



Council of the European Union
General Secretariat

THINK TANK REVIEW

Library resources

JUNE 2016
ISSUE 36

Dear Readers,

Welcome to issue 36 of the Think Tank Review compiled by the EU Council Library* ([click to share on Twitter](#)). It references papers published in May 2016. As usual, we provide the link to the full text and a short abstract.

This Think Tank Review has a special focus on the United Kingdom (UK) and the European Union (EU). Following the European Council on 18-19 February 2016, where it was agreed a set of arrangements, which constitute an appropriate response to the concerns of the UK. UK citizens will soon make a historic decision about their future: should the country remain in the European Union or go it alone? Our readers will find papers on Brexit and UK's public finances, the UK's foreign and security policy and what's at stake in the referendum, Brexit and free trade, the impact of Brexit on energy and climate policy, Britain, the EU and the sovereignty myth... we are mentioning just a few in order to give you a taste of what you can find in this section.

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In Section 1 ('EU Politics and Institutions') we noted, in particular, two papers: one on Greece and the EU, which aims at providing a comprehensive view on the changing landscape of both Greek and European politics as a consequence of the eurozone crisis; and the second, a contribution from Frans Timmermans, first vice-president of the European Commission, entitled "Community: discovering ties that bind" where he ponders the difference between boundaries and barriers and asks how we can foster stronger communities within our society.

In the 'EU Member States' section (section 3), we highlight the subsections on France, Germany, Latvia, Poland, Spain and the Visegrad countries. On France, our readers will find an in-depth analysis of the radical left ('La gauche radicale: liens, lieux et luttes - 2012/2017'). On Germany, a paper on 'Understanding the creation of public consensus: migration and integration in Germany, 2005 to 2015'. Regarding Latvia, we noted a study on the partnership between Latvia and the US. On Poland, an analysis of Polish and Norwegian cooperation towards more efficient security, energy and migration policies. On Spain, a report on sustainability in Spain in 2016. Finally, on the Visegrad countries, two papers: the first on the 25 years of the Visegrad group as seen by the public, and another on the trends in trade and investment between Germany and Central Europe focusing on the Visegrad Group.

* This collection of links and abstracts was compiled by the 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.

As we show in section 4 ('EU policies'), think tanks continue to focus on the migration and refugee crisis. On Competitiveness, our readers will also find a rich selection of papers on the EU's Digital Single Market and a paper on text and data mining for research and innovation. On Energy, there are papers concentrating on the future of natural gas - markets and geopolitics and on the EU security of gas supplies, as well as a paper putting forward the outline of a proposal for an Eastern Mediterranean integrated gas infrastructure.

In the section on 'Foreign Affairs' (section 5), we present a wide selection of articles on the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), focusing on rethinking approaches and strategies to counter violent extremism in the MENA region, the challenge of interdependence in the EU-MENA space, the performance of banks in the MENA region during the global financial crisis, a report on democracy assistance from the European Union to the Middle East and North Africa, the situation in Yemen, Europe and Israel relations, EU's aid policy towards Palestine and EU-Iran relations. On Geopolitics and Strategy, we present a paper on the future of the transatlantic relationship and another one on the future of US global leadership implications for Europe, Canada and Transatlantic cooperation. Finally, a varied selection of papers on the China's One Belt One Road (OBOR) initiative.

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

The next Review will be out in July 2016, with papers published in June 2016.

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SECTION 1 - EU POLITICS AND INSTITUTIONS

Barcelona Centre for International Affairs

Greece and the EU. Lessons from a long-lasting crisis

by Pol Morillas [@polmorillas](#) and Thanos Dokos (eds.)

May 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (92 p.)

The contents of this monograph aim at providing a comprehensive view on the changing landscape of both Greek and European politics as a consequence of the Eurozone crisis. It presents the results of a research workshop jointly organised by CIDOB and ELIAMEP in December 2015, which departed from the following hypothesis: If the Greek crisis became the epicentre of the eurozone crisis and Europe's economic and monetary downturn became an existential threat to the European project, then the consequences of the crisis should have transformed the behaviour of Greek authorities towards Europe and of the European authorities in facing the crisis.

Centre for European Policy Studies

EU budgetary responses to the 'Refugee Crisis' reconfiguring the funding landscape

by Leonhard den Hertog [@LdenHertog](#)

May 2016

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

This paper analyses the EU budgetary responses to the 'refugee crisis' in Europe. The European Commission has proposed several changes to the EU budget as well as the establishment of new funding instruments. The paper explores what the announced funding consists of, what role it plays in policy-making and what issues it generates. Throughout these budgetary responses the search for flexibility has been dominant, motivated by the need to respond more swiftly to humanitarian and operational needs. In addition, the paper argues that beyond implementation or management, the role of funding is also symbolic and communicative.

Real Instituto Elcano (Elcano Royal Institute)

¿Es España un Estado miembro especialmente incumplidor en la implementación de la legislación europea?

by Javier Arregui

27 May 2016

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

This analysis examines data on the application of the EU law by the Member States in the period 1986-2010. Although there is significant variation among them in implementing the thousands of directives, regulations, decisions and treaty articles that are part of the Community legislative acquis, Spain achieved a medium, especially when compared with the other four large Member States' performance. On the other hand, there is insufficient empirical evidence that the occasional failure of Spain and other States to internally implement European legal standards has serious implication for the integration process problem.

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

See you in Luxembourg? EU governments' observations under the preliminary reference procedure

by Per Cramér, Olof Larsson, Andreas Moberg and Daniel Naurin

8 May 2016

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

The European Court of Justice plays a central role in the EU, but its importance as a political arena for conflicts regarding how to interpret the EU's legislation is less known. In this report, based on unique material, the authors analyse how the Member States position themselves within the framework of preliminary Court rulings. They also discuss whether Member States, by being active in the Court, can influence the EU's integration and what the implications for Sweden are.

Policy Network

Community: discovering ties that bind

by Frans Timmermans [@TimmermansEU](#)

20 May 2016

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

Europe faces an unprecedented maelstrom. The fallout from the financial crash has stoked anger at a system perceived to be stacked against hardworking citizens. The refugee crisis has overwhelmed in some areas and fuelled fear and hate in others. The recent barbaric terrorist attacks in Paris and Brussels serve as a shocking reminder of the threat from fundamentalists hell bent on destroying our way of life. A near perfect storm that imperils the peace, security and liberty of all. How should European societies respond?

Aiming high: progressive politics in a high-risk, high-opportunity era

by Florian Ranft [@FloRanft](#)

24 May 2016

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

Once a vital source of future-facing visions and reforms, progressive movements today are struggling to convince voters and win elections. Progressive parties must change, or risk dying. Survival in their current form seems less and less likely. Centre-left parties must define what they believe is a good society, adapting their structures and their policies to reflect a time when people have less trust in politics and state-centric solutions and technology is changing economies, societies and relationships.

Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations

Message to – and from – the European political leadership: agreeing to disagree on strategy is a luxury the EU can no longer afford

by Jo Coelmont

2 May 2016

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

"We, the political leaders of the EU member states, in order to ensure the security of our citizens and to resolve more effectively and more efficiently the common problems we face at present do agree on a global EU strategy that couples unity of vision with unity of action." Not that long ago, pretending that such a sentence could capture the emerging consensus between Europe's political leaders would have been considered an illusion. But times are changing. Quo vadis EU, now that it is at a crossroads? Are we heading towards disintegration, fragmentation, the EU shrinking away into some sort of European commonwealth? Or does the future still hold "ever closer union"?

Analysing recent European Council meetings reveals which political orientation has a gain momentum.

Corporate Europe Observatory

Commission CON-sultations: problems with public consultations, and how "Better Regulation" will make them worse

2 May 2016

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

In the more than a decade since online public consultations were introduced, the Commission has fallen far short of ensuring that consultations are fully transparent, that privileged access is prevented, that all those concerned are reached and that critical input is treated seriously. A lack of reflection over examples of consultations that fell particularly far short or learning lessons of 'bad practice' has confounded this problem. A Public Consultation on the Stakeholder Consultation Guidelines carried out in 2014, followed by the introduction of new and updated guidelines in 2015, could have been an opportunity to address some of these issues. But instead the new Stakeholder Consultation Guidelines have been subsumed under the Better Regulation agenda.

European Council on Foreign Relations

Making sense of Europe's cohesion challenge

by Josef Janning [@JJ52](#)

May 2016

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

In recent years the EU has been buffeted by a range of crises – the euro crisis, the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and more recently, the risk of a "Brexit" and the influx of refugees at the EU's borders. None of these problems can be solved by countries acting alone. It follows that the key to an effective response is maintaining European cohesion. So how cohesive has the EU been in the face of these challenges? This new [EU Cohesion Monitor](#) shows that, perhaps surprisingly, between 2007 and 2014, cohesion among EU member states has improved, even after years of crises. The EU Cohesion Monitor presents new insights on cohesion as an underestimated source of strength and collective action in the EU.

Institut pro evropskou politiku EUROPEUM (EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy)

Vícerychlostní Evropa - Podkladový materiál pro kulatý stůl v rámci Národního konventu o EU

by Vladimír Bartovic [@vbartovic](#)

May 2016

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

A policy paper focusing on dangers of multi-speed Europe.

SECTION 2 - ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Jacques Delors Institute - Berlin

Why the eurozone can't agree on convergence and how structural reforms can help

by Anna auf dem Brinke [@Anna_adB](#), Henrik Enderlein [@henrikenderlein](#) and Jörg Haas [@jorg_haas](#)

24 May 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (16 p.) and in [German](#) (18 p.)

It is common sense that the euro area needs more convergence to work as intended. At the same time, we lack a common definition. There are two important types of convergence that can both lead to a better functioning European Economic and Monetary Union: real and cyclical convergence. Anna auf dem Brinke, Henrik Enderlein and Jörg Haas argue that we should focus on cyclical convergence first. Which structural reforms are best suited to increase cyclical convergence? This policy paper scans the long lists of structural reform recommendations and identifies three reform areas that can best address the lack in business cycle synchronization.

Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations

Forgotten lessons for the eurozone

by John Ryan

11 May 2016

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

A Monetary Union is one where there is a single fiat currency with a single monetary authority (a central bank). It also has a single interest and exchange rate, and a single legal entity responsible for issuing that currency across a geographic area. This combination of features required for a true monetary union suggests that many previous monetary unions, including the Latin Monetary Union (LMU) and the Scandinavian Monetary Union (SMU) were not proper monetary unions as such, while the Austro-Hungarian Monetary Union (AHMU) was and the Eurozone is.

European Policy Centre

Automatic fiscal stabiliser: make it happen!

by Regula Hess and László Andor [@LaszloAndorEU](#)

2 May 2016

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

The Eurozone crisis triggered a whole new series of innovations in EU economic governance in order to make the Union more resilient for the next economic downswing. But one of the more persistent issues are the socio-economic divergences between Member States, identified by the Five Presidents' Report as a major problem in the functioning of the EMU. While the need for some form of fiscal risk-sharing has become a dominant view in expert circles, there has been much less progress among the main political parties and stakeholders. In this study, the authors analyse the political feasibility of the adoption of an automatic fiscal stabiliser (AFS) for the Eurozone.

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

Eine Bankenunion für die Europäische Währungsunion : Ein Beitrag zur Finanzstabilität oder ein Schritt zur Transferunion?

by Ognian Hishow

29 May 2016

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

The global financial and economic crisis of 2007/2008 in the European Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) shed a light on a process of differentiation between competitive and uncompetitive Member States. Numerous initiatives within the EU or EMU have since been directed to reverse this trend and the instruments of economic governance within the Community.

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

SME financing in a Capital Markets Union

by Morgane Fouché, Katja Neugebauer and Andreas Uthemann [@Authemann](#)

18 May 2016

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

SMEs account for close to 70% of employment in the EU. However, as they are still heavily dependent on traditional bank financing, especially in comparison with their US counterparts, the European Commission recently launched a plan for a Capital Markets Union (CMU), aiming to diversify the funding channels available to European SMEs. The authors of this report identify strengths, weaknesses and pitfalls of the Commission's initiative. While a CMU may create a more shock-resilient investment system, national differences in legislation and taxation are important impediments for a future CMU that are unlikely to be solved in the short to medium term.

Bruegel

Lessons for the euro from early US monetary and financial history

by Jeffrey Frieden

May 2016

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

In this essay, Jeffrey Frieden looks at the process of creating a monetary union in the US and draws lessons for the EU. Europe's central goal for several decades has been to create an economic union that can provide monetary and financial stability. This goal is often compared to the long-standing monetary union that is the US. Easy celebration of the successful American union ignores the fact that it took an extremely long time to accomplish. In fact, the creation and completion of the US monetary and financial union was a long, laborious, and politically conflictual process.

LUISS School of European Political Economy.

Until when will the US and the euro-area be awash with central bank liquidity?

by Francesco Papadia [@FrancescoPapad1](#)

30 May 2016

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

The history of central bank liquidity over the last decade or so in the US and the Euro-area is very simple. Until the beginning of the Great Recession, both the Fed and the ECB only gave banks the liquidity they needed to satisfy reserve requirements and autonomous factors. Basically, they targeted zero excess liquidity. This set the policy rate, the Federal Funds Rate in the US and EONIA in the Euro-area, practically in the middle of the corridor between the absorbing (bottom) and the providing (ceiling) central bank liquidity facilities.

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

Makroökonomische Steuerung in der EU – Zwischen nationaler und supranationaler Ohnmacht (Macroeconomic control in the EU - between national and supranational fainting)

by Carsten Kühl

May 2016

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

Since the financial and euro crisis, at least, the economic logic of the Union is on trial. This raises the question of whether the increasing communitarisation of the macroeconomic expertise on the one hand and the political and institutional structure of the EU, on the other hand, are suitable to meet crisis situations adequately. Simultaneously, the EU has been more heterogeneous since the Southern enlargement in terms of financial and economic powers.

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

Trade shocks, taxes, and inequality

by Douglas L. Campbell and Lester Lusher

22 May 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (63 p.)

Studying the impact of trade shocks on inequality using newly constructed micro and macro data, the authors show that in periods when US relative prices are high, and imports surge relative to exports, workers in sectors with greater initial exposure to international trade were more likely to be unemployed a year later, but did not experience significant declines in wages conditional on being employed. Contrary to the usual narrative, they find negative wage effects for higher-wage, but not lower-wage workers, particularly for those who are less-educated.

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

Government policies and financial crises: mitigation, postponement or prevention?

by Jakob Kapeller, Michael Landesmann, Franz X. Mohr and Bernhard Schütz

24 May 2016

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

In the aftermath of the Great Recession, governments have implemented several policy measures to counteract the collapse of the financial sector and the downswing of the real economy. Within a framework of Minsky-Veblen cycles, where relative consumption concerns, a debt-led growth regime and financial sector confidence constitute the main causes of economic fluctuations, the authors used computer simulations to assess the effectiveness of such measures. They found that the considered policy measures help to mitigate the impact of financial crises, though they do so at the cost of shortening the time between the initial financial crisis and the next.

Forum for research on Eastern Europe and Emerging Economies

Time to worry about Illiquidity

by Elina Ribakova [@elinaribakova](#)

16 May 2016

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

At a time when central banks have injected unprecedented amounts of money, worrying about illiquidity may appear odd. However, if poorly understood and unaddressed, illiquidity could be the foundation of the next financial crisis. Market liquidity is defined as the ease of trading a financial security quickly, efficiently and in reasonable volume without affecting market prices. While

researchers find that it has been positively correlated with central bank's liquidity injection, it may no longer be the case. The combination of tightly regulated banks, loosely regulated asset managers, and zero (or negative) policy rates could prove toxic.

Terra nova

Le capital patient: un horizon pour la France et pour l'Europe (The patient capital: a horizon for France and for Europe)

by Abdeldjellil Bouzidi [@Djellil_11](#), Thomas Chalumeau, Camille E., David P. and Joël Ruet [@JoelRuet](#)

11 May 2016

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

Many observers are now observing a form of exhaustion of the growth model that has prevailed in recent decades and which was largely based on financial capitalism : short - term approach and not accountable to future generations. To break this deadlock, the authors show that ways to promote a different model must be found, assuming that capitalism has to be put at the service of financing essential requirements (infrastructure, innovation, access to scarce resources), benefiting to all, without compromising future generations. Terra Nova presents in this study the contours of this silent revolution and even proposes to accelerate , several key reforms in the institutional field , legal and corporate governance.

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

Migration and FDI: reconciling the standard trade theory with empirical evidence

by Hubert Jayet and Léa Marchal

18 May 2016

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

This article focuses on an apparent conflict between the standard trade theory and available empirical evidence on factor flows. Theoretically, labor and capital flows must be substitutes. However, empirical papers find migration and FDI to be either substitutes or complements, depending upon the skill content of migration. To reconcile the standard theory with these empirical results, the authors develop a two-country general equilibrium model, considering three factors – capital, unskilled and skilled labor.

SECTION 3 - EU MEMBER STATES

CZECH REPUBLIC

AMO Research Center

Agenda for Czech foreign policy 2016

by Vít Dostál, Antonín Berdych, Adéla Denková, Jakub El-Ahmadieh, Tereza Jermanová, Tomáš Jungwirth, Tomáš Kaválek, Václav Kopecký, Kryštof Kruliš, Jakub Kufčák, Anna Kunová, Michal Lebduška, Václav Líd, Alice Rezková, Jakub Záhora

June 2016

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

The Agenda for Czech Foreign Policy is the annual publication on foreign policy of the Czech Republic and its priority areas.

FRANCE

Ulkopoliittinen instituutti (Finnish Institute of International Affairs)

Detour or direction? The europeanisation of France's policies towards Russia

by David Cadier [@DavidCadier](#)

23 May 2016

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

In this article the author gives an analysis of France's policy towards Russia. It is concluded that France's reaction to the Ukraine crisis attests to the growing Europeanisation of its policies towards Russia. This trend has been exacerbated and accelerated by the magnitude of Russia's actions in Ukraine, but was also sustained beforehand by a conjunction of factors, including: disillusionment over the potential benefits of the bilateral political relationship with Moscow, particularly in comparison to the cardinal importance of the EU context for French interests; the assessment made by French diplomatic and strategic elites of the drivers and direction of Russia's foreign policy; and the societal context in which France's policies towards Russia are formulated.

Fondation pour l'innovation politique

La gauche radicale : liens, lieux et luttes (2012-2017)

by Sylvain Boulouque

23 May 2016

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

In France, the radical left is in decline, accompanying the fall of the socialist left. Despite this retraction, the radical left continues to experience some media vitality. This paper analyses the political, social and electoral movements of the fragmented radical left.

Gouverner pour réformer : éléments de méthode

by Erwan Le Noan [@erwanlenoan](#) and Matthieu Montjotin [@MatthMontjotin](#)

9 May 2016

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

For forty years, France is in decline. The symptoms are well known: unemployment, slow growth, stagnant productivity, exploding debt and rising inequality at schools. The solutions to these problems are no secret either. France needs structural reforms. Expert reports, the economic literature, examples of neighbouring countries point unanimously in this direction. But what

prevents France from taking the necessary steps? This paper delves into that question, and argues that the answer is in the method.

GERMANY

Migration Policy Institute

Understanding the creation of public consensus: migration and integration in Germany, 2005 to 2015

by Friedrich Heckmann

31 May 2016

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

This report aims to assess what factors underpinned Germany's robust support for refugee and migrant arrivals between 2005 and 2015. It begins with a historical look at how debates around migration have shifted in Germany over time, and then considers the reasons behind the development of a pro-immigration consensus. Finally, the report concludes by probing the extent to which increased inflows and shifting responses threaten consensus in Germany, and offers some broad lessons for restoring and preserving public trust in the government's ability to manage migration in the future.

LUISS School of European Political Economy

Financial populism in Germany

by Roberto Tamborini

31 May 2016

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

In this article the author reflects on a working paper published by the European Central Bank in May 2015, written by U. Bindseil, C. Domnick, and J. Zeuner. The paper is titled "Critique of accommodating central bank policies and the 'expropriation of the saver.'" The author argues that at first glance the paper looks like a commonplace literature review, but however is a defence of the ECB's monetary policy against attacks from the media, and by extension the public opinion, of a particular country.

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

Hochschulabsolventen mit Auslandserfahrungen auf dem deutschen Arbeitsmarkt

by Christiane Konegen-Grenier and Beate Placke

20 May 2016

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

In 2013 the German Federal Government and the sixteen states adopted a joint strategy aimed at ensuring that by the end of the decade at least one in two university graduates had gained study-related experience abroad and that at least one in three had studied abroad for a minimum three-month period and/or acquired 15 ECTS credit points. The enhancement of international mobility for studying and work placement was also a major goal set in the Communiqué of the latest Bologna Ministerial Conference in Yerevan in 2015. The main aim of this study is to explore the acceptance of graduates with study-related international experience in the German labor market. The study focused on questions such as: To what extent do employers expect internationalization to impact on their organization in the next five years? How international are current job descriptions in their firms? How important are international skills to German employers compared to general skills? How relevant is study-related mobility (study or work placement) in the recruitment process compared to factors in the CV?

Einfluss der Zuwanderung auf die demografische Entwicklung in Deutschland

by Philipp Deschermeier

19 May 2016

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

Up-to-date projections of population development are relevant for many economic issues. This paper offers an analysis of the possible impact of the demographic changes in Germany in the long run. It is argued that the prospected population increase will not prevent the ageing of German society, and that the challenges of demographic transition – in the labour market and the social security systems, for example – will remain acute.

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

Rechtsdurchsetzung im Verbraucherdatenschutz : Bestandsaufnahme und Handlungsempfehlungen

by Gerald Spindler, Christian Thorun and Jörn Wittmann

May 2016

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

In this paper an analysis is made of the law enforcement in consumer privacy in Germany. The report shows that a number of measures should be taken to improve law enforcement. These proposals include a simplification of the privacy policy, the promotion of the principles of privacy, measures to strengthen government supervision and proposals to increase the incentives for co-regulation.

Wachsende Ungleichheit als Gefahr für nachhaltiges Wachstum Wie die Bevölkerung über soziale Unterschiede denkt

by Steffen Mau and Jan-Ocko Heuer

May 2016

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

In a representative population survey, people were asked what kind of welfare state they want, whether they feel secure and what kind of government action they would like to see. This publication provides the first key findings. It is concluded that the Germans want an equal society. A large majority of the population believes that the social inequality in Germany is too big and harmful for the economic development on the long term. Political measures to reduce inequality strongly supported.

IRELAND

UCD Geary Institute

International migration in Ireland, 2015

by Philip J. O'Connell, Corona Joyce and Susan Whelan

May 2016

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

This working paper is the Irish report to the OECD Expert Group on Migration. As such, the focus of the report is largely shaped by the reporting requirements for the preparation of the annual OECD International Migration Outlook. The purpose of the paper is to outline major developments and trends in migration and integration data and policy. The article discusses the main developments in migration and integration policy in Ireland in 2014, including topics related to migration in the public debate. It discusses the statistics on inward and outward migration movements and examines trends in the population. To end, migration and the labour market are discussed.

LATVIA

Latvijas Ārpolitikas institūts (Latvian Institute of International Affairs)

Latvia and the United States: revisiting a strategic partnership in a transforming environment

by Andris Sprūds and Diāna Potjomkina [@DianaPotjomkina](#) (eds.)

May 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (232 p.)

This is a book about building bridges and strengthening the partnership between Latvia and the US. The publication starts with an analysis of relations in a wider historical and regional context and further deals with security and defence matters and cooperation; economic cooperation; as well as trajectories of people-to-people diplomacy and the important role of Latvian diaspora in the US. A team of prominent Latvian and US experts contribute their assessment of the last several years in Latvian-US relations and present recommendations for the future.

POLAND

Polski Instytut Spraw Międzynarodowych (Polish Institute of International Affairs)

GoodGov: work together, govern better. Polish and Norwegian cooperation towards more efficient security, energy and migration policies

by Jakub Godzimirski [@jmgnpj](#) and Zuzanna Nowak

May 2016

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

This report presents the main findings of the research project conducted between 2013 and 2016 by the Polish Institute of International Affairs (PISM) and the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI), with support from the Institute for Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences (ISP PAN). The GoodGov project has revealed important governance-related differences between Poland and Norway. These result from the interaction of various internal and external factors, including historical experience and path dependence, geographical location and the challenges it poses, various types of resources and access to them, institutional solutions and membership in various international organisations and frameworks.

La vie des idées

La Pologne, de mal en PiS

by Ewa Tartakowsky

10 May 2016

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

In this short paper the author gives an analysis of the recently taken measures by the Polish government that endanger the independence of justice, independence of the media and individual freedoms. The author argues that the origins of this authoritarianism are to be searched in the transition in 1989 and the challenges of decommunisation. He ends by concluding that the Polish crisis confronts the EU with the challenge to uphold its founding values.

Centre international de formation européenne

Poland's conservative turn of 2015: where are its real origins?

by Ireneusz Pawel Karolewski and Roland Benedikter

4 May 2016

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

The victories of the national-conservative Law and Justice (PiS) party in Poland in both the presidential elections of May 2015 and the parliamentary elections of October 2015 have been controversially debated by journalists and pundits. Many observers interpret Poland's shift to the right as a sign of a broader Central and Eastern Europe backslide towards a new form of authoritarianism. In this short paper the author reflects on the origins of Poland's conservative turn in 2015.

SLOVENIA

Beogradski centar za bezbednosnu politiku (Belgrade Centre for Security Policy) / Norsk Utenrikspolitisk Institutt (The Norwegian Institute of International Affairs)

Civilian capacities for peace operations: case study - Slovenia

by Uroš Živković

May 2016

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

Slovenia has relatively small armed forces of about 7,000 personnel and an annual budget which amounts to approximately 1% of its GDP. Nonetheless, it has been participating in peace support endeavours (PSO) since 1997, in both military and civilian missions and operations. In this paper the author analyses Slovenia's principles and priorities in PSO efforts, and examines the procedures of recruitment, rostering, training and deployment of civilians. He also describes the functioning of the main institutional actors, their responsibilities and relations. To end, the paper offers some examples of civilian participation in PSO and draws conclusions concerning its effectiveness.

SPAIN

Centre for European Policy Studies

Can Spain break the curse of the periphery? The upcoming Spanish election and what it means for Europe

by Miroslav Beblavý [@beblavy](#)

23 May 2016

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

This essay takes stock of the new world of Spanish politics one month before the early elections, which should take place on 26 June. It explores the main policy challenges that the next government is going to face and the likelihood that they are going to be addressed. Before plunging into the details of Spanish election campaign, let's first put the issues into a long term European economic context.

Real Instituto Elcano (Elcano Royal Institute)

La movilidad transnacional de los migrantes en España

by Carmen González Enríquez and José Pablo Martínez Romera

May 2016

Link to the article in [Spanish](#) (47 p.)

This report contains the Spanish results of the ITHACA Project, which has two main objectives: first, to describe the characteristics of transnational mobility of immigrants in Europe; and secondly, to check their links with integration in the host countries. The ITHACA project has studied the transnational mobility of five groups of immigrants –Indians, Ukrainians, Moroccans, Filipinos and Bosnians– in four European countries –Italy, the UK, Austria and Spain.

Fundación Alternativas

Informe sobre sostenibilidad en España 2016: hoja de ruta hacia un modelo sostenible

by Ana Belén Sánchez (coord.)

May 2016

Link to the article in [Spanish](#) (162 p.)

The critical situation in Spain offers new opportunities to address a model change with a transition on the path of sustainability. This report tries to identify the elements of this strategic choice for the future in Spain.

UNITED KINGDOM

Adam Smith Institute

Nothing to hide: the case against the ban on extreme pornography

by Nick Cowen [@NCowenUK](#)

25 May 2016

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

In this report, the author argues that there is little to commend the ban on extreme pornography in the UK, and several reasons to be concerned about it in theory and practice. He does not see it as fulfilling, even badly, any pressing public policy goal. It could be abolished with no real negative impact, and a significant positive impact in terms of better securing the rights of sexual minorities. If abolition is politically impossible, then the law could be productively amended so that images created through consensual activities between adults are not subject to prosecution.

Institute for Government

Government under pressure: the 2016 Queen's Speech

by Daniel Thornton [@DanOnGov](#)

May 2016

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

On 18 May the Government will set out its proposed legislative programme in the second Queen's Speech of this Parliament. Amidst the turmoil of the EU referendum campaign, the Queen's Speech provides the Government with an opportunity to demonstrate it still has momentum. The Prime Minister will also consider this Queen's Speech important for his legacy. In this article the author looks at the pressures the Government faces in Parliament, public services and spending. He argue that, if it is to succeed in its already ambitious agenda, the Government needs to recognise the significant challenges it faces, take a realistic approach to meeting existing promises, and prioritise future legislation carefully.

Fabian Society

The message from the marginals - Labour's performance in the English local elections of 2016

by Lewis Baston

13 May 2016

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

In this article the author offers a close analysis of Labour's performance in the English local elections of 2016. It is concluded that it would be a serious mistake to regard the 2016 local elections as anything other than worrying – not because of the rather artificial gain/ loss count of seats, but because the pattern of the votes showed that the party is still nowhere near a parliamentary majority and has at best a weak grasp on some English marginal seats.

Institute of Economic Affairs

Never mind the gap: why we shouldn't worry about inequality

by Ryan Bourne [@MrRBourne](#) and Christopher Snowdon [@cjsnowdon](#)

May 2016

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

After rising in the mid to late 1980s, most measures of income inequality peaked in around 1990 and have fallen since. Wealth inequality has not been rising rapidly in the past decade, and is actually lower than in most other developed countries. There remains a debate about the true level of wealth inequality in the UK, but this study shows that the trends do not conform to the story of unprecedented or spiraling inequality that is frequently implied in the media. A strong focus on inequality within nations obscures the fact that global income inequality has been falling. In this article the authors argue that by continually focusing the spotlight on inequality levels we run the risk that we will lose sight of the main priority: to improve living standards generally, and for the poorest in particular. In order to achieve this, the focus should be to ensure there is healthy economic growth, which in turn leads to higher paying, more productive jobs.

VISEGRAD COUNTRIES

Inštitút pre verejné otázky (Institute for Public Affairs)

25 years of the V4 as seen by the public

by Oľga Gyárfášová and Grigorij Mesežnikov

May 2016

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

The Visegrad Group is based mainly on a political cooperation. But what do the citizens of particular countries think about it? Do they actually know what the Visegrad Four is? What they believe to be their common interests? How do they perceive each other? To what extent they trust each other? What is the intensity of their mutual interactions? The answers to these questions can be found in this research project.

Ośrodek Studiów Wschodnich (Centre for Eastern Studies)

Rola Europy Środkowej w gospodarce Niemiec. Konsekwencje polityczne

by Konrad Popławski [@PoplawskiKonrad](#)

16 May 2016

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

Publications in recent years allow to conclude that the economic relations of Germany and Central Europe reached "end of history" and nothing new will happen. A deeper analysis of these relationships reveals new interesting trends. Central European countries after joining the EU are

not satisfied with the average level of economic development, even though they continue catching up on the distance separating them from Western Europe, which did not prevent the global financial crisis. Improved economic situation was reflected in the relations with Germany. The research shows that the Visegrad Group countries are the most important trading partner for Germany, while many euro zone countries recorded high levels of trade deficit with Germany. The aim of the report is to show trends in trade and investment between Germany and Central Europe on the example of the Visegrad Group. The author also tries to answer the question whether deepening economic cooperation between Germany and the V4 countries will lead to further modernization of the economies of those countries or will it put them at risk of falling into "the trap of the average income."

SECTION 4 - EU POLICIES

JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

Centre for European Reform

Why Schengen matters and how to keep it: a five point plan

by Camino Mortera-Martinez

13 May 2016

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

The Schengen agreement's abolition of internal borders was intended to go hand in hand with a stronger external border. Because some member-states are unwilling or unable to live up to their responsibilities in protecting the external border, public support for free movement is starting to crack. But the collapse of Schengen would have only two winners: terrorist organisations and populist parties; Europe's citizens and businesses would be the losers. If the EU wants to save Schengen and protect people's freedoms, it needs to secure Schengen's external borders.

International Centre for Counter-Terrorism - The Hague

Links between terrorism and migration: an exploration

by Alex P. Schmid

May 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (63 p.)

This paper explores and questions some assumed causal links between terrorism on the one hand and migration on the other. The paper delves into the role that state and non-state terrorism might have in causing migration as well as analysing if and how refugees' camps and the diaspora community might be a target for radicalisation.

European Union Institute for Security Studies

The EU as a terrorist target: why, where, and how

by Roderick Parkes [@RoderickParkes](#)

4 May 2016

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

As an international actor, the EU can expect to win enemies as well as admirers. Two recent terrorist attacks in close succession – the first targeting an EU military mission in Bamako, the second in the 'EU quarter' in Brussels – seemingly confirm this. They also lend weight to the argument that if member states want the EU to be a robust international actor, they must give it the counter-terrorist powers to protect itself.

Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations

'All radicalisation is local'. The genesis and drawbacks of an elusive concept

by Rik Coolsaet

31 May 2016

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

The concept of 'radicalisation' is now firmly entrenched at the heart of European and global counterterrorism. But twelve years after its introduction, it remains ill-defined, complex and controversial. In this publication the author assesses its added value.

Hanns-Seidel-Stiftung (Hanns Seidel Foundation)

Zwischen Individualismus, Gruppendynamik und (gefühlter) Benachteiligung: Motive westlicher Dschihadisten

by Alexander Straßner

24 May 2016

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

This paper studies the individual motives for involvement of individuals in terrorist organisations and concludes that, regardless of ideological and historical circumstances, the reasons for joining terrorist groups do not differ significantly from other forms of deviant behaviour.

MIGRATION AND REFUGEE CRISIS

Open Political Economy Network

Refugees work: a humanitarian investment that yields economic dividends

by Philippe Legrain [@plegrain](#)

May 2016

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

Investing one euro in welcoming refugees can yield nearly two euros in economic benefits within five years. That is a key finding of this study, which sets out how refugees can contribute to advanced economies and what policies enable them to progress further and contribute most.

Migration Policy Institute

Maintaining public trust in the governance of migration

by Demetrios G. Papademetriou

19 May 2016

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

As governments around the world face increasingly complex migration management challenges, the difference between success and failure can often hinge on the ability of policymakers to win public trust. This report outlines the principal, interlinked challenges that policymakers face and reflects on why it is so crucial for immigration policymakers to win back public confidence, as well as the role of sound migration governance in doing so.

Centre for European Policy Studies

Facilitating mobility and fostering diversity: getting EU migration governance to respect the human rights of migrants

by François Crépeau [@McGill_OC](#) and Anna Purkey

May 2016

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

Migration towards Europe has surged over the past few years, overwhelming government authorities at the national and EU levels, and fuelling a xenophobic, nationalist, populist discourse linking migrants to security threats. But according to the authors, with the right political leadership, the EU could adopt different policies in order to develop and implement a human rights-based approach to migration that would seek to reconcile security concerns with the human rights of migrants. Such an approach would enable member states to fully reap the rewards of a stable, cohesive, long-term migration plan that facilitates and governs mobility rather than restricts it at immense cost to the EU, the member states and individual migrants.

Foundation for European Progressive Studies

The political communication of the refugee crisis in Central and Eastern Europe

by Gábor Győri

May 2016

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

This study investigates the political and communication roots of the current crisis; the characteristic national responses in the Central European region; and in particular in Austria, Croatia, Hungary, Slovakia and Poland; and the impact the crisis is likely to have on the already substantial populist movement across Europe.

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

At the gate of Europe - A report on refugees on the Western Balkan route

by Senada Šelo Šabić and Sonja Borić

May 2016

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

In the period between September 2015 and March 2016 Croatia was faced with a refugee crisis during which over 700 000 people passed through its territory on their way to Western Europe. Croatia was just one of the transit countries on the so called Balkan route. This study presents an analysis of the situation in the four countries along the route: Macedonia, Serbia, Croatia and Slovenia, taking into account the wider European context. The analysis of each country includes an overview of procedural solutions, relevant legislative framework, political discourse, media reports and the role of the civil society in the crisis.

European Stability Initiative

Navigating the Aegean: what the EU ought to know, and say, about refugees and the Greek islands – A policy proposal

4 May 2016

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

This paper is an appeal to European institutions to improve their reporting on what is actually happening on Lesbos, Chios, and other Greek islands. The information that is needed to assess the implementation of the EU-Turkey agreement is straightforward and should be presented in a weekly update, according to the paper.

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

Folkrätten, EU-rätten och flyktingarna på Medelhavet

by Martin Ratcovich

24 May 2016

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

Around one million refugees and migrants are said to have made their way to Europe crossing the Mediterranean last year. The EU is still struggling to find durable solutions to the situation, but what really applies to the handling of refugees at sea? Which set of rules govern EU-coordinated activities such as Operation Triton and Operation Sophia? This analysis explains international and EU law with bearing on the refugee flows across the Mediterranean. The focus of the analysis are the rules of the international law of the sea regarding intervention against ships and rescue at sea.

AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

Institute for European Environmental Policy

Socio-economic benefits of EU Marine Protected Areas

by Daniela Russi, Mia Pantzar [@mia_pantzar](#), Marianne Kettunen [@makettunen](#), Giulia Gitti, Konar Mutafoğlu [@KonarMutafoğlu](#), Monika Kotulak [@MonikaKotulak](#) and Patrick ten Brink [@PtenBrinkIEEP](#)

27 May 2016

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

This report collects, systematises and discusses the available evidence on the socio-economic benefits provided by the protection of European coastal areas and seascapes. The focus is on benefits associated with MPAs. However, when such information is not available, the report draws from studies documenting benefits associated with protection or restoration of coastal and marine ecosystems in general, considering this as indirect evidence for MPAs.

COMPETITIVENESS (INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND SPACE)

Jacques Delors Institute - Berlin

A deepened Single Market for labour and digital innovation: proposals for higher factor mobility in the Single Market

by Paul-Jasper Dittrich [@paul2jasper](#)

11 May 2016

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

This paper outlines proposals for a genuine European labour market and product market reforms in the digital sector which can become a major factor in putting the EU back on a track of higher economic and productivity growth and less cyclical unemployment.

Brookings Institution

The European Union's Digital Single Market Strategy: a conflict between government's desire for certainty and rapid marketplace innovation?

by Stuart N. Brotman [@stuartnbrotman](#)

May 2016

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

Many of the major success stories of the digital age have originated in the US rather than Europe. According to European Commission that's due to "cross-border barriers and differences in national telecoms, spectrum, copyright, e-commerce, data protection and consumer law regimes." This paper analyses the Digital Single Market Strategy's efforts to improve geotracking, copyright, and e-commerce, but concludes that the EU's commitment to "future proofing" seems likely to continue as an elusive goal.

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

Inter-industry trade and business cycle dynamics

by Wolfgang Lechthaler and Mariya Mileva

May 2016

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

Motivated by the increased importance of trade between industrialized and less-developed countries, this paper builds a DSGE model featuring comparative advantage and inter-industry trade to analyse business cycle dynamics. It shows that productivity shocks lead to shifts in the

relative demand of exporting and import-competing sectors, implying an important role for the mobility of workers across sectors.

Bruegel

E-commerce in Europe: parcel delivery prices in a Digital Single Market

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

25 May 2016

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

The payment flows for cross-border parcel delivery are strikingly similar to those for telecommunications. Comparisons with roaming can be instructive. As with roaming, it is clear that the links between wholesale payments between the national postal operators and retail prices need to be properly understood in order to craft good policy. There are also significant differences between roaming and parcel delivery. While high wholesale charges were a major driver of high retail prices for international mobile roaming, the wholesale payments for cross-border parcel delivery appear to be below cost. This implies that it is the 'spread' between retail price and the wholesale payment that is inflated, at least for small retail senders and for consumers. Comprehensive statistics gathering, coordinated at European level, is indispensable.

European Credit Research Institute / Centre for European Policy Studies

The business models and economics of peer-to-peer lending

by Alistair Milne and Paul Parboteeah [@vsflyer](#)

May 2016

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

This paper reviews peer-to-peer (P2P) lending, its development in the UK and other countries, and assesses the business and economic policy issues surrounding this new form of intermediation. It argues that P2P lending is fundamentally complementary to, and not competitive with, conventional banking.

Lisbon Council for Economic Competitiveness and Social Renewal

Text and data mining for research and innovation

by Sergey Filippov [@FilippovEU](#) and Paul Hofheinz [@PaulHofheinz](#)

May 2016

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

This paper looks at the challenge and opportunity of text and data mining in a European context. It looks at the legal complexity and red tape facing European scholars in the area, and calls for wholesale reform.

European Centre for International Political Economy

Digital investments, data and growth in Europe: a framework for analysis

by Erik van der Marel [@ErikvanderMarel](#)

May 2016

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

Even if there is a connection between information and communication technology (ICT) and growth in the European economy has been understood, specific policy measures describing how ICT can power growth are often too generic. This paper offers a framework for considering tailored policy recommendations: countries need to focus on exploiting their comparative advantages in the data economy and everyone cannot be a leader in the endowment of data.

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

Policies for innovation in times of digitalization - A comparative report on innovation policies in Finland, Sweden and Germany

by Lars Fredrik Andersson, Antti Alaja, Daniel Buhr, Philipp Fink and Niels Stöber
May 2016

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

The aim of this paper is to give an insight into the central questions concerning the social and technological aspect of innovation policies in an increasingly digitalized society. There is the need for an open discussion among progressive political actors and across national borders, especially within the EU. A broad policy framework is required that focuses not only on growth statistics and competitiveness, but on society and the workers most affected by digitization.

Leuven Centre for Global Governance Studies

Space debris: towards an international organization?

by Ward Munters
April 2016

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

An increasing amount of orbital debris threatens the sustainable use of outer space. This paper draws upon a tentative framework of polycentric governance, trust, reciprocity and cooperation for the collective-active problem of space debris in the near-Earth orbits. After analysing space debris from an international legal and policy perspective, a new international organization for the active removal of debris is proposed as a solution to key interrelated impediments to decisive action by the international community.

TRANSPORT/TELECOMMUNICATIONS/ENERGY

OCP Policy Center / Istituto Affari Internazionali

The future of natural gas: markets and geopolitics

by Silvia Colombo [@silvius20](#), Mohamed El Harrak and Nicolò Sartori [@nsartori](#) (eds.)
May 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (239 p.)

This paper aims at analysing the role of natural gas in the future energy mix by considering several key factors: the ambitious climate policies agreed by the international community, cost issues, and the role of technological innovation in the broader global gas picture.

Institut français des relations internationales / Clingendael International Energy Programme

EU security of gas supplies: solidarity runs through the pipeline

by Marie-Claire Aoun and Daan Rutten [@Daan_Rutten](#)
30 May 2016

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

Under the implementation of the Energy Union project, the Sustainable Energy Security Package was published in February 2016 by the European Commission. It consists of four proposals. Two of them have a legislative nature, namely a Regulation for Security of Gas Supply and a Decision on Intergovernmental Agreements on energy. The purpose of this paper is to focus on the proposed security of supply Regulation and to offer considerations on some of its provisions, in particular on the move from the national to the regional level of cooperation and on the legislative formalisation of solidarity.

German Marshall Fund of the United States

Toward an Eastern Mediterranean integrated gas infrastructure?

by Shaul Zemach

3 May 2016

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

At a time of increased tension and violence in Syria and other countries in the broader Middle East, it may appear unrealistic to propose an initiative designed to promote regional cooperation on energy infrastructure in the Eastern Mediterranean. This paper considers what regional cooperation on infrastructure and related matters might look like, assuming, however improbable at present, that long-standing political conflicts are overcome or, at least, stabilized. This paper is also an invitation to authorities in neighbouring states, as well as the EU and the US, to reflect on an innovative collaborative approach.

Institute for European Environmental Policy

Sustainability criteria for biofuels made from land and non-land based feedstocks

by Ben Allen, David Baldock [@David_Baldock](#), Silvia Nanni and Catherine Bowyer

May 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (53 p.)

The principal aim of this study is to define and articulate effective and workable sustainability criteria for the use of biomass in the production of energy, primarily in biofuels, in the post 2020 period. The main focus is on renewable transport fuel, and thus on biofuels and bio-liquids, but many of the criteria are applicable to the wider use of biomass for energy purposes. The report aims to increase understanding in this area as well as to propose potential ways forward.

EMPLOYMENT/SOCIAL POLICY/HEALTH/CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Elinkeinoelämän tutkimuslaitos (Research Institute of the Finnish Economy)

ETLAnow: a model for forecasting with big data – forecasting unemployment with Google searches in Europe

by Joonas Tuhkuri [@joonastuhkuri](#)

25 May 2016

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

This report documents the ETLAnow project, which is a model for forecasting with big data. At the moment, it predicts the unemployment rate in the EU-28 countries using Google search data.

Forum for research on Eastern Europe and Emerging Economies

Why do scientists move (and why should we care)?

by Ina Ganguli

May 2016

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

This policy brief provides an overview of new evidence on the determinants of mobility of scientists. New evidence from a large dataset of elite US life scientists shows that professional factors, including individual productivity and the quality of a scientist's peer environment, matter for mobility. Strikingly, family structure also plays a significant role, with the likelihood of moving decreasing when a scientist's children are in high school. This suggests that even "star" scientists take into account more personal, family factors in their mobility decisions, likely due to the costs associated with disrupting their children's social networks.

Bertelsmann Stiftung

Perceptions of inequality. Survey 2015/2016

by Elisabeth Bublitz

May 2016

Link to the study in [English](#) (48 p.) and to the policy brief in [English](#) (6 p.)

Of all the objectives assigned to the welfare state, economic redistribution is a crucial and sensitive one. This cross-country study tries to find out how do people perceive their own place in the income distribution and how does their perception of inequality alter their policy preferences.

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

The social city programme: wise urban development for the future of our cities

by Frank Bielka, Ingke Brodersen, Lutz Freitag, Achim Grossmann, Bernd Hunger, Muhammed Haşim Inam, Folkert Kiepe, Ulrich Pfeiffer, Franz-Georg Rips, Peter Runkel and Klaus Peter Strohmeier

May 2016

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

The concept/program "Social City" has been introduced in 1999 as one cornerstone of urban development planning in Germany. The focus of the concept is to consolidate and upgrade structurally, economically and socially disadvantaged cities, towns and neighbourhoods.

ENVIRONMENT

Institute for European Studies

Governing climate change in the Mediterranean: fragmentation in dialogue, markets and funds

by Angelos Katsaris

May 2016

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

This article analyses the challenges of interregional cooperation for the two regional secretariats in the Mediterranean – the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean and the Secretariat of the Mediterranean Action Plan – in the policy fields of climate change mitigation and adaptation.

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

Musterschüler? Frankreich, Deutschland und Europa in den Verhandlungen über das Paris-Abkommen zum Klimaschutz

by Stefan C. Aykut [@StefanAykut](#)

9 May 2016

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

The adoption of the Paris Agreement in December 2015 represents a success for French diplomacy. France succeeded in bringing difficult negotiations to a successful end. The European Union and Germany had a supporting role. This report analyses the conditions for this success. Furthermore, the author answers the question: what role can all three play in future climate policy? It is argued the Paris Agreement has significantly changed their roles.

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

Die Rolle von Allianzen in der internationalen Klimapolitik nach Paris

by Thomas Hirsch [@Th_Hirsch](#)

May 2016

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

The Paris Agreement of 12 December 2015 forms a milestone in international climate policy. So far, the focus has been mostly on the successful negotiation process. In the post-Paris-phase, the focus will shift to the implementation of the agreement. Linked to this, there are new challenges to involve a broad group of stakeholders in politics, business, finance and civil society. This paper offers an analysis of the role of alliances in international climate policy. Special attention is paid to the role of alliances during the development and implementation of the Paris Agreement at national and international level.

Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung (German Institute for Economic Research)

Inclusion of consumption into Emissions Trading Systems: legal design and practical administration

by Roland Ismer, Manuel Haussner, Karsten Neuhoff and William Acworth

May 2016

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

A world of unequal carbon prices requires measures aimed at preventing carbon leakage. Climate policy imperatives demand that such measures must be compatible with the goal of sending a carbon price signal down the value chain. For carbon intensive materials, the combination of dynamic free allocation combined with Inclusion of Consumption (IoC) into emissions trading systems such as the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (EU ETS) arguably fulfils both the aims of preventing carbon leakage and of sending the price signal. This paper presents concrete proposals regarding the legal design and practical administration of this mechanism. It argues that the IoC is, provided appropriate choices are made, ripe for implementation.

Overseas Development Institute

Rethinking power markets: capacity mechanisms and decarbonisation

by Laurie Van Der Burg [@LaurievdBurg](#) and Shelagh Whitley [@shelaghwhitley](#)

18 May 2016

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

This report introduces capacity mechanisms, a policy instrument for power markets, to a non-expert audience and considers their implications for meeting parallel objectives of security of supply and decarbonisation. It focuses on capacity mechanism developments in the EU and is directed at those who want to advance climate objectives, but who have a limited background in power markets.

EDUCATION/YOUTH/CULTURE/SPORT

Bertelsmann Stiftung

Auf dem Weg zu einem Europäischen Islam – oder ist dieser längst Realität?

by Julia Gerlach

May 2016

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

The discussion of whether we can refer to a representative European brand of Islam is at the centre of a heated debate in the Muslim community in Germany and its neighbouring countries, as is the question of how we should refer to it.

Article Wie "islamisch" ist Europa? Muslimische Perspektiven auf die Vereinbarkeit islamischer Normen mit dem Leben in westlichen Gesellschaften

by Sarah Albrecht

May 2016

Link to the article in [German](#) (72 p.)

This article provides insight into current intra-Muslim debates about questions pertaining to the compatibility of Islamic norms with life in predominantly non-Muslim countries. Drawing on historical debates about life under non-Muslim rule, Muslim scholars and intellectuals have dealt with these questions increasingly since the 1980s and developed a variety of responses. In contrast to claims made by right-wing populists, this overview of the broad spectrum of Muslim voices illustrates that the majority of prominent scholars and intellectuals who are involved in this discourse do not call for implementing "Islamic law" in the West. Nor do they assume that living according to Islamic norms and values is incompatible with the legal and ethical frameworks of European countries.

Forum for research on Eastern Europe and Emerging Economies

Culture and interstate dispute

by Vincenzo Bove and Gunes Gokmen

30 May 2016

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

The debate on the impact of culture on the conduct of international affairs, in particular on conflict proneness, continues. Yet, the question of whether markers of identity influence conflicts between states is still subject to disputes, and the empirical evidence on Huntington's clash of civilizations thesis is ambiguous. This paper summarizes a recent study that employs an array of measures of cultural distance between states, including time-varying and continuous variables, and run a battery of alternative empirical models. Regardless of how it operationalizes cultural distance and the empirical specification, models consistently show that conflict is more likely between culturally distant countries.

SECTION 5 - FOREIGN AFFAIRS

FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY / DEFENCE

International Centre for Counter-Terrorism - The Hague

Prosecuting foreign terrorist fighters: what role for the military?

by Bibi van Ginkel [@bibivanginkel](#)

9 May 2016

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

Foreign Terrorist Fighters undermine international peace and security by joining terrorist organisations and by contributing to the conflict and to the execution of terrorist acts, both in the conflict zones and their home countries. This policy brief will focus on the legal measures, specifically the prosecutorial approach, and the difficulties that prosecutions of those who have travelled to the countries where the conflict takes place bring along. Given those difficulties, the main question this policy brief seeks to answer is whether there is a role for the military to play in assisting prosecutors in collecting evidence and arresting suspects in countries of destination in order to try them in a criminal court under a civilian jurisdiction.

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

European defence: from strategy to delivery

by Margriet Drent [@Margriet_Drent](#) and Dick Zandee

11 May 2016

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

The new Global Strategy should provide the overall direction for the EU's foreign and security policy in a world of multiple and complex challenges and threats. A stronger Common Security and Defence Policy is indispensable for a secure Europe and necessary to underpin the EU's role as a security provider. However, without credible armed forces the EU will remain a paper tiger. A CSDP White Book has to translate the Global Strategy into CSDP ambition levels, military objectives and capability needs. Voluntarism and free riding has to be replaced by political peer pressure, assessment and the accountability of the member states' efforts to improve required capabilities for solving Europe's shortfalls.

German Marshall Fund of the United States

National priorities for the NATO Warsaw summit

by Bruno Lete [@Bruno_Lete](#), Martin Michelot [@martinmichelot](#), Christian Mölling [@Ce_Moll](#), Michal Baranowski [@M_Baranowski](#), Alina Inayeh [@ainayeh](#), Ozgur Unluhisarcikli, Derek Chollet [@derekchollet](#) and Steven Keil [@Stevekeil21](#)

9 May 2016

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

NATO members are preparing for the next important summit in Warsaw on July 8-9. In this collection, experts from GMF offices in seven of NATO's capitals — Brussels, Paris, Berlin, Warsaw, Bucharest, Ankara, and Washington, DC — report on their governments' agendas — and illustrate that while all members agree that unity and solidarity are critical for the alliance, the agenda is wide and the priorities diverse. The central challenge will be keeping the East and South of NATO on board, and the need to balance the two will affect many individual decisions. EU-NATO cooperation in the light of hybrid threats and nuclear policy is less controversial, but it may also not be easy to put in place.

Institut pro evropskou politiku EUROPEUM (EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy)

Embedding NATO into the European Union Global Strategy: the missing link?

by Martin Michelot [@martinmichelot](#)

31 May 2016

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

With the upcoming publication of the European Union Global Strategy, expectations around a stronger foreign policy role for the EU are rising. This leads to a rethinking about its role as a security actor, which cannot be thought without NATO. While there are difficulties in advancing the agenda of institutional cooperation, there now exist clear incentives, due to the nature of threats or the economic situation to warrant the beginning of a changed relationship.

Rahvusvaheline Kaitseuringute Keskus (International Centre for Defence Studies)

Closing NATO's Baltic gap

by Wesley Clark [@GeneralClark](#), Jüri Luik, Egon Ramms and Richard Shirreff [@Richard18061815](#)

12 May 2016

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

Under the present regime in the Kremlin, Russia poses a serious threat to NATO, particularly to its eastern-flank Allies. It has labelled NATO as an adversary, developed a mix of capabilities required for confronting it, created and exercised offensive plans targeting the Alliance, and is engaged in provocative and irresponsible military behaviour towards it. The regime has shown its willingness and ability to use military force, or the threat of it, to achieve its political objectives and, in the case of Ukraine, flagrantly violated the existing international order and fundamental principles of European security. While NATO Allies have only company size units rotating through the Baltic states, Russia is creating new divisions and armies and fielding cutting-edge capabilities in their vicinity. This is not the Red Army of our grandfathers' time.

GEOPOLITICS AND STRATEGY

Center of Strategic and Budgetary Assessments

Extended deterrence in the second nuclear age

by Evan Montgomery [@evanbmontgomery](#)

31 May 2016

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

The report provides an overview of U.S. extended nuclear deterrence commitments and how Washington plans to uphold them; describes the main challenges to extended nuclear deterrence in Europe, East Asia, and the Middle East; and sketches out what updated extended nuclear deterrence postures might look like across all three regions in light of these challenges.

Barcelona Centre for International Affairs

Global complexity: intersection of chessboard and web trends

by Anne-Marie Slaughter [@SlaughterAM](#)

May 2016

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

To see the international system as a web is to see a world of networks, intersecting and overlapping closely in some places and more strung out in others. We are returning to a genuinely multipolar world in which powers engage with one another on the basis of simultaneous shared and conflicting interests. Historians will look back and see the decade from roughly 2008 to 2018

as the EU's equivalent of the American Civil War, a great internal struggle fifty to sixty years after its founding to determine the future and future shape of a EU.

Institute for Development and International Relations / Hanns-Seidel-Stiftung (Hanns Seidel Foundation)

The return of geopolitics to Southeast Europe

by Sandro Knezović

May 2016

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

This paper analyses the challenges that accompany the return of the geopolitics to Southeast Europe. It deals with the combined effects of EU's and NATO's policies in the region, their inconsistencies and loopholes and ways Russia uses them to ensure its strategic positioning and influence. It attempts to give some viable policy recommendations that should contribute to the long-term consolidation in Southeast Europe in a very unpredictable and dynamic period to come.

Center for American Progress

Is Erdoğan holding Europe hostage?

by Behlül Özkan [@BehlulOzkan](#)

24 May 2016

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

In many ways, Turkey is the most important actor shaping the refugee crisis that is currently shaking Europe to its core. Accordingly, predicting the outcome of the drama requires a close study of President Erdoğan's underlying motives and goals. At present, there are nearly 3 million Syrian refugees in Turkey, which shares a 60-mile border with parts of Syria controlled by the Islamic State, or IS. For both the Syrian refugees and IS, Turkey is the door to the West, and President Erdoğan is the final arbiter of Turkish refugee and border security policy. An examination of his public statements and negotiating positions makes clear that Erdoğan seeks to use this leverage to compel the international community to set up safe zones in Syria and to force the EU to widen access to Turkey while abandoning attempts to hold Turkey to EU standards on democracy and human rights.

Transatlantic Academy

Russia, China, and the West after Crimea

by Angela Stent [@AngelaStent](#)

13 May 2016

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

Since the onset of the Ukraine crisis, Vladimir Putin has enthusiastically promoted ties with China as an alternative to Russia's adversarial relationship with the US and Europe. Presidents Putin and Xi have lavishly praised each other and criticized US "unilateralism". In 2015, they attended each other's military parades commemorating the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II, when no Western leader attended either. The rhetoric and optics stress close ties between two leaders who share a conviction that their countries were unfairly treated in the past. They are also uncomfortable with the current international political and financial order, which, they believe, denies them equal treatment in setting the agenda and determining the institutional rules.

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

The development and direction of Russo-German political and economic relations after 1990

by Károly Grúber and Tamás Vaszari

May 2016

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

Russia is the nearest regional power to the EU, and Germany is economically the most developed and powerful state in the EU. Drawing on historical precedents, the authors of this article aim to predict potential scenarios for the development of Russo-German relations in the near future. The bilateral German–Russian relationship is relevant to Central Europe too, due to the fact that they are the dominant powers in the geopolitical and geoeconomic environment of the region.

Transatlantic Academy / German Marshall Fund of the United States

Russia: a test for Transatlantic unity

by Marie Mendras [@MarieMendras](#), Andrew Moravcsik, Chris Miller, Nelli Babayan [@NelliBabayan](#), Angela Stent [@AngelaStent](#) and Ulrich Speck

May 2016

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

The EU and the US must continue prioritizing transatlantic unity and coordination in their response to Russia's assertive foreign policy, a group of scholars from Europe and the US argue in this report. While Russia should not be engaged "for the sake of engagement," the report contends that transatlantic partners must work with Russia to try to end the war in Syria and prevent unanticipated military incidents. The Kremlin's use of force against its neighbors and the resulting threat to European security continue to challenge the transatlantic community. Western partners need to answer with continuous support for good governance in countries such as Ukraine, Moldova, and Georgia, and work with them to develop their security and border control capabilities.

LSE IDEAS

New challenges, new voices: next generation viewpoints on transatlantic relations

by Tim Oliver [@timothyloliver](#) (ed.)

May 2016

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

The future of the transatlantic relationship is rarely out of the headlines in Europe or North America. Despite the closeness, the relationship faces – as it has always done – new and familiar challenges. This report offers views on the future of transatlantic relations from scholars who are at the start of their careers, with European and US perspectives on what the future holds in defence, economics, values, and relations with emerging powers.

German Marshall Fund of the United States / Chatham House / Royal Institute of International Affairs

The future of US global leadership implications for Europe, Canada and Transatlantic cooperation

by Alexandra de Hoop Scheffer, Rory Kinane [@rorykinane](#), Martin Quencez, Xenia Wickett [@xeniawickett](#)

9 May 2016

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

This paper lays out the conclusions of a series of workshops on 'The Future of US Global Leadership' and offers recommendations on the next steps that the US' allies could take in response to the changes and challenges identified. They focus on Russia, the Middle East and the future of global institutions.

Dahrendorf Forum

European Union in the World 2025 – Scenarios for External Relations

by Monika Sus and Franziska Pfeifer

May 2016

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

The Dahrendorf Forum initiated a foresight project which aimed to set out different scenarios for the future relationship between the European Union and the five countries/regions of the project cycle: Ukraine and Russia, Turkey, MENA, United States and China. The alternative futures engage in defining the most likely trajectories, downside risks, new trends and 'unknown unknowns'. By reflecting the forwardlooking challenges, the Dahrendorf Foresight Project tries to assess the EU's role in the world in 2025.

TRADE

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

La régionalisation, moteur de la mondialisation

by Michel Fouquin and Jules Hugot [@JulesHugot](#)

May 2016

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

Historians and economists generally identify two modern periods of corporate globalization: the first would extend from the late nineteenth century to the First World War; the second would have started in the mid 1970. These periods are characterized by a sharp drop in transaction costs, boosting trade between the countries. This article suggests an earlier onset of the First Globalization, early in the nineteenth century. This would be prior to major technological innovations such as the steamship and the telegraph, as trade support policies such as the treaties of free trade and the gold standard. These two waves were mainly fuelled by an intensification of intra-regional trade. This confirms the paradox that the more the trade grows, the more the distance counts.

Back to the future: international trade costs and the two globalizations

by Michel Fouquin and Jules Hugot [@JulesHugot](#)

May 2016

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

This article provides an assessment of the nineteenth century trade globalization based on a systematic collection of bilateral trade statistics. Drawing on a new data set of more than 1.9 million bilateral trade observations for the 1827-2014 period, we show that international trade costs fell more rapidly than intra-national trade costs from the 1840s until the eve of World War I. This finding questions the role played by late nineteenth century improvements in transportation and liberal trade policies in sparking this First Globalization. We explore the geographical heterogeneity of trade cost dynamics by estimating a border effect and a distance effect. We find a dramatic rise in the distance effect for both the nineteenth century and the post-World War II era. This result shows that both modern waves of globalization have been primarily fuelled by a regionalization of world trade.

Two centuries of bilateral trade and gravity data: 1827-2014

by Michel Fouquin and Jules Hugot [@JulesHugot](#)

May 2016

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

This document provides a detailed description of the Historical Bilateral Trade and Gravity Data set (TRADHIST) that was put together for Fouquin and Hugot (2016) and designed for historical

investigations of international trade. The data set is available on the website of CEPII. Specifically, the data set has been built to explore the two modern waves of globalization: the First Globalization of the nineteenth century and the post-World War II Second Globalization. The data set gathers five types of variables: i) bilateral nominal trade flows, ii) country-level aggregate nominal exports and imports, iii) nominal GDPs, iv) exchange rates, and v) bilateral factors that are known to favor or hamper trade, including geographical distance, common borders, colonial and linguistic links, as well as bilateral tariffs. This data is unique both in terms of temporal and geographical coverage. Overall, we gather more than 1.9 million bilateral trade observations for the 188 years from 1827 to 2014. We also provide about 42,000 observations on aggregate trade, and about 14,000 observations on GDPs and exchange rates respectively.

Competing liberalizations: tariffs and trade in the 21st century

by Jean-Christophe Bureau, Houssein Guimbard and Sébastien Jean
May 2016

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

This paper proposes a unique overview of trade policies trends since the launch of the Doha Round, based on detailed data on tariffs and trade covering 130 countries. We show that regionalism has delivered limited effective liberalization so far, leading to only a 0.3 percentage point (p.p.) cut in the worldwide average applied tariff duty between 2001 and 2013. WTO commitments (1.0 p.p. average cut) and unilateral liberalizations on a most-favored-nation (MFN) basis (1.3 p.p.) mattered far more on average, with more uneven consequences. As a result, we reckon that trade policy changes between 2001 and 2013 more than halved the worldwide welfare gains to be expected from the tariff-cutting provisions of the hypothetical Doha Agreement. If all ongoing RTA negotiations were concluded, expected gains would fall to one-third of their 2001 level.

Group for Legal and Political Studies

Kosovo's accession to the WTO – An assessment of potential costs and benefits

by Arbëresha Loxha and Erëza Pula
17 May 2016

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

According to the WTO agreement "any state or customs territory having full autonomy in the conduct of its trade policies is eligible to accede to the WTO on the terms agreed between it and WTO Members". The authors reflect and discuss the possible effects of Kosovo's accession to the World Trade Organization, elaborating in detail the potential benefits that WTO may entail for Kosovo. The Analysis also reflects upon the potential costs of Kosovo's accession to WTO and challenges during this process. Among other issues, it provides a set of policy recommendations which would result on greater advantages to the Kosovo market from the WTO accession.

DEVELOPMENT

European Centre for Development Policy Management

Supporting effective regional integration? What the 11th EDF programming tells us

by Alisa Herrero [@alisaherrero1](#) and Cecilia Gregersen [@CgGregersen](#)
May 2016

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

Supporting regional integration is seen as a key element in EU's strategy to improve prospects for economic growth, trade and investment, to foster peace and stability, and natural resources management. Regional integration and cooperation have featured at the centre of the Africa, Caribbean, and Pacific-EU partnership since the First Lomé Convention, signed in 1976. The revised version of the Cotonou Partnership Agreement (2010) reflects the growing importance of

regional integration in ACP countries and in ACP-EU cooperation. Analysis follows on from and complements ECDPM's analysis of the 11th European Development Fund (EDF) national programming experience published in September 2015. By reviewing the EU's regional programming process, this study sets out to reveal how the EU and its ACP partners approached the challenges of supporting regional integration.

ENLARGEMENT PROCESS

Institut français des relations internationales

Les Balkans occidentaux, pierre de touche de la politique étrangère allemande et européenne

by Julia Wanninger

24 May 2016

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

Germany's policy towards the Western Balkans is characterized by an ongoing commitment that includes several phases, namely the reconstruction, stabilization, consolidation of the rule of law and the market economy, finally of member-state building. Western Balkan countries play an equally central role for German foreign policy as for the European foreign policy. The Kosovo conflict in 1999 confronted the German political class with a dilemma, "never again war" or "never again Auschwitz". The Western Balkans remind at the same time the EU's promise of shared peace, prosperity and solidarity with its neighbors in South-West Europe. The challenge of migration flows currently dominates the bilateral relations between the Western Balkans and Germany, but German foreign policy is understood primarily as a contribution to enlargement committed policy.

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

PrEUgovor report on progress Serbia in chapters 23 and 24

by Milan Aleksić (ed.)

May 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (59 p.)

Serbia officially started the negotiation process for its accession to EU in January 2014, more than two years ago. So far, only two negotiation chapters have been opened: 32 (Financial Control), 35 (Other Issues, which in Serbia's case, refers to Belgrade-Pristina relations). It was invited to prepare negotiation positions for two other chapters: 14 (Transport Policy) and 21 (Trans-European Networks). Negotiations on Chapters 23 (Judiciary and Fundamental Rights) and 24 (Justice, Freedom and Security), being of the most relevance for the following report, have yet to be opened, despite the facts that this was announced at the beginning of the negotiation process and that these chapters were the first to be opened during the latest round of EU enlargement. Finally, even though their opening has been scheduled for June 2016, this has also been called into doubt since Croatia, now an EU member state, recently raised reservations over certain issues covered by Chapter 23.

EASTERN PARTNERSHIP

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

A Shared European Home - The European Union, Russia and the Eastern Partnership

by Elena Alekseenkova, Henrik Hallgren [@HenrikHallgren](#), Hiski Haukkala [@HiskiHaukkala](#), Felix Hett [@felixhett](#), Anna Maria Kellner, Igor Lyubashenko [@IgorLyubashenko](#), Florence Mardirossian [@flomardirossian](#), Tatiana Romanova, Tornike Sharashenidze [@Torgivus](#), Maryna Vorotnyuk and Julia Wanninger

May 2016

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

This paper proposes the vision of a Shared European Home as a guiding principle for the EU's Eastern Policy. It sets out concrete policy recommendations for putting this vision into practice.

Institut pro evropskou politiku EUROPEUM (EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy)

ENP review - Towards effective EU action in the Eastern neighbourhood?

by Věra Řiháčková

May 2016

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

The recent review of the European Neighbourhood Policy has been under heavy scrutiny because of its importance in defining the nature of relations between the EU and its neighbourhood, at a time when tensions have flared up with Russia. Each country is affected to a different extent by the review, which overall favours rational cooperation over the "more for more" principle, in an effort to redefine how the EU can strengthen these states.

Institut für Europäische Politik (Institute for European Politics)

#EngagEUkraine. Engagement der Ukrainer in Polen und Deutschland

by Agnieszka Łada [@AgnieszkaLada](#) and Katrin Böttger [@Boettger_IEP](#)

30 May 2016

Link to the article in [German](#) (164 p.) and in [Polish](#) (158 p.)

Within the framework of the joined project "Ukrainians in Poland and Germany – Civic and Political Engagement, Expectations, and Courses of Action" of the Institute of Public Affairs (IPA), Warsaw, and the Institut für Europäische Politik (IEP), Berlin, the complete study has now been published in German and in Polish. Based on a series of in-depth interviews with members of the Ukrainian diaspora living in Poland and Germany regarding their views on the Ukraine Crisis and the future of Ukraine, including the question of EU-membership as well as their readiness to support the democracy movement in Ukraine, the authors of the study analyse various forms of civic engagement of Ukrainians living in Poland and Germany, specific obstacles they are facing and similarities as well as differences in Germany and Poland.

AFRICA

European Centre for Development Policy Management

South Africa, Europe and Africa: building bridges across barriers?

by Asmita Parshotam [@AsmitaParshotam](#) and Damien Helly [@DamienHelly](#)

May 2016

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

This paper aims to provide an understanding of current trends in EU-South Africa relations and their implication for Africa's integration process. This Briefing Note first looks at the main features

of South Africa's foreign policy under President Zuma. It then provides an update on the EU-South Africa Strategic Partnership and, lastly, it focuses on the continental level and the interplay between the African Union (AU), South Africa and the EU.

ASIA-OCEANIA

European Union Centre in Singapore

ASEM in the age of connectivity

by Shada Islam [@shada_islam](#), Yeo Lay Hwee and Bart Gaens [@BartGaens](#)

May 2016

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

This booklet gives an analytical account of ASEM's history and background, assesses ASEM's developments and achievements since the inaugural summit, and provides some thoughts on the future of ASEM.

International Institute for Strategic Studies

A road map to strategic relevance: EU security-policy options in southeast Asia

by Sarah Raine

May 2016

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

This report analyses the initiatives the EU is pursuing in southeast Asia and its contributions to the regional security capabilities and concerns of ASEAN.

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

Mehr Demokratie in Myanmar wagen - Herausforderungen für die Regierung unter Aung San Suu Kyi

by Konstantin Bärwaldt

May 2016

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

Myanmar has taken the time being biggest hurdle on the road to democracy, Aung San Suu Kyi and the run of her National League for Democracy (NLD) could form a government, the first time in over 50 years, representing the electorate of a large majority of the people. The young democracy in Myanmar remains threatened by three simultaneous challenges: the institutionalized veto power of the military in civil war-torn country, the suppression ratio between state and society and the massive wealth gaps. These mortgages weigh heavily on the democratically elected government of the quasi-prime minister Aung San Suu Kyi. Political and economic reforms are tolerated only within the framework of the existing order. Prerequisite for massive poverty reduction and economic modernization is a strong developing state.

Friends of Europe

Shifting geopolitics of energy - winners and losers

by Danuta Slusarska and Fabio Orlando [@FabioOrla33](#)

9 May 2016

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

This analysis focuses on Japan, the world's third-largest economy and second-largest net importer of fossil fuels. It examines the main strengths and weaknesses of the key players in global energy geopolitics. The aim is to assess the causes and consequences of the ongoing shifts in

geostrategic power balances, track energy sector transformations and highlight best practices. What are the implications for Europe?

European Council on Foreign Relations

Eternally displaced: Afghanistan's refugee crisis and what it means for Europe

by Angela Stanzel [@angela_stanzel](#)

10 May 2016

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

Afghans are the second biggest group claiming asylum in Europe, and their numbers are set to keep rising. It is argued in this article that in order to stem the influx of Afghan refugees, Europe needs to turn to Asian partners, working not only with Kabul but with its neighbours – particularly China, Pakistan, India, and Iran.

United States Institute of Peace

State strengthening in Afghanistan: lessons learned, 2001–14

by Scott Smith and Colin Cookman [@colincookman](#) (eds.)

May 2016

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

In March 2015, the US Institute of Peace (USIP), Chatham House, and Stanford University held a two-day conference on "State-Strengthening in Afghanistan 2001–2014: Learning from the Past to Inform the Future." This report comprises a selection of papers presented at the conference. The papers look back critically at thirteen years of international intervention in Afghanistan, focusing on the impact of state-strengthening exercises on security, democratization, governance, the economy, rule of law, infrastructure, civil society participation, youth development, and women's empowerment. They describe, from the perspective of Afghan and international policy makers and experts, the immense and often unforeseen challenges in rebuilding the Afghan state.

CHINA

Barcelona Centre for International Affairs

One belt, one road: the Chinese dream and its impact on Europe

by Christina Müller-Markus

May 2016

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

China, from various points of view, is a powder keg about to explode: the country faces growing domestic pressures due to the slowing of economic growth. Chinese investment raises fears about the implications for European countries' national security and concerns about China's compliance with the applicable EU regulations. Despite the trade and diplomatic profile that the Chinese government conveys with its One Belt, One Road initiative, its strategic military presence in the Mediterranean, closely watched by the US, should also be noted by the EU. The Chinese injection of up to €10bn into the European Fund for Strategic Investment makes China the largest investor in the so-called Juncker Plan.

Institute of International and European Affairs

The silk road, XXI century - One belt, one road

by Pádraig Murphy

25 May 2016

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

In late 2013, the Chinese leadership announced an initiative called One Belt One Road, consisting of a land element – development of infrastructure between central China and Western Europe, and a maritime element, starting from a port in South-Eastern China and ending in Venice. The initiative is accompanied by the establishment by China of the Asian Infrastructure and Investment Bank, and a \$46 bn Silk Road Fund. Much more will be needed. The project involves some 60 countries and spans the whole of the Eurasian land mass, and includes one of the most neuralgic straits in the world, the Straits of Malacca. The geopolitical implications are huge – the interests of the US, Russia and the EU are in play. But there are potential benefits for everyone in freeing up an increasingly important channel for two-way trade and exchange.

European Centre for International Political Economy

Xi Jinping's long road to China's OBOR initiative and how Europe should respond

by Guy de Jonquières [@guydej1](#)

May 2016

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

The true nature and purpose of China's One Belt One Road (OBOR) initiative are subject to much speculation. The one certainty is that OBOR commands powerful high-level Chinese support and is backed by a large investment of political capital. It is no less than the personal signature initiative of President Xi, who has made clear that he regards it as central to his political legitimacy and as the tangible embodiment of his "China Dream" of rejuvenating the nation and its ruling Communist Party – which in his mind are probably the same thing.

Heritage Foundation

The prospects for economic transition in China are questionable

by William T. Wilson

5 May 2016

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

During the financial and economic crisis of 2008 and 2009, Beijing passed a \$600 billion stimulus package (13.4 percent of Chinese GDP), which allowed China to breeze through the worst global contraction since the Great Depression. With the US mired in depression-like conditions, some believed that the "Beijing Consensus" of state-led capitalism seemed to have eclipsed the "Washington Consensus" of market capitalism. Although this conclusion turned out to be wrong, an examination of some of China's official statistics shows that they do not substantiate current bearishness. There are strong and promising parts to the Chinese economy, and there are highly problematic aspects. Heritage Foundation China expert William Wilson explains the good and the bad.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars

Argentina's oil and gas sector: coordinated federalism and the rule of law

by Patricia I. Vásquez [@PatVas2013](#)

May 2016

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

Management of the oil and gas industries in Argentina has been historically characterized by political and economic swings of the pendulum: from periods of investor-friendly policies to phases of government controls and market and price restrictions. Policy-making in the oil and gas sectors can be highly politicized and vulnerable to the country's personalized governing style, centred on the figure of the president and the powerful governors from resource-producing provinces. In a highly politicized context where a powerful executive calls the shots, the role of the judiciary is typically perceived as marginal and rather ineffective. Argentina's political and institutional framework provides multiple opportunities for undermining full respect for the rule of law in the oil and gas sectors.

MIDDLE EAST/NORTH AFRICA (MENA)

Euro-Mediterranean Study Commission / European Institute of the Mediterranean / Istituto Affari Internazionali

Countering violent extremism in the MENA region: time to rethink approaches and strategies

by Moussa Bourekba

17 May 2016

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

The foreign fighters phenomenon affecting MENA countries is unprecedented in its scale and pace. While most MENA countries have adopted "hard" strategies based on security-focused approaches, countering violent extremism also requires the use of "soft" strategies stemming from multidimensional approaches. This means turning the current short-term strategy into a long-term strategy addressing the roots of violent extremism.

OCP Policy Center / Bruegel

The unmet challenge of interdependence in the EU-MENA space: a view from the south

by Karim El Aynaoui, Uri Dadush, Karim El Mokri and Rim Berahab [@BerahabRim](#)

May 2016

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

This paper will take stock of the economic performance of Europe and the Arab world, examining how they can do better by working together. The paper pays special attention to the trade, investment, migration and energy linkages between the two regions, as well as those among the Arab countries, as well as how they can be improved to achieve better development. Whereas we present a southern perspective, with Arab countries as main focus, the purpose is to understand the constraints facing both regions, and come up with measures that benefit all parties.

Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung (German Institute for Economic Research)

The performance of banks in the MENA region during the global financial crisis

by Guglielmo Maria Caporale, Suman Lodh and Monomita Nandy

May 2016

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

This paper examines the impact of the global financial crisis on the banking sector in the MENA region, as well as the main determinants of the profitability of both domestic and foreign banks. The empirical findings suggest that during the crisis the former outperformed the latter in that region. As for the determinants of profitability, size does not appear to play a role, whilst the liquidity ratio and net interest revenues seem to have a negative and positive effect respectively; GDP has a positive effect in the case of domestic banks.

European Policy Centre / German Marshall Fund of the United States

Report on democracy assistance from the European Union to the Middle East and North Africa

by Rosa Balfour [@RosaBalfour](#), Francesca Fabbri [@francesca_livia](#) and Richard Youngs [@YoungsRichard](#)

19 May 2016

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

In this report, the authors present a detailed overview of the support given to civil society in the MENA region by the EU, with a special focus on the various financial instruments used. Since the Arab uprisings of 2011, EU assistance has nominally targeted more resources to supporting democracy movements in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. The EU has better equipped itself institutionally, financially and conceptually, by strengthening its bottom up grassroots approach to democracy support; resources earmarked for supporting civil society have been increased, the budget for the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) has been beefed up, and the strengthened EU Delegations have become more empowered to reach out to groups at the local grass roots level behind democracy activities; The European Endowment for Democracy (EED) was created with the mandate to support individuals and organizations in neighbouring countries that work for democracy.

Transparency International

Speaking up safely: civil society guide to whistleblowing. Middle East and North Africa Region

by John K. Devitt

May 2016

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

There is growing awareness of the important role whistleblowing plays in stopping corruption. This guide touches on whistleblowing provisions across the MENA region; the conditions that need to be met for whistleblowers to feel safe; as well as tips and arguments for campaigning for enhanced whistleblower safeguards. It draws from our research on whistleblowing and consultations with our partners in the region. It explores some of the steps organisations might want to take in supporting whistleblowers and the steps whistleblowers might take before and after speaking up.

European Council on Foreign Relations

Intervening better: Europe's second chance in Libya

by Mattia Toaldo [@mattiatoaldo](#)

13 May 2016

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

This article draws on extensive work in the region and interviews with Libyan officials to explain how the West can do a better job of intervening in the country after the failure of the post-Gaddafi transition. It argues that Libya is at a dangerous turning point. The unity government is facing two rival governments and dozens of armed groups. Once one of Africa's wealthiest nations, Libya is in desperate need of humanitarian aid, and its chaos threatens to unleash greater migration flows and terrorism on Europe.

Istituto Affari Internazionali

Europe and Israel: a complex relationship

by Giorgio Gomel

30 May 2016

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

There is some degree of ambivalence, mistrust, and even hostility between Europe and Israel. Europeans see Israel on a path of permanent occupation of Palestinian territories. Israel sees the European posture as unbalanced and biased against Israel. Economic and institutional linkages are strong. A further strengthening of relations is however difficult unless a peaceful settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is reached. For the EU resolving the conflict is a matter of both interests and values.

Centre for European Policy Studies

The EU's self-defeating aid policy towards Palestine

by Brigitte Herremans [@BriHerremans](#)

9 May 2016

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

Motivated by the dual aims of strengthening the Middle East Peace Process and contributing to Palestinian state-building, the EU and its member states have been the biggest donors of financial assistance to the Palestinians. But these efforts have not managed to achieve the desired change, as the EU failed to develop a coherent strategy to address Israel's violations of international humanitarian law and it has accepted practices that undermine its political objectives. Hence, the aid has not contributed to a strong Palestinian government that can contribute to the security of both Palestinian and Israeli civilians.

EU-Iran Relations after the nuclear deal

by Steven Blockmans, Anoushiravan Ehteshami and Gawdat Bahgat [@GawdatBahgat](#) (eds)

May 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (123 p.)

The signing of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action between Iran and global powers on 14 July 2015 was a major turning point in the emerging strategic landscape of the Middle East. The 'nuclear deal' led to the lifting by the EU and the US of nuclear-related sanctions and is now operational. Other sanctions remain in place, however. Nevertheless, unhindered by US competition, European trade delegations have entered into a latter-day gold rush, led by the promise of the biggest untapped market in the world. As such, the EU has both an opportunity and a responsibility to help Iran reintegrate properly into the international system.

Brookings Institution

The Iran nuclear deal: prelude to proliferation in the Middle East?

by Robert Einhorn and Richard Nephew [@RNephewCGEP](#)

May 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (74 p.)

The global nuclear non-proliferation regime has been remarkably resilient, with no new entrants to the nuclear club in the last 25 years. But observers believe that could change and that we may be heading toward a "cascade of proliferation," especially in the Middle East. The presumed trigger for a possible Middle East nuclear weapons competition is Iran, which has violated non-proliferation obligations, conducted activities relevant to the development of nuclear weapons, and pursued sensitive dual-use nuclear technologies without a persuasive peaceful justification. Tehran's nuclear program—combined with provocative behaviour widely believed to support a goal of establishing regional hegemony—has raised acute concerns among Iran's neighbours and could prompt some of them to respond by seeking nuclear weapons capabilities of their own.

Heritage Foundation

The dangerous regional implications of the Iran nuclear agreement

by James Phillips

9 May 2016

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

The Obama White House has treated Iran's hostile regime with kid gloves. There is a growing danger that this complacent passivity will project weakness that could further encourage Iranian hardliners, undermine long-standing US national interests, and demoralize US allies in the region that are threatened by what they see as an increasingly aggressive regime in Iran. In the process of courting Iran, the White House has been perceived to be abandoning traditional Arab allies, without establishing a credible security architecture in the region to contain and roll back Iran.

Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses

Modi's visit to Iran: will it provide a new momentum to bilateral relations?

by Meena Singh Roy

16 May 2016

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

The forthcoming visit of Prime Minister Modi is going to be a significant step from the point of a much awaited visit from the Indian side. This is an appropriate time to engage Iran, take the relationship forward and concretise many pending projects on connectivity and energy cooperation. This could be a turning point in India-Iran relations and the beginning of new chapter in bilateral cooperation. Given its positive image India has to pursue a smart policy of strategic engagement in order to turn challenges into opportunities. The future of India-Iran relations will depend on how the two countries are able to accommodate mutual concerns and interests.

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

A guide to renewable energy in Egypt and Jordan : current situation and future potentials

by Ahmed Said Al-Salaymeh, Amal Ghaleb Abu-Jeries, Khawlah Abdalla Spetan, Maged Mahmoud and Mohamed EIKhayat

May 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (184 p.) and in [Arabic](#) (192 p.)

The energy-policy context in the MENA region continues to be marked by a lopsided dependence on non-renewable, fossil energy sources. High population growth and energy-intensive

consumption in the region will cause energy needs to surge by 6 to 7% per year in the future if consumption patterns stay the same. It is estimated that this will lead to a doubling of energy needs by the year 2020. To be able to meet a soaring demand for energy already evident at present, numerous countries in the region are increasingly turning to non-sustainable energy sources that are damaging to the climate.

The secret of attraction : ISIS propaganda and recruitment

by Anja Wehler-Schoeck, Mohammad Abu Rumman, Hassan Abu Hanieh, Hassan al-Safadi, Uthman al-Mukhtar, Bissane el-Cheikh, Wael al-Batiri, Abdullah al-Maliki, Sami Brahem, Marco Lombardi, Marwan Abou Taam and Amr Hamzawy [@HamzawyAmr](#)

May 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (123 p.) and in [Arabic](#) (117 p.)

A series of papers presented by experts and researchers specialising in Islamic Movements from different Arab and Western states, on the factors that gave rise to the attractive force of "ISIS", drawing youth into the embrace of terrorist organisation.

Chatham House - The Royal Institute of International Affairs

Yemen: stemming the rise of a chaos state

by Peter Salisbury [@altoflacoblanco](#)

May 2016

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

The paper outlines the challenges that will face Yemeni and foreign officials in their attempts to restore security and build a lasting peace in the event of a successful mediation to end the war. Building on the author's experience of living and working in Yemen between 2012 and 2014, a Chatham House workshop held in London in November 2015, and field research by the author in Sana'a, Sa'dah and Aden in late 2015 and early 2016, the paper argues that engagement with local non-state actors who are party to the conflict – as well as developing a deeper understanding of the interplay between the many allegiances and rivalries involved in the conflict – are crucial to building sustainable peace in Yemen.

RUSSIA

Körber-Stiftung (European Alliance for Democratic Citizenship)

Russia in Europe: rapprochement or isolation?

April 2016

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

Relations between Russia and most of its European neighbours are currently characterized by a profound crisis. A deep lack of trust exists on the political level. But do the people of Russia and its neighbouring countries also harbour growing levels of mutual distrust? In order to answer these questions, the Koerber Foundation commissioned representative surveys in February/March 2016 in Germany and Russia on the issue of "Russia in Europe". The survey was conducted among 1000 individuals in Germany and 1024 people in Russia, all eligible to vote and over 18.

European Council on Foreign Relations

Russia 2030: a story of great power dreams and small victorious wars

by Fredrik Wesslau [@FWesslau](#) and Andrew Wilson

23 May 2016

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

This paper considers how Russia and Europe's eastern neighbours may look 14 years from now. The paper sets out five key trends that will play out in Russia and Eastern Europe, the events that could throw them off course, and what the EU should do.

Putin's hydra: inside Russia's intelligence services

by Mark Galeotti [@MarkGaleotti](#)

11 May 2016

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

Far from being an all-powerful "spookocracy" that controls the Kremlin, Russia's intelligence services are internally divided, distracted by bureaucratic turf wars, and often produce poor quality intelligence – ultimately threatening the interests of Vladimir Putin himself. Drawing on extensive interviews with former and current intelligence officials, this article explains how the spy agencies really work and argues that Europe's view of them is patchy and based on outdated caricatures.

Ulkopoliittinen instituutti (Finnish Institute of International Affairs)

Fog of falsehood: Russian strategy of deception and the conflict in Ukraine

by Katri Pynnöniemi [@Pynnoniemi](#) and András Rác

10 May 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (320 p.)

This report analyses Russian propaganda and disinformation – here collectively called strategic deception – concerning the conflict in Ukraine. The strategic deception is not exclusively a Russian term, but it does capture what the authors think is an essential feature of the current Russian foreign and security policy. It is driven by attempts to put the adversary into a defensive posture and off balance, and thus, to create conditions for surprise.

Chatham House - The Royal Institute of International Affairs

Russian state mobilization. Moving the country on to a war footing

by Andrew Monaghan

May 2016

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

This paper addresses Russia's mobilization and outlines how Moscow sees a world of increasing instability and competition. It then goes on to consider how the Russian leadership is responding to these concerns, and reflects on what appears to be a series of measures designed to prepare Russia to face potential conflict, even war. The term mobilizatsiya – 'mobilization' – features increasingly prominently in the Russian policy discussion. It describes a coordinated attempt on the part of the state to address an array of evolving security threats – in both narrow and broad senses – to Russia. In part, this reflects a widespread debate about the looming possibility, perhaps even inevitability, of war.

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

Long-run effects of public policies: endogenous alcohol preferences and life expectancy in Russia

by Lorenz Kueng and Evgeny Yakovlevitt

May 2016

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

The authors use two quasi-natural experiments in the 1980s and 1990s to identify how public policies affect important long-run outcomes by changing preferences. Large but short-lived shocks to product availability in Russia shifted young consumers' long-run preferences from hard to light alcohol. The resulting large cohort differences in current alcohol consumption shares decades after the interventions ended explain about 60% of the recent decrease in male mortality based on both micro-level and aggregate estimates. Mortality will continue to decrease by another 23% over the next twenty years based on their analysis. Program impact evaluations that focus only on contemporaneous effects can therefore severely underestimate the total effect of such public policies.

Foreign Policy Centre

Sharing worst practice: how countries and institutions in the former Soviet Union help create legal tools of repression

by Adam Hug (ed.)

May 2016

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

This article examines the ways in which authoritarian regimes learn from each other and collaborate to develop repressive practices. It examines the impact of these countries' shared Soviet heritage and explores their development of copycat anti-NGO and anti-LGBTI legislation, alongside similar restrictions on freedom of assembly, media and internet use. The publication also looks at the role security concerns play in developing and excusing bad practice, exploring the sometimes negative role of Western countries as part of the 'War on Terror'.

Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung für die Freiheit (Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom)

Hintergrund: Russland - Hände hoch! Es wird abgestimmt - Russland vor den Dumawahlen 2016

by Sergey Medvedev and Julius von Freytag-Loringhoven

19 May 2016

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

Throughout Russia, there is a noticeable tension in the lead up to the parliamentary elections due to take place in autumn. After the manipulation during the last Duma elections in 2011 and the subsequent protests, the Kremlin made some concessions to the demonstrators. Politicians belonging to the opposition are now more frequently invited to talk shows on national television, yet the election monitoring by independent organizations in Russia still remains limited. Under these conditions, the electoral chances of the two liberal parties, Yabloko and Parnas, are low.

TURKEY

Istanbul Politikalar Merkezi (Istanbul Policy Center)

Turkey's approach to peacebuilding: principles, policies, practices

by Auveen Woods [@auveenwoods](#) and Onur Sazak

May 2016

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

Turkey is increasingly seen as an important international actor and development partner, particularly in conflict-affected and fragile countries. This policy brief explores how Turkey conceptualizes and engages in "peacebuilding". It explores the effect of Turkey's own experiences and evolution of the principles, policies and practices that frame its actions in conflict-affected countries, and the sustainability of these approaches.

German Marshall Fund of the United States

The Iranian moment and Turkey

by Gökhan Bacik [@GokhanBacik](#)

25 May 2016

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

This brief analyses how Iran's new policies under Rouhani may affect Turkey's regional and transatlantic relations. Though both Iran and Turkey are eager to have close economic relations with each other, the limit of their bilateral relations is likely to be determined by the fact of the alignment of each in competing regional blocks.

Turkey's travails, Transatlantic consequences: reflections on a recent visit

by Ian Lesser

24 May 2016

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

This policy brief examines the deterioration of the internal and external position of Turkey. The polarization and discord within its society has increased, and the number of groups and individuals with grievances against the state has grown. As Europe and the US look to Turkey to help manage risks emanating from the Middle East and Russia, Ankara, like many other capitals, is increasingly inclined to a renationalized, sovereignty conscious approach. Recent discussions in Istanbul and Ankara suggest that Turkey is on course for a period of protracted instability and turmoil, and a troubled relationship with transatlantic partners.

UKRAINE

Martens Centre for European Studies

No illusions, no regrets: the current struggle to reform Ukraine

by Maksym Popovych [@MaksymPopovych](#)

May 2016

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

This paper argues that positive changes in Ukraine's economy, its political system and its political institutions, depend on a clear escape from the Soviet legacy, which provokes political populism and stalls reforms. Despite the immense challenges of the Russian military intervention and its declining economy, Ukraine has made progress with its ambitious reform agenda. This paper discusses the achievements and setbacks in four policy areas: decentralisation, energy, the civil service and anti-corruption. It includes firm evidence that proves that the results of many of the reforms are already helping the Ukrainian economy to recover from the crisis.

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

Reforms, new elites, and old structures: how to win the battle for a new Ukraine?

by Iryna Solonenko

May 2016

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

In the two years since its "Revolution of Dignity" – also known as Euromaidan – Ukraine has launched important reform initiatives. Most of them are still in the inception phase, however, and much remains to be done to ensure their sustainability. The past two years have made clear the enormity of the challenge Ukraine faces in its transformation. At the same time, it has also shown unprecedentedly strong determination on the part of new reform-minded actors to overhaul the old system. This paper analyses the struggle that they face, and how external actors can contribute.

Institut für Europäische Politik (Institute for European Politics)

How the Ukrainian diasporic community in Germany contributes to EU's policy in its home country

by Ljudmyla Melnyk, Magdalena Patalong, Julian Plottka and Richard Steinberg

11 May 2016

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

This paper presents the first results on the development of an Ukrainian civil society in Germany. Following a mapping of the non-state actors involved and their fields of activity with regard to their support of Ukraine, the paper analyses why people are voluntarily getting engaged and what they are aiming for. Finally, the paper discusses whether these activities contribute to the EU's policy towards Ukraine and how the EU could further support these actors in order to benefit from their activities.

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

Gender-responsive budgeting in Ukraine : theory and practice

by Tatiana Ivanina, Svitlana Ievchenko, Nelli Karpets, Olena Mykytas, Oleny Ostapchuk, Natalia Riabushenko, Olga Uhukova and Oksana Yarosh

May 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (84 p.) and in [Ukrainian](#) (93 p.)

This Handbook contains a description of theoretical and practical approaches for implementing gender-responsive budgeting. The Annexes include a detailed description of the GRB methodology and methodology for costing gender equality. The authors hope that the proposed Handbook will be useful for gender experts and practitioners, officials and civil society activists implementing the gender equality policies at state and local levels.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung für die Freiheit (Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom)

Zwischen Privatsphäre und Sicherheit - Die US-Datenschutzdebatte im transatlantischen Kontext

by Iris Froeba

26 May 2016

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

The debate over intelligence reform in the US is vigorously conducted despite Europe thinking otherwise. This paper analyses the debate between privacy and national security over the contentious topic of collecting data .

Heritage Foundation

Maintaining America's ability to collect foreign intelligence: the section 702 program

by David R. Shedd, Paul Rosenzweig, and Charles D. Stimson

13 May 2016

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

Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act will come up for reauthorization in 2017. The Section 702 program targets non-US persons reasonably believed to be located outside the US, in order to acquire foreign intelligence. Over the past several years, this surveillance of the online activities of foreigners has been an invaluable source of information for American intelligence professionals and officials. Still, critics believe that the program infringes on Americans' rights. This paper argues that this program is so vital to America's national security that Congress should reauthorize Section 702 in its current form.

SPECIAL FOCUS - UK REFERENDUM

Pew Research Center

Euroscepticism beyond Brexit: significant opposition in key European countries to an ever closer EU

by Bruce Stokes

7 June 2016

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

On 23 June, people in the UK will vote on a referendum on whether to remain in the EU or to leave the Brussels-based institution, a decision that has come to be called Brexit. The British go to the polls at a time when this new multi-nation survey finds that euroscepticism is on the rise across Europe and that about two-thirds of both the British and the Greeks, along with significant minorities in other key nations, want some powers returned from Brussels to national governments. Whether favorable or not toward Brussels, most Europeans agree that a British exit would harm all the 28 EU member states.

Institute for Fiscal Studies

Brexit and the UK's public finances

by Carl Emmerson, Paul Johnson [@PJTheEconomist](#), Ian Mitchell and David Phillips

May 2016

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

If the result of the referendum on 23 June leads to the UK leaving the EU, it is inevitable that there will be a impact on the public finances of the UK. This report aims to explain the possible impact, focusing particularly on the short-term, given that the Chancellor wishes to achieve a budget balance by the end of this parliament. The authors also look at possible long-term consequences.

İstanbul Politikalar Merkezi (Istanbul Policy Center)

To where is Britain running? The real need for the Brexit referendum

by Bahri Yılmaz and Morgan Palmer

May 2016

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

The authors argues that although the aim of Euroscepticism is to bring control back to Britain in order to make the country stronger, it could very well lead to a separation of the nation states comprising the UK, and ultimately leave the UK in a much weaker position. Thus, while the referendum is meant to be about UK-EU relations and the battle between Euroscepticism and those who are pro-Europe, it could very well end up as an assessment of the nature of the UK itself.

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

Good bye Britain? Hintergrundanalyse zum EU-Referendum in Großbritannien

by Hans-Hartwig Blomeier and Olaf Wientzek

12 May 2016

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

This paper analyses the future of Britain's relationship with the EU, and the future of the EU itself, if Britain leaves the EU.

Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations

The UK's foreign and security policy: what's at stake in the referendum?

by Richard Whitman

18 May 2016

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

Foreign and security policy was not an area in which Prime Minister Cameron sought to alter the relationship between the UK and the EU when renegotiating the terms of Britain's membership. However, security has become a key theme in the referendum debate and this policy brief considers the questions and answers raised on both sides of the debate.

European Council on Foreign Relations

One hundred years of British solitude: magical thinking about Brexit and security

by Susi Dennison [@sd270](#), Mark Leonard [@markleonard](#) and Nick Witney

16 May 2016

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

A British exit from the EU would make it harder to fight crime and terrorism, reduce Britain's ability to lead and influence its partners, and weaken NATO – putting future generations of Britons at risk, according to this paper from the European Council on Foreign Relations. After recent warnings from David Cameron and former NATO chiefs that "Brexit" would make Britain less secure, ECFR draws on interviews with top ex-security officials, regional experts, and five years of data on European foreign policy to weigh the arguments on each side. This article finds that, as the US steps back from its role as global police officer and the world splits into rival power centres, Britain will need its allies in Europe more than ever.

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

Zwischen den Welten : Großbritannien als Partner für Deutschland in Europa nach dem EU-Referendum

by Nicolai von Ondarza [@NvOndarza](#)

11 May 2016

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

If Britain leaves, there are going to be many years of negotiations ahead so that the UK can access the EU internal market. In such a case, the EU and Germany should specify the conditions that a large country which is not an EU member can be integrated into the European architecture.

Centraal Planbureau (CPB Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Analysis)

Brexit costs for the Netherlands arise from reduced trade

by Johannes Bollen, Gerdien Meijerink [@Meyerink](#) and Hugo Rojas-Romagosa

June 2016

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

This is a study focusing on the cost of Brexit on the Netherlands. If the UK withdraws from the EU, it will affect the Netherlands more severely than other EU countries because of the strong trade relations between the Netherlands and the UK. A reduction in trade could amount to a GDP loss for the Netherlands of 1.2%, or 10 billion euros, by 2030. Less trade may also induce less innovation, which could amplify the GDP loss of 10 billion euros by another 65%.

The Bruges Group

Brexit and free trade : would a post-Brexit UK be better able to sign free trade agreements with the rest of the world?

by Sam Winders

9 May 2016

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

This report investigates whether the UK would be better able to sign trade agreements with countries outside of Europe if they are outside of the EU. A key component of this question is whether a larger domestic market confers a significant advantage when concluding trade negotiations.

Migration Policy Institute

Engaging the anxious middle on immigration reform: evidence from the UK debate

by Sunder Katwala [@sundersays](#) and Will Somerville [@will_somerville](#)

10 May 2016

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

The UK is often presented as having particularly hostile attitudes toward immigration compared to other countries. However, the authors of this report make the case that polls reveal far more nuanced public attitudes towards immigration and immigrants than commonly depicted in the media and political discourse. Though there are substantial minorities of strong opinion for and against immigration, most people fall into the "anxious middle". They are sceptical about the government's handling of immigration and worried about the effects of immigration on society and the economy, but are not hostile toward immigrants themselves, especially skilled ones who can contribute to the economy.

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Friedrich Ebert Foundation)

Brexit: the politics of a bad idea

by David Gow and Henning Meyer

May 2016

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

The editors have brought together the key arguments developed by some leading thinkers from within and without the UK to show why Brexit is a bad political idea.

Chatham House - The Royal Institute of International Affairs

UK unplugged? The impacts of Brexit on energy and climate policy

by Antony Froggatt, Thomas Raines [@TomHRaines](#) and Shane Tomlinson

May 2016

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

If, at the June 2016 referendum, the UK votes to leave the EU, energy and climate policy will be part of the overall package of issues to be negotiated, as it is unlikely that each sector will be treated separately. The model of relations for energy and climate may well be determined by political and public sentiment on higher-profile issues such as freedom of movement, rather than by what is best for the UK in these policy areas. This paper reviews the risks and trade-offs associated with five possible options for a post-exit relationship.

Britain, the EU and the sovereignty myth

by Robin Niblett [@RobinNiblett](#)

May 2016

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

This paper seeks to contribute to the Brexit debate by asking, first, what does sovereignty mean in today's world? Second, how have successive UK governments sought to balance the desire to retain sovereign power wherever possible with the need to pool that power on occasion within the EU in order to improve the country's security and prosperity? Third, how has the UK fared under this balance? And, fourth, where might the UK stand after the referendum? Would leaving the EU in order to reassert sovereign control strengthen British prosperity and security? Would remaining help or hinder Britain in achieving its national objectives?

Institute of International and European Affairs

Brexit: what happens next?

by Gavin Barrett [@GMBGMDB](#)

May 2016

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

In the event of a Leave vote in the referendum, what will happen next is unclear. [Article 50](#), introduced into the Treaty on EU by the Treaty of Lisbon, sets out a withdrawal mechanism for a state that wishes to end its membership of the EU, but the Article's five short paragraphs raise almost as many questions as they answer. In this publication, Professor Gavin Barrett presents some observations on the EU withdrawal process described in Article 50.

Polski Instytut Spraw Międzynarodowych (Polish Institute of International Affairs)

Relacje Unia Europejska – Wielka Brytania po ewentualnym Brexicie. Stanowiska Niemiec, Francji, Włoch, Hiszpanii i Polski

by Karolina Borońska-Hryniewiecka, Elżbieta Kaca, Sebastian Płóciennik [@SebPloc](#) and Patryk Toporowski [@pattoporowski](#)

May 2016

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

In the face of the uncertain outcome of the British referendum, the EU should now prepare for relations with Britain as a non-member country. Any new form of relationship will be the result of painstaking negotiations, and it will depend on the economic and political interests of the Member States, especially the largest - Germany, France, Italy, Spain and Poland. The smaller Member States will join the coalitions built on the solutions favoured by these big countries. This PISM report shows the possible preferences of the largest states regarding future relations with Britain and predicts what solutions are most likely to occur.

CIVITAS - Institute for the Study of Civil Society

Economical with the truth. A review of HM treasury analysis: the long-term economic impact of EU membership and the alternatives

by Michael Burrage

May 2016

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

The Chancellor has claimed that every household would be £4,300 worse off outside the EU – but the Treasury's calculations are based on a false premise the value of the Single Market to British trade. In this report, Michael Burrage interrogates the assumptions underpinning HM Treasury analysis: the long-term economic impact of EU membership and the alternatives and finds that they ignore much of the published evidence about trade growth over recent decades.

The eurosceptic's handbook. 50 live issues in the Brexit debate

by Michael Burrage

May 2016

Link to the article in [English](#) (326 p.)

The polls show that the British people are fairly evenly split between those who would stay and those who would leave – and very few would give the present arrangement a ringing endorsement. The Eurosceptic's Handbook tries arm those with doubts about the EU with the counter-arguments they need to make an objective judgement.

Adam Smith Institute

Evolution not revolution: the case for the EEA option

by Ben Southwood [@bswud](#)

3 May 2016

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

This paper contends that the UK should leave the EU and that the best exit route is to step back into a position in the European Economic Area ('EEA') and the European Free Trade Association ('EFTA'), thereby wholly maintaining the open trading arrangements of the single market and related economic integration. This EEA option allows the public to judge 'what out looks like' and simultaneously reassures them that disruption will be minimal. Once out, the dynamics of the move would prompt a recalibration of the EEA agreement and indeed the political map of Europe such that other liberal, trade-oriented EU nations would join the UK, leaving the Eurozone to politically integrate.
