



Council of the European Union  
General Secretariat

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Dear Readers,

Welcome to issue 19 of the Think Tank Review compiled by the EU Council Library\*. It references papers published in November. As usual, we provide the link to the full text and a short abstract.

This issue opens with papers on democracy and legitimacy in general, on how to improve democratic scrutiny of the eurozone in particular, on the by now classical typology of euroscepticism, and on how the EU communicates with citizens.

As usual in recent months, we have found think tanks papers that seek to map the new, more 'political' EU landscape of late 2014, with papers on the distribution of committee offices in the EP and on the new Commission, as well as the role of individual commissioners.

On the economy, we signal several papers around the G20 and other global governance structures, as well as one by Daniel Gros, who argues against the assumption that there is an investment gap in the EU.

We finish this issue of the TTR soon after the first [European Council](#) presided over by Donald Tusk. While many commentators are assessing the President's [first appearance](#) in this role, we feature in this issue an analysis from ECFR on 'Poland after Tusk'. Other analyses of specific Member States include papers on measures against unemployment in Spain, integration of migrants in Germany, the gas supply in Italy, and many others. Various publications were triggered by the 25th anniversary of the fall of the Iron Curtain: we include a paper on Hungarian-German relations in view of Hungary's role in the 'year of miracles', and one carrying a Polish look on German re-unification.

In the course of the month, various papers analysed the EU climate targets for 2030 which were agreed at the October European Council. Many others focused on the TTIP negotiations and the mandate, also [released](#) in October. Also of interest on TTIP, a [note](#) by our colleagues at the House of Commons Library. On the impact of TTIP, alternative assessments are emerging: see the Global Development and Environment Institute paper "[The Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership: European disintegration, unemployment and instability](#)" in this issue, and the CEPS paper included in TTR18 "[The impact of TTIP: the underlying economic model and comparisons](#)".

At a time when the debate on de-regulation is rife, we signal a CEPS paper on the innovation-enhancing potential of certain regulatory approaches. Also noteworthy a series of Lisbon Council papers on innovation, start-ups and the 'data value chain'.

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

We often include publications on transparency in EU institutions. This time, Transparency International comes with a report on the transparency of corporate reporting by the world's largest listed companies. Also widely commented, last month, their release of the [Corruption Perceptions Index](#).

The current Review and past issues can be downloaded from our [informal Central Library blog](#). As always, feedback is welcome at [central.library@consilium.europa.eu](mailto:central.library@consilium.europa.eu).

The next Review will be out in January 2015, with papers published in December.

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

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## SECTION 1 - EU POLITICS AND INSTITUTIONS

### EU institutions

#### Fondation Robert Schuman

*Overcoming democratic breakdown in the European Union*

by Julien Zalc [@ZalcJ](#)

18 November 2014

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

A review of Eurobarometer data to discuss notions of legitimacy, democracy and trust in institutions. The author concludes that the 'democratic breakdown' can be averted by making citizens more acquainted with the ways in which they can influence EU decision-making, such as the ECI.

#### Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations

*The sense and nonsense of eurozone level democracy*

by Stijn Verhelst [@stijn\\_verhelst](#)

October 2014

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

The author examines the rationale and disadvantages of three possible institutional designs to increase the democratic scrutiny at eurozone level: a separate eurozone parliament, a eurozone body within the EP, and an interparliamentary assembly. He concludes that the European Parliament option is probably the best choice, because it reduces the impact of some of the drawbacks associated with eurozone-level democracy.

#### Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute

*Euroscepticism or europhobia: voice vs. exit?*

by Yves Bertoncini [@ybertoncini](#) and Nicole Koenig

27 November 2014

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

This paper argues that euroscepticism represents an over-inclusive category and calls for a more precise distinction between stricto sensu euroscepticism, expressing vocal criticism against the EU and "Europhobia", based on the will to exit from the EU, the euro area and/or the Schengen area. belonging.

*How does the European Union communicate with citizens?*

by Virginie Timmerman and Daniel Debomy

18 November 2014

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

*How do citizens see the European Union?*

by Virginie Timmerman

6 November 2014

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

Two summaries of the group discussions organised in 18 countries of the EU, in the framework of the project "Horizon EU: European citizenship, a horizontal development" which collected citizens' opinion on EU communication with them and on their vision of the EU.

## Centre for European Policy Studies

*Who calls the shots in the committees of the new European Parliament?*

by Sonia Piedrafita

21 November 2014

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

This report analyses the composition of the 20 committees in the new European Parliament and how representative they are of the 28 Member States, identifying which policy areas or committees are of particular interest to MEPs from specific countries. We included in our TTR17 (October) a report issued by VoteWatch Europe on the same subject: 'Who holds the power in the EP committees and the bureau?' (you can read it [here](#)).

## Terra nova

*Une analyse politique de la Commission Juncker : une nouvelle dynamique est-elle née ?*

by Pénélope Debreu

27 November 2014

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

This note is the first of a series entitled "European Democracy and 2014 election cycle." Terra nova finds that despite the increased legitimacy through the ballot box, the Commission is marked by continuity in the focus on economic and monetary adjustment.

## Polski Instytut Spraw Międzynarodowych (Polish Institute of International Affairs)

*Moscovici's role in Juncker's Commission: French impetus for an "EU-turn"*

by Nathan Dufour [@DufourNathan](#)

13 November 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) (2 p.)

This bulletin examines the implications of the appointment of France's former Finance Minister Pierre Moscovici to the European Commission in 2014 for EU economic policy. The author contends that Moscovici's appointment suggests that there may be a shift in European Commission policy away from German-led austerity towards a greater focus on how to bring about growth. He also looks at factors which could hinder and help this potential change in policy as well as what such a change would mean for Poland.

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

*The networking of European Foreign Policy: from cacophony to choir?*

by Annegret Bendiek [@annegretbendiek](#)

November 2014

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

This commentary examines the European Commission's efforts to overcome the incoherence between the CFSP and the EU's external relations by creating a new foreign affairs project team led by Federica Mogherini in 2014. The author argues that the potential of a more networked foreign policy approach will only be realized if the EEAS takes over inter-departmental strategic planning and if Germany plays a leading role in making the CFSP more flexible.

## SECTION 2 - ECONOMICS

### Foundation for European Progressive Studies

*Industrial and investment policy - what a well-structured package can achieve*

by Matthias Kollatz-Ahnen and Udo Bullmann [@UdoBullmann](#)

19 November 2014

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

During the crisis, the EU Commission (and the Council) called for re-industrialisation of the EU. The Commission defined the objective of 20% of GDP in 2020 created by industrial production. Achieving the objective would require a turnaround of existing developments and policies. This study presents some progressive proposals for re-industrialisation of Europe. The study explains how to create additional investment with a mix of public and private financing.

### Brookings Institution

*Think Tank 20: growth, convergence and income distribution: the road from the Brisbane G-20 Summit*

November 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) (186 p.)

On November 15-16, world leaders gathered in Brisbane, Australia for the ninth G-20 summit. Leaders aimed to increase world GDP and chart a pathway to sustainable, inclusive growth and resilience through both short and medium-term actions. In this report, experts from Brookings and around the world address interrelated debates about growth, convergence and income distribution, three key elements that are likely to shape policy debates beyond the Brisbane summit. Download the full Think Tank 20 report, or access some individual chapters at the links below. Read also the library's [blog post](#) on the G20 leaders Summit in Brisbane.

*How can Europe avoid secular stagnation?*

by Guntram Wolff [@GuntramWolff](#)

November 2014

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

Recalling Summers' [argument](#) on the threat of a 'secular stagnation', Wolff argues that three central policy measures can help avoid stagnation in the eurozone: addressing the demand shortage, reducing the unit labour cost and private debt overhang, deleveraging the banking sector and strengthening its capital base.

*Growth, convergence and social conditions: where is Europe headed?*

by Jacques Mistral

November 2014

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

There is no region in the world economy where the three debates about growth, convergence and social conditions are more closely linked, argues the author, a former advisor to the then French Prime Minister Michel Rocard. This paper contains a passionate and optimistic plea for a new social contract and a relaunch of Franco-German leadership in Europe, on the basis of the relative similarity of their economic models when compared to other forms of capitalism.

### *Quantitative easing and deflation in a creditor economy*

by Daniel Gros

November 2014

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

Northern European excess savings constitute a serious issue for a global economy still short of demand. This issue should be on the agenda of the G-20, not just Europe's, but it is unlikely that it will be resolved any time soon, argues Gros.

### *Sluggish growth in the eurozone: the long journey ahead*

by Paolo Guerrieri

November 2014

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

To exit from the crisis, the eurozone needs new policies and more integration, but national interests still trump collective interests. A deepening of the eurozone crisis, if not properly addressed, could turn into a dramatic global crisis.

### *Convergence determines governance — within and without*

by Danny Quah [@DannyQuah](#)

November 2014

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

As economists debate the dynamics of growth and convergence to understand if the world's poor are catching up to the rich, historians of foreign policy and international relations scholars are asking what the implications for global power shifts, and for the legitimacy of different forms of world leadership, will be.

## **Centre for European Policy Studies**

### *Financing the EU budget: moving forward or backwards?*

by Gabriele Cipriani

18 November 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) (112 p.)

A full book assessing the current financing of the EU budget against the criteria of simplicity, transparency, equity and democratic accountability. It then offers two possible options for reforming the EU revenue system. The VAT is a natural choice for funding the EU budget, through a dedicated EU VAT rate as part of the national VAT, argues Cipriani.

### *Investment as the key to recovery in the euro area?*

by Daniel Gros

18 November 2014

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

This brief argues that even though investment has declined in the euro area since the start of the economic and financial crisis in 2008, it does not mean that there is an investment gap because investments were already above a sustainable level due to the credit boom before the crisis erupted. The author concludes that increasing the investment rate in the euro area might be the wrong target for economic policy and recommends an increase in consumption instead.

## Bruegel

### *Eurosystem collateral policy and framework: was it unduly changed?*

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

17 November 2014

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

The changes in the collateral framework were necessary for the ECB to fulfil its treaty-based mandate of providing liquidity to solvent banks and safeguarding financial stability. The ECB did not take on board excessive risks, maintains Wolff.

### *The twenty-first century needs a better G20 and a new G7+*

by Jim O'Neill and Alessio Terzi [@terzibus](#)

14 November 2014

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

In an environment of rapid change in global patterns of trade and wealth creation, the authors argue that a new grouping should be created within the G20, to provide leadership on key economic policy matters. In addition, Euro-area members should give up their individual seats in this G7+, allowing room for China and other large emerging economies.

### *Defining Europe's capital markets union*

by Nicolas Véron [@nicolas\\_veron](#)

13 November 2014

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

Véron interprets the European Commission's signals that it will work to create a 'capital markets union'. This is understood as an agenda to expand the non-bank part of Europe's financial system, which is currently underdeveloped. The aim in the short term is to unlock credit provision as banks are deleveraging, and in the longer term, to favour a more diverse, competitive and resilient financial system.

### *Does money matter in the Euro area? Evidence from a new Divisia Index*

by Zsolt Darvas

6 November 2014

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

The purpose of this paper is to examine the possible role of money shocks on output and prices in the euro area.

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

### *Is Europe overbanked?*

by Marco Pagano

November 2014

Link to the article in [English and Polish](#) (106 p.)

This publication was originally published by ESRB – European Systemic Risk Board as *Reports of the Advisory, Scientific Committee* No. 4/June 2014 "Is Europe Overbanked?". This paper is after a difficult question: has banking grown too much in Europe? The difficulty of the question lies in the words "too much", which require a normative answer, based on the needs of the real economy in Europe.

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

*Wirtschaftspolitische Koordinierung in der Europäischen Union. Europäisierung ohne Souveränitätsverlust*

by Peter Becker

19 November 2014

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

There is a broad agreement that the framework for EMU should be strengthened to achieve macroeconomic stability in the EU. This study reviews the facts on coordination of economic policies in the EU and concludes that neither a massive transfer of sovereignty to a eurozone 'core Europe', nor a full transfer union are possible. Instead, a continuous search for a middle way is needed, with the recommendation for Germany to follow a policy of *langer Atem, kleine Schritte* – long breath, small steps.

### College of Europe

*Promoting the agenda for a social Economic and Monetary Union: attention, credibility and coalition-building*

by Pierre Vanheuverzwijn [@PierreVanheu](#)

November 2014

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

In the aftermath of the crisis, new instruments of economic governance have been adopted at the EU level. Recently, governance seems no longer dominated by what the author calls 'the ECFIN coalition'. Drawing on the agenda-setting literature, the author traces the process that has led other actors to put the social dimension of the EMU on the political agenda.

### ResPublica

*Climbing the credit ladder: short-term loans as a path to long-term credit*

by John Gathergood [@johngathergood](#), Adam Wildman and Lorena Papamanci

November 2014

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

This report calls for a change of approach in the short-term finance market. A well-functioning short-term lending sector should be part of a wider consumer credit market, one which enables people to progress to cheaper and more affordable credit, and provides a safety net to those in need.

## SECTION 3 - EU MEMBER STATES

### Denmark

#### Tænketanken EUROPA

*Danskerne generelt mere EU-lunkne – fordele skal være konkrete, hvis tendens skal vendes*

by Bjarke Møller [@BjarkeMoeller](#)

7 November 2014

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

The Danish think tank Europa reports growing doubts and a more cautious attitude of Danes towards the EU. Many are concerned about loss of sovereignty and believe that Denmark has too little influence in the EU. A large majority still have reservations against the euro and want to keep the defence opt-out. The survey documents at the same time that the Danes want a strong EU in environment, energy, economics and foreign policy. Further background on the Danish position regarding the internal market in [this brief](#).

### Germany

#### Institut français des relations internationales

*Vers le grand large ? Le commerce extérieur allemand entre l'UE et les BRICS*

by Hans Brodersen

November 2014

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

This note describes the evolution of German foreign trade in the world. It traces the surge in German exports and the trade balance over the past 20 years, while insisting on changes in the geographical structure of trade in goods. This analysis also explains the German trade with the BRICS countries. It presents the competitive situation of these countries and describes the difficulties that stand in the way of German exporters.

#### Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

*The German G7 Presidency - An opportunity to assume "new responsibility" in international politics*

by Daniela Haarhuis

18 November 2014

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

For more than three decades, the group of the most important industrialized countries has been coordinating itself in various areas. In June 2014, Germany has taken over the G7 presidency, which raises the question of its international responsibility. What could the agenda of the German government look like, wonders the Stiftung?

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

*Wächst Mitteleuropa zusammen? Das wiedervereinigte Deutschland und Ostmitteleuropa als Wirtschaftspartner*

by István Kőrösi  
17 November 2014

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

In Western Europe, for example in the Benelux, organic region-building fostered integration. In Central Europe, argues the author, integration should lead to the existence of a Central Europe instead of the former "Zwischeneuropa". Regional integration, close ties to the EU and global outlook can and should supplement each other in a meaningful way. The successful reunification of Germany 25 years ago and the regime change in Eastern Central Europe paved the way for these developments.

## Italy

### **Istituto per gli Studi di Politica Internazionale**

*La Tap e l'Italia: le opportunità di una nuova infrastruttura d'importazione*

by Nicolò Rossetto  
13 November 2014

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

ISPI looks at the Trans Adriatic Pipeline (TAP) as a way to overcome uncertainties in the energy supply of Italy, in view of the instability on other gas supply routes from North Africa and Russia. The TAP would bring a volume of gas equivalent to more than 10% of Italian yearly consumption, from the Shah Deniz field in Azerbaijan.

## Poland

### **Centrum Stosunków Międzynarodowych (Center for International Relations) / Fundacja Współpracy Polsko-Niemieckiej (Stiftung für deutsch-polnische Zusammenarbeit)**

*Współpraca instytucjonalna na pograniczu polsko-niemieckim – stare narzędzia, nowe wyzwania. Transgraniczne doświadczenia samorządów w kontekście wyborów regionalnych (Biuletyn Niemiecki (BN) nr 53)*

by Julita Miłosz-Augustowska  
21 November 2014

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

The need to strengthen the Polish-German cooperation at the level of local government is often cited as the most important challenge of contemporary relations between the two countries. The problems faced by local governments on both sides of the Oder are far from the policy issues open between Warsaw and Berlin, and are solved rather at the level of local cooperation, argues the author, setting this cooperation against the background of EU intra-regional cooperation.



## European Council on Foreign Relations

*After Tusk: Poland in Europe*

by Piotr Buras

28 November 2014

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

The Ukraine crisis has revealed the limits of Poland's foreign policy and Warsaw must now adjust its relationship with European partners to suit new political and economic challenges, according to this policy brief. It suggests that the departure of Prime Minister Donald Tusk for the European Council Presidency and Radoslaw Sikorski's move from the foreign affairs portfolio, mark the end of a successful decade but leave unresolved issues over Poland's future in the EU.

## Spain

### Real Instituto Elcano (Elcano Royal Institute)

*How to radically cut Spain's unemployment: feasible or wishful thinking?*

by William Chislett [@WilliamChislet3](#)

12 November 2014

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

Spain is shattered by a jobless rate that is still more than 24% six years after the economy took a fall, triggered by the exploding of its debt-fuelled real-estate bubble. According to the government the high unemployment rate can be brought below 15% if very ambitious structural reforms are enacted. An appraisal of the already undertaken reform efforts of Spain is reflected in this [article](#) by Miguel Otero-Iglesias. More facts about Spain's unemployment in the report "España 2018" in [Spanish](#).

## 25th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall

### Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

*25 years of German-Hungarian relations since 1989, the year the Iron Curtain fell*

by Bence Bauer and András Hettyey

18 November 2014

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

Because of the opening of the border in the late summer of 1989, Hungary showed great humanity to the refugees from East Germany. Therefore, the "year of miracles" became a key moment in the bilateral relationship, when not only the Germans developed great sympathy for the Hungarian people. 25 years after the fall of the Iron Curtain shows good timing to look back on those moving events and to assess the relationship between the two countries.

*Perspectives on reunified Germany - Impressions from Poland*

by Bartosz T. Wieliński

18 November 2014

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

Poland and Germany share a history of ups and downs. It took time, rapprochement and reconciliation to heal the wounds of the past and to do away with mutual resentments. Today, the majority of the Polish people clearly support the cooperation with their neighbours. In addition, both countries are considered to be a strong tandem at the European level. Aside from the overall harmony some disagreement does exist as well.

## **Istituto per gli Studi di Politica Internazionale**

*25 anni dopo, le eredità del Muro di Berlino*

7 November 2014

Link to the special issue in [Italian](#)

ISPI looks back at the fall of the Berlin Wall and its impact on ideology, on the end of bipolarism and on European integration. It notes that many of the promises of that time are still to become true, and the main feature of the new international system seems to be its imprevisibility, while new fractures emerge and new walls are raised.

## SECTION 4 - EU POLICIES

### Justice and Home Affairs

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

*Ambulant sanction as an alternative to imprisonment in the European Union*

by Christine M. Graebisch and Sven-U. Burkhardt

November 2014

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

The objective of this study is to examine the scope of application of penalties without deprivation of liberty as compared to imprisonment, as well as to identify promising practices of alternative criminal sanctioning in Belgium, Bulgaria, Germany, Spain and Lithuania. This study is a part of the "Re-socialisation of offenders in the EU: enhancing the role of the civil society" project, implemented with the support of the European Commission, Directorate-General Justice.

#### Fundación para las relaciones internacionales y el diálogo exterior (Foundation for International Relations and Foreign Dialogue)

*Integrating EU defence and migration policies in the Mediterranean*

by Roderick Parkes [@RoderickParkes](#)

November 2014

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

Unparalleled in scale and loss of life, the challenge of cross-Mediterranean migration to the EU is receiving much attention. Around 165 000 individuals have already crossed to Europe in 2014 so far, twice the figure for 2013. Yet this humanitarian crisis has scarcely been tackled in policy terms, argues the author, and the EU still lacks a clear approach to migration across its southern flank. This working paper argues that EU defence policies could help plug a major gap in the bloc's approach to migration in the Mediterranean.

#### Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

*Monitoring und Evaluation : Perspektiven für die Integrationspolitik von Bund und Ländern*

by Dieter Filsinger

November 2014

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

Integration of immigrants has become a critical issue on both the national and sub-national level in Germany. This article reviews the methods to evaluate integration policy, arguing that evaluations should look at the institutions in the relevant policy areas, reflect critically on intercultural openness and take into account the willingness of the majority of society to receive immigrants, as these factors are decisive for the further integration process.

#### Centre for European Policy Studies

*Rethinking the attractiveness of EU labour immigration policies: comparative perspectives on the EU, the US, Canada and beyond*

by Sergio Carrera, Elspeth Guild and Katharina Eisele

13 November 2014

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

This book examines the determinants of the attractiveness of labour migration policies in the EU and other international settings. It calls for re-thinking some of the most commonly assumptions underlying the narratives of 'attractiveness' and 'global competition for talent' in migration policy debates.

**Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies - European University Institute / Ελληνικό Ίδρυμα Ευρωπαϊκής και Εξωτερικής Πολιτικής (Hellenic Foundation for European Foreign Policy)**

*Assessing the cost-effectiveness of irregular migration control policies in Greece*

by Danai Angeli, Anna Triandafyllidou [@triandafyllidou](#) and Angeliki Dimitriadi

30 October 2014

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

This policy paper investigates two areas: migration controls at the border and in the mainland, and detention, with a view to assessing the specific policy choices, strategy and cost effectiveness of Greece's irregular migration policy. It aims to put forward alternative policy recommendations that could be more cost-effective. More about the background can be found in [this](#) Commission working document from 6 October 2014.

### Migration and the educational aspect

**Poliitikauuringute Keskus Praxis (Praxis Center for Policy Studies) / Public Policy and Management Institute**

*Migrant education opportunities in the Baltic States: strong dependence on the level of school preparedness*

by Eve Mägi and Hanna Siarova

November 2014

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

Recent inflows of immigrants who do not speak the national language or Russian, as well as the growing tendency in returnee rates in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania pose new challenges for the national education systems. This comparative study examines the Baltic challenges and initiatives in the education of pupils with a migrant background and puts forward policy recommendations towards inclusive education systems.

### Migration Policy Institute

From early childhood through postsecondary education, immigrants and their children face unique challenges and barriers in educational attainment and access to college, compared to their native-born peers. The papers below analyse different facets of this topic—from the factors influencing early childhood development through the challenges confronted by students who are not proficient in the host-country language, the gaps that can re-emerge in postsecondary education, capacity issues and needs for language programs and vocational training

*Language support for youth with a migrant background: policies that effectively promote inclusion*

by Hanna Siarova and Miquel Àngel Essomba

November 2014

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

*Developing school capacity for diversity*

by Sabine Severiens

November 2014

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

*Mentoring: what can support projects achieve that schools cannot?*

by Maurice Crul and Jens Schneider

November 2014

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

*Enhancing EU education policy: building a framework to help young people of migrant background succeed*

by Miquel Àngel Essomba

November 2014

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

*Aiming higher: policies to get immigrants into middle-skilled work in Europe*

by Meghan Benton [@meghan\\_benton](#), Madeleine Sumption [@M\\_Sumption](#), Kristine Alsvik, Susan Fratzke [@ekztaf](#), Christiane Kuptsch and Demetrios G. Papademetriou

November 2014

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

## Competitiveness (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space)

### Bruegel

*The policy dilemma of the unitary patent*

by Jérôme Danguy and Bruno van Pottelsberghe

27 November 2014

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

This paper provides new evidence about the budgetary consequences of the coexistence of the forthcoming Unitary Patent (UP) with the current European Patent (EP). Simulation illustrate a dilemma between high UP renewal fees, to ensure enough financial income for all national patent offices (NPOs), and low UP renewal fees to make the UP system affordable, with very few NPOs losing on financial revenues. The simulations help to understand the positions of several patent offices, and underline an alternative way to proceed with the negotiations while reducing financial risks for the whole system.

### Centre for European Policy Studies

*Does EU regulation hinder or stimulate innovation?*

by Jacques Pelkmans and Andrea Renda [@arenda111](#)

19 November 2014

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

This report focuses on the complex relationship between EU regulation and innovation in the economy, and discusses the innovation-enhancing potential of certain regulatory approaches. The case studies are preceded by a contextual analysis of trends in EU regulation over the last three decades. These trends show the significant transformation of the nature as well as improvement of the quality of EU regulation, largely in the deepened internal market, which tend to have a favourable and lasting effect on the rate of innovation in the EU.

## **European Digital Forum / The Lisbon Council for Economic Competitiveness and Social Renewal**

*Data-driven business models: powering startups in the digital age*

by Sergey Filippov [@FilippovEU](#)

13 November 2014

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

This policy brief looks at the growing prominence of data-driven business models for European startups. Based on extensive interviews with 20 leading European startups, the policy brief develops a "data value-chain" model, which summarises the types of business strategies emerging in this fast-growing field. It presents a set of ten "smart policy principles" for making Europe an environment where digital startups can thrive.

*Digital minds for a new Europe*

13 November 2014

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

This paper presents a collection of 44 essays on the digital challenges ahead – and the solutions technology can provide.

## **European Centre for Government Transformation / The Lisbon Council for Economic Competitiveness and Social Renewal / College of Europe**

*Delivering public service for the future: how Europe can lead public-sector transformation*

6 November 2014

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

This document is a collection of 12 essays on the future of public-sector reform and state modernisation. Written by thinkers and policymakers, the essays explore a wide range of best practices in the field of state transformation.

## **European Policy Centre**

*Towards a new industrial policy for Europe*

by Claire Dhéret [@cdheret](#) and Martina Morosi [@MartinaMo12](#) with Andrea Frontini [@AndFrontini](#), Annika Hedberg [@AnnikaAhtonen](#) and Romain Pardo

12 November 2014

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

An ambitious rhetoric has been adopted both at the European and national level towards industrial policy. Along with rhetoric, sweeping action plans to revive our industrial base and reverse off-shoring trends have been attempted. However, concrete measures undertaken have been inconsistent and weak compared to the magnitude of the challenges faced by European manufacturing as well as the policies implemented by our competitors, find the EPC authors.

## **Transparency International**

*Transparency in corporate reporting: assessing the World's largest companies*

by Barbara Kowalczyk-Hoyer, Liliya D. Akhmadullina, Tim Bergman, Kristine Suet Tuen Kwok and Juliana Mari Sakai

November 2014

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

This report evaluates the transparency of corporate reporting by the world's 124 largest publicly listed companies. It assesses the disclosure practices of companies with respect to their anti-corruption programs, company holdings and the disclosure of key financial information on a country-by-country basis. It follows on from a [2012 report which focused on the world's 105 largest publicly traded companies](#). The report is part of a series of studies based on a similar methodology aimed at assessing the transparency practices of companies, the most recent being a [2013 report on leading emerging market companies](#).

## Transport/Telecommunications/Energy

### Centrum für Europäische Politik (Centre for European Policy)

*Die Klima- und Energiepolitik der EU - Stand und Perspektiven*

by Moritz Bonn, Nima Nader, Nadine Heitmann, Götz Reichert and Jan S. Voßwinkel

November 2014

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

At the end of October, the European Council adopted the goals set out for European climate and energy policy until 2030. This paper, "Die Klima- und Energiepolitik der EU - Stand und Perspektiven", combines compact information with recommended action plans and seeks to serve as a guideline for actors.

### LUISS School of European Political Economy / Istituto Affari Internazionali

*The time has come for a European Energy Union - A comment on the European Council's conclusions on 2030 Climate and Energy Policy Framework*

by Valeria Termini

November 2014

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

After the appointment of the new European Commission, the long-awaited European Council in October ended in a set of policy conclusions focusing on the 2030 European Climate and Energy Policy. They reaffirmed the centrality of a sustainable energy sector to foster an industrial growth urgently needed after half a decade of economic crisis. However, the October Council meeting failed to define clear strategic lines for a common energy policy. The Council's conclusions tackled a different set of priorities, as their primary objective was to reaffirm the EU's leadership in the forthcoming United Nations 2015 meeting on Climate Change. The set of objectives, tools and implementation procedures proposed shows that, once again, the shortcomings of the EU governance remain an obstacle to achieving an effective and cohesive industrial and energy policy. This suggests that the time has come for the Member States to invest in a European Energy Union. An effective European industrial policy requires the willingness of national governments to devolve a degree of national sovereignty for the benefit of all Member States, much with same political generosity and forward-looking vision that was shown two decades ago for the EU monetary policy.

### Istituto Affari Internazionali

*Governance challenges of the EU's 2030 energy and climate framework*

by Sirja-Leena Penttinen, Nicolò Sartori [@\\_nsartori](#) and Kim Talus

27 November 2014

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

Over the last two decades, the EU has put in place various policy and regulatory instruments to address climate change and ensure environmental protection. These European efforts, however, have been far from fully successful for a number of reasons, including the difficulty of achieving simultaneously the objectives set by the "2020 Climate and Energy Package" and the inefficient governance mechanisms to pursue them. For this reason, the 2030 policy framework for climate and energy agreed by the European Council in October 2014 proposes a new governance structure which introduces greater flexibility for governments in reaching the targets. While the new structure allows Member States to choose policies that are best-suited to their national energy mix and preferences, it will have to ensure that the commitments undertaken at EU level are respected and the overall targets are met.

### *Rethinking EU energy policies towards the Southern Mediterranean region*

by Silvia Colombo [@silvius20](#) and Nicolò Sartori [@\\_nsartori](#)  
November 2014

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

Energy is a key factor shaping relations between Europe and North Africa. Due to the Maghreb's strategic role for European energy security, in the last two decades the EU has attempted to promote deeper energy cooperation both with and within the region. The success of the EU's bilateral and multilateral initiatives, however, has been hindered by diverging interests between European countries and their North African counterparts. The upheaval in the region unleashed by the Arab awakening, along with critical socio-economic challenges like population growth and urbanization, are altering this picture. In this context, the EU should urgently rethink its energy cooperation models with the southern partners, seizing the opportunities engendered by the current moment of change in the region.

### *Can South-Eastern Mediterranean gas be a supply for the EU?*

by Elif Burcu Günaydın [@elifburcu\\_g](#)  
25 November 2014

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

South-Eastern Mediterranean gas fields are still under exploration and development. Meanwhile, the question of which route or routes such gas would take into the global markets remains unanswered. The various possible routes appear to be problematic either politically or financially, leaving development stifled. However, with the crisis between Russia and Ukraine deepening Europe's interest in diversification of supplies, and with gas field owners and developers eager to monetise the resources, Eastern Mediterranean gas could become a potential source for the EU. This paper tries to answer whether the South-Eastern Mediterranean resources can be regarded as a considerable supply for Europe and, if so, what are the alternative routes that would benefit all the parties involved.

### *EU-Turkey energy cooperation: challenges and opportunities*

by Sohbet Karbuz [@sohbetkarbuz](#)  
10 November 2014

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

This paper discusses the growing relevance of energy in the EU-Turkey relationship, focusing on Turkey's increasing importance in enhancing EU energy security. It then examines how future energy challenges could be turned into opportunities. Turkey and the EU have a lot to gain from close cooperation and deeper integration in the field of energy, argues the author. However, the full potential of such cooperation and integration can best be met by opening the energy chapter in Turkey's accession negotiations.



## Latvijas Ārpolitikas institūts (Latvian Institute of International Affairs)

*Energy (in)security: challenges and prospects for the European Union and Baltic States*

by Andris Sprūds and Martins Hirss

November 2014

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

Energy security has once more come to the forefront of EU priorities. This paper starts with an overview of mechanisms that the EU has developed for strengthening energy security for its Member States. More specifically it reviews recent developments in the Baltic States, evaluating the role the EU has played in enhancing energy security. Finally, the authors look at the future prospects for energy security within the Union.

## Overseas Development Institute

*The fossil fuel bailout: G20 subsidies for oil, gas and coal exploration*

by Elizabeth Bast [@esbast](#), Shakuntala Makhijani, Sam Pickard and Shelagh Whitley [@shelaghwhitley](#)

November 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) (73 p.)

According to this report, the G20 governments' exploration subsidies marry bad economics with potentially disastrous consequences for climate change. Governments are propping up the development of oil, gas and coal reserves that cannot be exploited if the world is to avoid dangerous climate change. Furthermore findings show that by providing subsidies for fossil-fuel exploration, the G20 countries are creating a 'triple-lose' scenario. They are directing large volumes of finance into high-carbon assets that cannot be exploited without catastrophic climate effects. They are diverting investment from economic low-carbon alternatives such as solar, wind and hydro-power. And they are undermining the prospects for an ambitious climate deal in 2015.

## Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies - European University Institute

*The EU internal electricity market : done forever?*

by Jean-Michel Glachant [@JMGlachant](#) and Sophia Ruester [@SophiaRuester](#)

10 October 2014

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

It took a quarter-century to build Europe's internal market for electricity and still there is a serious concern for a (re-)fragmentation of the European electricity market. The authors argue that the EU internal market may derail greatly in the coming years and explain the reasons to be a massive push for renewables and decentralization as well as the uncoordinated implementation of national policies of the Member States.

## Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations

*Renewables: the great uncertainty of the EU energy strategy*

by Tania Zgajewski

November 2014

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

For more than two decades, the development of renewable energy sources has been an important aim of EU energy policy. It accelerated with the adoption of a 1997 White Paper and the setting a decade later of a 20% renewable energy target, to be reached by 2020. The EU counts on renewable energy for multiple purposes: to diversify its energy supply; to increase its security of supply; and to create new industries, jobs, economic *growth and export opportunities*, while at the same time reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Many expectations rest on its development.

## Employment/Social Policy/Health/Consumer Affairs

### Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute

*Employment, mobility and social investment: three key issues for post-crisis social Europe*

by Sofia Fernandes

14 November 2014

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

Although social reality varies widely from one European country to the next, and social and employment policies are national competences, the post-crisis EU needs to strengthen its "social face", according to this Notre Europe paper. It argues that social issues cannot be reinstated at the heart of Europe's action unless and until dialogue and a relationship of trust between the EU and the social partners are restored. The Commission should defend the European "way of life" based on national welfare states, and counter the image of Europe as an actor that allows unfair social competition among workers.

### Open Society Foundations

*Ethnic origin and disability data collection in Europe: measuring inequality—combating discrimination*

by Isabelle Chopin, Lilla Farkas and Catharina Germaine

26 November 2014

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

This report challenges the commonly held view in Europe that the collection of disability and ethnic data is categorically prohibited. It voices the necessity to involve the affected communities in the process of defining best practices and to respect binding core principles of data collection such as self-identification of the data subject and consent-based, voluntary, and anonymized data collection. The focus of the research is on Bulgaria, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Romania, and Sweden in the field of public education and on France in the field of public employment.

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

*A comparative framing of fundamental rights. Challenges to social crisis measures in the eurozone*

by Claire Kilpatrick and Bruno De Witte

November 2014

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

The aim of this paper is to examine the decline in social rights in a number of the eurozone Member States most affected by the crisis: Greece, Ireland, Italy, Portugal and Spain. Moreover it prompts difficult yet central questions of the role of the EU as a human rights actor, the attitudes of courts in fundamental rights cases, as well as the significance of the Charter as a guarantor of fundamental social rights in the EU Environment. This paper forms part of a project at the EUI on "*Social rights in times of crisis: the role of fundamental rights challenges*", which can be downloaded [here](#).

## Environment

### International Electrotechnical Commission / Centre for European Policy Studies

#### *Orchestrating infrastructure for sustainable smart cities*

by Jorge Núñez Ferrer, Monica Alessi, Christian Egenhofer [@CEgenhofer](#) and Vasileios Rizos  
10 November 2014

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

By 2050, it is projected that 67% of the world's population will live in cities and therefore Smart Cities are necessary to reduce emissions and to handle rapid urban growth. This paper explains what is needed to move cities to greater smartness; the what, who and how of smart city development. It calls for a wide collaboration between many stakeholders, including other international standardization bodies to ultimately lead to integrated, cost-efficient, and sustainable solutions.

## Education/Youth/Culture/Sport

### Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen / Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute / UniFrance films

#### *Dissemination of European cinema in the European Union and the international market*

by Josef Wutz and Valentin Pérez  
20 November 2014

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

This report aims to take stock of the dissemination of European films in Europe and in the world from 2002 to 2014. To do so, it takes all those working in the film industry into account: filmmakers, distributors, cinema operators, but also video content providers and public bodies providing funding to films. It focuses on four countries: Germany, Spain, France and Italy. The report makes recommendations aiming at raising the profile of the European film industry.

## SECTION 5 - EXTERNAL RELATIONS

### Security and Defence

#### Istituto Affari Internazionali / Centro Studi sul Federalismo

*Actors in the European Defence policy area: roles and developments*

by Alessandro Marrone [@Alessandro\\_Ma](#) and Alessandro Riccardo Ungaro [@AleRUnga](#)  
24 November 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) (67 p.)

This study analyses the roles played by different actors in the European defence policy area, with a specific focus on developments that occurred in 2013-2014. It aims to increase the understanding of recent developments of these roles, as well as of the enduring dynamics which underpin their interplay. This understanding can put policy-makers and public opinion in a better position to engage with various European interlocutors, with a view to the June 2015 European Council which will deal with defence issues.

#### Groupe de recherche et d'information sur la paix et la securite / Saferworld

*An ill wind : how the sale of Mistral warships to Russia is undermining EU arms transfer controls*

by Roy Isbister and Yannick Quéau  
21 November 2014

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

Amid the upheaval surrounding France's 2011 agreement to supply Russia with two Mistral warships, this brief raises serious questions about the EU's current arms transfer control system, and recommends ways to stop Member States from undermining its credibility.

#### International Centre for Counter-Terrorism - The Hague

*Addressing the Foreign Terrorist Fighters Phenomenon from an EU Perspective: UN Security Council Resolution 2178, Legal Issues, and Challenges and Opportunities for EU Foreign Security & Development Policy*

7 November 2014

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

This paper analyses UNSCR 2178, which is notable for its inclusion of the concepts of CVE and community engagement in a Chapter VII resolution on terrorism, and the effort to balance a robust response with more localised prevention efforts to address specific threats as well as the broader conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism.

On the 'foreign fighters' phenomena, read also the recent library [blog post](#).

## NATO

#### Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

*After the Wales Summit: an assessment of NATO's strategic agenda*

by Aylin Matlé and Alessandro Scheffler  
25 November 2014

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

Two weeks after the September NATO Summit in Wales, the Konrad Adenauer Foundation invited a select group of experts and officials to discuss the results of the Summit and the challenges that lie ahead. The participants provided concrete recommendations for German policy-makers regarding Berlin's role in influencing NATO's prospective strategic focus. Among the most pressing issues discussed were the current situation in Ukraine, possible ways of how to react to Putin's aggressive demeanour in the long run, and how to adapt NATO's tasks and capabilities accordingly.

### **Istituto Affari Internazionali**

*After the NATO Wales Summit: prospects for international security*

by Giulia Formichetti [@GiuliaFormich](#) and Paola Tessari [@paola\\_tessari](#)

18 November 2014

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

This paper reports the proceedings of a closed-door seminar hosted by IAI, devoted to the leading topics addressed during the September NATO Wales Summit, and its relevant outcomes which could pave the way for the enhancement of international security. Participants in the event discussed the present critical status of international security as an opportunity for NATO to reshape its role, and to maintain capabilities adequately trained and at high readiness.

*NATO's posture after the Wales Summit*

by Guillaume Lasconjarias

11 November 2014

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

The recent NATO Summit in Wales has been viewed as a watershed event not just because of timing, but because of the pledges taken by heads of states and governments. The still ongoing crisis in Ukraine and Syria-Iraq might have acted as true "wake-up calls", calling the Alliance to step up, especially in terms of commitments towards bolstering its main pillars. Announced initiatives belong to a series of reassurance measures towards Eastern allies, but also revitalize the NATO Response Force through an expeditionary spearhead, the Very High Readiness Joint Task Force. Although some might consider these measures as "too little too late", they prove the Alliance's cohesion and the commitment to the transatlantic link.

*Flexible frameworks, beyond borders. Understanding regional dynamics to enhance cooperative security*

by Federico Casprini, Sonia Lucarelli and Alessandro Marrone [@Alessandro\\_Ma](#) (eds.)

November 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) (110 p.)

As of 2014, the post-Cold War illusion of a more secure world has long given way to a gloomy perception of both the present and the future. It is of paramount importance for an organization like NATO - which has security and cooperation at the core of its mandate - to understand the new and old security challenges by looking at their regional dimension, and to evaluate their interregional and global implications. This volume aims to contribute to this effort by analysing regional dynamics, the eventual role of NATO in their regards, and possible ways to enhance cooperative security.

## Geopolitics and Strategy

### Centre for European Policy Studies

*Improving the effectiveness of sanctions: a checklist for the EU*

by Anthonius W. de Vries, Clara Portela [@DrClaraPortela](#) and Borja Guijarro-Usobiaga

6 November 2014

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

The increasingly frequent imposition of sanctions by the EU over the past decade has not been accompanied by a thorough pre-assessment and contingency planning stage, leading to suboptimal sanctions regimes. This paper proposes a practical pre-assessment and contingency planning of sanctions – a checklist, which departs from the 'ad hoc-ism' of current decision-making on sanctions.

### Istituto Affari Internazionali

*The neighbourhood policy is dead. What's next for European foreign policy along its arc of instability?*

by Nathalie Tocci [@NathalieTocci](#)

17 November 2014

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

The Arab uprisings alongside the Ukrainian crisis have triggered the perfect storm. The European Neighbourhood Policy, developed at the height of enlargement 'EU-phoria', is in tatters. To be fair, its failure is only partly endogenous, and largely due to the dramatic transformation of the neighbourhood - east and south - which no one could have foreseen at the turn of the century. Be that as it may, the EU will have to fundamentally rethink its approach towards its turbulent backyard.

### Centrum für angewandte Politikforschung (Center for Applied Policy Research) / Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

*The organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) - A mechanism for integration in a geopolitically sensitive area*

by Colin Dürkop and Ludwig Schulz

24 November 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) (11 p.), in [German](#) (11 p.) and in [Turkish](#) (9 p.)

The ongoing conflict in and around Ukraine has caused two, until recently, largely ignored international organizations to come into the public focus again: the OSCE and the Council of Europe. While the OSCE was able to play a role in mediating the conflict, the Council of Europe was caught in the crossfire. Meanwhile, the regionally important Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) is notable in its relative absence. This despite BSEC's 22 year history as an important forum for dialogue at the highest political level, and as a successful model of regional cooperation and communication.

## Enlargement

### **Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation) / International and Security Affairs Centre / Centar za Evropske Politike (European Policy Centre)**

*Introduction to Serbia's negotiations with the EU on chapter 30 : external relations*

by Ksenija Simovic [@xenias88](#) and Nebojsa Lazarevic  
November 2014

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

By removing political obstacles in the first half of 2013, Serbia has finally come to an opportunity to start accession negotiations with the EU. In most cases of the accession Chapter 30 - which deals with external relations - is easy to close. However, in the case of Serbia, this chapter applies to the economic aspects of cooperation with certain third countries, among which the most significant is certainly Russia. Additionally, Serbia is not yet a member of the WTO unlike other accession countries. This study examines Chapter 30, and aims to provide a starting point for public debate.

### **Centar za Evropske Politike (European Policy Centre)**

*Between discretion and professionalism: merit-based recruitment policy in the context of Serbia's accession negotiations with the EU*

by Milena Lazarević and Sena Marić [@senamaric](#)  
November 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) (20 p.) and in [French](#) (22 p.)

This study identifies the key deficiencies of the Serbian civil service system, seen from the perspective of the accession process, with a particular focus on recruitment policy. Significant turnover of civil servants, an insufficient number of subject experts, the outflow of young civil servants, and a lack of understanding of European integration on the political level, represent some of the problems which affect the Serbian public administration. The study develops three possible options for improving the quality of human resources in state administration.

### **Beogradski centar za bezbednosnu politiku (Belgrade Centre for Security Policy)**

*PrEUgovor – report on progress of Serbia in chapters 23 and 24*

by Vanja Macanović, Tanja Ignjatović and Elena Krsmanović  
November 2014

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

This report is structured to present findings relevant to the policy areas covered in the European Commission's Progress Report for Serbia for 2014, as well as to highlight additional important issues. This report contains a separate chapter related to the process of producing an Action Plan for chapter 23. There is a special segment devoted to the problems that emerged after the floods that hit Serbia in May, including inappropriate responses by the state institutions, as well as opportunities for corruption arising in the aftermath.

## External economic relations and development

### Chatham House - the Royal Institute of International Affairs

Chatham House presents a series of assessments on selected EU Member States on the issue of illegal timber. It provides *inter alia* details on how the estimates of the level of illegality of imports of wood-based products into those countries were derived.

#### *Trade in illegal timber: the response in France*

by Laura Wellesley

25 Novembre 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) (24 p.) and in [French](#) (25 p.)

#### *Trade in illegal timber: the response in the Netherlands*

by Duncan Brack

25 Novembre 2014

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

#### *Trade in illegal timber: the response in the United Kingdom*

by Duncan Brack

25 Novembre 2014

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

#### *Methodology for estimating levels of illegal timber and paper-sector imports: estimates for China, France, Japan, the Netherlands, the UK, the US and Vietnam*

by Alison Hoare

25 November 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) (13 p.) and in [French](#) (14 p.)

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

#### *EU external action in the field of development cooperation policy: the impact of the Lisbon Treaty*

by Morten Broberg and Rass Holdgaard

October 2014

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

This report examines the legal and constitutional aspects of the EU's development cooperation, i.e. aspects which are directly related to primary EU law, including the Treaties, notably the changes made by the Lisbon Treaty and in particular by placing it in its historical context. This is the fourth report published in the context of the SIEPS research project "*The EU external action and the Treaty of Lisbon*". Here are [the first](#), [the second](#) and [the third](#) reports.

### European Centre for Development Policy Management

#### *L'UE sollicite la participation du secteur privé au développement : création d'un guichet unique ?*

by Bruce Byiers [@BruceByiers](#), Florian Krätke [@FKratkeECDPM](#) et Anna Rosengren [@AnnaRosengren2](#)

November 2014

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

The paper assesses the new Commission communication on private sector involvement in development, finding it ambitious and in line with donors' practices. However, the authors find that the proposed actions still make the private sector dependant upon the agenda set by donors and partner countries.



## Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP)

### German Marshall Fund of the United States

*Germany's pivotal role on the way to TTIP*

by Peter Sparding [@PSparding](#)

November 2014

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

As in several other countries, the debate about the TTIP in Germany has taken an increasingly adversarial tone over the past year. Although some debate was anticipated regarding food safety and environmental issues, the country was not expected to be a major hurdle on the way to a transatlantic trade deal. The debate now involves a wide array of societal actors and several distinct issues. Without careful handling, the German TTIP discussion could harm both the EU's image in Germany as well as the already strained transatlantic relationship, instead of delivering a much-needed boost to both.

### Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

*Chancen und Risiken der Transatlantischen Handels- und Investitionspartnerschaft (TTIP) für die Verbraucherwohlfahrt*

by Jana Diels [@JanaDiels](#) and Christian Thorun [@ChristianThorun](#)

November 2014

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

This study looks at the status quo of TTIP negotiations as well as societal discourse concerning the agreement, with a specific focus on implications for consumers. The paper develops an assessment tool that evaluates the influence of several dimensions of the instruments used to reduce non-tariff barriers in customer-relevant markets: (1) nutrition, (2) pharmaceuticals and medical products, (3) data flow and data protection and (4) financial services.

*Brauchen Investitionen im TTIP Schutz? : Überlegungen zum Investitionsschutz im transatlantischen Freihandelsabkommen*

by Jan Ole Voß

November 2014

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

This article outlines the development of the legal regime concerning international investor protection. It looks at and evaluates - as feasible - the current state of play concerning suggestions for negotiation regarding investor protection as part of TTIP. The study concludes that, in spite of all the valid criticism, including investor protection in TTIP actually provides for an opportunity to set and streamline global standards with regards to investor protection law.

### Institute for European Environmental Policy / Ecologic Institute

*ENVI relevant legislative areas of the EU-US Trade and Investment Partnership negotiations (TTIP)*

November 2014

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

This study aims to support Members of the Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI) in monitoring on-going negotiations for a TTIP. It analyses the main differences between EU and US legislation in eight areas, namely: human medicines and medical devices, cosmetics, food and nutrition, sanitary and phyto-sanitary, nanomaterials, cloning, raw materials and energy, and motor vehicles. Existing collaboration between the EU and US, progress already achieved in the negotiations and potential future developments in these areas are also addressed.

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

*Food standards in trade agreements: differing regulatory traditions in the EU and the US and tips for the TTIP*

by Bettina Rudloff

November 2014

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

The EU is both the largest exporter and the largest importer of agricultural products in the world. This trade is influenced not only by tariffs but by a number of so-called nontariff measures (NTMs), among which are threshold values for pesticide residues, production standards, and packing- and labelling standards, which in fact can impact the costs of trade much more than tariffs. The author provides tips on how to overcome the transatlantic differences in food standards between the EU and the US and outlines that enormous prospects for economic growth can be reached by reducing the NTMs within the TTIP offers.

## **Global Development and Environment Institute**

*The Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership: European disintegration, unemployment and instability*

by Jeronim Capaldo

October 2014

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

In this paper, the authors assess the effects of TTIP using the UN Global Policy Model, which incorporates more sensible assumptions on macroeconomic adjustment, employment dynamics, and global trade. They project that TTIP will lead to a contraction of GDP, personal incomes and employment. They also project an increase in financial instability and a continuing downward trend in the labour share of GDP. Evaluated with the United Nations model, TTIP appears to favour economic disintegration, rather than integration, in Europe, they warn.

## **Eastern Partnership**

### **Rytų Europos studijų centras (Eastern Europe Studies Centre)**

*Eastern Partnership in a changed security environment: new incentives for reform*

by Laurynas Kasčiūnas, Vilius Ivanauskas, Vytautas Keršanskas [@vytautasker](#) and Linas Kojala [@LinasKojala](#)

13 November 2014

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

This study emphasizes that the 2009 EU Eastern Partnership (EaP) initiative must react to the recent changes in the security environment. Events in Ukraine proved that current tools are not sufficient. Because of growing pressure from Russia, it becomes increasingly difficult for EaP countries to implement necessary reforms. Therefore, the authors outline three possible scenarios for the EaP initiative and recommends speeding up the process of ratification of the Association agreements in the EU countries.

## Africa

### European Centre for Development Policy Management

*How does Africa speak with one voice?*

by Rebecca Ramsamy, Anna Knoll [@anna\\_katharinak](#), Hanne Knaepen [@Hanne\\_Tweets](#) and Lesley-Anne van Wyk [@LAvanWyk](#)

November 2014

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

The ability for Africa to develop its own stance on global issues has been exemplified in different ways over the last 5 years. This paper presents three case studies to show this; namely Africa's stance on aid effectiveness at the Busan High-level forum in 2011, Africa's emerging stance on climate change and Africa's evolving position on the post-2015 agenda. The cases present a mixture of African positions that have been completed and are still in progress. The focus of this document is on the processes and drivers of creating the African common position.

### College of Europe

*Riding or reaping the whirlwind? An account of the EU's engagement with insecurity in Northern Nigeria*

by Eleanor Friel

November 2014

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

EU/Africa relations are increasingly spreading beyond the domain of humanitarian and development cooperation. The continent is producing vast networks in the realms of energy and commerce, among others. At the same time, such interdependencies bring with them increased vulnerabilities to insecurity on the continent. Nigeria exemplifies such a dilemma. The country has just taken the top spot as Africa's largest economy, but violent Islamic extremism ravages the north of the country, threatening the stability of one of Europe's foremost energy suppliers and a growing trade partner. This paper sets out to uncover the EU's response to such a crisis.

## Asia

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

*Chinese investments and financial engagement in Visegrad countries: myth or reality?*

by Ágnes Szunomár (ed.)

30 November 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) (179 p.)

This book consists of the studies prepared in the framework of the project 'Chinese financial assistance in Visegrad countries: myth or reality?'. The research analysed Chinese investments in Visegrad countries before and after the global financial crisis. In addition to economic issues and intents, the research examined the underlying political interests of both sides as well as the attitude of V4 societies to incoming Chinese capital and growing influence.

## **German Marshall Fund of the United States / Totalförsvarets forskningsinstitut (Swedish Defence Research Agency)**

### *A transatlantic Pakistan policy*

by Dhruva Jaishankar [@d\\_jaishankar](#), John Rydqvist [@JohnRydqvist](#), Andrew Small [@ajwsmall](#) and Daniel Twining

November 2014

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

This report is an attempt at identifying ways in which the US and Europe can better work together to address the complex challenges related to Pakistan. Its main findings relate to four areas: nuclear proliferation, counterterrorism, civil-military relations and governance, and economic development. The recommendations are relevant to the executive and legislative branches of governments and institutions on both sides of the Atlantic.

## **Istituto Affari Internazionali**

### *Is the European model relevant for ASEAN?*

by Eleonora Poli [@poli\\_eleonora](#)

10 November 2014

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

Before the 1997 economic crisis in Asia, the institutional evolution of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was very different from the European model. The economic downturn in the late 1990s and the global shift toward a neo-liberal economic era urged ASEAN countries to rethink their regional integration strategy and to mimic some of the institutional models in Europe. In light of this, this paper analyses the rationale behind the evolution of ASEAN since the late 1990, evaluating how and why the organization on a surface replicated aspects of the EU model without engaging in meaningful supranational institutionalization.

## **Fundación para las relaciones internacionales y el diálogo exterior (Foundation for International Relations and Foreign Dialogue) / Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations**

### *South Korea and the European Union: A promising partnership for development cooperation?*

by Sung-Hoon Park

November 2014

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

Since it joined the OECD-DAC, Korea has become an increasingly important development actor. Korea is keen to develop partnerships with traditional donors and has already done so with a number of EU MS. Greater cooperation on development could prove fruitful. The EU-Korea strategic partnership contains commitments to collaborate on development. These commitments should be translated into practical cooperation activities in order to realise the potential of this partnership.

## **College of Europe**

### *The border management programme in Central Asia: explaining the European Union's choice of implementing partners*

by Josh Gartland

November 2014

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

Between 2003 and 2014, the EU's Border Management Programme in Central Asia was implemented by the UN Development Programme (UNDP). However, the latter's implementing responsibilities have just come to an end, and the next phase of the programme is to be implemented by consortium of EU member states. This paper seeks to explain why the EU chose the UNDP to implement the programme in the first place; why the programme was re-delegated to the UNDP over successive phases; and why, in the end, the EU has opted for a member state consortium to implement the next phase of the programme.

## Latin America

### Barcelona Centre for International Affairs / Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

*Liderazgos regionales emergentes en América latina. Consecuencias para las relaciones con la Unión europea*

by Anna Ayuso [@AyusoAnna](#), Sandra Borda G. [@sandraborda](#), Fábio Floriano, Valeria Moy [@ValeriaMoy](#) and María Pallarès

November 2014

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

Latin America as a regional space has acquired greater economic and political autonomy; new leadership that affects international integration of the continent has emerged. Brazil, Colombia and Mexico are three countries that have followed different paths, but in all cases have occurred transformations that deserve to be analysed to identify the main economic and structural determinants of its emergence. Although the three countries initiated reform processes, and there are great expectations for the future, the current picture is not as rosy as in the years before the crisis of 2008.

## Moldova

### Institut français des relations internationales

*Moldova's national minorities: why are they eurosceptical?*

by Marcin Kosienkowski [@Kosienkowski](#) and William Schreiber [@geschreiben](#)

November 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) (22 p.), in [French](#) (25 p.) and in [Russian](#) (25 p.)

Following the separatist conflict in Ukraine, observers have worried about the potential for a similar conflict in Moldova that would interrupt the country's EU association. Indeed, Moldova's national minorities largely oppose the country's process of approximation and integration with the EU. National minorities are concentrated in the country's provincial regions. Most of them are Russian-speaking and prefer close ties to the Russian Federation. This paper argues that the roots of Eurosceptic and even separatist rhetoric among national minorities can be explained by several factors, including centre/regional tension and the political entrepreneurship of regional elites more concerned with local socioeconomics than international geopolitics.

## Expert-Grup

*Care sunt primele rezultate palpabile ale Acordului de Asociere cu UE*

24 November 2014

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

On 1 September 2014, the provisional Association Agreement with the EU entered into force. Thus, for over two months Moldova has benefitted from free trade with the EU. Even if the agreement involves benefits in the medium and long term, the first 2 months of implementation have already brought some tangible effects, this paper says, specifically in the agro-industrial sector, which is considered the most sensitive to trade liberalization with the EU. Exports of agricultural products have jumped, despite a high comparison base.

*Cum răspunde Acordul de Asociere principalelor provocări din agricultura Republicii Moldova?*

by Tatiana Savva

November 2014

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

For the first time in the history of its statehood, Moldova embarked on a process of reform and complex restructuring with the signing of the Association Agreement. In order to assess the impact on the agricultural sector, two questions need to be answered: what has prevented us from exporting to the European market until now, and has the agreement lifted this restriction?

## Montenegro

### **Centar za demokratiju i ljudska prava (Center for Democracy and Human Rights)**

*Whistle-blowing in the Montenegrin police*

by Dženita Brčvak

November 2014

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

Corruption must be prevented and fought effectively as it represents a threat to the stabilization of democratic institutions and the rule of law. However, an effective fight against corruption requires active participation of the government, all sectors of public life, civil society actors and citizens. This paper primarily focuses on the police; given that government documents, European Commission reports (Montenegro Progress Report), as well as public opinion polls, recognize the police as one of the institutions with high risk of corruptive behaviour.

## Russia

### **Istituto Affari Internazionali**

*A cold peace? Western-Russian relations in light of the Ukraine crisis*

by Riccardo Alcaro

25 November 2014

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

In light of Russia's annexation of Crimea and destabilization of Ukraine, West-Russia relations have so dramatically deteriorated that talk of a new Cold War has become routine. NATO's role is again in the spotlight, with experts and policymakers pondering whether the Alliance needs to go back to its historical roots and re-calibrate itself as an instrument of defence from and containment of Russia. Tensions are so strong that a complete breakdown in relations cannot be ruled out. Against this disturbing backdrop, the Brookings Institution and the Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI) organized an international conference to discuss ways by which Russia and the West can contain tensions, manage competition, and keep cooperating on issues of mutual concern.

## **Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations**

*Beyond Russia's 'Versailles syndrome'*

by Patrick Nopens

November 2014

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

Russia alleges that at the end of the Cold War it underwent a soft version of a Versailles Treaty, pushing it into the periphery of global politics and cutting it out of European decision-making. The crisis in Ukraine is about the survival of Putin's regime and the dismantling of the post-Cold War settlement. We should not accept this narrative of victimhood, this paper says. Even so, it is time to explore practical ways of coexisting with Russia. The Helsinki Process and the disarmament and arms control agreements of the Cold War could serve as a model for a mutually acceptable security architecture.

## **European Council on Foreign Relations**

*The new European disorder*

by Ivan Krastev and Mark Leonard [@markhleonard](#)

20 November 2014

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

Europe should forge a new post-Crimea relationship with Russia through the Eurasian Economic Union engaging Moscow through economic competition rather than military confrontation. The conflict in Ukraine has irretrievably broken the post-Cold War European order leaving no return to business as usual with Russia. But it has also not brought us back to the Cold War.

## **Real Instituto Elcano (Elcano Royal Institute)**

*Restaurar y redefinir las relaciones con Rusia*

by Araceli Mangas Martín

17 November 2014

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

The mismanagement of the crisis in Ukraine by the EU has caused the biggest crisis in Europe since the fall of the Wall. The Russian actions in Ukraine are not in conformity with international law, however neither were the invasions of Yugoslavia and Iraq, and the funding and arming of rebels in Syria. EU members that used to be behind the Iron Curtain have fueled unhealthy resentment and a harassment policy towards Russia, this paper says.

## **Chatham House - the Royal Institute of International Affairs**

*Russian 'deniable intervention' in Ukraine: how and why Russia broke the rules*

by Roy Allison

November 2014

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

Three different explanations of the Russian operations in Ukraine: geopolitical competition and structural power (including the strategic benefits of seizing Crimea); identity and ideational factors; and the search for domestic political consolidation in Russia. These have all played a role, although the role of identity appears the least convincing in explaining the timing and scope of Russian encroachments on Ukrainian territorial integrity and the disruption of Ukrainian statehood.

## Centre for European Policy Studies

*First anniversary of the Vilnius summit: or, how Tolstoy might have portrayed the legacies of Yanukovich and Putin*

by Michael Emerson [@Michael12540](#)

25 November 2014

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

Taking inspiration from both Tolstoy's epic novel War and Peace, and the Bible, Michael Emerson reflects on the tumultuous year that has passed since President Yanukovich reneged on signing Ukraine's Association Agreement with the EU, and on President Putin's decision to intervene in Ukraine, tearing up all norms of international relations and public morality and inducing the sanctions that now inflict grave economic damage on Russia itself.

## Turkey

### Ústav mezinárodních vztahů (Institute of International Relations Prague)

*What's next for Turkey? Lessons of the 2014 presidential elections*

by Zoltán Egeresi

November 2014

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

The 2014 Turkish presidential elections have demonstrated that Recep Tayyip Erdogan and the AKP were able to overcome their political crises, and they successfully mobilised their electorate. Erdogan's victory at the presidential elections may lead to the introduction of a presidential system and further centralization of power in Turkey. However, it can also be an overture for changes in the opposition. The EU has to keep being involved in Turkish domestic politics, especially in the democratization process, and support the emergence of a more plural Turkish political community.

## Ukraine

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

*Economic consequences of the Ukraine conflict*

by Peter Havlik

November 2014

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

The Ukraine conflict is having serious consequences not only for Russia and Ukraine, but it also potentially threatens to damage the still frail economic recovery in Europe. In Ukraine, which is the main victim of the conflict, the economy may decline by up to 8% this year. In Russia, the costs of the conflict are estimated to be in the tune of 1% of GDP in 2014-2016, primarily on account of increased investment risks. The effects on the individual EU countries differ depending on their exposure to the Russian market, and per industry. The question is whether these losses are justifiable and will achieve the desired effect of changing Russia's behaviour.



## SPECIAL FOCUS - FINANCIAL MARKETS AND BANKING UNION

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

*Die Bankenunion verspricht mehr, als sie halten kann : Bankenrettungen mit Steuergeldern sind nach wie vor wahrscheinlich*

by Ognian Hishow and Paweł Tokarski

November 2014

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

On 4 November 2014, the ECB took over the supervisory responsibility for banks in the euro area. European banking supervision helps to rebuild trust and bolsters the safety, stability, and soundness of the banking system. The aim of the Banking Union is that the next crisis does not land on the taxpayers' doorstep. The authors of this analysis however question its ability to deliver that main objective.

*Banking Union in EU: cure-all drug for distressed banks?*

by Ognian N Hishow

November 2014

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

In this overview of the Banking Union the author analyses the Single Supervisory Mechanism, which was created to supervise and regulate 130 large monetary financial institutions, banks and various deposit receiving institutions across the euro area as well as the Single Resolution Mechanism, scheduled to come into force in 2015.

### **Terra nova**

*Union bancaire – Réforme de la structure des banques : la tentation de l'autruche*

by Laurence Scialom

5 November 2014

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

The results of the evaluation of assets and stress tests for large banks in the eurozone, published on 26 October, is unfortunately likely to reinforce the illusion of financial security that the proposed banking union has already created and contribute to "bury" the need for a reform of the structure of banks. However, reform is more than ever necessary for financial and banking stability in Europe, this paper says.

### **SAFE - Sustainable Architecture for Finance in Europe**

*Robustness, validity, and significance of the ECB's Asset Quality Review and stress test exercise*

by Sascha Steffen [@sascha\\_steffen](#)

2 November 2014

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

The evidence presented in this paper - based on the design of the comprehensive assessment as well as own stress test exercises - suggest that the ECB's assessment might not comprehensively deal with the problems in the financial sector, and that risks may remain that will pose substantial threats to financial stability in the eurozone.

## Centre for European Policy Studies

*Was the ECB's comprehensive assessment up to standard?*

by Willem Pieter De Groen

10 November 2014

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

The Comprehensive Assessment conducted by the ECB represents a considerable step forward in enhancing transparency in euro-area banks' balance sheets. The most notable progress since the previous European stress test has been the harmonisation of the definition of non-performing loans and other concepts as well as uncovering hidden losses. As shown in this paper, the detailed results provide a more nuanced picture: there remain a large number of the banks in the euro area that are still highly leveraged and in many cases unable to meet the regulatory capital requirements that will be introduced in the coming years under the adverse stress test scenario.

## LUISS School of European Political Economy / Centre for European Policy Studies

*A silver bullet for the ECB - The European Quantitative Easing Intermediated Programme (EQUIP)*

by Carlo Bastasin, Lorenzo Bini Smaghi, Marcello Messori, Stefano Micossi, Franco Passacantando, Fabrizio Saccomanni and Gianni Toniolo

14 November 2014

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

This commentary addresses the sovereign quantitative easing that the ECB has initiated through its internal working groups, and how it could improve upon it. Against a backdrop of a persistently weak inflation outlook, a slowing growth momentum, and subdued monetary and credit dynamics, the ECB decided to implement a package of measures between June and October to provide further monetary policy accommodation and to support lending to the real economy. However, doubts have grown about the efficacy of conventional monetary policy instruments, which rely on a demand for credit, in the face of continuously sluggish money and credit dynamics.

## REGARDS CROISÉS

European trade policy and TTIP negotiations seen from Uruguay...

**Consejo Uruguayo para las Relaciones Internacionales**

*El imprevisto destape de la política comercial europea*

by Jorge Riaboi  
11 November 2014

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

A perspective from South America on the TTIP negotiations, centered on the recent publication of the [negotiating mandate](#).

A look at French alliances from Spain...

**Fundación para las relaciones internacionales y el diálogo exterior (Foundation for International Relations and Foreign Dialogue)**

*France's shifting Middle Eastern alliances*

by Barah Mikail [@barahmikail](#)  
November 2014

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

France's approach to the Middle East is pragmatic, and includes a mix of continuity and change. Economic, energy and security interests prevail, with Paris strengthening its military footprint in the region to cope with growing jihadist threats. France is prioritising cooperation with Saudi Arabia and Algeria and works closely with the US. Upholding stability is the driving objective, while commitment to democratic reforms across the region is very uneven.

and to French nuclear energy from Germany...

**Energiewirtschaftliches Institut an der Universität zu Köln (Institute of Energy Economics at the University of Cologne)**

*The future of nuclear power in France: an analysis of the costs of phasing-out*

by Raimund Malischek and Johannes Trüby  
November 2014

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

Nuclear power is an important pillar in electricity generation in France. However, France's nuclear power plants are ageing, and the possibility of reducing their share in power generation or even a complete phase-out has been increasingly discussed. This paper looks at this option, and comes to the conclusion that a commitment towards nuclear policy reform is only mildly beneficial in terms of system costs.

## The Catalan "referendum" seen from Germany...

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

*Die Befragung zur Unabhängigkeit Kataloniens (9.11.2014) Ergebnisse, Hintergründe und Herausforderungen für Europa*

by Sabine Riedel  
25 November 2014

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

The symbolic referendum on Catalonia's independence was invalid and ruled out negotiations on a binding independence referendum. The author of this paper examines its results and challenges for Europe. More background information can be found in the [report of the Government of Catalonia](#), who studied overall support for holding the consultation.

## Turkish foreign policy seen from Greece...

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

*Η Μπλόφα του Kobane και τα Κουρδικά Αδιέξοδα της Πολιτικής Ερντογάν*

by Θεόδωρος Τσακίρης  
November 2014

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

This paper analyses Turkish foreign policy and the Kurdish question.

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