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Dear Readers,

Welcome to issue 50 of the Think Tank Review compiled by the EU Council Library* ([click to share on Twitter](#)). It references papers published in September 2017. As usual, we provide the link to the full text and a short abstract.

For this issue, we have chosen as our special focus the ever-debated and increasingly important theme of digitalisation, highlighting articles from think tanks on topics such as the digital single market, artificial intelligence, robotics and e-commerce.

Also linked to this special focus are articles from other sections of the Think Tank Review on digital currency, digital disinformation, the impact of digital technologies on EU trade policy, cybercrime, 'netwar' and EU protection against cyber threats. They can be found in the Economic and Financial Affairs, Foreign Affairs and EU Policies sections.

We would also like in particular to bring the readers' attention to two other minor trends among the think tanks. The topic of religion and spirituality in connection with politics and identity is well represented, for instance Buddhism and state power in Myanmar as well as Iran's Azerbaijan question in evolution: identity, society, and regional security, and also Spirituality as a political instrument: the church, the Kremlin, and the creation of the 'Russian world'. These articles can be found in the Foreign Affairs section.

There are also several articles on jihadism, radical Islamism and Islamic State (IS). Among other things they deal with the reintegration of IS children, the impact of prophecies on the future of IS, and the need to combat Islamist extremism online, and there are studies on how and why people are attracted to jihadism and what type of religious, political and ideological publications they use. These articles can be found in the Miscellaneous, EU Member States and Foreign Affairs sections.

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Staying on the topic of violence and religion or religious extremism, we would also like to mention a recent piece from the London School of Economics and Political Science by Kaja Borchgrevink from the Peace Research Institute Oslo on the importance of [religious civil society in peace building](#).

In the first section, on EU Politics and Institutions, our readers will find a few articles on questions related to the future of Europe - among them, analyses of European Commission President Juncker's and French President Macron's much-discussed speeches on the issue.

The articles included under the Economic and Financial Affairs section range from publications on the EU budget and the single monetary policy, to the future of the euro and digital currency.

The EU Member States section deals with subjects relevant to the individual countries, but many of these are common to several Member States, for example immigration, labour reform, the political struggle with populism, terrorism, and reactions to China's belt and road initiative.

In the EU Policies section there are articles on wage gaps in Europe and the Erasmus+ programme, and several publications on migration and refugees.

A particularly substantial section in this issue of the Think Tank Review is Foreign Affairs, with a wide selection of articles and topics. These include suggested changes to the EU's defence policy and the proposal for new security architecture for Eastern Europe, challenges to nuclear disarmament, the continuing situation in Ukraine, as well as competition and cooperation between China and the West. A number of think tanks also covered Russia's Zapad 2017 military exercise which took place in September.

We are also pleased to note that there is a great variety of languages represented among the articles in this issue: there are articles in English, French, Spanish, German, Danish, Swedish, Greek, Polish, Arabic, and, for the first time, Burmese!

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

The next Review will be out in November 2017, with papers published in October 2017.

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

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SECTION 1 - EU POLITICS AND INSTITUTIONS

European Political Strategy Centre

Two visions, one direction: plans for the future of Europe

29 September 2017

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

In September 2017, European Commission President Juncker and French President Macron each outlined bold visions for the future of Europe. This paper provides a comparative assessment of the two speeches and the proposals they advance. While recognising the nuances, the analysis reveals a strong convergence of opinions between the two leaders. Both are looking to build a better future for Europe, based on prosperity, resilience and security.

European Parliament Think Tank / University of Oxford

Agenda-setting in the European Council, December 2014 – June 2017

by Petya Alexandrova

26 September 2017

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

This study analyses the change of topics on the agenda of the European Council compared to the previous legislature. The author examines the impact of major crises on the agenda of the summits.

Istituto Affari Internazionali / Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute

Juncker's last hurrah

by Riccardo Perissich [@Riperissich](#)

21 September 2017

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

Jean-Claude Juncker's State of the Union speech has been widely described as the last hurrah of an unrepentant federalist. Criticism labelling the speech unrealistic or even off the mark was to be expected. This article analyses Juncker's political programme in terms of content, strategies and actors involved.

Fondation Robert Schuman

Europe: responding to the double challenge of executive and democratic deficit

by Thierry Chopin

25 September 2017

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

The reform of the European political system and of the eurozone a minima supposes the prior clarification of the goals that are to be reached: is it a question of "simply" reforming the present institutional system whilst retaining the community rationale on which the Union's institutions are based - i.e. according to a rationale of a balance of interests and not of power? Or is it a question of going further and of transforming the European political system into one that is truly parliamentary, with a government that is accountable to parliament, or even into a presidential system, with its corollary, the introduction of an effective regime of separation of powers?

Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute

Europe, Allemagne, France : évolution des opinions publiques

by Pascal Lamy, Henrik Enderlein [@henrikenderlein](#), Sébastien Maillard [@seb_maillard](#) and Daniel Debomy

September 2017

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

According to recent opinion polls, the public is becoming more optimistic about the EU. This is certainly linked to the atmosphere in Germany and France, even though in both countries the evaluation of the economic situation and the attitude towards globalisation are still diverging.

SECTION 2 - ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Atlantic Council

The euro's difficult future - Competitiveness imbalances and the eurozone's North-South divide

by Luigi Bonatti

14 September 2017

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

The article focuses on the gap in competitiveness between Northern and Southern countries of the eurozone. The paper comes to the conclusion that firm's competitiveness and the attractiveness of a region are mutually dependent. According to the author, this growing imbalance creates tensions between Member States and contributes to euroscepticism. The paper illustrates why this structural gap cannot be tackled by macroeconomic policies and could threaten the euro's survival.

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

The future of the EU budget: perspectives for the funding of growth-oriented policies post-2020

by Robert Kaiser and Heiko Prange-Gstöhl

22 September 2017

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

This report focuses on the upcoming negotiations of the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) in the light of Brexit and other political challenges. Despite the significant change due to UK departure, the authors argue that path-dependency will prevail in the next MFF negotiations. It is likely that the cleavage between net-contributors and net-beneficiaries will remain. Moreover, the time period for setting new issues on the agenda will be rather short between German elections and the first Commission proposal in spring 2018.

The EU budget after 2020

by Iain Begg [@IainBeggLSE](#)

18 September 2017

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

This paper explores the direct consequences of Brexit for EU resources as well as the wider ramifications of UK departure. Drawing on various recent contributions to the debate on the future of Europe, it reviews likely demands for reform of the budget and how they might be accommodated in the next MFF. Three scenarios for the development of the EU's finances are set out, covering the status quo, moderate reform and the prospect of a radical reconfiguration of public finances in the EU.

European Centre for Development Policy Management

Strategically financing an effective role for the EU in the world: first reflections on the next EU budget

by Jean Bossuyt, Andrew Sherriff, Marc de Tollenaere, Pauline Veron, Meritxell Sayós Monràs and Mariella Di Ciommo

29 September 2017

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

After reviewing current developments at the international level as well as within Member States, the authors reflect on how to strategically adapt the post-2020 Multiannual Financial Framework to these developments. The paper argues that major internal and external challenges have to be addressed holistically in the new budget. According to the authors, two key challenges arise: the

call for more flexibility in the new architecture of external financing instruments (EFIs) and the role of 'values' in future partnerships between the EU and third countries.

European Parliament Think Tank / Sciences Po

Policy decentralization at the ECB

by Christophe Blot and Jérôme Creel

15 September 2017

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

The decentralized architecture of the ECB with the implementation of ECB policy by national central banks has raised transparency concerns. The authors argue that these concerns are misplaced: monetary easing under the assets purchase programme is actually allocated according to the capital key of the ECB treating all Member States equally. According to the authors, the ECB could take even more advantage of this decentralized architecture. By departing from the capital key, economic heterogeneities could be addressed more effectively with differentiated stimulus.

European Parliament Think Tank / Bruegel

The single monetary policy and its decentralised implementation: an assessment

by Francesco Papadia and Alexander Roth

15 September 2017

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

According to the paper, the Eurosystem has considerably improved its operational transparency in the last few years while still lagging behind the Federal Reserve System (Fed). Comparing both systems in terms of operational transparency, efficiency and simplicity, the article comes to the following results: information on operating costs and staff numbers is less accessible in the Eurosystem. Staff numbers and operational costs are higher for similar tasks and the decentralized structure of the Eurosystem makes monetary policy implementation more complex.

European Parliament Think Tank / Hertie School of Governance / Queen Mary University of London

The single monetary policy and decentralisation: an assessment

by Mark Hallerberg and Rosa M Lastra

15 September 2017

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

Monetary policy in the Eurosystem is an exclusive EU competence. However, there remains an operational distinction between centralized decision-making and decentralized implementation. According to the authors, this distinction prevents the ECB to act as a lender of last resort when it comes to Emergency Liquidity Assistance (ELA) and unconventional monetary policy instruments. A second issue addressed in the paper is the lack of transparency in data reporting on ELA.

Centre for European Policy Studies

The single monetary policy and its decentralised implementation: an assessment

by Daniel Gros

29 September 2017

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

The paper addresses the growing decentralisation of monetary policy operations with the crisis and unconventional monetary policy instruments, namely the Public Sector Purchase Programme (PSPP). Under this programme, national central banks have to buy their own government bonds

and have a considerable margin in implementation. The author suggests to reduce this margin of maneuver in order to avoid divergences in European monetary policy.

Centre for European Reform

Is the eurozone really out of the woods?

by Simon Tilford [@SimonTilford](#)

22 September 2017

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

Looking at recent growth and economic forecasts, the article questions whether further significant reforms are needed. The author concludes by saying that reasonable cyclical recovery will take place without reforms but further action will still be needed to react to major crisis in the upcoming years.

Lisbon Council for Economic Competitiveness and Social Renewal

Euro Plus Monitor: September 2017 update

by Holger Schmieding and Florian Hense

11 September 2017

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

The article focuses on economic reforms undertaken in the eurozone and France more specifically. Two questions are addressed by the authors: Can the Macron agenda turn France into the continent's economic powerhouse in the next decade? And is the eurozone on the right track?

Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute

Public policies to promote venture capital: how to get national and EU measures in sync

by Philipp Ständer

September 2017

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

This paper analyses two policy tools through which the EU and its Member States promote venture capital: public VC funds and tax incentives for VC investors.

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

Banks in tax havens: first evidence based on country-by-country reporting

by Vincent Bouvatier, Gunther Capelle-Blancard and Anne-Laure Delatte

September 2017

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

The article analyses new database to assess the importance of tax havens in international banking activity. Based on this assessment, the authors provide several new insights: tax havens attract large extra banking activity, for EU banks main tax heavens are located within Europe avoiding most opaque countries. According to the paper, tax savings for EU banks represent 5-20% of fiscal revenues.

Bruegel

A European perspective on overindebtedness

by Nicolas Véron [@nicolas_veron](#) and Jeromin Zettelmeyer

28 September 2017

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

The paper analyses policy decisions taken since the financial and sovereign debt crisis to address the unsustainable euro area policy framework and namely the bank-sovereign vicious circle. According to the authors, the most impactful initiative has been the initiation of a banking union in mid-2012, but this remains incomplete and needs strengthening.

Europe's fourfold union: updating the 2012 vision

by Nicolas Véron [@nicolas_veron](#)

21 Septembre 2017

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

Departing from the description of the euro area as a 'fourfold union' with financial, fiscal, economic and political union, the author argues that politically much progress has been achieved. According to the author, risk sharing within fiscal union has to be strengthened with measures such as a European Deposit Insurance Scheme or even a pooling of selected tax revenue streams.

Capital Markets Union and the Fintech opportunity

by Maria Demertzis [@mariademertzis](#), Silvia Merler [@SMerler](#) and Guntram B. Wolff [@GuntramWolff](#)

15 September 2017

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

The article states that progress from a bank-based system towards deeper capital markets remains slow in Europe. Fintech have the potential to change the system substantially by introducing new business models. However, until now, in the EU the FinTech market are small compared to other countries. According to the authors, policy makers have to develop a strategy and a comprehensive regulatory framework to strengthen the European FinTech market.

RAND Europe

Digital currency and the future of transacting

by Katherine Stewart, Salil Gunashekar and Catriona Manville [@CMManville](#)

30 August 2017

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

With innovation in digital technology, new ways of exchange of goods and services have developed with the emergence of cryptocurrencies and transaction platforms. As the landscape of innovations in this sphere is broad and fast moving, thought should be given to the potential impact of these changes on wider society. The paper addresses opportunities and risks of digital transaction and its influence on labour market and economic governance.

Institute for European Environmental Policy/Centre for European Policy Studies

Key challenges and opportunities for cities and regions and MFF post 2020

by Jorge Núñez Ferrer, David Rinaldi, Arnd Hassel, Martin Nesbit, Andrea Illes and Kamila Paquel

5 September 2017

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

The study focuses on challenges ahead for the new Multi-Financial Framework due to Brexit and more precisely the impacts for local and regional authorities. The authors analyse how this

potential budget cut will affect critical areas such as economic growth, climate change and migration.

Wiener Institut für Internationale Wirtschaftsvergleiche (The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies)

Is Europe disintegrating? Macroeconomic divergence, structural polarisation, trade and fragility

by Claudius Gräbner, Philipp Heimberger, Jakob Kapeller and Bernhard Schütz
September 2017

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

This paper analyses economic developments in the eurozone since its inception in 1999. In doing so, it documents a process of economic divergence and polarisation among those countries that joined the eurozone during its first two years. Empirically, it demonstrates how this divergence is tied to a structural polarisation in terms of the sectoral composition of eurozone countries: specifically, the emergence of export-driven growth in core countries and debt-driven growth in the European periphery coincides with differences in technological capabilities and firm performance.

SECTION 3 - EU MEMBER STATES

AUSTRIA

Fondation Robert Schuman

Austria: a comeback for the People's Party (ÖVP)-Liberal Party (FPÖ) coalition?

by Corinne Deloy
18 September 2017

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

Since the end of the Second World War, political life in Austria has been dominated by two parties: the People's Party (ÖVP) and the Social Democratic Party (SPÖ). This work analyses the current Austrian political system and the trends for the future.

DENMARK

Tænketanken EUROPA

Suveræne Danmark: Danskernes fortællinger om EU og suverænitæt

by Catharina Sørensen [@CatSorensen](#)
14 September 2017

Link to the article in [Danish](#) (81 p.)

Reluctance to transfer national sovereignty to the EU was the main reason why British citizens voted for Brexit or why Norway decided not to join the EU. This work analyses the current EU debate on the notion of sovereignty by trying to understand the reasons behind the fear of Danish citizens to lose their sovereignty.

European Policy Institutes Network

Mastering the supply and demand of tomorrow's labour market: a case study from Denmark

by Stina Vrang Elias
29 August 2017

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

This work examines the challenges faced by the Danish labour market with the aim to raise three fundamental questions. First, it addresses the change in the skills set required by the European labour market. Second, it asks whether the current education system allows students to adapt to these changes. Finally, it considers the possibility of recruiting abroad to supplement the current lack of highly skilled workers.

FRANCE

European Policy Centre

National report: France

September 2017

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

Today, France's role in Europe seems to be weakened. The lack of political leadership, and the economic crisis together with the migration crisis created the impression that the EU is a dysfunctional organisation. This report suggests a set of solutions to counter this perception.

Institut français des relations internationales

Forces nucléaires françaises: quel renouvellement ?

by Corentin Brustlein

September 2017

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

Over the next few years, France will have to renovate its nuclear arsenal in order to remain a credible source of deterrence in the eyes of its adversaries. This article states that even if this renovation is going to take place in a difficult social and economic context, sacrificing nuclear deterrence on the altar of the fight against terrorism would be a fatal mistake.

Terra nova

Pour des transitions énergétiques locales: repenser en profondeur le rôle des collectivités

by Laurent Simon, Alexandre Hierochinsky, François Berthélemy and Antoine Guillou

26 September 2017

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

While the French government is now trying to define the content of the ecological transition strategy, this work proposes a number of operational tools to redefine the relations between the central government and the local administrations in the future energy transition.

Institut de relations internationales et stratégiques

Pourquoi la France doit regarder vers la Mer de Chine

by Axelle Letouré

September 2017

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

Over the past decade, the China Sea has been the scene of numerous incidents as the result of tensions between China and Western powers such as Australia and U. The area is indeed the subject of many claims of sovereignty. Besides China and Taiwan, also Viet Nam, Japan, Malaysia, Brunei and The Philippines respectively have their own claims on the region.

GERMANY

Bertelsmann Stiftung

Popular elections: mobilisation and counter mobilisation of the different social environments at the Bundestag elections 2017

by Robert Vehrkamp and Klaudia Wegschaider [@KWegschaider](#)

October 2017

Link to the article in [German](#) (128 p.)

This study analyses the social environment and the electoral behavior during the 2017 Bundestag election.

Foundation Robert Schuman

Germany: a fourth term in office for Angela Merkel?

By Corinne Deloy

4 September 2017

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

The author provides the main elements about German federal elections on 24th September. She explains how the Chancellor has focused the campaign on herself, standing as the guarantor for the country's stability and prosperity, and using her economic results. For Angela Merkel, Europe and employment are the two main issues in the electoral campaign.

A further victory for Angela Merkel and a breakthrough by the populists in the German federal elections

by Corinne Deloy

24 September 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (3 p.) and in [French](#) (4 p.)

The German federal elections have led to the election of Chancellor Angela Merkel who will therefore be starting her fourth term as head of government, but they also led to the entrance of a right-wing party into the Bundestag for the first time since 1949.

Institut français des relations internationales

Élections allemandes : le jour d'après

by Hans Stark

September 2017

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

Chancellor Angela Merkel benefits from both her international role and the weakness of her political opponents. However, the German federal elections took place in a difficult context. This work analyses this context.

De Berlin à Weimar ? La victoire amère d'Angela Merkel

by Hans Stark

26 September 2017

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

Although Chancellor Angela Merkel has won the election for the fourth consecutive time since 2005, this article explains why this victory is bitter by providing a complete overview of the challenges the new government will face in the next years.

La politique turque de l'Allemagne sous Merkel : un bilan critique

by Rosa Burç and Burak Çopur

September 2017

Link to the article in [French](#) (30 p.) and in [German](#) (32 p.)

This article provides an analysis of the reasons behind the deterioration of the relations between Germany and Turkey under the Merkel's government.

E3G

Pre-election briefing five scenarios for the future of coal in Germany

by Sabrina Schulz [@sbschulz](#), Julian Schwartzkopff [@JSchwartzkopff](#) and Chris Littlecott [@chrislittlecott](#)

20 September 2017

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

This article discusses the different interests and strategies of the main German political parties and the possible coalition scenarios for the next German government.

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

Ambitious framework nation: Germany in NATO - Bundeswehr capability planning and the "Framework Nations Concept"

by Rainer L. Glatz and Martin Zapfe [@martinzapfe](#)

September 2017

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

This article analyses the future German government's plan for security and defense: a stronger German role within NATO and increasing military capabilities in order to become the backbone of the European defense together with the British and French armed forces.

IRELAND

Economic and Social Research Institute

An Irish welcome? Changing Irish attitudes to immigrants and immigration: the role of recession and immigration

by Frances McGinnity and Gillian Kingston

11 September 2017

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

This paper investigates the attitudes towards immigrants in Ireland from 2002 to 2012 based on the assumption that economic status and education influence these attitudes.

Centre for Climate Change Economics and Policy

The effects of home energy efficiency upgrades on social housing tenants: evidence from Ireland

by Bryan Coyne, Sean Lyons and Daire McCoy

28 September 2017

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

Social housing residents, who often rent rather than owning and have low income, are less likely to invest in energy saving measure than the general population. Therefore, improving energy efficiency of such residences often requires the state intervention. This research examines the impact of a home energy efficiency upgrade plan on social housing tenants in Ireland.

ITALY

Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research

The effects of youth labour market reforms: evidence from Italian apprenticeships

by Andrea Albanese, Lorenzo Cappellari and Marco Leonardi

September 2017

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

This paper analyses the effects of the 2003 reform of the Italian apprenticeship contract which aimed at introducing the "dual system" in Italy by allowing on-the-job training. The authors find that five years after hiring, the new contract improves the chances of moving to a permanent job.

POLAND

European Council on Foreign Relations

Europe and its discontents: Poland's collision course with the European Union

by Piotr Buras

7 September 2017

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

Poland's Law and Justice Party (PiS) has embarked on a process of 'de-Europeanisation' to distance itself from the EU. In pursuit of its goal, PiS has diminished its influence in the EU by prioritizing NATO over CSDP and undermining democratic institutions. This article analyses this undergoing process, stressing that Poland can only avert its collision course with the EU by protecting its democratic institutions and being more involved in the cause of a stronger Europe.

SPAIN

Fundación Alternativas

Comunicación contra el odio: análisis del estado de la discriminación en España y propuestas de actuación política, educativa y mediática

by Adolfo Carratalá and Beatriz Herrero-Jiménez

25 September 2017

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

The authors focus on hate speech and discrimination as a growing phenomenon in Spain and other European countries, analyzing the data provided by Eurobarometer and OSCE as well as the work of public authorities and several NGOs.

SWEDEN

Utrikespolitiska Institutet (Swedish Institute of International Affairs)

Sweden's approach to China's belt and road initiative: still a glass half-empty

by Mikael Weissmann [@mikaelweissmann](#) and Elin Rappe [@elinrappe](#)

26 September 2017

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

This paper outlines how China has approached the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) with Sweden, how Sweden has responded and the perceptions of major Swedish stakeholders. It finds that Swedish officials are often highly cautious, while members of the business community are cautiously optimistic. It concludes that Sweden's approach has been too reactive and too passive.

It argues that both the government and the business community need to engage more actively with the BRI in order to maximize its possible benefits.

Timbro

Hur mycket lönar sig arbete i Sverige?

by Jacob Lundberg [@jacob_lundberg](#)

20 September 2017

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

This report builds on Swedish and international research to show that the Participation Tax Rate - a measurement of the proportion of gross earnings taken in tax or reduced benefits has an effect on employment. The generous income support which is provided by the welfare state reduces work incentives and increases unemployment. By reducing income tax rates and lowering social benefits, the author argues, employment would rise.

UNITED KINGDOM

Adam Smith Institute

No Stress III: the flaws in the Bank of England's 2016 stress tests

by Kevin Dowd

13 September 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (172 p.)

This report focuses exclusively on the Bank of England's 2016 stress tests of the resilience of the UK banking system. Like the preceding tests, it suggests that the UK banking system is in much worse financial shape than the Bank of England suggests: the stress tests seek to demonstrate a resilience that simply isn't there. The author argues that the UK banking system is still highly vulnerable and another major shock could bring it down again.

Making sense of the NHS

by Tim Ambler

14 September 2017

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

This paper presents proposals of structural changes of NHS and outlines the benefits which a new manageable strategy would bring. The author argues that how much the Treasury should provide the NHS is a political decision, based on the state of the UK economy, international comparatives, the coherence of NHS strategy and the competing demands for support. He also stresses that there is wide agreement that exactly how those funds should be allocated should not be a political decision.

Policy Exchange

Foreign policy and national security in the new Parliament

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

September 2017

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

This report focuses on the vital role of Parliament in debates about Britain's place in the world. The authors argue that the UK must think strategically and act decisively in order to continue exercising the influence in the world that is changing so fast. The report stresses the constructive ways in which the UK parliament can help to contribute to making foreign policy beyond set-piece debates in the House of Commons. It also highlights the importance of remembering UK's international

obligations while navigating Brexit in the heightened atmosphere of partisanship in the House of Commons.

Tony Blair Institute for Global Change

For Caliph and Country. Exploring how British jihadis join a global movement

by Rachel Bryson [@rachel_e_bryson](#)

28 September 2017

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

This report explores what connects jihadis from across the UK and how they made their journey into jihadism, as well as how has a global, violent ideology captured the minds of so many British citizens and residents. Basing on an research examining a randomly selected group of 113 men and 18 women relating to British jihadism, the author makes recommendations regarding what can be done to prevent others from choosing this path.

International Centre for Counter-Terrorism - The Hague

What types of media do terrorists collect? An analysis of religious, political, and ideological publications found in terrorism investigations in the UK

by Donald Holbrook

26 September 2017

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

This research paper presents results from the study of media usage by convicted terrorists in the UK. The purpose is to shed light on the nature of the media environment in which individuals convicted of participation in terrorist plots operated in the weeks and months prior to their arrest. The paper concentrates on those media publications that convey religious, political, or other ideological sentiments and describes the analytical tools developed to dissect this material. It is directed towards practitioners, scholars and students interested in the sources of influence that help shape the perspectives of those planning to carry out terrorist attacks.

Royal United Services Institute

Preparing for war in Korea

by Malcolm Chalmers [@MChalmers_RUSI](#)

21 September 2017

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

This report examines different scenarios of how a conflict with North Korea might unfold and its likely consequences, for both the region and the world. It argues that the UK needs to start thinking now about its response to what would be one of the most momentous strategic shocks of the post-Cold War era. The author stresses that there is no easy military option that can destroy North Korean nuclear capabilities without starting a wider war.

Demos

Shopping for good: the social benefits of charity retail

by Peter Harrison-Evans [@Pete_H_E](#)

11 September 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (92 p.)

The author presents new evidence on the profile of charity shoppers and donors, and explores the impact of volunteering on employability skills. Charity shops continue to be a lifeline for struggling town centres, with two-thirds of managers saying that their shop fills premises that would otherwise be left vacant. However, where economic conditions are improving, charity shops are also playing

an active role in supporting high street rejuvenation through diversification and specialization. This report proves that charity shops generate substantial social, economic and environmental benefits.

Next generation UK

by Ian Wybron [@IanWybron](#), Simone Vibert [@SCVibert](#) and Josh Smith [@Jphsmith](#)

12 September 2017

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

This report constitutes the outcome of a research series the objective of which was to investigate young peoples concerns and aspirations. The authors stress that one of the starkest ruptures of all exposed by the EU Referendum in UK is between the generations: with the older population turning out in great numbers to vote leave, and younger voters frustrated in their ambition to remain. The authors argue that if Brexit represents an opportunity for social renewal, then young people must be involved properly in what happens next.

Institute for Public Policy Research

Not by degrees: improving student mental health in the UK's universities

by Craig Thorley [@craigithorley](#)

1 September 2017

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

This paper examines the increasing levels of mental illness, mental distress and low wellbeing among students in higher education in UK. The author analyses and formulates recommendations on possible ways of improvement of the mental health and wellbeing of students. He argues that universities should make the issue a strategic priority and adopt a 'whole-university' approach based on prevention and promotion, early intervention and low-level support, responding to risk and crisis management, and referral into care and treatment.

E3G

Unlocking Britain's first fuel: the potential for energy savings in UK housing

by Jan Rosenow [@janrosenow](#), Nick Eyre, Steve Sorrell [@steve_r_sorrell](#) and Pedro Guertler [@enfinnEU](#)

6 September 2017

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

This paper analyses how new energy efficiency investments could save energy and lower its costs per household in UK. The authors argue that one half of the energy currently used in UK housing could be saved by investments in mixed technologies. They add that the possible savings would be approximately equivalent to the output of six nuclear power stations the size of Hinkley Point C. The authors also estimate that, apart for the net value of 7,5 billion pounds, this investment could bring additional benefits in the value of up to 57 billion pounds.

BREXIT

Centre for European Policy Studies

Stocktaking after Theresa May's Brexit speech in Florence

by Michael Emerson [@Michael12540](#)

26 September 2017

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

This paper analyses the current situation of the Brexit negotiations in the context of UK's Prime Minister speech in Florence. The author argues that the most important tangible point in the Florence speech was the proposal of a transition period to last "around two years", during which a

virtual functional status quo would persist. He also focuses on the need to define the future UK-EU relationship and to present UK's proposal for the deep and special relationship in detail.

Brexit transitional period: the solution is Article 50

by Eleni Frantziou and Adam Łazowski

9 September 2017

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

As the Brexit negotiations labour on, the complexity of what lies ahead is finally, painfully, becoming clear to the UK government. Some Brexiteers now seem to accept the idea that some sort of a transitional phase will be necessary. This has already been explicitly acknowledged by the European Council and the European Parliament and now appears to be on the cards on the EU side of the Channel. While as a matter of principle the idea of a transitional regime is pragmatic and sound, it will be very difficult to accomplish. With this in mind, Article 50 already sets out a withdrawal phase that can, and should, be considered 'transitional.'

Brexit and the treatment of EU citizens by the UK home office

by Elspeth Guild

4 September 2017

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

This paper focuses exclusively on the status of EU citizens in the UK and the EU after Brexit, namely the fate of EU citizens living in the UK and British citizens living in the EU-27 after the UK leaves the EU. The author argues that the status of EU citizens is among the most sensitive issues in the negotiations and a priority to be resolved before the trade discussions begin. He concludes that it is essential for all parties to take great care to ensure that all the actors on their side of the table are singing from the same song sheet.

Tænketanken EUROPA

Brexit kan sætte gang i reform af EU's budget

by Jan Høst Schmidt [@JanSchmidtEC](#)

7 September 2017

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

This paper focuses on the EU budget from the Danish perspective. The author analyses Denmark's standpoint on the future EU budget and the need to start thinking about a fundamental budget reform in the context of Brexit. The author points out that Brexit may leave a 24 billion euro gap in the EU budget. Brexit is a good reason to discuss more fundamental reforms of the EU budget and its funding so that the EU can also solve the common challenges the EU countries will be facing in the future.

Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute

The area of freedom, security and justice: Brexit does not mean Brexit

by Funda Tekin

13 September 2017

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

This paper highlights the fact that the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (AFSJ) represents a policy area in which a Brexit scenario could resemble 'old wine in new bottles'. The author argues that in individual policies both sides would clearly win from 'softer' options of a Brexit. The basic line of argumentation that guides the analysis of this paper is two-fold: First, in light of this differentiated integration, the author expects Brexit to have mixed effects. Second, political interests and structural obligations resulting from this differentiated pattern of 'outsiderness' will provide guidelines for Brexit negotiations in the AFSJ.

Institute for Government

Implementing Brexit: customs

by Joe Owen [@j_owen](#), Marcus Shephard [@MShephard](#) and Alex Stojanovic [@awstojanovic](#)

8 September 2017

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

This paper focuses on customs as an area of UK Government policy that needs to change as a result of Brexit, and makes an assessment of how it might change and what will be required to implement the change. The authors highlight the critical role played by organizations outside government and present the complex web of private sector organizations that must also be ready to ensure UK trade can continue to cross the border on day one after Brexit. The paper also offers recommendations to help the UK, such as moving customs requirements away from the physical border and establishing working groups with the private sector on implementation.

European Policy Centre

Reversing over the cliff edge?

by Fabian Zuleeg [@FabianZuleeg](#)

18 September 2017

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

This paper formulates recommendations for EU concerning Brexit negotiations. The author argues that in order to ease the negotiations, the EU should break with the principle that the UK must come up with the solutions as it has created the problem. He also adds that at the same time the EU should protect itself from the blame game, whereas he also indicates that the EU should be prepared for the worst case scenario, because for domestic reasons in the UK the no deal scenario will remain on the table.

Brexit: dealing with withdrawal symptoms

by Andrew Duff [@AndrewDuffEU](#)

5 September 2017

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

This paper reviews the problematic first phase of the Brexit negotiations and suggests ways to make progress on the three key issues: citizens' rights, finance and Ireland. The author addresses major possible obstacles and uncertainties and also formulates some recommendations for the Prime Minister Theresa May. He stresses that she must shed light on the nature of the transition period, its financing and governance, and locate clearly the UK's future.

Corporate Europe Observatory

Brexit bonanza: lawyers encouraging corporations to sue UK & EU Member States

September 2017

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

This paper argues that Brexit could become a money-making machine for law firms that make millions when corporations sue nation states via trade and investment agreements. It highlights that the ISDS-system could mean that the Brexit negotiations and aftermath could be influenced by fear of legal action from big business, when they should be led in the public interest. Moreover, it stresses that the system gives law firms and corporations the chance to opportunistically pursue absurd cases that enable them to claim taxpayer's money after Brexit.

Centre for European Reform

Brexit and energy: time to make some hard choices

by Philip Lowe

25 September 2017

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

The author examines what impact will the UK's vote to leave the EU have on its energy market, as well as if the UK is able to safeguard some of the benefits which they obtain, or could obtain, from continued involvement in the development of integrated European electricity and gas markets. He argues that the UK faces a choice between economics and sovereignty and adds that if it opts for sovereignty, it will mean the UK leaving the EU's single energy market, having to invest more in new electricity generating capacity, pay higher prices, enjoy less security of supply, and accept a bigger role for the state in the energy sector.

E3G

Catalysing cooperation maintaining EU-UK cooperation on energy & climate change post-Brexit

by Peter Clutton-Brock [@pcbrock](#)

6 September 2017

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

This paper analyses both the negotiation process and key issues at stake on energy and climate change in the context of Brexit. It proposes public interest benchmarks against which EU citizens can assess the Brexit negotiations on climate change and energy. The author stresses that it is imperative that potential areas of cooperation, such as clean energy and climate change, are identified. He argues that unless EU negotiators are given a specific mandate to make progress on areas where there is greater potential for cooperation, at the same time as discussing a future trade relationship, there is a real risk of the UK chaotically crashing out of the EU.

VISEGRÁD COUNTRIES

Center for European Neighborhood Studies

The future of the EU beyond Rome: views from the Visegrad Countries

by Łukasz A. Janulewicz [@la_janulewicz](#) (ed.), Vladimír Bilčík [@VladoBilcik](#), Vladimír Bartovic [@vbartovic](#) and Péter Balázs

September 2017

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

The authors examine the viewpoints of the Visegrad Countries on the future of EU, presenting the position and the perspective of each of the countries in a separate chapter. The paper was created in connection with the 60th anniversary of the signing of the Rome Treaty in March 2017, when Member States decided to rethink where the EU is headed and to present their new ideas. The authors address the changes taking place in Visegrad Countries in the context of the so-called Bratislava Process.

SECTION 4 - EU POLICIES

JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

European Parliament Think Tank

Corruption in the European Union. Prevalence of corruption, and anti-corruption efforts in selected EU Member States

by Piotr Bąkowski and Sofija Voronova

18 September 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (85 p.)

This study deals with the prevalence of corruption in the EU and describes the action taken to address the problem. It focuses on initiatives and policies implemented by governments at the national, regional and local levels in eight selected Member States.

The Hague Security Delta

Europol: the internet organised crime threat assessment (iOACTA) 2017

September 2017

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

This report shows that cybercrime continues to grow and evolve, and that it is converging with organised crime. It describes challenges faced by law enforcement in terms of investigation and prosecution of cybercrime. It concludes by listing a number of recommendations to address the phenomenon.

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

"Better migration management": a good approach to cooperating with countries of origin and transit?

by Steffen Angenendt and David Kipp [@davidjkipp](#)

September 2017

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

The central Mediterranean is the most used route for irregular immigration to Europe. A proportion of the refugees and migrants on this route in 2016 came from the Horn of Africa and East Africa. The EU seeks to cooperate with the countries in this region on migration. The Better Migration Management programme is part of these endeavours. Some criticize the programme, believing it disregards human rights and validates despotic regimes. This claim has been unjustified. But there is a risk that such cooperation may embolden authoritarian leaders. It is therefore important to pay attention to legitimacy when establishing partnerships on migration policy.

Centre for European Policy Studies

Pathways for legal migration into the EU: reappraising concepts, trajectories and policies

by Sergio Carrera, Andrew Geddes [@AndrewPGeddes](#), Elspeth Guild and Marco Stefan (eds.)

11 September 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (231 p.)

The coming years may well prove decisive for the direction the EU is taking in general, and with that of its migration (and integration) policy in particular. At stake are key operational and strategic questions. This publication unites the expertise of academics as well as expert practitioners. It helps strengthen the all-important link between research and policy-making, and most importantly

provides input for a well-informed discussion on how to shape future migration policies and instruments that benefit host societies, countries of origin and the migrants themselves.

Tænk tanken EUROPA

EU-lande svigter i fordelingen af flygtninge

by Sarah Vormsby [@SVormsby](#)

25 September 2017

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

The EU's redistribution mechanism has expired, which according to original plans had to allocate 160 000 refugees from Greece and Italy to other EU countries. Only 29 142 refugees have been distributed. It will take 2.5 years more to reach the target. Several countries refuse to fulfil their obligations. Heavy handling and lack of infrastructure have also slowed down the distribution. The Commission has proposed making the allocation mechanism permanent under the Dublin rules. If this is realized, Denmark must accept solidarity redistribution if it wants to continue to be able to return asylum seekers to the first EU country to which they have arrived.

Migration Policy Institute

Engaging communities in refugee protection. The potential of private sponsorship in Europe

by Susan Fratzke

September 2017

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

In most European countries, refugee reception and resettlement have historically been highly centralized government functions. Yet as national asylum systems saw their capacity stretched to a breaking point during the 2015-16 crisis, new grassroots efforts began to crop up across Europe to offer newcomers shelter, food, clothing, and a sense of welcome. In addition to playing a critical role in a time of crisis, these initiatives also sparked debate among European policymakers and civil society about whether there is something to be gained by involving community groups and private citizens more directly in the refugee resettlement and integration process.

Demand-side measures Against Trafficking

The role of security sector actors in addressing the demand-side of human trafficking

by Stela Haxhi, Giji Gya, Daria Hagemann, Juha-Pekka Jäpölä and Sara Stocker

September 2017

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

This working paper looks at what role the security sector plays in addressing demand and demand-side measures of human trafficking.

COMPETITIVENESS (INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND SPACE)

Centre for European Policy Studies / European Capital Markets Institute

Developing EU capital markets for SMEs: mission impossible?

by Apostolos Thomadakis

4 September 2017

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

Bank lending is the most common source of external finance for SMEs, but it doesn't suit all of them. Young, innovative and fast-growing SMEs, in particular, do not have the required cash flows and collateral for bank financing and need alternatives to unlock their growth potential. Market-based finance is one alternative to help finance the activities of these SMEs. The European

Commission's renewed activities to develop market-based financing need to be stepped up in order to develop a credible capital market to finance SMEs in the EU.

Bruegel

Remaking Europe: the new manufacturing as an engine for growth

by Reinhilde Veugelers [@R_Veugelers](#) (ed.)

7 September 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (254 p.)

Europe needs to know how it can realise the potential for industrial rejuvenation. How well are European firms responding to the new opportunities for growth, and in which global value chains are they developing these new activities? The policy discussion on the future of manufacturing requires an understanding of the changing role of manufacturing in Europe's growth agenda.

Leuven Centre for Global Governance Studies

The impact of national space legislation on private space undertakings: a regulatory competition between states?

by Dimitri Linden

September 2017

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

With the growing trend of privatisation and commercialisation of space activities, several states deemed national space legislation the most suitable way to regulate private space initiatives in order to ensure compliance with international space law principles. The scope and content of these laws differ, affecting private companies in various states in distinct ways. This paper analyses the national space laws of Australia, France, the UK and the US. This analysis serves as a basis for some insights on what a national space law should look like, while keeping the desirability to stimulate the growth of the space industry in mind.

La vie des idées

Qui sait? Le libre accès en Afrique et en Haïti

by Florence Piron

19 September 2017

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

Will open access to scientific publications allow universities in Sub-Saharan Africa to participate equally in global research? According to the author, its implementation seems to reinforce the hegemony of the works published in the North.

TRANSPORT/TELECOMMUNICATIONS/ENERGY

Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung (German Institute for Economic Research)

Renewable energy policy: risk hedging is taking center stage

by Nils May, Ingmar Jürgens and Karsten Neuhoff

27 September 2017

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

The cost of renewable energy technologies has fallen. Financing costs of new installations plays an increasing role in the cost of Germany's energy transition. This puts the focus of support instruments for renewable energy on creating affordable financing conditions for investments. This report compares the effects of various policy instruments on risk factors and on the costs of financing investment in the energy transition. It shows increases in the financing costs under green

certificates and fixed premiums, which are passed on to end customers. Development of support instruments should avoid unnecessary risks for investors that could lead to higher financing costs.

Centre for European Policy Studies

CESEC 2.0: opening the door to a new level of regional cooperation

by Christian Egenhofer [@CEgenhofer](#) and Cristian Stroia [@Cristian_Stroia](#)

27 September 2017

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

The Central and South-Eastern Europe Gas Connectivity (CESEC) initiative brings together EU and non-EU countries under a single regional framework promoting energy policy cooperation. All states in the region share common challenges in the areas of energy security and energy market development that can best be addressed via a joint regional approach. To date, the initiative has been a major political success for all those participating – the European Commission, the Member States and the Energy Community contracting. This paper takes stock of the progress achieved so far and highlights the implementation of the new phase of regional cooperation.

GLOBSEC Policy Institute

Good neighbors make good security: coordinating EU critical infrastructure protection against cyber threats

by Philip Chertoff [@philip_chertoff](#)

28 August 2017

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

This paper examines the current vulnerability of EU critical infrastructure to failures caused by cyberattacks. It introduces the theory and implications of critical infrastructure interdependencies and explores past EU efforts to secure critical infrastructure from physical failures. Accounting for the damage and versatility cyberattacks on critical infrastructure, this paper suggests that the recently adopted "[Directive on security of network and information systems](#)" (NIS Directive), which aims to mitigate cyber-threats to critical infrastructure, will not be sufficient to handle the possible cross-industry and cross-border impacts of cyberattacks on critical infrastructure.

EMPLOYMENT/SOCIAL POLICY/HEALTH/CONSUMER AFFAIRS

European Trade Union Institute

The country-specific recommendations (CSRs) in the social field. An overview and comparison. Update including the CSRs 2017-2018

by Stefan Clauwaert

September 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (109 p.)

This paper overviews CSRs in the field of employment and social policies and provides an update of previous similar research. It compares the CSRs issued in 2017-2018 and those adopted by the European Council in 2011 -2016. It also contains a country-by-country overview of the social recommendations received by Member States and of their clarifying recitals, an overview of the social CSRs adopted in 2011-2017, a comparison between the texts of social recommendations in 2015-2016 by country and also a comparison between the texts of the social CSRs for 2017-2018, as proposed by the European Commission and adopted by the Council in 2017.

What drives wage gaps in Europe?

by Jan Drahokoupil [@jan_drahokoupil](#) and Agnieszka Piasna

September 2017

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

This paper investigates wage differences across Europe. It estimates to what extent wage gaps in average wages observed between countries are related to differences in workforce composition, in workplaces, as well as the types of jobs conducted in different countries. It also assesses the observed differences in returns on endowments by identifying which sectors and occupational groups contribute most to the wage gaps.

Centre for Policy Studies

Strikes in essential services: time for further protection for the public?

by Nicholas Finney

14 September 2017

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

Strikes in essential services are banned in most major Western economies – but not in the UK. With coordinated strike action now being threatened by public sector unions, the author argues the Government should consider amending the Trade Union Act 2016 to protect the public from damage done by strike action.

ENVIRONMENT

Centre for Climate Change Economics and Policy

A theory of gains from trade in multilaterally linked ETSs

by Baran Doda [@BaranDoda](#), Simon Quemin and Luca Taschini

4 September 2017

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

Ties between emissions trading systems (ETSs) have an important role to play in the successful, cost-effective implementation of the Paris Agreement. While the theory of bilateral linkages is well established, we know relatively little about the gains from trade in a multilaterally linked system, and less still about how they are shared among jurisdictions participating in the system. The researchers' theoretical results imply that the global market may not emerge endogenously and a quantitative exercise shows that this concern may have some validity in practice.

Atlantic Council

Using citizen-based observations to plan for climate change - A look at the United States and Europe

by Sarah Abdelrahim

21 September 2017

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

As a global challenge with profound implications at the local level, climate change provides new opportunities for individual engagement. Communities around the world have their own unique experiences with the effects of climate change, as well as drastically different climate adaptation needs. This gives individuals an unprecedented role to play in sharing information and guiding policymaking through citizen-based observation. The author recommends greater cooperation and support from government agencies and decision-makers for these networks as a key aspect of any and all climate change adaptation strategies.

EDUCATION/YOUTH/CULTURE/SPORT

College of Europe

Erasmus student or EU Ambassador? People-to-people contact in the European neighbourhood policy: the cases of Georgia, Ukraine and Tunisia

by Andrea Perilli [@PerilliAndea](#)

September 2017

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

This paper investigates to what extent and why the key action 1 of the Erasmus+ programme, namely learning mobility of individuals, can be considered a soft power's instrument on European Neighbourhood countries. The core assumption is that due to people-to-people contact, Erasmus participants are most likely to become EU informal ambassadors, in the sense that they become carriers of EU soft power leading to changes in cultural and social perceptions.

Centre for European Policy Studies

Declining youth unemployment in Europe: the effect of the business cycle or the European youth guarantee?

by Mikkel Barslund [@mBarslund](#) and Daniel Gros

4 September 2017

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

In this paper, the authors argue that in most countries youth unemployment is not a large stand-alone societal problem but rather that general unemployment is the problem. The authors take a fresh look at youth unemployment and how it measures up against overall unemployment. They find that the literature is far from clear on the crucial question of whether being unemployed when young carries a larger scar than for older workers and conclude, in fact, that there is little reason to prioritise jobs for youth over jobs for adults.

SECTION 5 - FOREIGN AFFAIRS

FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY / DEFENCE

College of Europe

The European Union's changing approach towards multilateralism

by Sebastian Forsch

September 2017

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

This paper analyses in how far the 2016 EU Global Strategy (EUGS) has changed the EU's approach towards multilateralism compared to the approach under its predecessor, the 2003 European Security Strategy (ESS).

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

A paradigm shift in the EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy: from transformation to resilience

by Annegret Bendiek [@annegretbendiek](#)

September 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (30 p.) and in [German](#) (33 p.)

The EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) is thriving. To the great surprise of many observers, there has been a strong increase in the conceptual and practical activity of the CFSP over the past few months, comparable only to its revival after the Kosovo crisis. How can we explain this renaissance of a policy area that was assumed dead? What legal and political dynamics have contributed to its revival?

EU defence policy needs strategy: time for political examination of the CSDP's reform objectives

by Rosa Beckmann and Ronja Kempin [@RonjaKempin](#)

September 2017

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

Tectonic shifts in the geopolitical environment and within the EU itself have led the Member States and the Commission to launch a string of initiatives seeking to expand the EU's strategic autonomy in security and defence. These efforts can only be sustainable if the projects involved are placed on a long-term footing and a process of reflection about the orientation of the EU's Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP). Year two of EU Global Strategy (EUGS) implementation should be used to initiate steps in that direction.

Real Instituto Elcano (Elcano Royal Institute)

Doña Cuaresma y don Carnaval, o dicho de otra forma, la UE y el presidente Trump

by Carlos Alonso Zaldívar

18 September 2017

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

This article examines the international order under President Trump to assess how the EU should react to this new situation. It concludes that the EU has to take its necessary distances towards the US by adopting its own positions.

International Institute for Strategic Studies

NATO's limits: a new security architecture for Eastern Europe

by Michael O'Hanlon [@MichaelEOHanlon](#)

18 September 2017

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

This paper argues the West should negotiate a new security architecture for neutral states in Eastern Europe, from the North to the South and the Caucasus. Most of these are hesitant about NATO; interest in joining is due to a recent sense of threat, which a new security order might ease. An end to NATO expansion would demand Russian concessions: an end to meddling in neighbouring countries' internal affairs; verified withdrawal of its regular and irregular forces from their territory; respect of the right of neutral states to join any economic or political association. It would also lead to the lifting of sanctions on Russia, and make Europe a safer place.

Institut de relations internationales et stratégiques

How to make PeSCo a success

by Olivier de France [@olivierdefrance](#), Claudia Major [@ClaudMajor](#) and Paola Sartori [@SartoriPal](#)
September 2017

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

The EU has been debating means of fostering defence cooperation for years, with little palpable results. Is it to be different this time with the introduction of the 'Permanent Structured Cooperation' (PeSCo)? The current discussion has focused on the institutional set up, and has overlooked the more political questions. What is it for? What incentive can the EU offer Member States to bind themselves into mutual dependence? What is the added value? The sovereignty question is the elephant in the room here. Do Member States give up what they perceive as core interest so far: the autonomy of decision making on the national level on military and defence industrial affairs?

Defence industrial links between EU and US

by Jean Belin, Keith Hartley, Sophie Lefeez, Hilmar Linnenkamp, Martin Lundmark, Hèlène Masson [@hmasson_FRS](#), Jean-Pierre Maulny and Alessandro R. Ungaro [@AleRUnga](#)
September 2017

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

The European Commission's initiatives in the field of armament should lead to a deeper integration of European 'Defence Technological and Industrial Bases' (DTIBs) in the coming years. In parallel, the links between European and American DTIBs take the form of technological and armament cooperation, and of capital links between European or American companies. This report aims at analysing the links between the US DTIB and the EU DTIB, and the consequences these links carry on cooperation between European DTIBs.

Istituto Affari Internazionali

The UN Nuclear Ban Treaty and the NPT: challenges for nuclear disarmament

by Carlo Trezza

September 2017

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

In July 2017, over a hundred countries voted in favour of the 'Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons' (TPNW). On 20 September the treaty has been opened for signature by all Member States, with fifty signatures necessary for the treaty's entry into force. In spite of this evident success, it is unlikely that the treaty will lead to the elimination of nuclear weapons given that none of the countries possessing such weapons took part in the voting procedure.

Atlantic Council / Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

Digital disinformation: a primer

by Tim Hwang

25 September 2017

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

Revelations around Russian efforts to shape the 2016 US presidential election through the use of disinformation, bots, and hacking have thrust the problems of "fake news" and social media manipulation into the public spotlight. The aim of the piece is to provide a concise handbook of key terms, major actors, and policy recommendations to address current and emerging threats, including trolling campaigns, cyber-attacks, and artificial intelligence (AI).

Fondation Robert Schuman

Proposals to counter the fight to counter terrorism

By Thierry Chopin, Fabien Ganivet and Elie Renard

11 September 2017

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

In this paper, the author makes proposals to counter the fight to counter terrorism. According to him, the need to consider certain "regalian" issues in close cooperation with the various E.U. Member States has to be recognised. The Franco-German couple can recover a degree of unity and credibility and even create a strong domino effect amongst its partners within the EU.

Policy Exchange

The new netwar: countering extremism online

by Martyn Frampton, Ali Fisher and Nico Prucha

23 September 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (131 p.)

The spate of terrorist attacks in the first half of 2017 confirmed that jihadist radicalisation is a real and present danger to the national security of the UK and its allies. Yet talk of ISIS' 'decline' in the virtual world has been grossly overstated. ISIS is producing extremist content online at a consistent rate and this is spread across a vast information ecosystem: it is disseminated to core followers via Telegram, before being pumped out into the mainstream social media space. For this reason, the authors argue that more must be done to force jihadist content out of the mainstream. It is clear that the status quo is not working; it is time for a new approach.

Dahrendorf Forum

The EU and its neighbours: reconciling market access, governance, and democracy

by Kevin Featherstone

1 September 2017

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

The EU's relationships with its non-member neighbours present a serious challenge for the continent's political and economic future. Brexit has brought this challenge into sharp focus, but it is not the only contentious relationship the EU must negotiate, nor is it the first. This short paper elaborates the constraints, trade-offs, and consequences of the EU's external agreements with Norway and Switzerland. It then considers these in the context of the debate over the EU's own future.

Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute

The EU as a 3-D power: should Europe spend more on diplomacy, development and defence?

by Nicole Koenig [@Nic_Koenig](#) and Jörg Haas [@jorg_haas](#)

14 September 2017

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

In international security affairs, the EU often presents itself as a champion of the comprehensive approach with the ability to combine a broad range of civilian and military instruments and policies. Focusing on the policy areas of diplomacy, development and defence, the authors analyse how much the EU Member States currently invest in their collective comprehensive power and whether and how they could do more. It is based on recent Member States expenditure data on the one hand, and analyses estimating the efficiency gains stemming from European cooperation on the other.

Vrije Universiteit Brussel - Institute for European Studies

Securing global health through diplomacy: from one-way transfer to multi-directional knowledge exchange

by Annamarie Bindenagel Šehović

September 2017

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

The urgency of responding to challenges of newly (re-)emerging diseases is increasing as population movements and (always) fluid borders raise the attendant questions of how to secure the health of both mobile and sedentary populations. This paper traces such transfer to identify whether it is one-way or multi-directional. It bases its results on primary-source findings from recent fieldwork in South Africa, drawing on policy, culture, science and industry transfers and/or exchange. Moreover, the paper articulates a number of proposals to enhance knowledge exchange in the service of international health diplomacy for global health security.

TRADE

European Parliament Think Tank / University of Lucerne

Current and emerging trends in disruptive technologies: implications for the present and future of EU's Trade Policy

by Mira Burri [@miraburri](#)

20 September 2017

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

Digital technologies, taken as a broad generic category of technological inventions and applications, fall under a rare kind of 'disruptive technologies' that can radically change existing economic sectors, enable new modes of work, production and consumption and trigger broader societal transformations. This study analyses the implications of digital technologies for EU's external trade policies. It accentuates the critical importance of data and cross-border data flows for the emergent digital economy and underscores the need to appropriately address them with a calibrated and more proactive positioning of the EU in international trade venues.

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

Exporting creative and cultural products: birthplace diversity matters!

by Gianluca Orefice and Gianluca Santoni

September 2017

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

This paper analyses the effect of birthplace diversity on exports of creative and cultural goods, for 19 OECD countries, over the period 1990-2010. By matching UNESCO's creative and cultural exports classification to trade and migration data, the authors find a strong positive effect of birthplace diversity on the export of creative products. These results are robust across several specifications and shed light on a potential new channel through which migrants can contribute to the host country's export performance. An instrumental variables approach addresses the potential endogeneity problems and confirms these results.

European Centre for International Political Economy

The compounding effect of tariffs on medicines: estimating the real cost of emerging markets' protectionism

by Matthias Bauer [@MatBauerEcon](#)

September 2017

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

By levying import tariffs on pharmaceutical products, the governments of many low and middle-income countries, including the world's major low and middle-income economies, explicitly aim to maintain a source of government income and, at the same time, protect domestic producers from foreign competition. However, by squeezing out financial rents from the import of much-needed medicinal products, these governments impair the affordability of these products. Patients in low and middle-income countries largely pay for medicines out of their own pockets and, in addition, suffer from a great number of inefficiencies along regional value chains for medicinal products.

DEVELOPMENT

Friends of Europe

Development and security - Investing in people, peace and prosperity

6 September 2017

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

The discussion paper is a result of the Friends of Europe's Development Forum bringing together crucial development actors. In this discussion paper, international experts and practitioners consider how policymakers can address the security-development nexus to build peaceful and inclusive societies.

European Centre for Development Policy Management

ACP-EU relations beyond 2020: engaging the future or perpetuating the past?

by Jean Bossuyt

4 September 2017

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

This policy brief assesses the prospects and conditions for Member States overall ability to fundamentally adapt EU's external action and development cooperation approaches focusing on the future revision of the Cotonou Partnership Agreement.

ENLARGEMENT PROCESS

Centar za Evropske Politike (European Policy Centre)

Serbia's pursuit of interests in the European Union - Ready to grasp growing opportunities?

by Strahinja Subotić [@SubaBG](#)

September 2017

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

Having in mind that the interaction between the EU and Serbia is expected to increase in the upcoming phases, this policy brief explore Serbia's current administrative, financial and lobbying capacities at the EU level in the context of Serbian EU accession negotiation process, in order to acquire a comprehensive understanding of how Serbia is pursuing its interests in Brussels today and whether (and how) it could use experience gained during the previous decade to its advantage.

Serbia's pursuit of interests in the European Union - Administrative, financial and lobbying capacities

by Strahinja Subotić [@SubaBG](#)

29 September 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (83 p.)

In order to become a member state, Serbia needs to close negotiations on all of 35 chapters. The interaction with the EU officials is likely to increase as well in the subsequent phases of the process. This will give further importance to Serbia's presence and activities in Brussels, which are dependent on its administrative, financial and lobbying capacities. By promoting an image of a serious, firm, credible and responsible EU candidate country (and acting like it), Serbia has the potential to increase and improve its appeal in Brussels and willingness of the EU representatives and Member States to cooperate with it and take its preferences into consideration.

Polski Instytut Spraw Międzynarodowych (Polish Institute of International Affairs)

Turcja w procesie przemian: wnioski dla strategii UE

by Karol Wasilewski [@kwasylewsky](#)

29 September 2017

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

The report describes the most important changes in Turkish domestic and foreign policy and formulates recommendations for Poland and the EU regarding European-Turkish relations.

EU Institute for Security Studies (EUISS)

Resilience in the Western Balkans

by Sabina Kajnič Lange [@SabinaKLange](#) , Zoran Nechev [@ZoranNechev](#) and Florian Trauner [@ftrauner](#)

August 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (146 p.)

According to the 2016 EU Global Strategy, a credible accession process grounded in strict and fair conditionality is essential to foster resilience in the Western Balkans. This report examines how the Western Balkans has emerged once again as a potentially volatile geopolitical arena, and analyses the drivers underpinning both fragility and resilience in the countries of the region from a variety of perspectives. It explores how policy approaches, mechanisms and instruments that have hitherto been applied might be adapted to counter those challenges (both internal and external) that threaten the EU accession perspective.

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

The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: new government and new policies or new government and old tactics? A view from Athens

by Alexandros Mallias [@AlexMallias](#)

September 2017

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

The author analyses the perspectives for improving the relations between Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia the day after the formation of a new Government in Skopje. He suggests that the two governments should not raise high expectations. They should work to enhance and expand the Confidence Building Measures' Process and rather opt for a quiet diplomacy on the name issue. He also analyses the Political Declaration of the Albanian Leaders in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, stressing its importance for addressing the interethnic tensions between Slavs and Albanians and for solving the name issue with Greece.

EASTERN PARTNERSHIP

Bruegel

Ukraine's unfinished reform agenda

by Marek Dabrowski

27 September 2017

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

This paper analyses the Ukrainian economic, institutional and political reforms of 2014-17 in terms of their sustainability and completeness, and evaluates what remains to be done. Compared to previous attempts, the current reform round has proved more successful and some politically difficult decisions have been taken (for example, the elimination of gas subsidies), but it remains incomplete in many important areas such as local and regional self-government, public administration, the judiciary, law enforcement agencies, the energy sector and infrastructure, the pension system, privatisation and land ownership.

Center for Transatlantic Relations / Cicero Foundation

Ukraine 'experts' in the West and Putin's military aggression: a new academic 'orientalism'?

by Taras Kuzio [@TarasKuzio](#)

September 2017

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

The author examines the academic misconceptions among scholarly and think tank papers in the field of Putin's military aggression against Ukraine and the ensuing crisis. He argues that many of these articles have been written using orientalist stereotypes of Russia, Ukraine and the Crimea that have deep roots in Western academia.

Ośrodek Studiów Wschodnich (Centre for Eastern Studies)

The great decommunisation. Ukraine's wartime historical policy

by Tadeusz A. Olszański

September 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (54 p.) and in [Polish](#) (52 p.)

This paper discusses historical policy in the strictest sense. The first part discusses the decommunisation of the public space that took place in 2014-2016 and its significance. The second one presents the change of attitude towards World War II, including the problem posed by

the Holocaust and the attitude towards the UPA and Stepan Bandera in the Ukrainian remembrance policy. The third part discusses a new element which signifies the greatest changes in the Ukrainian collective consciousness: the process of returning the Ukrainian People's Republic and the struggle for independence in 1917–1921 to the positive national tradition.

Overseas Development Institute

Humanitarian access and local organisations in Ukraine

by Veronique Barbelet [@VeroBarbelet](#)

September 2017

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

This working paper analyses the level and quality of access humanitarian actors - particularly local groups - have managed to carve out in Ukraine, the challenges to securing that access, the strategies that have been used to open up access and how access has waxed and waned over time. It compares and contrasts the access international and local actors have had, and the similarities and differences in their approaches to access problems. The aim is to draw out the lessons the formal humanitarian sector can learn from the ways in which local actors approach access in conflict, as well as informing how these two groups of actors can or should interact.

Central Asia-Caucasus Institute and Silk Road Studies Program

Iran's Azerbaijan question in evolution: identity, society, and regional security

by Emil Aslan Souleimanov [@Emil_Aslan](#) and Josef Kraus

5 September 2017

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

This study focuses on the phenomenon of growing national self-awareness among members of the Azerbaijani minority in Iranian territory who are striving for ethnolinguistic and cultural emancipation – in confrontation with efforts by the regime and part of the country's Azerbaijani population to continue with a policy of assimilation. The final part of the study deals with the international context of Azerbaijani nationalism in Iran, emphasizing primarily its security dimensions. Individual chapters analyze the positions of the US, Azerbaijan, Israel, Turkey, and Russia and the relations of those countries with the Azerbaijani minority and with Iran itself.

MIDDLE EAST/NORTH AFRICA (MENA)

Barcelona Centre for International Affairs

Global identities: embedding the Middle East and North Africa Region in the wider world

by Katerina Dalacoura, Silvia Colombo [@silvius20](#) and Gülşah Dark [@gülşahdark](#)

September 2017

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

This paper outlines the ways in which the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region has been embedded in global identity processes and structures in the post-2011 period. It assesses MENA social and political developments in relation to global ideational and identity factors. According to the paper, important among these is the imagined yet increasingly widespread and pernicious idea of a clash between "Islam" and "the West", (mis)conceived as homogeneous identities. However, as the paper shows, global or universalist identity perceptions, in the form of support for human rights and democratic values, also influence the MENA region.

European Council on Foreign Relations

To end a war: Europe's role in bringing peace to Syria

by Julien Barnes-Dacey [@jbdacey](#)

12 September 2017

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

This paper suggests avenues for Europeans to forge an effective diplomatic track under French leadership. According to the author, President Macron's renewed focus on Syria and support for de-escalation efforts, and the inability of other Member States to take a lead on this issue, make France the natural leader of this initiative.

Fondazione ISMU – Iniziative e Studi sulla Multietnicità (Initiatives and Studies on Multi-ethnicity)

The European response and strategies in the Middle East: Iraq and Syrian conflicts, Islamic terrorism and humanitarian crisis

by Carlo Paternollo

September 2017

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

This paper aims to analyse and assess the European political approach and strategies towards the Middle East region, namely regarding the on-going conflicts in Syria and Iraq and the consequent humanitarian and political crisis.

Atlantic Council

Revolution unveiled: a closer look at Iran's presence and influence in the middle east

by Phillip Smyth [@philipsmyth](#), Tim Michetti [@timichetti](#) and Owen Daniels

14 September 2017

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

Through four case studies, this report examines new or lesser-known methods Iran employs to project its influence beyond its borders.

Center for Strategic and International Studies

Instability in the MENA region, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and key conflict states: a comparative score card

by Anthony H. Cordesman

28 September 2017

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

The civil challenges in many countries are also as great, or greater, than the security ones. This report compares civil instability in MENA countries and other key conflict countries in key areas: governance; human development, urbanization and security burden challenges; population pressure; "youth bulge" and youth unemployment; economic challenges; education, dependency, and medical challenges; ethnic, religious, and linguistic diversity.

Brookings Institution

Grappling with Islamism: assessing Jordan's evolving approach

by Beverley Milton-Edwards [@bmiltoneidwards](#)

30 September 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (38 p.) and in [Arabic](#) (34 p.)

Long regarded as an "oasis of stability" in a conflict-ridden region, Jordan has faced an increasing number of security challenges in recent years. Neighbouring Iraq and Syria are fragile or broken, flooding Jordan with refugees and acting as hotbeds for extremism. Thousands of Jordanians have gone to fight in those countries, and a wave of terrorist attacks has struck the kingdom itself. As a result, the regime's stance toward Jordan's variety of Islamists has evolved, leading to questions as to whether or not this strategy is the most effective Jordan could implement.

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

Shrinking spaces in Israel: contraction of democratic space, consolidation of occupation, and ongoing human rights violations call for a paradigm shift in Europe's policies

by Muriel Asseburg

September 2017

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

Israel has always claimed to be the only democracy in the Middle East. Yet the current government coalition is dominated by right-wing, ultra-Orthodox and national-religious parties advocating illiberal policies and seeking Jewish dominance across "Eretz Israel" – Israel itself and the occupied Palestinian territories. Accordingly, the government is working to emphasise the Jewish elements in Israel's identity, to push ahead with settlement-building in and de facto annexation of parts of the occupied territories and shrinking the spaces for Israel's civil society. This paper argues that Germany and the EU should press Israel to comply with international law, improve the human rights situation and preserve spaces for civil society to thrive.

La vie des idées

La stratégie du bikini - Genre et rapports de classe en Algérie

by Jennifer Bidet

26 September 2017

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

After the burkini controversy in French beaches during the summer of 2016, a new controversy, this time in Algeria, has made it clear that the beach is a political space, revealing the social implications of sex, class and race. The paper argues that this debate shines a light on the ideological positions that surround the issues of feminism and Islam and the evolution of the Algerian society.

AFRICA

Institut Montaigne

Prêts pour l'Afrique d'aujourd'hui?

September 2017

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

Sub-Saharan Africa is going through major changes. The good economic conjuncture, the democratic consolidation and the young population make up great assets for its development. France, an historical partner seems to be missing out on this dynamic. With strong competitors such as China stepping up, France must engage in afro-realism. This means investing, multiplying

the opportunities for the companies and strengthening the bonds in education and human capital. For Europe, this means changing the long prevailing logic of a country-continent relationship to a continent-continent one, based on renewed deals and shared ambitions.

Foundation for European Progressive Studies

Fading democracies in Africa

by Arnold Wehmhoerner

September 2017

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

With the end of the cold war, there was a rise in democratic states in Africa. This trend is now reversing. This article describes the deteriorating situation in a number of Southern African states and comes to the conclusion that the structural foundations in Africa are not conducive for the development of democratic systems.

International Crisis Group

Double-edged sword: vigilantes in African counter-insurgencies

7 September 2017

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

As weak African states face growing insurgencies, they subcontract certain security functions to vigilante groups, many of which had taken up arms to protect their communities. Vigilante groups have been successful in providing local security. But subcontracting security functions to vigilante groups for counter-insurgency purposes is a dangerous option. The more successful the vigilante group is, the harder it is to demobilise, and the more likely it will become entrenched. This paper argues that African governments should learn from the past, try to prevent abuses, and plan how to manage these vigilante groups once the conflict dies down.

Herders against farmers: Nigeria's expanding deadly conflict

19 September 2017

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

Propelled by desertification, insecurity and the loss of grazing land to expanding settlements, the southward migration of Nigeria's herders is causing violent competition over land with local farmers. These clashes are becoming as potentially dangerous as the Boko Haram insurgency in the north east. Yet to date, response to the crisis at both the federal and state levels has been poor. To prevent the crisis from escalating, the government should strengthen security for herders and farmers, implement conflict resolution mechanisms and establish grazing reserves.

Eviter le pire en République centrafricaine

27 September 2017

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

Resurgent armed groups in Central African Republic are killing many civilians and causing widespread displacement. Government forces and the UN are in a weak position, and there are no quick solutions. To contain the violence, the government and international actors must agree on a roadmap for peace with armed groups that combines both incentives and coercive measures.

Trinity College Dublin - Department of Economics

Inspiring women: experimental evidence on sharing entrepreneurial skills in Uganda

by Patrick Lubega, Frances Nakakawa, Gaia Narciso [@gaia_narciso](#), Carol Newman [@Carol_Newman](#) and Cissy Kityo
September 2017

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

People living with HIV, in particular women, are often a vulnerable and marginalised group in developing countries. This paper presents the results of a randomised controlled trial designed to test the impact of role models on the livelihoods of women living with HIV in Uganda. Participants in the treatment group were exposed to the screening of short videos of role models telling their personal stories of the challenges and rewards of setting up a business. Their findings revealed that role model intervention has a positive effect on the probability of starting a business, personal income and income from enterprises and crops.

Institut français des relations internationales

Requiem pour l'accord d'Arusha. Réflexions sur la révision constitutionnelle au Burundi

by Laurent-Désiré Sahinguvu and Thierry Vircoulon
September 2017

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

The Arusha Accords, which have inspired the 2005 Constitution of Burundi, may be reaching their final days. After a first failed attempt in 2014 to revise the Constitution, the government has nominated a commission that will be in charge of proposing a new Constitution text. This comes after a report by the National Commission for the Inter-Burundian Dialogue that claimed that the majority of the population wanted the Constitution to be amended and improved. While waiting for the propositions of that Commission, this paper examines its real and supposed motivations and its possible repercussions considering the Burundian crisis.

Istituto Affari Internazionali

The security-migration-development nexus in the Sahel: a reality check

by Luca Raineri and Alessandro Rossi
September 2017

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

This paper analyses the hotly debated issue of migration taking into account the experience lived in Sahel: a region that, always seen a great flow of migration, is facing new and traditional expressions of insecurity and has major challenges in promoting development.

Institut de relations internationales et stratégiques

Bridging the gap: long-term implications for South Sudanese refugees in West Nile, Uganda

September 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (17 p.) and to the [infographic](#) (1 p.)

The overall objective for this paper, however, is to emphasize the need for long-term solutions planning and action as early as possible. Refugees present several challenges and opportunities over the medium to long-term future, and this report is an attempt to build an analytic foundation for long-term strategic thinking.

European Centre for Development Policy Management

Regional markets, politics and value chains. The case of West African cement

by Bruce Byiers [@brucebyiers](#), Karim Karaki [@kar_karaki](#) and Jan Vanheukelom

7 September 2017

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

West African cement plays a particular part in the development of this region. It has a central role in the construction of houses, schools, roads and in most projects related to regional and national development. Nonetheless, by world standards its prices remain high, representing a hurdle to the various policies aimed at improving infrastructures, urbanisation and social housing (and are therefore connected to the promotion of economic transformation). It is thus argued that cement can no longer stay in the background of the narrative of African development and should instead take a central role in it, in order to meet its true potential.

ASIA-OCEANIA

Atlantic Council

India's strategic choices: China and the balance of power in Asia

by Rajesh Rajagopalan [@RRajagopalanJNU](#)

14 September 2017

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

China's rise poses a strategic challenge to India on multiple fronts, in particular, how to secure itself and promote its national interests in an unbalanced strategic environment. Indian decision makers face at least six choices for how to deal with the strategic environment in Asia: nonalignment, hedging, internal balancing, regional balancing, alignment with China, and closer alignment with the US. This analysis frames these choices as broad strategic approaches - that is to say, the mix of military, diplomatic, and economic tools used to promote national objectives.

The changing role of democracy in Asian geopolitics

by Maiko Ichihara

14 September 2017

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

Security issues like North Korea's latest nuclear test dominate policy conversations about Asia, shifting the region's changing geopolitical landscape once more to the forefront of the international agenda. Feeding into such challenges is the structural question of what strategic impact China's rise will have. Significantly, amid Asia's high-profile security concerns, the role of democracy in the region's geopolitics seems to be gaining resonance.

Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars / Atlantic Council

Bringing Seoul into the non-proliferation regime - The effect of ROK-Canada reactor deals on South Korea's ratification of the NPT

by Se Young Jang [@historian_jang](#)

September 2017

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

In this paper, the author challenges the common narrative that US pressure forced South Korea to ratify the NPT in 1975. Using new evidence from international archives, Jang finds that the decisive pressure came from a different country - Canada.

Institut français des relations internationales

Corée du Sud, la septième armée du monde ?

by Rémy Héméz [@HemezRemy](#)

September 2017

Link to the article in [French](#) (72 p.)

As North Korea continues to develop its unconventional arsenal and challenges the international community, South Korea is more than ever at the forefront of maintaining security in Northeast Asia. Overall, South Korea's defence policy continues to be structured by its old alliance with the US, benefiting in particular from its policy of widespread deterrence. This close relationship, however, is heavily dependent on US technology. Although military reform has been planned for years, the persistence of the North Korean threat remains the dominant focus, which has prevented South Korea from adopting a defence policy that reflects its economy and his company.

International Crisis Group

Buddhism and state power in Myanmar

5 September 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (39 p.) and to the executive summary in [Burmese](#) (5 p.)

Extreme Buddhist nationalism and anti-Muslim violence in Myanmar has been on the rise since the political transition of 2011, and has resulted in domestic and international concern. The largest Buddhist nationalist organisation, the Association for Protection of Race and Religion (MaBaTha) enjoys widespread support despite government-led attempts to undermine its religious authority. This report provides an understanding of the activities of MaBaTha and other nationalist groups as well as of the motivations and views of its members and supporters. Such understanding is indispensable in formulating effective policy responses.

Center for Strategic and International Studies

Harnessing the data revolution to achieve the sustainable development goals

by Erol Yayboke [@ErolYayboke](#), Erin Nealer [@enealer](#) and Charles Rice

September 2017

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

This report analyses the challenges and opportunities that exist in the pursuit of the data revolution. It considers the challenges faced by two developing countries - Laos and Myanmar - in the broader context of what will be needed to enable "leapfrog" data technologies to take hold and ultimately drive the data revolution without following the linear progression of development laid out by OECD countries.

Institut de relations internationales et stratégiques

L'Indonésie: un état pivot?

by Étienne Halbeher

September 2017

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

Indonesia is attracting growing media and academic attention. Following the financial crisis of South-East Asia in 1997, the democratisation of political life and economic growth (during the 2000s) have reinforced the image of Indonesia in its path to power. The foundations of this power is being questioned by many academics by drawing comparisons between India and China. This text explores Indonesia's developmental history and questions the concept of power looking towards the nation's future.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Vrije Universiteit Brussel - Institute for European Studies

EU-Latin American science diplomacy

by Joren Selleslaghs [@jselles](#)

20 September 2017

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

The EU has adopted a generous approach towards Latin America in recent decades. However, although the EU adopted the same interregional strategy across different policy areas, the quality of interregional interaction varies significantly. In contrast to the scholarly attention for understanding the success/failure of EU-driven economic inter-regionalism, a critical assessment of EU-Latin America interregional cooperation in the field of science, higher education and innovation has not been produced to date. This paper aims to fill the academic and policy-making gap by providing an overview of: the EU's drivers behind this foreign policy action and the applied policy instruments.

CHINA

Bruegel / Chatham House - The Royal Institute of International Affairs / China Center for International Economic Exchanges / The Chinese University of Hong Kong

EU-China economic relations to 2025: building a common future

by Alicia García-Herrero [@Aligarciaherrer](#), K.C. Kwok, Liu Xiangdong, Tim Summers [@tasumm](#) and Zhang Yansheng

September 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (81 p.)

The EU and China, as the world's second and third largest economies, share a responsibility in upholding the rules-based global free trade system and other forms of multilateral cooperation, especially on combating climate change. This report sets out the main conclusions of a research project between European and Chinese think tanks, which addresses the prospects for the EU-China economic relationship.

Ośrodek Studiów Wschodnich (Centre for Eastern Studies)

Beijing's mistaken offer: the '16+1' and China's policy towards the European Union

by Jakub Jakóbowski [@J_Jakobowski](#) and Marcin Kaczmarek [@M_Kaczmarek](#)

15 September 2017

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

Cooperation between China and Central and Eastern Europe, which since 2012 has been developed within the '16+1' format, has become the object of heated discussions in the European press and within think tanks. The financing model proposed by China, based on loans and favouritism towards Chinese companies, has proved to be unsuitable to local conditions. Therefore, the much-discussed infrastructure cooperation has not even started. This text explores the EU-11's reluctance to use Chinese loans based on legal/political reasoning and financial/developmental reasoning.

Instytut Sobieskiego (Sobieski Institute)

Chinese method of currency internationalization

by Tomasz Grzegorz Grosse

8 September 2017

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

The author analyses the issue of monetary power with regard to the categories of autonomy and influence. The internationalisation of the currency is an important aspect of monetary power, because it creates many potential benefits for a given country (or for a group of countries linked by a monetary union). The analysis explores how China's autonomy in relations with external actors is growing.

Atlantic Council

Escaping China's shadow - Finding America's competitive edge in Africa

by Aubrey Hruby [@AubreyHruby](#)

7 September 2017

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

China's major financial commitments to Africa, coupled with its double digit returns, have discouraged American companies from breaking into African markets. Amid growing concerns regarding China's expanding economic influence on the continent, a reassessment of America's business edge and overall competitiveness is due to be addressed.

United States Institute of Peace

China's soft power in Africa or real corporate accountability?

by Virginia Harper Ho

September 2017

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

China is the fourth largest foreign investor in Africa - more than three thousand Chinese firms operate there. An important but often overlooked aspect of this investment is the emergence of Beijing's evolving corporate social responsibility policies. This text chiefly explores how the corporate social responsibilities are applied with particular focus towards their presence in Africa.

China's evolving North Korea strategy

by Oriana Skylar Mastro [@osmastro](#)

September 2017

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

Chinese interests in a Korea contingency have expanded beyond concerns about a refugee spill-over to include national security and potential limits on China's quest for regional power. These issues, combined with concerns about nuclear security, drive Beijing's military strategy. The author addresses Chinese leaders burgeoning concerns and explores the potential military interventions in a Korea contingency.

RUSSIA

European Parliament Think Tank / Österreichisches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung / Kiel Institute for the World Economy

Russia's and the EU's sanctions: economic and trade effects, compliance and the way forward

by Oliver Fritz, Elisabeth Christen, Franz Sinabell and Julian Hinz

20 September 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (57 p.)

The observed decline in trade volumes between the EU and Russia is not only due to the sanctions, but also other economic factors, such as the downturn of the Russian economy, largely caused by the falling oil price and the ensuing ruble depreciation. Empirical evidence suggests that European and Russian companies managed to partly divert trade flows to other international markets in response to the deteriorating trade relationships. This report summarises empirical facts about the economic impact of the EU sanctions against Russia and the Russian countersanctions, both implemented in the summer of 2014.

Atlantic Council

The new Russia sanctions law - What it does and how to make it work

by Daniel Fried and Brian O'Toole [@brianoftoole](#)

29 September 2017

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

This paper explains that Congress primarily adopted the law to block a unilateral lifting of sanctions, which was under consideration in the early days of the Trump administration. The authors add that, by passing the act, Congress was able to demonstrate its determination to resist Russian aggression in Ukraine and elsewhere and to penalise Russia for hacking the 2016 US presidential election. This paper includes an analysis of the law's key sanctions provisions, suggestions to the administration about how to implement them, and key areas for the business community to watch, from two former US government officials who helped design and run US sanctions on Russia until earlier this year.

European Council on Foreign Relations

Controlling chaos: how Russia manages its political war in Europe

by Mark Galeotti [@MarkGaleotti](#)

1 September 2017

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

Russia carries out 'active measures' in Europe to destabilise and confuse governments and societies. However, there is no grand strategy, beyond weakening the EU and NATO and creating a more conducive environment for itself. Evidence suggests different ambitions for Kremlin operations in different European countries. This has very significant implications not just for understanding Russian policy but also in shaping European responses. This report seeks to identify the degree to which this is more than just a random medley of negative memes and self-interested falsehoods, and where the semi-structured political offensive against the West is planned and managed.

So far from God, so close to Russia: Belarus and the Zapad military exercise

by Fredrik Wesslau [@FWesslau](#) and Andrew Wilson

11 September 2017

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

Russia's Zapad 2017 military exercises have unnerved many countries, both in the neighbourhood and further afield. The fear that Russia could use the exercises to force Minsk to accept a military presence in Belarus was further fueled by indications that Russia was planning to use 4 000 train cars to transport men and equipment directly into the country for the exercise. The authors question whether Zapad 2017 could be a maskirovka – a deceptive campaign – for making Russia's longstanding demand of an air base in Belarus a reality, or if Zapad 2017 will be used to increase the pressure on Ukraine.

Ośrodek Studiów Wschodnich (Centre for Eastern Studies)

The Zapad-2017 exercises: the information war (for now)

by Andrzej Wilk

1 September 2017

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

The Russian-Belarusian Zapad-2017 exercises (14-20 September), have been the core of an information war between Russia and NATO. The media have presented these exercises as the biggest military undertaking carried out in recent years by the armed forces of the Russian Federation (together with its Belarusian ally). Although it is hard to dispute the scale and breadth of these exercises, they are only a small part of Russia's preparation for a potential military showdown with NATO. Wilk investigates how Zapad-2017 is being used as a tool of information war.

Rahvusvaheline Kaitseuringute Keskus (International Centre for Defence Studies)

Decoding Zapad-2017

by Kalev Stoicescu

4 September 2017

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

While Russia's military exercise Zapad-2017 is yet another demonstration of Russia's military power and political ambitions, it could also be preparation for a future aggression. In the run up to the exercise, Russia has continued to be secretive and hostile, in spite of its efforts to suggest a change of attitude. The increasingly volatile international situation, especially with regard to North Korea and the threat of war in the Far East, may also feature in Russia's calculations for Zapad-2017 and its identification of opportunities concerning its European neighbours. This paper offers an overview and analysis of what we know about Zapad-2017 as well as deciphering a broader strategic meaning of this exercise.

Russia's electronic warfare capabilities to 2025: challenging NATO in the electromagnetic spectrum

by Roger N. McDermott

16 September 2017

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

When the Russian army entered Georgia in 2008, NATO lacked detailed knowledge of its capabilities. In 2014 Russia, the "little green men" and the concept of hybrid war surprised NATO again with the rapid seizure of Crimea and the occupation of part of the Donbas region in Ukraine. Today, the Russian army is in a position to threaten the Baltic states and NATO's entire eastern flank. This article studies one critical aspect of Russia's growing capabilities: Electronic Warfare

(EW). If Moscow can negate NATO's command, control and intelligence systems, it will make the Alliance's defence of its new members problematic and costly.

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

Η Ευρασία, ο Πούτιν και η επάνοδος της σκληροπυρηνικής "καμπάλ" στην ρωσική πολιτική σκηνή

by Alexandros Boufesis

September 2017

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

Post-Soviet Russia has almost been identified with the actions and political choices of the Russian president. The author highlights that sanctions, NATO enlargement and the concentration of troops on the border with Russia make the Russian political scene even more unpredictable. This paper analyses the years of NATO-Russia problems in Eurasia, Putin's political personality, and the tendencies of the Kremlin's hard-core circles towards autonomy.

Ulkopoliittinen instituutti (Finnish Institute of International Affairs)

Spirituality as a political instrument: the church, the Kremlin, and the creation of the 'Russian world'

by Veera Laine and Iiris Saarelainen [@lirisaar](#)

12 September 2017

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

This paper questions and analyses the Russian state and the Russian Orthodox Church's use of spirituality in public diplomacy. In foreign policy, the actors support each other in representing the Russian values that contradict the "Western" ones. The interests of Church and state are not always compatible. The Church is not the Kremlin's puppet; it functions as its own, sometimes internally divided entity. Thus far both have benefitted from the cooperation. By consolidating spiritual values as important for state ideology, it is difficult to change the course of this conservative turn in the future. The spiritual legacy of Putin's era will have a long-lasting influence on Russian politics.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

European Council on Foreign Relations

The transatlantic meaning of Donald Trump: a US-EU power audit

by Jeremy Shapiro [@JyShapiro](#) and Dina Pardijs [@PardijsDJ](#)

21 September 2017

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

New ECFR research into how Europeans have adapted to the new US administration reveals three 'Trump effects': the Regency Effect, the Messiah Effect, and the Antichrist Effect. European leaders have largely decided to hope the 'regents' around Donald Trump will ensure the familiar transatlantic relationship continues in its current form. A 'post-American politics' in Europe is possible and even necessary, but will only come about if EU Member States recognise the need. Germany is central to this but its 'regency' instincts run deep and it lacks support from other Member States.

Atlantic Council

The ties that bind - Germany and the United States in a new era

by Alina Polyakova [@alinasphere](#) and Henning Riecke [@HRiecke](#)

27 September 2017

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

As German Chancellor Angela Merkel enters her fourth term in office, the US-German relationship will need to overcome trade and policy disagreements in order to thrive in today's uncertain political climate. The administrations in Berlin and Washington, DC should seek new opportunities for closer cooperation, particularly related to security around NATO, policy toward Russia, bilateral trade, and the energy sector. The shared interests of the US and Germany should drive both administrations to pursue these areas of cooperation in order to strengthen the alliance on which they will continue to depend as the world grows more insecure and the challenges more complex.

Institut français des relations internationales

New appointments give clues on Trump's European policy

by Benjamin Haddad [@benjaminhaddad](#)

12 September 2017

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

This paper reviews Wess Mitchell's (co-founder and president of the think tank Centre for European Policy Analysis) nomination for Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian affairs. According to Haddad, as US President Donald Trump struggles to appoint leaders to his administration, Wess Mitchell, who awaits the US Senate's confirmation, could be a wise choice.

Konrad Adenauer Stiftung

Trump... and how the world perceives him

by Thomas Birringer, Rabea Brauer, Lars Hänsel, Andrea E. Ostheimer, Frank Priess [@FrankPriess1](#) and Markus Rosenberger

August 2017

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

During his election campaign, Donald Trump announced major changes to the actions of his predecessors in many policy areas. To this day, Trump's presidency is questioned and unpredictable. This paper provides background information on the global perceptions of the new US political direction under President Trump. In addition, it elaborates with explanatory patterns for Trump's election victory and shows possible implications for Europe.

Center for a New American Security

After Paris. A climate agenda that serves U.S. interests

by David F. Gordon [@DavidFGordon](#), Divya P. Reddy and Elizabeth Rosenberg [@Energy_Liz](#)

September 2017

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

The first sections of this report focus on analysing each of these four questions: will the Paris Agreement start to fragment? Will US businesses experience substantial reprisals and increased reputational risk? Will China be able to take advantage of the US withdrawal to provide leadership on global climate change? Will that lead to a narrowing of the political space for climate action in the US by actors other than the federal government? Based on this analysis, the final section of the report offers a series of strategy and policy recommendations for carrying forward a climate-friendly clean energy agenda.

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

Trump and the dollar in the reflection of history

by Michel Aglietta and Virginie Coudert

September 2017

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

Fears of disruption in international relationships, raised by Trump's access to power, have been confirmed by his first half-year in office. Surprisingly few in-depth studies in political economy have been made to define "Trumponomics" and to analyse the economic consequences of implementing his intentions for the US and the world. The authors question the consistency of Trump's revealed intents. Asking do they amount to a coherent doctrine? What might be the economic consequences? Finally, the third part of the paper will assess the consequences for the world and for Europe if Trump's policy triggers a dual rise in US interest rates and in the dollar.

Ulkopoliittinen instituutti (Finnish Institute of International Affairs)

Republican government in the United States: its implications for US foreign policy

by Anna Kronlund [@AnnaKronlund](#)

20 September 2017

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

This text addresses the current political situation in the US, namely the Republican government and its implications for US foreign policy. The key questions addressed here are: is there a consensus concerning the agenda and policy among the Republicans, and what kind of impact will the one-party majority in the government have on foreign policy decision-making?

SPECIAL FOCUS - GOING DIGITAL

Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute

Balancing ambition and pragmatism for the Digital Single Market

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

7 September 2017

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

The Strategy for a Digital Single Market is one of the most important drivers of EU-integration in the Single Market within this decade. Numerous regulations and processes have to be adapted to the internet age. More than two years have lapsed since the inception of the program in May 2015 – time for an interim conclusion: Does the strategy hold up to its promises? In this paper, the author draws a critical balance of the strategy to date and offers concrete proposals for those policy areas that are indispensable for a real Digital Single Market: cyber security, platform regulation and the "free flow of data".

European Political Strategy Centre

Back in the game - Reclaiming Europe's digital leadership

28 September 2017

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

Digital transformation and Artificial Intelligence are driving economic and societal changes of unprecedented pace and scale. To better respond to the needs of its businesses and citizens' and to keep up with the rapidly-growing tech giants around the world, Europe must come together and actively play on its key assets – a strong reputation for quality and safety, a leading research community, and a prominent positioning in favour of protection of personal data and fundamental rights and liberties.

European Trade Union Institute

A law on robotics and artificial intelligence in the EU?

by Aida Ponce Del Castillo [@APonceETUI](#)

September 2017

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

This paper discusses the [European Parliament's Resolution of 16 February 2017](#) with recommendations to the Commission on Civil Law Rules on Robotics (European Parliament 2017). It argues that Parliament's recommendations could go further by addressing a much broader spectrum of artificial agents and artificial intelligence, instead of focusing on specific categories of robots.

Atlantic Council

The MADCOM Future

by Matt Chessen [@mattlesnake](#)

26 September 2017

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

Emerging artificial intelligence (AI) tools will provide propagandists radically enhanced capabilities to manipulate human minds. Over the next few years, MADCOMs - the integration of AI systems into machine-driven communications tools for use in computational propaganda - will gain enhanced ability to influence people, tailoring persuasive, distracting, or intimidating messaging

toward individuals based on their unique personalities and backgrounds, a form of highly personalised propaganda.

European Parliament Think Tank

Strengthening the position of press publishers and authors and performers in the Copyright Directive

by Lionel Bently [@LionelBently](#), Martin Kretschmer, Tobias Dudenbostel [@Kaefars](#), María del Carmen Calatrava Moreno and Alfred Radauer

15 September 2017

Link to the article in [English](#) (98 p.)

This study reviews Article 11 and Articles 14-16 of the proposed [Directive on Copyright in the Digital Single Market](#). It outlines criticisms that have been made of the proposals, includes reports of research into the operation and effects of precursors of Article 11 in Germany and Spain, a summary of the cultural economics literature on legal regulation of authors' contracts and analysis of the laws of 7 Member States to see in what way Arts 14-16 would "add value".

Elinkeinoelämän tutkimuslaitos (Research Institute of the Finnish Economy)

The (unfulfilled) potential of data marketplaces

by Pantelis Koutroumpis [@pkoutroumpis](#), Aija Leiponen [@AijaLeiponen](#) and Llewellyn D. W. Thomas

29 September 2017

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

Although industrial datasets are abundant and growing daily, they are not being shared or traded openly and transparently on a large scale. This paper investigates the nature of data trading with a conceptual market design approach and demonstrates the importance of provenance to overcome protection and quality concerns. It considers the requirements for data marketplaces, comparing existing data marketplaces against standard market design metrics and outline both centralised and decentralised multilateral designs. The paper also assesses the benefits and potential operational features of emerging multilateral designs. It concludes with future research directions.

Progressive Policy Institute

How ecommerce creates jobs and reduces income inequality

by Michael Mandel [@MichaelMandel](#)

14 September 2017

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

This paper shows how the expansion of ecommerce is creating jobs and reducing income inequality. It estimates that, in the USA, ecommerce jobs in fulfilment centres and ecommerce companies rose by 400.000 from December 2007 to June 2017, substantially exceeding the 140.000 decline of brick-and-mortar retail jobs. It explains this job growth by showing that households are saving 64 million hours a week of shopping time because of ecommerce, and some of these unpaid household hours are being shifted into market work.

MISCELLANEOUS

Fondation pour l'innovation politique

Violence antisémite en Europe 2005-2015 (France, Allemagne, Suède, Norvège, Danemark, Russie et Royaume-Uni)

by Johannes Due Enstad

27 September 2017

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

This paper attempts to make a first comparison of the levels of anti-Semitic violence in different countries by combining police-based incident data with the results of an anti-Semitism survey conducted in 2012 by the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights. Seven countries (France, Germany, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Russia and United Kingdom) were sampled but it is mainly on the basis of the data of four countries of the panel (France, United Kingdom, Germany and Sweden) that the comparative study was possible. It is in France that the exposure of Jews to anti-Semitic violence seems the strongest.

International Centre for Counter-Terrorism - The Hague

The failure of prophecy and the future of IS

by Lorne L. Dawson

22 September 2017

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

Much of the extraordinary success of the so-called Islamic State (IS) in recruiting foreign fighters stemmed from their more explicitly apocalyptic vision of the struggle against the enemies of Islam. Swift military success was followed by the restoration of the caliphate and pronouncements of the imminent and final global triumph of Islam. Some argue that the military defeat of IS is a refutation of that prophecy and will seriously demoralise its supporters. Decades of social scientific studies of similar failures of prophecy says otherwise. This brief summarises the key findings of such research and their implications for estimating the resilience of IS.

Children of the caliphate: young IS returnees and the reintegration challenge

by Liesbeth van der Heide and Jip Geenen

29 August 2017

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

In recent years, the world has been repeatedly shocked by the gruesome images and actions of the so-called Islamic State (IS), in particular the footage and stories of children as young as eight executing people. Children play an important role in the organisation: the children of the caliphate are seen as 'the future of IS', and therefore education and propaganda are an important form of indoctrination. This paper focuses on young or juvenile Islamic State (IS) returnees, assessing what sets them apart from adult returnees or the population of young criminals, and scoping the potential venues and challenges in their rehabilitation and reintegration.