



THINK TANK REVIEW

Central Library

APRIL 2015
ISSUE 23

Welcome to issue 23 of the Think Tank Review, compiled by the EU Council Library*. It references papers published in March 2015. As usual, we link to the full text and include a short abstract.

This month's exceptionally rich Review has a focus on the economy, with several think tanks looking at the details of the ECB's quantitative easing, comparing it to precedents elsewhere, or trying to ascertain the impact of QE and other measures on one or more Member States.

On the internal market, we note a study by Bruegel, concluding that its positive impact has not yet met the expectations and calling for EU and national "distributional policies" to mitigate its negative impact on some sectors.

On institutions, and at a moment where foreign policy is so high on the European agenda, *Svenska institutet för europapolitiska studier* came with a timely report on [the diplomatic role of the European Parliament's parliamentary groups](#). Still on institutions, the *Centrum für Europäische Politik* has recommendations on how to empower national parliaments in subsidiarity scrutiny.

As insiders know, our library is part of the General Secretariat's directorate in charge of [transparency and access to documents](#). As such, we were particularly interested in the critical view of transparency in EU institutions expressed in [the black box of European legislation](#) from the Polish Institute of International Affairs.

On a related matter, [here](#) some background on the Council's participation in the EU open data portal.

From transparency to politicisation: two papers, from the *Konrad Adenauer Stiftung* and Terranova, go back to the issue of turnout at the European elections in 2014 and of how to mobilise voters. Speaking of elections, the Jacques Delors Institute reminds us that 2015 is Europe's *Superwahljahr*, with ballots at various levels in 8 Member States. Analyses of elections in Europe are published regularly by the *Fondation Schuman's* ([here](#) a recent example).

Coming to policies, stakeholders and institutions are [drawing conclusions](#) from the consultation on the review of the EU copyright rules; among the many background papers, we gathered in March the Lisbon Council's [2015 intellectual property and economic growth index](#).

Many think tanks looked at energy issues in March, examining price differentials in gas imports among Member States (FIIA), modalities for joint gas purchases (CEP), the internal dimension of energy security (EPC) or stakeholders' proposals to reduce costs and secure supply (Friends of Europe). And in the run-up to the Paris conference on climate change, both Notre Europe and the Fondation Schuman focus on the Franco-German relationship in the area of energy. Others (CEPS, OSW, Madariaga Foundation, IAI) looked at TTIP negotiations, displaying the habitual variety of positions for and against.

Download your Think Tank Review



<http://councillibrary.wordpress.com>

* 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.

The Special Focus of this Review covers immigration and asylum, with papers looking at models of refugee distribution (Konrad Adenauer Stiftung), the Dublin system (Migration Policy Institute), labour migration from the EU and third countries in Germany and Denmark (Bertelsmann Stiftung, IFRI and Taenketanken Europa).

Finally, for those with a specific interest in the UK, we signal an independent initiative which by accident carries the same, admittedly not too original name as this Review: <http://thinktankreview.co.uk/> offers a selection of reports from British think tanks. See their [selection criteria](#) and, last week, their convenient [round-up](#) on party manifestos.

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

The next Review will be out in May 2015, with papers published in April.

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.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION 1 - EU POLITICS AND INSTITUTIONS	10
SECTION 2 - ECONOMICS	14
SECTION 3 - EU MEMBER STATES	18
SECTION 4 - EU POLICIES	25
SECTION 5 - EXTERNAL RELATIONS	34
SPECIAL FOCUS - EU ASYLUM AND REFUGEE POLICY	50
REGARDS CROISÉS	52

SECTION 1 - EU POLITICS AND INSTITUTIONS

EU INSTITUTIONS

Polski Instytut Spraw Międzynarodowych (Polish Institute of International Affairs)

The black box of European legislation: the motivation (or lack of it) behind transparency in EU policymaking 10

European Stability Initiative

Measuring corruption – The case for deep analysis and a simple proposal 10

Transparency International

Integrity of public officials in EU countries: international norms and standards 10

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

EU elections – Where are the voters? Study about the low turnout in new EU Member States 10

Terra nova

Elections européennes : comment accroître la participation et politiser les enjeux du vote 11

Jacques Delors Institute - Berlin

Europas Superwahljahr 2015: acht Wahlen und ihre Bedeutung für die EU 11

Leuven Centre for Global Governance Studies

Charting the legal landscape of EU external relations post-Lisbon..... 11

European Political Strategy Centre

Global trends to 2030: can the EU meet the challenges ahead..... 11

Centrum für Europäische Politik (Centre for European Policy)

Subsidiaritätsprinzip mit Leben füllen - Fünf Anforderungen an eine "bessere Rechtsetzung" in der Europäischen Union..... 12

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

The diplomatic role of the European Parliament's parliamentary groups..... 12

Europe's pivotal peace projects: ethnic separation and European integration..... 12

BANKING UNION

European Policy Institutes Network

Analysis of works on the Banking Union from the perspective of a non-euro area country 12

Centre for European Policy Studies

Lessons from Quantitative Easing: much ado about so little? 13

The ECB's QE: time to break the doom loop between banks and their governments..... 13

Bruegel

European Central Bank quantitative easing: the detailed manual 13

SAFE - Sustainable Architecture for Finance in Europe

Sovereign credit risk, liquidity, and ECB intervention: Deus ex machina?..... 13

SECTION 2 - ECONOMICS

Bruegel

Living (dangerously) without a fiscal union 14

The financial stability risks of ultra-loose monetary policy 14

Bertelsmann Stiftung

The euro - more than just a currency..... 14

LUISS School of European Political Economy	
<i>Policy coordination. A necessary step for the eurozone recovery</i>	14
Tænketanken EUROPA	
<i>Ryd ud i 3.000 skatteregler og halver selskabsskatten i EU</i>	15
Fondation Robert Schuman	
<i>The Juncker Plan - the vehicle for revived European ambition?</i>	15
European Policy Centre	
<i>Growth for Europe - Is the Juncker Plan the answer?</i>	15
Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute	
<i>The macro-economic conditionality, the story of a triple penalty for regions</i>	15
Centre for European Policy Studies	
<i>Current account 'core-periphery dualism' in the EMU</i>	16
<i>Money, finance and the real economy: what went wrong?</i>	16
European Policy Centre	
<i>Greece back on centre stage: the results of a déjà vu summit</i>	16
Centre for European Policy Studies	
<i>Will this time be different for Greece? How to assess its ability to deliver on the reform agenda</i>	16
Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (German Institute for International and Security Affairs)	
<i>Finanzkollaps in Griechenland: Reformen oder Dauer-Bailout?</i>	16
Svenska institutet för europapolitiska studier (Swedish Institute for European Policy Studies)	
<i>Groundhog day in Greece</i>	17
<i>The Greek elections of 2015 and Greece's future in the eurozone</i>	17
SECTION 3 - EU MEMBER STATES	
BULGARIA	
Институт за пазарна икономика (Institute for Market Economics)	
<i>Regional profiles: policy proposals 2015</i>	18
CYPRUS	
Κυπριακό Κέντρο Ευρωπαϊκών και Διεθνών Υποθέσεων (Cyprus Center for European and International Affairs)	
<i>The Cyprus problem in 2015: an assessment and prospects for a solution</i>	18
DENMARK	
Tænketanken EUROPA	
<i>Partierne bag EU-aftale sylter retssikkerheden</i>	18
FRANCE	
Fondapol - Fondation pour l'Innovation Poilitique	
<i>Anti-Semitic attitudes in France: new insights</i>	19
GERMANY	
Centre for European Reform	
<i>Germany rebalancing: waiting for Godot?</i>	19
Institut der deutschen Wirtschaft Köln (Cologne Institute for Economic Research)	
<i>Facetten des Gender Pay Gap. Empirische Evidenz auf Basis des Sozio-oekonomischen Panels</i>	19
Bertelsmann Stiftung	
<i>Increasing wage inequality in Germany: what role does global trade play?</i>	19
ITALY	
Istituto Bruno Leoni	
<i>L'eterno ritorno del Piano Banda larga</i>	20
Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung (German Institute for Economic Research)	
<i>Loan loss provision: some empirical evidence for Italian banks</i>	20
NETHERLANDS	
Nederlands Instituut voor Internationale Betrekkingen - Clingendael (Netherlands Institute of International Relations)	
<i>Beyond scares and tales: climate-proofing Dutch foreign policy. Clingendael report for the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency (PBL)</i>	20

SLOVENIA

<i>Corporate investment and corporate taxation during the economic crisis in Slovenia</i>	21
---	----

SPAIN

Fundación de Estudios de Economía Aplicada

<i>Contabilidad financiera y social de la Alta Velocidad en España</i>	21
--	----

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

<i>La gauche radicale aux portes du pouvoir : après la Grèce, l'Espagne? Comment Podemos rebat les cartes du paysage politique espagnol</i>	21
---	----

<i>Wahlen in Spanien 2015: das Ende des Zweiparteiensystems</i>	21
---	----

UNITED KINGDOM

Centre for European Policy Studies

<i>Britain's future in Europe: reform, renegotiation, repatriation or secession?</i>	22
--	----

European Council on Foreign Relations

<i>The British problem and what it means for Europe</i>	22
---	----

Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute

<i>Cameron: taking a gamble on Europe</i>	22
---	----

Institute of Economic Affairs

<i>The EU jobs myth</i>	22
-------------------------------	----

The Institute of International and European Affairs

<i>Britain and Europe: the endgame - An Irish perspective</i>	23
---	----

Centre for Policy Studies

<i>Central planning with market features: how renewable subsidies destroyed the UK electricity market</i>	23
---	----

Fabian Society

<i>A recipe for inequality</i>	23
--------------------------------------	----

Overseas Development Institute

<i>UK humanitarian aid in the age of counterterrorism: perceptions and reality</i>	24
--	----

SECTION 4 - EU POLICIES

JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

Centre for European Policy Studies

<i>Citizenship deprivation: a normative analysis</i>	25
--	----

Polski Instytut Spraw Międzynarodowych (Polish Institute of International Affairs)

<i>Governance of the free movement of EU citizens: weathering the storm of politicisation</i>	25
---	----

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

<i>Financing of organised crime</i>	25
---	----

<i>Model approach for investigating the financing of organised crime</i>	26
--	----

Tænketanken EUROPA

<i>EU gør det nemmere at efterforske på tværs af grænser</i>	26
--	----

COMPETITIVENESS (INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND SPACE)

Bruegel

<i>Mapping competitiveness with European data</i>	26
---	----

<i>The long road towards the European single market</i>	26
---	----

Lisbon Council for Economic Competitiveness and Social Renewal

<i>The 2015 intellectual property and economic growth index: measuring the impact of exceptions and limitations in copyright on growth, jobs and prosperity</i>	27
---	----

Leuven Centre for Global Governance Studies

<i>Space debris remediation, its regulation and the role of Europe</i>	27
--	----

Forum for research on Eastern Europe and Emerging Economies

<i>Did the fertilizer cartel cause the food crisis?</i>	27
---	----

TRANSPORT/TELECOMMUNICATIONS/ENERGY

Leuven Centre for Global Governance Studies

<i>Internet and jurisdiction after Google Spain: the extra-territorial reach of the EU's "right to be forgotten"</i>	27
--	----

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

<i>Von der Energiewende lernen: Erwartungen der Entwicklungsländer an Deutschland</i>	28
---	----

Ulkopoliittinen instituutti (Finnish Institute of International Affairs)	
<i>The EU's Energy Union: towards an integrated European energy market?</i>	28
Friends of Europe	
<i>Europe's Energy Union and the road to Paris and beyond: towards an EU model reconciling climate, energy security and competitiveness needs</i>	28
Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute	
<i>Strengthening the European electricity market through improved Franco-German cooperation</i>	29
Ελληνικό Ίδρυμα Ευρωπαϊκής και Εξωτερικής Πολιτικής (Hellenic Foundation for European Foreign Policy)	
<i>Rethinking energy security: an inter-paradigmatic debate</i>	29
European Policy Centre	
<i>EU's quest for energy security - What role for the Energy Union?</i>	29
Fondation Robert Schuman	
<i>Energy, a networked Europe</i>	29
Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung (German Institute for Economic Research)	
<i>The Market Stability Reserve: is Europe serious about the Energy Union?</i>	30
Centrum für Europäische Politik (Centre for European Policy)	
<i>Gemeinsamer Gaseinkauf</i>	30
Oxford Institute for Energy Studies	
<i>Europe's 'Energy Union' plan: a reasonable start to a long journey</i>	30
ENVIRONMENT	
Centrum für Europäische Politik (Centre for European Policy)	
<i>Erweitert den Emissionshandel!</i>	30
EMPLOYMENT/SOCIAL POLICY/HEALTH/CONSUMER AFFAIRS	
Centre for European Policy Studies	
<i>Labour mobility in Europe: an untapped resource?</i>	31
<i>Green, pink & silver? The future of labour in Europe, vol. 2</i>	31
Bruegel	
<i>Poor and under pressure: the social impact of Europe's fiscal consolidation</i>	31
Max-Planck-Institut für Gesellschaftsforschung (Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies)	
<i>Bringing power back in: a review of the literature on the role of business in welfare state politics</i>	31
European Policy Centre	
<i>Fostering social cohesion: the missing link in the EU's exit strategy from the crisis</i>	32
Foundation for European Progressive Studies	
<i>"Woman Up! 2" A Transatlantic Dialogue</i>	32
Fondation Robert Schuman	
<i>A modern Europe is one that includes more women</i>	32
European Centre for International Political Economy	
<i>The health of nations: a Transatlantic trade and investment agenda for better healthcare</i>	32
EDUCATION/YOUTH/CULTURE/SPORT	
World Economic Forum	
<i>New vision for education: unlocking the potential of technology</i>	33
European Union Centre in Singapore	
<i>Higher education scholarships as a soft power tool: an analysis of its role in the EU and Singapore</i>	33
Fondapol - Fondation pour l'Innovation Politique	
<i>Éducation et Islam</i>	33
SECTION 5 - EXTERNAL RELATIONS	
SECURITY AND DEFENCE	
International Centre for Counter-Terrorism - The Hague	
<i>Responding to cyber jihad: towards an effective counter narrative</i>	34
Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations	
<i>What drives Europeans to Syria, and to IS? Insights from the Belgian case</i>	34
Barcelona Centre for International Affairs	
<i>Pourquoi l' "Etat islamique" attire-t-il?</i>	34

Policy Exchange	
<i>Clearing the fog of law: saving our armed forces from defeat by judicial diktat</i>	34
Institut français des relations internationales	
<i>L'union ou la force ? Les défis des opérations multinationales contemporaines</i>	35
Institut de relations internationales et stratégiques	
<i>French and German defence: the opportunities of transformation</i>	35
<i>La défense face aux défis du dérèglement climatique</i>	35
<i>Towards balanced defence Industry in Europe: main specificities of Central and Eastern European defence industries</i>	35
Российский совет по международным делам (Russian International Affairs Council) / Atlantic Council	
<i>Managing differences on European security in 2015</i>	35
Ośrodek Studiów Wschodnich (Centre for Eastern Studies)	
<i>The Baltic states' territorial defence forces in the face of hybrid threats</i>	36
GEOPOLITICS AND STRATEGY	
German Marshall Fund of the United States	
<i>Gas discoveries in the Eastern Mediterranean: implications for regional maritime security</i>	36
Fundación para las relaciones internacionales y el diálogo exterior (Foundation for International Relations and Foreign Dialogue)	
<i>Fragile states: an urgent challenge for EU foreign policy</i>	36
Institut de relations internationales et stratégiques	
<i>Entre États-Unis, Chine et Russie, l'enjeu eurasiatique</i>	37
Jacques Delors Institute - Berlin	
<i>EU-Nachbarschaftspolitik auf dem Prüfstand: Lehren aus dem Süden</i>	37
Ústav mezinárodních vztahů (Institute of International Relations Prague)	
<i>The EU normative power as a shield for dependency?</i>	37
Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)	
<i>Hope for indebted states: will the United Nations be successful in establishing a sovereign debt workout mechanism?</i>	37
INTERNATIONAL TRADE	
Centre for European Policy Studies / Center for Transatlantic Relations	
<i>Transatlantic investment treaty protection</i>	38
<i>Transatlantic investment treaty protection – A response to Poulsen, Bonnitcha and Yackee</i>	38
Centre for European Policy Studies	
<i>Transatlantic MRAs: lessons for TTIP?</i>	38
Ośrodek Studiów Wschodnich (Centre for Eastern Studies)	
<i>Germany's stance on the TTIP: background, interests and concerns</i>	38
Madariaga – College of Europe Foundation	
<i>Affranchir l'Europe du TTIP et du dollar</i>	39
Istituto Bruno Leoni	
<i>Tutti i complottismi sul TTIP</i>	39
Istituto Affari Internazionali	
<i>TTIP and EU-Turkish economic relations: deepening the Customs Union</i>	39
Ulkopoliittinen instituutti (Finnish Institute of International Affairs)	
<i>Seal the deal or lose Brazil: implications of the EU-Mercosur negotiations</i>	39
DEVELOPMENT	
Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)	
<i>Goals for the rich: indispensable for a universal post-2015 agenda</i>	40
European Centre for Development Policy Management / Institute for Security Studies	
<i>Sahel strategies: why coordination is imperative</i>	40
ENLARGEMENT	
Center for Research and Policy Making	
<i>Saving democracy in Macedonia: what to do after the wire-tapping scandal</i>	40
Group for Legal and Political Studies	
<i>Filling the black hole: bringing Kosovo into international police cooperation organizations</i>	40

<i>A counterfactual analysis of the impact of remittances on poverty in Kosovo: an empirical perspective</i>	41
European Stability Initiative	
<i>Bosnia as Wunderkind of doing business. Outline of 14 steps to take – A proposal to the presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina</i>	41
ASIA	
Centre for European Policy Studies	
<i>The EU and Azerbaijan: game on for a more normative policy?</i>	41
Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)	
<i>A certain path to an uncertain future: Kyrgyzstan's accession to the Customs Union/Eurasian Economic Union</i>	41
Bruegel	
<i>The effort to stabilise the financial system in Japan: an outline and the characteristics of the programme for financial revival</i>	42
Nederlands Instituut voor Internationale Betrekkingen - Clingendael (Netherlands Institute of International Relations)	
<i>Cross-strait relations and trade diplomacy in East Asia: towards greater EU–Taiwan economic cooperation?</i>	42
<i>China, Europe and the maritime Silk Road</i>	42
Friends of Europe	
<i>ASEM: renewal and revival for the third decade</i>	42
CUBA	
Barcelona Centre for International Affairs	
<i>Incertidumbres del porvenir de los cubanos</i>	43
Fundación Alternativas	
<i>La apertura de Obama hacia Cuba: una oportunidad hemisférica</i>	43
EASTERN PARTNERSHIP	
German Marshall Fund of the United States	
<i>European Eastern Partnership: recommendations for a refined approach</i>	43
საქართველოს სტრატეგიისა და საერთაშორისო ურთიერთობების კვლევის ფონდი (Georgian Foundation for Strategic and International Studies)	
<i>Georgia: buffer or NATO ally?</i>	43
Expert-Grup	
<i>Euromonitor 2014 - sinteza principalelor acțiuni din 2014 [Euromonitor 2014: an outlook on Moldova's evolution in implementing EU reforms in 2014]</i>	44
MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA	
Institute for National Security Studies	
<i>A bridge over the Mediterranean: the French-Egyptian arms deal</i>	44
<i>Recalculating the Gaza route: reconstruction of an autonomous area with protected zones</i>	44
Istituto Affari Internazionali	
<i>From Morsi to Al-Sisi: foreign policy at the service of domestic policy</i>	44
<i>What to do about Libya: intervention or mediation?</i>	45
Fundación para las relaciones internacionales y el diálogo exterior (Foundation for International Relations and Foreign Dialogue)	
<i>The EU's geopolitical crossroads in the Middle East</i>	45
Carnegie Europe	
<i>Taking EU-Iran relations beyond the nuclear file</i>	45
Institute for National Security Studies	
<i>Recognizing Iran as a nuclear threshold state: implications for Israel and the Middle East</i>	45
International Crisis Group	
<i>Yemen at war</i>	46
RUSSIA	
Centre for European Reform	
<i>Frozen: the politics and economics of sanctions against Russia</i>	46
Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (German Institute for International and Security Affairs)	
<i>EU-Sanktionen gegen Russland - Ziele, Wirkung und weiterer Umgang</i>	46

Центр экономических и финансовых исследований и разработок (Center for Economic and Financial Research)	
<i>Export costs of visa restrictions</i>	46
European Policy Centre	
<i>Crimea one year after Russian annexation</i>	47
Fondation Robert Schuman	
<i>What should Europe's policy be towards Russia?</i>	47
Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)	
<i>UE i Estul în 2030: patru scenarii pentru relatia dintre UE, Federatia Rusă i vecinătatea comună / Grupul de Scenarii UE+Est 2030</i>	47
UKRAINE	
Case - Centrum Analiz Społeczno-Ekonomicznych (Center for Social and Economic Research)	
<i>A quarter century of economic reforms in Ukraine: too late, too slow, too little</i>	47
Polski Instytut Spraw Międzynarodowych (Polish Institute of International Affairs)	
<i>Can Ukraine mimic Poland's transition? The limits of its latest economic changes</i>	48
<i>Neither "NATO's foreign legion" nor the "Donbass International Brigades": (where are all the) foreign fighters in Ukraine?</i>	48
Istituto Affari Internazionali	
<i>Heroes or villains? Volunteer battalions in post-Maidan Ukraine</i>	48
Ulkopoliittinen instituutti (Finnish Institute of International Affairs)	
<i>The war and reforms in Ukraine: can it cope with both?</i>	48
UNITED STATES	
Heritage Foundation	
<i>The US should oppose the UN's attempt to ban autonomous weapons</i>	49
SPECIAL FOCUS - EU ASYLUM AND REFUGEE POLICY	
Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung	
<i>Who bears responsibility? Models and perspectives of European refugee policy</i>	50
Migration Policy Institute	
<i>The development of EU policy on immigration and asylum: rethinking coordination and leadership</i>	50
<i>Not adding up: the fading promise of Europe's Dublin system</i>	50
Bertelsmann Stiftung	
<i>Zuwanderungsbedarf aus Drittstaaten in Deutschland bis 2050: Szenarien für ein konstantes Erwerbspersonenpotenzial – unter Berücksichtigung der zukünftigen inländischen Erwerbsbeteiligung und der EU-Binnenmobilität</i>	50
Institut français des relations internationales	
<i>L'immigration européenne en Allemagne: tendances actuelles</i>	51
Tænketanken EUROPA	
<i>Flere østeuropæiske arbejdstagere er en god nyhed for Danmark</i>	51
REGARDS CROISÉS	
CGT FRENCH TRADE UNION ANALYSED FROM A GERMAN PERSPECTIVE	
Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)	
<i>Kommt die CGT unter neuer Führung aus der Krise? Gewerkschaftsanalyse Frankreich</i>	52
A GERMAN THINK TANK HOSTS A FRENCH VIEW OF FRANCO-RUSSIAN RELATIONS	
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Auswärtige Politik (German Council on Foreign Relations)	
<i>Dualitäten der französischen Russlandpolitik. Die Ukraine Krise als Bewährungsprobe</i>	52

SECTION 1 - EU POLITICS AND INSTITUTIONS

EU INSTITUTIONS

Polski Instytut Spraw Międzynarodowych (Polish Institute of International Affairs)

The black box of European legislation: the motivation (or lack of it) behind transparency in EU policymaking

by Karolina Borońska-Hryniewiecka [@K_Boronska](#)

19 March 2015

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

In spite of the existence of legal safeguards related to access to EU documents or the European Commission's (EC) public consultation policy, the existing EU transparency rules are substantially undermined in practice by complex decision-making procedures, opaque inter-institutional negotiations as well as by a lack of consistency in the EU's culture of transparency. The EU needs to present a unified approach to transparency vis-à-vis its citizens, if it wants to evolve into a genuine political union.

European Stability Initiative

Measuring corruption – The case for deep analysis and a simple proposal

19 March 2015

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

Whether the EU Anti-Corruption Report announced in 2014 by the Commission is issued or not, the assessment for all seven accession countries should be done, argues ESI. The Commission report offers descriptions of the institutional and legal infrastructure that play a role in combatting corruption in the accession countries. But studying and improving the institutional and legal infrastructure is not an end in itself. Behaviour must change. To do this, ESI believes that the European Commission has a powerful tool that is not currently used in the context of accession.

Transparency International

Integrity of public officials in EU countries: international norms and standards

27 March 2015

Link to the article in [English](#) (68 p.)

This research paper looks at the international anti-corruption and good governance standards, focusing on the anti-corruption norms and defining the work of public officials. The analysis is divided into three main sections: prevention, criminalisation and citizens' rights. It looks at the standards, overlaps and loopholes in each of the selected sub-fields, providing an insight into the most important aspects of monitoring of integrity standards in the public sector.

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

EU elections – Where are the voters? Study about the low turnout in new EU Member States

by Franziska Fislage

March 2015

Link to the article in [English](#) (20 p.) and in [German](#) (21 p.)

From 22 to 25 May 2014, EU citizens went to the polls to cast their votes for a new EU Parliament. Almost 60% of eligible voters stayed away. Turnout throughout Europe was therefore lower than ever before in EU history. An analysis of the figures for the 28 EU Member States shows that turnout was particularly low in countries of Central and Eastern Europe, which did not join the EU

until 2004 and 2013. This paper looks at the underlying reasons for the low turnout and makes recommendations on how it could be increased. Some other references on this topic [here](#).

Terra nova

Elections européennes : comment accroître la participation et politiser les enjeux du vote

by Etienne Rosée

4 March 2015

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

This report is the second in a series on "European democracy and the 2014 election cycle". It seeks to identify levers to increase participation and politicize issues in European elections.

Jacques Delors Institute - Berlin

Europas Superwahljahr 2015: acht Wahlen und ihre Bedeutung für die EU

by Nicole Koenig and Jörg Haas

27 March 2015

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

Elections in Greece in early 2015 were only the beginning of a European super-election year, with elections in eight EU Member States with a total of 175 million people. This policy paper examines possible implications for the EU and for the stabilization efforts in the euro zone.

Leuven Centre for Global Governance Studies

Charting the legal landscape of EU external relations post-Lisbon

by Thomas Ramopoulos and Jan Wouters

March 2015

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

This paper examines the legal and institutional architecture of EU external relations since the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty. The discussion is structured around its different actors with most prominently the position of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, also a Vice President of the Commission. The analysis underlines the persistent duality between the CFSP and non-CFSP external policies and internal policies with an external dimension. The new provisions have given rise to multiple questions regarding, among others, the compatibility and scope of application of the different legal bases in EU external action, the interpretation of the EU's treaty-making procedure of Article 218 TFEU, and the external representation of the Union.

European Political Strategy Centre

Global trends to 2030: can the EU meet the challenges ahead

26 March 2015

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

This text draws extensively on four previous, more detailed, reports drawn up under the ESPAS process to date, as well as on discussions at the annual ESPAS conferences, and on an extensive review of the existing literature on global trends. It seeks to distil into compact form the main trends that will shape the global geo-political, economic and social systems of coming decades, with special reference to their implications for the Union in the period ahead.

Centrum für Europäische Politik (Centre for European Policy)

Subsidiaritätsprinzip mit Leben füllen - Fünf Anforderungen an eine "bessere Rechtsetzung" in der Europäischen Union

by Klaus-Dieter Sohn and Sebastian Czuratis

2 March 2015

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

Wide-ranging proposals to strengthen the principle of subsidiarity in the EU, including a call to the Commission to consult national parliaments before making policy proposals, and the proposal to establish a *Kompetenzgerichtshof* to decide on subsidiarity cases, based on actionable criteria.

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

The diplomatic role of the European Parliament's parliamentary groups

by Daniel Fiott

March 2015

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

With the Lisbon Treaty, the European Parliament increased its power of scrutiny over the CFSP and the CSDP. But what role does the European Parliament, and more specifically the political groups, play in that policy area? In this analysis, the author argues that the political groups of the European Parliament do play a diplomatic role in the EU's foreign policy. The paper provides an overview of what form of diplomatic activities the political groups engage in and what impact as well as potential benefits and drawback this might have.

Europe's pivotal peace projects: ethnic separation and European integration

by Lynn M. Tesser

March 2015

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

This paper explains why the European integration may enhance fears of renewed irredentism. EU enlargement creates an opportunity for the return of former minorities – and new opportunities for nationalists to characterize their return as a prelude to revanchist. This is a highly relevant issue in the modern EU where ethnic mixing and un-mixing is on the agenda in several member countries.

BANKING UNION

European Policy Institutes Network

Analysis of works on the Banking Union from the perspective of a non-euro area country

by Maria Majkowska [@Maria_Majkowska](#)

March 2015

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

An analysis of the engagement of Poland and other non-euro area countries in the Banking Union, with a call for similar commitment when it comes to the elements still under negotiation.

Centre for European Policy Studies

Lessons from Quantitative Easing: much ado about so little?

by Daniel Gros, Cinzia Aldici and Willem Pieter De Groen

March 2015

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

It is difficult to measure the impact of the different episodes of quantitative easing (QE) undertaken since 2008 in the major advanced economies (the US, the UK and Japan). One can clearly discern QE in the expansion of the balance sheets of the central banks concerned, but the impact on (long-term) interest rates is difficult to isolate, given the global trend toward slower rates and the high degree of co-movement across major currency areas. The observation that QE did not have any impact on interest rate differentials is compatible with the fact that there is little evidence of a systematic effect of QE on the exchange rate.

The ECB's QE: time to break the doom loop between banks and their governments

by Willem Pieter de Groen

March 2015

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

This paper presents the results of a simulation exercise performed for 109 systemic banks in the eurozone, showing that their eurozone government debt portfolios would have to decrease by 3.2% or €63 billion, if a 50% of own-funds cap would be applied on large exposures. The eurozone central banks' demand for sovereign bonds under the extended asset purchase programme further creates momentum to start gradually implementing the restriction.

Bruegel

European Central Bank quantitative easing: the detailed manual

by Grégory Claeys [@gregclaeys](#), Alvaro Leandro and Allison Mandra

11 March 2015

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

The European quantitative easing programme, the Public Sector Purchase Programme (PSPP), started on 9 March 2015 and will last at least until September 2016. Purchases will be composed of sovereign bonds and securities from European institutions and national agencies. This paper examines the detail of how quantitative easing will actually take place in the euro area and its implications.

SAFE - Sustainable Architecture for Finance in Europe

Sovereign credit risk, liquidity, and ECB intervention: Deus ex machina?

by Lorian Pelizzon, Marti G. Subrahmanyam, Davide Tomio and Jun Uno

March 2015

Link to the article in [English](#) (88 p.)

This paper examines the dynamic relationship between credit risk and liquidity in the sovereign bond market in the context of the ECB interventions. Using a comprehensive set of liquidity measures for Italian government bonds, the authors show that changes in credit risk, as measured by the credit default swap (CDS) spread, generally drive the liquidity of the market: a 10% change in the CDS spread leads a 11% change in the bid-ask spread. The authors show that the Long-Term Refinancing Operations intervention by the ECB weakened the sensitivity of the liquidity provision by the market makers to changes in the Italian government's credit risk.

SECTION 2 - ECONOMICS

Bruegel

Living (dangerously) without a fiscal union

by Ashoka Mody [@AshokaMody](#)

March 2015

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

The euro area's political contract requires member nations to rely principally on their own resources when confronted with severe economic distress: national fiscal austerity is the default response to counter national fiscal stress. When it became the norm, growth was hurt, which undermined the primary objective of lowering the debt burden. To prevent a meltdown, distressed nations were given official loans to repay private creditors. But the stress and instability continued and soon it became necessary to ease the repayment terms on official loans. The German-inspired fiscal austerity was combined with the deep pockets of the ECB, drawn into the political process when its safety net for insolvent or near-insolvent banks and sovereigns substituted for the absent fiscal union.

The financial stability risks of ultra-loose monetary policy

by Grégory Claeys [@gregclaeys](#) and Zsolt Darvas [@ZsoltDarvas](#)

March 2015

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

This article draws lessons for the euro-area based on the theoretical literature and developments in the US, UK and Japan, where very expansionary monetary policies were adopted during the past six years. The authors conclude that the risks to financial stability of ultra-loose monetary policy in the euro area could be low; however, they say, vigilance is needed.

Bertelsmann Stiftung

The euro - more than just a currency

by Sabine Seeger

March 2015

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

Since the beginning of the euro crisis in 2010, eurosceptic political parties have been gaining ground, making it increasingly difficult to form a majority in the European Parliament. Meeting their demands would mean risking the Economic and Monetary Union's ongoing existence, and not only to the Single Market. Yet how can Europe continue to use the euro and, simultaneously, prevent future financial crises? What is required to ensure financial and economic management that effectively serves the eurozone, and which steps should policymakers now take to achieve it?

LUISS School of European Political Economy

Policy coordination. A necessary step for the eurozone recovery

by Andrea Boitani [@AndreaBoitani](#) and Roberto Tamborini

February 2015

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

The prolonged recession in the eurozone is mainly due to austerity policies. The social costs of the crisis and the permanent risks of Euro-dissolution suggest that it is urgent having a new "Ecofin 2.0", with a clear mandate for fiscal policy coordination vis-à-vis the monetary policy stance of the ECB, even in the absence of a full-blown European federal system. We attempt at listing the main features of the suggested institutional reform.

Tænketanken EUROPA

Ryd ud i 3.000 skatteregler og halver selskabsskatten i EU

by Mikkel Høegh

26 March 2015

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

A call to simplify national tax rules and make significant tax cuts. The report argues for halving the average corporate tax rate in Europe, and safeguard revenue by tackling tax evasion and special treatments.

Fondation Robert Schuman

The Juncker Plan - the vehicle for revived European ambition?

by Olivier Marty

10 March 2015

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

The proposed regulation on the creation of the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) was presented by the European Commission in mid-January 2015, with the aim of implementing the Fund by the summer. In this perspective, this paper recalls the three dimensions of the Juncker Plan, analyses how their joint effect can guarantee the success of the latter, and sets out some views on the technical aspects currently under debate.

European Policy Centre

Growth for Europe - Is the Juncker Plan the answer?

by Jan David Schneider

20 March 2015

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

This paper presents a number of proposals that could improve the impact of the Plan, and discusses the hurdles that will have to be overcome before it can deliver growth and jobs in Europe. It provides an input to the current discussion on how to increase private and public investment in the euro area.

Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute

The macro-economic conditionality, the story of a triple penalty for regions

by Marjorie Jouen

31 March 2015

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

Despite constant opposition of the local and regional authorities and mixed feelings of the national governments, a link between the effectiveness of the European structural and investment funds (ESIF) and good economic governance, i.e. the macro-economic conditionality, has been introduced in the 2014-2020 regulation for the funds. The author argues that this will impose a double unfair penalty onto local and regional authorities, which are not responsible for national deficits, since most of them are constitutionally bound to balance their budgets.

Centre for European Policy Studies

Current account 'core-periphery dualism' in the EMU

by Tatiana Cesaroni and Roberta De Santis

March 2015

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

This paper investigates the determinants of euro area current account imbalances, focusing on the role played by financial integration. The analysis considers two samples of 22 OECD and 15 EU countries; three time horizons corresponding to various steps in European integration; different control variables; and several panel econometric methods. The results suggest that financial integration partially explains current account deterioration in peripheral countries, especially in the post-EMU period.

Money, finance and the real economy: what went wrong?

by Anton Brender, Florence Pisani and Emile Gagna

March 2015

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

CEPS publishes the translation of the original [French](#) version of this e-book. The authors analyse the close links between money, finance and the real economy. In the process, they argue that today the existence of a substantial potential of saving, instead of being an opportunity for the world economy, could threaten it with 'secular stagnation'.

European Policy Centre

Greece back on centre stage: the results of a déjà vu summit

by Janis A. Emmanouilidis [@jaemmanouilidis](#)

23 March 2015

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

This is the regular post-European Council assessment published by EPC. In March, the Council was devoted mainly to Greece.

On this topical issue, we collected in March the following papers, with the caveat that the situation is constantly evolving:

Centre for European Policy Studies

Will this time be different for Greece? How to assess its ability to deliver on the reform agenda

by Miroslav Beblavý [@beblavy](#)

13 March 2015

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

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

Finanzkollaps in Griechenland: Reformen oder Dauer-Bailout?

by Ognian Hishow

March 2015

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

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

Groundhog day in Greece

by Thorsten Beck

March 2015

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

The Greek elections of 2015 and Greece's future in the eurozone

by Dionyssi G. Dimitrakopoulos

March 2015

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

SECTION 3 - EU MEMBER STATES

BULGARIA

Институт за пазарна икономика (Institute for Market Economics)

Regional profiles: policy proposals 2015

31 March 2015

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

The data on the development of Bulgarian regions for the past 10 years emphasizes the need for a radical shift of the regional development philosophy. Even though policy makers are aware of the problems, the approach remains highly administrative and strongly centralized, a factor which decreases the efficiency of the policies. Furthermore, Bulgarian regions remain hostages to political interests and to a large degree are unable to contrast the negative demographic, social and economic trends they are subject to.

CYPRUS

Κυπριακό Κέντρο Ευρωπαϊκών και Διεθνών Υποθέσεων (Cyprus Center for European and International Affairs)

The Cyprus problem in 2015: an assessment and prospects for a solution

by Andreas Theophanous and Elina Christodoulou

March 2015

Link to the article in [Greek](#) (52 p.) and to an executive summary in [English](#) (7 p.)

With the accession of Cyprus to the EU and the euro area, and the subsequent discovery of rich offshore hydrocarbon deposits in the region, high expectations were created. In this context, several alternative options should be examined. These include a functional federation with loose bizonality (i.e. what the late President Papadopoulos described as "a bizonal federation with the appropriate content") or even the establishment of more than just two regions.

DENMARK

Tænketanken EUROPA

Partierne bag EU-aftale sylter retssikkerheden

by Nadja Schou Lauridsen

20 March 2015

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

A critical assessment of the recent developments in Denmark in relation to the country's opt-outs in the area of justice and home affairs. The agreement reached between Danish political parties, argues the author, reflects the need to fight more effectively against terrorism and organised crime, but falls short of establishing legal certainty for Danish citizens.

FRANCE

Fondapol - Fondation pour l'Innovation Poilitique

Anti-Semitic attitudes in France: new insights

by Dominique Reynié [@DominiqueReynie](#)

November 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) (50 p.) and in [French](#) (52 p.)

Fondapol has published the English translation of a report from late 2014. This report presents the findings of two survey of French citizens and attempts to gauge the level of anti-Semitism in the country, pinpointing those sectors of society that are most prone to espouse it. Very [topical](#) in France at the moment.

GERMANY

Centre for European Reform

Germany rebalancing: waiting for Godot?

by Simon Tilford [@SimonTilford](#)

March 2015

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

Far from rebalancing, Germany's trade surplus continues to grow. This is in nobody's interests, says the author, and the German government could and should take steps to reduce it. But as the German government shows little inclination to take active steps to foster rebalancing, the European Commission should step up pressure on it to do so. At present, the Commission does not treat current account surpluses with the same seriousness as it treats deficits. And the German government does not take the Commission's tame warnings seriously.

Institut der deutschen Wirtschaft Köln (Cologne Institute for Economic Research)

Facetten des Gender Pay Gap. Empirische Evidenz auf Basis des Sozio-oekonomischen Panels

by Andrea Hammermann and Jörg Schmidt

March 2015

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

The present study aims to contribute to the discussion about the pay gap between women and men, and bring in some empirical evidence. Handling a multitude of possible factors influencing the remuneration within a multivariate model, it tries to assess the extent to which these factors contribute to explain the gender pay gap. Policy recommendations are then drawn from the empirical research.

Bertelsmann Stiftung

Increasing wage inequality in Germany: what role does global trade play?

by Gabriel Felbermayr, Daniel Baumgarten and Sybille Lehwald

March 2015

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

This study demonstrates that the decline in collective bargaining is the number one factor in rising wage inequality in Germany. While wages have increased in the upper 20 percent of workers since the mid-90s, they decreased in the bottom 20 percent. This development is the result of a 40+ percent drop in the number of companies and employers bound by collective wage agreements. By contrast, stronger international trade is a significantly smaller factor at just 15 percent.

ITALY

Istituto Bruno Leoni

L'eterno ritorno del Piano Banda larga

by Rosamaria Bitetti

10 March 2015

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

A call for the Italian government's plans on broadband to remain technology-neutral and not to discriminate between operators.

Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung (German Institute for Economic Research)

Loan loss provision: some empirical evidence for Italian banks

by Guglielmo Maria Caporale, Matteo Alessi and Stefano Di Colli [@stefanodicolli](#) and Juan Sergio

March 2015

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

This paper uses data from a panel of more than 400 Italian banks for the period 2001 – 2012 to examine the main determinants of loan loss provision (LLP), which are classified as either discretionary (income smoothing, capital management, signalling) or non-discretionary (related to the business cycle). The results suggest that LLP in Italian banks is driven mainly by non-discretionary components, especially during the recession of 2008-2012, and is consistent with a countercyclical behaviour of LLP. Further, it is generally less pro-cyclical (although not during the recent economic crisis) in the case of local banks: since their loans are more collateralised, their behaviour is more strongly affected by supervisory activity, their initial coverage ratio being lower than for other banks.

NETHERLANDS

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

Beyond scares and tales: climate-proofing Dutch foreign policy. Clingendael report for the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency (PBL)

by Louise van Schaik [@LouiseVanSchaik](#), Eva Maas, Rosa Dinnissen [@rosadinnissen](#) and Joost Vos

March 2015

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

This study, conducted with support from the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency (PBL), analyses whether Dutch foreign policies in the fields of development cooperation, foreign economic relations and security are climate-proof. The analysis reveals a greater degree of awareness of climate change in the realm of development and – to a lesser extent – in the realm of security. The possible effects of climate change on trade policies have not received much consideration yet, whereas a true integration of climate change into security policies is still very much work in progress if compared to development, where there has been much more integration.

SLOVENIA

Corporate investment and corporate taxation during the economic crisis in Slovenia

by Miroslav Verbič and Matjaž Črnigoj

March 2015

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

The article relates corporate taxation to corporate investment in Slovenia during the economic crisis in a micro-econometric and a microsimulation setting. Based on the error-correction model of investment behaviour, we found that investments were significantly affected by financial constraints during the economic crisis that hit the economy in 2009. Thus, only the effect of corporate income taxation on corporate investments that materializes through cash flow was active, while there is no evidence of the presence of the effect of the user cost of capital. The direct loss of budget revenues that is caused by the increased investment tax allowances since 2012 is higher than the expected increase of corporate investments related to increased tax allowances.

SPAIN

Fundación de Estudios de Economía Aplicada

Contabilidad financiera y social de la Alta Velocidad en España

by Ofelia Betancor and Gerard Llobet

20 March 2015

Link to the article in [Spanish](#) (61 p.)

This paper studies the financial and social performance of high speed rail in Spain. The analysis is performed for the four corridors active in late 2013. With the exception of the financial analysis for the Madrid-North corridor, the results show that variable costs are covered both in financial and social terms. However in no case the initial investment is covered by the level of demand.

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

La gauche radicale aux portes du pouvoir : après la Grèce, l'Espagne? Comment Podemos rebat les cartes du paysage politique espagnol

by Michael Ehrke

March 2015

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

A short analysis of the new actor in Spanish politics, Podemos, by the Madrid office of the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung. The party is characterised, according to this paper, less by its policy on social rights than by a rhetoric of the people against the elite. The party is often discussed in the LSE's [blog](#).

Wahlen in Spanien 2015: das Ende des Zweiparteiensystems

by Michael Ehrke

March 2015

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

A review of the Spanish political and party system against the background of 2015 as an intense election year for Spain, with elections in Andalusia in March, then local elections in May and elections in 13 of the 17 autonomous regions later in the year. The elections of 2015 are the most uncertain since the democratization, according to the author.

UNITED KINGDOM

Centre for European Policy Studies

Britain's future in Europe: reform, renegotiation, repatriation or secession?

by Michael Emerson (ed.) [@Michael1254O](#)

March 2015

Link to the article in [English](#) (189 p.)

If the Conservative Party wins the 2015 general election, Prime Minister David Cameron has promised the British people that a referendum on the country's future in the EU will take place in 2017. This book offers a succinct, objective and comprehensive review of the evidence, the source of which is the British government's own research project, Review of the Balance of Competences between the United Kingdom and the EU. Read the library's recent [blog post](#) on this topic.

European Council on Foreign Relations

The British problem and what it means for Europe

by Mark Leonard [@markhleonard](#)

11 March 2015

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

ECFR director Mark Leonard argues, *inter alia*, that: the risk of Brexit is not driven by a Eurosceptic public but by a Europhobic elite that has conflated immigration with Europe; an EU without Britain would be smaller, poorer, and less influential on the world stage.

Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute

Cameron: taking a gamble on Europe

by Alain Dauvergne

30 March 2015

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

In an address given on 23 January 2013, David Cameron undertook to organise a referendum by the end of 2017 to decide whether the UK should remain within or withdraw from the EU, should he remain the British Prime Minister after the general election on 7 May 2015. Due to this public commitment, the general election of 7 May 2015 will take on a scale that, going beyond the importance of domestic politics, will directly affect the EU and all of the UK's twenty-seven partners.

Institute of Economic Affairs

The EU jobs myth

by Ryan Bourne

11 March 2015

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

A critical examination of the claim that 3-4 million jobs either 'depend on' or are 'associated with' the UK's membership of the EU. These jobs are associated with trade, and there is no evidence to suggest that trade would substantially reduce between British businesses and European consumers, even if the UK was outside the EU, argues the author. The worst case scenario would be a failure to negotiate a free trade deal in the result of Brexit. If this were the case, both parties would be bound by the WTO's 'most favoured nation' tariffs paid by other developed countries. This would prevent the imposition of punitive tariffs by the EU following the UK's exit, meaning job losses would not be significant.

The Institute of International and European Affairs

Britain and Europe: the endgame - An Irish perspective

by Dáithí O'Ceallaigh and Paul Gillespie

25 March 2015

Link to the article in [English](#) (125 p.)

The authors argue that the relationship has entered the endgame. If not managed with daring and imagination, it could result in Britain exiting from the EU, perhaps unwittingly. The publication examines its consequences under a number of headings, including: the political and economic future of the United Kingdom; its options for a new external relationship with Europe; the political impact on the EU; the implications for Ireland, with particular reference to the economy; and on the totality of Irish-British relations, with special attention to the effect on Northern Ireland. This study proposes a bespoke solution by creating a Union with four cores which would enable Britain to be simultaneously both inside and outside the Union.

Centre for Policy Studies

Central planning with market features: how renewable subsidies destroyed the UK electricity market

by Rupert Darwall [@RupertDarwall](#)

March 2015

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

This report shows that recent energy policy represents the biggest expansion of state power since the nationalisations of the 1940s and 1950s – and is on course to be the most expensive domestic policy disaster in modern British history. The analysis leads to a straightforward conclusion. You can have renewables. Or you can have the market. You cannot have both.

Fabian Society

A recipe for inequality

16 March 2015

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

The Fabian Commission on Food and Poverty has gathered evidence on how the UK's food system serves those on low incomes, and to what extent it contributes to poverty in the UK. This interim report shows clearly that those on the lowest incomes are the ones losing out from our food system. Food price rises have disproportionately hit low-income households since 2013 and now those on lower incomes spend a greater proportion of their budget – between 16% and 35% – on food. Combined with increases in housing and energy costs, those on the lowest incomes are moving closer to crisis. And while the proliferation of supermarkets and the rise of the discount retailers like Aldi and Lidl has held food prices down for consumers, it has come at the cost of huge pressure on the food supply chain. Low pay and zero hour contracts are rife in the food workforce and the search for ever-cheaper ingredients led to the 2013 horsemeat scandal. The commission will present its final report later this year and make recommendations on what politicians can do to fix Britain's unequal and unsustainable food system.

Overseas Development Institute

UK humanitarian aid in the age of counterterrorism: perceptions and reality

by Victoria Metcalfe-Hough, Tom Keatinge and Sara Pantuliano

March 2015

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

In the UK in particular, various factors have brought the impact of counter-terrorism legislation on the provision of international aid into stark focus: the scaling up of NGO activities to respond to complex crises like Syria, Somalia, Gaza and Iraq; increased restrictions on access to financial services for many NGOs, the UK government proposal to expand the powers of the Charity Commission and increased dialogue amongst British INGOs and government counterparts. This report looks at the issue from the perspective of aid agencies, banks, the UK government and the Charity Commission, and reveals how each has, in some way, contributed to the problem, and how they must work together to address it.

SECTION 4 - EU POLICIES

JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

Centre for European Policy Studies

Citizenship deprivation: a normative analysis

by Rainer Bauböck and Vesco Paskalev

March 2015

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

Most critical analyses assess citizenship-deprivation policies against international human rights and domestic rule of law standards, such as prevention of statelessness, non-arbitrariness with regard to justifications and judicial remedies, or non-discrimination between different categories of citizens. This report considers instead from a political theory perspective how deprivation policies reflect specific conceptions of political community. The final section of the report examines whether EU citizenship provides additional reasons for protection against Member States' powers of citizenship deprivation.

A whole set of papers on this same topic has been published by CEPS and included in our selection during the last three months, linked to the [conference](#) organised in December 2014.

Polski Instytut Spraw Międzynarodowych (Polish Institute of International Affairs)

Governance of the free movement of EU citizens: weathering the storm of politicisation

by Alex Lazarowicz

18 March 2015

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

Despite the limited mobility of EU citizens across the European Economic Area, let alone that of migrants, this cherished right has found itself at the centre of political debates in Europe. As illustrated by the key cases debated, and against the backdrop of a rise of populist solutions, one cannot expect a complete overhaul of the free movement framework. All in all, intra-EU mobility for EU citizens and migrants has not been changed as such, only certain provisions have been specified. To this end, bilateral cooperation between sending and receiving countries gains in importance. Cooperation between Norway and Poland, especially on integration, could help depoliticise the debate, and ensure the continued success of Polish workers in Norway.

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

Financing of organised crime

by Michael Levi, Ognian Shentov and Boyko Todorov (eds.)

March 2015

Link to the article in [English](#) (465 p.)

This report contributes to a better understanding of the financial aspects of organised crime. The analysis explores topics such as the sources and mechanisms for financing organised crime, settlement of payments, access to financing in critical moments, costs of business and the management of profits. Drawing on the results of the analysis, the report also suggests possible new approaches to tackling organised crime.

Model approach for investigating the financing of organised crime

March 2015

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

The financing of organised crime is a horizontal issue for all criminal markets, although it rarely falls in the focus of law enforcement agencies. The intelligence gathering of law enforcement agencies has traditionally been focused on uncovering the members of crime groups and tracing the illicit goods or services. Financial transactions are traced mainly for the purposes of money laundering investigations, where the focus is on the proceeds and not on the investments related to the criminal activities. The reason for this is that currently criminal prosecution procedures in all Member States are entirely focused on collecting evidence in regards to possession, transporting, manufacturing or sale of illicit products or services. Financing of organised crime is also often passed over in threat assessments and strategic analyses of organised crime.

Tænketanken EUROPA

EU gør det nemmere at efterforske på tværs af grænser

by Trine Thygesen Vendius

13 March 2015

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

A review of the European Investigation Order in criminal matters, a major step towards more effective investigation of serious crimes such as drug trafficking, human trafficking and other forms of organized and serious crime. With the EIO, police in an EU country may now ask the police in another EU country to carry out investigative steps that may lead to faster detection of offenses. The author then considers how the Danish opt-out excludes Denmark from benefiting from this measure.

COMPETITIVENESS (INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND SPACE)

Bruegel

Mapping competitiveness with European data

by Andreas Koch and Davide Castellani

March 2015

Link to the article in [English](#) (194 p.)

Europe needs improved competitiveness to escape the current economic malaise, so it might seem surprising that there is no common European definition of competitiveness, and no consensus on how to consistently measure it. To help address this situation, this report provides an inventory and an assessment of the data related to the measurement of competitiveness in Europe. It picks up some of the main issues of the "[Mapping European Competitiveness project \(MAPCOMPETE\)](#)".

The long road towards the European single market

by Mario Mariniello [@BruegelMario](#), André Sapir and Alessio Terzi [@terzibus](#)

March 2015

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

The single market project has not sufficiently been framed as a key part of the process of creative destruction that Europe needs to embrace to successfully modernise its economy. That single market integration generates positive and significant aggregate effects does not imply that its effects are positive and significant for every sector. There is therefore an important role for EU and national distributional policies to ensure that losers are sufficiently compensated by the winners, and to overcome political resistance to completing the single market.

Lisbon Council for Economic Competitiveness and Social Renewal

The 2015 intellectual property and economic growth index: measuring the impact of exceptions and limitations in copyright on growth, jobs and prosperity

by Benjamin Gibert

March 2015

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

The index examines the relationship between economic growth and intellectual property regimes in some of the world's most innovative economies, measuring the impact of exceptions to copyright on economic growth. The report finds that countries that employ a broadly flexible regime of exceptions in copyright also saw higher rates of growth in value-added output.

Leuven Centre for Global Governance Studies

Space debris remediation, its regulation and the role of Europe

by Jan Wouters, Philip De Man and Rik Hansen [@Rik_Hansen](#)

March 2015

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

The article looks at the various space actors in Europe, and at the role some of them may play in developing global rules of space debris remediation. Recent events such as the 2007 Chinese ASAT test and the 2009 collision between an active American and an in-operational Russian communications satellite demonstrate that more needs to be done in order to develop a strong international regime on active debris remediation. Given the complexities of these issues and the lengthy nature of international negotiations, one should not expect a comprehensive legal regime for space debris mitigation and remediation to materialize any time soon. As it is in the own interest of its users to preserve outer space for future exploration and use, the regulation of debris mitigation by space agencies may well prove a valuable alternative as a starting point for binding remediation rules.

Forum for research on Eastern Europe and Emerging Economies

Did the fertilizer cartel cause the food crisis?

by Hinnerk Gnutzmann and Piotr Spiewanowski

23 March 2015

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

Food prices escalated during the 2007-2008-food crisis and have remained at historically high levels since. The authors show that an international export cartel for fertilizers was an important driver of the crisis, explaining up to 60% of the price increase. While biofuel subsidies, high energy prices and financial speculation doubtlessly put stress on food markets, the findings suggest new avenues for policy in the fertilizer market to stabilize food markets.

TRANSPORT/TELECOMMUNICATIONS/ENERGY

Leuven Centre for Global Governance Studies

Internet and jurisdiction after Google Spain: the extra-territorial reach of the EU's "right to be forgotten"

by Brendan Van Alsenoy and Marieke Koekkoek

March 2015

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

In May 2015, the Court of Justice of the European Union decided that individuals can – under certain conditions – obtain removal of certain search results. In November, the Article 29 Working

Party issued a set of guidelines concerning the implementation of the ruling. These guidelines state that search engines must implement the ruling "on all relevant domains, including .com". Critics argue that the approach advanced by the Working Party goes a bridge too far, imposing European values onto non-EU jurisdictions. How far should the right to be forgotten extend, geographically speaking? Should Google, upon finding that an individual's request is justified, modify its search results globally? Or should it only modify search results shown within the EU? The aim of this paper is answer these questions, using public international law as the normative framework.

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

Von der Energiewende lernen: Erwartungen der Entwicklungsländer an Deutschland

by Thomas Hirsch

March 2015

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

Is an "energy revolution" possible in developing countries? With a view to the German presidency of the G/7, the study formulates ten recommendations on how Germany can support energy transition processes in developing countries. Here, a coherent overall strategy and better integration of instruments are as important as developing competences in developing countries.

Ulkopoliittinen instituutti (Finnish Institute of International Affairs)

The EU's Energy Union: towards an integrated European energy market?

by Marco Siddi

16 March 2015

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

National energy markets in the EU are largely disconnected from one another. Member states decide their energy mix and negotiate supply contracts with third parties without previously consulting their EU partners. This has resulted in large price differentials between Member States. In order to tackle these issues, the European Commission has proposed the establishment of an EU Energy Union. Its main objectives include the integration of the EU energy market, diversifying suppliers, increasing energy efficiency and decarbonising the economy. However, the implementation of the Energy Union is likely to face several challenges. These primarily concern the reluctance of Member States to renounce national prerogatives in the field of energy, diverging national interests, and the need to create adequate governance mechanisms at the EU level.

Friends of Europe

Europe's Energy Union and the road to Paris and beyond: towards an EU model reconciling climate, energy security and competitiveness needs

by Mike Scott and Danuta Slusarska

Spring 2015

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

Friends of Europe brought together a group of senior figures representing industrial and environmental interests and stakeholders. The final report features 15 areas of agreement and 25 recommendations for EU and national policymakers that highlight ways of reducing Europe's energy costs while ensuring security of supply, reinventing industrial policy for the 21st century, accelerating the low-carbon transition and making better use of fiscal and trade instruments.

Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute

Strengthening the European electricity market through improved Franco-German cooperation

by Stefan Bössner

16 March 2015

Link to the article in [English](#) (30 p.), in [French](#) (32 p.) and in [German](#) (34 p.)

A common European energy policy and a truly common electricity market has yet to emerge, due to the lack of cooperation between Member States and the deficiency of shared governance mechanisms to guide the European energy transition. This paper analyses in depth the bilateral energy relationship between France and Germany, with a focus on the electricity sector, to illustrate this shortcoming and identify opportunities for improved energy cooperation.

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

Rethinking energy security: an inter-paradigmatic debate

by Filippos Proedrou

February 2015

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

This paper challenges mainstream discourse on energy security, de-coupling prosperity from growth. The author argues that a substantial decrease of energy consumption is not only feasible, but will also efficiently address the sustainability challenge and enhance overall energy security.

European Policy Centre

EU's quest for energy security - What role for the Energy Union?

by Annika Hedberg [@AnnikaAhtonen](#)

3 March 2015

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

This policy brief argues that tackling the EU's energy security challenge starts with addressing the internal challenges. A number of Member States have put all their energy eggs in a Russia-basket, notes the author. The EU has been slow to recognise the benefits of collaborating on energy security: national interests and bilateral energy deals continue to weaken the EU's position vis-à-vis supplier countries. The EU's vision for climate and energy policy, and the exact means to achieve its objectives are constantly debated. And the EU has an enormous structural and investment challenge ahead of it, if it is to move towards a more secure and sustainable energy system.

Fondation Robert Schuman

Energy, a networked Europe

by Michel Derdevet

2 March 2015

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

This text is a short summary of a [report](#) addressed to the president of the French Republic on 23 February. It explores concrete avenues for strengthening economic and industrial cooperation, in particular within the Franco-German partnership, with regard to European energy networks.

Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung (German Institute for Economic Research)

The Market Stability Reserve: is Europe serious about the Energy Union?

by William Acworth, Nils May and Karsten Neuhoff

26 March 2015

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

The EU Emission Trading Scheme is a key element of the European Energy Union. However, given the accumulation of a large surplus in the EU ETS, there is now a consensus between the European Commission, the Council and the EU Parliament that a Market Stability Reserve (MSR) needs to be implemented. The Latvian Presidency announced on March 26th a mandate to start trilogue negotiations on the implementation of an MSR. Yet there remains discrepancy on the design parameters which will determine how quickly the MSR can respond to the surplus and restore consistency, price credibility, and robustness for investors of EU ETS.

Centrum für Europäische Politik (Centre for European Policy)

Gemeinsamer Gaseinkauf

by Moritz Bonn and Götz Reichert

30 March 2015

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

Due to the one-sided dependence of many Central and Eastern European EU Member States on Russian gas imports, discussions are under way on the possibilities for joint gas purchases from non-EU countries. This CEP paper looks at the economic impact of a possible mandatory and voluntary joint gas purchasing system.

Oxford Institute for Energy Studies

Europe's 'Energy Union' plan: a reasonable start to a long journey

by David Buchan and Malcolm Keay

March 2015

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

The European Commission has unveiled its plan for an Energy Union, an initiative triggered by the Ukraine crisis' implications for gas security, but which has now taken on a far wider dimension. The authors state that the initiative lacks crucial detail, especially on governance and supervision of the many proposed improvements, although it seems to have political momentum.

ENVIRONMENT

Centrum für Europäische Politik (Centre for European Policy)

Erweitert den Emissionshandel!

by Nima Nader and Götz Reichert

16 March 2015

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

CEP examines how an extension of the EU Emission Trading System can help reduce greenhouse gas emissions from road transport.

EMPLOYMENT/SOCIAL POLICY/HEALTH/CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Centre for European Policy Studies

Labour mobility in Europe: an untapped resource?

by Mikkel Barslund [@mBarslund](#), Matthias Busse [@matthias_busse](#) and Joscha Schwarzwälder
March 2015

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

Despite public perceptions, labour mobility is low in the EU, particularly within the euro area. The authors recommend a further upgrade of job-matching tools, namely the EURES system, better recognition of qualifications and the exchange of best practices among mobility networks. The Commission and Member States should also improve the mobility of third-country nationals. The aim of improving mobility gives new impetus to the 'mother tongue + two foreign languages' objective and the European Benchmark of Language Competences Initiative, in particular competence in the first foreign language taught at school.

Green, pink & silver? The future of labour in Europe, vol. 2

by Miroslav Beblavý [@beblavy](#), Ilaria Maselli [@IlariaInBxl](#) and Marcela Veselková (eds.)
February 2015

Link to the article in [English](#) (319 p.)

The authors explain the findings of the [NEUJOBS project](#) on the job prospects of key industries and groups of people. They use three colours – green, pink and silver – to pinpoint areas with the largest challenges as well as the greatest potential, drawing conclusions addressed to policy-makers, the business world, journalists, academics.

Bruegel

Poor and under pressure: the social impact of Europe's fiscal consolidation

by Zsolt Darvas [@ZsoltDarvas](#) and Olga Tschekassin [@OlgaTschekassin](#)
March 2015

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

This paper evaluates social indicators that can have a bearing on poverty, looks at the fiscal consolidation strategies of EU Member States and assesses the possible links between fiscal consolidation and social developments. Also see the recent [report](#) by Caritas Europe on the same subject, featured in a previous Review.

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

Bringing power back in: a review of the literature on the role of business in welfare state politics

by Thomas Paster
March 2015

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

What is the impact of business interest groups on the formulation of public social policies? This paper reviews the literature on this question, identifying two strands: one analyses the political power and influence of business, the other the preferences and interests of business. Since the 1990s, researchers have shifted their attention from questions of power to questions of preferences. While this shift has produced important insights into the sources of the policy preferences of business, it came with a neglect of issues of power. This paper shows instead how a focus on power can help explain why business interest groups accepted social protection during some periods in the past and why they have become increasingly averse to social policies since the 1970s.

European Policy Centre

Fostering social cohesion: the missing link in the EU's exit strategy from the crisis

by Claire Dhéret [@cdheret](#)

31 March 2015

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

Dhéret argues that the EU should consider the level of social cohesion as a concrete policy priority in its long-term exit strategy from the crisis. This paper views social cohesion as a complex construct, rooted in societies and resulting from a delicate equilibrium of a broad set of policies. Indeed, macro-economic performance and welfare state policies are strongly correlated with social cohesion but none of them are self-sufficient to promote cohesive societies. Rather, a social investment approach, based on early investments in people's life and accompanied by social protection and economic stabilisation, becomes particularly relevant, and the Social Investment Package (SIP) launched by the European Commission in 2013 remains of critical importance.

Foundation for European Progressive Studies

"Woman Up! 2" A Transatlantic Dialogue

March 2015

Link to the article in [English](#) (97 p.)

This book highlights various aspects that need to be taken into consideration when developing a progressive transatlantic gender agenda, ranging from security to religion, from ICT to civil activism, and more.

Fondation Robert Schuman

A modern Europe is one that includes more women

by Pascale Joannin

3 March 2015

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

Although Europe is the continent on which there are the most women in positions of responsibility, there are still very few women heads of government. In the EU there are four: Angela Merkel in Germany, Helle Thorning-Schmidt in Denmark, Laimdota Straujuma in Latvia and Ewa Kopacz in Poland. Four women out of 28 represent 14.2%. The barriers are slowly collapsing, resistance is waning but progress is slight and there is still a great deal to be done to bring down glass ceilings.

European Centre for International Political Economy

The health of nations: a Transatlantic trade and investment agenda for better healthcare

by Frederik Erixon [@FredrikErixon](#), Martina F. Ferracane and Erik van der Marel [@ErikvanderMarel](#)

March 2015

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

Increases in the demand for healthcare are pushing European governments to look for ways to control growth in healthcare expenditure and at the same time improve health outcomes. Healthcare demand will most likely grow even faster in future decades as the European population continues to age – with 20% of the population predicted to be over the age of 65 by 2025 – and other demographic shifts take hold. Consideration of ways to enhance trade in healthcare goods and services is important for governments as they struggle to find resources to finance this increasing demand for healthcare.

EDUCATION/YOUTH/CULTURE/SPORT

World Economic Forum

New vision for education: unlocking the potential of technology

16 March 2015

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

The New Vision for Education project examines the pressing issue of skills gaps and explores ways to address these gaps through technology. The key learnings include: education needs to address the 21st-century skills; education gaps exist between the developed and developing world, and countries vary on their respective outcome on 21st-century skill performance. Technology, once integrated holistically for targeted problems, has the potential to help education better address these gaps. Multi-stakeholder approach is required to fully realize the potential of technology to innovate education for the future.

European Union Centre in Singapore

Higher education scholarships as a soft power tool: an analysis of its role in the EU and Singapore

by Charles Chia Sheng-Kai

March 2015

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

This research paper discusses the nature of soft power, its connection to higher education, and the roles scholarships play in how the EU and Singapore project themselves to the world. The EU and Singapore are not the only ones turning to scholarships or internationalising higher education as an avenue to promote their values or foster goodwill, as China has aggressively pursued similar paths to achieve its objectives as well.

Fondapol - Fondation pour l'Innovation Politique

Éducation et Islam

by Mustapha Cherif

2 March 2015

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

From a series of Fondapol notes on values in the French republic. See TTR n° 22 for [another item](#) in the same series.

SECTION 5 - EXTERNAL RELATIONS

SECURITY AND DEFENCE

International Centre for Counter-Terrorism - The Hague

Responding to cyber jihad: towards an effective counter narrative

by Bibi Van Ginkel

31 March 2015

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

The paper analyses the role of the internet and social media in radicalisation. It offers an outline of jihadist narrative and concludes with recommendations on how the recently announced new European counter-narrative centre can effectively contribute to the already diverse landscape of counter-narrative initiatives.

Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations

What drives Europeans to Syria, and to IS? Insights from the Belgian case

by Rik Coolsaet

March 2015

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

Today's foreign fighters in Syria are difficult to compare with yesterday's foreign fighters. Political radicalisation is no longer the key driver. Their decision is embedded in a youth subculture that developed in reaction to an environment many resent as complex, demanding, unequal, and devoid of hope for a better future. Syria is a way of escape.

Barcelona Centre for International Affairs

Pourquoi l' "Etat islamique" attire-t-il?

by Moussa Bourekba

March 2015

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

A review of how the new ideological and material features of the organization Islamic State –mainly its territorial anchoring, relate to the organization's attractiveness, changing the traditional profiles of radicalization, which now affects not only the young and marginalized but also converts, people from the middle classes and even entire families living in the "land of Islam".

Policy Exchange

Clearing the fog of law: saving our armed forces from defeat by judicial diktat

by Richard Ekins, Jonathan Morgan and Tom Tugendhat [@TomTugendhat](#)

30 March 2015

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

The report calls for British forces to operate under the rules of the Geneva Conventions, rather than the ECHR, in future conflicts.

Institut français des relations internationales

L'union ou la force ? Les défis des opérations multinationales contemporaines

by Olivier Schmitt

March 2015

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

Contemporary multinational operations are marked by a tension between the military logic of integration of the armed forces, as a condition of effectiveness, and the political logic of the autonomy of States. This leads to a number of specific dynamics, including restrictions on the use of force, and difficulties in achieving unity of purpose and command. This article explores possibilities on how to manage the integration/autonomy dialectics.

Institut de relations internationales et stratégiques

French and German defence: the opportunities of transformation

by Marcel Dickow, Olivier de France, Hilmar Linnenkamp and Jean-Pierre Maulny

27 March 2015

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

The paper seeks to identify the levers that make cooperation possible, and the locks that hamper it. It establishes the current state of play on both sides of the Rhine, to identify some of the ways France and Germany might work more closely together. It looks at ambitions, capabilities, force structures, institutional approaches, prospective visions of the armed forces and defence industrial policies.

La défense face aux défis du dérèglement climatique

by Bastien Alex

20 March 2015

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

A review of the issues that climate change raises for the institutional, military and industrial defence players. Climate change magnifies the impact of natural hazards (changes in rainfall patterns, rising sea levels, more frequent extreme weather events) and indirectly generates new risks.

Towards balanced defence Industry in Europe: main specificities of Central and Eastern European defence industries

by Vilém Kolín

5 March 2015

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

This article aims to identify specificities of the CEE defence industries. In doing so, it lays the ground for the formulation of a more balanced policy to strengthen the EDTIB, to promote equal opportunities and to offer a fair chance for all EU/EDA Member States' defence industries, in line with the European Council conclusions.

Российский совет по международным делам (Russian International Affairs Council) / Atlantic Council

Managing differences on European security in 2015

26 March 2015

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

This report offers three different perspectives from various experts in the US (Atlantic Council), Russia (Russian International Affairs Council), and Europe (European Leadership Network) on the state of the European security environment in the aftermath of the Ukraine crisis. These three

perspectives reveal different perceptions of the current situation, provide different analyses of where common interests lie, and offer suggestions on how to make best use of the tools and institutional mechanisms to advance these interests.

Ośrodek Studiów Wschodnich (Centre for Eastern Studies)

The Baltic states' territorial defence forces in the face of hybrid threats

by Piotr Szymański

19 March 2015

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

The Baltic states have decided to adapt their Territorial Defence Forces (TDF) to new threats by making a number of changes to their functioning, depending on the local conditions in each case. Given the growing uncertainty in the region, they have opted not to undertake any in-depth reforms of TDF at this stage, as that could entail a temporary disorganisation in the armed forces. In the coming years Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania will invest in increasing the size and combat readiness of their Territorial Defence Forces, providing them with better training and equipment, and creating a system of incentives to encourage more people to serve in volunteer formations.

GEOPOLITICS AND STRATEGY

German Marshall Fund of the United States

Gas discoveries in the Eastern Mediterranean: implications for regional maritime security

by Sarah Vogler and Eric V. Thompson

March 2015

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

Offshore gas discoveries in the eastern Mediterranean could have a profound impact on the region's energy, economic, and geopolitical future. But despite the opportunities that these resources present, a number of maritime delimitation disputes complicate the exploration and development of the resources, especially against a background of long-standing regional disputes. Cyprus, but also the Turkish side in North Cyprus, Turkey, Israel, and Lebanon have all staked claims in the gas fields. This situation has a negative impact on maritime security in the region.

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

Fragile states: an urgent challenge for EU foreign policy

by Clare Castillejo

February 2015

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

Around a quarter of the world's states are classified as 'fragile', meaning that they generally suffer from weak governance and persistent poverty, while being prone to conflict. This FRIDE working paper analyses the global drivers of state fragility – such as natural resource competition, demographic growth and climate change – which will likely intensify in the coming years, as well as the changing types of fragile states which range from middle income countries to much poorer ones. It also explains how emerging powers, such as Brazil, China, South Africa and Turkey, are playing an increasingly important role in fragile states, and calls on the EU to further join up the disparate instruments of its foreign policy to better tackle state fragility.

Institut de relations internationales et stratégiques

Entre États-Unis, Chine et Russie, l'enjeu eurasien

by René Cagnat and Serghieï Massaoulov

19 March 2015

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

A geopolitical analysis of the emergence of Eurasianism, and of US and Chinese efforts to prevent the establishment of a new power in the centre of the "world island".

Jacques Delors Institute - Berlin

EU-Nachbarschaftspolitik auf dem Prüfstand: Lehren aus dem Süden

by Nicole Koenig and Nikolas Scherer

24 March 2015

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

What should have been according to the European Neighbourhood Policy a girdle of stable, prosperous and democratic states around the EU has developed within the last few years into an arc of crisis. The paper draws the most important policy lessons from the recent experience with the southern dimension and makes recommendations.

Ústav mezinárodních vztahů (Institute of International Relations Prague)

The EU normative power as a shield for dependency?

by Vittorio Giorgetti

24 March 2015

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

A case-study of the claim that the EU acts like a normative power, based on the analysis of its relations with Colombia and a sample of the relevant sub-regional and bilateral agreements made over the last 20 years.

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

Hope for indebted states: will the United Nations be successful in establishing a sovereign debt workout mechanism?

by Jürgen Kaiser

March 2015

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

The United Nations asserted a leading role in coping with sovereign debt crises for the first time in September 2014. The majority of the developing and newly industrialising countries prevailed in the General Assembly in the face of opposition from advanced industrialised countries – including the US, Germany and Great Britain. The confrontational resolution adopted by the majority is an expression of the considerable frustration in the Global South over the existing regime for dealing with debt crises.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Centre for European Policy Studies / Center for Transatlantic Relations

Transatlantic investment treaty protection

by Lauge Poulsen [@laugepoulsen](#), Jonathan Bonnitcha and Jason Yackee

March 2015

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

This paper presents an informal cost-benefit analysis of the inclusion of investment protection provisions, including investor-state arbitration, in an investment chapter in TTIP. The analysis is conducted from the perspective of the EU and its Member States. It argues that there is little evidence to suggest that investor-state arbitration will provide the EU with meaningful benefits, such as increased foreign investment from the US. In contrast, investor-state arbitration may impose non-trivial costs, in the form of litigation expenses and reduced policy space. This is due to the huge volume of US investment that would be covered by the investment chapter, as well as the fact that an investment chapter would almost certainly give foreign investors greater rights than they currently enjoy under EU and Member State law.

Transatlantic investment treaty protection – A response to Poulsen, Bonnitcha and Yackee

by Freya Baetens

March 2015

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

This paper is intended as a response to the thought-provoking study by Lauge Paulson, Jonathan Bonnitcha and Jason Yackee (see previous reference), focusing on some of their findings that are open to discussion and structuring the arguments made along the lines of their paper. An investment chapter in TTIP offers an unprecedented opportunity to reform and improve the system of investment law, argues the author.

Centre for European Policy Studies

Transatlantic MRAs: lessons for TTIP?

by Jacques Pelkmans and Anabela Correia de Brito

March 2015

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

There is little or no mention in the TTIP debate so far of the US-EU Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) concluded in 1998. At the time, expectations of the gains from the MRA were high. One should expect the MRA to be instructive for TTIP and entail some lessons to be learned for today's attempt to lower technical barriers to trade (TBTs) across the North Atlantic. This paper offers an analysis of the 1998 MRA, the difficulties in the negotiations and implementation, the status of sectoral approaches. The MRA experience reveals how difficult it is to reach full acceptance of conformity assessments by the trading partner for the purpose of testing and certifying export goods on the requirements of the importing economy. The MRA has succeeded only in a few sectors.

Ośrodek Studiów Wschodnich (Centre for Eastern Studies)

Germany's stance on the TTIP: background, interests and concerns

by Konrad Popławski [@PoplawskiKonrad](#)

24 March 2015

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

A positive review of the expected impact of TTIP on Germany. According to the authors, companies from the two countries may benefit from the lifting of some barriers to transatlantic

economic co-operation. Furthermore, the emergence of an internal EU and US market, with reduced customs tariffs and harmonised legal and economic rules, will pressure the emerging economies to make their markets more open. The TTIP may create conditions for exporting US raw materials from unconventional sources to the EU; and this will be a benefit of geopolitical significance for Germany, contributing to the diversification of supplies.

Madariaga – College of Europe Foundation

Affranchir l'Europe du TTIP et du dollar

by Pierre Defraigne

19 March 2015

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

A critical view of TTIP, seen as a dangerous alternative to European unity.

Istituto Bruno Leoni

Tutti i complottismi sul TTIP

by Giacomo Lev Mannheim

17 March 2015

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

A free-market perspective on myths and conspiracy theories around TTIP negotiations.

Istituto Affari Internazionali

TTIP and EU-Turkish economic relations: deepening the Customs Union

by Kamil Yılmaz

4 March 2015

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

Being in a customs union with the EU, Turkey is deeply concerned by the TTIP negotiations and declared its willingness to be part of it. While the economy is pushing the EU, the US and Turkey closer, politics (the authoritarian rule of the AKP and the difficult relations with some key allies) is creating problems.

Ulkopoliittinen instituutti (Finnish Institute of International Affairs)

Seal the deal or lose Brazil: implications of the EU-Mercosur negotiations

by Mikael Wigell

12 March 2015

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

The EU seems to be dragging its feet in the negotiations for a free trade agreement with Mercosur, but it urgently needs to revive the process, according to this paper. The time is now ripe for reaching a deal. Brazil is unlikely to break free from the Mercosur format to negotiate a separate deal. Despite the pressure on Brazil to open up for more trade, it is unlikely to want to risk its position as a regional leader by negotiating alone with the EU.

DEVELOPMENT

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

Goals for the rich: indispensable for a universal post-2015 agenda

by Civil Society Reflection Group on Global Development Perspectives

March 2015

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

In order to create environmental and policy space for the poor to enjoy their human rights and achieve a decent level of prosperity, rich countries as well as rich individuals everywhere will have to change their consumption and production patterns, as well as the patterns whereby profit from value chains is not only reaped at the very end of the chains, finds the FES.

European Centre for Development Policy Management / Institute for Security Studies

Sahel strategies: why coordination is imperative

by Damien Helly [@DamienHelly](#), Lori-Anne Thérroux-Bénoni, Greta Galeazzi [@greta_gale](#), Ibrahim Maïga and Fatimata Ouédraogo

March 2015

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

Given the significant challenges in the region, the extent of the international community's response to the situation in the Sahel should be commended. Nonetheless, coordination is essential to ensure the effective implementation of programmes and projects aiming to improve everyday life for the people of the Sahel. With this in mind, this study offers a comparative analysis of the various initiatives and strategies for the Sahel undertaken by multilateral actors. Gaps and overlaps are identified and recommendations on both the possibility for synergies and for coordination efforts are set out.

ENLARGEMENT

Center for Research and Policy Making

Saving democracy in Macedonia: what to do after the wire-tapping scandal

March 2015

Link to the article in [English](#) (10 p.) and in [Macedonian](#) (13 p.)

Since February, 2015, Macedonia is in a political imbroglio as the Social Democrat opposition leader Zoran Zaev has begun releasing sets of illegally recorded phone conversations. The accusations against Prime Minister Nikola Gruevski and the Head of Intelligence Service Sasho Mijalkov are that they have, during the last few years, secretly and illegally wire-tapped some 20.000 people including journalists, opposition leaders, businessmen, NGO activists, academics, religious leaders, members of the judiciary and prominent intellectuals.

Group for Legal and Political Studies

Filling the black hole: bringing Kosovo into international police cooperation organizations

27 March 2015

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

The report discusses Kosovo's limited involvement in, or exclusion from regional and international IPCOs. It is crucial that Kosovo be included in International Police Cooperation Organisations in order for them to be fully effective. The report then sets forth policy recommendations that Kosovo stakeholders can implement and which would improve Kosovo's inclusion in IPCOs.

A counterfactual analysis of the impact of remittances on poverty in Kosovo: an empirical perspective

by Arbëresha Loxha

6 March 2015

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

This study estimated the impact of remittances and migration on poverty rates in the hypothetical case with no migration and remittances in Kosovo using data from the Household Budget Survey 2011.

European Stability Initiative

Bosnia as Wunderkind of doing business. Outline of 14 steps to take – A proposal to the presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina

by Adnan Cerimagic and Gerald Knaus

19 March 2015

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

The report proposes detailed measures on how to improve Bosnia and Herzegovina's ranking in the World Bank Ease of Doing Business Index.

ASIA

Centre for European Policy Studies

The EU and Azerbaijan: game on for a more normative policy?

by Gela Merabishvili

March 2015

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

In the run-up to the Baku 2015 European Games in June, this paper critically evaluates the EU's approach so far. The author presents and assesses the respective positions of Azerbaijan and the EU and offers recommendations for a more solid EU policy to address the repressive developments in Azerbaijan; an approach that corresponds to both the Union's normative goals and its pragmatic interests.

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

A certain path to an uncertain future: Kyrgyzstan's accession to the Customs Union/Eurasian Economic Union

by Medet Tiulegenov

March 2015

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

Kyrgyzstan is joining the Russian-led Eurasian integration project, which is often viewed as a political rather than economic endeavour. The Kyrgyz government was able to garner broad support for the accession in parliament and among the business sector, and a majority of the population also approves it. Nevertheless, the integration remains vulnerable to criticism, particularly in light of the upcoming parliamentary election campaigns, the deteriorating economic situation in Russia, and many uncertainties still connected with the process.

Bruegel

The effort to stabilise the financial system in Japan: an outline and the characteristics of the programme for financial revival

by Yoichi Matsubayashi

March 2015

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

This paper provides an overview of the Programme for Financial Revival announced in October 2002 in Japan. The programme aimed to dramatically reduce the large amount of non-performing loans that remained until the end of the 1990s. In addition to solving the problem of bad loans, the programme aimed to build a strong financial system. The Japanese experience suggests that despite its delayed introduction, this programme may be considered successful in going some way to drastically reduce non-performing loans and stabilise the financial system. Japan's financial problems and their resolution since the 1990s provide a number of lessons for other economies, particularly for Europe in relation to the difficulties over the euro.

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

Cross-strait relations and trade diplomacy in East Asia: towards greater EU–Taiwan economic cooperation?

by Maaïke Okano-Heijmans, Sander Wit [@AJW_Wit](#) and Frans-Paul van der Putten

March 2015

Link to the article in [English](#) (68 p.)

This paper argues that recent developments in relations between Mainland China and Taiwan, as well as expected economic and political benefits for Europe, provide reason for the EU to open talks with Taiwan. Talks with Taiwan should move on a par with EU–China talks — meaning that for now, they should address investment, while talks on a more comprehensive deal could follow later.

China, Europe and the maritime Silk Road

by Frans-Paul van der Putten and Minke Meijnders [@Minke_M](#)

March 2015

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

This report aims to assess how the Chinese involvement in ports along the Asia–Europe maritime corridor – from the South China Sea to the Mediterranean Sea – is relevant for the EU, in particular when seen in the context of the One Belt, One Road concept.

Friends of Europe

ASEM: renewal and revival for the third decade

by Shada Islam [@shada_islam](#)

March 2015

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

This discussion paper explores the relevance and importance of ASEM in a rapidly-evolving and often volatile global order and looks at efforts under way to revive ASEM through the introduction of new formats and a sharper focus on content as well as through enhanced engagement with civil society and the media.

CUBA

Barcelona Centre for International Affairs

Incertidumbres del porvenir de los cubanos

by Katarzyna Dembicz

March 2015

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

An analysis of uncertainties weighing on Cuban society in the context of the rapprochement with the US since the December 2014 agreement. The author wonders whether this transformation, in addition to the structural and institutional tools, will have the support of a previously insulated society, and calls for dialogue and forgiveness to play a role.

Fundación Alternativas

La apertura de Obama hacia Cuba: una oportunidad hemisférica

by Jorge José Hernández Moreno and Manuel Iglesias Cavicchioli

23 March 2015

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

An analysis of the decision by President Obama in December to boost diplomatic relations with Cuba and bet on the liberalization of economic relations. The paper sees this as an attempt to redefine and revitalize US foreign policy towards Latin America as a whole.

EASTERN PARTNERSHIP

German Marshall Fund of the United States

European Eastern Partnership: recommendations for a refined approach

by Žaneta Ozoliņa and Daniela Schwarzer [@D_Schwarzer](#)

March 2015

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

Ten years after its inception, the EU is reviewing the approach and instruments of the European Neighbourhood policy. While the policy as a whole has not yielded the expected progress in stabilizing the countries concerned, Europe's approach to its Eastern Partnership (EaP) neighbours has been put to a serious test by recent events in the region. The May 2015 Riga Summit will be a significant opportunity for the EU to refine its policy toward its eastern neighbourhood.

საქართველოს სტრატეგიისა და საერთაშორისო ურთიერთობების კვლევის ფონდი (**Georgian Foundation for Strategic and International Studies**)

Georgia: buffer or NATO ally?

by Tornike Turmanidze

March 2015

Link to the article in [English](#) (13 p.) and in [Georgian](#) (16 p.)

The author discusses the geopolitical situation in the European part of the post-Soviet space, the implications of Russia's attempts to change Ukraine's borders by force for the EU's eastern neighbours, and elaborate on the current international standing of Georgia and its prospects for becoming a NATO member.

Expert-Grup

Euromonitor 2014 - sinteza principalelor actiuni din 2014 [Euromonitor 2014: an outlook on Moldova's evolution in implementing EU reforms in 2014]

by Igor Boțan, Adrian Lupușor [@AdrianLupusor](#), Polina Panainte [@PolinaPanainte](#), Mariana Kalughin, Denis Cenușă and Iurie Morcotilo
24 March 2015

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

This paper by the Romanian *Expert Group* presents the results of a study launched together with *Soros Foundation* within the project "*EU-Moldova Relationships – Monitoring the Progress within the Eastern Partnership in 2014*". The bilateral relations between Moldovan and the EU reached a summit in 2014 after signing the Association Agreement and visa liberalization with the Schengen area. The report assesses the progress made in sectors as the customs control, transports, energy, e-governance, adoption of European standards, justice, protection of human rights, the Transnistrian settlement process and the Parliament elections in 2014.

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

Institute for National Security Studies

A bridge over the Mediterranean: the French-Egyptian arms deal

by Yiftah S. Shapir and Yoel Guzansky
12 March 2015

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

A recent arms deal between Egypt and France may indicate a change in the regional balance of power. A reduction in Egypt's dependence on the US is of great significance. At present, as the interests of Israel, Egypt and the Gulf State are aligned because of Iran and radical Islam, the authors do not anticipate damage to Israel's security interests because of Egypt's diminished dependence on the US, but it is also important to remember that this trend is liable to give Egypt more room to maneuver and act against Israeli interests.

Recalculating the Gaza route: reconstruction of an autonomous area with protected zones

by Kobi Michael and Udi Dekel
9 March 2015

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

Operation Protective Edge ended in August 2014, leaving the Gaza Strip entrenched in a complex humanitarian reality. The international community committed itself to the reconstruction of the Gaza Strip, and at a conference in Cairo close to the end of the military operation some \$5.4 billion was promised. However, for several reasons the project has not yet commenced and the Gaza Strip is now a powder keg.

Istituto Affari Internazionali

From Morsi to Al-Sisi: foreign policy at the service of domestic policy

by Azzurra Meringolo
26 March 2015

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

Even if the local and international press have given a great deal of relevance to the new interest taken by Russia in the Egyptian scene, Egypt continues to be militarily dependant on US assistance, which is the more durable. For this reason, the author does not imagine that the president is thinking of a drastic repositioning of Egypt. The relationship with the Kremlin seems

rather to serve temporary needs, being the element of anti-Americanism with which no Egyptian president has so far gone without.

What to do about Libya: intervention or mediation?

by Roberto Aliboni

3 March 2015

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

The UN mediation in Libya is not giving concrete results because it faces three main obstacles: fragmentation of Libyan forces, the role of neighbouring countries and regional powers, and the evolution of civilian-military relations between the two main parties to the conflict. This paper analyses all these problems and concludes with some policy recommendations.

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

The EU's geopolitical crossroads in the Middle East

by Richard Youngs

March 2015

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

As violence and instability spreads across the Middle East and North Africa, the EU recognises its failings in this region, notes the author. A commitment to mould EU policies to the geopolitical complexities of the Middle East would be welcome. But the challenge for European policymakers will be to give EU policies a more strategic edge without excessively focusing on stability over political reform.

Carnegie Europe

Taking EU-Iran relations beyond the nuclear file

by Cornelius Adebahr, Marc Otte and Nathalie Tocci [@NathalieTocci](#)

12 March 2015

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

The current transatlantic diplomatic approach to Iran has been successful so far, notably by putting mutually agreed limits on Tehran's nuclear program with the interim accord of November 2013. However, the transatlantic partners' limited focus on the nuclear file is no longer sustainable. Regardless of whether the latest round of talks will end with a comprehensive agreement, a breakdown, or some sort of extension of the status quo, the authors call for the EU to broaden its policy on Iran.

Institute for National Security Studies

Recognizing Iran as a nuclear threshold state: implications for Israel and the Middle East

by Yoel Guzansky and Udi Dekel

25 March 2015

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

While an arrangement that leaves Iran as a nuclear threshold state may be the lesser of all evils for the US, the authors expect it to be very bad for Israel and to cast a dangerous shadow over the strategic relations between Israel and the US. At the same time, Israel stands to gain certain advantages with an agreement that stops Iran at the "threshold".

International Crisis Group

Yemen at war

27 March 2015

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

Yemen has yet to descend into the mass communal violence and sectarianism seen in Syria or Iraq. Given the parties' longstanding, if sceptical, participation in talks, there is reason to believe they could return to the table if the right formula is found. But the situation is rapidly worsening, with more fighting in more places, and external intervention is aggravating the potential for protracted violence, finds ICG.

RUSSIA

Centre for European Reform

Frozen: the politics and economics of sanctions against Russia

by Ian Bond [@CER_IanBond](#), Christian Odendahl [@COdendahl](#) and Jennifer Rankin [@JenniferMerode](#)

March 2015

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

Western sanctions are hurting Russia more than Europe, and they will remain an essential tool to prevent a strong and aggressive Russia dominating its neighbours. This paper discusses the possible objectives of current and future sanctions, tries to disentangle the real effects of sanctions from the rhetoric used on both sides, and makes recommendations for future Western policy.

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

EU-Sanktionen gegen Russland - Ziele, Wirkung und weiterer Umgang

by Sabine Fischer

March 2015

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

A review of the impact and perspectives of sanctions imposed since March 2014 by the in response to Russian policy in the Ukraine crisis, and gradually tightened. Sanctions have become in recent years a common tool of EU foreign policy. However, the sanctions against Russia are unprecedented in terms of both the recipient and their reach. Apart from that, they have a significant impact on already economically troubled EU Member States.

Центр экономических и финансовых исследований и разработок (Center for Economic and Financial Research)

Export costs of visa restrictions

by Natalia Kapelko and Natalya Volchkova

30 March 2015

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

A study of the role of visa restrictions in determining export flows between firms and countries, and find a significant negative impact of visa restrictions. The results indicate that visa costs not only diminish the value of export, but also the probability of new firms to enter visa-restricted foreign markets. The authors interpret these results as evidence that visa restrictions contribute to trade costs faced by exporting firms.

European Policy Centre

Crimea one year after Russian annexation

by Amanda Paul [@amandajanepaul](#)

24 March 2015

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

One year after the Russian annexation of Crimea, the situation is bleak: economic isolation, human rights violations, the persecution of minorities and the repression of dissident voices have made life on the Peninsula increasingly difficult. The Crimean Tatars have been hit particularly hard. Their freedoms and rights have been repeatedly attacked in the past 12 months. In this Policy Brief, Amanda Paul explains the situation today in Crimea, why the international community should not forget about Crimea, and what measures the West, in particular, EU and Ukraine could take.

Fondation Robert Schuman

What should Europe's policy be towards Russia?

by Robin Niblett

24 March 2015

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

A review of the prospects for EU-Russia relations since the annexation of Crimea in March 2014, in what is the biggest rift in EU-Russia relations since the Cold War. The EU and Russia are heading, at best, towards a protracted stalemate. At worst, they could be on the verge of a serious deterioration in their relations, should Moscow fan further the flames of conflict in the region. President Putin is not interested in integration with Europe or the West. He wants a Russia-EU relationship that accepts the two sides' fundamental differences in political and economic governance. Above all, he wants recognition of Russia's status as a great power and the right to apply that power in its neighbourhood, irrespective of the wishes of the citizens living there.

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

UE i Estul în 2030: patru scenarii pentru relatia dintre UE, Federatia Rusă i vecinătatea comună / Grupul de Scenarii UE+Est 2030

March 2015

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

In the summer of 2014, a multinational group scenarios developed four scenarios on the EU, Russian Federation and their common neighbourhood in 2030. The scenarios are not intended to be a forecast, but provide different visions possible and plausible future developments. They can be useful in helping policy makers and those involved to adapt their strategies to achieve or avoid a specific scenario.

UKRAINE

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

A quarter century of economic reforms in Ukraine: too late, too slow, too little

by Oleh Havrylyshyn

March 2015

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

The aim of this paper is to describe the main developments in the Ukrainian economy since its independence in 1991, focusing on the evolution of output, and the path of economic reforms. The

paper's main effort is to argue and present evidence that the poor economic performance is primarily due to the late and slow start on economic reforms.

Polski Instytut Spraw Międzynarodowych (Polish Institute of International Affairs)

Can Ukraine mimic Poland's transition? The limits of its latest economic changes

by Sebastian Plóciennik [@SebPloc](#)

27 March 2015

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

Once again, Ukraine has a chance to transform its economic system and build a democratic capitalist one. It is tempting to say that Central European countries such as Poland in particular constitute a good pattern for Kyiv's reforms. However, this time will be different in many respects, and simply re-running an older plan will not work.

Neither "NATO's foreign legion" nor the "Donbass International Brigades": (where are all the) foreign fighters in Ukraine?

by Kacper Rękawek [@KacperRekawek](#)

30 March 2015

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

The conflict in Ukraine continues to attract global attention. Moreover, foreigners are also involved in actual combat in the eastern part of the country. Russians, be they soldiers or volunteers, are the dominant foreign group in the war zone. Others, mostly Europeans, constitute neither "NATO's foreign legion" nor the "Donbass international brigades," as their numbers likely do not exceed 300 on either side of the conflict. Interestingly enough, many of these European foreign fighters share common ideological roots, i.e., anti-Americanism, anti-liberalism, extreme nationalism, rejection of European integration, but these do not, however, stop them from taking opposing sides in the ongoing conflict in Ukraine. They, as a group or as lone individuals, might constitute a threat to European security, notes the author.

Istituto Affari Internazionali

Heroes or villains? Volunteer battalions in post-Maidan Ukraine

by Rosaria Puglisi

9 March 2015

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

The war in Eastern Ukraine started unexpectedly in a moment when the Ukrainian army was not combat ready. The new government had to employ battalions made of self defence groups of the Maidan. A lot has been written about them, but mainly in propaganda terms. This article describes their role, composition, how they are perceived by the public opinion, their political activism and concludes with some reform proposals.

Ulkopoliittinen instituutti (Finnish Institute of International Affairs)

The war and reforms in Ukraine: can it cope with both?

by Arkady Moshes

18 March 2015

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

The military conflict in the eastern part of Ukraine is the main factor determining also the internal political situation in the country. On the one hand, as long as the conflict calls for national consolidation and strengthens the understanding that only a reformed Ukraine may hope to endure, the war should drive the transformation. On the other hand, the conflict poses a major impediment to the changes, not only because it is a drain on resources, but even more so because

it tempts Ukraine to blame its own inaction on objective difficulties. In this situation Western assistance for the reforms in Ukraine will become crucial. But it will make a difference only if strict conditionality is applied.

UNITED STATES

Heritage Foundation

The US should oppose the UN's attempt to ban autonomous weapons

by Steven Groves

5 March 2015

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

As many as 40 nations are currently developing military robotics. Some weapons already in use may be considered lethal autonomous weapons systems (LAWS), i.e. they can select and engage targets without further human input. As the prevalence of LAWS has grown, so has a concerted effort to ban them. The author calls for the US to reject a ban or moratorium on LAWS.

SPECIAL FOCUS - EU ASYLUM AND REFUGEE POLICY

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

Who bears responsibility? Models and perspectives of European refugee policy

by Katharina Senge

March 2015

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

This paper focuses on solidarity within the EU in matters of refugee policy. After an examination of the ethical dilemma that pervades this policy area, a picture of the development of refugee numbers is provided and three models of refugee distribution are reviewed: the existing Dublin System, quota-based distribution as well as the free choice of the country of destination.

Migration Policy Institute

The development of EU policy on immigration and asylum: rethinking coordination and leadership

by Elizabeth Collett [@migrationliz](#)

March 2015

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

Despite the EU's high expectations for effectively resolving migration-related challenges, Collett argues that the policy-making structure in place today does little to support this goal. This policy brief addresses the underlying mechanisms of policy development around migration and asylum and identifies areas where reform to EU institutions is needed.

Not adding up: the fading promise of Europe's Dublin system

by Susan Fratzke [@ekztaf](#)

March 2015

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

The EU's Dublin Regulation, the mechanism to assign responsibility to Member States for processing individual asylum claims, has been the subject of intense political debate since its inception. This report examines the key criticisms of the Dublin system on asylum, evaluates the potential of the recently adopted recast, and recommends topics for consideration during the scheduled 2016 review of the system.

Bertelsmann Stiftung

Zuwanderungsbedarf aus Drittstaaten in Deutschland bis 2050: Szenarien für ein konstantes Erwerbspersonenpotenzial – unter Berücksichtigung der zukünftigen inländischen Erwerbsbeteiligung und der EU-Binnenmobilität

by Johann Fuchs, Alexander Kubis and Lutz Schneider

March 2015

Link to the article in [German](#) (97 p.)

This study finds that in the coming decades, Germany will be more dependent than ever before on immigration. Without immigrants, the potential labour force would sink from approximately 45 million today to less than 29 million by 2050 – a decline of 36%. Even if women were to be employed at the same rate as men, and the retirement age was increased to 70 in 2035, the number of potential workers in the country would rise by only about 4,4 million.

Institut français des relations internationales

L'immigration européenne en Allemagne: tendances actuelles

by Marcus Engler and Martin Weinmann

March 2015

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

An assessment of the increase of immigration, especially from EU Member States, in Germany since 2011. The authors note how this immigration was at first well received by a large part of the German population, but is now increasingly criticized by some, as a form of "benefit tourism". By contrast, they find that immigration from EU countries tends to have a positive impact in Germany as it compensates the demographic challenges facing the country and ensure the sustainability of the German social security system by allowing the arrival on the country of a young graduate population.

Tænketanken EUROPA

Flere østeuropæiske arbejdstagere er en god nyhed for Danmark

by Maja Kluger Rasmussen

26 March 2015

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

A review of the impact of EU immigration, against the background of new official figures show that the number of workers from Eastern Europe in Denmark increased by 10% from 2013 to 2014.

REGARDS CROISÉS

CGT FRENCH TRADE UNION ANALYSED FROM A GERMAN PERSPECTIVE

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

Kommt die CGT unter neuer Führung aus der Krise? Gewerkschaftsanalyse Frankreich

by Benjamin Schreiber

March 2015

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

A German analysis of challenges ahead for the French left-wing trade union CGT. It calls for the union to review its internal organization, find new forms of industrial action and reconsider its positioning as a union in the future.

A GERMAN THINK TANK HOSTS A FRENCH VIEW OF FRANCO-RUSSIAN RELATIONS

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Auswärtige Politik (German Council on Foreign Relations)

Dualitäten der französischen Russlandpolitik. Die Ukraine Krise als Bewährungsprobe

by Laure Delcour [@LaureDelcour](#)

March 2015

Link to the article in [German](#) (11 p.) and in [French](#) (10 p.)

For France, the worsening state of Russia's relations with the EU corresponds with bilateral relations that have deteriorated since 2011, when a rift began to open on the subject of Syria. The Ukrainian crisis brought an abrupt end to once-flourishing business relations. Decisions in Paris now depend on two parameters: how the crisis in Ukraine develops further and how this will effect EU-level decisions.
