and opportunity multiplier

by Indra Øverland [@IndraOverland](#), Roman Vakulchuk [Roman Vakulchuk](#), Latifah Azlan [@LatifahAzlan](#), Pich Charadine, Kavi Chongkittavorn, Chanaloun Eksuriya, Edwin S. Estrada, Saiful Azmi Husain, Ainun Jaabi [@AinunJaabi](#), Nathan Lemphers [@enlem](#), Moonyati Mohd Yatid, Hang Thuy Nguyen, R.J. Marco Lorenzo C. Parcon, Shibao Pek, Vidhyandika Perkasa, Fawziah Selamat, Chansouda Siborliboun, Pou Sothirak, Apichai Sunchindah, Khin Ni Ni Thein, Daw Khin Thida Tin, Roman Vakulchuk, Arief Wijaya [@ariefwijayaWRI](#) and Harris Zainul [@harriszainul](#)

1 November 2017

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

This study examines the implications of climate change and climate policy for international affairs in Southeast Asia and for ASEAN as a multilateral organization. Climate change and efforts to mitigate climate change give rise to major risks as well as opportunities in international affairs. It is therefore in the interest of all countries to be aware of the risks and prepare for them, and the overarching purpose of this study is to support ASEAN and its member states in this area.

Nepal: a political economy analysis

by Magnus Hatlebakk

22 November 2017

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

This report is an integrated political economy analysis of Nepal. The main finding is that economic growth and poverty reduction have been steady in Nepal since the mid-1980s independently of a number of political upheavals, including ten years of civil war. Poverty has declined and social indicators have improved. Despite the availability of private capital and increases in wages for the poor, there is still a massive need for public investments in infrastructure, agriculture, health, and education.

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

The Japan-EU Economic Partnership Agreement

by Hanns Günther Hilpert

November 2017

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

Japan and the EU reached an agreement in principle for bilateral free trade, which should be ready for signing by the end of 2017 and would create the world's largest free trade area. Given its prominence, the Japan-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (JEEPA) raises the following questions: what trade liberalization can be expected? Does a free trade agreement between Japan and Europe actually make sense? Who would be the winners and losers? What are the risks and limitations? What are the political implications of the European-Japanese alliance?

Atlantic Council

Northeast Asian futures

by Robert A. Manning [@Rmanning4](#)

29 November 2017

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

The North Korean nuclear problem is part of a larger Korea question. It holds the potential to reshape geopolitics in East Asia toward either a more cooperative future or a confrontational one. The risks of nuclear war and proliferation, chaos in North Korea, and how the eventual reunification of the Korean Peninsula occurs are likely to have a transformative impact on US-Chinese relations, US alliances with the Republic of Korea (ROK) and Japan, and the strategic equation in the region and beyond. In this brief, the author provides strategic recommendations for the region to reduce risks and lay a foundation for greater economic and political integration.

European Council on Foreign Relations

Pre-empting defeat: in search of North Korea's nuclear doctrine

by Léonie Allard [@AllardLeonie](#), Mathieu Duchâtel [@mtdtl](#) and François Godement [@FGodement](#)

22 November 2017

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

This paper sets out to piece together North Korea's nuclear doctrine, drawing on original, open-source material published by the country's official news outlets KCNA and Rodong Shinmun in the five years since Kim Jong Un came to power.

Pew Research Center

Increasing public concern over North Korea's nuclear capability, intentions

November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (9 p.)

According to this research, the US public has become increasingly concerned over North Korea's capability and its willingness to use nuclear weapons. About seven-in-ten Americans (71%) say the US should take North Korea's nuclear threats "very seriously", up from 56% in 2013. And more say North Korea is capable of reaching the US with a nuclear missile – and is "really willing" to follow through on threats to use nuclear weapons against the US – than did so four years ago.

Three years in, Modi remains very popular

by Bruce Stokes [@bruceestokes](#), Dorothy Manevich [@doramanevich](#) and Hanyu Chwe
15 November 2017

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

Indians' approval of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and their satisfaction with both their country's direction and the state of its economy have grown in recent years. Three years into Modi's five-year tenure, the honeymoon period for his administration may be over but the public's love affair with current conditions in India is even more intense.

United States Institute of Peace

Reducing voter fraud in Afghanistan

by Mats Staffan Darnolf

2 November 2017

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

Since Afghanistan's first presidential election in 2004, massive election fraud and malpractices have been the rule. Confidence in the electoral process among the population is correspondingly low. As this brief explains, a new biometric voter registration system has recently been suggested by the Independent Election Commission to radically reduce voter registration risks. If it is to be effective, however, training of registration officials in using the envisaged technology is essential, as is ensuring acceptance of it among stakeholders. The timeline is short: elections are scheduled for 2018.

Local governance reform in Afghanistan and the 2018 elections

by Frances Z. Brown [@franceszbrown](#)

9 November 2017

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

This summer, Afghanistan's Independent Electoral Commission announced that its long-delayed elections to launch district councils will be held in July 2018. The international community has formally welcomed the statement, noting that district councils are both long overdue and a manifestation of the country's stated commitment to democratic reform. This brief examines whether launching district councils will achieve the goals of transferring greater accountability and inclusion to subnational levels of government, and offers recommendations on how donors might most effectively refocus their subnational state building efforts.

Deradicalising, rehabilitating and reintegrating violent extremists

by Raafia Raees Khan and Feriha Peracha

6 November 2017

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

Despite the increasing body of research on violent extremism, questions remain about why individuals join such groups and why recidivism remains common among those who have undergone deradicalization and reintegration programs. This brief discusses lessons learned from a Pakistani case study that focuses on psychosocial support and post-program monitoring to answer some of these questions.

International Crisis Group

Jihadism in Southern Thailand: a phantom menace

8 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (36 p.), in [Bahasa Melayu](#) (43 p.) and in [Thai](#) (44 p.)

Media reports and some observers suggest growing potential for Islamic State (ISIS) activity in Thailand's southernmost provinces. This report argues that to date there is no evidence of jihadist inroads, partly because the insurgents are nationalists who aim to create an independent state.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Real Instituto Elcano (Elcano Royal Institute)

América Latina frente a un trienio electoral decisivo (2017-2019)

by Rogelio Núñez

22 November 2017

Link to the article in [Spanish](#) (6 p.)

Latin America has started in November 2017 a long period of high electoral intensity, which will run until 2019, with 14 countries of the region having presidential elections. The author submits that what is at stake is the adaptation of regional economies to the new international context and the confirmation (or not) that Latin America has been experiencing a reversal of policy.

International Crisis Group

Venezuela: hunger by default

23 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (8 p.) and in [Spanish](#) (7 p.)

The Venezuelan economy is in free-fall amid a protracted political crisis, which saw dozens killed on the streets earlier this year. It faces a likely presidential election in 2018. A full-blown default could add an escalating humanitarian emergency to this economic and political crisis. The government should restore powers to the opposition-led parliament and seek its approval for a restructuring package. But this must form part of a full-scale political negotiation, with international supervision, including agreement on the appointment of an autonomous Supreme Court and Electoral Council and guarantees of a free and fair presidential election.

CHINA

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

Movement on the Silk Road

by Sebastian Schiek

November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (33 p.)

One important element of the China's Silk Road initiative is the plan to transport export goods by high-speed train to Western Europe. In view of this objective, Beijing believes that major changes are needed along the borders of Central Asia, explicitly calling for reforms from its partner countries, including Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, meaning greater economic openness, regional cooperation and modern border crossings. For Germany and the EU, it might be worth discussing with China on how synergies could be used to positively influence the reforms drawing on the knowledge and experience gained from its long-term project on border reforms in Central Asia.

Institute for National Security Studies

China at the dawn of a new era? The 19th National Congress of the Communist Party

by Doron Ella, Galia Lavi and Assaf Orion

15 November 2017

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

The 19th National Congress of the Communist Party, China's most important political forum, met in Beijing in October. The message from the Congress was that of a "new era" in China's relations with the world. China's increased openness to foreign investment and business activity, if it indeed materializes, will affect the economic horizon of China's relations with Israel; this is likewise true for the moves to strengthen the Party's rule. This report submits that a more active Chinese role in the international arena could gradually expand China's involvement in issues that concern Israel, and thus Israel's leaders must pay more attention to this rising power's intentions and aspirations.

OCP Policy Center

Chine – Maroc – Afrique : un partenariat agroalimentaire novateur

by Fathallah Oualalou

16 November 2017

Link to the article in [French](#) (9 p.)

The purpose of this work is to propose the establishment of a progress partnership between China and Morocco, focusing on the agri-food question in Africa. It is in this continent that the food demand will increase in a very sensitive way during the 21st century, in particular because of its demographic progression and the acceleration of its urbanization. Africa needs to succeed in its agricultural revolution to fight hunger and poverty, achieve the industrialization of its economy and master its urbanization.

RUSSIA

Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations / Institute of Europe of the Russian Academy of Sciences

The EU global strategy: implications for Russia

14 November 2017

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

This report addresses key bilateral issues, such as resilience in the shared neighbourhood and energy security. It questions the possibility of selective engagement between Russia and the EU in the presence of major crisis and conflicts of interest. Still, it states that the EU's shift to "principled pragmatism" may create the impetus for relaunching the political dialogue with Russia.

Barcelona Centre for International Affairs

War in peacetime - Russia's strategy on NATO's eastern and southern flanks

by Nicolás de Pedro [@nicolasdepedro](#) and Francis Ghilès (eds.)

November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (78 p.)

NATO treats the threats on the Eastern and Southern flanks separately. Issues are however increasingly intertwined. Yet NATO members have different perceptions, interests and therefore agendas which are linked to history and economics. These differences risk fragmenting NATO. In the East, Russian behaviour has restored deterrence and collective defence as the Alliance's core purposes. Defining a strategy against hybrid warfare has begun. In the Mediterranean NATO has yet to define a structure to deal with the complex challenges the region presents. This paper attempts to shed light on these complex issues and to suggest ways forward.

German Marshall Fund of the United States

Drawing red lines in gray areas: deterring Russia's challenge to transatlantic security today

by Steven Keil [@stevenkeil](#) and Martin Michelot [@martinmichelot](#)

30 November 2017

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

Russia rejects the post-Cold War order, viewing the transatlantic order as a challenge to its regional role and interests in post-Soviet space. Russia's conflict strategy - partly from the Soviet past, partly modern - exploits Euro-Atlantic weaknesses, weakens transatlantic red lines by blurring conflict and peace, confusing unity. Euro-Atlantic nations and institutions must identify priorities and develop red lines. By not understanding Russia's aims nor confronting its aggressions, it will continue exploiting Euro-Atlantic weaknesses and sow discord. Unclear red lines could lead to devastating miscalculations, with huge costs. Effective deterrence is essential.

Atlantic Council

The Kremlin's Trojan horses 2.0

by Alina Polyakova [@apolyakova](#), Markos Kounalakis [@KounalakisM](#), Antonis Klapsis [@AntonisKlap](#), Luigi Sergio Germani, Jacopo Iacoboni [@jacopo_iacoboni](#), Francisco de Borja Lasheras [@LasherasBorja](#) and Nicolás de Pedro [@nicolasdepedro](#)

17 November 2017

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

This report assesses how Russia influences politics and foreign policy in three of Europe's major powers, with the aim of destabilizing the EU and the transatlantic partnership. Russia's interference in the US presidential election in 2016 showed that democratic societies are vulnerable to foreign

influence. Russia continues to seek a foothold in European politics by building relationships with fringe political parties and leaders and developing personal and business ties with European mainstream politicians. Russia has developed a network of Trojan Horses: organizations and individuals who work to support Russian interests and undermine European cohesion.

Ústav mezinárodních vztahů (Institute of International Relations Prague)

Principles of Russian military thought

by Nicolò Fasola [@FasolaNicolò](#)

16 November 2017

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

This paper identifies the principles behind Russian military thought, offering an alternative to the contemporary analytical mainstream which deems Moscow's military behaviour to be revolutionary and unprecedented. This is based on comparative analysis of Russian official military discourse and practice between 2008 and 2016. Far from being incomprehensible, Russian military thought will be presented as the adaptation of classical strategic principles to contemporary contingencies.

Ośrodek Studiów Wschodnich (Centre for Eastern Studies)

Uzależnieni od konfliktu. Wewnętrzne uwarunkowania antyzachodniej polityki Kremla

by Maria Domańska

6 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (56 p.) and in [Polish](#) (53 p.)

Russia's foreign policy is subordinate to the domestic political aims of the ruling elite, which is opposed to the Western model of liberal democracy. The state is the de facto property of a small group of decision-makers, and the rules of international interactions are dictated by the logic of the 'zero-sum game'. The Kremlin's confrontational approach to the West results from the features of the Russian authoritarian regime, and from the mentality of the ruling elite. The latter is largely a product of a particular type of society and of the specific path of the state's historical development. In such conditions, is any real normalisation of relations between Russia and the West possible?

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Institut français des relations internationales

Trump, un an après. Un monde à l'état de nature ?

by Thomas Gomart [@thomasgomart](#) and Laurence Nardon [@LaurenceNardon](#), Alain Antil [@AlainAntil](#), Christophe Bertossi, Alice Ekman [@alice_ekman](#), Marc Hecker, Tatiana Kastoueva-Jean, Barbara Kunz, Françoise Nicolas, Julien Nocetti [@JulienNocetti](#), Vivien Pertusot [@VPertusot](#), Dorothee Schmid, Matthieu Tardis and Jean-François Boittin

2 November 2017

Link to the article in [French](#) (68 p.)

Unpredictable is often used to describe President Trump's behaviour and decisions. Given the weight of the US, this unpredictability accentuates international volatility. Although some of his directions had already been initiated by his predecessors, the personality of the 45th President of the US is a fundamental piece of any forecasting effort. This collective study brings elements of answer starting by analysing the institutional mechanisms that constrain the presidential will.

La guerre nucléaire limitée: un renouveau stratégique américain

by Corentin Brustlein [@CorentinBr](#)

2 November 2017

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

Over the past few years, a debate on possible scenarios of limited nuclear weapons use has surfaced again in the US. Russian nuclear saber-rattling since 2014 and the growing tensions in the Korean peninsula have led Washington to reassess its own ability to deter, or respond to, such a limited use of nuclear weapons.

Institut français des relations internationales / OCP Policy Center

Les Etats-Unis face à la Chine, de Henry Kissinger à Donald Trump

by Laurence Nardon [@LaurenceNardon](#)

23 November 2017

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

American debate on China was already old when Nixon sought diplomatic reconciliation following Kissinger's realist school. The full effect came between the collapse of the USSR and September 11 - as China rose as an economic and military power. Obama tried a "pivot" containment, while Trump uses a Jacksonian-Hamiltonian rhetoric. This paper reflects on the various theories. Can China replace a declining US? Are ambitions regional or global? Will China seek political or commercial power? Can communist states, violating human rights, democratize - and can trade help? Should the US take part? Can we avoid an armed clash between the US and China? How?

Chatham House - The Royal Institute of International Affairs

Trade policy under President Trump: Implications for the US and the world

by Marianne Schneider-Petsinger

6 November 2017

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

Shaping global trade since WWII, the US will no longer spearhead new free-trade agreements. However, global trade had trouble before Trump. Americans are skeptical of free-trade agreements, though they agree to free trade. Many Trump voters feel left behind by trade. Trump uses policy change rhetoric, but so far he is more moderate. Reducing US trade deficit, increasing trade remedies, and tackling unfair practices will be Trump's policy. This will have geostrategic effects. Talks with the EU are unclear. Trade war is unlikely. If a new trade system develops, Trump can actually strengthen global trade by addressing real problems in the current system.

Norsk Utenrikspolitisk Institutt (The Norwegian Institute of International Affairs)

Handelspolitikken under Trump

by Arne Melchior

7 November 2017

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

This paper analyses US trade policy under Trump. His trade policy means the end of 70 years of the US led global trade system. To a certain extent, this is only part of a trend these past ten years of growing polarization between China and the USA and disagreements over to what extent international cooperation in the WTO should be binding. Trump's trade policy is based on a simplified analysis of American trade deficit which puts the blame on trade deals. In contrast to predecessors, Trump is willing to break with the international trade system. This protectionism might be harm both trade partners and the global trading system as well as America itself.

Peterson Institute for International Economics

Estimates of fundamental equilibrium exchange rates, November 2017

by William R. Cline

November 2017

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

The early boost to the dollar following President Donald Trump's election - a Trump "bump" - has been replaced by a decline - a Trump "dump." This could be explained by changes in interest differentials against other major currencies, but thereafter a growing gap emerged in an apparent reflection of increased US political risk, from both domestic political dysfunction (with the failure to repeal the Affordable Care Act) and escalating tension with North Korea. A weaker dollar should help curb the widening of the US trade deficit and potential associated escalation of trade conflict.

Pew Research Center

Transatlantic dialogues: in Europe and North America, publics more supportive than experts of direct democracy

by Katie Simmons, Laura Silver and Courtney Johnson

7 November 2017

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

Recent years have witnessed a rise of populist sentiment in Western liberal democracies. On both sides of the Atlantic, elections have highlighted public dissatisfaction with the status quo, rejection of the establishment and desire to "take back control." Pew Research Center surveys of transatlantic experts and general publics in North America and Europe reveal a division between these two groups over the role of the people's voice in governing. While a median of 68% of the 12 publics surveyed say allowing citizens to vote directly on major national issues would be a good way to govern their country, just 37% of foreign policy experts surveyed agree.

Partisans have starkly different opinions about how the world views the U.S.

9 November 2017

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

The public has long held the view that the US is "less respected" by other countries than in the past. Majorities said this both when Barack Obama and George W. Bush were presidents. However, there have been great changes in how Republicans and Democrats view global respect for the US. 42% of Republicans say the US is less respected by other countries than in the past, the lowest percentage expressing this view in more than a decade. And a much greater share of Republicans (29%) say the US is more respected internationally today than did so during Obama's presidency or Bush's second term.

Institute for National Security Studies

United States policy in the Middle East: the need for a grand strategy

by Moshe Ya'alon [@bogie_yaalon](#)

28 November 2017

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

Trump first year has been characterized by the lack of clear policy guidelines vis-à-vis the Middle East. Although in the election campaign Trump spoke in favour of limiting US intervention in various arenas, it appears that the US administration has no choice but to continue in the role of the "world's policeman" to protect American interests. As to the Middle East, the US cannot allow itself to disengage from the region. Accordingly, the administration must formulate its objectives in the area and draft a strategy that will enable it to deal with the extremist elements, while

strengthening its allies in the region who can serve as force multipliers against these radical elements.

SPECIAL FOCUS - BREXIT ON THE BORDER: THEORIES FOR POSSIBLE REALITIES

UK in a Changing Europe

Brexit and the border: an overview of possible outcomes

by Kevin McNicoll

1 December 2017

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

The issue of leaving the EU is particularly complex for Northern Ireland, as this is the only part of the UK that has a land border with an EU member state. Leaving the EU could potentially have a huge impact on a great many different aspects of life in Northern Ireland, from issues relating to human rights to the continuation of the Good Friday Agreement. In the paper, all of the possible post-Brexit border outcomes for the movement of goods and of people are set out in a manner that gives answers to key questions that policy makers are now negotiating.

European Parliament Think Tank

Smart Border 2.0 Avoiding a hard border on the island of Ireland for Customs control and the free movement of persons

by Lars Karlsson

22 November 2017

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

The study provides background on cross-border movement and trade between Northern Ireland and Ireland and identifies international standards and best practices and provide insights into creating a smooth border experience. The technical solution provided is based on innovative approaches with a focus on cooperation, best practices and technology that is independent of any political agreements on the UK's exit from the EU and offers a template for future UK-EU border relationships.

European Parliament Think Tank / Trinity College, Dublin

Brexit and Ireland – Legal, political and economic considerations

by John Temple Lang

22 November 2017

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

The study describes the legal, political and economic relations of the two parts of Ireland and the UK, and possible arrangements for dealing with "Brexit". The paper discusses several specific issues, in particular the Common Travel Area between Ireland and the UK, the consequences of an "invisible" border between the two parts of Ireland, as well as trade in agricultural products.

European Parliament Think Tank / Queen's University, Belfast

UK Withdrawal ('Brexit') and the Good Friday Agreement

by David Phinnemore [@DPhinnemore](#) and Katy Hayward [@hayward_katy](#)

22 November 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (65 p.)

This study on UK withdrawal and the Good Friday Agreement (the 'Agreement') provides an overview of the Agreement and an assessment of the potential challenges posed to its implementation by 'Brexit'. In particular, it examines ways in which – through differentiation and

'flexible and imaginative solutions' – the Agreement can be upheld and the context for its effective implementation maintained.

Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute / Jacques Delors Institute - Berlin

Ireland on the rocky road to Brexit

by Aziliz Gouez

30 November 2017

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

Brexit raises a series of very complex and interconnected questions affecting, not only the relationship between Ireland and Britain, but relations between the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, as well as very delicate social, political and emotional balances within Northern Ireland. The three main concerns structuring the EU common position as regards Ireland comprise (1) the maintenance of the Common Travel Area between the UK and Ireland, (2) the protection of the peace process and its legislative and political bedrock, the Good Friday Agreement, and (3) the imperative of avoiding a hard border between the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. The paper looks at each of these three issues in turn, in an attempt to clarify the terms of the debate, provide the necessary elements of historical context, and identify areas where agreement is within reach, as well as those in which serious difficulties have arisen.

MISCELLANEOUS

Leuven Centre for Global Governance Studies

From Vienna to New York and back: the UN's contribution to international treaty-making on diplomatic and consular relations

by Sanderijn Duquet [@SanderijnDuquet](#) and Jan Wouters [@JMFWouters](#)
November 2017

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

In analysing the specific contributions made by the UN, the paper considers the desire by the Member States to codify diplomatic and consular law, the role of the UN as a forum for high-level negotiations and legal-technical research, and the UN's implementation efforts. The paper also discusses codification exercises that were less successful, most notably in determining the exact status of representatives sent on special missions and accredited to international organizations.

Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations

A world in flux

by Johan Verbeke
30 November 2017

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

The paper sketches a macro-political view of the current state of the world.

Pew Research Center

Europe's growing Muslim population

29 November 2017

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

Three scenarios illustrate what the Muslim population could look like in Europe in 2050. Even with no new migration, Muslims are projected to increase as a share of Europe's population.

United States Institute of Peace

Sexual violence, exploitation and abuse - Improving prevention across conflicts and crises

by Alicia Luedke, Chloe Lewis and Marisella Rodriguez
28 November 2017

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

According to the paper, conflict-related sexual violence by armed groups and abuse of civilians by peace interveners are two problems that have been kept separate but would benefit from a more unified approach as their root causes are the same.

La Vie des Idées

Le terrorisme de la vache

by Mathieu Ferry
17 November 2017

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

The sacredness of the cow and the religious ban on beef consumption have always constituted a way of keeping together the Hindu community. Even nowadays they are being instrumentalised by the nationalist far right.

Le peuple selon Ernesto Laclau

by Federico Tarragoni

3 November 2017

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

The Argentinian philosopher is known to the French public thanks to his left populism theory, which is a source of inspiration for the Podemos and Syriza parties. However, this theory is only a part of a more general theory regarding the social conflict, which leads to various types of reflection in the social sciences.
