



Council of the European Union
General Secretariat

THINK TANK REVIEW

Council Library

JUNE 2020

ISSUE 79



This Think Tank Review* covers articles and reports published in May relating to different political and policy topics ([twitter link](#)).

The **special focus** on **Covid-19** covers all EU action to tackle pandemic's impact on the economy, employment, society, research, migration or transport, as well as member states' and third states' responses to the pandemic.

Reports extensively comment on the **European recovery fund**, for instance:

- the Franco-German proposal for a EUR 500 billion plan based on large loans taken out by the EU to be transferred exclusively as grants to EU member states particularly affected by the corona crisis;
- rebooting Europe with a more comprehensive strategy, which should be based on the viability of supported entities, fairness, achieving societal goals, and giving society a share in future profits;
- the legal construction, which still has to be sufficiently clarified due to resistance from some EU countries;
- the options for the fund and its possible link with the Multiannual Financial Framework;
- how EU banks' vulnerabilities could be addressed by the European recovery fund.

Several publications discuss the vision for a post-corona society that is more egalitarian, resilient and sustainable; the implications of Covid-19 for the EU's climate action and its flagship policy, the European Green Deal, and wonder if the crisis may be a 'make or break' moment for the EU to act on climate change. Other articles note that due to Covid-19, one of the greatest achievements of united Europe, the Schengen agreement, was temporarily suspended and its 25th anniversary became a side note. Several reports examine the impact of Covid-19 on irregular migration and migrant smuggling and the future of return policies and partnerships; others look at how Covid-19 is hitting air transport.

Regarding other **EU policy areas**, publications mark the first anniversary of the ninth European Parliament elections of May 2019; explore how to fully reap the benefits for the internal market of the e-commerce directive, wondering if existing e-commerce rules are fit for the digital age; examine the perspectives on the ECB's monetary policy mandate and also the 5 May 2020 ruling of the German Constitutional Court on the ECB's public sector purchase programme; discuss the just transition fund and how it can help best ensure a 'just transition' in all EU territories; and propose recommendations to make PESCO work by prioritising strategically relevant projects.

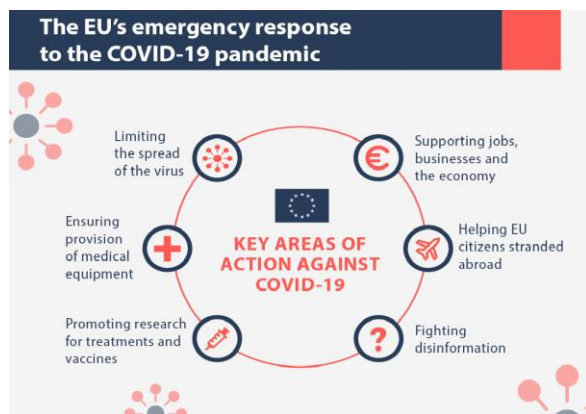
The TTR can be downloaded from Council's Library [blog](#). TTR articles are available via [Eureka](#), the resource discovery service of the Council Libraries.

The Council Library is open to staff of the EU institutions and Permanent Representations of the member states. The general public may use the Library for research purposes. It is located in the Justus Lipsius building, at JL 02 GH, Rue de la Loi 175, 1048 Brussels. Contact: library@consilium.europa.eu

* This collection of abstracts and links was compiled by the Council Library of the General Secretariat of the EU Council for information purposes only. The content links are the sole responsibility of their authors. Publications linked from this review do not represent the positions, policies or opinions of the Council of the EU or the European Council.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SPECIAL FOCUS	4
COVID -19	4
SECTION 1 - EU POLITICS AND INSTITUTIONS	19
SECTION 2 - EU POLICIES	21
Agriculture and Fisheries	21
Competitiveness (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space)	21
Economic and Financial Affairs	22
Employment / Social Policy / Health and Consumer Affairs	24
Environmental Issues	24
General Affairs	25
Justice and Home Affairs	26
Transport / Telecommunications / Energy	27
SECTION 3 - FOREIGN AFFAIRS	29
Foreign and Security Policy / Defence	29
Trade	31
Development	31
Africa	31
Asia-Oceania	32
Eastern Europe	32
Middle East / North Africa (MENA)	33
Western Balkans	33
China	34
Russia	35
Turkey	35
United Kingdom / Brexit	35
United States of America	36
SECTION 4 - EU MEMBER STATES	38
Germany	38
France	39
Italy	39
Netherlands	40
MISCELLANEOUS	41



COVID -19

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

The great lockdown: was it worth it?

by Daniel Gros

This policy insight takes a closer look at the actual medical care expenses engendered by the pandemic so far and a bottom-up calculation of hospitalisation costs and finds that the economic costs of the great lockdown, while huge, might still be lower than the medical costs that an unchecked spread of the virus would have generated. There might thus be no need to assign an economic value to the lives saved to reach the conclusion that an unchecked spread of Covid-19 would have led to even higher costs than the great lockdown. (11 p.)

FONDATION ROBERT SCHUMAN

Parliamentary oversight in the health crisis

by Alexis Fourmont and Basile Ridard [@basileridard](#)

Article 15 of the European Convention on human rights opens the possibility for signatory states to derogate from their obligations by invoking exceptional circumstances, but Rik Daems, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, has insisted on the need for parliamentary oversight of the measures taken by most states in response to the health crisis. (11 p.)

CENTER FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH

The European Union: state of play and prospects / Unia Europejska: stan i perspektywy

by Janusz Lewandowski [@J_Lewandowski](#)

Many brilliant prophecies have appeared for the future of the EU and our entire planet. The author believes that Europe, in its own style, will draw pragmatic conclusions from the crisis, not revolutionary ones; conclusions that will allow us to continue enjoying a Europe without borders. Brussels will demonstrate its usefulness; it will react ably and flexibly. The conclusion from the crisis will be a strengthening of all the preventive mechanisms that allow us to recognize threats and react in time of need. Europe will gain greater self-sufficiency in the area of medical equipment and drugs, and the EU – greater competencies in the area of the health service, thus far entrusted to the member states. (EN/PL - 23 p.)

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI (IAI)

European identity and the test of Covid-19

by Irene Caratelli

The Covid-19 pandemic has re-ignited debates about European identity and solidarity, forcing EU institutions and member states to navigate the old dichotomy of national-versus-European identity and interests. The author suggests that the Covid-19 is a test for those Europeans who wish to challenge what is supposed to be normal (selfishness), given (lack of cooperation) or natural (nationalism). It is an opportunity to reimagine Europe and what it means to be “European”, both for EU citizens and other world communities. (6 p.)

FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN PROGRESSIVE STUDIES (FEPS)

Rebuilding after the corona crisis

by Lodewijk Asscher [@LodewijkA](#)

The paper presents a vision for a post-corona society that is more egalitarian, resilient and sustainable. The author explains how the global health crisis metastasised in an economic and social crisis. He considers it is high time to rein in

shareholder capitalism, whilst favouring cooperation over competition when rebuilding after the crisis. This approach requires collective action. (11 p.)

FONDATION POUR LA RECHERCHE STRATÉGIQUE

European technological sovereignty: a response to the Covid-19 crisis?

by Jean-Pierre Darnis [@jpdarnis](#)

The issue of European technological sovereignty burst into the political debate in the wake of the Covid-19 crisis. In the face of the supply difficulties and threats to technology highlighted by the crisis, it obeys an instinctive reflex of willingness to regain control and the possibility of choice. This political statement, taken up by the Croatian Presidency of the EU, opens new perspectives but also raises a series of problematic questions. (10 p.)

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

Options for a European recovery fund

by Shahin Vallée [@Shahinvallee](#)

On April 23, 2020, the European Council mandated the Commission to work on a European recovery fund and to clarify its possible link with the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF), the EU's long-term budget. Negotiations on the MFF for the period 2021-2027 were at an advanced state when the coronavirus-induced economic crisis hit the EU. Like so much else, the EU budget now needs to be adapted to meet new challenges in the wake of the health crisis. (5 p.)

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI (IAI)

When the Franco-German “couple” starts making sense again

by Claire Darmé

The paper presents the recent Franco-German proposal for a 500 billion euro EU recovery fund for the Covid-19 emergency. It outlines both its strengths and the doubts

that arise from the current political context and the financial uncertainties related to the fund. (6 p.)

LUISS SCHOOL OF EUROPEAN POLITICAL ECONOMY

The groundbreaking novelties of the Franco-German proposal and the misuse of the abacus

by Marcello Messori

The Franco-German initiative has beaten Ursula von der Leyen to the punch and will significantly bind the Commission's strategy. However, the scope of Merkel and Macron is so positively disruptive that it apparently pushes the possible institutional friction between the two most important EU countries and one of the main EU institutions to the background. In fact, this friction, which is part of the recurring contrast between intergovernmental and 'EU community' approaches, could have an impact on the approval and implementation of the RF. The paper analyses in detail both initiatives. (6 p.)

INSTITUT DER DEUTSCHEN WIRTSCHAFT (IW, KÖLN) GERMAN ECONOMIC INSTITUTE

Zehn Fragen und Antworten zum deutsch-französischen Vorschlag

by Jürgen Matthes

Germany and France have proposed a European recovery fund of € 500 bn based on large loans taken out by the EU to be transferred exclusively as grants to EU member states particularly affected by the corona crisis. The legal construction still has to be sufficiently clarified and, due to the resistance of some EU countries (frugal four), implementation in the proposed form does not appear certain. (DE - 20 p.)

CENTRUM STOSUNKÓW MIĘDZYNARODOWYCH (CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS)

Narodowe systemy pomocy gospodarczej po Covid-19. Europa zjednoczona czy podzielona?

by Piotr Maciej Kaczyński [@pm_kaczynski](#)

The paper analyses anti-crisis economic and fiscal measures introduced by member states as well as coordination efforts taken at the EU level. Contrary to critical opinions of the EU's reaction to Covid-19, the author concludes that European institutions act efficiently by providing member states with adequate support. (PL - 5 p.)

HERTIE SCHOOL / JACQUES DELORS CENTRE

EU banks' vulnerabilities: capital conservation key to withstanding corona crisis

by Sebastian Mack [@SebastianMack](#)

Covid-19 will hit financial institutions with a substantial time lag, but the coming storm will be fierce. The EU banking sector is entering the troubled waters of the corona crisis with four major vulnerabilities: market and funding liquidity risks have been mitigated by bold policy measures at EU and national level; concentration risk in banks' sovereign exposures could be addressed by a European recovery fund; the immense economic fallout will further depress banks' already weak levels of profitability; losses will erode banks' capital base, putting their viability at severe risk. To withstand the crisis, EU policymakers should require banks to suspend all discretionary distributions and preserve capital instead. (10 p.)

CENTRE D'ÉTUDES PROSPECTIVES ET D'INFORMATIONS INTERNATIONALES

Les banques européennes à l'épreuve de la crise du Covid-19

by Jézabel Couppey-Soubeyran, Erica Perego and Fabien Tripier

Although European banks are stronger today than in the 2007-2008 financial crisis, will they be strong enough in the face of a health

crisis closer to the Great Depression of the 1930s than the stress scenarios envisaged by the European Banking Authority for 2020? Access to central bank liquidity likely removes the risk of bank liquidity, but it is not unthinkable that a bank insolvency crisis should be managed. Failure to repay one in five loans would be enough to exhaust the current level of equity and it would be necessary to mobilize the resolution mechanism. (FR - 11 p.)

BRUEGEL

Rebooting Europe: a framework for a post Covid-19 economic recovery

by Julia Anderson [@juliaVanderson](#), Simone Tagliapietra [@Tagliapietra_S](#) and Guntram B. Wolf [@GuntramWolff](#)

Covid-19 has triggered a severe recession and policymakers in EU countries are providing generous, largely indiscriminate, support to companies. As the recession gets deeper, a more comprehensive strategy is needed. This should be based on four principles: viability of supported entities, fairness, achieving societal goals, and giving society a share in future profits. The effort should be structured around equity and recovery funds with borrowing at EU level. (8 p.)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

The ECB in the Covid-19 crisis: whatever it takes, within its mandate

by Grégory Claeys [@gregclaeys](#)

The response of the ECB to the Covid-19 crisis has triggered fears of a future increase in inflation. The report discusses the risks that the ECB is unable to fulfil its price-stability mandate, and also whether these new measures respect legal limits set by the EU Treaties. It concludes that the measures introduced by the ECB during the crisis and the resulting increase in the size of its balance sheet, even if it were to be permanent, should not restrict its ability to achieve its price-stability mandate in the future, within its legal obligations. (30 p.)

INSTITUTE JAKES DELORS

La course au vaccin contre le Covid-19: un défi majeur pour l'Europe

by Isabelle Marchais

In the absence of a proven cure for Covid-19, only a safe and effective vaccine can end the health crisis affecting the world, and Europe in particular. UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres even sees it as the only tool that will eventually return to "normalcy". Such a vaccine would save millions of lives, and would be a major prevention tool to increase collective immunity and prevent a cyclical return to the epidemic. (7 p.)

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI (IAI)

Focus Euroatlantico, N. 14by Riccardo Alcaro [@Ric_Alcaro](#) and Nicola Bilotta (eds)

The report presents the pre-existing divergences between Europe and the US, which have exacerbated during the Covid-19 pandemic because of the failure in the attempts by Europeans to involve the US in a multilateral health crisis management framework. The study illustrates US and EU health policies in response to Covid-19, underlining how the EU member states and the federated states of the US have proceeded in random order. It analyses the nature of the economic crisis caused by the pandemic. It examines the digital tax and the taxation of the activities of high tech giants such as Amazon or Facebook. (IT - 60 p.)

ECOLOGIC INSTITUTE / SZAZADVEG FOUNDATION/ 300GOSPODARKA

Europe's economic recovery – Climate neutral, fair and innovative

The corona crisis offers three important lessons for climate policies and Europe's economic recovery: systemic shocks – like the corona pandemic or climate change – affect the foundations of modern societies. Resiliency, preparedness and time are existential factors in addressing systemic crises. The world's economic recovery must help build efficient, innovative and climate neutral economies. (5 p.)

EGMONT - ROYAL INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The end of 'business as usual'? Covid-19 and the European Green Dealby Francesca Colli [@fscoll93](#)

The Covid-19 pandemic has had a clear and drastic effect on our daily lives and political priorities. But what implications does it have for the EU's climate action and the von der Leyen Commission's flagship policy, the European Green Deal? The crisis may be a 'make or break' moment for the EU to act on climate change through its recovery plan. (5 p.)

EGMONT - ROYAL INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Covid-19 and the climate – energy nexusby Mathieu Blondeel [@BlondeelMathieu](#)

Analysing the Covid-19 pandemic's impact on the climate-energy nexus raises three important questions. What does this global health and economic crisis mean for the future of fossil fuels, particularly oil? Because of the drop in economic activity, greenhouse gas emissions have plummeted, but how can we ensure a structural decline that is aligned with the Paris agreement? How can we embed the ideas of a "just transition" within the broader post-pandemic "green recovery"? (8 p.)

CENTRE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ECONOMICS AND POLICY

Pricing carbon during the economic recovery from the Covid -19 pandemicby Josh Burke [@joshburke81](#) , Sam Fankhauser [@SamFankhauser](#) and Alex Bowen

This brief argues that once the immediate rescue has been secured and countries move towards recovery from Covid-19, carefully implementing carbon pricing while reducing fossil fuel subsidies should be at the core of any stimulus package. This carbon price need not be uniform, but may reflect sectoral differences in investment costs, price sensitivity and distributional effects. (4 p.)

KONRAD-ADENAUER-STIFTUNG

Pandemie im Herzen Europas. Wie die Benelux-Staaten in eine neue Normalität starten

by Hardy Ostry, Sophia Pena Pereira, Kai Gläser et al.

70 years after the Schuman declaration, the EU is going through turbulent times. One of the greatest achievements of united Europe, the “Schengen agreement”, providing for open internal borders and free movement of people, was temporarily suspended and its 25th anniversary became a side note. This caused a sensation all over Europe and presented citizens with long-forgotten challenges. (DE - 10 p.)

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES (IFRI)

Migrations et Covid-19 : un quitte ou double pour l'Europe ?by Christophe Bertossi and Matthieu Tardis
 [@MatthieuTardis](#)

Since 2015 and the arrival of one million migrants on the European coasts, everyone has been on the lookout for the next «migration crisis». The Eastern and Southern shores of the Mediterranean were being scrutinized in Europe. In the US, the emergency was decreed at the border with Mexico, worried in turn by the flows coming from Central America. This migration issue had finally crystallized questions about the benefits of openness and multilateralism or, conversely, those of closure and “realism”. (FR - 5 p.)

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE/
ROBERT SCHUMAN CENTRE FOR
ADVANCED STUDIES**Stranded: the impacts of Covid-19 on irregular migration and migrant smuggling**

by Gabriella Sanchez and Luigi Achilli

This brief documents the impacts the Covid-19 response, coupled with border enforcement and migration restrictions have had on the journeys of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in transit irregularly and on their communities. The brief pays specific attention to how measures against the pandemic may impact the activities of those

behind irregular journeys – including migrant smugglers or facilitators. (12 p.)

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR
MIGRATION POLICY DEVELOPMENT**EU return rates, Covid-19 and the future of return policies and partnerships**by Sergo Mananashvili  [@mananashvili](#)

While the Covid -19 has triggered the largest repatriation operation in history, it has brought the return of irregular migrants to a standstill in Europe. On the other side of the ocean, the combination of removals and Covid-19 creates inter-state tensions, which can be a premonition of what might be ahead when it comes to readmission cooperation. All this begs the question: how will Covid-19 and its short-, mid- and long-term implications shape the future of return policies and inter-state cooperation? (6 p.)

EUROPEAN POLICY CENTRE

EPIM policy update - May 2020by Olivia Sundberg Diez, Alberto Neidhardt
 [@albe_neidhardt](#), Marie De Somer
 [@MarieDeSomer](#) et al.

This update examines the many implications of the Covid-19 for migration, mobility and asylum in Europe. It highlights new difficulties involved in claiming the right to asylum, the increased health risks faced by asylum seekers, and the renewed prospects for the regularisation of migrant workers. It also analyses the humanitarian situation in Greece, the impact of Covid-19 on the Schengen area, and the latest developments around the Commission's upcoming new pact on migration and asylum. (15 p.)

KONRAD-ADENAUER-STIFTUNG

The impact of Covid-19 on cyber crime and state-sponsored cyber activitiesby Johannes Wigger  [@JohannesWigger](#)

Through the increased use of digital applications and the use of poorly protected private IT devices when working from home, the Covid-19 pandemic illustrates digital security risks and highlights the need for taking adequate action to protect IT systems in critical infrastructures. Cyber risks can

only be reduced by implementing for instance a set of actions: programs for education; prevention and digital literacy must be strengthened and the resources of law enforcement agencies to prevent and investigate cyber crime must be enhanced by targeted recruitment of young staff. (11 p.)

FONDATION POUR L'INNOVATION POLITIQUE

Avant le Covid-19 le transport aérien en Europe: un secteur déjà fragilisé

by Didier Bréchemier [@didbrechemier](#) and Emmanuel Combe [@emmanuelcombe](#)

The Covid-19 crisis constitutes an unprecedented shock for world air transport. April estimates show that air companies may see their revenues decrease this year by 55% compared to 2019. Assuming travel restrictions last until June 2020, this will represent a shortfall of more than \$ 310 billion for airlines alone. The resumption of post-Covid-19 air traffic risks being very gradual, with a return to normal expected in the best of cases only in 2021. (FR - 56 p.)

FONDATION POUR L'INNOVATION POLITIQUE

Après le Covid-19 le transport aérien en Europe: Le temps de la décision

by Emmanuel Combe [@emmanuelcombe](#) and Didier Bréchemier [@didbrechemier](#)

The Covid-19 crisis will accelerate the structural changes that air transport has been undergoing in Europe for twenty years, marked by the rise of low cost players. The latter have significant financial resources and will take advantage of the crisis to operate geographic growth and thus dominate the European market. This expansion will be achieved in particular by external growth operations, by taking over the assets of bankrupt or attrition companies. (FR - 64 p.)

KÜLÜGYI ÉS KÜLGAZDASÁGI INTÉZET (INSTITUTE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE)

A polgári légi közlekedésben várható változások az új koronavírus okozta járvány következtében

by Kozma Tamás

As a result of the measures introduced to curb the spread of Covid-19, civil aviation has reached a severe low point. Due to the large-scale, inevitable shutdown of aviation for months, transformation is foreseen in the sector. The exact extent of this transformation is still uncertain. The most pressing question is how the epidemic will develop in the near future. (HU - 12 p.)

FONDATION ROBERT SCHUMAN

Convergence in media and telecom in the face of Covid-19. Europe in a transatlantic and international perspective

by Gérard Pogorel and Augusto Preta

The Covid-19 pandemic is tragically affecting societies worldwide. Spending more time indoors, severely limiting our movements and journeys, telecommunications networks, communications services and the media are standing in to play a major role in economic and social resilience. They are providing the required tools for a transformed virtual workplace. The transformative nature of digital innovation in the media and telecommunications industries is moving along with the way we are living and working today. (18 p.)

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

Covid-19: news for Europe's energy security

by Chloé Le Coq and Elena Paltseva

While there has been a lot of attention on the effect of Covid-19-related developments in the oil market, the effect on the natural gas market has almost evaded media attention. For the EU, however, the gas market and especially the impact of the pandemic on the gas relationship with its largest gas supplier,

Russia, is of high relevance. This brief discusses the potential implications of Covid-19 on this relationship both under the pandemic and during the expected slow economic recovery. (7 p.)

CLINGENDAEL NETHERLANDS INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Globalization paradox and the coronavirus pandemic

by Remco van de Pas [@RvandePas](#)

The global scale of the coronavirus pandemic and the response to it is unprecedented. This report applies Dani Rodrik's framework of globalization's political trilemma to analyse the current response to the pandemic. In the aftermath of the 2008 financial crisis he argued that any recovery measures would have to balance state power with economic integration and democracy. Based on values of democratic governance, human dignity and the rule of law this report charts principles on how to move forward beyond the emergency phase into recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic. (28 p.)

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

Covid-19 risks outlook: a preliminary mapping and its implications

As countries seek to recover, some of the more lasting economic, environmental, societal and technological challenges and opportunities are only beginning to become visible. This report provides a preliminary picture of which familiar risks may be amplified by the crisis and which new ones may emerge, recognizing that key issues remain to be analysed – health and geopolitics among them. (66 p.)

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

Challenges and opportunities in the post-Covid-19 world

The Covid-19 crisis has affected societies and economies around the globe and will permanently reshape our world as it continues to unfold. While the fallout from the crisis is both amplifying familiar risks and creating new ones, change at this scale also

creates new openings for managing systemic challenges, and ways to build back better. (54 p.)

FONDATION POUR LA RECHERCHE STRATÉGIQUE

Nuclear planet: the NPT and Covid-19

by Benjamin Hautecouverture [@BenHautecouv](#)

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons (NPT), which this year celebrates the 50th anniversary of its entry into force, has had its five-year review conference postponed for the first time in its history. This major diplomatic event comes with its share of hesitations, uncertainties and other issues. (9 p.)

INSTITUT DE RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES ET STRATÉGIQUES

Comment la pandémie de Covid-19 et la crise économique qui en résulte questionnent le rôle des entreprises ?

by Patrick D'Humières

Crisis situations inevitably lead to a new critical relationship between the forces that are fading and those that are recovering. Certainly, we could no longer expect help from multilateral frameworks whose capacity for action is reduced, or even destroyed - the World Trade Organization, a long time ago, and the World Health Organization today - by the competition between the great powers as illustrated once again by the current pathetic paralysis of the Security Council. (FR - 5 p.)

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

Cybersecurity leadership principles: lessons learnt during the Covid-19 pandemic to prepare for the new normal

The world is experiencing an unprecedented crisis that is causing chaos in the global economy, disrupting supply chains, and transforming society. The new reality is accelerating business model transformation at a faster pace than ever before to ensure existential survival in a crisis for which no one was prepared. (16 p.)

KÜLÜGYI ÉS KÜLGAZDASÁGI INTÉZET (INSTITUTE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE)

Felgyorsuló változások: a koronavírus- járvány hatása az ellátási láncok fejlődésére és az FDI-áramlásokra

by Goreczky Péter

The coronavirus crisis may speed up several dynamics of global and regional supply chains. Novel technologies improve the visibility of the entire supply chain and make corporate manufacturing more resilient to unexpected disruptions. Digital supply network and similar concepts predict that the emergence of the data-driven global economy will proceed. The post-crisis period provides an opportunity to move towards a sustainable foreign direct investment strategy that focuses on industries being more recession-proof. (HU - 10 p.)

BRUEGEL

Covid-19's reality shock for external- funding dependent emerging economies

by Alicia García-Herrero [@Aligarciaherrer](#) and Elina Ribakova [@elinaribakova](#)

Covid-19 is by far the biggest challenge policymakers in emerging economies have had to deal with in recent history. Beyond the potentially large negative impact on these countries' fiscal accounts, and the related solvency issues, worsening conditions for these countries' external funding are a major challenge. (13 p.)

DEUTSCHES INSTITUT FÜR ENTWICKLUNGSPOLITIK (DIE)

Ernährungssicherung in Krisenzeiten: Arme Entwicklungsländer sind anders

by Michael Brüntrup

The paper analyses the immediate risks of the pandemic in the field of food security and in particular the expected immense effects on the absolutely poor. It analyses the lockdown measures in the control of the pandemic, the different starting situation in poor countries and the indirect risks from food insecurity. (DE - 4 p.)

EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT POLICY MANAGEMENT

African regional responses to Covid-19

by Alfonso Medinilla, Bruce Byiers and Philomena Apiko

Covid-19 has firmly set foot on the African continent, affecting all African countries. Any failure to contain the virus in one country ultimately threatens the safety of others. This 'weakest link' characteristic calls for a coordinated response across countries. This note summarises and reflects on the different roles played by the African Union and a sample of the continent's regional organisations in shaping collective, coordinated regional responses. (34 p.)

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES (IFRI)

Le Covid-19 au Sahel : pandémie lente mais impacts multiples

by Alain Antil [@AlainAntil](#) and Katia Djellat

In West Africa, the first case of Covid-19 was recorded in Nigeria at the end of February. Gradually, the virus spread to cities and the countryside of the region's 17 countries. However, the virus was developing very slowly in the Sahelian region, with around 4,500 cases and 189 deaths as of 12 May. (FR - 7 p.)

INTERNATIONAL CRISIS GROUP

Covid-19 in Somalia: a public health emergency in an electoral minefield

The coronavirus pandemic could pose a huge challenge to Somalia. To manage the crisis, the federal government should reach out to and coordinate with political rivals. It should avoid a unilateral postponement of elections due in November, which could trigger a violent backlash. (12 p.)

WILFRIED MARTENS CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES

Covid-19 and technology in the EU: think bigger than the Apps

by Dimitar Lilkov [@D_Lilkov](#)

One of the most pertinent questions posed during the ongoing Covid-19 outbreak is whether technology can be successfully utilised to mitigate the spread of the virus or otherwise limit its impact on everyday life. This brief takes stock of the technological measures taken in several Asian countries as a reaction to the outbreak and examines the recent response of EU member states. The text also maps out workable solutions and important future considerations on the digital front for the EU. (6 p.)

INTERNATIONAL CRISIS GROUP

Conflict, health cooperation and Covid-19 in Myanmar

Amid a lull in fighting in much of the country, the Myanmar government and ethnic armed groups appear willing to put aside politics and work together to prevent the spread of Covid-19. The exception is Rakhine state, where conflict is escalating, putting medical workers at risk and exacerbating a potential health disaster. (12 p.)

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

The social impacts of Covid-19 – case for a universal support scheme?

by Levan Pavlenishvili, Ana Burduli, Mariam Katsadze et al.

Beyond its impact on the healthcare system, the Covid-19 pandemic has already reached labor markets throughout every economy via economic shocks. The authors draw the attention to the potential scale of the impact on the labor market and the respective social consequences in Georgia. (19 p.)

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR MIGRATION POLICY DEVELOPMENT

Migration and mobility in Eastern Europe and Central Asia: what to expect in times of Covid-19?

by Violeta Wagner

Restrictions on human mobility combined with social distancing measures are the main strategies applied by the majority of governments across the world to stall the spreading of the Covid-19 disease. With global mobility close to zero, internal and international migration experienced the most obvious and drastic changes. (8 p.)

INTERNATIONAL CRISIS GROUP

The Covid-19 challenge in post-Soviet breakaway statelets

Isolated and scarred by war, six de facto statelets that claim independence from successor states to the Soviet Union are acutely vulnerable to the ravages of the Covid-19 pandemic. Immediate and long-term suffering will not only cost lives but could also harden divides between these entities and the states that claim them, posing further obstacles to eventual normalisation and peace. (20 p.)

ISTITUTO PER GLI STUDI DI POLITICA INTERNAZIONALE (ISPI)

Mediterraneo allargato

by Valeria Talbot [@TalbotValeria](#) (ed.)

This study takes stock of the management and of the political as well as socio-economic effects of the coronavirus pandemic in the Middle East and North Africa, especially in Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Libya, Tunisia and Turkey. It also offers a specific focus on the political and economic consequences of the collapse of crude oil prices in the Middle East. (IT – 82 p.)

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI (IAI)

Power shifts and the risk of a “crisis within the crisis”: Covid, oil and the MENA region

by Luca Franza [@Lufranza](#)

The paper outlines the negative impact of Covid-19 resulting in the collapse in oil prices from approximately 60 to 20 dollars per barrel between January and April 2020. It focuses on the concept that for countries affected by social unrest and financial instability before Covid-19, the challenge is mainly to limit the multidimensional impact of the pandemic. For Saudi Arabia and other Gulf countries the challenge is to promote economic diversification while also allocating investment to counter oil production declines in preparation for future demand recoveries. (6 p.)

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI (IAI)

The impact of the oil crisis on the MENA region

by Alice Favazza and Camellia Mahjoubi

The paper presents the consequences of the pandemic in the MENA region, which is among the most exposed ones to fallout from a possible global recession due to the economic repercussions of the current Covid-19 pandemic and the recent collapse in the oil prices. Heavily relying on oil revenues, the MENA region oil producers will face long-term challenges from a financial, political, social and security perspective. The study analyses this situation making reference to Saudi Arabia-Iran relations and to the post-oil economic plans of some of the MENA countries. (8 p.)

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES (IFRI)

L'Arabie Saoudite face au Covid-19 : l'ambition contrariée

by Ossyane Henni and Dorothée Schmid

With 59,854 official cases and 329 deaths due to Covid-19 as of May 20, 2020, Saudi Arabia ranks third among the largest outbreaks of infection in the Middle East after Turkey and Iran. Like its Gulf neighbours, however, the Kingdom has one of the lowest mortality rates in the region, despite the country's exposure to the risk of contagion. (FR - 7 p.)

PEACE RESEARCH INSTITUTE OSLO

Covid 19 and north Cyprus: pandemic, politics and non-recognized struggles

by Mete Hatay

This paper aims to shed light on north Cyprus's struggle against Covid-19 and the effects of the Cyprus problem on that effort. It evaluates the problems of this de facto state in its efforts to deal with a global pandemic, including reflection on relations with its sponsor state, Turkey. (22 p.)

EUROPEAN POLICY CENTER (CEP)

Covid-19 tracing app in Serbia. How to pave the road with trust, transparency and inclusion

by Milena Lazarević [@milenalazarevic](https://twitter.com/milenalazarevic) and Dragana Bajićdone

Governments across the globe are increasingly using digital tools to accelerate the tracking of people infected with Covid-19 and their contacts as a key measure to prevent the pandemic's spread. Among potential solutions, contact tracing mobile applications have emerged as the most used and discussed, and it is likely that many governments, including Serbia's, will include them in national public health efforts. (4 p.)

ÖSTERREICHISCHE INSTITUT FÜR INTERNATIONALE POLITIK (AUSTRIAN INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS) / BALKANS IN EUROPE POLICY ADVISORY GROUP

The Western Balkans in times of the global pandemic

by Florian Bieber [@fbieber](https://twitter.com/fbieber), Tena Prelec [@tenaprelec](https://twitter.com/tenaprelec), Marika Djolai [@madzarica](https://twitter.com/madzarica) et al.

The global Covid-19 pandemic and the measures taken by governments around the world constitute a major rupture to the "business as usual", and this includes the Western Balkans, too. This analysis establishes the Covid-19 pandemic as a critical juncture, a crisis that can permanently shake up institutions and societies. There are considerable dangers beyond the impact of the pandemic on human lives, ranging from an economic crisis which could turn out

to be worse than the one in 2008/9, to a heightened crisis of democracy and a geopolitical shift. None of these developments are inevitable and some of the consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic for the WB can be mitigated. (39 p.)

KONRAD-ADENAUER-STIFTUNG

Bosnien und Herzegowina - Situationsbeschreibung. Geteilter Staat - auch in der Corona-Krise

by Sven Petke [@SvenPetke](#) and Senada Bratić

How is Bosnia and Herzegovina dealing with the corona crisis? There was no joint control of Covid-19. Even now everyone decides for themselves - a body for the entire country has not been formed. A coordination of measures was not noticeable. Fortunately, the numbers of those affected remained low. 152 people died of Covid-19 in Bosnia and Herzegovina, almost 2,000 people have recovered, and the number of infected people is less than 3,000. The number of newly infected people is very low. (DE - 5 p.)

EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The meaning of systemic rivalry: Europe and China beyond the pandemic

by Andrew Small [@ajwsmall](#)

Europe is in the nascent stages of a new debate about China. Last year, the EU published a strategic outlook paper in which it labelled China as a "systemic rival". The pandemic is tilting that balance further. Pragmatic cooperation with Beijing to secure essential medical supplies remains at the top of the bilateral agenda for a number of European countries. But, even in the midst of the crisis, China's attempts to exploit political and economic vulnerabilities in Europe have necessitated pushback. (19 p.)

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY STUDIES

From Wuhan to the world: how the pandemic will reshape geopolitics

by François Heisbourg [@FHeisbourg](#)

It is too early to project what global geopolitics will look like in the wake of the ongoing phase of the Covid-19 pandemic. In late January and early February, articles describing the scope of the challenge faced by China's leadership were appearing in the mainstream American and European press. This straight reporting led to sometimes strongly worded opinion pieces drawing broader lessons. A few weeks later, as the focus of the epidemic shifted to Europe, the consensus among public intellectuals shifted, as they cited China's unstoppable progress in light of its prowess in dealing with Covid-19 and its propaganda coups at the expense of a discombobulated US and a feckless EU. (18 p.)

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES (IFRI)

Economy and diplomacy: China's two challenges in the post-Covid-19 world

by Marc Julienne [@MarcJulienne](#)

Will China rise stronger from the pandemic? A flow of media reports and op-eds have recently flourished, forecasting the decline of the West and the triumph of China on the world stage amid the Covid-19 pandemic. Some have declared the dawn of a "post-Western world". (6 p.)

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΊΔΡΥΜΑ ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΗΣ ΚΑΙ ΕΞΩΤΕΡΙΚΗΣ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΚΗΣ (HELLENIC FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN FOREIGN POLICY)

China and the world during the Covid-19 pandemic

by George Tzogopoulos [@Tzogopoulos](#)

This essay analyses China's health policies before and after the outbreak of Covid-19. It discusses how the problem broke out with emphasis on mistakes made by Wuhan authorities and sketches out the subsequent response of the Chinese government to stop

the contagion and share practices. It presents different narratives used by China, the US and the EU in dealing with the pandemic and considers multilateralism a key to address world problems. It attempts to explore whether Sino-European partnerships could emerge in a period of rising uncertainty. (10 p.)

OŚRODEK STUDIÓW WSCHODNICH (CENTRE FOR EASTERN STUDIES)

Gospodarka pod respiratorem. Skutki pandemii i załamania się cen ropy naftowej dla Rosji

by Iwona Wiśniewska

The article examines economic effects of the Covid-19 pandemic in Russia, assessing that Kremlin's support for Russian businesses is insufficient and mostly targets state-owned companies. The crisis highlights the risks related to dependency of Russian economy on oil but will not lead to a change of country's economic policy nor to departure from state capitalism. (PL - 10 p.)

KÜLÜGYI ÉS KÜLGAZDASÁGI INTÉZET (INSTITUTE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE)

Oroszország és a koronavírus-pandémia

by Sándor Seremet

Due to the epidemiological experiences of Russia, the coverage of the national healthcare system and the relative Russian self-sufficiency, the country is in a good position to successfully manage the pandemic. This paper considers whether the power of the President could be weakened and whether Russia's international reputation may be affected. (HU - 18 p.)

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES (IFRI)

La gestion très politisée du Covid-19 en Turquie

by Antoine Michon [@AntMichon](#)

With 138,657 cases and 3,786 deaths reported as of May 11, 2020, Turkey is the ninth most affected country in number of Covid-19 coronavirus cases in the world, the

first in the Middle East. Since the first case was announced on 11 March, the management of the epidemic in the country, which is positioning itself as a commercial and tourist platform, is a new stress test for Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, in power for 17 years. (FR - 5 p.)

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY STUDIES

Strategy for a pandemic: the UK and Covid-19

by Lawrence Freedman [@LawDavF](#)

It is unusual to have so many countries, varying in size, demography, socio-economic structures and politics, addressing the same challenge at the same time. With some exceptions, governments in Europe and North America eventually found that they had little choice but to shut down most everyday social and economic activities. This came with uncertainty about how countries could rebuild and recover, and get back to something approximating normal life. When would effective treatments and vaccines be available? How many of the 'social-distancing' measures would need to be maintained to prevent a resurgence of the virus? This report explains why the UK misjudged the speed and severity of the pandemic. (52 p.)

INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH

Inside the black box: the public finances after coronavirus

by Rob Calvert Jump and Jo Michell [@JoMichell](#)

Responding to the Covid-19 crisis requires increased public spending and borrowing. It will have a significant impact on the public finances. Higher unemployment, reduced tax revenue and substantial government spending on schemes to support the economy will lead to higher government deficits. This paper considers the implications of the Covid-19 crisis for the UK public finances and it presents an interactive forecasting tool for the public sector deficit and debt. (18 p.)

COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The end of world order and American foreign policy

by Robert D. Blackwill and Thomas Wright
[@thomaswright08](#)

Along with US-Soviet competition during the cold war, Covid-19 is one of the two greatest tests of the US-led international order since its founding over seven decades ago. Nothing else since that time approaches the societal, political, and economic effects of the virus on populations around the world. The objective of this report is not to predict the long-term consequences of the crisis rather to place this plague in a global context. (43 p.)

ZENTRUM FÜR EUROPÄISCHE
WIRTSCHAFTSFORSCHUNG (CENTRE FOR
EUROPEAN ECONOMIC RESEARCH)Social capital and the spread of Covid-19:
insights from European countries

by Alina Kristin Bartscher, Sebastian Seitz, Michaela Slotwinski et al.

The authors explore the role of social capital in the spread of the recent Covid-19 pandemic in independent analyses for Austria, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland and the UK. They exploit within-country variation in social capital and Covid-19 cases to show that high-social-capital areas accumulated between 12% and 32% fewer Covid-19 cases per capita from mid-March until mid-May. Using Italy as a case study, they find that high-social-capital areas exhibit lower excess mortality and a decline in mobility. (56 p.)

MTA KÖZGAZDASÁG- ÉS REGIONÁLIS
TUDOMÁNYI KUTATÓKÖZPONT -
VILÁGGAZDASÁGI INTÉZET (CENTRE FOR
ECONOMIC AND REGIONAL STUDIES HAS
- INSTITUTE OF WORLD ECONOMICS)Coronavirus crisis - trade effects for the
Iberian and Visegrád countries

by Andrea Éltető

This paper describes some characteristics of the foreign trade of two European semi-peripheral regions: the Iberian countries and

the Visegrád countries. Based on the developments in the past decade, some conclusions can be drawn for the coronavirus crisis-effects. (33 p.)

FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG (FRIEDRICH
EBERT FOUNDATION)Schule in Zeiten der Pandemie
Empfehlungen für die Gestaltung des
Schuljahres 2020/21

The corona pandemic and its effects represent a turning point. This applies to public life and in particular to the area of education - and above all to students, their parents, teachers, school administrators, education policy and administration. They all reacted with great effort and commitment to the radically and rapidly changing situation and worked out short-term solutions under the most difficult conditions. It is already clear that the upcoming school year 2020/21 will not be a "normal" one either. (DE - 45 p.)

INSTITUT DER DEUTSCHEN WIRTSCHAFT
(IW, KÖLN) GERMAN ECONOMIC
INSTITUTEKonjunkturprognose - Corona sorgt für
katastrophalen Einbruch

by Hubertus Bardt [@H_Bardt](#), Martin Beznoska
[@mbeznoska](#), Markus Demary [@DemaryMarkus](#)
 et al.

The corona pandemic has had a firm grip on the global economy for many weeks and is causing a historic decline in economic output. The German gross domestic product will decline by nine percent in 2020, following new economic forecasts. The level of the previous year will not be reached again until the third quarter of 2021 - provided that there will be no further global shock. (DE - 32 p.)

HANNS-SEIDEL-STIFTUNG (HANNS SEIDEL
FOUNDATION)Deutsche Aussenpolitik nach Corona

by Thomas Erndl and Hannes Pichler

The corona crisis has a firm grip on the world. Entire economies have been cut back, international trade has slumped, political priorities have changed radically within a few

days. But while this health crisis is likely to be resolved in the foreseeable future, the consequences will continue to have an impact. It is already evident that the corona crisis is developing new dynamics and will lead to changes old trends and new priorities, fundamental debates in European and international politics. (DE - 11 p.)

INSTITUT DER DEUTSCHEN WIRTSCHAFT (IW, KÖLN) GERMAN ECONOMIC INSTITUTE

From the opening of the lockdown to new economic perspectives

by Michael Hüther [@michael_huether](#) and Hubertus Bardt [@H_Bardt](#)

The lockdown measures from 16 and 23rd March to fight the corona epidemic have widely affected the German economy. First signals for easing the measures were given after the Easter period. (31 p.)

INSTITUT DER DEUTSCHEN WIRTSCHAFT (IW, KÖLN) GERMAN ECONOMIC INSTITUTE

The corona innovation race in science

by Jasmina Kirchhoff, Armin Mertens and Marc Scheufen

This report is an analysis of the scientific publications on the fight against the corona pandemic and its significance for Germany as a pharmaceutical location. (31 p.)

ECONOMIC & SOCIAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

The effect of the Covid-19 pandemic on consumption and indirect tax in Ireland

by Cathal Coffey, Karina Doorley [@karinadoorley](#), Conor O'Toole et al.

This report assesses the effect of the Covid-19 pandemic on consumption and its implications for indirect tax receipts in 2020. It parameterises three scenarios which attempt to take into account: a return to a 'new normal' with ongoing physical and social distancing; a 'second wave' lockdown; and a rapid vaccine development that allows a return to normal economic and social life by the end of 2020. Under these scenarios, household consumption this year is

estimated to be between 12 and 20 per cent lower than what it would have been in the absence of the pandemic. (40 p.)

INSTITUTE JAQUES DELORS

En Grèce, un succès sanitaire avant un nouvel effondrement économique?

by Fabien Perrier [@FabienPerrier](#)

Greece began its deconfinement on May 4 after six weeks of lethargy due to the coronavirus. The death toll from the epidemic - 173 - is very low for a country of 10.8 million people. But activity has been stifled, especially tourism, which accounts for a quarter of GDP. How is the remarkable Greek health exception explained? Can the economy recover quickly and prevent a drastic rise in unemployment? What are the risks for the executive, which relies on the Greek success against the Covid to attract tourists this summer and to draw a new reason for politically unifying national pride? (5 p.)

FUNDACIÓN DE ESTUDIOS DE ECONOMÍA APLICADA (FEDEA)

Implicaciones macroeconómicas y presupuestarias del Covid algunas proyecciones ilustrativas

by Angel de la Fuente

In the last few weeks, the first data have been published allowing to begin to quantify the economic effects of the Covid pandemic. Using these data, this note constructs some illustrative projections of the impact that the health crisis could have on the evolution of Spanish GDP and on public accounts depending on the duration of the economic normalization process that is now beginning. (ES - 11 p.)

FUNDACIÓN DE ESTUDIOS DE ECONOMÍA APLICADA (FEDEA)

Teletrabajo, acceso a Internet y apoyo a la digitalización en el contexto del Covid-19

by Diego Rodríguez Rodríguez

The measures of social distancing of the population by the Covid-19 have revealed the central role that connectivity plays from

homes. The digitization of production processes, which is extensive but uneven, requires physical infrastructures and production processes adapted to that environment. (19 p.)

FONDATION POUR L'INNOVATION POLITIQUE

Covid-19 : Cartographie des émotions en France

by Madeleine Hamel [@MadeleineHamel](#)

In the midst of the Covid-19 crisis, the study of public opinion, collective representations and attitudes helps guide public action and feed the debates. This research takes the form of a series of opinion surveys administered in twenty countries. It is particularly interested in the data relating to the emotions expressed by French citizens between March and May 2020, in a comparative perspective between twelve regions. (FR - 17 p.)

INSTITUT MONTAIGNE

Rebondir face au Covid-19 : relançons l'investissement

by Eric Chaney [@ericlchaney](#)

The deep recession that hit the French economy will leave its mark. What can we do to limit breakage? How to promote economic policies to support the recovery that will maintain the standard of living of the French by saving our fabric of businesses and the jobs they represent? This note focuses on the issue of business investment. (FR - 17 p.)

TERRA NOVA

Répondre au défi, relancer nos économies et réinventer nos organisations : les infrastructures et les services essentiels face au défi du coronavirus

by Vincent Levita

The pandemic that has struck France shows that the solidity and resilience of the nation also rests on its infrastructures. Health infrastructures of course, those dedicated to the supply of energy or the collection and treatment of waste, but also the digital infrastructures that have enabled many

French people to telecommute and hundreds of thousands of students to continue to learn. Finally, the transport and distribution infrastructure which has helped to avoid serious and lasting shortages. This infrastructure fabric represents the nation's level of preparedness and goes hand in hand with the acceptance of an insurance-type cost. (FR - 8 p.)

KONRAD-ADENAUER-STIFTUNG

Wirtschaftspolitische Maßnahmen Ungarns in der Coronakrise

by Frank Spengler and Bence Bauer

Overcoming the economic consequences of the corona crisis through solidarity in the EU was the focus of a video conference in mid-May by the Federal minister of Economics Peter Altmaier and the Hungarian minister for Innovation and Technology Dr. László Palkovics. As a consequence of the current economic predicament, considerations are being made in Europe to shorten the global supply chains in favour of regional production. This could be a good opportunity for some Central European countries to attract foreign investment to their country. (DE - 6 p.)

ÖSTERREICHISCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR EUROPAPOLITIK (AUSTRIAN SOCIETY FOR EUROPEAN POLITICS)

Coronavirus stellt nationale und internationale Wirtschaftspolitik vor große Herausforderungen

by Martin G. Kocher and Klaus Weyerstraß

From an economic perspective, the corona crisis is causing supply and demand shocks. In Austria, the value added drops by around 2.2 billion euros each week of the shutdown. The government is providing a package worth EUR 38 billion, which includes: direct payments, guarantees, liabilities to secure corporate loans and tax deferrals, additional funds for the health sector and a massive expansion of short-time work allowances. The EU leaders have agreed on a first package of 540 billion euros; the Commission also provides various funds. This brief presents the measures in detail and discusses their effectiveness and possible alternatives. (DE - 12 p.)



ÖSTERREICHISCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR EUROPAPOLITIK (AUSTRIAN SOCIETY FOR EUROPEAN POLITICS)

The European Parliament – One year after the European elections

by Johanna Edthofer and Paul Schmidt [@PaulSchmidt](#)

The ninth EP elections took place from 23-26 May 2019. Given the increased turnout, the EP emerged democratically strengthened from the 2019 European elections. Nevertheless, the stronger fragmentation of the present Parliament - and thereby even more difficult majority finding - impairs its capacity to act and weakens its role in the interinstitutional structure of the EU. (13 p.)

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

European elections: a year in review

by Kateřina Davidová [@k8_davidova](#), Vít Havelka [@Havelka_Vit](#), Jana Juzová et al.

On the occasion of the anniversary of the ninth EP elections of May 2019, this analysis reflects on the past year in the key areas: climate, multiannual financial framework, migration, geopolitics and EU enlargement. (11 p.)

INSTITUTE JAUQUES DELORS

Lettre à Robert Schuman. Le mystère d'un geste

by Sébastien Maillard [@seb_maillard](#)

This report refers to the Schuman Declaration of 9 May 1950 which is

considered to be the birth certificate of the European construction (22 p.).

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

Unlocking the potential of the EU Treaties: an article-by-article analysis of the scope for action

by Étienne Bassot [@EtienneBassot](#)

This paper explores possibilities for broadening the scope of EU action in order to respond to repeated calls from EU citizens. It aims at identifying those legal bases in the Treaties that remain either under-used or completely unused. It analyses possible ways of delivering on EU policies, including in the development of common rules, providing enhanced executive capacity, better implementation of existing measures, targeted financing and increased efficiency. (140 p.)

GLOBSEC POLICY INSTITUTE

Making flexible Europe work? European governance and the potential of differentiated cooperation

by Kinga Brudzińska [@KingaBrudzinska](#) (ed.)

The concept of differentiated integration in the EU is not novel. Accommodating the different socioeconomic and political interests of member states in EU law and policy has been integral to European integration beginning with the foundation of the Union itself. The goal of the report is to determine whether, how much and where differentiation is necessary, sustainable and viable as well as how future approaches towards differentiation could fare in light of these findings. (66 p.)

EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT POLICY MANAGEMENT

Claiming back civic space: towards approaches fit for the 2020s?

by Jean Bossuyt and Martin Ronceray [@MartinRonceray](#)

In a wide diversity of countries across the globe, the space available for civil society, activists and citizens has been under attack

over the past decade. Reports confirm a recent acceleration of the trend of 'closing' or 'shrinking' civic space. This study provides an update on how international as well as domestic actors have been responding to the expanding and increasingly sophisticated threats to civic space. (61 p.)

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY
INSTITUTE/ROBERT SCHUMAN CENTRE
FOR ADVANCED STUDIES

Responsive vs responsible? Party-democracy in times of crisis

by Johannes Karremans and Zoe Lefkofridi

This essay introduces a collection of papers dealing with the responsive–responsible dilemma of party-government. The political developments surrounding the eurozone crisis attest that the duties of government and the demands of political representation may at times be in sharp contrast with one another. It becomes hard for parties in government to combine responsiveness with responsible policy-making. This issue deals with this question in the context of the eurozone crisis, and present evidence about parties' behaviour, rhetoric and policy outputs. (20 p.)



AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

ECOLOGIC INSTITUTE

[The EU farm to fork strategy: what needs to come next? A first assessment of important steps for an ambitious implementation of the EU farm to fork strategy](#)

by Stephanie Wunder [@St_Wunder](#), Ana Frelih-Larsen and Irina Herb [@IrinaHerb](#)

On 20 May 2020, the Commission launched its long-awaited farm to fork strategy. The strategy is a first attempt to define long-term objectives for a healthy, just and sustainable EU food system that addresses both food production and consumption. This report highlights five important steps for an ambitious implementation of the EU farm to fork strategy – on EU, national and regional level. (7 p.)

COMPETITIVENESS (INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND SPACE)

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

[How to fully reap the benefits of the internal market for e-commerce? New economic opportunities and challenges for digital services 20 years after the adoption of the e-commerce directive](#)

by Nadina Iacob [@nadinaiacob](#) and Felice Simonelli [@simonellifelice](#)

This paper provides a framework for maximising current and potential benefits of

e-commerce for the single market while minimising economic and societal costs. It takes stock of the role of the e-commerce directive and analyses new challenges arising in the age of platforms. Forward-looking solutions are presented to enhance cross-border e-commerce in the EU, facilitate access to digital copyrighted content and improve the sustainability of online platforms. (60 p.)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

[E-commerce rules, fit for the digital age - IMCO workshop proceedings](#)

by Louise Blandin

This report summarises the discussion that took place at the workshop on “e-commerce rules, fit for the digital age”. The e-commerce directive was elaborated twenty years ago and has been key in regulating online services. However, the role of the internet has drastically evolved over the last two decades, and certain areas of the e-commerce directive are no longer fit for purpose and need reforming in the digital services act. (30 p.)

COLLEGE OF EUROPE

[Single market 2.0: the European Union as a platform](#)

by Andrea Renda [@profAndreaRenda](#)

The paper outlines the possible contours of a “single market 2.0”, describing the current and the upcoming waves of digital transformation as featuring very different economic paradigms and consequences for EU policy. It discusses the reconfiguration of the single market as a layered ecosystem and describes the current digital single market strategy and the upcoming initiatives outlined by the EC. It also provides a layered architecture for the single market 2.0 and outlines possible further avenues to speed up reform in a way that is consistent with all the cornerstones of the EU strategy for growth and sustainable development. (26 p.)

CORPORATE EUROPE OBSERVATORY

In the name of innovation

This paper is a detailed summary of the findings and conclusions of two extensive reports on research public-private partnerships in the EU: the innovative medicines initiative and the bio-based industries joint undertakings. (8 p.)

EUROPEAN POLICY CENTRE

Doing business the right way: pushing for green and social corporate governance

by Sofia López Piqueres

This paper assesses two instruments in the EU corporate governance toolbox: the non-financial reporting directive and the shareholder rights directive. It also covers the principle of shareholder primacy – the idea that shareholder interests should take precedence over all else – and executive remuneration. (4 p.)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

Barriers to competition through joint ownership by institutional investors

by Simona Frazzani, K. Noti, M. P. Schinkel et al.

In recent years, the phenomenon of common ownership by institutional investors has sparked considerable debate among scholars about its impact on competition and companies' corporate governance. This study analyses some specific features of common ownership by institutional investors in the European banking sector. It also examines closely the tension between competition policy and corporate governance tools aimed at enhancing shareholder engagement. (114 p.)

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

DEUTSCHES INSTITUT FÜR WIRTSCHAFTSFORSCHUNG (GERMAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH)

Institutional diversity in domestic banking sectors and bank stability: a cross-country study

by Christopher F. Baum, Caterina Forti, Grazzini and Dorothea Schäfer

This paper analyzes the causal relationship between institutional diversity in domestic banking sectors and bank stability. It uses a large bank- and country-level unbalanced panel data set covering the EU member states' banking sectors between 1998 and 2014. It finds that a high degree of institutional diversity in the domestic banking sector positively affects bank stability. The positive relationship between domestic institutional diversity and bank stability is stronger in times of crisis, providing evidence that diversity can help to absorb both financial and real shocks. (48 p.)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

The ECB's mandate and legal restraints

by Karl Whelan [@WhelanKarl](#)

This paper considers how the ECB can implement its mandate in the current crisis conditions and the legal constraints that exist on its actions. It argues that the ECB should consider a wide range of stimulative policies that would help it meet both its primary and secondary objectives. Its ability to meet its primary objective could, however, be threatened by the recent German constitutional court judgement which is flawed in both its legal and economic analysis. (29 p.)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

The dimensions of responsibility: perspectives on the ECB's monetary policy mandate

by Joseph E. Gagnon, Jacob F. Kirkegaard [@jfkirkegaard](#), David Wilcox [@D_W_Wilcox](#) et al.

A strong theoretical and empirical case exists for a dual monetary policy mandate. Central banks should aim to stabilise both

prices (or inflation) and output (or employment). Other objectives, such as financial stability, reversing climate change, and reducing inequality are at best secondary objectives for which better policy tools are available. (30 p.)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

Setting new priorities for the ECB's mandate

by Christophe Blot, Jérôme Creel, Emmanuelle Faure et al.

Beyond price stability, the EU Treaties assign to the ECB a range of secondary objectives. This report investigates the linkages between price stability and these objectives to assess whether they are independent, complementary or substitutable, which is important to refine the definition of the mandate. It proposes to broaden the mandate to include employment and financial stability. Enhanced coordination should contribute to fulfilling the objectives. (36 p.)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

The ECB mandate: perspectives on sustainability and solidarity

by Rosa Maria Lastra and Kern Alexander
[@ProfKAlexander](#)

This report analyses the ECB mandate in light of its primary objective of price stability along with its secondary objective to support the general economic policies in the Union, which include employment, growth, climate change, and the quality of the environment, bearing in mind the broader goals of sustainability and solidarity. The pursuit of financial stability directly interacts with the price stability mandate. (29 p.)

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

Pushing the EU to a Hamiltonian moment Germany's Court ruling and the need to build a fiscal capacity force a constitutional debate

by Daniela Schwarzer [@D_Schwarzer](#) and Shahin Vallée [@Shahinvallee](#)

The recent ruling of the German Constitutional Court (GCC) on the ECB was an economic and political bombshell. The deep controversy that resulted – within Germany and on a European scale – illustrates that the ambiguity surrounding the euro area's legal order and architecture may have reached its limit. The ruling, combined with the plan to build a fiscal capacity to address the economic consequences of the coronavirus crisis, presents the EU with an important opportunity to complete and solidify the euro area. (10 p.)

HERTIE SCHOOL / JACQUES DELORS CENTRE

The ultra vires decision of the German Constitutional Court: time to fight fire with fire?

by Moai-Thu Nguyen and Merijn Chamon

The GCC's ruling on the ECB's public sector purchase programme put Europe in a turmoil. By declaring a ruling of the ECJ ultra vires, and therefore not legally binding on Germany, the GCC openly called into question the primacy of EU law and the authority of the ECJ. This paper argues that on these grounds there is good reason for the Commission to bring infringement proceedings against Germany in order to, amongst others, protect the European legal order and emphasize the notion of equality of states in the EU. (23 p.)

INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AND EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

Judging the eurozone: the role of national courts and the European Court of Justice in adjudicating on Europe's Economic and Monetary Union

by Gavin Barrett

In the years following the onset of the sovereign debt and banking crises in the EU, the ECJ was regularly called into action to adjudicate on matters pertaining to EMU, with important consequences for our present moment. This paper notes that crisis-era ECJ rulings concerning general eurozone developments necessitated rapid constitutional development of the EU's legal and institutional frameworks. (27 p.)

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

Distributional national accounts (DINA) with household survey data: methodology and results for European countries

by Stefan Ederer, Stefan Humer, Stefan Jestl et al.

The paper builds distributional national accounts (DINA) using household survey data. The authors present a transparent and reproducible methodology to construct DINA whenever administrative tax data are not available for research and apply it to various European countries. (56 p.)

EMPLOYMENT / SOCIAL POLICY / HEALTH AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

EUROPEAN POLICY CENTRE

Minimum wage and the EU: happily ever after?

by Claire Dhéret [@cdheret](#) and Mihai Palimariciuc [@MPalimariciuc](#)

A concrete plan for a European framework on minimum wages might finally be in the cards. By promoting decent minimum wages for all, the EU would help improve the current social climate and contribute to the

development of the EU's caring dimension, which has become even more vital in the current Covid-19 crisis. It would also prove that the Commission's immediate crisis-related measures will not undermine its long-term ambition for a social Europe. (15 p.)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

The SURE: main features

by Cristina Dias and Alice Zoppè

This document presents the main features of the Commission proposal for an European instrument for temporary support to mitigate unemployment risks in an emergency (SURE) and compares such facility with other financial assistance instruments already available in the EU. (20 p.)

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

ULKOPOLIITTINEN INSTITUUTTI (FINNISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

The European Green Deal: assessing its current state and future implementation

by Marco Siddi [@MarcoSiddi](#)

This paper analyses the main aspects of the European Green Deal proposed by the Commission in December 2019. It puts the Green Deal into the broader context of EU climate governance in order to assess whether and how it advances the EU's climate agenda. It proposes four broad and interrelated categories to evaluate the Green Deal. (14 p.)

DEUTSCHES INSTITUT FÜR WIRTSCHAFTSFORSCHUNG (GERMAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH)

A Green new deal after corona: what we can learn from the financial crisis

by Mats Kröger, Sun Xi, Olga Chiappinelli [@o_chiappinelli](#) et al.

The experience from the 2008/2009 financial crisis proves that climate-oriented economic stimulus policies not only raise investments with benefits for economic output and jobs in the near term, but can also lay the groundwork for long-term innovation and

economic development aligned with environmental constraints. By introducing policies such as contracts for difference for low-carbon industrial processes and renewable energy, and green public procurement, governments can further ensure that their stimulus packages are transformative. Hence, “green stimuli” have the capacity to boost economic recovery also during the current corona crisis. (9 p.)

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

European Green Deal: will it bring structural change?

by Lucie Vinařská

The EU is now taking the lead on climate action when striving to transform Europe into the first climate-neutral continent. This aim is at the core of the European Green Deal, a new strategy introduced in December 2019. Climate change is by its nature a trans-boundary issue that requires a coordinated action. The EU's ambitious plan was introduced during a time of a “green boom”, when environmental issues were among top political priorities. But is this Deal really going to turn the tables? (5 p.)

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

Unkonventioneller Klimaschutz Gezielte CO2-Entnahme aus der Atmosphäre als neuer Ansatz in der EU-Klimapolitik

by Oliver Geden [@Oliver Geden](#) and Felix Schenuit [@FelixSchenuit](#)

If the EU wants to achieve net zero emissions by 2050, it will not be enough to take conventional climate protection measures to avoid emissions. In order to compensate for unavoidable residual emissions, unconventional measures to remove CO₂ from the atmosphere will also be necessary. The EU should focus in the coming years to invest more in research and development of CO₂ extraction methods and to gain more practical experience with their use. (DE - 42 p.)

NEW CLIMATE INSTITUTE FOR CLIMATE POLICY AND GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY

Making long-term low GHG emissions development strategies a reality: a guide to policy makers on how to develop an LTS for submission in 2020 and future revision cycles

by Frederic Hans, Thomas Day, Frauke Röser et al.

This guidance provides recommendations to policy makers on how to approach the development of a long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategy given the unique circumstances of individual countries in 2020, and future revisions thereof. (37 p.)

GENERAL AFFAIRS

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI (IAI)

Uniformity and differentiation in the fundamentals of EU membership: the EU rule of law acquis in the pre- and post- accession contexts

by Ivan Damjanovski, Christophe Hillion and Denis Preshova

The paper discusses the nexus between the EU pre-accession conditionality and membership obligations to guarantee respect for the rule of law as a founding value of the EU, common to the member states. The paper examines how the EU's rule of law promotion in the accession process converges with and potentially inspires the progressive EU articulation of standards applicable to the member states. (33 p.)

BRUEGEL

A just transition fund – How the EU budget can help with the transition

by Aliénor Cameron, Grégory Claeys [@gregclaeys](#),
Catarina Midões [@CatarinaMidoes](#) et al.

In January, the Commission published its proposal for a just transition mechanism, to provide support to territories facing serious socioeconomic challenges related to the transition towards climate neutrality. This report provides a comprehensive analysis of how the EU can best ensure a ‘just transition’ in all its territories and for all its citizens with

the tools at its disposal. It provides an overview and a critical assessment of the Commission's proposal, and suggests possible amendments based on best practices from other just-transition initiatives. (120 p.)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

Research for REGI committee: the role of evaluation in cohesion policy

by Julie Pellegrin and Louis Colnot

This study analyses the role of evaluation in cohesion policy, with a focus on the 2014–2020 programming period. It presents and assesses those EU rules which shape evaluations and their implementation at both the EU and member state levels. Based on this evidence, it discusses possible options for the post–2020 period. (236 p.)

FUNDACIÓN DE ESTUDIOS DE ECONOMÍA APLICADA (FEDEA)

Las cuentas de la Unión Europea

by Eva Valle

This note analyzes the current situation of the negotiations on the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) 2021-2027 of the EU, the positions of the different member states and the possibilities of reaching an agreement between them. The author's forecast is that the MFF will be negotiated together with a new recovery instrument to face the Covid-19 crisis and that a global agreement on both issues will be reached during the second half of 2020. (ES - 24 p.)

JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

Strengthening the Fundamental Rights Agency: the revision of the FRA regulation

by Olivier de Schutter

Since it was set up in 2007, the Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) has demonstrated its ability to produce high-quality research, and to provide the EU institutions and the EU member states with expert advice on fundamental rights issues. The regulatory framework under which the Agency operates, however, is not fully

appropriate to discharge its mandate effectively. This in-depth study identifies how it could be improved. (75 p.)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

Improving anti-money laundering (AML) policy: blacklisting, measures against letterbox companies, AML regulations and a European executive

by Brigitte Unger

This study evaluates four measures discussed by the EP, the Commission and others, to improve anti-money laundering policy: identifying high-risk countries through blacklisting; reducing laundering through letterbox or shell companies; harmonising EU AML policies through regulations; and finally, strengthening the European executive. (76 p.)

NEW AMERICA FOUNDATION

Getting to the source of infodemics: it's the business model

by Nathalie Maréchal [@MarechalPhD](https://twitter.com/MarechalPhD), Rebecca MacKinnon [@armack](https://twitter.com/armack) and Jessica Dheere [@jessdheere](https://twitter.com/jessdheere)

Before the Covid-19 pandemic hit, democracies were already struggling to address disinformation, hate, extremism, and other dangerous online content while also protecting free speech and privacy. Now, Facebook, Twitter, and Google's YouTube are awash with disinformation and misinformation. Despite the companies' commitment to take unprecedented steps to control the problem, they are failing. This report argues that Facebook, Twitter, and Google's targeted advertising business models, and the opaque algorithmic systems that support them, are the root cause of their failure to staunch the flow of misinformation. (73 p.)

MIGRATION POLICY INSTITUTE

European cities on the front line: new and emerging governance models for migrant inclusion

by Liam Patuzzi [@LiamPatuzzi](#)

This report explores how European cities and towns are supporting migrants' access to housing, local labor markets, health care, education and child care. (39 p.)

FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG (FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION)

From landing to arrival: the subtle integration of immigrants across Western Europe

by Vera Messing and Bence Ságvári

The report analyses the process of the subtle integration of immigrants in 13 countries of Western Europe, comparing values, attitudes and cultural norms, across host countries and regions of origin, and considering time spent in the country since arrival. There are significant differences in terms of country of destination and country of origin. The analysis reveals a very clear and unequivocal trend of acculturation and convergence of immigrants' attitudes with those of the host society. (40 p.)

ISTITUTO PER GLI STUDI DI POLITICA INTERNAZIONALE (ISPI)

Learning whilst migrating: the case for education in emergency

by Elena Corradi, Marta Foresti [@martaforesti](#) and Matteo Villa [@emmevilla](#)

This study aims to look at what it is that drives, diverts or deters migratory movements across borders, in particular to shed light on the personal factors that shape migration decisions. It investigates especially the impact of the education services in emergencies in countries of transit and how providing education services in emergency conditions may affect migratory decisions of those who have been forcibly displaced from their homes. (20 p.)

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR COUNTER-TERRORISM (ICCT)

Rise O Muwahhid, wherever you may be: an analysis of the democratization of the terrorist threat in the West

by Reinier Bergema [@reinierbergema](#) and Olivia Kearney [@OliviaJKearney](#)

This report aims to analyse the extent to which the terrorist threat in the West has continued to democratise. The authors expanded upon the Dutch General Intelligence and Security Service timeline of terrorist attacks and further developed a dataset in order to structurally enhance and map out an understanding of trends and developments of terrorist attacks in the West in the post-9/11 era. (35 p.)

TRANSPORT / TELECOMMUNICATIONS / ENERGY

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

Fostering effective energy transition: 2020 edition

The world's energy transition has made slow and steady progress over the past five years, but the Covid-19 crisis risks derailing long-term progress. Will recovery and the shifting global energy order shape new opportunities for picking up the pace? (52 p.)

GERMAN ENVIRONMENT AGENCY (UBA)

Options for improving the emission unit eligibility criteria (EUCs) under the carbon offsetting and reduction scheme for international aviation (CORSIA)

by Derik Broekhoff, Lambert Schneider, Ritika Tewari et al.

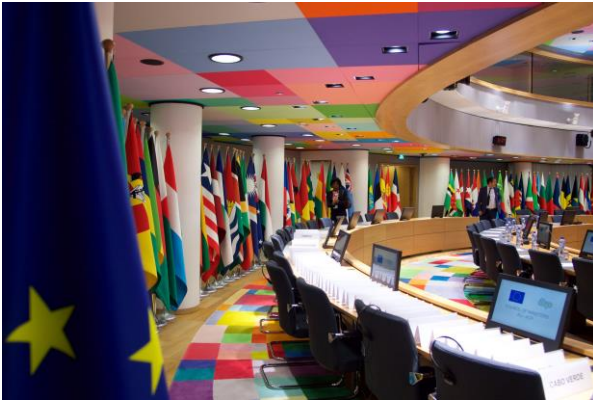
This paper assesses options for improving the current EUCs used for CORSIA with the goal of ensuring the scheme's environmental integrity. Clearly articulated EUCs are needed to define minimum standards for the "quality" of carbon offset credits that may be used under CORSIA. This analysis focuses on five EUCs that are essential for offset credit quality: additionality; baselines; permanence; avoidance of double counting; and causing no net harm. (34 p.)

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

The time for rapid redevelopment of coal regions is now

by Christian Egenhofer [!\[\]\(02893f62beef1e9bc05dfe05eecfc797_img.jpg\) @CEgenhofer](#), Jorge Núñez Ferrer [!\[\]\(eefd19fdadc2e764fafec326d7e0bf11_img.jpg\) @jnunez_ferrer](#), Irina Kustova [!\[\]\(441101c47719fdbd99d71e26da29e5ee_img.jpg\) @IrKustova](#) et al.

The economic slow-down caused by the pandemic will aggravate the existing stress in some regions, especially those relying on lignite, coal and peat as their main economic activity. But efficient and effective use of Covid-19 recovery funds can give real meaning to the 'just transition' concept if they focus on tangible progress to the benefit of the regional, national and EU economy while improving the environment and implementing the European Green Deal.
(8 p.)



FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY / DEFENCE

FONDATION ROBERT SCHUMAN

Challenges and constraints facing a “Geopolitical Commission” in the achievement of European sovereignty

by Pierre Mirel and Xavier Mirel

Each new Commission always shows its commitment to improve the coordination of its external actions. The global strategy for 2016 asserted its “ambition to provide the Union with strategic autonomy”, in particular through “an integrated approach to conflicts and crises”. However, times have changed and “Europe seems to be ignored, absent and outdated (...)”. It is well aware that it risks being the big loser between America, which has lost its universal vocation, and China, which is anxious to promote the rules of a world order in line with its interests”, to quote the analysis made by Pierre Vimont. (11 p.)

ULKOPOLIITTINEN INSTITUUTTI (FINNISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

Sharpening EU sanctions policy: challenges and responses in a geopolitical era

by Niklas Helwig [@NHelwig](#), Juha Jokela [@JuhaJokela1](#) and Clara Portela [@DrClaraPortela](#)
(eds)

The EU increasingly uses sanctions in order to respond to breaches of international norms and adverse security developments in its neighbourhood and beyond. This study provides a comprehensive analysis of the

current state of EU sanctions and discusses options on how to maintain them as an effective tool. (168 p.)

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

The impact of sanctions imposed by the European Union against Iran on their bilateral trade: general versus targeted sanctions

by Mahdi Ghodsi [@MMGhods](#) and Hüseyin Karamelikli [@karamelikli](#)

Economic sanctions are intensively used by international institutions to enforce political objectives. This paper investigates the impact of general and targeted EU sanctions against Iran on quarterly bilateral trade values between the 19 members of the euro area and Iran between the first quarter of 1999 and the fourth quarter of 2018. (36 p.)

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI (IAI)

From Sophia to Irini: EU Mediterranean policies and the urgency of “doing something”

by Federico Alagna

The paper describes the passage from the Operation Sophia, the EU's maritime mission in the Mediterranean, which officially ended in late March 2020, replaced by the new Operation EUNAVFOR MED Irini, with a substantially different mandate. (6 p.)

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI (IAI)

European defence and PESCO: don't waste the chance

by Sven Biscop

The paper assesses whether the legal framework and the way the 25 participating member states have organised to implement the Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) are sufficient to achieve its purpose. Analysing the ongoing debates between the member states about the future of the CSDP as a whole, the paper proposes recommendations to make PESCO work: by

focusing on a more concrete objective, by prioritising strategically relevant projects and by enhancing compliance. (16 p.)

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI (IAI)

Guerre nella globalizzazione: il futuro della sicurezza europea

by Stefano Silvestri

The Covid-19 pandemic offers food for thought on the future of security, given the confused reactions, often contradictory and in any case taken in random order from the various countries affected by the pandemic. The paper analyses the opportunity to strengthen European security and Italy's defence in relation to the possibility to rebuild a common feeling and therefore also a substantial "western" solidarity. (IT - 17 p.)

EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT POLICY MANAGEMENT

The future of EU security sector assistance: learning from experience

by Matthias Deneckere [@MatthiasDen](#), Ashley Neat [@NeatAshley](#) and Volker Hauck [@volker_hauck](#)

This paper reflects on the future of the EU's role in working with foreign security actors. It does so in the context of debates on how to better equip EU external action to deal with conflict and instability, including through a European peace facility, while also operationalising the linkages between security and development. (44 p.)

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI (IAI)

Main battle tanks, Europe and the implications for Italy

by Alessandro Marrone [@Alessandro_Ma](#) and Ester Sabatino [@Ester_Sab1](#)

The report analyses the development of main battle tanks (MBT) in Europe. The new MBT's characteristics require a greater technological effort than in the past. In 2017, France and Germany have launched a joint project to develop and produce a next generation main ground combat system (MGCS). Italy and Poland have repeatedly asked to join the MGCS cooperation, yet

Paris and Berlin want to keep it exclusively bilateral until a prototype will be developed. Therefore, Italy has to rapidly choose among a limited number of options in order to satisfy urgent army's MBT needs, as well as maintain a reasonable level of technological sovereignty in this sector. (122 p.)

CHATHAM HOUSE - THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

NATO and the frameworks of nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament: challenges for the 10th NPT review conference

by Yasmin Afina [@AfinaYasmin](#) and Tim Caughley

Although the Treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons (TPNW) has not yet entered into force, it will nonetheless loom large over the next Treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons (NPT) review conference. The challenge for the review conference will be to acknowledge that papering over the differences inherent in the competing perspectives on, and approaches to, nuclear disarmament is not a desirable way of marking the first half-century of the NPT. Nor, more importantly, will it help pave the way to a calmer global security environment in which the risks of both nuclear proliferation and use of nuclear weapons are reduced and ultimately eliminated. (31 p.)

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI (IAI)

Military technology: risks and opportunities for the Atlantic Alliance

by Pierluigi Barberini [@Pier_Barberini](#)

The paper presents the crucial role that the new disruptive military technologies will play in future warfare, especially in relation with NATO and the technological gap between the two sides of the Atlantic: US has a clear political vision and the necessary capabilities for further developing a technologically advanced military, while European NATO members lack a unitary strategy, financial resources and industrial fabric. The paper analyses in particular the opportunities and challenges of a potential 4th industrial revolution based on military technology in 2020–2040, the allied capabilities between requirements and planning, gaps and

interoperability and lastly, overcoming tensions of the transatlantic relations and defence. (12 p.)

COLLEGE OF EUROPE

Réflexions sur la plainte déposée devant la CPI pour crimes contre l'humanité et de génocide pour développement d'armes de guerre biologique par la République populaire de Chine

by Haykel Ben Mahfoudh

The paper examines the complaint filed by a US citizen requesting the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court to initiate an investigation under article 15 of the Rome statute to determine the criminal origin of the development, stockpiling and negligent maintaining of a variant of a type of coronavirus known as Covid-19 in Wuhan, China. The paper analyses the dual problem that raises from it, first of relevance of the purpose and second of jurisdiction of the Court for the alleged crimes. (FR - 26 p.)

TRADE

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

Blockchain for supply chains and international trade

by Bertrand Copigneaux, Nikita Vlasov, Emarildo Bani et al.

This study provides an analysis of blockchain technology in the context of international trade. It analyses the potential impacts of blockchain development and applications in eight use cases for supply chains and international trade. It also provides an analysis of the current legislative framework and existing initiatives. (172 p.)

DEVELOPMENT

EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT POLICY MANAGEMENT

EU development cooperation with Sub-Saharan Africa 2013-2018: policies, funding, results

by Alexei Jones, Niels Keijzer [@keijzer_niels](#), Ina Friesen et al.

This study provides an overview of the evolution of and the results achieved by EU

development cooperation with Sub-Saharan Africa during the period 2013-2018. It aims to feed into further policy discussion and research inquiry, and complements the Dutch government's regular reporting to parliament of results achieved in EU development cooperation. (118 p.)

AFRICA

IFRI

L'énergie solaire en Afrique subsaharienne après le COVID-19 : guérir un secteur malade

by Hugo Le Picard

The electrification of sub-Saharan Africa is one of the major challenges of the 21st century. It is essential if we are to create the 20 million jobs needed each year to absorb the region's population growth, which is expected to reach 2.1 billion by 2050, compared to 1.1 billion today. (6 p.)

EGMONT - ROYAL INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Going the extra mile for the 2020 elections in the Central African Republic

by Peter Knoope, Stephen Buchanan-Clarke and Valérie Arnould [@ValerieArnould](#)

The upcoming 2020 presidential election in the Central African Republic has the potential to derail the implementation of the 2019 Khartoum peace agreement and bring about a return to widespread conflict. This calls for immediate and collaborative action to be taken by those national, regional, and international actors working for peace in the country. This brief aims to outline some of the key risks posed by the upcoming elections and provide recommendations to mitigate their potential to negatively impact on ongoing peace and reconciliation efforts. (9 p.)

ASIA-OCEANIA

INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY

Close partners or hesitant dreamers? The EU-Japan strategic partnership agreement (SPA)

by Lars Vargö

The EU and Japan have recently concluded two important agreements, the EU-Japan economic partnership agreement (EPA), and the strategic partnership agreement (SPA). While the EPA is the world's largest free trade agreement, the SPA is based on shared values and principles. The two agreements signal that the EU and Japan are not only ready to take the lead in global free trade, but also take on roles as leading global actors in the political arena. (6 p.)

KÜLÜGYI ÉS KÜLGAZDASÁGI INTÉZET (INSTITUTE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE)

Az Eurázsiai Gazdasági Unió és az Övezet és Út Kezdeményezés kölcsönhatásai Közép-Ázsiában

by Ilyash György

The role and the international importance of Central Asia have been growing in recent years, partly due to the economic potential of the region and partly to the international strategic ascension of the Asia-Pacific region. China and Russia are of paramount importance in this process. This analysis briefly summarises the interactions between the two integration projects so far in the region and their impact on international relations. (HU - 15 p.)

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES (IFRI)/ RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR PEACE AND SECURITY

Tensions sécuritaires en Asie. Quel ordre régional à venir ?

by Céline Pajon and Masashi Nishihara (eds.)

This report provides Asian, European and American perspectives about the power balance, competition and alliance system in Asia, maritime security and cooperation in

the Indo-Pacific, and the prospects for a resolution of the North Korean nuclear issue. (87 p.)

ISTITUTO PER GLI STUDI DI POLITICA INTERNAZIONALE (ISPI)

Between politics and finance: Hong Kong's "infinity war"?

by Alessia Amighini [@aaamigh](#)

As the Covid-19 pandemic strikes hard, protests in Hong Kong appear to have abated. The report examines what makes Hong Kong special and to what extent the protests have exacerbated or eased over time. It analyses how the city's role in mainland China's outward-looking plans will change, if the protests continue. (127 p.)

EASTERN EUROPE

CHATHAM HOUSE - THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

The Minsk conundrum: western policy and Russia's war in Eastern Ukraine

by Duncan Allan

Western views on how to implement the Minsk agreements of 2014 and 2015 are imprecise and inconsistent. One prevalent view is that implementation means finding a mid-point between the Russian and Ukrainian positions. Attempts to do so have failed, risking political instability in Kyiv, and not leading to any discernible change in Russian policy. An alternative approach would make the defence of Ukraine's sovereignty the unambiguous premise of Western policy. It would view the Minsk and Normandy processes mainly as conflict management tools. Western governments would meanwhile maintain support for long-term political and economic reform in Ukraine, using the EU/Ukraine association agreement as the anchor. (26 p.)

UTRIKESPOLITISKA INSTITUTET (SWEDISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

How to progress Ukraine's western integration as a prelude to accession to the EU and NATO

by Pavlo Klimkin [@PavloKlimkin](#) and Andreas Umland
[@UmlandAndreas](#)

As the EU and the NATO, and their member states become increasingly absorbed by internal challenges, the friends of Ukraine need to seek new paths to increase Ukrainian security, resilience and growth before its accession to the West's two major organizations. (10 p.)

KÜLÜGYI ÉS KÜLGAZDASÁGI INTÉZET (INSTITUTE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE)

Ukrainian–Hungarian economic relations: current model and the way ahead

by Tetiana Zosymenko and Sándor Seremet

The context for Ukrainian–Hungarian cooperation is framed by two contrasting tracks regarding the geopolitical location of the two countries: European integration and the Russian connection. Ukraine's ultimate choice of European integration marked the start of a new stage of economic relations with Hungary. This has manifested in two contrasting tracks that have defined the dynamics and content of their trade and economic cooperation since 2014. (14 p.)

MIDDLE EAST / NORTH AFRICA (MENA)

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI (IAI)

The Middle East's evolving security landscape: prospects for regional cooperation and US engagement

by Daniel Kurtzer and Maira Seeley

In the Gulf, Russia, Iran and the US have proposed competing mechanisms to foster cooperation, but these proposals have foundered, garnering little support from either Arab Gulf nations or international actors. Longer-term progress towards Gulf

security cooperation will remain unlikely unless Saudi–Iranian tensions decrease. This rapprochement would require stronger cooperation between the members of the Gulf Cooperation Council. US efforts to support regional security cooperation should focus on strengthening intra-GCC defence and political relationships. (27 p.)

UTRIKESPOLITISKA INSTITUTET (SWEDISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

Anatomy of the Iranian economy

by Bijan Khajepour [@BijanKK](#)

Iran has a highly diverse and complex economic structure that has suffered as a result of post-revolutionary upheavals. Accompanied by appropriate policies, the Iranian economy has the potential to regain a new balance and to start growing again. (48 p.)

INSTITUTE FOR NATIONAL SECURITY STUDIES

Updated strategic assessment for Israel for 2020 and recommendations for the new government

by Itai Brun [@ItaiBrun](#) and Amos Yadlin
[@YadlinAmos](#)

The global, regional, and internal implications of the coronavirus are still not fully clear, but Israel's 35th government will have no 100-day grace period. It must quickly restore the economy to full activity, despite the presence of the virus and the possibility of a renewed outbreak. (11 p.)

WESTERN BALKANS

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

Tailor-made laws in the Western Balkans – state capture in disguise

by Gjergji Vurmo [@GjergjiVurmo](#)

This paper examines how state capture in the Western Balkans has been ignored since the launch of the region's EU accession process, despite the many examples

highlighted by civil society and independent media. It argues that while the EU first acknowledged the clear signs of state capture in an official document in 2016, WB political elites had already built powerful networks of corrupt interests around them. Not only that, they had already reached the highest point of state capture – tailor-made laws. (9 p.)

GROUP FOR POLITICAL AND LEGAL STUDIES (GLPS)

Paralleling ICTY's jurisprudence with the incoming developments of the Kosovo's specialized Chambers in Hague

by Rreze Hoxha

This note discusses similar cases tried by the ICTY with the purpose of deconstructing possible formal and material basis which the court may use against those summoned. It elaborates on the ICTY's jurisprudence in relation to the doctrine of command responsibility and the doctrine of the joint criminal enterprise. It considers the ICTY's jurisprudence in adjudicating cases alleging obstruction of justice or contempt of the Tribunal's work when adjudicating war crimes. (16 p.)

FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG (FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION)

Vote of no-confidence and the formation of a new government in Kosovo-challenges and way out for a functional parliamentary democracy

by Robert Muharremi

In March 2020, the Assembly of Kosovo approved a no-confidence motion against the government, which triggered a constitutionally controversial process to form a new government. Comparing Kosovo's constitutional provisions on the formation of a government after a vote of no-confidence shows that Kosovo's provisions are defective and that a clarification of the process after a vote of no-confidence by way of constitutional amendments is recommended. (14 p.)

ISTITUTO PER GLI STUDI DI POLITICA INTERNAZIONALE (ISPI)

The Balkans: old, new instabilities. A European region looking for its place in the world

by Giorgio Fruscione [@Gio_Fruscione](#) (ed.)

This report examines the factors contributing to the WB instability in the age of Covid-19 and questions if the region will be the ground for a renewed geopolitical competition. It tries to answer the question on how can the Balkans exit the transition and find a sustainable balance between all these tensions. (137 p.)

BELGRADE CENTRE FOR SECURITY POLICY

The security sector in a captured state

Genuine and pioneering work aiming to document and deconstruct ongoing process of state capture in the security sector through presentation of mechanisms, actors and consequences of this process. (22 p.)

CHINA

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

EU-China trade and investment relations in challenging times

by Alicia Garcia-Herrero [@Aligarciaherrer](#), Guntram Wolff [@GuntramWolff](#), Jianwei Xu et al.

This report examines key aspects of the EU-China economic relationship, including trade, investment and China's key strategic project overseas, the Belt and Road Initiative. It concludes that China is, and will continue to be, a major trade and investment partner for EU countries. It seems clear that regardless of the direction of the US -China relationship, the EU needs to explore options for fruitful co-existence with China. (78 p.)

UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE

China's response to Sudan's political transition

by Laura Barber

This report examines China's evolving political and commercial relationship with Sudan in the aftermath of the April 2019 coup that ousted longtime ally President Omar al-Bashir. Based on interviews with policy officials, diplomats, industry and security experts, and others, it incorporates an extensive review of scholarly and news sources. (24 p.)

LATVIAN INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

European Union - China relations: but whose rules?

by Jānis Eichmanis

Universal consensus exists that China over the last 20-30 years has developed at an astonishing speed to become the second largest economy in the world that is headed towards becoming a global power. Already today, the world's power relations no longer reflect the West's, including America's, commanding place in the world's power hierarchy. China is committed to developing its economic potential in order to be on an equal footing with the US, not to mention the EU. What is the Union's place in this new power arrangement? European countries, as others which have relations with China, face a strategic choice. (13 p.)

RUSSIA

ISTITUTO PER GLI STUDI DI POLITICA INTERNAZIONALE (ISPI)

Forward to the past? New/old theatres of Russia's international projection

by Aldo Ferrari and Eleonora Tafuro Ambrosetti

This report examines the elements of continuity and change between Russia's foreign policy and the Soviet Union's. More than a quarter of a century after the fall of the USSR, Russia's President Vladimir Putin has made restoring his country's great power status a primary goal of his 20 years in

power. The paper also questions what are the political, historical, military and economic dimensions of Russia's return to old Soviet spheres of influence and how this interacts with Moscow's long-standing narrative of a return to a multipolar world. (155 p.)

TURKEY

HANNS-SEIDEL-STIFTUNG (HANNS SEIDEL FOUNDATION)

Überlegungen zum EU-Türkei-Abkommen. Stößt die geopolitische Kommission an ihre Grenzen?

by Sarah Schmid

In March 2020 there was a political rift between Brussels and Ankara when President Erdogan effectively cancelled the EU-Turkey agreement. This paper analyzes Turkey's strategic approach, works out what the Turkish blackmail potential in the conflict with Brussels is based on and shows perspectives for overcoming the crisis. Turkey did not seek confrontation with the EU primarily because it sees itself as being disadvantaged in the implementation of the EU-Turkey agreement, but because President Erdogan has come under pressure from a combination of domestic and foreign policy crises. (DE - 6 p.)

UNITED KINGDOM / BREXIT

BRUEGEL

The European Union's post-Brexit reckoning with financial markets

by Rebecca Christie [@rebeccawire](https://twitter.com/rebeccawire) and Thomas Wieser

In the negotiations over the future EU/UK relationship, there is a high probability of a weak contractual outcome. The EU will thus face a great deal of readjustment and regulatory realignment of its market for financial and other services. As regulatory autonomy has been one of the main Brexit rationales, divergence could increase after a couple of years. The UK will become a third country for financial service transactions, dependent on temporary equivalence rulings, whereas in the past it could do business under a comprehensive regulatory passport. (10 p.)

E3G

Climate change in the Brexit negotiations: crossfire, contagion and COVID-19 response

by Shane Tomlinson

The future relationship negotiations between the EU and UK is heading towards a crisis. The publication of the draft UK negotiating text and the exchange of letters between lead negotiators outlined the scale of the differences between the two sides. In particular worrying signs are emerging on climate change indicating serious tensions on this issue. (8 p.)

DAHRENDORF FORUM

Brexit and differentiated integration: the politics of difference

by Benjamin Martill

The Brexit vote brought about renewed interest in the principle of differentiated integration and its prospects in the European project. This paper considers the relationship between Brexit and differentiated integration, analysing various possible outcomes. (21 p.)

INSTITUTE FOR GOVERNMENT

Implementing Brexit: securing more time

by Georgina Wright [@GeorginaEWright](#), James Kane [@jameskaneand](#) Haydon Etherington [@HST_Etherington](#)

With time running out for the UK and EU to agree and ratify the terms of their future relationship, and then to prepare for the biggest changes to their trading environment in decades, this paper sets out five options for both sides to secure more time. (39 p.)

INSTITUTE FOR GOVERNMENT

Implementing Brexit: the Northern Ireland protocol

by Jess Sargeant [@Jess_Sargeant](#), Alex Stojanovic [@awstojanovic](#), Haydon Etherington [@HST_Etherington](#) et al.

This report looks at the implementation of the Northern Ireland protocol. It outlines what it

says, how it might work and the challenges of ensuring it is operational before the end of the transition period. It also looks at the long-term consequences of applying future EU law in Northern Ireland and for politics and policy making in the whole of the UK. (71 p.)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Brexit and trade on the island of Ireland

by Martina Lawless

Amongst the many issues to be negotiated in unravelling membership, the withdrawal process has been dominated by the implications for the island of Ireland. Northern Ireland has been to the forefront as the location of the new border between the EU and a non-member state. This paper looks at the potential effects of Brexit on Ireland and Northern Ireland from an economic perspective. The current patterns of cross-border trade and the potential impacts of Brexit are discussed. (26 p.)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

PROGRESSIVE POLICY INSTITUTE (PPI)

How to get to value in health care

by John Kitzauber

In pre-coronavirus America, the Democratic primaries were dominated by a contentious debate over how best to achieve universal coverage. The pandemic has offered us a poignant yet urgent opportunity to move the national debate beyond the narrow focus on universal coverage, to the larger question of how to address the fundamental conditions of injustice. The urgency of this challenge is reflected in the disproportionate impact the coronavirus is having on low-income Americans, and particularly on communities of color—very little of which has to do with access to the health care system. (7 p.)

KONRAD-ADENAUER-STIFTUNG

Noch fünf Monate. Ein Blick auf den beginnenden Wahlkampf in den USA

by Elmar Sulk

White House and US Congress elections will be held on November 3rd. According to surveys, it will be close to whether Donald Trump will remain president. Majorities in the Senate could change. The polarization of society has continued to increase, the proportion of voters who vote for it is steadily decreasing. Therefore, on election day it should again be decisive which party motivates its supporters more to vote. It will depend on a few states. (DE - 5 p.)



GERMANY

E3G

Gasinfrastruktur für ein klimaneutrales Deutschland

by Felix Heilmann [@HeilmannFelix](#), Pieter de Pous [@Pieter_de_Pous](#) and Lisa Fischer [@FactFishing](#)

The energy infrastructure is the backbone of the transformation towards a climate-neutral economy: 85% of Germany's emissions are energy-related, 40% of this is generated in the energy industry. The current course, especially in dealing with gas infrastructure, makes it difficult for future opportunities to make the most of climate-neutral business. (DE - 20 p.)

NEW CLIMATE INSTITUTE FOR CLIMATE POLICY AND GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY

Zwei neue Klimaschutzziele für Deutschland

by Niklas Höhne [@niklashoehne](#), Markus Hagemann and Hanna Fekete [@HannaFekete](#)

Current climate protection targets worldwide must be revised in order to be able to meet the targets set in the Paris agreement. The discussion is also in full swing in Germany. This study deals with the current climate protection goals of the federal government and their compatibility with the German CO2 budget. (DE - 10 p.)

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

Deutsche Rückkehrpolitik und Abschiebungen. Zehn Wege aus der Dauerkrise

by Victoria Rietig [@VRietig](#) and Mona Lou Günnewig

German return policy is deeply in crisis. Failing deportations, excessive expectations of voluntary return, complex structures and a poisoned and emotional discussion culture - Germany has to tackle all these problems in order to make its return policy more effective, human and honest. (66 p.)

INSTITUT DER DEUTSCHEN WIRTSCHAFT (IW, KÖLN) GERMAN ECONOMIC INSTITUTE

Growth of household financial assets in times of low interest rates

by Markus Demary [@DemaryMarkus](#)

Savers in Germany have been unsettled by the low interest rate policy of the European Central Bank. This prompts the question as to how such a sustained phase of low interest rates has affected the development of household financial assets. (20 p.)

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

Deutschland, die Nato und die nukleare Abschreckung

by Peter Rudolf

Germany is involved in NATO's nuclear deterrence policy through "nuclear participation". For the Federal Republic of Germany nuclear participation played an important role under the conditions of the East-West conflict. In the long run, Germany will hardly be able to avoid the nuclear debate that radiates from the US to NATO. German deterrence continues to be shaped by a view in which nuclear weapons are primarily political weapons. (DE - 24 p.)

FRANCE

INSTITUTE JAKES DELORS

Les français et l'Europe entre défiance et ambivalence

by Bruno Cautrès [@BCautres](#), Thierry Chopin [@Th_Chopin](#) and Emmanuel Rivière

France is part of the group of countries whose inhabitants are the least favourable to the EU. But, although the attitude of the French towards Europe is tinged with gloom and mistrust, one should not hastily conclude with a generalized and sceptical Euroscepticism of the French. It is indeed necessary to analyse in detail the complexity of the attitude of the French towards the EU. (48 p.)

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES (IFRI)

La participation des personnes exilées: des pistes pour repenser l'intégration

by Sophie Bilong

The objective of this study is to take stock of the issue of the participation of refugees and migrants, which is very often mentioned but is not the subject of any systematic study in France. Employees, professionals, volunteers, activists, beneficiaries of programs invested in their animation, community leaders, representatives of local authorities and institutions and creators of associations with experience in migration were interviewed. (FR - 83 p.)

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR COUNTER-TERRORISM (ICCT)

Le silence des agneaux: France's war against 'jihadist groups' and associated legal rationale

by Rebecca Mignot-Mahdavi [@RMignotMahdavi](#)

Silence is deceitful. While France has not publicly articulated a legal framework for its war on terror, its silence should not be taken for the absence of a well-defined military strategy and corresponding legal rationale. While the geographical and temporal scope of the US war on terror has been highly

debated from a legal point of view and led the US to develop extensive interpretations of the laws regulating the use of force, France's military strategy remains largely underexplored by lawyers. (39 p.)

ITALY

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI (IAI)

Emergenza coronavirus e politica estera. L'opinione degli italiani sul governo, l'Europa e la cooperazione internazionale

The report shows the results of a survey conducted in Italy in April 2020 on a sample of 1,562 Italian with Internet access interviewed on the Covid-19 impact on society, on their preferences on greater international cooperation or national independence in dealing with the pandemic, on the need for stronger barriers to free movement in the EU, on the role of political and technical actors in crisis management, and on the role of Europe and its support for Italy, on the treatment of Italy by the EU during the crisis, on the role of China, and in the end, on their orientation toward the Chinese and American conspiracy theories. (IT - 24 p.)

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI (IAI)

Covid-19 exposes Italy's vulnerability to US-China antagonism

by Riccardo Alcaro [@Ric_Alcaro](#)

The paper outlines the relationship of Italy with US and China, analysing the role of the media and the action of the national parties in the government. The author suggests some possible future scenario of international cooperation suggesting that Italy could become a battlefield between the two superpowers of the 21st century. (6 p.)

LUISS SCHOOL OF EUROPEAN POLITICAL ECONOMY

Are Italian banks part of the crisis or its solution this time?

by Marcello Messori

The paper analyses the banking sector in Italy, focusing on the fragilities before the

pandemic and the reaction of the banks at the time of the pandemic, suggesting some possible viable solutions. The shock due to the coronavirus pandemic is likely to cause serious difficulties for the Italian banking sector, which has already been affected severely by the impact that the long European crisis of 2011-13 had on Italy's productive and financial systems. (20 p.)

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI (IAI)

Per ripartire. Alcune considerazioni sul modello di sviluppo e la prospettiva dell'industria della difesa

by Maria Grazia Caccamo

In Italy, the cuts made to comply with the rules of the monetary union have weakened those ministries dedicated to the protection of citizens' rights and duties (health, education, culture and research, defence) essential to a free and humanly evolved (national) community and therefore guaranteed by the Constitutional Charter. The author suggests that it is necessary to tackle without prejudice the issue of defense investments and that of the industries in the sector. (IT – 13 p.)

NETHERLANDS

RAND EUROPE

Efforts to support the extension of birth leave in the Netherlands: case study summary

by Miriam Broeks, Fook Nederveen and Emma Disley

This case study describes the efforts of a partnership that supported the introduction of an important legislative change in 2018 which extended leave entitlement for partners of mothers in the Netherlands. In analysing the efforts and impact of this alliance, this case study offers valuable lessons for others aiming to inform policy change, or more specifically, improvements around engaged fatherhood and parental leave arrangements. (10 p.)



PETERSON INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

Women scaling the corporate ladder: progress steady but slow globally

by Soyoung Han and Marcus Noland

This brief reports results derived from financial records of about 62,000 publicly listed firms in 58 economies over the period 1997–2017, which together account for more than 92 % of global GDP. The results reveal that women have held a larger share of executive officer positions on average than directorships, although the average share of female directors has caught up to that of female officers in Europe and Africa, in part as a result of legal quotas on board membership in some European countries. Latin America stands out as a region where progress appears particularly slow. (15 p.)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

Discriminatory laws undermining women's rights

by Paul Dalton, Deniz Devrim, Roland Blomeyer et al.

This paper provides insight into the current situation and recent trends in the abolition or reform of discriminatory laws undermining women's rights in countries outside the EU. Among the factors that have proven to facilitate legal reform are the ratification of international human rights treaties, feminist activism, legal and public advocacy by women's rights and other NGOs, political dialogue, and increased women's representation in decision-making processes. (81 p.)