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Dear Readers,

The 64th Think Tank Review* covers articles, published in January, relating to different political and policy topics. [\(click to share on Twitter\)](#).

The section on EU policies and institutions includes analysis of the outcome of European Council's 2014 strategic agenda on the EMU, migration and external borders; and the mosaic of perspectives in Central Europe and the reasons for anti EU-rhetoric.

A number of ECOFIN articles relate to 20 years of the euro. Other articles examine why quality finances matter for Europe, how to redesign the fiscal regime of the Eurozone, in which way national parliaments could be involved in the European Semester or the critical role of current account imbalances.

On climate change, reports highlight the climate challenge to build the future of Europe, how to keep the Paris promise for a safer climate, and the transition to a green and low-carbon economy through green bonds.

In the section on Foreign Affairs, some think tanks report on the Western Balkans, focusing on enlargement issues and on EU engagement but also on the fighting for influence between EU/US/NATO and Russia/China. Other topics covered: the implications of the US withdrawal from the INF treaty risking a new dangerous arms race; how the EU can strengthen its strategic autonomy; the potential of the new EU-ACP agreement for more than 1.5 billion people; or the search for a regional order in the Levant.

Finally, a number of think tanks comment on Brexit: EU preparations in case of a no-deal Brexit; the backstop question; or the implications of Brexit to food politics and policies in post-Brexit Britain.

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The next Think Tank Review will be out in March, with papers published in February 2019.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION 1 - EU POLITICS AND INSTITUTIONS	4
SECTION 2 - EU POLICIES	6
AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES	6
COMPETITIVENESS (INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND SPACE)	7
ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS	8
EDUCATION/YOUTH/CULTURE/SPORT	12
EMPLOYMENT/SOCIAL POLICY/HEALTH AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS	12
ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	13
GENERAL AFFAIRS (COHESION POLICY)	15
JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS	15
TRANSPORT/TELECOMMUNICATIONS/ENERGY	18
SECTION 3 - FOREIGN AFFAIRS	19
FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY / DEFENCE	19
TRADE	22
DEVELOPMENT	22
ASIA-OCEANIA	23
EASTERN EUROPE	23
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	24
MIDDLE EAST/NORTH AFRICA (MENA)	25
WESTERN BALKANS	26
CHINA	28
RUSSIA	30
TURKEY	30
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	30
SECTION 4 - EU MEMBER STATES	31
GERMANY	31
GREECE	32
SPAIN	32
FRANCE	33
CROATIA	33
ITALY	33
LITHUANIA	34
HUNGARY	34
POLAND	34
FINLAND	35
UNITED KINGDOM	35
BREXIT	36
MISCELLANEOUS	38

SECTION 1 - EU POLITICS AND INSTITUTIONS

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

[The European Council's strategic agenda](#)

by René Cuperus [@ReneCuperus](#), Cathelijne Padberg, Fabian Zuleeg (et al.)

This report focuses on the European Council's strategic agenda of 2014 looking also forward to a new strategic agenda to be prepared by the European Council in May 2019. It asks to what extent the strategic agenda has provided direction for EU policy-making and affected the EU's inter-institutional balance in the latest political cycle 2014-2019. It assesses the outcome of the strategic agenda in three specific domains: the European Monetary Union; social Europe; and migration and external borders. (30 p.)

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

[Taking stock on future of the EU according to Macron: perspective from the V4](#)

by Matej Navratil

Macron's speech on the future of the EU is one of the major attempts from a European politician to reinvigorate the European project. The hallmark of his approach is the progressive convergence and harmonization of member states executives and administrations towards a unitary European model. The EP elections will be crucial for Macron's reform initiatives as he would need to rely on building good relations within the Council. (13 p.)

EGMONT – ROYAL INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

[The resurgence of bilateral diplomacy in Europe](#)

by Alexander Mattelaer [@ATJMattelaer](#)

This paper seeks to clarify what bilateral diplomacy represents today in Europe. It argues that in the absence of multilateral successes, bilateral approaches constitute the fall-back for structuring the international system, while also adding political depth to intra-European relationships. The author also explores whether the revival of bilateralism in Europe inevitably undermines supranational institutions. (20 p.)

LUISS SCHOOL OF EUROPEAN POLITICAL ECONOMY

[The German-French treaty: sign of strength or of weakness?](#) [Il Trattato Franco-Tedesco: segno di forza o di debolezza?](#)

by Carlo Bastasin [@CarloBastasin](#)

On January 22, 2019, French President Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Angela Merkel signed a bilateral document called the "Treaty of Aachen". The treaty's text contains interesting information on the will to cooperate expressed by the two countries, which have the most political-diplomatic-economic influence in the EU. However, the document also shows how far the two governments are from creating a concrete common policy to tackle the shared problems lying at the heart of Europe. (7 p. - EN) (7 p. - IT)

INSTITUT PRO EVROPSKOU POLITIKU EUROPEUM (EUROPEUM INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY) / GLOBSEC POLICY INSTITUTE / CENTRAL EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY / ÖSTERREICHISCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR EUROPAPOLITIK (AUSTRIAN SOCIETY FOR EUROPEAN POLITICS) / UNIVERSITY OF LJUBLJANA

Populism in Central Europe 2018: anti EU-rhetoric versus own national interest? National populism and its reception in Central Europe

by Christian Kvorning Lassen, Kateřina Davidová [@k8_davidova](#) and Vladimír Bartovic [@vbartovic](#)

This paper seeks to examine why political and societal actors resort to an “anti-European” rhetoric and to study if or to what extent, and why people believe in this rhetoric and regard it as justified. The project had a look at whether and if so, to what extent, “EU bashing” and isolationist policymaking not only fails to deliver on its own promises, but may even damage national interests. (36 p.)

LEUVEN CENTRE FOR GLOBAL GOVERNANCE STUDIES

What political role for the EU's fundamental rights agency?

by Jan Wouters [@JMFWouters](#) and Michal Ovádek [@michal_ovadek](#)

The Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) occupies a specific place in the network of decentralized EU agencies. Unlike most, it is not concerned with technical regulation of economic activity. In this paper the authors explore FRA's role through the prism of three crucial factors: the mandate of the Agency; its budgetary and staff resources; and opportunities for policy relevance at the EU level. (20 p.)

GLOBSEC POLICY INSTITUTE

Generation trends Central Europe: mosaic of perspectives

by Dominika Hajdu [@DominHajdu](#), Katarína Klingová [@kateklingova](#) and Miroslava Sawiris

The aim of this report is to provide detailed insight into varying perspectives on geopolitics, conspiracies and the fall of the Communist regimes across different generations in four Central European states (Czechia, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia). Despite the ongoing democratic backsliding observable in Central Europe, the mosaic of opinions, beliefs and attitudes is thus much more complex, and it still includes strong pro-European tendencies. (24 p.)

FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG (FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION)

Europa – brauchen wir das noch oder kann das weg? Wie schauen junge Deutsche vor der Europawahl 2019 auf Europa und die EU?

by Christine Hübner [@c_huebner](#) and Jan Eichhorn [@eichhorn_jan](#)

Brexit, refugee distribution, does the EU have a future? In the run-up to the European elections, this report takes a closer look at what young people in Germany today actually think of the EU and what topics politicians in Brussels and Berlin should definitely discuss. What do young people know about the way the EU works and does it make any difference what is known about the EU? (52 p. - DE)

[Report on political participation of mobile EU citizens: Lithuania](#)

by Ramutė Ruškytė

In Lithuania, EU citizens and permanently resident third-country nationals have the right to vote in and stand for local elections. Besides, EU citizens enjoy the active and passive electoral rights for EP elections held in Lithuania. Lithuanian citizens, who are either temporarily or permanently resident abroad, also have the right to vote in national and EP elections. Despite Lithuania having a number of measures in place, the turnout of resident non-national EU citizens and non-resident Lithuanian nationals remains low. (25 p.)

SECTION 2 - EU POLICIES

AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

[CAP 2021-27: using the eco-scheme to maximise environmental and climate benefits](#)

by Stephen Meredith and Kaley Hart

For better or for worse, the Common Agriculture Policy (CAP) has long influenced the development of farming practice and land management in Europe. The EC's proposals for the 2021-2027 reform mark the latest efforts by the EU to further integrate these considerations into the CAP. In this report, key parts of the proposals relevant to the eco-scheme are investigated in order to ascertain how this new intervention could be used to help the next CAP maximise environmental and climate benefits in the EU agriculture sector. (56 p.)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

[EU policies – delivering for citizens: fisheries](#)

by Irina Popescu

The EU Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) was reformed in 2013 with the target to achieve exploitation of all stocks at sustainable levels by 2020 through several measures, such as the adoption of multiannual plans in the Baltic Sea and the North Sea. The 2014-2019 EP term saw the adoption of an updated framework for collection of fisheries data, a new system of managing fishing authorisations, and improved monitoring of EU vessels fishing outside EU waters. Besides, the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) will be renewed as part of the next EU budget for 2021-2027. (8 p.)

ЦЕНТЪР ЗА ИЗСЛЕДВАНЕ НА ДЕМОКРАЦИЯТА (CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF DEMOCRACY)

[Fraudulent use of EU funds in the field of agriculture: current state, investigation and challenges](#)

The CAP budget for 2014 – 2020 amounts to a total of 408 billion EUR. In 2013 – 2017 the EC received reports of a total of 18 281 cases on counts of fraud and other irregularities in agriculture, amounting to a total of 1.360 billion EUR. EU funds fraud can be committed through acts constituting an infringement, such as corruption, falsification of documents, influence peddling, circumvention of the law, conflict of interests, bribery, making false statements and others. It is crucial to employ innovative methods in the fight against fraud, such as satellite and thermal imaging, automated prevention systems and multi-channel civil society monitoring. (20 p.)

HEINRICH-BÖLL-STIFTUNG (HEINRICH BÖLL FOUNDATION)

[Agroécologie paysanne – La Via Campesina en action: des solutions pour le climat](#)

This article discusses key aspects of changing the agriculture system and describes concrete experiences of organized resistance and alternatives that make change possible. It shows that, while the industrial food system is one of the main causes of global warming, peasant agroecology and food sovereignty offer a great deal potential to reduce emissions. It describes four struggles in favour of climate justice: how peasants and peasant women in France, Indonesia, East and South Africa and Puerto Rico resist false solutions and develop paths to the new system. (36 p. - FR)

COMPETITIVENESS (INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND SPACE)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

[Contribution to growth. The European Digital Single Market. Delivering economic benefits for citizens and businesses](#)

by J. Scott Marcus [@JScottMARCUS](#), Georgios Petropoulos [@georgionomix](#) and Timothy Yeung

Numerous legislative measures have been initiated or enacted in support of the overall achievement of a Digital Single Market. This in-depth analysis provides a brief stock-taking of what has been achieved in economic terms, of what remains to be done, and of candidate initiatives for the next legislative term. (88 p.)

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

[Innovate Europe: competing for global innovation leadership](#)

This report provides insights into what a new model for innovation could look like, highlighting four ways for Europe to change the game and address its lack of scale in digitisation and AI. The report also discusses the fundamental building blocks for European innovation competitiveness, including the status quo and concrete ideas in how to move forward. (44 p.)

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

[European innovation partnerships: how successful have they been in promoting innovation in the EU?](#)

by Rumen Dobrinsky

The paper presents an analytical assessment of the implementation of European Innovation partnerships launched as one of the commitments of the EU flagship initiative Innovation Union with the aim to achieve innovative breakthroughs addressing major societal challenges. (44 p.)

VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT BRUSSEL - INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES

[Science, technology and innovation diplomacy: a way forward for Europe](#)

by Jos Leijten

This policy brief explores how innovation becomes an increasingly important topic in international relations, with a deep impact on collaboration as well as on competition between countries. It analyses how the patterns of techno-economic change lead to changes in the global distribution of innovative activities around the world. It outlines three near future scenarios of the international politics of innovation. (13 p.)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

Standard essential patents and the internet of things

by Luke McDonagh [@DrLukeMcDonagh](#) and Enrico Bonadio [@enricobonadio](#)

This report assesses the EC communication of 2017 on the EU approach to standard essential patents (SEPs). It examines the principles regarding the Commission's proposals on (i) increasing transparency on SEPs; (ii) determining valuation of SEPs and fair, reasonable, and non-discriminatory (FRAND) terms; and (iii) enforcement. The report also evaluates the efficient resolution of licensing disputes over FRAND and puts forward policy recommendations. (36 p.)

BRUEGEL

Vertical restraints and e-commerce

by Georgios Petropoulos [@georgionomix](#)

In this paper, the author presents how e-commerce has affected market strategies and competition in European markets and analyses the economic and legal aspects of vertical restraints that are commonly applied in online markets. By combining available empirical evidence with theories of harm and by reviewing relevant case law, the author defines the main anti-competitive concerns related to each category of vertical restraints. (18 p.)

CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL GOVERNANCE INNOVATION

Big data analytics need standards to thrive: what standards are and why they matter

by Michel Girard [@MichelfGirard](#)

With data now considered by some to be the "new oil," civil society, industry and governments need to begin setting and implementing international foundational standards. There is an urgent need to set the ontology, semantics and definitions; define measurement and metrics; agree on dos and don'ts and the ethics of big data; and establish testing and certification programs to spur innovation and reap the benefits of big data analytics, all while respecting privacy, health, safety and security, as well as sovereignty rights. (32 p.)

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

Twenty years of the euro

by Daniel Gros [@DanielGrosCEPS](#) and Cinzia Alcidi [@AlcidiCinzia](#)

The first 20 years of the euro were very different from what had been anticipated. Deflation, rather than inflation became a problem. Financial markets, which had been neglected, became a major source of instability. However, the euro area proved resilient and support for the euro is at historic highs. Looking to the future, the greatest danger might not be another financial crisis, but sluggish growth and an increasing gulf between countries that have successfully adjusted their public finances and those where this goal remains increasingly distant. (25 p.)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

The euro at 20: a concise critical assessment

by Christophe Blot, Jérôme Creel and Xavier Ragot

Eurozone monetary governance was framed for a stable macroeconomic environment. While the ECB policy framework changed much after the global financial crisis, this did not prevent important

nominal divergences. These ones prove the importance of non-monetary factors affecting relative nominal prices, such as fiscal policy and labour market institutions. New tools are necessary to limit these nominal divergences, otherwise real divergence will continue to weaken the euro. (25 p.)

SLOVENSKÁ SPOLOČNOSŤ PRE ZAHRANIČNÚ POLITIKU (SLOVAK FOREIGN POLICY ASSOCIATION)

EMU reform as a case-study for multispeed integration

by Tomáš Madleňák [@madlenak](#)

Since the Juncker's Commission opened the "Future of Europe" debate, in which the "multispeed EU" was officially presented as a viable option, several ideas were introduced on the most exposed area, namely the Economic and Monetary Union (EMU). This paper reports the positions of the V4 countries on them, making use of both on and off-record conversations with V4 representatives in Brussel. Besides, it presents some basic recommendations on how to progress with the multispeed approach in this and other areas without alienating these countries. (7 p.)

ISTITUTO PER GLI STUDI DI POLITICA INTERNAZIONALE

The quest for global monetary policy coordination

by Franco Bruni [@francobruni7](#), José Siaba Serrate [@JSiabaSerrate](#) and Antonio Villafranca

This paper proposes to help monetary policies confront the challenge of the "normalisation" of money creation and interest rates. The difficult unwinding of years of unorthodox policies put financial stability at risk in major monetary centres and in emerging economies. The authors argue that global coordination is crucial to facing this challenge, and propose to convene official meetings to coordinate the process of normalisation, and the discussions on the needed long-term changes in the strategy and institutional setting of monetary policies. (17 p.)

BRUEGEL

Equity finance and capital market integration in Europe

by Inês Gonçalves Raposo [@inesgraposo](#) and Alexander Lehmann

This paper analyses capital movement in the EU in a global context. Facilitating the financing of European companies through external equity is a central ambition of EU financial regulation, including in the EC's capital markets union agenda. An emphasis on equity is justified because Europe's companies remain vulnerable because they hold excess debt and reliance on bank finance will make capital expenditures highly cyclical. Also, equity investors mobilise operational and corporate governance reforms within investee firms that lift firm productivity. (13 p.)

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

The challenge of moving to a common consolidated corporate tax base in the EU

by Tobias Hentze

The introduction of a common consolidated corporate tax base in the EU would substantially change the rules of the game in international taxation. According to the proposal by the EC, the profits of a multinational enterprise would no longer be assessed by using the arm's length principles and (hypothetical) market prices, but split based on a formulary apportionment. This implies that an allocation key consisting of sales volume, number of employees and capital invested would be applied to distribute the taxable profits of a multinational enterprise. (20 p.)

LISBON COUNCIL FOR ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS AND SOCIAL RENEWAL

[Seeing the trees, missing the forest: why quality of public finance matters for Europe](#)

by Alessandro Leipold [@ALEipold](#)

This paper calls for a dramatic increase in the role and political attention awarded to a vital but crucial policy lever: the quality of public finance. Drawing on recent research from the OECD, a 10-year EC investigation into the role and importance of public finance as well as the conclusions of the 2018 Euro summit, convened by the Lisbon Council in December 2018, the author explains the increasing importance of improved performance across the Eurozone / EU in this decisive area. (10 p.)

LIUSS SCHOOL OF EUROPEAN POLITICAL ECONOMY

[Current account imbalances and the euro area alternative views](#)

by Ronny Mazzocchi [@RonnyMazzocchi](#) and Roberto Tamborini

The critical role of current account imbalances (CAI) is widely shared in the consensus narratives of the European crisis that followed the great recession. On the basis of this interpretation, new EU initiatives were introduced, in particular the so-called “six pack” adoption in 2011 and the establishment of the European Semester procedure to improve policy coordination in the EU beyond fiscal matters. The aim of this paper is to examine these controversial points about the causes, meaning and consequences of CAI, and discuss the alternative policy prescriptions that emerge. (37 p.)

JACQUES DELORS INSTITUT BERLIN

[Minimum standards for parliamentary participation in the European Semester](#)

by Valentin Kreiling [@tineurope](#)

This paper argues that the European Semester currently suffers from a lack of both ownership and accountability: member states are reluctant to follow and implement the country-specific recommendations which they do not see as “theirs”. At the same time, it is difficult for parliaments to hold the executive at national and EU levels accountable for its conduct and decisions. This paper examines when and how national parliaments could be involved in the European Semester and proposes a working group to draw up the precise arrangements. (14 p.)

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

[Keeping up with innovation: designing a European sandbox for Fintech](#)

by Wolf-Georg Ringe and Christopher Ruof

This paper shows how EU financial regulation may stifle the innovation of financial services. The authors use the example of automated investment advice, so-called ‘robo-advisors’, and show how a proper balance between regulatory objectives could be achieved through establishing a ‘guided’ regulatory sandbox. (6 p.)

ROBERT SCHUMAN CENTRE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES - EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE

[Death in Veneto? European banking union and the structural power of large banks](#)

by Pepper D. Culpepper and Tobias Tesche [@tobias_tesche](#)

The authors of this paper argue that the evolving preferences and power resources of large cross-border banks help explain the crucial political moves to European banking union. As they became

larger and more European, the relative dependence of these banks on national regulators declined even as the dependence of states on these banks increased, resulting in a net rise in the structural power of large banks. (24 p.)

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

[Non-euro countries in the EU after Brexit. Between fear of losing of political influence and Euro accession](#)

by Paweł Tokarski [@pawel_tokarski](#) and Serafina Funk

The UK's withdrawal from the EU will heighten fears among the 'euro-outs', the eight member states that have not adopted the euro, that their influence over the Union's decision-making processes will diminish in the future. Although the debate over enlarging the Eurozone is now subsiding, the 'Brexit moment' could trigger a new dynamic and act as a driver for expanding the Eurozone or strengthening some non-euro states' links to the banking union. (7 p.)

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

[Financial expert survey: first quarter 2019](#)

by Markus Demary [@DemaryMarkus](#)

Pessimism determines the experts' predictions for the first and second quarter of 2019 which can be inferred from the downward revisions of the experts' forecasts. Although the experts still expect the yield curve to become steeper, they expect long-term interest rates to increase less compared to the last survey. The experts expect 1.7 percent inflation in the Eurozone and a growth rate of real gross domestic product of 1.6 percent for 2019, which indicates a slowdown of economic growth and a failure of the ECB in meeting its inflation target. (38 p.)

EUROPEAN TRADE UNION INSTITUTE

[How to redesign the fiscal regime of the Eurozone: an alternative take on lessons from US and Eurozone experiences](#)

by Jörg Bibow [@JoergBibow](#)

This paper examines options for the design of a workable fiscal union for the euro area. It provides a comparative study of fiscal institutions in the US and euro area in order to supply lessons from the operation of the US fiscal regime that could inform the design of the, hitherto dysfunctional, euro regime. The paper argues that common, rather than asymmetrical, shocks are the norm in the euro area and that the euro's institutions are seriously deficient in dealing with area-wide recession and systemic financial crises. (74 p.)

LUISS SCHOOL OF EUROPEAN POLITICAL ECONOMY

[Europe needs reforms for inclusive growth. Do Europeans agree?](#)

by Pier Carlo Padoan [@PCPadoan](#)

The debate about the economic governance of the EU and of the Eurozone is concentrated on issues related to EMU reform, banking union and capital market union. This reflects the fact that the crisis has highlighted the incomplete nature of institutions supporting the EMU. Such a policy agenda is relevant but incomplete and must be complemented by a parallel agenda targeted at strengthening the growth potential of the European economy. (8 p.)

SAFE - SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE FOR FINANCE IN EUROPE

Grunderwerbsteuer: eine Steuer für das 21. Jahrhundert?

by Kunka Petkova and Alfons Weichenrieder [@AlfonsJ64](#)

This article offers a broad discussion of the side effects and problems that the tax brings with it. In particular, it highlights parallels between property tax and real estate transfer tax and suggests ways in which land transfer tax could be developed to improve the performance of the real estate market. (18 p. - DE)

EDUCATION/YOUTH/CULTURE/SPORT

VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT BRUSSEL - INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES

Refugee students' experience with the European higher education system. A Belgian case study

by Mohammad Salman and Tuba Bircan [@bircantub](#)

The 'welcome student-refugee program' was developed by the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) in 2015-2016 as a response to the great arrival of refugees to Belgium, mainly fleeing the war zones in the Middle East. The major goal of the programme is to help recognized refugees start or proceed with their studies in the Belgian higher educational system. This policy brief assesses the progress of the program, and the challenges the refugees have faced at the VUB. (9 p.)

EMPLOYMENT/SOCIAL POLICY/HEALTH AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR DEMOCRACY AND ELECTORAL ASSISTANCE / COMMUNITY OF DEMOCRACIES / UN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)

Las organizaciones regionales, la igualdad de género y el empoderamiento político de las mujeres

by Stephanie Chaban, Luis J. Consuegra, Hannah Elten (et al.)

This report presents important instruments for the promotion of gender equality and women's political empowerment currently used at the global and regional levels. It also highlights the challenges, opportunities and achievements encountered by each of the organizations during implementation in their respective regions. (205 p. - ES)

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

The European pillar of social rights meets the Nordic model

by Caroline de la Porte

In this analysis the author describes the social pillar, the competences on the European and national level as well as the influence of the Nordic model on EU's social policy. (22 p.)

JACQUES DELORS INSTITUT BERLIN

How are you doing, Europe? Mapping social imbalances in the EU

by Sylvia Schmidt [@ sylvia_schmidt](#) and Philipp Stander

The report has three aims: it provides new, and perhaps surprising, perspectives on well-known social challenges in Europe. Second, it zooms in on concrete examples of living and working conditions to illustrate how they directly impact upon Europeans' daily lives. Third, drawing on

many case studies collected across different countries and regions, it provides a nuanced portrait of the, often very disparate, social conditions across the EU today. (44 p.)

FORUM FOR RESEARCH ON EASTERN EUROPE AND EMERGING ECONOMIES (FREE NETWORK)

How are gender-role attitudes and attitudes toward work formed? Lesson from the rise and fall of the Iron Curtain

by Pamela Campa [@PAMELACAMPA1](#) and Michel Serafinelli

This brief documents variation across space and over time in gender differences in attitudes toward work and gender-role attitudes; it presents evidence that politico-economic regimes that put emphasis on women's inclusion in the labour market can shape these attitudes. Based on these questions of the world values survey, the brief measures gender differences in the importance given to work, and levels of agreement with statements regarding gender roles. It shows that such measures vary considerably among a sample of countries in Europe and Central-Asia, as well as within countries over time. (7 p.)

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

FONDATION ROBERT SCHUMAN

Se saisir du défi climatique pour bâtir le futur de l'Europe **Getting a grip on the climate challenge to build the future of Europe**

by Dominique Perrut

Based on the observation of deceleration since the financial crisis and persistent divergence between the countries of the EU, this paper highlights the challenges that lie before Europe's economy. Amongst these the climate features as a central issue. The economic tools at Europe's disposal are then assessed, of which the Investment Plan, a promising tool, and action undertaken vis-à-vis the climate. (13 p.- FR) (11 p. - EN)

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

Sinking to zero: the role of carbon capture and negative emissions in EU climate policy

by Milan Elkerbout [@MilanElkerbout](#) and Julie Bryhn

The updated EU long-term climate strategy with its net-zero emissions objective and the [IPCC's \(intergovernmental panel on climate change\) special report on the 1.5°C target](#) prompt a renewed strategic look at negative emissions and carbon capture. Reaching net-zero greenhouse gas emissions requires more carbon sinks and other approaches to remove CO2 from the atmosphere. Furthermore, it will also require carbon capture technology to deal with residual emissions in energy-intensive industry that are otherwise difficult to avoid. (6 p.)

ROBERT SCHUMAN CENTRE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES - EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE

The EU's NDC after the Talanoa dialogue

by Andrei Marcu, Simone Borghesi [@borghesi_simone](#), Wijnand Stoefs (et al.)

This paper explores a number of major options that the EU could consider if the decision is made to enhance the EU nationally determined contributions. It shows that the options are varied, with significant differences in terms of additional mitigation effort, political will and environmental impacts. (42 p.)

NEW CLIMATE INSTITUTE FOR CLIMATE POLICY AND GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY / THE NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL

Realizing the promise of Paris: roadmap to a safer climate

by Maria Jose de Villafranca Casas, Takeshi Kuramochi [@TakeshiKuramo](#), Niklas Höhne [@niklashoehne](#) (et al.)

This policy brief assesses 24 practical and realistic actions to implement between now and 2030 as key elements to cut greenhouse (GHG) emissions significantly by 2030. The authors include such actions as deploying more renewable energy, transitioning away from coal, boosting energy efficiency, accelerating electric vehicle deployment, and ending deforestation. (10 p.)

CENTRE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ECONOMICS AND POLICY

Intertemporal emissions trading and market design: an application to the EU ETS

by Simon Quemin and Raphaël Trotignon [@RaphTrotignon](#)

This paper develops a model to assess the market stability reserve, a key feature of reforming the EU's emissions trading system (ETS). The authors assess the role of the market stability reserve in the functioning of the ETS and investigate its potential to attain its two main objectives, concluding that it is successful in raising the allowance price, but is limited in its ability to improve the system's resilience to allowance demand shocks. (42 p.)

CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL GOVERNANCE INNOVATION

Green bonds. Current development and their future

by Olaf Weber [@olaf_weber](#) and Vasundhara Saravade [@vasu8694](#)

Given the urgency of climate change, it is necessary that our society make a transition toward a green and low-carbon economy. One way to do so is through finance markets that are tailored to fund low-carbon and climate-friendly projects. An important tool in measuring the recent impact of climate change on financial markets has been the green bond. A green bond allows countries or organizations to mobilise traditional debt investments into projects or assets that can help society adapt or mitigate climate change impacts. (32 p.)

CENTRE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ECONOMICS AND POLICY

Steering the climate system: an extended comment

by Linus Mattauch [@LinusMattauch](#), Richard Millar, Frederick van der Ploeg (et al.)

This paper responds to an argument put forward in the American economic review arguing that it is efficient to delay reducing carbon emissions because there is substantial inertia in the climate system. The authors show that there is no substantial inertia – meaning a lag between carbon emissions and warming – that is relevant for climate policy, concluding that a high immediate carbon price is required to meet the targets of the Paris agreement efficiently. (36 p.)

GENERAL AFFAIRS (COHESION POLICY)

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

[Finding a Visegrad added value in the new cohesion policy, 2021 - 2027](#)

by Daniel Šitera

The EU's budgetary negotiations have historically been a case of lowering capabilities and increasing expectations of the cohesion policy. This widening capability-expectations gap is unfavourable to the Visegrad states as net-recipients in the new MFF, yet can be equally claimed to have negative effect on the future economic performance of net-paying member states. This begs the question on what constitutes the Visegrad added value in the new Cohesion Policy, and how it can be reconciled with the EU added value in general. This paper tries to identify the capability-expectations gap as a framework for both understanding the current negotiations and the later evaluation of the final deal. (7 p.)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

[Demographic trends in EU regions](#)

by Vasilis Margaras [@VasilisMargaras](#)

The EU has seen its population grow to a current level of over 500 million people. However, due to low fertility and extended longevity, this population is now growing too slowly, and is even expected to decline in some rural and remote areas. The situation may exacerbate the economic decline these regions are facing, thus affecting economic and territorial cohesion of the EU. Recent migration has improved the demographic balance in various regions, but it is unlikely to reverse the ongoing trend of population ageing. (12 p.)

JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

EUROPEAN POLICY CENTRE

[Disinformation and democracy: the home front in the information war](#)

by Paul Butcher

This paper assesses the various efforts that have been made to fight the spread of disinformation and finds that the results are mixed. It argues that, just as the disinformation problem is driven to a great extent by wider structural faults in the political system, the solution, too, must be partly structural. There must be a shift in commercial practices to disrupt the profit-making motivations driving disinformation, make online platforms more fair, transparent and open, and reduce the pressure on media outlets to compete for attention. (24 p.)

ROBERT SCHUMAN CENTRE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES - EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE

[Off-line digital jurisdiction](#)

by Mariavittoria Catanzariti

The paper examines the issue of the jurisdiction over personal data from a particular angle: it aims to investigate the conditions under which European law might be competitive with other legal systems by strengthening the protection of fundamental rights such as data protection and privacy within trans-border relations and, in particular, by widening the scope of European courts' jurisdiction in such cases. (25 p.)

BERTELSMANN STIFTUNG

The general data protection regulation and automated decision-making: will it deliver?

by Wolfgang Schulz and Stephan Dreyer

This paper analyses in detail the general data protection regulation (GDPR) and elucidates whether the new regulation can promote more comprehensible and verifiable algorithmic decision-making systems. The authors examine to what extent the new regulation can safeguard individual interests such as personality rights on the one hand and societal goals such as non-discrimination and social inclusion on the other. They explore certain additions to the GDPR and alternative regulatory tools, which could complement its provisions. (50 p.)

EUROPEAN POLICIES INITIATIVE

Какво (не) знаем за главните прокурори на държавите членки на Европейския Съюз

What do we (not) know about the prosecutors general in the EU member states

by Ivanka Ivanova, Georgi Angelov and Yani Kirov

This study presents the findings of a comparative legal study of the functions, selection procedures and profiles of Prosecutors General in the EU member states. Carried out in November 2018-January 2019, it makes it possible to identify some major differences between the model of regulation established in Bulgaria for the position of the Prosecutor General and the practice in the other EU member states. The study aims also to contribute to the implementation of the recommendation formulated by the EC about transparent and merit-based appointments to high-level judicial posts. (48 p. - BG) (46 p. - EN)

CASE - CENTRUM ANALIZ SPOŁECZNO-EKONOMICZNYCH (CENTER FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH) / EURO-MEDITERRANEAN STUDY COMMISSION

Merchants of fear. Discursive securitization of the refugee crisis in the Visegrad group countries

by Givi Gigitashvili [@GGigitashvili](https://twitter.com/GGigitashvili) and Katarzyna Sidło [@katsidlo](https://twitter.com/katsidlo)

Ever since the beginning of the so-called refugee crisis in 2015 politicians from the Visegrad group states have been infamously vocal in their aversion to the asylum seekers (and economic migrants as well). The authors of this report explore the migration-security nexus, i.e. how migration and security have become interconnected in the current political discourse in the Visegrad group countries. (16 p.)

ROBERT SCHUMAN CENTRE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES - EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE

Solidarity – from the heart or by force? The failed German leadership in the EU's refugee and migrant crisis

by Lucas Schramm

In 2015 and 2016, the EU had sought to 'Europeanise' the phenomenon of migration and to distribute the loads more evenly across its territory, but met major resistance. Germany was among the member states most affected by the inflow of migrants, though it largely failed with its main policy proposals in the refugee and migrant crisis. This paper argues that there might have been supply of but not sufficient demand for successful German political leadership. (27 p.)

LUISS SCHOOL OF EUROPEAN POLITICAL ECONOMY

Immigration and unemployment in Europe: does the core-periphery dualism matter?

by Piero Esposito, Stefan Collignon and Sergio Scicchitano [!\[\]\(3dfb8d66e81160ad61421a3452093d1b_img.jpg\) @SergioScicchi](#)

This paper assesses the relation between immigration and unemployment for a sample of 15 EU countries between 1997 and 2016. The authors estimate separate effects for Northern and Southern countries based on the differences between the two groups in terms of skill intensity and flexibility of labour market adjustments. (33 p.)

MIGRATION POLICY INSTITUTE

Communicating strategically about immigrant integration: policymaker perspectives

by Aliyyah Ahad [!\[\]\(a870788d6ed9b8fd294b7654a8c8526b_img.jpg\) @Aliyyah_Ahad](#) and Natalia Banulescu-Bogdan [!\[\]\(18065afa4ef6662bca9f3f6088f7de30_img.jpg\) @nataliabbogdan](#)

This report takes stock of the communication strategies and common narratives employed by integration policymakers, as well as the slew of obstacles that can lead messages to be misremembered, ignored, or inadvertently inflame tensions. (31 p.)

MIGRATION POLICY INSTITUTE

Doing more with less: a new toolkit for integration policy

by Meghan Benton [!\[\]\(c50c8b7b2cc2cf9ff925edec0ee94c0d_img.jpg\) @meghan_benton](#) and Alexandra Embiricos [!\[\]\(8bed43dc33ecdde61e2f76c8f5517125_img.jpg\) @aembiricos](#)

Integration policymakers are searching for new tools to help ensure that immigrants are able to enter European labour markets and build ties in their new societies. This report draws on insights shared by policymakers on the future of integration governance. After taking stock of the current approach to integration policy employed by many European countries, it highlights promising tools, processes, and strategies from other policy areas that could help integration policymakers craft effective interventions. (37 p.)

CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL GOVERNANCE INNOVATION

A call to action: transforming the global refugee system

Nearly 70 million people around the world, half of them children, fled persecution and conflict, sought asylum or were internally displaced in 2017. Since May 2017, the world refugee council (WRC) has travelled to host countries on five continents, to better understand the situation first-hand and consult those people with direct knowledge. The WRC's findings come together in 55 recommendations, offering bold, actionable ideas with which to galvanize political will and transform the global system for refugees and internally displaced persons. (126 p.)

GLOBSEC POLICY INSTITUTE

From criminals to terrorists and back?. Quarterly report: France

by Pierre Colomina [!\[\]\(eabd9f9ababee93effadc3b380fe65fd_img.jpg\) @PierreColomina](#), Olivier de France [!\[\]\(1fa16a73daf7b68de7d1700d4a6bc818_img.jpg\) @olivierdefrance](#) and Damien Saverot

The worse ISIS terrorist atrocities in Europe, were undertaken by individuals who had been involved in criminality and illegal trade before they joined the ranks of the world's most dangerous terrorist organisation. It is no longer widely assumed that Europe's terrorists are radicals first and foremost: the bulk of them are criminals who turned to political violence along the way. The jihadist phenomenon, despite being a transnational and de-territorialised ideology, hybridises itself to a pre-existing social environment. (7 p.)

TRANSPORT/TELECOMMUNICATIONS/ENERGY

VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT BRUSSEL - INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES

[The EU policy for civil drones: the challenge of governing emerging technologies](#)

by Chantal Lavallée

The extensive commercialisation of civil drones has made them accessible to a broad range of users for leisure, business-related, and professional activities. However, their growing number has also raised a series of societal concerns about this fast-evolving technology, related to security, safety, privacy, protection of personal data, liability and environmental issues. To mitigate these risks, and to allow their eventual safe integration into the European airspace, the EC has taken on a leadership role over the last years to set up a European policy framework for the civil use of drones. (7 p.)

OXFORD INSTITUTE FOR ENERGY STUDIES

[Energy transition, uncertainty, and the implications of change in the risk preferences of fossil fuels investors](#)

by Bassam Fattouh, Rahmat Poudineh [@RahmatPoudineh](#) and Rob West

Energy transition risk is often viewed as a long-term risk, the impacts of which will not be felt for decades to come. However, this view is an imprecise presentation of reality. This is because although completion of transition might take decades, the increased uncertainty around the transition impacts the energy markets on a much shorter time scale than the transition itself. This article presents the results of a survey of institutional investors on hurdle rates for new energy projects and compares it with information available in the public domain about discount rates on completed projects. (13 p.)

E3G

[A just transition of European coal regions](#)

by Rebekka Popp [@RebekkaPopp](#)

Reaching climate neutrality by 2050 as envisioned by the EC's strategic long-term vision requires timely decarbonisation of the European energy sector, including a phase-out of coal. This paper offers a deep dive into the positioning of key stakeholders as well as opportunities and challenges for a transition away from coal in some of Europe's most coal-dependent regions: Ústecký kraj (Czech Republic), Western Macedonia (Greece), Upper Silesia (Poland), Horná Nitra (Slovakia) and Obilić (Kosovo). (21 p.)

SECTION 3 - FOREIGN AFFAIRS

FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY / DEFENCE

EGMONT – ROYAL INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

[1919-2019: how to make peace last? European strategy and the future of the world order](#)

by Sven Biscop

The commemorations of the Great War have come to an end. 2019 will see the centenary of the peace treaties and of the founding of the League of Nations, the predecessor of the UN. These failed to establish a stable rules-based world order, but deserve to be commemorated and analysed. This policy brief offers four insights from the Interbellum to help us avoid a collapse of the world order today. (5 p.)

THE HAGUE CENTRE FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES

[Hybrid conflicts: the new normal?](#)

by Frank Bekkers [@frankbekkers](#), Rick Meessen and Deborah Lassche

This paper explains what hybrid threats are. In a small booklet the What (what is it?), the Why (why should we care?), and the How (how should we deal with its challenges?) of everything hybrid is discussed. (17 p.)

EGMONT – ROYAL INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

[Fighting for Europe. European strategic autonomy and the use of force](#)

by Sven Biscop

Strategic autonomy has many dimensions: military, industry, intelligence, decision-making, strategizing. In this paper the author tackles strategic autonomy from the military-operational side: which military tasks should the Europeans collectively be able to undertake alone, without the support of non-EU allies, if necessary? But before this question, another one must be answered: under what circumstances are the Europeans willing to use force in the first place? (22 p.)

RAND EUROPE

[Opportunities for European collaboration in armoured vehicles](#)

by Marta Kepe [@martakepe](#), Julia Muravska [@JuliaMuravska](#), Richard Flint (et al.)

Europe is experiencing an increase in investment in land capabilities after more than a decade of limited spending in this area. This study was carried out in support of the European Defence Agency's work to identify potential areas of collaboration for its participating member states and partner countries, thus developing European defence capabilities and promoting armaments cooperation. (13 p.)

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES

The Franco-German tandem: bridging the gap on nuclear issues

by Emmanuelle Maitre

In France, the creation of a national deterrent led to a will to preserve independence, including vis-à-vis NATO, and to uphold the importance of deterrence to maintain security. In Germany nuclear weapons were mainly considered through the prism of NATO. In recent years, however, the two partners have reconciled some of their views on this matter, which could enable them to act in tandem and become more influential in addressing contemporary challenges on strategic stability, arms control, non-proliferation and disarmament. (46 p.)

CARNEGIE ENDOWMENT & BELFER CENTER FOR SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

The INF quandary: preventing a nuclear arms race in Europe

by Ulrich Kühn [@DrUlrichKuehn](#), Pavel Zolotarev and William Tobey

The US withdrawal from the INF treaty poses significant implications for the future of European security, risking dangerous arms racing behaviour among US, European and Russian militaries. (37 p.)

ÚSTAV MEZINÁRODNÍCH VZTAHŮ (INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PRAGUE)

Existuje hrozba opětného rozmístění jaderných "Euroraket" z doby studené války v Evropě?

Is there a threat of a repeated deployment of nuclear "Eurorockets" from the cold war period in Europe?

by Miroslav Tůma

This paper offers an insight into a problematic topic of the nuclear threat between powerful countries and what would be the implications if the American-Soviet Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty was terminated. The paper also discusses the Treaty's security significance and its main parameters, the legal framework of the withdrawal and the reasons of both parties for accusing each other of violating the Treaty. (12 p. - CZ) (12 p. - EN).

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

The end of the INF treaty is looming. A new nuclear arms race can still be prevented

by Wolfgang Richter

President Trump wants to terminate the INF Treaty signed in 1987. Europe must resolutely oppose the threat of a new nuclear arms race. It should insist on verifying the accusations from both sides under transparent and cooperative conditions and, if necessary, agree on additional stabilisation measures in order to preserve the treaty or limit the consequences of a US withdrawal. (8 p.)

INSTITUTO ESPAÑOL DE ESTUDIOS ESTRATÉGICOS

Del Tratado INF al START. ¿El final de los acuerdos de no-proliferación nuclear?

by José Ignacio Castro Torres

After the allegations made both by US and Russia over non-compliance with their respective responsibilities, the INF Treaty is crossing a more than hazardous context, which could have negative consequences over other treaties related to the nuclear non-proliferation regime, such as the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START) or the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty itself. With this uncertain future forthcoming, all actors are beginning to consider new strategies. (21 p. - ES)

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

A European Security Council. Added value for EU foreign and security policy?

by Markus Kaim and Ronja Kempin [!\[\]\(5a132f13505a6571904d622757b7a8f0_img.jpg\) @RonjaKempin](#)

A European Security Council (ESC) would – so the German government has suggested – make the EU better prepared for making decisions about international politics and thus better able to act. In fact, pursuing the idea only makes sense if two questions can be answered unambiguously: What deficits in EU foreign and security policy could a ESC eliminate? What added value is it meant to bring to the EU's institutional structure, and what objectives could it help the EU and its member states to achieve better? (7 p.)

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

Moving EU civilian crisis management forward. More capable, more flexible, more responsive

by Carina Böttcher [!\[\]\(d5d7044e5caf6907399af2dced8d6ff8_img.jpg\) @Carina_Boe](#) and Marie Wolf (eds.)

The security environment of the EU has changed dramatically over the past decade. New complex conflicts have erupted in the EU's neighbourhood, including Ukraine, Syria, Libya and Yemen, while long-standing conflicts such as Iraq and Afghanistan persist. Moreover, the rule-based world order has been increasingly fragmenting over the last years, and is facing a rise of interest-based foreign policy resting on power and deterrence. (31 p.)

FRIENDS OF EUROPE

"Fort Trump" or bust?: Poland and the future of European defence

by Paul Taylor

This report is intended to stimulate debate on Poland's options and those of its EU and NATO partners to optimise the defence of Europe and Warsaw's place in it. It examines Poland's strategic position, defence relationships and diplomatic alliances, the domestic political constraints and its relationship with the EU. It analyses the role and state of the armed forces and the place of its defence industries and gives recommendations for how to optimize Poland's foreign and defence policies to best assure its own long-term security interests and those of Europe. (102 p.)

INSTITUTO ESPAÑOL DE ESTUDIOS ESTRATÉGICOS

[EUNAVFOR MED Operación SOPHIA: un instrumento de la política exterior y de seguridad común de la Unión Europea](#)

by Antonio Poncela Sacho

In the last few years, the Central Mediterranean has been the main route used by irregular migrants to reach the EU. The creation of EUNAVFOR MED operation SOPHIA within the Common Security and Defence Policy of the EU, has contributed significantly to the reduction in the smuggling business of irregular migrants in this area. The lack of consensus on the migration policy of the member states hinders the continuity of a military operation that, in any case, could undergo modifications to adapt to the changing migratory flows. (14 p. - ES)

TRADE

BERTELSMANN STIFTUNG/ GLOBAL ECONOMIC DYNAMICS

[Revitalizing the WTO settling trade disputes in a turbulent multipolar world](#)

by Robert McDougall [@rdmcdougall](#)

This paper discusses the current controversies around the WTO dispute settlement body which it views as an opportunity to reflect on the design of dispute resolution at the WTO and potentially modify its functioning. (10 p.)

ZENTRUM FÜR EUROPÄISCHE WIRTSCHAFTSFORSCHUNG (CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN ECONOMIC RESEARCH)

[The effects of natural disasters and weather variations on international trade: a review of the empirical literature](#)

by Daniel Osberghaus

This review summarizes the empirical literature on the effects of natural disasters and weather variations on international trade flows. According to some overarching conclusions, increases in average temperature seem to have a detrimental effect on export values (less on imports), mainly for manufactured and agricultural products. Imports seem to be less affected by temperature changes in the importing country. (19 p.)

DEVELOPMENT

CARITAS EUROPA

[Caritas Europa's vision for a renewed partnership between the EU and ACP countries: an opportunity to deliver on agenda 2030](#)

The Cotonou partnership agreement is coming to an end in 2020. The new EU-ACP agreement has the potential to contribute to a sustainable future for more than 1.5 billion people and could represent a milestone for the two blocks in their path towards meeting the sustainable development goals by 2030. This paper presents its vision and recommendations for a renewed EU-ACP partnership. (4 p. - EN) (5 p. - FR)

What a post-Cotonou agreement with the ACP states can achieve

by Evita Schmieg

The EU is currently negotiating a successor to its Cotonou agreement of year 2000 with the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) states. The first, fundamental question is whether an agreement between the EU and the member states' former colonies is still relevant at all. Europe's political and economic significance to Africa has declined markedly. A successor to Cotonou offers an opportunity to modernise the rules on issues including investment, services and migration. (7 p.)

ASIA-OCEANIA

REAL INSTITUTO ELCANO (ELCANO ROYAL INSTITUTE)

Sociedad 5.0: el concepto japonés para una sociedad superinteligente

by Andrés Ortega [@andresortegak](https://twitter.com/andresortegak)

Japan has developed a powerful concept, [Society 5.0](#), as the ideal state towards which the country must advance in order to take full advantage of the ongoing technological transformations, in order to benefit all citizens, without anyone being left behind and solve problems posed by the evolution of that social body. (11 p. - ES)

INSTITUTE FOR DEFENCE STUDIES AND ANALYSES

Japan's strategic calculations: constraints and responses

by Titli Basu

In the post-Cold War era, when the international system is moving away from the unipolar moment of US hegemony, how is Prime Minister Shinzo Abe managing Tokyo's strategic calculations within the US-Japan-China relations? While managing Japan's strategic puzzles amidst US-China competition, Japan will continue to invest in strengthening its alliance with the US, buttress national strength, and further knit universal value based strategic partnerships in the Indo-Pacific; it will also engage with China. (10 p.)

EASTERN EUROPE

ROBERT SCHUMAN CENTRE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES - EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE

Report on citizenship law: Azerbaijan

by Maxim Tabachnik

This report discusses citizenship in Azerbaijan. It explores the history of citizenship in this country, modes of acquisition and loss, and current debates and reform plans regarding citizenship policy. (21 p.)

EXPERT-GRUP

Sabia cu două tăisuri a Federației Ruse Russian Federation's double-edged sword

by Vadim Gumene

Trade relations between the Republic of Moldova and the Russian Federation have been unclear for a long time. The latter can generate at any time new 'surprises' for Moldovan exports, for instance when it is necessary to penalise the uncoordinated actions of the Chișinău authorities (e.g. the signing of the EU Association agreement). The latest evolution of the trade cooperation between the two countries, aimed at exempting certain Moldovan products from the customs duties, fits perfectly into the stated logic. (6 p. - RO) (6 p. - EN)

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

MIGRATION POLICY INSTITUTE / ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

Creatividad dentro de la crisis: opciones legales para migrantes venezolanos en América Latina

Creativity amid crisis: legal pathways for Venezuelan migrants in Latin America

by Andrew Selee [@SeleeAndrew](#), Jessica Bolter [@jessicabolter](#), Betilde Muñoz-Pogossian (et al.)

As more than 3 million Venezuelans have fled a collapsing economy, severe food and medical shortages, and political strife, neighbouring countries have responded with creativity and pragmatism. This paper explores how governments in South America, Central America, and Mexico have navigated decisions about whether and how to facilitate their entry and residence. It also examines challenges on the horizon as few Venezuelans will be able to return home any time soon. (24 p. - ES) (23 p. - EN)

INSTITUTO ESPAÑOL DE ESTUDIOS ESTRATÉGICOS

América Latina-Caribe y Union Europea: propuestas para una difícil articulación de la cooperación en la primera mitad del siglo XXI

by Cástor Miguel Díaz Barrado

This document examines the link between EU and Latin America and the Caribbean in order to measure suggestions which help to advance in this partnership. Different levels of linking between both regions are analysed. Also, strengths and weaknesses of cooperation are proved. EU-LAC summits remain an useful tool to highlight the interrelationship's orientations as well as they are important to identify key fields of cooperation. (30 p. - ES)

CENTRE D'ÉTUDES ET DE RECHERCHES INTERNATIONALES / OBSERVATOIRE POLITIQUE DE L'AMÉRIQUE LATINE ET DES CARAÏBES

Amérique latine - L'année politique 2018 América Latina el año político 2018

The year 2018 was marked by migratory crises in Venezuela and Central America. The analysis covers Venezuela, Nicaragua, Argentina, Peru and Brazil. All these countries seemed to be bogged down by a political situation that they did not master. In this dark panorama, Mexico is an exception. (92 p. - FR) (94 p. - ES)

MIDDLE EAST/NORTH AFRICA (MENA)

STOCKHOLM INTERNATIONAL PEACE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

[The lack of disarmament in the Middle East: a thorn in the side of the NPT](#)

by Tytti Erästö [@TyttiErasto](#)

This paper assesses the prospects for the 2020 Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) review conference and presents two alternative approaches for taking the weapons of mass destruction-free zone process forward—a weapons of mass destruction-free zone process without Israel or the inclusion of such a process as part of a broader regional security and arms control dialogue. (24 p.)

EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

[Pushing the boundaries: how to create more effective migration cooperation across the Mediterranean](#)

by Tasnim Abderrahim [@Tasnim_Tn](#)

This paper discusses migration cooperation between the EU and North African states. It offers a background on the evolving significance of migration in the EU's relations with North Africa. Then it focuses on Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia, examining how these three countries responded to EU requests notably to establish regional disembarkation platforms. As these platforms appear to be a non-starter, the article explores enhanced cooperation on border management and stepping up activity on migrant return. (32 p.)

CHATHAM HOUSE - THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

[Israeli–Palestinian peacemaking. The role of the Arab states](#)

by Yossi Mekelberg [@YMekelberg](#) and Greg Shapland

This brief examines following four scenarios concerning the role of the Arab states in Israeli–Palestinian peacemaking, namely: 'more of the same', 'an 'outside-in' peace initiative', 'imposition of a Trump peace plan strongly skewed in Israel's favour', and 'things fall apart'. (16 p.)

KONRAD-ADENAUER-STIFTUNG

[The Levant: search for a regional order](#)

by Mustafa Aydin (ed.) [@aydinmustafa52](#)

The rapid developments of recent years have drastically altered the political and economic landscapes of most countries in the Levant. This publication aims at identifying the various aspects and actors that can influence the formation of a sustainable regional order for the Levant. It contains a focus on the challenges for and foundations of a regional order, an assessment for the possibility of a regional economic framework, and an analysis on the impacts of the region's emerging balances (162 p.)

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI

[Back to crisis mode: Iran's quest to manage internal crises and external pressures](#)

by Adnan Tabatabai [@A_Tabatabai](#)

The US withdrawal from the joint comprehensive plan of action will critically affect power dynamics and state–society relations in Iran. While the reform-oriented currents in Iran's political landscape will be weakened, President Hassan Rouhani and Foreign Minister Javad Zarif may emerge as even stronger figures by adjusting their foreign policy conduct to a more confrontational approach. (19 p.)

DANSK INSTITUT FOR INTERNATIONALE STUDIER (DANISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES)

[Restoration, transformation and adaptation: authoritarianism after 2011 in Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Iran](#)

by Rasmus Alenius Boserup, Eckart Woertz [@eckartwoertz](#), Hiba Hassan (et al.)

Authoritarianism is once again dominating domestic politics and power relations in the MENA region. This report analyses three distinct ways in which political leaders in Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Iran have stood their grounds since 2011. It shows that the region's autocratic leaders have adopted highly distinct strategies to cope with the internal challenges – including strategies of “restoration”, of “transformation” and of “adaptation”. It suggests that European leaders, have a long-term strategic interest in fostering alternative forms of political regimes in the MENA region. (28 p.)

WESTERN BALKANS

GROUP FOR LEGAL AND POLITICAL STUDIES

[Western Balkans public administration monitor 2017-2018](#)

by Milena Lazarevic [@milenalazarevic](#) and Miloš Dindic

Governments in the Western Balkans (WB) have been implementing public administration reforms for over a decade now, with varying degrees of success. Since 2014, these reforms are acknowledged as one of the fundamental areas of reform on any country's path to EU membership and a set of principles was prepared for the accession countries to follow and comply within this area in order to become successful EU member states. (180 p.)

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

[The EU's re-engagement with the Western Balkans: a new chapter long overdue](#)

by Erwan Fouéré

2018 was dominated by deep divisions among the EU member states despite the great expectations set by the EC's February 2018 strategy paper. A major effort will now be required to restore credibility to the EU's enlargement agenda and ensure a genuine re-engagement with the WB. It will be up to the new Commission to regain a leadership role and give the integration of the region into the EU the priority it deserves. (18 p.)

GROUP FOR LEGAL AND POLITICAL STUDIES

[A final agreement that may put Kosovo at a cross road: some lessons from other former contested states](#)

by Perparim Kryeziu

The latest emergence of the idea of territorial exchange as a potential premise for an ultimate agreement between the two states is receiving an ever so much potency in the international arena. High end representatives of the EU and US have failed to produce a clear-cut position either in support or against it. This paper looks at cases of contested states from 1945 and onward that have eventually reached international recognition despite initial refusal from their predecessor states and the international community. (10 p.)

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

[Western Balkans in the loop: reshaping regional cooperation in times of uncertainty](#)

by Gentiola Madhi [@gentiolam](#)

EU enlargement policy has gone through a process of nationalization and accession negotiation technicalities raising thus perplexities regarding the Union's genuine interest in the WB. President Juncker stated in 2014 that there would not be any further enlargement during his mandate; also deep divisions appeared between EU member states in 2018 on the accession negotiations with WB countries when France and the Netherlands showed a firm determination to postpone this process after the EP elections. (15 p.)

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

[Visegrad in the Western Balkans: losing ground?](#)

by Jana Juzová [@jana_juzova](#)

Since their own accession to the EU, the Visegrad countries have been one of the most active European actors advocating for further EU enlargement towards South-Eastern Europe. The V4 countries provided the WB support on their path of European integration. However, the worsening of the state of democracy in Hungary is weakening Visegrad's legitimacy as well as the normative power of the EU. Besides, Poland's new involvement in the Berlin process framework also raises doubts about the commitment and legitimacy of Visegrad's WB policy. (7 p.)

EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

[Luck like the Irish: how emigration can be good for the Western Balkans](#)

by Alida Vracic [@Alidav978](#)

This paper examines the Irish emigration experience and compares it with trends in WB emigration. It outlines the benefits that a concerted government-backed effort could bring to the region. But it also highlights the consequences the WB is likely to face if it does not change its current passive approach to the fact of emigration. (27 p.)

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

[Der Balkan als integraler Teil einer gemeinsamen europäischen Sicherheitsarchitektur? Sicherheit, Rolle der NATO und der Auslandseinsätze des österreichischen Bundesheeres](#)

by Vedran Dzihic [@vedrandzihic](#)

The EU's leading role has increasingly been challenged by other international actors in the Balkans. Today, the Balkans are once again a geopolitically and security-fought zone in which, on the one hand, the EU, the US and NATO, and on the other hand, Russia and China are confronting each other and fighting for influence. The analysis explores also the question of whether the discussed structural shifts change the role of Austria and the Austrian foreign assignments in the region. (11 p. - DE)

THE HAGUE CENTRE FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES

[The role of strategic communications in enhancing resilience and stability in the EU's South-Eastern neighbourhood](#)

by Katarina Kertysova [@KKertysova](#), Michel Rademaker [@michelrademaker](#) and Tim Sweijs [@TimSweijs](#)

During the Austrian presidency of the EU Council in 2018, a StratCom capability game was conducted, analysing the state of StratCom capabilities of the EU, its member states and the WB partners. This paper explains the methodology of the game, describes the key findings and conclusions, and proposes a set of recommendations. (25 p.)

CHINA

BRUEGEL

[The Belt and Road turns five](#)

by Michael Baltensperger [@baltensperg](#) and Uri Dadush

This paper recounts the background of the Belt and Road initiative and its context, what is known about the extent of the initiative and the intentions behind it. China's goal of forging stronger links with its trading partners around the world is legitimate assuming the underlying intent remains peaceful. (15 p.)

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI

[Development through acquisition: the domestic background of China's Europe policy](#)

by Fabio Angiolillo [@FabioAngiolillo](#)

Recently, the Chinese government released two economic plans: Made in China 2025 and the 13th five-year plan. These guidelines are not mere industrial plans but also draw crucial foreign-policy trajectories, including as regards China's relationship with Europe: to intensify economic and investment relations with individual EU countries and to strengthen the long-standing relationship between Beijing and EU institutions, considered by the leadership in Beijing to be crucial for the international rise of China. (17 p.)

**NEDERLANDS INSTITUUT VOOR INTERNATIONALE BETREKKINGEN - CLINGENDAEL
(NETHERLANDS INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS)/ LEIDEN ASIA CENTRE**

[Assessing China's influence in Europe through investments](#)

by Matt Ferchen, Frank N. Pieke, Frans-Paul van der Putten (et al.)

This report scrutinizes the linkage between Chinese investment in Europe and China's influence in the region and provides a nuanced and careful analysis that goes beyond the alarmism and polarization about China's role in Europe. It examines a Chinese port investment in Greece, a Chinese-financed rail project in Hungary and Serbia, and two Chinese acquisition deals in the Netherlands. It sheds light inter alia on the motives behind these individual Chinese investments and financial packages. (56 p.)

INSTITUTO ESPAÑOL DE ESTUDIOS ESTRATÉGICOS

[La estrategia global de China para defender sus intereses](#)

by Javier de Carlos Izquierdo

China launched a new global strategy in 2013 which was not formally published until 2015. Although, this strategy is an example of public China's diplomacy, this diplomacy takes corporate image from silk road UNESCO's project that seeks to promote its business global spread. The first strategic objective of China is ruling of World, changing global governance rules in its own benefit. (23 p. - ES)

PETERSON INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

[China should join the new Trans-Pacific Partnership](#)

by Peter A. Petri and Michael G. Plummer

The Comprehensive and Progressive Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement (CPTPP) has begun to reshape the Asia-Pacific trade landscape. Economic and political benefits associated with the CPTPP will likely lead to its enlargement, amplifying its benefits in a virtuous cycle. Several economies have expressed interest in joining the CPTPP, and China has signalled interest. Chinese adoption of CPTPP rules would generate benefits all around, potentially easing US-China tensions. However, if China would join on similar terms to those now in place, it would have to undertake wide-ranging reforms, including in politically. (13 p.)

POLSKI INSTYTUT SPRAW MIĘDZYNARODOWYCH (POLISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

[China and the challenges of the fourth industrial revolution: value chains, 5G and emerging markets](#)

by Marcin Przychodniak [@Molos123](#)

China has identified the ongoing digital revolution as its first opportunity in modern times to compete with other international powers, especially the US. The advantage of technological development is that it will allow China to become a "major cyber power," introduce its own technological standards worldwide, raise its position in global value chains, and influence the world economy. (12 p.)

[Rare earths and China: a review of changing criticality in the new economy](#)

by John Seaman [@johnfseaman](#)

For the last two decades China has produced between 80 and 95 percent of the world's rare earths: a group of 17 metals that have become key components of revolutionary technological progress in fields ranging from energy, to ICT, to medical devices, to defence. A new wave of overseas Chinese investment may mean that the production (and pollution) that was once delocalized to China will increasingly be diverted to other areas of the globe, with China still looking to master the more valuable downstream industries. (36 p.)

RUSSIA

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN REFORM

[Putin's last term: taking the long view](#)

by Ian Bond [@CER_IanBond](#) and Igor Yurgens

Vladimir Putin has dominated the Russian political scene since 1999. But he is now in what should be his final term as president. He faces economic, social and foreign policy problems; and he has to decide what will happen at the end of his term of office. The West should prepare for change, or for no change. For Putin, a better relationship with the West could be part of his legacy. And the West has an interest in laying the foundations for a stable relationship for the rest of the Putin era and beyond. (21 p.)

TURKEY

BROOKINGS INSTITUTION

[Turkey's new presidential system and a changing west: implications for Turkish foreign policy and Turkey-west relations](#)

by Kemal Kirişçi [@kemalkirisci](#) and Ilke Toygür [@ilketoygur](#)

This paper argues that the confluence of a "new" Turkey and an evolving international order is likely to continue to strain Turkey's relations with its Western allies. Furthermore, structural factors and geopolitical realities are likely to dampen Erdoğan's temptation to break away from the trans-Atlantic alliance. Against this background, anchoring Turkey to the West within a values-based framework no longer looks realistic. So how should the West approach Turkey? Which is better: engagement not based on rules, or rules-based non-engagement? (21 p.)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

CARNEGIE ENDOWMENT

[America's future in a dynamic Asia](#)

by Douglas H. Paal

This paper argues that the US should pragmatically continue to engage China where possible, while cultivating a coalition based on shared interests and values to hedge against Beijing's unconstructive behaviour. (54 p.)

CENTER FOR STRATEGIC AND BUDGETARY ASSESSMENTS

The European deterrence initiative

by Michelle Shevin-Coetzee

The European deterrence initiative (EDI) represents one of the primary contributions of the US to European security. The EDI was designed as a rapid response to Russia's actions in Crimea and Eastern Ukraine. Four and a half years later the EDI continues to serve as a tangible example of the US standing alongside its European allies and partners. This paper seeks to explain why the EDI was started, what it funds, and the budgetary challenges it faces to its implementation and sustainment. (26 p.)

WOODROW WILSON INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR SCHOLARS

North America's new free trade agreement: impacts on the North American auto sector

by Greg Keenan [@GregKeenanGlobe](#)

The new North American free trade agreement will have a substantial impact on vehicle manufacturers, their parts suppliers and their customers. Changes in the rules of origin that require higher amounts of North American-generated content will increase production costs. These will be passed on to consumers in the three countries or absorbed by the car companies, reducing the competitiveness and profitability of the North American auto industry, but supply chains that have been built up over almost a quarter-century of NAFTA will remain largely intact. (13 p.)

SECTION 4 - EU MEMBER STATES

GERMANY

FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG (FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION)

Fair play in world trade: towards a social democratic redesign of trade policy

by Thorsten Schäfer-Gümbel [@tsghessen](#), Bernd Lange [@berndlange](#), Matthias Miersch (et al.)

A fair trade policy is an essential building block toward creating a fair global order. To reach that a coherent programmatic basis for Germany's trade on all political levels is needed. This publication aims to provide that foundation. It puts into words structural objectives that can be used as a basis for social democratic trade policy; moreover, it outlines the main features of a fair and just trade policy and what priorities such a policy should set. (20 p.)

BERTELSMANN STIFTUNG

Globalization of the German automotive industry: where does added value occur?

by Thieß Petersen [@Petersen_econ](#), Thomas Rausch [@Thomas_Rausch](#) and Andreas Sachs

A central aspect of globalization is that companies not only sell their products all over the world, but the production of goods and services is divided into different stages of added value at home and abroad. The direct and indirect added value contributions of domestic and foreign suppliers often remain hidden. Using the German automotive industry as an example, the authors show the extent to which other countries contribute directly and indirectly to added value in this industry's production. (8 p.)

MAX-PLANCK-INSTITUT FÜR GESELLSCHAFTSFORSCHUNG (MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIETIES)

The German undervaluation regime under Bretton Woods: how Germany became the nightmare of the world economy

by Martin Höpner [@HopnerMartin](#)

Germany is an undervaluation regime, a regime that steers economic behaviour towards deterioration of the real exchange rate and thereby towards export surpluses. This regime has brought the Eurozone to the brink of collapse. But it is much older than the euro. It was established during the Bretton Woods years and has survived all subsequent European currency orders. (42 p.)

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

Fukushima and German energy policy 2005 – 2015/2016

by Christian Growitsch and Felix Höffler

Following the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear accident in 2011 Germany shut-down immediately older nuclear power plants. This event is often seen as a major accelerator for the German Energiewende. This paper shows that hardly any trend in the energy policy was strongly affected by policy decisions of 2011. Major trends are the increase of renewable electricity sources, the phase out of nuclear, a slight increase in energy efficiency, while total energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions remained stable in the decade 2005-2015/16. (17 p.)

GREECE

FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG (FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION)

The backsliding of democracy in today's Greece

by Dimitri A. Sotiropoulos

This report discusses problems of democracy on the basis also of data demonstrating the relative backsliding of democracy in Greece. It puts the case of Greece in the comparative perspective of other crisis-ridden Eurozone countries, such as Ireland, Italy, Portugal, and Spain, as far as the performance of their national democracies is concerned. It attributes Greece's comparatively worse performance to long-standing problems, namely political clientelism, populism, and corruption, the combination of which stands in the way of democracy's improvement. (32 p.)

SPAIN

FUNDACIÓN DE ESTUDIOS DE ECONOMÍA APLICADA

El sistema público español de pensiones: mitos y realidades

by Miguel Ángel García Díaz [@magarciadiaz](#)

The present and the future of the Spanish pension scheme is one of the problems that most concern the population. Thanks to a growing life expectancy, to a declining birth rate and the arrival at the retirement age of the baby boom generation, the Spanish population is aging rapidly putting pressure on the pension spending. The study concludes that the public pension system can be financially viable with similar benefits to those of other European countries. The real challenge is to achieve a balance that combines sufficiency with individual and intergenerational equity. (42 p. - ES)

REAL INSTITUTO ELCANO (ELCANO ROYAL INSTITUTE)

[El Fondo Europeo de Defensa y el futuro de la industria española](#)

by Félix Arteaga and Luis Simón [@LuisSimn](#) (eds.)

The European defence is going through a moment of reactivation encouraged by the recent rebound in the defence budgets of most of the European countries and the relaunch of the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP). A proposal in the next MFF (2021-2027) amounts to €13 billion for the European Defence Fund (EDF). The Spanish participation is critical for the survival of a large part of the industrial and technological defence sector of the country as it will allow to gain competitiveness and consolidate the Spanish position in the European sector. (32 p. - ES)

FRANCE

INSTITUTE FOR NATIONAL SECURITY STUDIES

[France's role in Syrian reconstruction, and the implications for Israel](#)

by Margaux Nijkerk

The French strategic interest in Syria spans decades, and since the outbreak of the civil war and the rise of the Islamic State, France has paid renewed attention to Syria. France has now the largest Western military presence in Syria and is one of the leading providers of humanitarian aid. With the end of the war in sight, France also needs to evaluate how it can play a role in Syrian reconstruction. (9 p.)

CROATIA

INSTITUTE FOR DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

[Prijedlog nove NUTS 2 klasifikacije u Republici Hrvatskoj](#)

by Jakša Puljiz and Ivana Biondić

This study gives recommendations for the modification of the Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics 2 (NUTS) regions in Croatia based on following objectives: 1) to ensure the best possible conditions for the use of Cohesion Policy funds on the largest possible area in Croatia; 2) to achieve the highest possible degree of advantages for as many inhabitants of Croatia as possible by following the rules for granting regional aid; 3) to form as homogenous regions as possible in terms of degree of development and all the other important features. (63 p. - HR)

ITALY

LUISS SCHOOL OF EUROPEAN POLITICAL ECONOMY

[The imaginary growth: the hidden illness of Italian economic policy](#) [La crescita immaginaria: la malattia nascosta della politica economica italiana](#)

by Carlo Bastasin [@CarloBastasin](#) and Manuela Mischitelli

Since the end of September 2018, the Italian government has been involved in complex negotiations with the EC to avoid an infringement procedure for excessive deficit in relation to the debt rule. The talks have led to a radical reflection on the relations between the Italian government and the EU. In this paper the authors raise the question of whether the negotiations are indeed dealing with the real defect in Italy's budgetary policy, which, with small yet significant exceptions, seems to be rooted in the country's political culture. (12 p. - EN) (11 p. - IT)

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI

Recenti sviluppi verso la difesa europea: opportunità e sfide per l'Italia

by Alessandro Marrone [@Alessandro_Ma](#) and Paola Sartori [@SartoriPal](#)

With the launch of the Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) in 2017, a total amount of €13 billion for the European Defence Fund is foreseen in the next MFF (2021-2027). This is both an opportunity and a challenge for the Italian aerospace, security and defence industries. In order to protect and promote national interests, the government and the parliament need to focus their commitment on European defence. Indeed, Italy needs adequate, long-term investments in order to acquire technologies and equipment necessary to the Italian armed forces. (26 p. - IT)

LITHUANIA

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

LNG import quotas in Lithuania – Economic effects of breaking Gazprom's natural gas monopoly

by Simon Schulte and Florian Weiser [@FlorianWeiser](#)

Until 2014, Russia's Gazprom had a natural gas monopoly in Lithuania. In order to break such monopoly, Lithuania financed an import terminal for liquefied natural gas (LNG) in Klaipėda. Besides, the country signed a long-term contract which can be interpreted as a minimum import volume quota for LNG having higher marginal supply costs than Russian gas. This study assesses the potential of such a minimum import volume quota to mitigate the market power of a monopolistic supplier. (8 p.)

HUNGARY

FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG (FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION)

Hungarian politics in 2018

by Gábor Györi, András Bíró-Nagy [@bironagyandras](#) and Miklós Sebök

This report reflects some major political, economic and social developments over the past twelve months in Hungary. Be it the parliamentary election and the main reasons behind the re-election of Viktor Orbán's Fidesz party, the state of the Hungarian opposition, major developments in foreign policy, in particular Orbán's battles at the European scene, the main economic trends or the increasing pressure on the civil society, academic freedom and independent media. (85 p.)

POLAND

NOTRE EUROPE - JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE

The revenge of the nation: political passions in contemporary Poland

by Aziliz Gouez

Through the case of Poland, this paper aims to understand the profound political shifts underway in Europe today. It starts by analysing the social dimension of Law and Justice's (PiS) political project, its emphasis on the province, on redistribution, and on the role of state intervention. It then turns to the distinctive ideological grammar and historical repertoire that shape the Polish government's politics of national identity. It looks at how these two strands of Law and Justice's project – social policy and nationalist assertion – feed off one another. (24 p.)

FINLAND

ELINKEINOELÄMÄN TUTKIMUSLAITOS (RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF THE FINNISH ECONOMY)

The Finnish potential output: measurement and medium-term prospects

by Sami Jysmä, Ilkka Kiema, Tero Kuusi [@TeroKuusi](#), Markku Lehmus [@MarkkuLehmus](#)

In this report, the authors discuss the measurement of the potential output of the Finnish economy and the potential's medium-term growth prospects. They apply novel approaches to the estimation of Finland's production function and the filtration of the potential output with the aim of improving the European Commission production function methodology in mind. (98 p.)

UNITED KINGDOM

FABIAN SOCIETY

Minds at work: making mental health a priority in the changing world of work

by Josh Abey [@joshabey](#), Luciana Berger [@lucianaberger](#), Jed Boardman (et al.)

According to this report, job insecurity, prejudice and ignorance are driving Britain's workplace mental health crisis. The report reveals that Britain's rapidly changing labour market is creating new risks for mental health. It finds a steep increase in the number of self-employed workers with a mental illness. It calls for an urgent rethink of attitudes towards mental health as the world of work continues to transform. (28 p.)

CIVITAS - INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF CIVIL SOCIETY

Controlling Britain's borders: the challenge of enforcing the UK's immigration rules

by David Wood

The author sets out the challenge of maintaining Britain's border controls and shows how the system largely fails to deal with those who are here illegally. One of the central difficulties revolves around the asylum system, and the scope for its abuse by those who are not refugees but submit applications as a last-ditch bid to avoid deportation. (74 p.)

ИНСТИТУТ МИРОВОЙ ЭКОНОМИКИ И МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫХ ОТНОШЕНИЙ РОССИЙСКОЙ АКАДЕМИИ НАУК (INSTITUTE OF WORLD ECONOMY AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OF THE RUSSIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE)

«Мягкая сила» Великобритании

by E. M. Charitonova

The paper examines key parameters of the UK soft power regarding it as a relatively independent and structured foreign policy area. It focuses on the reasons behind increasing attention for soft power in international relations theory and its growing role in the states' foreign policy. It highlights the factors allowing the UK to rank high: its soft power politics and its place in the country's foreign policy; its target audiences, factors of success, and limitations; it highlights also key forms and mechanisms of soft power deployment in priority areas. (140 p. - RU).

BREXIT

BRUEGEL

[The implications of a no-deal Brexit: is the European Union prepared?](#)

by Guntram B. Wolff [@GuntramWolff](#)

This paper, based on a note written for the Bundestag EU Committee, explores the possible consequences of a no-deal Brexit for the EU and assesses preparations on the EU side. It also provides guidance on the optimal strategy for the EU, depending on the choices made by the UK. (9 p.)

INSTITUTE FOR GOVERNMENT

[Brexit: two months to go](#)

by Joe Owen [@jl_owen](#) and Tim Durrant [@timd_IFG](#)

This paper looks at the UK government's progress in preparing to leave the EU without a deal. It assesses the status of Brexit legislation and the practical preparations required for day one outside the EU. (12 p.)

INSTITUTE OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

[Immigration: picking the low-hanging fruits](#)

by Kristian Niemietz [@K_Niemietz](#)

Britain's future migration system should be a two-lane system. There should be free movement for some countries, although unlike in the past, those would not all have to be European countries. They would simply be the countries which the British public is most comfortable to share an open border with. For the rest of the world, there should be a simplified, uncapped version of the current tier system. (72 p.)

POLICY EXCHANGE

[Strengthening the UK's position on the backstop](#)

by Guglielmo Verdirame and Richard Ekins

The UK risks making matters worse by giving up good arguments about how the backstop should be interpreted and instead quietly going along with the most unfavourable interpretations that can be put upon it. There are two main areas of concern: the relationship between the backstop and the Belfast/Good Friday agreement, and the conditions, if any, under which the backstop can be brought to an end. This note outlines the problem and sets out ways in which the government can strengthen the UK's legal position. (8 p.)

NOTRE EUROPE - JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE

[Entre amputation et renforcement de l'unité de l'UE : quel Brexit?](#)

by Thierry Chopin [@Th_Chopin](#)

Brexit is a bad thing for the EU: it represents an amputation, in terms of economic, political and strategic weight, for the EU. An exit from the UK also appears as a symbol of disunity. However, opinion polls conducted following the British referendum suggest that public opinion has become more favorable to participation in the Union. So between amputation and strengthening of the unity of the EU: what Brexit? What future relations between the EU and Britain? (8 p. - FR)

NOTRE EUROPE - JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE

Should there be another Brexit-referendum? Risks and opportunities

by Sandra Kröger

This paper zooms into the debate around a second referendum on British membership in the EU showing pros and cons of such a referendum. It discusses a central legal issue of a potential second referendum i.e the referendum question, and also what a second referendum will not achieve and what it might achieve. The paper cautiously argues for another referendum which it sees as one available as well as democratic way out of the current deadlock of British Brexit politics. (14 p.)

EUROPEAN POLICY CENTRE

Brexit: How the political declaration can rescue the Withdrawal agreement

by Andrew Duff [@AndrewDuffEU](#)

The author argues that Mrs May has little chance of getting the Withdrawal agreement ratified unless she begins to appeal to pro-European MPs on a cross-party basis. The arch-Brexiters, including the DUP, will not change their minds. And the EU 27 will not make further concessions on the Irish backstop. The key lies in the political declaration on the future relationship. The tentative language of the declaration as it stands should be replaced by firmer commitments on the Irish backstop and on reaching a deep and comprehensive free trade agreement. (12 p.)

EUROPEAN POLICY CENTRE

One step forward, two steps back: towards no deal by default or design

by Fabian Zuleeg [@FabianZuleeg](#)

The UK political system is in a deadlock. Its politicians are unable to make a decision between the different Brexit options on the table. The final outcome is far from clear: while many UK politicians reiterate that there is no majority for a no-deal scenario, it remains the most likely outcome, by default or by design. To prevent the worst-case scenario, more time is needed to find an alternative that can command a majority in the House of Commons and is compatible with the EU principles. This will require statesmanship on the UK side. (4 p.)

CHATHAM HOUSE - THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Food politics and policies in post-Brexit Britain

by Tim G. Benton [@timgbenton](#), Antony Froggatt, Georgina Wright [@GeorginaEWright](#) (et al.)

This paper explores the existing agriculture and food systems within the UK and the challenges the government faces in delivering a sustainable, affordable and healthy food system. It addresses the political realities of Brexit and the roles of the UK government in determining food policy after Brexit. It considers the impact that new trading arrangements could have on food prices, environmental and food standards, and what this may mean for the UK's reputation internationally. UK fisheries policy is out of the scope of this paper. (35 p.)

INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH

State aid rules and Brexit

by Marley Morris [@MarleyAMorris](#) and Tom Kibasi [@TomKibasi](#)

Some proponents of leaving the EU have argued that, freed from the constraints of EU rules on state aid, the UK would have more flexibility to embark on an active industrial policy; opponents

have countered that this overstates the stringency of the rules. This short briefing seeks to assess these claims, exploring the role of state aid rules in the EU and how these might change under different Brexit scenarios. (24 p.)

E3G

[UK-EU electricity interconnection: The UK's low carbon future and regional cooperation after Brexit](#)

by Joseph Dutton [@JDuttonUK](#)

The UK needs to continue developing electricity interconnectors with the EU after Brexit if it is to deliver a low carbon, low cost, and secure electricity system. But leaving the EU makes interconnector development and operation more difficult, even though the rationale for building them remains the same. (12 p.)

UK IN A CHANGING EUROPE

[The repatriation of competences in climate and energy policy after Brexit: implications for devolution and multi-level government](#)

by Nicola McEwen [@McEwen_Nicola](#) and Alexandra Remond [@AlexandraRemond](#)

This paper explores the effect of Brexit on the territorial governance of climate and energy policy in the UK. It first provides an overview of EU climate and energy policies, and the extent to which they have shaped policy and action across the UK. It then explores the opportunities and constraints facing policy makers within the UK and devolved governments once the UK leaves the EU, as well as the scope for new shared governance in climate & energy policy. (28 p.)

UK IN A CHANGING EUROPE

[Brexit and public opinion 2019](#)

by Anand Menon (ed.) [@anandMenon1](#)

It hardly needs saying that public attitudes towards Brexit and the numerous issues related to it have been central to political debates since at least 2016. As politicians try to address popular concerns, the congruence, or otherwise, of their views with those of both the public at large and their own members will be crucial. This report looks at the new and continued divisions within the country that will have a disruptive impact on its politics going forward. (57 p.)

MISCELLANEOUS

ROBERT SCHUMAN CENTRE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES - EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE

[City networks and the multilevel governance of migration. Policy discourses and actions](#)

by Tiziana Caponio

City networks are considered as instances of multilevel governance policy-making. This paper seeks to understand how such networks conceive and frame their role in the governance of migration, what type of vertical and horizontal relations they are engaged in, and to what extent these relationships configure the emergence of multilevel governance-like policymaking processes. (27 p.)

CENTER FOR STRATEGIC AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

[Influence and infrastructure: the strategic stakes of foreign projects](#)

by Jonathan E. Hillman [@HillmanJE](#)

Around the world, and especially in Asia, countries are racing to build new railways, ports, pipelines, fiber-optic cables, and other infrastructure and to reap the benefits that come with greater connectivity. This report highlights how states can use foreign infrastructure projects to advance non-economic objectives. Specifically, it takes an initial look at connectivity infrastructure in three sectors: transportation, energy, and information and communications technology. (36 p.)

TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL

[Corruption perceptions index 2018](#)

The 2018 corruption perceptions index measures the perceived levels of public sector corruption in 180 countries and territories. The index scores on a scale of zero (highly corrupt) to 100 (very clean). The results paint a sadly familiar picture: more than two-thirds of countries score below 50, while the average score is just 43. Perhaps most disturbing is that the vast majority of countries assessed have made little to no progress. Only 20 have made significant progress in recent years. (16 p.)

GLOBAL PUBLIC POLICY INSTITUTE

[System upgrade: improving cross-border access to electronic evidence](#)

by Mirko Hohmann [@mirkohohmann](#) and Sophie Barnett [@sophie_barnett](#)

This policy brief highlights the implications of new efforts and make recommendations for shaping a sustainable regime for cross-border data access. It outlines the existing system and its shortcomings. Then it takes a closer look at the CLOUD act and the e-evidence initiative to analyse the implications of both approaches. It makes recommendations for how to shape the system for cross-border data access, including ways to improve the existing mutual legal assistance regime and how the US and European legislative efforts can be implemented. (34 p.)

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR DEMOCRACY AND ELECTORAL ASSISTANCE

[Territory and power in constitutional transitions](#)

by George Anderson and Sujiy Choudry [@sujiit_choudhry](#)

This paper seeks to provide insights into how territorial claims relate to constitution-making processes and constitutional design, and to offer advice that may be useful to principals and advisors engaged in constitutional moments: periods in which there has been intense political engagement over how to respond constitutionally to significant demands for territorial accommodation from one or more regions. (57 p.)