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Dear Readers,

Welcome to issue 39 of the Think Tank Review compiled by the EU Council Library* ([click to share on Twitter](#)). It references papers published in September 2016. As usual, we provide the link to the full text and a short abstract.

This TTR has a special focus on China's foreign policy and external relations, with papers looking at China and the Mediterranean, China's relations with Sub-Saharan Africa, the Nordic countries' relations with China, the Belt and Road initiative, the 13th Chinese five-year plan (2016-2020), China and Brexit, and China's growth challenges – to mention just a few, as a taster of what you can find in this selection.

In the 'EU Politics and Institutions' section, readers will find several substantial contributions, two of which we would like to draw your attention to: 'How can we make Europe popular again?' by Jean-Claude Piris, and Pierre Vimont's 'The Strategic Interests of the European Union'. Jean-Claude Piris points out that, contrary to some media expectations, the result of the UK referendum did not lead to contagion in other EU member states and no member state is planning to leave the Union either in the short or mid-term.

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In the 'Economic and Financial Affairs' section, readers will find several substantial contributions: to mention just two, a paper on economic growth strategies for Southern Europe (Italy, Spain, Portugal and Greece); and another concentrating on the contrasting impact of uncertainty shocks in continental Europe and in the English-speaking world.

In the 'EU Member States' section, several articles concentrate on Brexit, with inspiring contributions on the future of Europe, on how Brexit opens a window of opportunity for treaty reform in the EU, and on how to build a more flexible EU after Brexit. MEP Guy Verhofstadt has written a contribution entitled 'Europe: Back to the future'. Also in this section, we would like to point out a paper on the upcoming constitutional referendum in Italy, a key event for Italy's government and the political developments leading up to the general elections in spring 2018.

As we show in the 'EU Policies' section, think tanks continue to pay close attention to migration issues. On Agriculture and Fisheries, we would highlight two papers: one on the CAP and the environment in future EU budgets, and another on the success factors in EU agricultural negotiations. We also look at think tanks' take on employment and social issues, with papers

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focusing on the EU's efforts to promote and protect the human rights of LGBTI persons in its Eastern neighbourhood, the European social model, female and male mortality in Europe, and the sustainability of European health systems.

In the 'Foreign Affairs' section, we present a rich selection of articles. Just to give readers a flavour, we have selected papers on the EU special representatives; Brazil as a security and development provider in Africa; Turkey, the EU and scenarios for 2023; and youth civic and political engagement and student movements in Morocco, Egypt and Tunisia.

We hope we have met the needs of readers wishing to get their hands on the latest EU-related papers published by think tanks from all over the world.

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

The next Review will be out in November 2016, covering papers published in October 2016.

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SECTION 1 - EU POLITICS AND INSTITUTIONS

Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations

The reform of the EU courts (III). The brilliant alternative approach of the European Court of Human Rights

by Franklin Dehousse [@FrDe2059](#)

5 September 2016

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

This third Egmont/Tepsa report about the doubling of the EU General Court compares the completely opposite justice reform strategies of the EU and the Council of Europe. It underlines the various advantages of the participative, transparent and progressive strategy for judicial reform followed by the Council of Europe. In that perspective, the doubling of the EU General Court has become the new symbol of a generally obese system of EU institutions.

European Political Strategy Centre

EU 2016: from trends to policies

19 September 2016

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

This paper examines a comprehensive set of trends that characterise Europe and the world, and extrapolates policy options for the EU.

Fondation Robert Schuman

How can we make Europe popular again?

by Jean-Claude Piris

5 Septembre 2016

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

On 23 June 2016 the British electorate, consulted by referendum, voted in favour of their country's withdrawal from the EU. Contrary to expectation on the part of some media, especially in the UK, the result did not immediately lead to contagion in other EU member states. It has been quite the opposite, as polls undertaken since the referendum have shown some increase in the public opinions attachment to the EU. No member state is planning to leave the Union either in the short or mid-term. The difficulties that have started to emerge for the government and economic operators in the UK, whilst no one yet knows whether or when the country will leave the Union, is an incentive for the 27 to close rank.

The strategic interests of the European Union

by Pierre Vimont

25 September 2016

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

European strategic interests exist and are visible to all, but their impact on world affairs remains singularly limited in contrast to the theoretic influence of Europe in the international arena. In order to be operational and concrete Europe's common interests have to be perceived and accepted as such by the Europeans themselves. The problem is that they often seem to be the last ones to be able or wanting to do so.

Istituto Affari Internazionali

Negotiating the European Union's dilemmas: proposals on governing Europe

by Nicoletta Pirozzi [@NicolePirozzi](#) and Pier Domenico Tortola

8 September 2016

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

This paper culminates and concludes the Governing Europe research project by presenting an overall assessment of the state of the EU, and a set of prescriptions for the short and medium term, building on the analysis and findings of the individual contributions.

Center for American Progress

Moving beyond "us vs them" politics : how progressives should respond to the rise of right-wing nationalism

by Matt Browne and John Halpin

6 September 2016

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

Since the global financial crisis of 2008, right-wing populist, nationalist, and anti- establishment movements have steadily gained strength across Europe and in the US. This expanding influence is evident most recently with the presidential election in Austria, the Brexit vote in favour of the UK leaving the EU, and the Republican presidential nomination of Donald Trump in the US.

Asociace pro mezinárodní otázky (Association for International Affairs) / Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

Neformální bratislavská reflexe a základy budoucí cesty EU: Víme kudy kam?

by Kryštof Kruliš

28 September 2016

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

This briefing paper describes the process and in particular the results of the Bratislava summit.

Tænketaenken EUROPA

Uenighed i Bratislava trods færre flygtninge i EU

by Rebecca Wolffberg

13 September 2016

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

This paper describes the issues discussed during the Bratislava summit.

European Council on Foreign Relations

Keeping Europeans together: assessing the state of EU cohesion

by Josef Janning (ed.) [@JJ52](#)

September 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (148 p.)

The essays of this publication perfectly reflect the diversity of European cohesion. They provide the national context and personal assessments of the state of cohesion from representatives of the EU member states. The contributions, written by 28 analysts and EU observers from across the continent, offer a qualitative interpretation of the quantitative findings collected by Josef Janning and his team at the European Council on Foreign Relations.

Euroscepticism in small EU Member States

by Karlis Bukovskis (ed.) [@KarlisBukovskis](#)

September 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (160 p.)

The publication "Euroscepticism in Small EU member states" is an effort by an international team of analysts to address the Euroscepticism phenomenon in small EU member states. It draws the general conclusions that the observed small countries of different enlargement periods, in particular, Luxembourg, Ireland, Portugal, Finland, Latvia, Bulgaria and Croatia, are realists in terms of reckoning the political and economic gains from the membership and future amendments of the EU policies. Although Eurosceptic ideas are not unfamiliar in any of the countries, calls for exiting the EU are marginalised.

SECTION 2 - ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Bruegel

Low long-term rates: bond bubble or symptom of secular stagnation?

by Grégory Claeys [@gregclaeys](#)

26 September 2016

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

Yields on European sovereign bonds have reached historically low levels in 2016. This secular decline in long-term sovereign yields is not limited to the euro area. Why are interest rates currently so low? Are low long-term rates justified by fundamental factors or is it an artificial phenomenon?

What are the prerequisites for a euro-area fiscal capacity?

by Maria Demertzis [@mariademertzis](#) and Guntram B. Wolff

9 September 2016

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

The authors discuss three progressive steps for strengthening the fiscal framework at the euro-area level. These lead to less interference in national fiscal policymaking thanks to a more credible no-bailout clause, increased risk sharing and different degrees of provision of euro-area-wide public goods and fiscal stabilisation.

Centre for European Policy Studies

Ultra-low or negative yields on Euro-Area long-term bonds: causes and implications for monetary policy

by Daniel Gros

September 2016

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

The importance of the ECB's policy in driving down rates in the euro area is widely assumed to be substantial. But even the ECB does not attribute more than a one- percentage point decline in rates to QE. The author of this study believes that the impact of QE has been much smaller, due to the state of global markets. It is widely accepted that a sudden reversal of rates to 'normal' would pose a threat to financial stability, but few believe that this is likely to materialise any time soon.

Assessing the euro area's shock-absorption capacity - Risk sharing, consumption smoothing and fiscal policy

by Cinzia Alcidi and Gilles Thirion

September 2016

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

Based on a combination of quantitative analysis and a qualitative forward-looking approach, this paper assesses both the state of play and the future capacity of the EMU to respond and adapt to asymmetric shocks. The objective is to provide a basis upon which to gauge the potential value added of a European Unemployment Benefits Scheme (EUBS), against the background of the recent plans for the Banking Union, the Capital Markets Union and the reform of the fiscal governance framework.

Centre international de formation européenne

Implementation of the European Semester in new EU member states

by Visnja Samardzija and Ivana Skazlic

28 September 2016

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

This paper briefly provides some insights into the experiences of a number of new EU member states in implementing the European Semester.

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

Divergence des prix relatifs : une maladie européenne ?

by Sophie Piton

September 2016

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

During the introduction of the euro, the inflow of capital of the richest countries to those in a worse economic situation had been directed to the least innovative sectors. This misallocation of resources has fuelled strong price increases in the past and contributed to the divergence in inflation rates between countries in the euro area. While prices in sectors highly exposed to international competition (such as industrial, transportation or tourism) have converged in the area, prices in areas that are sheltered (real estate, retail or distribution of water and energy in particular) have diverged.

Bertelsmann Stiftung / Jacques Delors Institute - Berlin

The euro area crisis: a short history

by Jörg Haas [@jorg_haas](#) and Katharina Gnath

September 2016

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

More than half a decade has passed since the start of the euro area crisis. Yet there is still no consensus on the fundamental economic and political questions. In this policy paper, the authors argue that the most widely shared explanations of the crisis have an important element in common: they point to the importance of debt imbalances in the euro area.

Centraal Planbureau (CPB Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Analysis)

The impact of uncertainty shocks: continental Europe versus the Anglo-Saxon world

by Joris de Wind and Katarzyna Grabska

9 September 2016

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

For economic forecasting it is important to know how the real economy responds to major events such as the fall of the Soviet Union, the Greek debt crisis, the recent terrorism attacks in Europe, and the Brexit. In addition to potential direct effects, such major events lead to an increase in uncertainty about the economy and consequently firms will postpone their investments. This paper quantifies the economic consequences of the increased uncertainty.

Centrum für Europäische Politik (Centre for European Policy)

Umverteilung zwischen den EU-Mitgliedstaaten - Gewinner und verlierer der europäischen transfers

by Matthias Kullas, Matthias Dauner, Urs Pötzsch and Iris Hohmann

12 September 2016

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

The study shows which countries benefit most from the EU instruments of redistribution.

Zentrum für Europäische Wirtschaftsforschung (Centre for European Economic Research)

Re-vitalizing money demand in the euro area: still valid at the zero lower bound

by Christian Dreger, Dieter Gerdesmeier and Barbara Roffia

September 2016

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

The analysis of monetary developments has always been a cornerstone of the ECB's monetary analysis and, thus, of its overall monetary policy strategy. In this respect, money demand models provide a framework for explaining monetary developments and assessing price stability over the medium term. It is a well-documented fact in the literature that, when interest rates are at the zero lower bound, the analysis of money stocks become even more important for monetary policy. Therefore, this paper re-investigates the stability properties of M3 demand in the euro area in the light of the recent economic crisis.

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

Ist der Euro noch zu retten? Vorschläge für eine neue europäische wirtschaftspolitik

by Jeromin Zettelmeyer [@jzettelmeyer](#)

September 2016

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

The article proposes new directions for EU economic and fiscal policies. It pays particular attention to tensions between EU member states and the ECB.

Excessive expectations: OECD and EU Commission should revise their return assumptions

by Erik Türk and David Mum

September 2016

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

The paper shows that on the basis of historical US data from 1927 onwards the average total gross return on a "balanced portfolio" over forty-year investment periods is 3.6 percentage points below the value used as the basis for OECD return simulations. The empirical gap of 0.6 percentage points between average real gross return and average real GDP growth is therefore so small that the average effective return – after deduction of costs – that can be realistically assumed for funded pension schemes should be (considerably) less than average GDP growth.

Foundation for European Progressive Studies

Capital markets union and the threat of the regulatory competition

by Matthias Thiemann

September 2016

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

Simple, Transparent and Standardised (STS) regulation has been criticised by industry as overly complex and too ambiguous to incite a large scale revival of securitisation. On the other hand,

NGOs as well as academics have criticized the initiative for fixing the wrong problem (supply rather than demand of credit), and for reviving a trend towards financialisation, which is likely to lead to future asset-bubbles in sectors such as real estate. This contribution will take up a different historically comparative angle and focuses on the current governance mechanisms regarding the enforcement of STS criteria.

Securitisation to the rescue

by Marina Hübner

September 2016

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

The European Capital Markets Union (CMU) project is a strong political commitment to market-based finance, the new code word for shadow banking. Since securitisation, the financial innovation that triggered the Global Financial Crisis of 2008, is key for market-based credit intermediation, its revitalisation has become of strategic importance. Considering that the CMU is an important pillar of European plans to support growth and to complete the European Monetary Union (EMU), what explains that securitisation (and market-based finance) have become key for achieving these goals?

Simple, transparent and standardised securitisation: business as usual

by Vincenzo Bavoso [@vincenzobavoso](#)

September 2016

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

The resurrection of the securitisation market lies at the heart of the EU project to build a pan-European capital markets union (CMU) and it recently flowed into the Commission proposal for a Regulation laying down a framework for Simple, Transparent and Standardised (STS) securitisation. This article offers a critique of the EU project to create a capital markets union and in particular of the proposed framework for STS securitisation.

Capital markets union and the free flow of collateral

by Daniela Gabor [@DanielaGabor](#) and Jakob Vestergaard [@jakobvestergard](#)

September 2016

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

The Capital Markets Union (CMU) proposal marks two accomplishments. First, it reframes securitisation (the pooling, repackaging and selling of loans) as a practice that can somehow be "simple, transparent and standardised" (STS), a shortcut to stimulating economic growth and job creation in Europe (Bavoso 2016, Engelen and Glassmacher 2016). Second, it reframes repo markets as crucial to (STS) market liquidity and monetary policy transmission, with little if any reference to their role as sources of excessive leverage and procyclicality.

The financial consequences of Mr Draghi?

by Benjamin Braun [@BJMbraun](#)

15 September 2016

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

To explain when and how finance wins, political economists have studied the financial sector's instrumental power to lobby policymakers and the structural power that results from its central position in the economy. Focusing on the rise and resilience of market-based banking in the euro area, this paper develops the concept of infrastructural power as a third, complementary variant.

Fundación para el análisis y los estudios sociales (Foundation for Social Studies and Analysis)

Monetary policy and prudential regulation in Europe

by Fernando Fernández Méndez de Andés

26 September 2016

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

The economic results in Europe after the financial crisis are extremely disheartening. It is surprising that an originally American crisis should have had a significantly more serious impact on economic activity in Europe than in the US and that the eurozone should still be battling to recover the levels of activity witnessed before the crisis. This difficulty in terms of recovering acceptable growth levels and, above all, levels of employment that are socially sustainable, lies at the heart of many of the political difficulties that have blighted the European integration project.

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

Study and reports on the VAT gap in the EU-28 member states: 2016 final report

by Grzegorz Poniatowski [@gponiatowski1](#), Mikhail Bonch-Osmolovski and Misha Belkindas [@MishaBelkindas](#)

16 September 2016

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

In this report, estimates of the VAT Gap and the Policy Gap for the year 2014 are presented, as well as revised estimates for the years 2010–2013 "due to the transmission" of Eurostat national accounts from the ESA95 to the ESA10.

Peterson Institute for International Economics

The state of advanced economies and related policy debates: a fall 2016 assessment

by Olivier Blanchard [@oiblanchar1](#)

September 2016

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

This policy brief reassesses macroeconomic policies in the current environment of low growth and low interest rates in major advanced economies. Despite low rates, demand remains anaemic. The scope for monetary policy, which has carried much of the burden to stimulate demand, is increasingly limited. But there is plenty of room for fiscal policy to increase output, and it should be explored more aggressively. On specific economies, there is a strong case for higher inflation in the US, the eurozone, and Japan, but for different reasons.

The IMF and euro area crises: review of a report from the independent evaluation office

by Edwin M. Truman

September 2016

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

The economic and financial crises in euro area countries since 2010 have tested the viability of the euro area and continue to challenge the future of the seven-decade European integration project. Euro area leaders reluctantly brought the International Monetary Fund (IMF) into the management of six of these crises - in Cyprus, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Portugal, and Spain - through the provision of financing and the design of economic and financial rescue programs. The IMF's Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) reviewed the Fund's handling of four of these crises: in Greece (first program), Ireland, Portugal, and Spain.

SAFE - Sustainable Architecture for Finance in Europe

"Predatory" margins and the regulation and supervision of central counterparty clearing houses (CCPS)

by Jan Pieter Krahn and Lorian Pelizzon

9 September 2016

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

This note discusses the basic economics of central clearing for derivatives and the need for a proper regulation, supervision and resolution of central counterparty clearing houses (CCPs). New regulation in the U.S. and in Europe renders the involvement of a central counterparty mandatory for standardized OTC derivatives' trading and sets higher capital and collateral requirements for non-centrally cleared derivatives. From a macro-finance perspective, CCPs provide a trade-off between reduced contagion risk in the financial industry and the creation of a significant systemic risk. However, so far, regulation and supervision of CCPs is very fragmented.

Institute of Economic Affairs

Why corporation tax should be scrapped: bringing capital taxation into the 21st century

by Diego Zuluaga [@DiegoZuluagaL](#)

7 September 2016

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

Discussions of corporation tax tend to mirror discussions about the optimal tax level: those in favour of reform tend to also favour a reduction in the overall tax burden, while those who support the status quo or more interventionist reforms are concerned about raising revenue for the many functions that governments engage in today. However, it is crucial to differentiate between the tax level – how much people should pay in taxes – and the tax structure – what forms taxation should take. The above discussion is concerned with matters of tax structure.

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

Az árfolyamrendszer választásának makrogazdasági sajátosságai az Európai Unió három régiójában: A balti, az ibériai és a visegrádi államok esete

by Norbert Szijártó

30 September 2016

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

This study examines three regions in order to assess macroeconomic developments based on the exchange rate systems of the Baltic, Iberian and Visegrad countries. The economic literature often compares each of these regions and their many different economic, political, social and historical characteristics, but there is one thing that all these regions have in common: they lie on the periphery of the EU.

Max-Planck-Institut für Gesellschaftsforschung (Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies)

From elite lawbreaking to financial crime: the evolution of the concept of white-collar crime

by Arjan Reurink

15 September 2016

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

This paper makes available to economic sociologists and political economists an overview of the most important conceptual insights that have been produced in the white-collar crime literature. In

doing so, its aim is to provide economic sociologists and political economists with a conceptual foundation for future research on financial crime.

Inherited advantage: the importance of inheritance for private wealth accumulation in Europe

by Philipp Korom

September 2016

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

This study examines from a cross-national perspective the importance of inheritance as a source of private wealth accumulation.

SECTION 3 - EU MEMBER STATES

CROATIA

Institute for Development and International Relations

Nonstandard work in Croatia: challenges and perspectives in selected sectors

by Hrvoje Butković, Višnja Samardžija, Ivana Skazlić and Ivana Čavar

5 September 2016

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

This publication is focused on the activities of the trade unions and employers related to the increase of nonstandard work in the sectors of construction, metal industry, retail trade, public healthcare and agency work. The research was made within the project 'PRECARIR – The rise of the dual labour market: fighting precarious employment in the new member states through industrial relations' financed by the European Commission, DG for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion.

CZECH REPUBLIC

Asociace pro mezinárodní otázky (Association for International Affairs) / Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

Česká republika a eurozóna v době po Brexitu

by Kryštof Kruliš

8 September 2016

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

This briefing paper summarizes the current situation in the Czech Republic in relation to the euro area and taking into account the results of the British referendum.

Ústav mezinárodních vztahů (Institute of International Relations Prague)

Czech strategic partnerships: a practice in need of a vision

by Michal Šimečka and Benjamin Tallis [@bctallis](#)

28 September 2016

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

The concept of a strategic partnership is gaining prominence in Czech diplomatic practice, but its meaning and implications remain inadequately understood. This paper seeks to redress the situation by unpacking the concept and building a framework for understanding strategic partnerships in the Czech context. It argues that while it is not necessary to construct a rigorous definition, more coherence and clarity is needed for strategic partnerships to serve as a meaningful instrument of Czech foreign policy.

FINLAND

Eläketurvakeskus (Finnish Centre for Pensions)

Maahanmuuttajat työmarkkinoilla: tutkimus eri vuosina Suomeen muuttaneiden työurista

by Henna Busk [@HennaBusk](#), Signe Jauhiainen [@SignePTT](#), Antti Kekäläinen, Satu Nivalainen and Tuuli Tähtinen

14 September 2016

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

This study examines the working lives and earnings development of immigrants arriving in Finland in different years. The longitudinal data comprises information from the registers of the Statistics Finland and from the Finnish Centre for Pensions.

FRANCE

Fondation pour l'innovation politique

Refonder l'audiovisuel public

by Olivier Babeau [@OlivierBabeau](#)

5 September 2016

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

What justifies today that the state maintains an audio-visual offer? Could the free market achieve a result at least equal and at a lower cost to the community? The three classical justifications of public broadcasting - entertainment, information and culture - are screened in this article by using the subsidiarity principle. According to the author, public intervention in the audio-visual sector cannot be justified except for the last two pillars: information, in the name of pluralism, and the dissemination of culture, for which, according to him, the failure of public television is obvious. He suggests to profoundly redefine the scope and modalities of action of public broadcasting.

GERMANY

German Marshall Fund of the United States

Germany's political center is stronger than it looks

by Timo Lochocki [@TLochocki](#)

22 September 2016

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

The refugee crisis has been portrayed as a possible breaking point for Angela Merkel's chancellorship. With rising support for the right-wing populist Alternative for Germany (AfD) and big wins at recent regional elections, it seems Germany is falling prey to the political instability seen in other European states. However, the numbers of incoming refugees have dropped significantly and the economic costs of integration appear manageable. Thus if established German parties craft strategies to reclaim conservative voters, they can halt, and even reverse, the rise of the right-wing populist party.

SAFE - Sustainable Architecture for Finance in Europe

Das deutsche Rentensystem: Thesen zur derzeitigen Diskussion um "Umkehr"-Reformen

by Alexander Ludwig

5 September 2016

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

The current discussion about a reform of the German statutory pension insurance scheme is mixing up questions about the average level of pensions with questions about the redistribution of income during retirement to combat possible old-age poverty. This article criticises this approach and addresses five core statements: (1) The current pensions formula cannot be abolished. (2) The pensionable age should be coupled with the average remaining lifetime after turning 65. (3) The integration of refugees into the job market will support the level of pensions from 2030 to 2040. (4) If old-age poverty should still increase, this can be solved by providing a minimum pension. (5) The private pension scheme should continue to be supported.

Stiftung Mercator

How North Rhine-Westphalia responds to the concerns of citizens about renewable energy development by facilitating dialogue

22 September 2016

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

This case study shows how the German state of North Rhine-Westphalia is providing a dedicated platform for dialogue and mediation on renewable energy projects at the local level. It is part of the Energy Transition Platform, a global initiative supporting highly industrialized, carbon-intensive state and regional governments in developing and implementing innovative clean energy policies to accelerate the low carbon transition.

HUNGARY

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation) / Policy Solutions

Enttäuschte Hoffnungen? Einstellungen der ungarischen Bevölkerung zur Europäischen Union

by András Bíró-Nagy [@bironagyandras](#), Tibor Kadlót and Ádám Köves

12 September 2016

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

This paper investigates how the opinion of the Hungarian public concerning the EU has developed since 2010. The analysis is funded on a comparison of polling data from 2010 and 2015.

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

Economic policy and macroeconomic developments in Hungary, 2010–2015

by Gábor Oblath

14 September 2016

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

The author argues that the factors essentially responsible for Hungary's growth performance over the last five or six years were mainly exogenous to Hungarian government policy. The acceleration of economic growth observed in 2014 was due to, in particular, exceptionally large transfers from EU funds, which have nothing to do with the government's so called "unorthodox" economic policy. By contrast, the decline in the quality of the institutional environment of the economy is a direct consequence of both the spirit and the methods of the economic policy pursued.

ITALY

LUISS School of European Political Economy

Italy's constitutional referendum: mapping possible political scenarios

by Lorenzo Codogno

23 September 2016

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

The upcoming constitutional referendum is a key event for Italy's government and the political developments heading up to the general elections in spring 2018. According to opinion polls, the outcome remains too close to call. The proposed constitutional reform has some flaws, but the bulk of it would be a significant positive step toward making (1) the legislative process more effective, (2) governments more stable, and (3) the relationship between central and local governments better functioning.

Making Italy safer, but not more in debt

by Carlo Bastasin [@CarloBastasin](#), Lorenzo Bini Smaghi, Marcello Messori, Stefano Micossi and Gianni Toniolo

5 September 2016

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

This policy brief shows that, given the need for sound management of public finance, European regulations actually do allow economic problems stemming from the Valle del Tronto reconstruction effort to be confronted and that, as opposed to what seems to have been suggested in heated public rhetoric, there are no specific reasons for tensions to emerge between Italy and European institutions.

LITHUANIA

Fondation Robert Schuman

Lithuanians vote for Change / The Social Democratic Party of outgoing Prime Minister Algirdas Butkevicius may arrive ahead in the Lithuanian general elections

by Corinne Deloy

16 September 2016

Link to the article in [French](#) (6 p.) and in English, [analysis](#) (3 p.) and [results](#) (2 p.)

On 9 April 2016 the President of the Republic of Lithuania Dalia Grybauskaitė set the dates for the next general elections on 9 and 23 October 2016. The publication of the decree heralded the start of the electoral campaign. The elections should lead to the formation of a government comprising several political parties. Since the general elections on 10 and 28 October 2004 no political party in Lithuania has won more than 20% of the vote, and coalitions of three or four parties have become a tradition.

Oxford Institute for Energy Studies

Lithuania's strategic use of EU energy policy tools: a transformation of gas dynamics

by Vija Pakalkaitė

5 September 2016

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

Lithuania is one of Europe's smallest national gas markets until recently reliant, in common with Latvia and Estonia, on imported Russian pipeline gas for all its natural gas requirements. After its accession to the EU in 2004, Lithuania became directly impacted by the developing body of energy market regulation, most notably the Third Package of 2009. While the country could have sought a

derogation from the main requirements of the Package, it chose not to and instead embarked upon the difficult task of implementing supply chain unbundling. The subsequent successful execution of a project to build an LNG import facility completed the country's quest for gas supply diversification.

Lietuvos laisvosios rinkos institutas (Lithuanian Free Market Institute)

Perskirstymas Lietuvoje ir ES įvertinant socialinių išmokų apmokestinimą ir šešėlinę ekonomiką

21 September 2016

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

Redistribution may be defined as the transfer of tax revenue to finance the state apparatus and maintain the government. One of the ways to calculate the size of redistribution of an economy is to calculate the ratio between tax revenue and the gross domestic product (GDP). This indicator is used by the Eurostat and various international organisations, such as OECD, the World Bank, etc. Some economists even use this as a proxy indicator for tax burden. Many agree that high values of tax revenue-to-GDP signal high level of redistribution. New member states are often berated for having relatively low levels of redistribution and these statistics are presented as alleged successes or presumed failures of supposed liberal economic policies by the new member states.

POLAND

Instytut Sobieskiego (Sobieski Institute)

Źródło finansowania reprivatyzacji. Jak sfinansować skok cywilizacyjny Polski rozwiązując równocześnie problem roszczeń obywateli z tytułu znacjonalizowanego mienia

by Bartłomiej Michałowski, Tomasz Poniński, Grzegorz Pytel and Marcin Schirmer

September 2016

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

On 16 February 2016, the Council of Ministers adopted Resolution 14/2016 on the adoption of the 'Plan for responsible development' (ie. Morawiecki Plan). It is the most ambitious plan adopted by the Polish government since its decision to apply for membership in the EU. The plan states that in view of the exhaustion of the existing formula for growth, Poland needs a new model of economic development based on five pillars: Reindustrialization, the development of innovative companies, building capital for development, international expansion and sustainable social and regional development.

SPAIN

Fundación Alternativas

El deudor hipotecario en el marco de gobernanza financiero nacional y europeo: pasado, presente y futuro

by Álvaro Alarcón Dávalos

12 September 2016

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

The financial crisis has proved that the reckless behaviour of the participants in the mortgage market undermine its foundations. This study analyses the Spanish mortgage system from its origins to the current situation. Facing a scenario where the economic crisis situation worsens the claims against the financial entities, the aim of the document is not to avoid reality, nor to create an idyllic vision of the current system, but to provide constructive criticism and most of all an objective view of the situation, in order to create an additional tool from the social point of view.

Fundación de Estudios de Economía Aplicada

Evolución del gasto público por funciones durante la crisis (2007-2014): España vs UE

by José Ignacio Conde-Ruiz, Manuel Díaz, Carmen Marín and Juan Rubio-Ramírez

26 September 2016

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

Analysis of the evolution of the various public expenditure items during the recent economic crisis (2007-2014), comparing Spain with the EU average. The study focuses particularly on the evolution of expenditure of the various programs of the welfare state: health, education, pensions and other social protection.

SWEDEN

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

Svenskarnas attityder till EU har stabiliserats - Analys av SOM-institutets undersökning 2015

by Linda Berg and Klara Bové

September 2016

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

Swedish attitudes towards the EU are often described as ambiguous and utilitarian. In this analysis, the authors elaborate on issues such as Swedish support for EU membership, attitudes towards a hypothetical Euro membership and the estimation of how the EU membership has affected Sweden in a number of areas. The analysis also discusses to which extent Swedes identify with the EU and Europe against the backdrop of national and regional identities.

UNITED KINGDOM

Adam Smith Institute

Network fail: getting UK rail back on track

by Nigel Hawkins

7 September 2016

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

This paper addresses the key issues affecting the UK railways sector - and especially those relating to its financing. It advocates the need for concerted action on several railway fronts.

Chatham House - The Royal Institute of International Affairs

Moving target: UK–GCC relations and the politics of 'extremism'

by Jane Kinninmont

14 September 2016

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

This paper focuses on the challenges of defining and understanding 'extremism' in the context of the Gulf Arab states, and the related issues this creates for UK policy.

Institute for Government

The spending challenge: how to cut spending while maintaining quality

by Julian McCrae

September 2016

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

This briefing paper examines the options that the Government has for reducing spending while maintaining the quality of public services.

Universal Credit: from disaster to recovery?

by Nicholas Timmins

September 2016

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

Three years ago, the National Audit Office reported that Universal Credit – the ambitious government project to simplify the welfare system by creating one single working-age benefit – was heading for nowhere but the rocks. Following interviews with some of the key players, and using National Audit Office reports and parliamentary proceedings, Timmins tries to explain what went wrong and what then went better, and seeks to draw lessons from both periods from which other big government projects can learn.

Institute for Public Policy Research

Destination education: reforming migration policy on international students to grow the UK's vital education exports

by Marley Morris, Chris Murray and Stephen Murphy

September 2016

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

The government's policy focus on reducing net migration is causing unnecessary harm to the UK's international education sector, one of the UK's biggest services exports. This report asks how, through better informed policy, the UK can attract more students in a growing and increasingly competitive global marketplace.

BREXIT

Centre for European Policy Studies

EU financial market access after Brexit

by Karel Lannoo [@karellannoo](#)

September 2016

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

The author opens his contribution by observing that it is understandable why the UK attaches enormous importance to retaining access to the EU's single market, given that financial services account for about 8% of the country's GDP. He warns, however, that putting a mutually acceptable regime in place will take years of negotiations, and the final agreement will clearly allow much less access than UK-licensed firms enjoy today. He further finds that the "equivalence" assessment – the basic tool used under current EU financial services legislation to recognise that a third country's legal, regulatory and/or supervisory regime is equivalent to the corresponding EU framework – offers a fairly bleak basis on which the City might continue to thrive as a global financial centre in Europe.

The impact of Brexit on the EU budget: a non-catastrophic event

by Jorge Núñez Ferrer and David Rinaldi [@Rinaldi David](#)

7 September 2016

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

Given that the UK is one of the largest economies in the Europe Union – with per capita income above the EU average and therefore a net contributor – there have been concerns that the country's decision to leave the EU could strongly impact the EU budget. On closer scrutiny, however, this paper finds that the impact will be rather small due to the effects of the UK rebate and to the potential contribution the UK would be obliged to make as a condition to obtain access to the internal market. If the UK remains outside the internal market, tariff revenues would make up a considerable share of the 'net loss'. On balance, the authors conclude that the financial savings for the UK would be negligible and the impact on member states would be manageable. They also note that the impact on the classification of regions in EU Cohesion Policy is projected to be minimal and the European Fund for Strategic Investments is not affected by changes in membership.

Fondation Robert Schuman / Deutsche Gesellschaft für Auswärtige Politik (German Council on Foreign Relations)

The future of Europe

by Thierry Chopin and Jean-François Jamet

September 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (11 p.), in [French](#) (12 p.) and in [German](#) (13 p.)

The major challenges facing the Europeans - such as terrorism, the migratory crisis, and differently "Brexit" as well as the rise of anti-European populism - call for the redesign and revival of the integration of a united Europe. These various challenges should not be treated separately, in a fragmented manner but rather put in perspective and addressed in a structured way. They all bring into play the Europeans' ability to rise together to overcome the series of crises they are facing. However unity cannot be taken for granted. Indeed extremely strong political tension is threatening the cohesion and stability of the EU.

Bertelsmann Stiftung / Jacques Delors Institute - Berlin

How Brexit opens a window of opportunity for treaty reform in the EU

by Federico Fabbrini

12 September 2016

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

The decision of the UK to leave the EU has important constitutional implications for the EU. Whether they like it or not, after the UK formally withdraws, the remaining EU member states will need to change the EU treaties and other quasi-constitutional EU laws to account for a new Union at 27. Brexit offers therefore a window of opportunity for a broader constitutional reform of the EU.

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

Repair and prepare - Growth and the euro after Brexit

by Henrik Enderlein [@henrikenderlein](#), Enrico Letta [@EnricoLetta](#), Jörg Asmussen, Laurence Boone, Aart De Geus, Pascal Lamy [@PascalLamyEU](#), Philippe Maystadt, Maria João Rodrigues, Gertrude Tumpel-Gugerell and António Vitorino

20 September 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (p. 40), in [German](#) (48 p.) and in [French](#) (48 p.)

Reforms and a deepening of European economic and monetary union are vital for the future of the EU. If the euro fails, the entire European project is at risk. These are the key findings of this report.

Zentrum für Europäische Wirtschaftsforschung (Centre for European Economic Research)

Searching for a Franco-German consensus on the future of Europe – Survey results for Bundestag, Assemblée Nationale and Sénat

by Sebastian Blesse, Pierre C. Boyer, Friedrich Heinemann and Eckhard Janeba
September 2016

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

The Brexit referendum and the decision of British voters to leave the EU have sparked a comprehensive debate on the future of European integration. A key issue in this debate is the appropriate division of responsibilities between the EU and its member states. The EU might still lack certain competencies which are crucial for a functioning Union or resilient euro area. At the same time, however, some of the EU's existing competencies might be better allocated to member states. This policy brief documents results from a survey on the future of European integration conducted in the national parliaments of both France and Germany, including the French Sénat, the Assemblée Nationale and the German Bundestag, between April and July 2016.

CIVITAS - Institute for the Study of Civil Society

The real sterling crisis: why the UK needs a policy to keep the exchange rate down

by Roger Bootle and John Mills

19 September 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (154 p.)

The fall in the value of sterling since the vote for Brexit has had commentators wringing their hands with concern. But why are so many so quick to assume that a cheaper pound is a bad thing?

Carnegie Europe

How to build a more flexible EU after Brexit

by Heather Grabbe [@HeatherGrabbe](#) and Stefan Lehne [@StefanLehne](#)

8 September 2016

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

The EU needs to combine internal cohesion and flexible integration to cope with external challenges and contain the forces that threaten to tear it apart.

College of Europe

'Brexit' lessons from third countries' differentiated integration with the EU's internal market

by Sieglinde Gstöhl

September 2016

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

The 'Brexit' debate has triggered new interest in the EU's close economic relations with its neighbours. This external 'differentiated integration' flourished since the 1990s, ranging from narrow, bilateral and static models to broad, multilateral and dynamic models. Major lessons can be drawn from these models for the UK's 'differentiated disintegration'.

Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations

All or nothing? European and British strategic autonomy after the Brexit

by Sven Biscop

5 September 2016

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

Does it make sense to announce a quest for strategic autonomy, in the new EU Global Strategy, just as the UK voted for Brexit? Sven Biscop argues that the European defence effort, through the EU, NATO and ad hoc clusters, can yet be streamlined and enhanced.

Institut français des relations internationales

Europe: back to the future

by Guy Verhofstadt [@GuyVerhofstadt](#)

5 September 2016

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

The Brexit is a symptom of a crisis of the European project. The peoples of Europe do not identify with the Brussels bureaucracy and tend to fall back on their national pre square. However, intergovernmental cooperation works poorly, as shown in particular the management of the refugee crisis. The European institutions, as they exist today, are breathless. Only a federal jump will break the deadlock.

Adam Smith Institute

The border after Brexit: how technology can help secure Britain's borders

by Sam Bowman [@s8mb](#) and Ed West

12 September 2016

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

Britain's Border Force is not equipped to quickly, accurately and securely monitor passengers in and out of Britain. After Brexit it will become even more important for Britain's borders to be secure.

Centre for European Reform

Brexit Britain: the poor man of Western Europe?

by Simon Tilford [@SimonTilford](#)

26 September 2016

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

The UK has economic strengths, such as a flexible labour market, which ensures that unemployment is low even in many of its economically struggling regions. But contrary to much of

the received wisdom, Britain has not been one of Europe's economic stars over the last 15 years. And Brexit is set to exacerbate the economy's underlying weaknesses.

Centre for Policy Studies

The city boys are here to stay

7 September 2016

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

The UK's strengths will mean that London continues to be Europe's leading financial services centre. London is ranked the most competitive in the world for financial services, while closest EU rivals rank at 15th and 19th.

Are we heading for blackout Britain?

29 September 2016

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

The UK's electricity system has suffered from poor public policy since the late 1990s. Since 1996, there have been 14 Energy Secretaries and 18 Ministers, leading to a confused energy policy. Energy policy in the UK has suffered from a series of damaging state interventions both at the domestic level and the European level. In the post-Brexit world, this paper examines the problems caused by domestic and EU policy, and highlights the pathway that Britain should now seek to follow.

Overseas Development Institute

Brexit: implications for climate change commitments

by Andrew Scott

September 2016

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

This briefing paper outlines how the commitments necessary to ensure that the goals of the Paris Agreement can be met will be affected by the UK leaving the EU. The paper also discusses the implications for international climate change negotiations, and make recommendations for the UK and the EU to ensure international climate change goals can be achieved.

Overseas Development Institute / UK Trade Policy Observatory

The impact of the UK's post-Brexit trade policy on development: an essay series

by Maximiliano Mendez-Parra, Dirk Willem te Velde and L. Alan Winters

September 2016

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

This collection of essays offers a number of perspectives on how a new UK trade policy towards developing countries and regions could be designed and implemented, in both the short and longer term. It also conveys the concerns, opportunities and expectations from a group of leading trade specialists from academia, international organisations and think tanks in the UK and elsewhere.

Royal United Services Institute / Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

The future of post-Brexit Germany-UK security relations

by Sarah Lain [@sarahlain12](#)

September 2016

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

On 11 July 2016, the Royal United Services Institute and the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung hosted a half-day workshop aimed at bringing together leading German and UK security specialists as well as members of the UK Parliament and German Bundestag to discuss key aspects of European security. This report summarises the major conclusions and talking points of the day's discussions and also suggests areas on which policymakers should focus their attention. It has been supplemented by additional desk research where appropriate. The aim is to highlight knowledge gaps and areas of defence and security policy that warrant further research in order to inform more effective policy, particularly in light of Brexit, and the challenges that these present to both the UK and EU governments.

Institute for Government

Planning Brexit: silence is not a strategy

by Jill Rutter and Hannah White

September 2016

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

Whitehall has begun to build the machinery of Brexit, but the Government doesn't yet know what to do with it. This briefing paper assesses the progress the Government has made towards planning for Brexit. It identifies the likely costs of the Government's approach and what capability the Civil Service needs to support it.

Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute

Brexit: between British Europhobia and continental euroscepticisms

by Yves Bertoncini [@ybertoncini](#)

27 September 2016

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

This policy paper aims to stress that Brexit is actually a specific case: the Europhobia expressed by a majority of the British people must not be confused with the rise in contradictory Euroscepticisms observed across the continent. Yves Bertoncini concludes by noting that, even though it must now plan its divorce from the UK, the EU is facing a "crisis of co-owners" arguing over a revision of their co-habitation rules rather than the start of a wave of exits heralded by the future Brexit.

E3G

You can't deliver a new EU by avoiding energy and climate change

by Nick Mabey [@Mabeytweet](#)

16 September 2016

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

As the debate over priorities for EU reform post-Brexit ramps up, misguided attempts to avoid political tensions are undermining popular and necessary action on energy and climate change.

WISEGRAD COUNTRIES

Narodowe Centrum Studiów Strategicznych (National Centre for Strategic Studies)

Single gas market energy security in the Visegrad states: models, challenges, perspectives

by Nataliia Slobodian, Nolan Theisen, Samuel Goda, Michaela Karaskova and Adam Kowalczyk
September 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (46 p.) and in [Polish](#) (58 p.)

This paper provides context and analysis of energy security related issues in the V4, focusing primarily on the Energy Union strategy and EU security of supply regulation in the Visegrad states, infrastructure bottlenecks and infrastructure projects in the region in the context of current geopolitical and regional challenges to the V4 gas supply security.

SECTION 4 - EU POLICIES

JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

The importance of religious freedom to security and integration policy

by Christian Walter

13 September 2016

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

This analysis focus on the importance of religious freedom with regard to security and integration issues.

MIGRATION AND REFUGEE CRISIS

Carnegie Europe

Migration in Europe - Bridging the solidarity gap

by Pierre Vimont

12 September 2016

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

Migration offers Europeans an opportunity. But a shift of mind-set is indispensable if Europe wants to tackle this complex long-term issue. Painfully and hesitatingly, the EU has managed to stem its migration crisis, regaining control of its borders and ensuring a dramatic drop in the flow of migrants. Yet, the migration issue is not going away, and the political debate around it persists. Europeans need to work together in a field where in the past they have been eager to act on their own; and they must define an integrated policy based on a genuine sense of solidarity.

Centre for European Policy Studies

Documenting the migration crisis in the Mediterranean: spaces of transit, migration management and migrant agency

by Leonie Ansems, Elspeth Guild and Sergio Carrera

13 September 2016

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

This article sets out the main findings of the research project *Documenting the Humanitarian Migration Crisis in the Mediterranean*, which maps migration trajectories and transit points across Europe in order to develop a humanitarian response to the Mediterranean migration 'crisis'.

Euro-Mediterranean Study Commission

Migrants and refugees: impact and future policies. Case studies of Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Greece

by Musa Stheiwi (ed.) [@Mushteiwi](#), Ahmet Bayaner, Lydia Bolani, Gülden Bölük, Şükrü Erdem, Berta Fernández [@Berta_Fdez](#), Eda Gemi, Roderick Pace, Francesca Ruisi [@FrancescaRuisi](#) and Dimitris Skleparis

September 2016

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

Unsolved conflicts in the Middle East, demographic changes and unfavourable socio-economic situation in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean produced migrants and refugees flows on

unprecedented scale. This volume examines the socio-economic impact of those flows and policy responses, focusing on four case studies: Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Greece.

Fondation Robert Schuman

Europeans and the migratory issue

by Pascal Perrineau

19 September 2016

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

The issue of immigration has never been as high on the political agenda of European democracies since the migratory crisis, significant since the beginning of the 2000's, erupted due to the increased flows of Syrian refugees coming from Turkey and Lebanon, and the worsening conflict in Libya, Eritrea, Afghanistan and Kurdistan. This crisis, in its premise, as well as in its development, seems to be affecting European public opinion and is contributing towards the political and electoral strengthening of national-populism in Europe.

Foundation for European Progressive Studies

Only together. The EU and the global governance of migration

by Hedwig Giusto

16 September 2016

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

On 19 September 2016, the Heads of State and leaders from Governments all over the world gathered in New York on the occasion of the UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants "to come up with a blueprint for a better international response" to the ever increasing movements of people across the globe. As migration is by definition a transnational phenomenon, international governance should be strengthened in order to better tackle the issue.

Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development

Refugees' right to work and access to labor markets: an assessment (Part 1)

by Roger Zetter and Héloïse Ruaudel

15 September 2016

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

Refugees' right to work and access to labor markets: an assessment - country case studies (Part 2)

by Roger Zetter and Héloïse Ruaudel

15 September 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (152 p.)

For refugees, the right to work is vital for reducing vulnerability, enhancing resilience, and securing dignity. Harnessing refugees' skills can also benefit local economic activity and national development. But there are many obstacles. Based on a sample of 20 countries hosting 70% of the world's refugees, this study investigates the role and impact of legal and normative provisions providing and protecting refugees' right to work within the 1951 Refugee Convention as well as from the perspective of non-signatory states. Three metrics analyse the principle determinants of the right to work and labour market access: refugee and employment law, policies and practices that facilitate or constrain the right to work, and mediating socioeconomic conditions.

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

Understanding the dynamics of migration to Greece and the EU: drivers, decisions and destinations

by Heaven Crawley, Franck Duvell, Katharine Jones and Dimitris Skleparis

September 2016

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

This brief presents findings in relation to refugees and migrants who travelled via the Eastern Mediterranean Route from Turkey to Greece during 2015. The brief focuses on four main themes: a) The factors affecting the decision to leave, b) Journeys and routes taken to reach Greece, c) Intended destinations of those migrating, and d) the use of smugglers to facilitate the journey.

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

A micro-funded theory of multilateral resistance to migration

by Léa Marchal and Claire Naiditch

September 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (35 p.)

This paper provides a micro-funded theory of multilateral resistance to migration analysing how financial constraints determine migration trends.

Istituto Affari Internazionali / Stiftung Mercator / İstanbul Politikalar Merkezi (Istanbul Policy Center)

The refugee card in EU-Turkey relations: a necessary but uncertain deal

by Laura Batalla Adam [@lbadam](#)

7 September 2016

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

Now in its fifth year, the war in Syria has triggered the largest humanitarian and refugee crisis of our time. For most refugees, Turkey is the main transit country to reach Europe, where they hope for a better life. However, Europe has not yet been able to provide a long-term sustainable response to the current refugee situation. Meanwhile, Turkey has become the largest refugee-hosting country in the world with over 2.7 million refugees. As this paper argues, the EU and Turkey need each other in handling the refugee crisis. A failure to cooperate will put the future of hundreds of thousands of Syrians refugees on hold and have irreversible consequences for EU-Turkey relations.

Migration Policy Institute

The evolving approach to refugee protection in Turkey: assessing the practical and political needs

by Metin Çorabatır

September 2016

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

This report traces the rapidly evolving reality and policy environment in Turkey, examining the current policy approach to managing the influx of Syrians. The report asks what is needed to ensure the long-term stability and success of both refugees and their host communities in Turkey. The report also examines how countries in Europe and elsewhere could target their political and financial investments to maximize impact on Turkish capacity and willingness to provide meaningful protection. It assesses whether the November 2015 joint action plan and March 2016 EU-Turkey deal provide a satisfactory basis for cooperation.

Overseas Development Institute

Europe's refugees and migrants: hidden flows, tightened borders and spiralling costs

by John Cosgrave, Karen Hargrave, Marta Foresti, Isabella Massa, Justin Beresford, Helen Dempster and Joanna Rea

September 2016

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

The European response to the current migration 'crisis' has been swift. Since 2014, at least €17 billion has been spent on deterring refugees and migrants through tighter border controls and bilateral agreements, such as the EU-Turkey deal. These measures have been effective in reducing flows. However, Europe will still see 890,000 asylum applications in 2016. This discrepancy between overt arrivals and asylum applications shows that there are many people whose journeys to Europe we know little about. Border controls have, in many cases, simply rerouted refugees and migrants towards alternative, 'covert' routes. As a result of the analysis in this report, the authors conclude that Europe needs a new approach. It needs to shift from an emphasis on controlling and deterring migration, towards a pragmatic and effective approach to manage it better.

Untangling the data: assessing the accuracy of official refugee-related costs in Europe

by Isabella Massa

September 2016

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

The number of refugees and migrants to Europe has grown considerably over recent years, igniting discussions on the economic impacts of refugees to host countries. The objective of this paper is to estimate, by using a standardised bottom-up approach, the costs associated with the emergency needs provision and the processing of asylum claims at arrival (reception and procedural costs) in a sample of 13 selected European countries, in the period 2015-2017.

Overseas Development Institute / Humanitarian Policy Group / International Center for Humanitarian Affairs

Closing borders: the ripple effects of Australian and European refugee policy. Case studies from Indonesia, Kenya and Jordan

by Karen Hargrave, Sara Pantuliano and Ahmed Idris

September 2016

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

Refugee policies have become increasingly restrictive, with industrialised countries violating international norms both in spirit and practice. These negative attitudes are being replicated in lower-income countries that have hosted large numbers of refugees. This study traces a 'ripple effect', looking at how high-income countries have influenced each other's policies, and consciously cultivated or indirectly fostered negative developments in lower-income states. Case studies on Indonesia, Kenya and Jordan explore the influence of Australian and European refugee and border control policies.

RAND Europe

Education policy responses for the inclusion of migrant children in Europe

by Barbara Janta [@BarbaraJanta](#) and Emma Harte

16 September 2016

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

Roughly 10 per cent of the EU population were born in a different country from the one in which they reside. Children under the age of 15 constitute five per cent of this group. Although the pattern

varies by country, children with a migrant background (either first-, second-, or higher-order-generation migrants) show tendencies towards lower educational performance and are more likely to leave school early than their counterparts from a native background.

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

Responses to the "refugee crisis": What is the role of self-image among EU countries?

by Rebecca Thorburn Stern

September 2016

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

This paper explains the most relevant refugee laws and describes the events that have led to the present European asylum politics. The paper further discusses whether a member state's self-image, and the image it wishes to present, has any impact on policy in an extraordinary situation such as this.

AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

Policy Network

Can the EU spend more green? The CAP and the environment in future EU budgets

by Renaud Thillaye [@RThillaye](#)

September 2016

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

This policy brief explores how the EU budget could be reformed so as to improve Europe's environmental record. It argues that reinforcing green conditionality and the contractual approach between the EU and member states is the plausible way forward. In particular, the volume of agricultural subsidies may be difficult to change, but climate and biodiversity targets should be more explicitly attached to them. The brief outlines three options into this direction, and weighs their respective political traction in the light of the positioning of member states and EU institutions.

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

Success factors in EU agricultural negotiations

by Ole Elgström and Malena Rosén Sundström

September 2016

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

This report compares how well the Nordic states did in the latest round of Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) negotiations and draw a number of conclusions. The authors find that it is important to nurture relations with key officials in the EU institutions; to prioritise so as to focus on aspects that are of special interest; and to be pragmatic.

COMPETITIVENESS (INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND SPACE)

Centre for European Policy Studies

Combatting consumer discrimination in the Digital Single Market: preventing geo-blocking and other forms of geo-discrimination

by Felice Simonelli [@simonellifelice](#)

27 September 2016

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

The paper examines the state of play in the Digital Single Market and offers a critical assessment of the most relevant initiatives to combat consumer discrimination. It gives an overview of discriminatory practices in the online environment and assesses the magnitude of the problem. Differences between justified and unjustified geo-blocking are discussed. An in-depth analysis of the European Commission's proposals on geo-blocking, portability and parcel delivery and the investigation by DG Competition into the distribution of audio-visual content is then performed.

European Policy Centre

Enlightening EU policy-making: evolving scientific advice

by Philip Hines

27 September 2016

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

Societal progress in everything, from the economy to health care, is largely driven by a combination of scientific advancement and governance. Connecting scientific evidence and governance is scientific advice. This advice is crucial for policies to innovate, and to avoid being inefficient, inappropriate or harmful. The EU's drive towards better regulation, its 2020 strategy for smart growth, and its long-term vision for a knowledge economy all necessitate evidence-based policy-making. This paper explains recent developments in the scientific advice structures that shape EU policy-making, and provides a list of recommendations on how to address their shortcomings.

Chatham House - The Royal Institute of International Affairs

Space, the final frontier for cybersecurity?

by David Livingstone and Patricia Lewis

21 September 2016

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

A radical review of cybersecurity in space is needed to avoid potentially catastrophic attacks. Development of a flexible, multilateral space and cybersecurity regime is urgently required. An international 'community of the willing' – made up of able states and other critical stakeholders within the international space supply chain and insurance industry – is likely to provide the best opportunity to develop a space cybersecurity regime competent to match the range of threats.

Zentrum für Europäische Wirtschaftsforschung (Centre for European Economic Research)

Cartel cases and the cartel enforcement process in the European Union 2001-2015: a quantitative assessment

by Michael Hellwig and Kai Hüscherlath

September 2016

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

The paper provides a comprehensive quantitative assessment of cartels and the related cartel enforcement process in the EU (2001-2015). First, it presents a detailed characterisation of all

cartel cases decided by the EC. Secondly, it provides a quantitative assessment of the public cartel enforcement process in the EU - subdivided further into its duration, types of cartel detection, the leniency program, the settlement procedure, overall fines imposed, etc.

Why does emissions trading under the EU ETS not affect firms' competitiveness? Empirical findings from the literature

by Eugénie Joltreau and Katrin Sommerfeld

September 2016

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

The article focuses on explanations for why the empirical literature finds hardly any significant competitiveness effects on firms under the EU ETS, least not during the first two phases of the scheme. It also reasons why the third phase could reveal similar results. The authors show that the main explanations for this finding are a large over-allocation of emissions certificates leading to a price drop and the ability of firms to pass costs onto consumers in some sectors. Cost pass-through, in turn, partly generated windfall profits.

TRANSPORT/TELECOMMUNICATIONS/ENERGY

Bruegel

New network neutrality rules in Europe: comparisons to those in the U.S.

by J. Scott Marcus [@JScottMARCUS](#)

15 September 2016

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

This paper explains the similarities and differences between European and US net neutrality rules. The new European network neutrality rules are not a copy of those in the FCC's Open Internet Order of 2015. They reflect very different regulatory, competition policy, and market realities than those in the US; moreover, they were motivated to a significant degree by different concerns. A significant difference is that the European approach is arguably more innovation-friendly to the extent that it does not specifically prohibit paid prioritisation.

Institut français des relations internationales

Nord-Stream 2: garder la tête froide

by Marie-Claire Aoun

23 September 2016

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

In few months Russia has made a radical strategic shift towards Europe concerning gas. Following the announcements in 2014 of a major shift towards Asia, the cancellation of the South Stream project and its replacement by the Turkish Stream and gas delivery at the gates of Europe, the time has come since mid-2015 to strength relations with European gas companies.

E-mobility: European energy and transport policies at cross-roads. The challenge of infrastructure deployment

by Aurélie Faure-Schuyer

20 September 2016

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

European clean transport policy envisages the development of charging infrastructures for electric vehicles within a European e-mobility framework. After the downturns of the Volkswagen scandal and the prevailing low European carbon price, the EU is bringing forward car passenger transport electrification. This requires new business models based on interoperability.

Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies

Telecoms Investment IN FOCUS: 3 steps to create a broadband infrastructure for a digital Europe

by Roslyn Layton

7 September 2016

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

This note examines the reasons behind the EU's decline in global telecommunications leadership, notably a confused approach to telecom regulation and a regulatory framework which actually deters European enterprises from investment and innovation. Three solutions are proposed to help close the gap in investment and to strengthen European enterprises so that they can invest/innovate and stimulate the demand for digital services.

Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute

Europe needs crowd-based innovation for a competitive energy transition

by Thomas Pellerin-Carlin [@Thomas Pellerin](#) and Pierre Serkine

13 September 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (4 p.) and in [French](#) (6 p.)

Europe is at a crossroads. It faces a multifaceted crisis with rising distrust in representative democracy, doubts about the purpose of the European project, an urgency to tackle climate change, and a poisonous definition of competitiveness. In this context, the Energy Union Research Innovation and Competitiveness Strategy (EURICS) can kill three birds with one innovative stone: to boost its competitiveness, Europe should become the global provider of low-carbon solutions, an objective best achieved democratically.

EMPLOYMENT/SOCIAL POLICY/HEALTH/CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Adam Smith Institute

How markets can solve public health problems - but government gets in the way

by Guy Bentley [@gbentley1](#), Jeff Stier [@JeffaStier](#), Michael Story [@MWStory](#) and Henry Fisher [@Hydrofluoric](#)

September 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (69 p.)

For the authors of the contributions in this publication, government bans on harmful behaviour do not automatically reduce harm. Indeed, because of the complexity of society and the difficulty of making good public policy, these bans (or other restrictions) may have the opposite effect, and increase harm to the public.

Centre for European Policy Studies

The stabilisation properties of a European unemployment benefits scheme

by Daniel Gros

14 September 2016

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

This paper looks at the (macro-economic) stabilisation properties of a potential European unemployment benefits scheme.

College of Europe

Between Sisyphus and the Danaïdes? The European Union's efforts to promote and protect the human rights of LGBTI persons in its Eastern neighbourhood

by Donal Kennedy [@DonalFKennedy](#)

September 2016

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

This paper examines the effectiveness of the EU's efforts to promote and protect the universal human rights of LGBTI persons in two European Neighbourhood Policy countries, Georgia and Ukraine. It is argued that the EU's normative proclivity to uphold the human rights of LGBTI persons in these countries have been significantly atrophied. The EU's various diplomatic initiatives, certain financing and capacity-building measures struggle to transcend to the more tangible sectoral areas of most salience to LGBTI persons.

European Centre for International Political Economy

Innovation and the economics of healthcare: the case of blood cancer

by Fredrik Erixon [@FredrikErixon](#)

September 2016

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

This paper reviews economic analyses of the cost burden of cancer, and blood cancers in particular, and the effects that innovative treatments have on other sources of costs in the healthcare system or the economy as a whole.

European Policy Centre

Addressing the crisis of tomorrow: the sustainability of European health systems

by Annika Hedberg [@AnnikaAhtonen](#) and Philip Hines

21 September 2016

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

This paper discusses the emerging trends and challenges that are likely to have an increasing impact on health systems and EU citizens in the next decades and call for the EU to recognise the value of health, consider health across policies, and collaborate and use the available instruments when it brings added value to member states and citizens. The aim should be to harness Europe's diversity and excellence in order to ensure affordable, cost-effective and sustainable delivery of health for all Europeans.

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

Social Europe at a crossroads

by Jan Marinus Wiersma and Michiel Luining [@LuiningMichiel](#)

21 September 2016

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

By promising a 'social triple A' the Juncker Commission has put social Europe high on the agenda. Its commitment formulated in this way should be considered as a reaction to growing criticism - and indeed resentment - in large parts of the population about the handling of the euro crisis. Promoting a more social Europe has become popular in many political circles. But what does that mean in practice? Is there a European agenda shared by all member states? Do they have the same concept of what it should be? Are they really prepared to hand over more competences to Brussels or come to a consensus among themselves?

Foundation for European Progressive Studies

Equal rights for all families: applying human rights principles in national and EU policy-making

by Karine Lalieux [@karinelalieux](#) and Joël Le Déroff

September 2016

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

This article briefly describes the developments of the European human rights doctrine over the last 20 years as regards the right to family life of gay, lesbian and bisexual people. It shows how their couples and parenting relations are now clearly seen as protected under the notion of family life. The article then explores the way national governments and parliaments across the EU have dealt with this historical movement towards equality. The authors eventually identify the policy areas in which EU institutions, despite their limited competences in the area of family law, have a competence and a duty to act, and they make recommendations in that respect.

Elinkeinoelämän tutkimuslaitos (Research Institute of the Finnish Economy)

Descriptive findings on the convergence of female and male mortality in Europe

by Juha Alho

20 September 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (301 p.)

Female life expectancy has almost universally been higher than male life expectancy. But, both have increased rapidly during the past century. European countries differ as regards the magnitude and time trends of the female-male difference. This report describes these developments in detail by graphical displays. It is shown that considerable heterogeneity exists in the time trends within the three groups of European countries.

Vodafone Stiftung Deutschland (Vodafone Foundation Germany)

Der digitale Wandel der Arbeitswelt und Herausforderungen für die Bildung

by Simone Kimpeler and Ewa Dönitz

September 2016

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

The goal of the article is to identify trends in the professional world in the future and the starting point for education policy, which enables people prepare for jobs. On the basis of the latest scientific studies from Germany and abroad, a survey of the most important trends was made. The study gives insight about developments which will most likely influence the working life and which will present a particular challenge for people and the education system in the future.

Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute

Is there such a thing as "Social Europe"?

by Sofia Fernandes [@fernandesofiaEU](#) and David Rinaldi [@Rinaldi David](#)

6 September 2016

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

The authors start with a brief discussion on the construction of the social acquis in order to answer the following questions: Why must Social Europe be reinforced today? How do we draw the strategic lines for a new, more social Europe? What initiatives must take priority in order to achieve a "Triple A" in the social domain? The authors advocate for a horizontal approach to "social Europe" rather than building up a pillar.

Automatic stabilizers for the euro area and the European social model

by Frank Vandenbroucke

22 September 2016

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

This paper explores two options: a genuine European Unemployment Insurance and a model of "Reinsurance". Both require social convergence, a challenge that is also identified by the recent Commission initiative to launch a "European Pillar of Social Rights". However, the governance method and the flexibility with which convergence is pursued in these models differ. With regard to the problem of moral hazard, they also offer different perspectives. Politically, the reinsurance option may better reflect the idea that a European social union should be a union of welfare states, rather than a European welfare state.

ENVIRONMENT

Bruegel

An approach to identify the sources of low-carbon growth for Europe

by Georg Zachmann [@GeorgZachmann](#)

27 September 2016

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

The aim of this report is to examine how Europe can gain a competitive edge in new products and services with higher value added that can form the basis for future growth and jobs. In light of limited fiscal and political capital, the crucial issue is prioritisation in terms of technologies, regions and policies. Given global decarbonisation concerns, the wide array of low-carbon technologies offers significant growth potential.

Centre for European Policy Studies

Aligning policies for low-carbon systemic innovation in Europe

by Nicholas Asford and Andrea Renda [@arendal11](#)

27 September 2016

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

The authors look at EU policies and propose ten steps to align the EU rules with long-term objectives. This endeavour bears important consequences for the EU's better regulation strategy, innovation policy and sectoral policies in many fields.

Setting the framework for an ambitious and realistic climate policy post-COP21: some thoughts

by Milan Elkerbout

28 September 2016

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

Following the adoption of the Paris Agreement in December 2015, the EU is faced with the question of what level of ambition it should aim for in setting its future climate policies.

Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations

Putting the Paris Agreement at the centre of Europe's climate and energy map

by Clémentine d'Oultremont and Quentin Genard [@NeuTiQn](#)

16 September 2016

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

The Paris Agreement, adopted in December 2015, sent a clear message to the world that the global transition to a low-carbon economy is an inevitability that requires commitment from

countries but also from businesses, regions, cities and citizens. The European 'bridge building' diplomacy has been instrumental in reaching the deal but it also set high expectations for the block's policies and ambition.

NewClimate Institute for Climate Policy and Global Sustainability

Brown to green: assessing the G20 transition to a low-carbon economy

by Jan Burck, Niklas Höhne [@niklashoehne](#), Markus Hagemann, Sofia Gonzales-Zuniga, Gerd Leipold, Hannah Schindler, Sam Barnard and Smita Nakhooda

September 2016

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

This report provides a comprehensive overview and assessment for the G20 countries, whether – and how well – they are doing on the journey to transition to a low carbon economy.

OCP Policy Center

The road to Marrakech: key issues for COP22

by Laura El-Katiri [@lauraelkatiri](#)

September 2016

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

The Paris Agreement, adopted in December 2015, constitutes by the views of many a landslide agreement in global efforts to mitigate climate change, as well as prepare societies through adaptive action to the likely negative consequences we are yet to encounter even if mitigation efforts succeed in limiting global warming to the below -2°C target.

EDUCATION/YOUTH/CULTURE/SPORT

European Policy Centre

Towards a europeanisation of youth employment policies? A comparative analysis of regional Youth Guarantee policy designs

by Claire Dhéret [@cdheret](#) and Julie Roden

20 September 2016

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

The financial crisis hit young people in Europe disproportionately hard. The EU responded with the Youth Guarantee (YG) scheme. This paper examines to what extent the key principles of the YG have been transposed into national and regional policies through a comparative analysis of youth guarantee schemes in five EU regions. The authors have formulated a series of policy recommendations for the future implementation of the YG, and stress the importance of prolonging EU support.

Vrije Universiteit Brussel - Institute for European Studies

Towards an EU strategy for international cultural relations: an initial, critical but constructive analysis

by Richard Higgott and Luk Van Langenhove [@lvanlangenhove](#)

September 2016

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

The EU has recently produced a strategy paper for cultural diplomacy (Towards an EU Strategy of international cultural relations). In this note the authors offer an early assessment of the international cultural relations strategy.

SECTION 5 - FOREIGN AFFAIRS

FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY / DEFENCE

Centre for European Policy Studies

The EU Special Representatives: a dwindling but resilient resource at the service of EU Foreign and Security Policy

by Erwan Fouéré

22 September 2016

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

The welcome focus in the EU Global Security Strategy on an enhanced role for the EU in peace-building will require a comprehensive action plan to ensure that both the EU delegations and the EU Special Representatives, who are singled out in this context, have the resources and capacity to respond to this challenge.

Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations

Migration – How CSDP can support

by Sven Biscop and Jochen Rehl (eds.)

30 September 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (105 p.)

On 13 September, Egmont hosted a conference on the role of CSDP when dealing with migration, co-organised with the Austrian Ministry of Defence and Sports, the Austrian Foreign Ministry, and the European Security and Defence College. This joint publication compiles the key insights and recommendations from this event.

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

Spearheading European defence. Employing the Lisbon Treaty for a stronger CSDP

by Anne Bakker, Margriet Drent [@DrentMargriet](#), Lennart Landman [@LennartLandman](#) and Sven Biscop

30 September 2016

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

This report assesses to what extent the provisions that were introduced with the Lisbon Treaty could contribute to strengthening the CSDP. This includes Articles 42.6 and 46 on Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO), Article 44 on groups of states taking the lead on operations, as well as Article 42.7 on mutual assistance.

The EU's joined-up approach to security: between robust external action and co-ordinated compromise

by Peter van Ham [@Peter_vanHam](#)

29 September 2016

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

This report outlines the main options open to the EU for joining up its policies, taking the current migration crisis as a case study. The author concludes that the EU may have to acknowledge that drastic changes need to be made. Member states need to take the lead, offering the EU the opportunity to streamline its own instruments, institutions and policies in a more depoliticised setting. He concludes that the EU does not only face tough institutional challenges but also major

deep-seated problems, such as rising Euro-scepticism, the return of geopolitics and enduring economic malaise.

Euro-Mediterranean Study Commission

Reality check: why the EU needs to rethink its neighbourhood policy

by Cengiz Günay [@cengiz_gnay](#)

September 2016

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

Euro-Mediterranean relations have been shaped by the EU's neo-functionalist approach to pacify, stabilise and govern the Mediterranean region through the expansion of its own norms, laws and standards and the integration of sectors. Trade liberalisation based on neoliberal considerations has been at the core of the economic development policies promoted by the EU. After the Arab uprisings, the ENP has been still trapped in neoliberal paradigms and the idea that Europe's experiences are a lesson for all.

Asociace pro mezinárodní otázky (Association for International Affairs)

Varšavský summit NATO: Kontrola po dvouleté cestě z Walesu

by Jakub Kufčák [@JakubKufcak](#)

9 September 2016

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

This briefing paper summarises the conclusions of the NATO summit in Warsaw.

Ulkopoliittinen instituutti (Finnish Institute of International Affairs)

International law under pressure: continued relevance in times of hardship

by Katja Creutz

22 September 2016

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

This paper passes in review the challenging developments vis-à-vis the international legal order and the merits of criticism directed against it by national policymakers. The analysis concludes that the main problems are to be found outside of international law itself; holders of political power should not treat international law as a nuisance, but should manifest their continued commitment to it by operating within the realm of the law and by making use of the tools provided by it in order to deal with contemporary concerns.

European Union Institute for Security Studies

Strategy matters – EU key documents 2015 - 2016

23 September 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (130 p.)

Two years ago the EUISS published a small compendium of key EU documents entitled 'Strategy Matters 2003-2014'. The aim of this new compendium is to complement the information offered two years ago, to help disseminate the analysis underpinning the strategy as well as the recommendations stemming from the EU Global Strategy, and to support and facilitate its communication and implementation in the months and years to come.

TERRORISM

Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations

Fear not: a critical perspective on the terrorist threat in Europe

by Thomas Renard

9 September 2016

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

This policy brief seeks to offer some arguments to counter the fear of terrorism. It also challenges the idea that terrorism can be itself 'contagious'. Finally, it argues in favour of a measured, comprehensive and inclusive approach to counterterrorism.

Deradicaliseringsbeleid en de IS-generatie

by Rik Coolsaet

19 September 2016

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

The summer of 2016 was marred by attacks in France and Germany. How can we fight against the force of attraction of Daech? The author outlines five pillars to redraw the political de-radicalization.

George C. Marshall - European Center for Security Studies

Foreign terrorist fighters: German islamists in Syria and Iraq and what can be done about them

by Daniel H. Heinke

14 September 2016

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

The official current estimate is that more than 850 persons left Germany for Syria or Iraq because of Islamist motivations, although it is not possible to verify that all of these individuals did indeed reach the region. This paper highlights some of the most important findings in terms of data available, sheds some light on the factors involved in radicalisation, and briefly outlines the main approaches used to counter this threat in Germany.

Royal United Services Institute

An EU Terrorist Finance Tracking System

by Mara Wesseling

September 2016

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

The idea for an EU equivalent to the US Terrorist Finance Tracking Program (TFTP) was first proposed by members of the EP and member states in 2010. This paper studies the possible creation of an EU TFTS. It recalls the history of the US TFTP and the context in which demand for an equivalent emerged. It then discusses the previous proposals and current ideas for an EU TFTS. Finally, it tries to shape renewed discussions on the creation of an EU TFTS. The paper draws on interviews with individuals within the ministries in several member states, officials from EU institutions and US experts. It also makes use of official documents, media reports, academic literature and previous research by the author.

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

Shadow power: assessment of corruption and hidden economy in Southeast Europe

by Ognian Shentov, Ruslan Stefanov [@Rugeste](#) and Boyko Todorov

September 2016

Link in article in [English](#) (82 p.)

The report underscores the need for political reform, which seems blocked or narrowing across Southeast Europe. The authors underline that in none of the countries has there been a sustained policy breakthrough in anticorruption though efforts to deliver technical solutions and to improve the functioning of the law enforcement institutions have continued and even intensified in some cases. This has led to further slow decline in administrative corruption levels but at the expense of waning public support for reforms and of declining trust in national and European institutions.

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

Unveiling the structure of unconventional organized crime investigating and prosecuting criminal networks within and beyond European borders

by Simona Autolitano and Verena Zoppei

September 2016

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

In the last decades, the traditional understanding of organised crime has been widely challenged. While appearing "dis-organised," these new types of criminal networks are highly resilient to state intervention due to their redundancy. Their capacity for infiltrating the legitimate economy and the estimated sums of money they launder globally are alarming. Therefore, the private sector cannot stay passive. National interventions often just push criminal activities into other countries; hence, effective strategies should address global markets' dynamics.

GEOPOLITICS AND STRATEGY

Istituto Affari Internazionali

Brazil as a security and development provider in Africa: consequences and opportunities for Europe and North America

by Frank Mattheis [@FrankMattheis](#)

9 September 2016

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

Brazil has continuously kept ties with Africa following the historic period of slave-trading, but its engagement gradually intensified after the Cold War and came to a head under Lula da Silva's presidency. Lula's successor, Dilma Rousseff, has pursued a less enthusiastic approach towards Africa, which has been accelerated by Brazil's ongoing domestic crises. This contraction period provides Europe and the US with an opportunity to pull Brazil away from what they see as an antagonistic Global South policy and back into a cooperative framework for development and security with Western actors.

Instytut Spraw Publicznych (Institute of Public Affairs)

Transatlantic relations after the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Assessments and expectations of the expert communities in Poland, Germany and the US

by Aleksander Fuksiewicz, Agnieszka Łada [@AgnieszkaLada](#) and Łukasz Wenerski [@LWenerski](#)
September 2016

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

Challenges related to the Russia-Ukraine conflict indicate that transatlantic unity is needed now more than it ever has been since 1989. The conflict could lead to strengthening it and forcing transatlantic leaders to undertake concrete military, economic or even soft-power related action towards Russia.

TRADE

PowerShift / Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives

Making sense of CETA - An analysis of the final text of the Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement. 2nd edition

by Hadrian Mertins-Kirkwood, Scott Sinclair, Stuart Trew, Laura Große, Peter Fuchs, Anna Schüller and Ines Koburger (eds.)

September 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (82 p.)

According to the authors, CETA is a sweeping trade deal restricting public policy options in areas as diverse as intellectual property rights, government procurement, food safety, financial regulation, the temporary movement of workers, domestic regulation and public services, to name just a few of the topics explored in this analysis.

Centre for European Policy Studies

Potential economic effects of TTIP for the Netherlands and the EU

by Hugo Rojas-Romagosa

8 September 2016

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

As the negotiations are ongoing, this paper uses a scenario analysis to estimate the potential effects of TTIP under likely negotiated outcomes. The paper assumes a final trade deal where current tariffs are eliminated and non-tariff barriers are significantly reduced.

European Centre for Development Policy Management

Civil society meetings in EU trade agreements: recommendations and lessons for EPAs

by Deborah Martens [@DeboMartens](#), Jan Orbie [@janorbie](#), Lore Van den Putte [@LoreVdPutte](#) and Yentyl Williams [@yentyl_w](#)

September 2016

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

Within the EU, it has increasingly been recognised that civil society should be involved in the discussion and monitoring of trade agreements, in particular when it comes to the sustainable development dimension. However, civil society provisions in the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) differ significantly from those in other recent trade agreements concluded by the EU, and in the case of the EU-SADC EPA they are non-existent.

Istituto Affari Internazionali

The geopolitical promise of TTIP

by Rem Korteweg [@CER_Korteweg](#)

September 2016

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

TTIP offers Europe and the US strategic and geopolitical benefits. A deal can strengthen European and US economies; reassert Western leadership on global trade issues by setting new trade standards; increase Europe's energy security; strengthen transatlantic cooperation despite America's increasing interest in Asia; and enhance the West's ability to use economic sanctions as a foreign policy instrument. There are geopolitical costs if TTIP collapses. To avoid this, according to the author, governments should be realistic about what a deal can deliver; make TTIP open for others to join; consider removing ISDS from an agreement; see TPP (Trans-Pacific Partnership) and TTIP as complementary trade agreements; and engage in a public discussion about the strategic merits of TTIP.

Transparency International

Was it worth it? Assessing government promises at the 2016 anti-corruption summit

by Maggie Murphy [@Maggranna](#) and Jameela Raymond [@jameelaraymond](#)

September 2016

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

The Anti-Corruption Summit held in London on 12 May 2016 intended to 'put fighting corruption at the heart of our international institutions'. The summit issued a Global declaration against corruption, signed a detailed communique and made individual country-specific commitments to ending corruption.

DEVELOPMENT

European Centre for Development Policy Management

Exploring scenarios for the future of ACP-EU cooperation: an analytical tool for informed choices

by Jean Bossuyt, Niels Keijzer [@keijzer_niels](#), Geert Laporte, Alfonso Medinilla [@AMedinil](#) and Marc De Tollenaere

September 2016

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

The debate on the future of the ACP-EU partnership is gaining prominence as key actors reflect on past experiences with the Cotonou Agreement and explore options for a future arrangement beyond 2020. It is a complex review process considering the drastic changes in international relations as well as in the EU and the ACP countries and regions.

Institute of Economic Affairs

The economics of international development: foreign aid versus freedom for the world's poor

by William Easterly [@bill_easterly](#)

September 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (116 p.)

Hopes for development aid remain high among Western politicians and experts, but the evidence is depressing. Foreign aid has on average probably no effect on long-run growth. To understand the failure of many development projects, we need a deeper consideration of the failure of top-down planning in general. Without the mechanisms of free markets and entrepreneurial actions to

guide them, development agencies and governments are consistently unable to determine which projects will be successful and which will fail.

ENLARGEMENT PROCESS

Centar za Evropske Politike (European Policy Centre)

Effects of the pre-accession assistance (IPA) on strengthening of administrative capacities in the Western Balkans: a meta-audit of the European Court of Auditors

by Miloš Đinđić and Sena Marić [@senamaric](#)

23 September 2016

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

The European Court of Auditors recently published a special report on the impact of EU pre-accession assistance on strengthening the administrative capacity of the countries of the Western Balkans. The general conclusion of the report is that the pre-accession assistance positively contributed to the strengthening of the administrative capacity of the beneficiary countries, and that support to rule of law and public administration reform through the IPA projects has proven to be partially sustainable.

Demanding open data in Serbia: role of think tanks and research-based civil society organizations

by Katarina Kosmina [@KosmiKatarina](#)

16 September 2016

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

This study deals with open data demand created by civil society organisations (CSOs) in the context of the limited supply of open data in Serbia. On one hand, it tries to demonstrate that civil society interest in open data is currently restricted to a particular niche of CSOs. On the other, it points to the potentials of open data for think tanks and other CSOs conducting research, not only in terms of better monitoring of government performance but also in diversifying their own research methodologies, improving their evidence-based advocacy efforts, and enhancing the 'data light' research environment in Serbia in the long-term.

Istituto Affari Internazionali / FEUTURE - The future of EU-Turkey relations

Turkey and the European Union: scenarios for 2023

by Nathalie Tocci [@NathalieTocci](#)

30 September 2016

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

FEUTURE – Future of EU-TURKEY RELATIONS – analyses the past, present and future drivers of the EU-Turkey relationship. This paper imagines, delineates and systematises three reference scenarios in order to organise subsequent research and eventually map out a most likely "feuture". The aim of these scenarios is to construct different pathways that might exist in future, suggesting and informing appropriate scholarly analysis or policy decisions that may be taken along those possible paths.

Transparency International

National integrity system assessment Albania 2016

by Adela Halo and Megi Llubani

September 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (237 p.)

This report analyses whether Albania's state architecture is designed to operate with and promote integrity, and whether it does so in practice. It offers a comprehensive diagnosis of the capacities,

internal governance and the effectiveness of 15 key institutions and sectors, or 'pillars'. The report also examines the broader political, social and economic context in which these pillars operate. In offering this diagnosis, the assessment seeks to identify priorities for an anti-corruption reform agenda.

Ulkopoliittinen instituutti (Finnish Institute of International Affairs)

The EU-Turkey stalemate: detecting the root causes of the dysfunctional relationship

by Toni Alaranta [@ToniAlaranta](#)

September 2016

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

According to this paper, the time has come for the difficult task of re-evaluating the strained Turkey-EU relationship, with three main options at hand, each having their own shortcomings: ending the negotiations altogether; continuing with the current dysfunctional model; or seriously pushing for a 'special partnership' in one form or another.

Al Sharq Forum

Syrians in Turkey – The economics of integration

by Timur Kaymaz [@tmrkymz](#) and Omar Kadkoy [@OmarKadkoy](#)

September 2016

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

This paper outlines the current state of play in terms of economic integration of Syrians and lists potential areas of intervention for local, national and international actors.

EASTERN PARTNERSHIP

Belarusian Institute for Strategic Studies

Grand political media barometer report on communication of Belarus' independent political forces (2012-2016)

by Alexei Pikulik, Alena Artsiomenka and Aliaksandr Autushka-Sikorski

26 September 2016

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

This paper analyses the quality of the political communication between the democratic Belarusian political forces and the society and contribute to its improvement.

Ulkopoliittinen instituutti (Finnish Institute of International Affairs)

Key actors in the EU's Eastern neighbourhood: competing perspectives on geostrategic tensions

by Kristi Raik [@KristiRaik](#) and Sinikukka Saari [@sinikukka](#) (eds.)

September 2016

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

This report sheds light on the geostrategic tensions and different action logics at play in the EU's Eastern neighbourhood. The report explores and compares the interests and policies of major states and organisations in the region and assesses the interaction between the different actors. It also considers the implications of the geopolitical context for some of the countries in the region, in particular Ukraine and Belarus, with the aim of providing a comprehensive analysis of the international, regional and local levels.

Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies

What the EU can, may and should do to support Georgia

by Teona Lavrelashvili

30 September 2016

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

The paper considers current political challenges encountered by Georgia and the geopolitical framework in which the EU-Georgia relationship develops. While Georgia is apparently better off on the democratic front, clouds are gathering again ahead of the forthcoming parliamentary elections - a possible game changer.

Külügyi és Külgazdasági Intézet (Institute for Foreign Affairs and Trade)

A containing ally: Belarus' regional role in the context of the new containment

by Yury Tsarik

September 2016

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

According to the author, Belarus has been one of the most active actors in the new international landscape in Central and Eastern Europe since early 2014. The developments of 2014 and 2015 posed new threats and challenges to the country's security, but also presented a number of strategic opportunities. Belarus' agility in taking those opportunities led to a major transformation of its status and posture. The country being continuously dubbed "the last dictatorship of Europe" and viewed as nothing more than a satellite of Russia turned into a major negotiations venue for the Ukraine crisis, enjoyed the lift of EU's sanctions and the freeze of US sanctions, has become increasingly considered as a reliable EU and NATO partner in the new security environment.

Expert-Grup

Republic of Moldova 2016 State of the country report

by Adrian Lupușor [@AdrianLupusor](#), Alexandru Fala, Ana Popa, Denis Cenușă, Natan Garștea [@natangarstea](#) and Valeriu Prohnițchi

30 September 2016

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

The experts ascertain that the Republic of Moldova, at her early age of 25 years of independence, is confronting one of the most acute crises in its short history. After the economic, currency and banking shocks of 2015–2016, Moldova has become more vulnerable than ever, entering a period of anaemic economic growth, which could last for at least five years. Besides the external constraints, the fundamental cause aggravating Moldova's economic condition is related to major governance failures in the recent years, intensified by the "brain-drain" phenomenon.

Centrul Român de Politici Europene (Romanian Center for European Policies)

Formarea Grupurilor de Acțiune Locală în satele Republicii Moldova – o șansă pentru dezvoltare

by Alexandra Toderiță and Oana Ganea

September 2016

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

This report is based on the results of a sociologic study including 16 rural communities in the Republic of Moldova. In the light of this information, the authors conclude that the LEADER approach (the establishment of LAGs) would be beneficial for the Republic of Moldova because it would answer to some local specific needs, making use of the local resources, and the prioritisation and financing of the projects would happen at a local rather than national level, which would allow for a better synergy between projects.

WESTERN BALKANS

Centar za društvena istraživanja Analitika (Center for Social Research Analitika)

International assistance and media democratization in the Western Balkans: lessons learned

September 2016

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

This policy memo provides an overview of receiving support from the International Community and its impact on the process of democratisation of the media in the Western Balkans.

Group for Legal and Political Studies / Centar za društvena istraživanja Analitika (Center for Social Research Analitika)

Promising early years: the transformative role of the Constitutional Court of Kosovo

by Dren Doli, Fisnik Korenica and Albana Rexha [@albanarexha](#)

22 September 2016

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

This paper analyses whether and, if yes, how, the Constitutional Court of Kosovo has influenced and guarded the essentials of the nascent democracy. While the paper strives to assess the Constitutional Court's role in the democratic transition of Kosovo, various external factors, such as political influence and the legitimacy of the Court, will necessarily be part of the equation.

MIDDLE EAST/NORTH AFRICA (MENA)

Jacques Delors Institute - Berlin

New chapter in EU-Algeria energy relations

by Jekaterina Grigorjeva [@jek_grigorjeva](#)

30 September 2016

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

This policy paper draws attention to the need for stronger and more targeted energy cooperation between the EU and Algeria. It proposes an EU-supported energy transition in Algeria aimed at switching Algerian domestic consumption to renewable energy. The initiative can be based on the already existing EU instruments, namely the EU-Algeria Energy Business Forum and the reviewed framework of the European Neighbourhood Policy.

Istituto Affari Internazionali

Youth activism in Morocco: exclusion, agency and the search for inclusion

by Saloua Zerhouni and Azeddine Akesbi

30 September 2016

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

This paper sheds some light on the existing spaces of formal and informal political participation. It explores how the contextual realities shape the perceptions and meanings of the experience of "being young." The third section analyses how the youth engage in politics and the factors that promote or inhibit their participation. Finally, the paper discusses youth agency and transformative impact on society, specifically in relation to policies that are affecting them directly.

Youth inclusion through civic engagement in NGOs after the Tunisian Revolution

by Pierre Tainturier

26 September 2016

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

The question this paper aims to address is whether the civic engagement of youth in NGOs is an appropriate channel for their political, social and economic integration or for defying domination relationships based on gender, class and generation. The study and its empirical data are drawn from an ethnographic research conducted since 2011 among civil society organisations in Tozeur, the capital of one of the south-west governorates of Tunisia.

Youth civic and political engagement in Egypt

by Nadine Sika [@NadineS1](#)

30 September 2016

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

This paper investigates the extent to which young people are included or excluded in the social, economic, cultural and political spheres in Egypt. Based on fieldwork conducted among young people between March-December 2015, the paper analyses why some young people choose street contention and mobilisation, and why others have chosen to become involved in mainstream politics, economy and society.

The student movement in Egypt. A microcosm of contentious politics

by Hatem Zayed, Nadine Sika [@NadineS1](#) and Ibrahim Elnur

30 September 2016

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

The paper is concerned with understanding endogenous and exogenous student activism in authoritarian regimes, through focusing on the case of Egypt from the 1960s until today. The first part of the paper is dedicated to a definition of "student movements" and "youth activism" with their various forms. The second part presents a historical analysis of student movements in the Arab world in general and in Egypt in particular. More in general, the paper shows that student movements in authoritarian regimes are a reflection of the dynamics of contention within these countries.

Euro-Mediterranean Study Commission / European Institute of the Mediterranean

This is (not) rocket science: using space-based solutions for more sustainable management of water resources in Jordan

by Katarzyna Sidło

7 September 2016

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

Jordan is the second most water scarce country in the world. High population growth, climate changes and rising agriculture demands are further depleting those already limited reserves. Furthermore, the constant refugee influx from Iraq and Syria adds to the burden on Jordan's water resources system and creates additional discords between the refugees and native population. Other factors contributing to the worsening of the situation are illegal wells, pipeline water theft, groundwater exploitation, and technical water loss. Should these trends continue, it is estimated that by 2025 the renewable freshwater resources will shrink even more.

Chatham House - The Royal Institute of International Affairs

New social enterprises in Jordan: redefining the meaning of civil society

by Heba W. AlNasser

28 September 2016

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

The emergence of new forms of civil society in Jordan has the potential to help strengthen social solidarity, encourage more active and informed engagement by citizens, and could help support a smoother transition to a functioning democracy.

Kurdish self-governance in Syria: survival and ambition

by Ghadi Sary

15 September 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (26 p.) and in [Arabic](#) (20 p.)

The strategic gains of the local administration in Rojava could provide an important model for conflict resolution in the region – it must be represented in talks to bring about a lasting settlement in Syria.

United States Institute of Peace / Cambridge Institute on Religion and International Studies

Understanding and extending the Marrakesh declaration in policy and practice

by Susan Hayward [@SusieOHayward](#)

September 2016

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

This report offers background on the January 2016 Marrakesh Declaration on the Rights of minorities in predominantly Muslim majority communities. The Marrakesh Declaration was issued by Muslim scholars and politicians as a concerned and concerted response to the widespread persecution and violence against minorities, particularly by extremist groups in recent years that claim Islamic justification for violent acts.

United States Institute of Peace

Building regional border security cooperation: lessons from the Maghreb

by James Cohen, Joyce Kasee Mills [@JoyceKasee](#) and Leanne McKay [@NomadLM](#)

September 2016

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

The Maghreb countries of Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia face threats to their borders from transnational illicit networks, such as terrorist groups and criminal organisations. To address these threats, United States Institute of Peace convened operational border officials from the three countries through a series of workshops in spring 2016. This brief highlights the key lessons that emerged from this work.

Tribe, security, justice, and peace in Libya today

by Peter Cole and Fiona Mangan [@FionaBMangan](#)

September 2016

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

This report examines the renewed role of tribes as guarantors of social stability and providers of security and justice services in Libya since the 2011 revolution. Report findings are based on qualitative field research and a nationally representative survey carried out by United States Institute of Peace in partnership with Altai Consulting. A companion report discusses how political currents in Libya since 2011 have shaped policing and security actors on the ground.

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

The dynamics of a right-wing coalition: how the failure of the peace processes encourages domestic populism in Israel

by Peter Lintl

September 2016

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

Israel has been increasingly criticised for violating substantive democratic principles. The trigger was a series of decisions and initiatives. In July 2016, the Knesset adopted a stricter transparency law for non-governmental organisations (NGOs) financed from abroad, as well as a law empowering it to divest its members of their mandate. For weeks and months, government had made various suggestions for closer oversight of cultural and media institutions (for instance). These advances have had negative repercussions not just in Israel, but internationally as well.

Institute for National Security Studies

Military service in Israel: challenges and ramifications

by Meir Elran and Gabi Sheffer (eds.)

September 2016

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

The seven essays collected in this volume explore different aspects of the model of military service in Israel.

OCP Policy Center

The new EU Global Strategy and what it means for Morocco

by Emiliano Alessandri

September 2016

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

This policy brief reviews the recently published EU Global Strategy, highlighting its main strengths and weaknesses as well as innovations, starting with the concept of resilience. The brief also comments on the future of EU-Morocco relations in the new framework.

EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

European Policy Centre

Nagorno-Karabakh: is it time to bring peacekeeping and confidence building back on the agenda?

by Amanda Paul [@amandajanepaul](#) and Dennis Sammut [@dennissammut](#)

29 September 2016

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

In this paper, the authors discuss the latest developments in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, and argue that, with prospects of a resolution once more on the horizon, it is important that the momentum of any breakthrough is quickly consolidated. Peacekeeping and confidence building are an essential part of this process and the international community, most particularly the EU, must move fast to ensure that such measures are in place as soon as they are needed.

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

The Eurasian Economic Union and the European Union: geopolitics, geo-economics and opportunities for Europe

by Sijbren de Jong [@Sijbren_deJong](#)

September 2016

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

Relations between Russia and the EU have grown increasingly tense during the later years due to the Russian annexation of the Crimean Peninsula, and this publication analyses what the Eurasian Economic Union means for the development in the EU's eastern neighbourhood. It also discusses strategic possibilities for the Eastern Partnership.

AFRICA

Euro-Mediterranean Study Commission / European Institute of the Mediterranean

The trust fund for Africa: a preliminary assessment

by Roderick Pace

6 September 2016

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

In its attempt to curb irregular immigration the EU has deployed a number of policies and instruments. One of them is the "Trust Fund for Africa", adopted during the EU-Africa Summit and informal Council meeting, which took place in Malta's capital Valletta in November 2015. This brief provides an account of the context which led to Valletta Summit, the setting up of the fund, its main objectives, legal basis and resources.

Chatham House - The Royal Institute of International Affairs

The domestic and external implications of Zimbabwe's economic reform and re-engagement agenda

by Knox Chitiyo, Alex Vines and Christopher Vandome

8 September 2016

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

International and regional governmental engagement does not guarantee the success of long-term reform, but continued isolation will almost certainly lead to the failure of reforms to take hold.

German Marshall Fund of the United States / OCP Policy Center

Towards people-centered security sectors in Africa: a tale of missed opportunities?

by Marta Martinelli

September 2016

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

Most of the international security agenda is determined in the loosely defined "Global North" and is implemented in the "Global South." This trend needs to be inverted with more voices from the "South" included in debates that shape international security policies and practices.

OCP Policy Center

Le golfe de Guinée, zone de contrastes : richesses et vulnérabilités

by Abdelhak Bassou [@Jahilounya3rif](#)

September 2016

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

Alongside the African Union, other African regional structures are working for the facilitation of the full integration of the continent. Some of these organisations are institutional, others are evolving or under construction. Many of them are based on a common interest, or on the need to address a common threat. In the Gulf of Guinea few organisations are working for economic development and security: Gulf of Guinea Commission, African Atlantic Façade, Sahel G5, Lake Chad Commission.

ASIA-OCEANIA

Center for Strategic and International Studies

Recommitting at Brussels to the development of Afghanistan

by Daniel F. Runde

30 September 2016

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

The Brussels conference is an opportunity to acknowledge the key role of development assistance, and it complements to July's NATO Summit in Warsaw, which focused primarily on providing security assistance.

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

Thailands Verfassung 20.0: Wie das Militär seinen Einfluss auf Politik und Gesellschaft langfristig ausbaut

by Anja Bodenmüller-Raeder

September 2016

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

At the beginning of August, Thailand adopted a new constitution in a national referendum. The ruling military elite used the referendum to consolidate its political influence and to legitimise the takeover that followed the coup d'état in May 2014. Theoretically speaking, the chances to return to democratic elections should be greater now. However, a democratically elected government by civilians is not to be expected any time soon, given that the new constitution requires a third of the MPs to be appointed by the acting military government. Since there is little room for change, in the future, a renewed wave of protest and violent clashes involving the non-parliamentary opposition is highly likely.

United States Institute of Peace

The Islamic State in Pakistan

by Tariq Parvez

September 2016

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

This brief explores Daesh in Pakistan, how its ideology can influence both existing and potential militants, and what a comprehensive response from the Pakistani government would involve.

RUSSIA

German Marshall Fund of the United States

Russia's challenge to the European security order

by Jeffrey Mankoff

29 September 2016

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

Responding to Russian efforts to weaken the pillars of European security will be among the most significant challenges facing US and European diplomats. The immediate task lies in ending the conflict in Ukraine while deterring additional Russian military actions in Europe. The bigger, longer term challenge lies in managing relations with a Russia that no longer conceives of itself as a partner in upholding the security of Europe, and in designing rules and institutions for this dangerous new era.

Vrije Universiteit Brussel - Institute for European Studies

Russia and the European far right after Brexit: shifting gears in the European parliament

by Antonios Nestoras

September 2016

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

In the transatlantic community it is widely believed that the Kremlin's manipulation of information constitutes a real threat to EU security. Across Europe, far-right, populist and Euro-sceptic political parties are embracing Russia's information campaigns. In the EP, ENF (Europe of Nations and Freedom) is the main proponent of pro-Kremlin narratives. The absence of British Eurosceptic MEPs may lead to the consolidation of the radical far-right under the banner of the Front National. Hence, the EU may have a rather difficult time gathering the necessary support to confront Russian in the Eastern Neighbourhood.

Forum for research on Eastern Europe and Emerging Economies

Russia's state armament plan of 2010 – the macro view in mid-2016

by Torbjörn Becker

September 2016

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

This brief provides an analysis of what the new macro economic reality means for the armament plans that were made in 2010. In short, the major issue is not that spending as a share of GDP has increased dramatically but rather that the nominal ruble amounts amount to significantly less real purchasing power both in real ruble and dollar terms. In other words, it is not necessarily the trade off between different government spending areas that will be the main issue, but rather what the priorities will be regarding different types of military equipment within the existing plan.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

New America Foundation

Jihadist terrorism 15 years after 9/11: a threat assessment

by Peter Bergen

September 2016

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

The author assesses the scope of the jihadist terrorism threat in the US and around the world.

Istituto Affari Internazionali

Security, development, and diplomacy: solving the puzzle of the US-sub-Saharan Africa strategy?

by Madeleine Goerg

8 September 2016

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

This analysis of the US-sub-Saharan Africa strategy brings to light the significant complementarities between US and European approaches and priorities. Given the current budgetary constraints and inward-looking trends in both the US and many European countries, existing coordination and cooperation mechanisms should be examined and strengthened to ensure greater alignment and effectiveness of transatlantic partners' engagement with African countries on security and development issues.

Chatham House - The Royal Institute of International Affairs

The evolution of US and European monetary policy after Bretton Woods: a historical overview and lessons for the future

by Matthew Oxenford

7 September 2016

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

While a new Bretton Woods-style agreement is highly unlikely, the US and Europe should help update the existing monetary system with a new set of best practices and norms.

Rahvusvaheline Kaitseuuringute Keskus (International Centre for Defence Studies)

Baltics in the balance? The race for the American presidency and the risks for European security

by Sarah Manney and Caitlyn Littlepage

September 2016

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

Hillary Clinton is likely to maintain the status quo of US-NATO assistance. In contrast, Donald Trump and his team appear to prioritise the country over established US allies. While Clinton presents NATO's borders as inviolable, Trump indicates that anything is negotiable. When discussing the candidates, the Russian media primarily praises Trump and derides Clinton for their respective security policies. However, as the race is yet to be decided both NATO as an entity and its members must plan for the expected security implications of President Trump.

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

Amerikanische Russland-Politik und europäische Sicherheitsordnung

by Peter Rudolf

September 2016

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

The US-Russian relations are of key importance to European peace and security. The nature of their relationship - conflict or cooperation - and the result of the interaction between Washington and Moscow will have consequences for the stability and security in Europe. This study focuses on the American view on the issue.

SPECIAL FOCUS - CHINA'S FOREIGN POLICY AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS

Barcelona Centre for International Affairs

China fondea en el Mediterráneo: ¿un mar de oportunidades para Europa?

by Christina Müller-Marcus

September 2016

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

China is reaffirmed as a new strategic power prepared to take a more constructive role in the Mediterranean and in the world. The strategic vision of China seeks to complement trade ties with political dialogue, security and defence with its trading partners along the Mediterranean coast. Europe should observe the Chinese expansion into the Mediterranean ports with a strategic lens: the terminal port of Naples allows China to directly observe the main military base of NATO in the Mediterranean.

Bruegel

China's Belt and Road initiative: can Europe expect trade gains?

by Alicia García-Herrero and Jianwei Xu

5 September 2016

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

The Belt and Road aims to ease bottlenecks for cross-border trade in Asia, Europe and Africa. This paper measures empirically whether the reduction in transportation costs will have a positive impact on trade flows for Belt and Road countries and for EU countries. The authors also explore the possibility that the Belt and Road may eventually go beyond its current objectives towards the creation of a free trade area.

Granting market economy status to China in the EU: an economic impact assessment

by Cecilia Bellora and Sébastien Jean

September 2016

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

This brief assesses the possible economic impacts for the EU of granting market economy status (MES) to China in antidumping investigations. The issue is important: China ranks first among the countries targeted by European antidumping, and sanctions cover tariff lines worth 8.7% of EU imports from China, based on pre-investigation imports (0.5% for MES partners).

European Council on Foreign Relations

China and Brexit: what's in it for us?

by François Godement [@FGodement](#) and Angela Stanzel [@angela_stanzel](#)

9 September 2016

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

This special issue of China Analysis looks at the first comments published in China in the wake of the Brexit shock. The authors suggest that most of the losses from Brexit will hit the EU or the UK, or both, while China will get most of the gains.

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

China's growth challenges

by Wan-Hsin Liu and Rolf J. Langhammer

September 2016

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

Given the weaker economic growth in China, the economy needs to adapt itself to "the New Normal". Focusing on three key growth challenges - domestic consumption, innovation and entrepreneurship, and foreign trade and investment, this paper aims at sketching potential policy measures required to deal with them. Reforms and policy measures need to have a clear long-term orientation to support adequate structural changes. Such orientation requires consistency, credibility, and transparency in order to avoid confusing signals to market participants.

Istituto Affari Internazionali

China's relations with sub-Saharan Africa

by Anna Katharina Stahl

8 September 2016

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

This paper provides an overview of China's relations with Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). In addition to outlining China's general engagement in SSA, it gives particular attention to China's relations with SSA in the two policy areas of development and security. Moreover, it examines how China's leadership change in 2012 has affected the country's policy in SSA. On the basis of the most recent trends in China's development and security relations with SSA, the paper formulates a series of policy recommendations for the EU and the US on how to engage China in SSA.

Norsk Utenrikspolitisk Institutt (The Norwegian Institute of International Affairs)

Dragon in the north: the Nordic countries' relations with China

by Bjørnar Sverdrup-Thygeson

September 2016

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

This report presents an overview of each Nordic country's bilateral relations with China, and how each has handled the challenges and opportunities arising in relations with Beijing. This report also asks whether there is a common 'Nordic dimension' to the policies undertaken towards Beijing. As the contributions presented show, the five Sino Nordic relationships have followed markedly different trajectories.

Real Instituto Elcano (Elcano Royal Institute)

Reflexiones sobre los flujos comerciales entre España y China

by Rafael Cascales [@rcsisniega](#)

6 September 2016

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

This article discusses trade relations between Spain and China in the current economic climate. The purpose is to establish guidelines to be followed by Spanish SMEs in their export strategy towards China.

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

China's 13th Five-Year Plan. In pursuit of a "Moderately Prosperous Society"

by Michel Aglietta and Guo Bai

September 2016

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

In order to understand the Five-Year Plan (2016-2020), adopted in March 2016 by the People's National Assembly of China, this paper focuses on six of its paramount objectives: shift from capital accumulation-led growth to innovation-led growth; integrated urban-rural development; green development; inclusive development; finance and State-owned Enterprise-(SOE) reform; opening up to the world. The paper analyses the objectives identified and their content and it highlights their interdependencies to underline the comprehensive "new normal" strategy.

REGARDS CROISÉS

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

The Aid for Trade initiative and the export performance of the Iberian EU-countries

by Beáta Udvari

September 2016

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

As a result of the global economic crisis, Iberian exports have been temporarily directed towards other regions such as Africa or Asia. This research looks into how the Aid for Trade initiative, which helps developing countries participate in international trade more effectively, influences the trade performance of Spain and Portugal. The research – besides analysing the existing literature – is based on an empirical investigation using a gravity model. The results show that this EU initiative has a small significant impact on the exports of Spain and Portugal.

Post-crisis foreign trade trends and policies on the periphery of the European Union – comparison of the Iberian, Baltic and Central European region

by Katalin Antalóczy and Andrea Éltető

September 2016

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

This paper describes government foreign trade strategies and institutional framework of the Iberian, Baltic and Central European countries. It also analyses the actual foreign trade data in recent years and thus allows to get a picture of the structure and direction of exports of the peripheric economies so that they can be compared to the aims of the given states. The preliminary hypothesis is that there is a gap between the reality and the intentions of the states. The size of this gap varies and is influenced by certain factors like the different involvement of multinational companies in foreign trade or the different economic structure of these countries.

MISCELLANEOUS

CIVITAS - Institute for the Study of Civil Society

Why academic freedom matters: a response to current challenges

by Cheryl Hudson and Joanna Williams (eds.)

21 September 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (250 p.)

The issues of freedom of speech on campuses and academic freedom have become major talking points. Student politics, once something people left behind upon graduation, is now the daily fare of national, and even international, news coverage. Terms like 'microaggression', 'trigger warning', and 'safe space', virtually unheard of a decade ago, have entered mainstream vocabulary. This publication explores why, for centuries, scholars have considered intellectual autonomy essential for the pursuit of truth and the advancement of knowledge.
