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General Secretariat

# THINK TANK REVIEW

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Dear Readers,

Welcome to issue 54 of the Think Tank Review compiled by the EU Council Library\* ([click to share on Twitter](#)). It references papers published in January 2018. As usual, we provide the link to the full text and a short abstract.

Issue 54 covers a broad array of topics, from Brexit-related subjects, elections in Chile and Honduras, digital Asia, Turkey's fight against youth radicalisation and EU cooperation with regional organisations in Africa, to economy-related issues. There is a special focus on US 45th President Donald Trump and the changes brought about in US policy one year after his inauguration. Various think tanks explore the impact on the EU of US withdrawal from the TPP, changes in US immigration policy, Trump's foreign policy and his decision to recognise Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, and the future of America's evolving global engagement.

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Additionally, on 6 February, the Commission issued a communication entitled '[A credible enlargement perspective for and enhanced EU engagement with the Western Balkans](#)'. In that connection, we would like to recommend a couple of articles dealing with the European perspective of Western Balkans countries. They examine a credible EU enlargement policy and the EU's re-engagement with the Western Balkans.

The first section, EU Politics and Institutions, offers several articles on the challenges that lie ahead for the EU, as well as proposals for future political action.

Section 2, Economic and Financial Affairs, covers a broad range of subjects, such as security markets, market discipline and creditworthiness trends of Eurozone countries.

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Section 3, EU Member States, looks at 10 countries in January, with articles covering many different issues, ranging from women in the Estonian defence forces, inclusive growth in Germany, the Italian public debt, and the place of Portugal and Spain in the European Union, with a contribution from Elcano Royal Institute and Instituto Português de Relações Internacionais. The subsection on Brexit highlights numerous aspects of the future of the United Kingdom, the uncertainty in financial markets and budget negotiations after Brexit, the future agricultural policy in the UK, and the question of whether Britain can change its mind.

In section 4, EU Policies, the articles selected deal with topics such as the relationship between development and migration, 'mind hacking', information warfare in the cyber age, policy recommendations for re-evaluating and reducing youth unemployment, and many more.

Section 5, Foreign Affairs, explores issues such as measures against Islamic extremism, international trade and the legislative and practical challenges of prosecuting foreign fighters, to mention just a few.

Last but not least, the annual [2017 Global Go To Think Tank Index Report](#) that ranks the world's leading think tanks in a variety of categories has been published. With its 11th edition, The Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP) of the Lauder Institute at the University of Pennsylvania, with the help of a panel of over 1 900 peer institutions and experts from the print and electronic media, academia, public and private donor institutions, and governments around the world, try to raise public awareness of the importance of think tanks for governments and civil societies around the globe.

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

The next Review will be out in March 2018, with papers published in February 2018.

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

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## SECTION 1 - EU POLITICS AND INSTITUTIONS

### Barcelona Centre for International Affairs

*Reformar la Unión Europea en 2018: cinco propuestas, cinco voluntades políticas*

by Carme Colomina [@carmecolomina](#)

January 2018

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

As in 2017 Brussels regained optimism, unity and stability became the new wise words. At the same time, the European narration has changed, the paper's author point out. The ambitious reform proposals made by the French President Emmanuel Macron laid the foundation stone the new European discourse.

### Jacques Delors Institute - Berlin

*A more democratic European Union - Propositions and scope for political action*

by Valentin Kreilinger [@tineurope](#)

5 January 2018

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

This paper provides an overview of the various contributions which have been made in the debate on the future of the EU, analyses the EU institutions and the sources of their legitimacy in the multi-level system of the EU, places the proposals made in this regard and considers both the legal requirements and the political scope for action for implementing specific, individual institutional changes. Political decisions which are to be made by the EU Members embrace many issue, including whether - and if so, when - the roles of President of the Commission and President of the European Council are merged and whether the role of national parliaments is increased.

### European Policy Centre

*En Marche l'Europe? - A strategy to implement democratic conventions*

by Paul Butcher, Yann-Sven Rittelmeyer [@YSRittelmeyer](#) and Corina Stratulat

11 January 2018

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

This paper offers a model for implementing democratic conventions. It provides a framework upon which other stakeholders can build in the process of defining a fully-fledged strategy. The authors' design has the overall objective of providing a platform for interaction and exchange between European citizens and their political representatives that is both credible and sustainable.

### European Political Strategy Centre

*Europe is back - Economic, financial, social and technological trends in a changing world*

22 January 2018

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

The EU27 and the Eurozone have surprised analysts with a stronger than expected recovery. According to the forecasts, a continuation of this trend is expected in the foreseeable future.

## Centre for European Reform

*Conference report: how to save the EU*

by Simon Tilford [@SimonTilford](#), Christian Odendahl [@COdendahl](#) and Sophia Besch [@SophiaBesch](#)

15 January 2018

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

In the eventful 2016 Britain voted to leave the EU, Polish and Hungarian governments chipped away at the rule of law and the liberal democracy norms, while populist right-wing parties - and to a lesser extent also the populist left - have seen a boost in popularity across both Western and Eastern Europe. These developments raise many questions over the future of the EU, Eurozone, European identity, political integration and liberalism, which are all being addressed in detail by the paper's authors.

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

*EU agencies on the move: challenges ahead*

by Ellen Vos

January 2018

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

The report identifies and elaborates on an important challenge for the future of the EU's executive powers: while a rapid development has given the EU agencies an important role in the EU cooperation, the mechanisms of the control and accountability have not kept up with the pace of their development. The author argues that giving the agencies a stronger legal basis and a clearer position within the EU system remains a key future requirement and a task that should interest both policy makers and researchers.

## SECTION 2 - ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

### Real Instituto Elcano (Elcano Royal Institute)

*La economía mundial ante 2018*

by Federico Steinberg [@Steinbergf](#) and José Pablo Martínez

January 2018

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

This paper looks at the situation facing the global economy in 2018.

### Bruegel

*Bank liquidation in the European Union: clarification needed*

by Silvia Merler [@SMerler](#)

10 January 2018

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

What role do they play in Member States' decision to grant liquidation aid? The author of this paper looks at how resolution and liquidation differ substantially when it comes to the scope of legislation applicable to the use of public funds and how the diversity in national insolvency regimes is a source of uncertainty about the outcome of liquidation procedures.

*Risk reduction through Europe's distressed debt market*

by Alexander Lehmann

January 2018

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

The resolution of non-performing loans (NPLs), a stock of roughly €870 billion in the EU banking industry, is central to the recovery of Europe's banking sector and the restructuring of the excess debt owed by private sector borrowers. Could the development of distressed debt markets be a new element of capital market deepening in Europe?

### Centre for Economic Policy Research

*Reconciling risk sharing with market discipline: a constructive approach to euro area reform*

by Agnès Bénassy-Quéré [@agnesbq1](#), Markus K. Brunnermeier [@MarkusEconomist](#), Henrik Enderlein [@henrikenderlein](#), Emmanuel Farhi, Marcel Fratzscher [@MFratzscher](#), Clemens Fuest [@FuestClemens](#), Pierre-Olivier Gourinchas [@pogourinchas](#), Philippe Martin [@martinph01](#), Jean Pisani-Ferry [@pisaniferry](#), Hélène Rey [@helene\\_rey](#), Isabel Schnabel [@Isabel\\_Schnabel](#), Nicolas Véron [@nicolas\\_veron](#), Beatrice Weder di Mauro and Jeromin Zettelmeyer [@jzettelmeyer](#)

17 January 2018

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

Authored by a group of independent French and German economists, the paper includes a proposal over six reforms which, if delivered as a package, could improve the Eurozone's financial stability, political cohesion, and potential for delivering prosperity to its citizens, all while addressing the priorities and concerns of participating countries.

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

### *Creditworthiness trends of Eurozone countries*

by Lüder Gerken [@cepGerken](#), Matthias Kullas and Till Brombach

30 January 2018

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

The Eurozone is still a long way from achieving convergence between its member countries. In the Index, there are six Eurozone countries - Greece, Italy, Latvia, Portugal, Slovenia and Cyprus - in which the erosion of creditworthiness has become firmly established.

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

### *Some unpleasant euro arithmetic*

by Guillaume Gaulier [@ggaulier](#) and Vincent Vicard [@Vvicard](#)

January 2018

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

Current estimates of misalignments in real effective exchange rates show that euro area imbalances are still large: Germany exhibits a 20 percentage point undervaluation compared to the rest of the euro area (EA). Within a monetary union, rebalancing requires price adjustments through differentials in inflation rates. The rebalancing process therefore involves a 2 percentage point higher inflation in Germany than in the rest of the EA over a decade, or a 1 pp over two decades. It also requires above 2% inflation in surplus countries to meet the 2% ECB inflation target.

## LUISS School of European Political Economy

### *Reconciling risk sharing with market discipline*

by Lorenzo Bini Smaghi

30 January 2018

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

The paper presents a series of proposals to improve the Eurozone financial architecture, with a view to make it less vulnerable to crises and to deliver long term prosperity.

## Institute for Fiscal Studies

### *Implications of high-frequency trading for security markets*

by Oliver Linton and Soheil Mahmoodzadeh

10 January 2018

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

High frequency trading (HFT) has grown substantially in recent years, due to fast-paced technological developments and their rapid uptake, particularly in equity markets. This paper investigates how HFT could evolve and, by developing a robust understanding of its effects, to identify potential risks and opportunities that it could present in terms of financial stability and other market outcomes such as volatility, liquidity, price efficiency and price discovery. Despite commonly held negative perceptions, the available evidence indicates that HFT and algorithmic trading (AT) may have several beneficial effects on markets. However, they may cause instabilities in financial markets in specific circumstances.

## Centre for European Policy Studies

### *Income convergence in the EU: a tale of two speeds*

by Cinzia Alcidì, Jorge Núñez Ferrer [@jnunez\\_ferrer](#), Mattia Di Salvo [@Mattia\\_DiSalvo](#), Roberto Musmeci [@roberto\\_musmeci](#) and Marta Pilati

January 2018

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

The paper aims to map the status of economic convergence within the EU, by contrasting dynamics at the level of Member States and of regions (intended as the NUTS 2 regions in which Member States are divided).

### *Oil price shocks, monetary policy and current account imbalances within a currency union*

by Timo Baas and Ansgar Belke

January 2018

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

For more than two decades now, current-account imbalances are a crucial issue in the international policy debate as they threaten the stability of the world economy. The government debt crisis of the EU shows that internal current account imbalances inside a currency union may also add to these risks. The paper analyses the impact of oil price shocks on current account imbalances within a currency union. Differences in institutions, especially labour market institutions and trade result in an asymmetric reaction to an otherwise symmetric shock. The authors show that oil price shocks can have a long-lasting impact on internal balances, as the exchange rate adjustment mechanism is not available.

### *MiFID II will profoundly affect the portfolio management business*

by Karel Lannoo [@karel\\_lannoo](#)

24 January 2018

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

Of all the issues addressed by MiFID II in the EU's securities markets, its impact will be most pronounced in the portfolio management business, the author writes. The requirements to unbundle payment for investment research from execution services at the firm level, and sales from investment advice at the retail level, will call upon independent asset managers and asset management units within banks to profoundly rethink their business model and adapt to the new requirements. It will make the brokerage market more competitive and may require banks to separate from their asset management business.

## Centrum Analiz Społeczno-Ekonomicznych

### *Enhancing credibility and commitment to fiscal rules*

by Grzegorz Poniąkowski [@gponiatowski1](#)

January 2018

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

The paper aims at analysing characteristics of an effective fiscal governance framework, focusing on the incentives that ensure a commitment to the fiscal rules.

## Deutsche Institut für Entwicklungspolitik

### *A primer on blockchain technology and its potential for financial inclusion*

by Jan Ohnesorge

January 2018

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

This paper focuses on the potential of block-chain technologies in improving (international) payments and land registries. Bitcoin-enabled payments were the first application of block-chain technology, and frictionless (international) payments are an essential part of financial inclusion. In contrast, improving land registries is a more innovative use of the technology, but the connection to financial inclusion is not straightforward. However, land registries may indeed play an important role in fostering access to credit for financially underserved people.

### *Low interest rate environment amplifies negative effects of austerity policy*

by Mathias Klein

22 January 2018

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

While large-scale fiscal consolidations and the implementation of structural reforms should help southern European countries resolve the crisis, recent studies indicate that in conjunction with the low interest rate in the euro area, the austerity measures that has been imposed could have the opposite effect, leading to an increase in sovereign debt and economic slowdown, the author writes. For this reason, a more balanced policy mix consisting of less restrictive spending measures and more investment incentives is preferable to an austere savings policy.

### *Looking for the missing rich: tracing the top tail of the wealth distribution*

by Stefan Bach, Andreas Thiemann and Aline Zucco

January 2018

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

The paper examines the top tail of the wealth distribution in Germany, France, and Spain based on the first and second wave of the Household Finance and Consumption Survey (HFCS). Since top wealth is likely to be underrepresented in household surveys, the authors integrate big fortunes from rich lists, estimate a Pareto distribution, and impute the missing rich. In addition to the Forbes list, they rely on national rich lists for a broader base for the big fortunes in those countries. As a result, the top percentile share of household wealth in Germany jumps up from 24 percent to 31 percent in the first and from 24 to 33 percent in the second wave after top wealth imputation.

## Peterson Institute for International Economics

### *Earmarked revenues: how the European Union can learn from US budgeting experience*

by Jacob Funk Kirkegaard [@jfkirkegaard](#)

January 2018

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

The paper discusses a range of challenges the EU faces that call for more expenditures authorized by Brussels. Longstanding budgetary procedures of trust fund accounting and earmarking government revenue towards specific priorities point the way for policymakers to address these problems without unsettling a public wary of funding more centralized government in Europe.

## SECTION 3 - EU MEMBER STATES

### CZECH REPUBLIC

#### European Values Think-Tank

*Activities of Czech President Miloš Zeman as the Kremlin's Trojan horse*

by Veronika Špalková and Jakub Janda [@\\_JakubJanda](#)

17 January 2018

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

Since Russia annexed Crimea in 2014, Kremlin's threat to Europe has become a contentious topic of political debates. Although the threat posed by Russia is broadly acknowledged at the public and political level, some European statesmen nonetheless play the role of Russia's advocate not only by ignoring the Kremlin's deeds but by actively serving its interests, for example by criticizing anti-Russian sanctions. Together with pro-Russian interest groups and Russians living in Europe, a broad network of pro-Kremlin proxies is under developments. This network interferes with European structures and disturbs them with its actions.

#### Institut Pro Evropskou Polityku EUROPEUM

*Andrej Babiš and the European Union - What to expect in 2018?*

by Zuzana Stuchlíková [@zstuchlikova](#)

January 2018

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

The Czech Republic is facing a decisive time. The two crucial elections, parliamentary and presidential, have taken place just a few months apart (October 2017 and January 2018) and both will have a major influence on the future direction of the country. The parliamentary elections brought a victory of Andrej Babiš and his ANO movement, yet his position in power is unstable - What will it mean for his position in the EU? While he presents a different kind of leader than the other Central European troublemakers, his subtle attempts to consolidate power shouldn't however go unnoticed in Europe.

### ESTONIA

#### Rahvusvaheline Kaitseuringute Keskus (International Centre for Defence and Security)

*Women in the Estonian defence forces. Motivation, attitudes, experience and challenges*

by Andres Siplane

17 January 2018

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

As women serve in the Estonian Defence Forces (EDF), it was decided to conduct a study to map the situation and attitudes, and gather thoughts for future development. The study method was a questionnaire and the sample included all active service personnel, regardless of gender, rank or service arm. Since the Estonian Ministry of Defence has conducted public opinion surveys on topics of national defence, including with regard to women serving in the EDF, for over ten years, it is possible to compare the opinions of active service personnel and society at large.



## FINLAND

### Institut de relations internationales et stratégiques / Finnish Institute of International Affairs (FIIA)

#### *Defence industrial policy in Finland - Drivers and influence*

by Charly Salonijs-Pasternak [@charlyjsp](#)

9 January 2018

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

The key drivers for Finland's defence industrial policy are a desire to maintain a robust national defence capability, openness to increased cooperation with EU and NATO and continuing non-membership in a military alliance (NATO). Because Finland does not belong to a military alliance, it retains a broad range of military capabilities for independent use. However, continually developing those capabilities demands cooperation, including with the international defence industry. Finland's domestic industry therefore focuses on developing niche products which it sells itself or through resellers.

## FRANCE

### Fondation pour l'innovation politique

#### *Gouverner le religieux dans un état laïc*

by Thierry Rambaud

8 January 2017

Link to the article in [French](#) (56 p.)

The paper questions the possibility of a public policy of religious management in a secular context. Obviously, such a policy must first of all respect the legal framework of secularism and tend to the protection of fundamental freedoms. However, as a guarantor of the general interest, the state must also take into account these social forces in order to avoid that they constitute an instrument of the weakening of the state.

## GERMANY

### Bertelsmann Stiftung

#### *Inclusive growth - An agenda for Germany - Five action areas for a new growth strategy*

by Armando García Schmidt, Manuela Barišió, Henrik Brinkmann and Dominic Ponattu [@ponattudom](#)

4 January 2018

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

Germany is entering the beginning of a new legislative period with a strong economic position. Current figures and forecasts for the near future are, across the board, positive. But both the private sector and society are confronted with major challenges - globalization, digitalization and demographic shifts are transforming the demands on economy; in Germany it requires policymakers to align economic and social policies as part of an Agenda for Inclusive Growth that can renew the promise of the social market economy and ensure prosperity for all.

## Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung

*Financial sector: proportion of women in top decision-making bodies is increasing more slowly than at the beginning of the decade - Equal gender representation is still a long way off*

by Elke Holst [@elkeholst](#) and Katharina Wrohlich  
January 2018

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

Over the past year, the proportion of women serving on the executive and supervisory boards of the top 100 largest banks in Germany rose slightly to almost nine and 23 percent, respectively. However, growth has come to a halt in the 60 largest insurance companies: on both executive and supervisory boards, the proportion of women has sunk to almost nine and 22 percent, respectively. For over ten years, DIW Berlin has been investigating to what extent women are represented in the top decision-making bodies of banks and insurance companies.

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

*The impact of the demographic transition on the office real estate market in Germany*

by Philipp Deschermeier and Michael Voigtländer  
31 January 2018

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

Demographic trends play a major role for investors. According to recent research, demand will continue to increase in the big cities.

## GREECE

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

*Η Νέα Κινητικότητα στο Ζήτημα της Ονομασίας της Π.Γ.Δ.Μ.*

by Angelos Athanasopoulos (ed.)  
4 January 2018

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

After many years of virtual inaction, the dispute over the name of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is again attracting political attention in Athens, Skopje and important Western capitals. In the latest issue of ELIAMEP's Strategic Analyses series, prominent analysts offer their views on the latest developments in the diplomatic relations between Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

## Peterson Institute for International Economics

*ECB interventions in distressed sovereign debt markets: the case of Greek bonds*

by Christoph Trebesch and Jeromin Zettelmeyer [@jzettelmeyer](#)  
January 2018

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

The authors study central bank interventions in times of severe distress (mid-2010), using a unique bond-level dataset of ECB purchases of Greek sovereign debt. ECB bond buying had a large impact on the price of short and medium maturity bonds, resulting in a remarkable "twist" of the Greek yield curve. However, the effects were limited to those sovereign bonds actually bought. The authors find little evidence for positive effects on market quality, or spillovers to close substitute bonds, CDS markets, or corporate bonds.

## ITALY

### LUISS School of European Political Economy

#### *The Italian public debt - A proposal*

by Carlo Bastasin [@CarloBastasin](#), Marcello Messeri and Gianni Toniolo

18 January 2018

Link to the article in [English](#) (15 p.) and [Italian](#) (13 p.)

The brief contains a proposal to address the problem of high Italian public debt and reform the institutions that regulate the European economy. The high level of national public debt in Italy represents an impediment to the Italian economy and an element of risk for the financial stability of its markets and the euro area as a whole. This fiscal fragility also prevents Italy from playing a more active role in the determination of the new European fiscal rules currently being debated.

### Istituto Affari Internazionali

#### *Italy's defence policy: what to expect from the 2018 elections?*

by Alessandro Marrone [@Alessandro\\_Ma](#)

January 2018

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

Italians will head to the polls on 4 March 2018 to elect both houses of parliament, the Italian Chamber of Deputies and the Senate. Uncertainty surrounding the results is significant. Yet, a strong line of continuity is expected in Italian foreign and defence policy with regards to key issues such as European defence cooperation and integration, commitments to NATO, military operations in Africa and the greater Middle East - including on migration control - and defence spending.

## POLAND

### ECFR - European Council on Foreign Relations

#### *Poland and European defence integration*

by Marcin Zaborowski

25 January 2018

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

Poland's reluctance to engage in EU defence cooperation and efforts to snub European defence companies are reducing its potential to emerge as a significant force in European defence. Political and personal considerations largely drive Polish leaders' scepticism of EU attempts to develop genuine defence cooperation. Defence is one area in which the government could offset some of these negative perceptions, by demonstrating its commitment to one of the signature initiatives of the EU.

### Centrum Analiz Społeczno-Ekonomicznych

#### *The significance of the tobacco product manufacturing to Poland's economy*

by Grzegorz Poniowski and Krzysztof Głowacki [@Krzysz\\_Glowacki](#)

January 2018

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

The research analyses the economic significance of manufacturing of tobacco products. The economic effect of consumption of tobacco products was only a peripheral element of the research. The analytical work was built on three pillars: analysis of existing data, expert interviews and a computable general equilibrium (CGE) model expanded to include production and consumption of tobacco products.

## SPAIN

### **Fundación Alternativas**

*Informe sobre la ciencia y la tecnología en España*

by Vicente Larraga (coord.)

23 January 2018

Link to the article in [Spanish](#) (167 p.)

The document constitutes the first report on science and technology prepared by Fundación Alternativas.

### **Fundación de Estudios de Economía Aplicada**

*La Innovación y la I+D españolas en 2016. Una visión basada en las estadísticas del INE de 2017*

by Juan Mulet Meliá

January 2018

Link to the article in [Spanish](#) (55 p.)

The report analyses the situation of the Spanish system of innovation and R&D in 2016 based on data from the National Institute of Statistics.

### **Real Instituto Elcano (Elcano Royal Institute) / Instituto Português de Relações Internacionais**

*Visões e trajetórias: os lugares de Portugal e Espanha na União Europeia*

by António Goucha Soares

24 January 2018

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

Portugal and Spain have been dragged by the euro crisis and requested international financial assistance, though with different intensity. Once completed the respective assistance programmes, Spain has resumed economic growth more quickly than Portugal. Portugal followed a longer route, due to the characteristics of its financial assistance programme. Portugal also had to overcome the scepticism of the Eurogroup partners and European institutions regarding the policies adopted in the last two years.

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

*Debilidades de la emigración española*

by Carmen González Enríquez and José Pablo Martínez Romera

22 January 2018

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

This paper compares the situation of skilled emigrants from Spain with that of other immigrants coming from the Southern Europe (Greeks, Italians and Portuguese), on the basis of the results of the first European survey on this topic.

## UNITED KINGDOM

### Fabian Society

*Life lessons. A national education service that leaves no adult behind*

by Kate Murray (ed.)

24 January 2018

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

One of the most important, and most overlooked, challenges the UK faces as a country is the fact that there are 5 million adults living in the UK today who lack basic literacy and numeracy skills. Politicians talk of preparing the next generation for the jobs of the future, but too often they ignore the generations who are already here. They are the people who didn't get the skills they needed the first time around, and have been paying the price for it ever since.

*A new collectivism. How private sector trade unions can innovate and grow*

by Cameron Tait [@cameronritait](#) and Tobias Phibbs (eds.)

17 January 2018

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

Too many private sector and younger workers don't think of unions as representing people like them. They have never met anyone who is in a union. The slow pace of union digital adoption puts us out of contention for the attention of those we want to join. And above all, we do not have a compelling proposition of trade unionism for people who don't work in an already-organized workplace - which includes most private sector workers.

### Foundation for European Progressive Studies / Sheffield Political Economy Research Institute

*Baby boomers vs millennials and the new politics of intergenerational fairness*

by Kate Alexander Shaw [@KAlexanderShaw](#)

19 January 2018

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

This paper focuses in-depth on the emergence of the intergenerational fairness agenda in the UK. The UK represents a particularly useful case study because it typifies the growing pessimism about young people's prospects and because the policy debate around these issues is advanced enough to allow for some conclusions to be drawn about both the origins of the intergenerational fairness agenda and its likely future directions. Survey evidence shows that nearly half of British adults believe that millennials and subsequent generations will have a worse life than their parents, and a third of UK millennials say they would prefer to have been born in their parents' time.

### Demos

*Citizens' voices. Insights from focus groups conducted in England for the project "At Home in One's Past"*

by Sophie Gaston [@sophgaston](#)

January 2018

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

The paper presents transcribed verbatim comments made during a series of focus groups held across England – keeping the nuances of participants' speech. While these focus groups, comprised of citizens of different age, socio-economic status and ethnicity as well as geographical background, have been conducted to explore the depth and variety of nostalgic feeling in contemporary Britain, they have also produced insights into citizens' perspectives on contemporary politics, society and culture.

## Institute of Economic Affairs

*Supervising the tech giants. Markets will do a better job than state regulation*

by Julian Jessop [@julianHjessop](#)

January 2018

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

According to the paper's author, the internet is not the regulation-free zone that some suppose. But, in any event, the tech companies have a strong economic interest in protecting their brands and being responsive to the demands of their customers and advertisers. The paper discusses the current state of the UK media and advertising industries and some of the challenges posed by new technologies and platforms.

## Overseas Development Institute

*Partner-led evaluation for policy research programmes. A thought piece on the KNOWFOR programme evaluation*

by Tiina Pasanen, Stuart Raetz, John Young and Jess Dart

January 2018

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

The paper discusses the strengths, challenges and appropriateness of a partner-led evaluation approach, drawing on the experience of the UK Government Department for International Development (DFID)-funded International Forestry Knowledge programme, 'KNOWFOR'.

## BREXIT

### European Policy Centre

*Brexit: what if Britain changes its mind?*

by Andrew Duff [@AndrewDuffEU](#)

18 January 2018

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

If the UK revokes Article 50, it must expect that the EU27 would insist on applying new terms and conditions to its renewed membership. These would include a reaffirmation of 'ever closer union', agreement to contribute more to a higher EU budget, an end to British opt-outs in justice and home affairs, participation in common defence policy, engagement with Banking Union, and commitment to a common refugee policy. Britain should also drop referendums on future EU treaty changes.

### Centre for International Governance Innovation

*Brexit: can the United Kingdom change its mind?*

by Helen Mountfield

30 January 2018

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

The paper addresses the question of whether, as a matter of law, Brexit is now unstoppable, without the agreement of the remaining 27 Member States of the EU27. In other words, what would happen if, on a date before March 29, 2019, Parliament were to conclude that Britain should not leave the EU, despite notice of its intention to do so having been given by the prime minister on March 28, 2017?

*Brexit, Brexitom, the environment and future international relations*

by Stephen Tromans

17 January 2018

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

The paper considers the impact of EU law on UK environmental law and policy. It then looks at the possible implications of the UK's exit from the EU, and what this means for the environment. It also considers the question of future relations between the UK, the EU and the wider international community, in terms of any limits on the UK's autonomy to set its own environmental standards.

*Brexit and international environmental law*

by Richard Macrory and Joe Newbiggin

4 January 2018

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

International environmental law is likely to assume increasing significance for the UK after Brexit. The paper considers the potential impact and importance raised by a number of key legal issues. The first section asks which international agreements will bind the UK after Brexit and what the extent of these obligations will be; the next section considers how existing EU environmental law currently implements international environmental agreements, and, finally, the question of compliance and enforcement is considered.

**Instytut Spraw Publicznych / Bertelsmann Stiftung**

*Squaring the circle? EU budget negotiations after Brexit - Considering CEE perspective*

by Agnieszka Łada [@AgnieszkaŁada](#)

January 2018

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

The paper examines the upcoming MFF negotiations from the perspective of the CEE region, including the challenges that the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Bulgaria and Romania will face and priorities they might follow. As the negotiations are only about to begin, the analysis focuses on general descriptions and initial positions.

**Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung**

*Brexit and uncertainty in financial markets*

by Guglielmo Maria Caporale, Luis A. Gil-Alana and Tommaso Trani

January 2018

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

The paper applies long-memory techniques (both parametric and semi-parametric) to examine whether Brexit has led to any significant changes in the degree of persistence of the FTSE 100 Implied Volatility Index (IVI) and of the British pound's implied volatilities (IVs) vis-à-vis the main currencies traded in the FOREX, namely the euro, the US dollar and the Japanese yen. The authors find an increase in the degree of persistence in all cases except for the British pound-yen IV, whose persistence has declined after Brexit.

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

*Brexit, strategy, and the EU: Britain takes leave*

by Sven Biscop

January 2018

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

The author argues that unless a new "special relationship" can be established between Britain and the EU, both London and Brussels will lose power and influence.

## **Centre for European Reform**

*'Canada', 'Norway' or something in between?*

by Charles Grant [@CER\\_Grant](#)

26 January 2018

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

The UK and the EU will soon start talks on the outlines of their future economic partnership. Three questions matter. What will Britain ask for? How will the EU respond? And what will be the outcome?

*Of transition and trade deals*

by Sam Lowe

16 January 2018

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

The UK will not be able to replicate the EU's free trade agreements ready for March 30th 2019. The only solution is to ask the EU for help.

## **Institute for Government**

*The general election, Brexit and beyond*

by Gavin Freeguard [@GavinFreeguard](#), Lucy Campbell [@lucy\\_campbell93](#), Aron Cheung [@Aron\\_Cheung](#), Alice Lilly [@aliceolilly](#) and Charlotte Baker [@cdaisybaker](#)

January 2018

Link to the article in [English](#) (146 p.)

A report on how political situation following the early election constrained the British Prime Minister's political authority and created challenges for the Government's legislative programme and management of public services, as well as major projects and Brexit.

## **UK in a Changing Europe**

*Brexit and public opinion*

by Anand Menon [@anandMenon1](#) and Alan Wager [@AlanJWager](#) (eds.)

31 January 2018

Link to the article in [English](#) (56 p.)

It is hard to exaggerate the importance of public opinion when it comes to Brexit. The decision to leave the EU was itself, of course, the result of a public vote. And as the Brexit process rolls on, both sides anxiously parse every survey for evidence of what the public now thinks. Some people continue to believe that a significant shift in public opinion might allow the decision made in June 2016 to be reconsidered. In what follows, a team of experts on public opinion considers not only what happened in the referendum itself, but also what has taken place in terms of public attitudes subsequently.



### *Just 15 months to go: what Scotland is making of Brexit*

by John Curtice

10 January 2018

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

The debate about Brexit has a particular resonance north of the border. Unlike England and Wales, where a majority voted to leave the EU, Scotland voted - by 62% to 38% - in favour of remaining in the EU. Voters in Scotland might therefore be expected to have very different views from those elsewhere about what shape Brexit should take. In this report, the author highlights what Scotland is making of Brexit.

### *The repatriation of competences in agriculture after Brexit*

by Michael Keating

25 January 2018

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

A number of key competences are currently devolved within the UK but subject to European law and regulation. There is an argument over what will happen to these after Brexit. The EU Withdrawal Bill proposed that the powers come back to Westminster as part of 'retained EU law'. Some could subsequently be released to the devolved governments. These would continue to enjoy as much policy freedom as they do currently under the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). The Scottish and Welsh Governments have opposed this on constitutional and practical grounds.

## **Policy Network**

### *The future of farming - UK agricultural policy after Brexit*

by Charlie Cadywould [@CCadywould](#)

January 2018

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

The report sets out how competing visions of Brexit may impact the British agriculture sector in the coming years, and sets out a radical set of alternatives for future policy. It is aimed specifically at a progressive audience for whom farmers, and rural communities more generally, have not historically been considered natural allies or constituents.

### *Seizing the argument - How Labour can save Britain from Brexit disaster*

by Roger Liddle [@liddlro](#)

11 December 2017

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

According to the author, the paper constitutes some unsolicited advice from a former political adviser in the Blair and Brown governments, offered in good faith to a party under a completely different leadership-a leadership with a totally contrasting 'world view' to all its Labour predecessors.

## **CIVITAS - Institute for the Study of Civil Society**

### *The Brussels Broadcasting Corporation? How pro-Brexit views have been marginalised in the BBC's news coverage*

by David Keighley and Andrew Jubb

15 January 2018

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

For at least the past two decades, opinion polls have shown a large number of voters have wanted the UK to leave the EU. When the question was finally put in the June 2016 referendum, the

electorate voted to do just that by a margin of 52% to 48%. Yet the clear preference of a large section of the population for withdrawal, and the reasons for so many people taking this stance, have been marginalized in the BBC's coverage of EU issues for most of the past 20 years.

## **European Centre for Development Policy Management**

*How Brexit may affect ACP-EU relations: an historical perspective*

by Walter Kennes

19 January 2018

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

Since the referendum vote in the UK in June 2016 on leaving the EU, there has been a lot of debate about the likely effects of such an unprecedented and unexpected move. Rather small attention has been paid to the effects of the Brexit on the relations between the EU without the UK and the developing countries. It is generally assumed that these effects will be small. However, this may not be the case for developing countries that are part of the Africa, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) group of countries associated with the EU through the Cotonou Agreement.

## SECTION 4 - EU POLICIES

### JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

#### Migration Policy Institute

*Moving beyond "root causes": the complicated relationship between development and migration*

by Susan Fratzke [@ekztaf](#) and Brian Salant  
January 2018

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

As policymakers in Europe and other high-income countries search for ways to reduce unmanaged migration, they are paying new attention to addressing the drivers of migration, in particular the lack of economic opportunities in countries of origin. The logic, embedded in the European commission's 2015 - European agenda on migration for example, suggests that if development assistance can improve livelihood prospects in countries of migrant origin, outward migration will decrease. Numerous studies have found that as countries become richer and their citizens have more resources at their disposal, emigration increases, at least initially.

#### Deutsche Institut für Entwicklungspolitik

*Regional migration governance: contributions to a sustainable international migration architecture*

by Eva Dick, Anne Koch, Benjamin Schraven [@Ben\\_Schraven](#) and Benjamin Etzold  
January 2018

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

As the global migration governance is in a period of transition, the authors point out, there are two main reasons for this: first, the division between an international refugee regime based on the 1951 Geneva Convention on Refugees and a (labour) migration regime is problematic in light of 'mixed' migratory flows. Second, the current global migration architecture is characterised by institutional fragmentation and a lack of normative standards. The global compact for migration and the global compact on refugees currently being negotiated are intended to address these shortcomings.

#### Pew Research Center

*Sources shared on Twitter: a case study on immigration*

by Galen Stocking [@GalenStocking](#), Michael Barthel [@michaelbarthel](#) and Elizabeth M. Grieco  
29 January 2018

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

An analysis of 9.7 million tweets reveals that news organizations played the largest role in which content was linked to compared with other information providers.

#### Foundation for European Progressive Studies

*Vulnerable and voiceless on the move - Unaccompanied child migrants in the EU*

by Enza Roberta Petrillo  
10 January 2018

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

Available data shows that at least 5.3% of the over one million migrants who have lodged first time asylum application in the EU in 2016 were unaccompanied children in need of international protection and that the numbers are constantly rising. In spite of this alarming trend, unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC) still suffer in Europe - particularly in Greece and Italy - seriously inadequate protection, inappropriate services to meet their needs and interests, as

well as slow and poor procedures to process their files and ensure them asylum status, family reunification, or relocation, according to their needs.

## **World Economic Forum**

*The known traveller: unlocking the potential of digital identity for secure and seamless travel*

23 January 2018

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

This report highlights the opportunities made possible through advances in emerging technologies like biometrics, cryptography and distributed ledgers to advance security capabilities of industry and governmental agencies while improving passenger facilitation in international travel. Importantly, it recommends a paradigm shift to an interoperable digital identity system that prioritises traveller-centricity, upholds privacy by design, and enables the trustful cooperation between international public and private sector partners required for ensuring the safe and secure movement of people across borders.

## **COMPETITIVENESS (INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND SPACE)**

### **Institut français des relations internationales**

*Mixing business with Europe: what role for companies on the future of the EU*

by Vivien Pertusot [@VPertusot](#)

30 January 2018

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

The EU is facing what the European Commission President, Jean-Claude Juncker, calls a 'polycrisis'. The EU is under increasing pressure to deliver and address citizens' concerns. In a context of mounting criticism, with the spread of eurosceptic arguments in political discourse and the beginning of serious debates on the future of the EU, it is important to question how European companies perceive the EU today and whether there is a distinct role they can play to improve the situation.

### **European Parliament Think Tank**

*Free movement of goods within the EU single market*

by Cornelia Klugman

19 January 2018

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

The free movement of goods is one of the four fundamental freedoms of the EU – together with services, capital and people – and a cornerstone of the single market. Legislation on the single market for goods (based mainly on Article 28 of the [Treaty on the Functioning of the EU](#)) aims at ensuring that products placed on the EU market conform to high health, safety and environmental requirements. Once a product is sold legally in the EU, it should circulate without barriers to trade, with a minimum of administrative burden.

## **Fondation Robert Schuman**

*Towards a sustainable European business model?*

by Patrick d'Humières [@pdhumieres](#)

29 January 2018

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

The invention of a "sustainable, accountable business model" in Europe is now establishing a new kind of reality in the world economic landscape. It should be encouraged so that it becomes a decisive pillar in the European contribution to solving future challenges.

## **World Economic Forum**

*Innovation with a purpose: the role of technology innovation in accelerating food systems transformation*

23 January 2018

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

This report identifies emerging technology innovations that have the potential to drive rapid progress in the sustainability, inclusivity, efficiency and health impacts of food systems to achieve the sustainable development goals. Focusing on 12 key technology applications, it estimates the concrete benefits which could be delivered in terms of reduced water usage, greenhouse gas emissions, and food waste.

*Readiness for the future of production report 2018*

12 January 2018

Link to the article in [English](#) (266 p.)

The report analyses and presents the results of the first edition of the Readiness for the Future of Production Assessment, which measures how well positioned 100 countries and economies - across all geographies and stages of development - are to shape and benefit from the changing nature of production through the adoption of emerging technology. It serves as a new benchmarking and diagnostic tool to catalyse multi-stakeholder dialogue, shape joint actions and inform the development of modern industrial strategies.

## **Centre for European Policy Studies**

*Ethics, algorithms and self-driving cars - A CSI of the 'trolley problem'*

by Andrea Renda [@profAndreaRenda](#)

January 2018

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

Many experts argue that focusing on how automated cars will solve the dilemma known as the 'trolley problem' isn't going to get us very far in the debate about the ethics of artificial intelligence (AI). But it's hard to resist if you are a philosopher, an ethicist, a futurist, or simply a geek - and it's fun. Still, this dilemma can reveal a number of outstanding policy issues that are often neglected in the public debate.

## TRANSPORT/TELECOMMUNICATIONS/ENERGY

### Centre for European Policy Studies

#### *Suspended in legal limbo: protecting investment in renewable energy in the EU*

by Monica Alessi, Jorge Núñez Ferrer and Christian Egenhofer

January 2018

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

A higher than expected expansion of the renewables sector, resulting in higher costs of the support, combined with the financial crisis, has driven some Member States to radically curtail renewable energy support schemes. Loss making investors unsuccessfully challenged these EU governments in national courts, arguing that their rights had been violated and denounced reforms that they considered to be retroactively punitive in nature. The major concern here relies on the fact that investors may shy away from the EU as a result of the regulatory and legal uncertainties.

### E3G

#### *Italy's role in the European low carbon transition: a political economy assessment*

by Lisa Fischer [@FactFishing](#), Tina Marie Marchand [@tm\\_marchand](#) and Shane Tomlinson

January 2018

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

The work analyses how national conditions and political system shape a deepened transition to a low carbon economy and society in Italy, one of Europe's renewable energy and energy efficiency champions. It identifies opportunities to boost Italy's role in the European low carbon transition.

## EMPLOYMENT/SOCIAL POLICY/HEALTH/CONSUMER AFFAIRS

### Bertelsmann Stiftung

#### *Globalization and the EU: threat or opportunity? Perception, knowledge and policy preferences of European citizens*

by Catherine E. de Vries [@CatherineDVries](#) and Isabell Hoffmann [@ur\\_echo](#)

9 January 2018

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

This report is an analysis of people's knowledge and feelings towards globalization and future European projects.

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

#### *Immigrant entrepreneurs, diasporas and exports*

by Massimiliano Bratti, Luca De Benedictis and Gianluca Santoni

January 2018

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

In this paper is highlighted a new complementary channel to the business and social network effect à la Rauch (2001), through which immigrants generate increased export flows from the regions in which they settle to their countries of origin. Using very small scale (NUTS 3) administrative data on immigrants' location in Italy, the local presence of immigrant entrepreneurs (i.e. firms owned by foreign-born entrepreneurs) in the manufacturing sector, and on trade flows in manufacturing between Italian provinces and more than 200 foreign countries, it is possible to assess the causal relationship going from diasporas and immigrant entrepreneurs towards export flows.

## Centre for European Policy Studies

*Blame it on my youth! Policy recommendations for re-evaluating and reducing youth unemployment*

by Cinzia Alcidi, Jorge Núñez Ferrer [@jnunez\\_ferrer](#), Mattia Di Salvo [@Mattia\\_DiSalvo](#), Roberto Musmeci and Marta Pilati

January 2018

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

The paper offers policy recommendations for rethinking and reducing youth unemployment in Europe. To this end, it filters and summarises the results of the research project on youth unemployment in Europe, and supplements these with additional literature. The paper explores three sets of questions: i) How to define and measure youth employment? ii) What are its causes and effects? iii) What can be done about the phenomenon? The findings indicate that youth unemployment is poorly understood and the most common measurements are insufficient.

## World Economic Forum

*Towards a reskilling revolution - A future of jobs for all*

22 January 2018

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

The report provides a valuable new tool that will help individual workers, companies, and governments to prioritize their actions and investments. Using big data analytics of online job postings, the methodology in this report demonstrates the power of a data-driven approach to discover reskilling pathways and job transition opportunities. The methodology can be applied to a variety of taxonomies of job requirements and sources of data.

## Adam Smith Institute

*Basic income around the world: the unexpected benefits of unconditional cash transfers*

by Otto Lehto

January 2018

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

Replacing existing welfare systems with a universal basic income has the potential to streamline bureaucracy, eliminate welfare traps, and reduce poverty, the authors argue. The idea is being trialled by governments across the world including Scotland, US, Canada, and Finland. These studies contribute to a growing body of evidence on the effects of basic income on employment and poverty; Nobel Prize winning economists such as Milton Friedman, F.A. Hayek and George Stigler have advocated replacing existing welfare systems with a negative income tax (a form of basic income).

## Economic and Social Research Institute

*Poverty dynamics of social risk groups in the EU: an analysis of the EU statistics on income and living conditions, 2005 to 2014*

by Dorothy Watson, Bertrand Maître, Raffaele Grotti [@RafGrotti](#) and Christopher T Whelan

31 January 2018

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

A research led by the Economic and Social Research Institute examined the level of material deprivation experienced by vulnerable adults in Ireland and ten other EU countries.

## Fundación de Estudios de Economía Aplicada

*Modelo de pensiones europeo: ¿Bismarck o Beveridge?*

by J. Ignacio Conde-Ruiz and Clara I. González [@GlezClarisa](#)

2 January 2018

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

The aging process faced by the countries of the EU is leading them to introduce reforms in their public pension systems. One way to interpret these reforms is to think about them as changes in the intergenerational pact to make the system sustainable over time. In addition to intergenerational redistribution, pay-as-you-go pension systems allow intra-generational redistribution. Taking into account this dimension, it is possible to distinguish between contributory (or Bismarckian) pay-as-you-go systems and pure redistributive pension systems (or Beveridge); In the final part, the authors reflect on the future model of pensions in the EU.

## European Policy Centre

*Digital health: how can the EU help make the most out of it?*

by Simona Guagliardo [@s\\_quagliardo](#)

25 January 2018

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

The digital transformation of our society brings about new opportunities for the healthcare sector to become more effective, sustainable and accessible. Digital solutions and data utilisation can help improve people's health and address some of the challenges facing healthcare in Europe. Barriers to the digitalisation of healthcare, however, exist and require adequate attention. This paper discusses the benefits of and barriers to the deployment of digital solutions in health and calls for the EU to develop a comprehensive approach that takes into account data protection and security, ICT infrastructure development and public support.

## ENVIRONMENT

### Ecologic Institute

*What is the EU greenhouse gas emission budget for the century?*

by Nils Meyer-Ohlendorf, Philipp Voß, Eike Velten and Benjamin Görlach

12 January 2018

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

If the EU's emission budgets were based only on least-costs considerations, it would range between meagre 50 Gt (in 1.5° scenarios) or 90 Gt (in 2°C scenarios) for the period 2020 and 2100, the authors claim. With current annual emissions of about 4 Gt, the EU would have used up its 1.5°C budget by about 2032. In 2° scenarios, the EU budget could be exhausted by around 2042. If, instead, the budget was distributed purely on the basis of equity considerations, the EU emission budget would be much smaller.

### College of Europe

*US climate politics in the Trump era: options for EU engagement*

by Bram De Botselier [@bramdebotseier](#)

January 2018

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

This brief argues that, if the EU wishes to show leadership and protect the Paris spirit, it needs to encourage US domestic climate action and ensure the US remains involved in global climate



governance in the medium term. To do so, it must also engage with other partners than the liberal, pro-climate Democrats, including conservative Democrats and moderate Republicans.

## **Institut de relations internationales et stratégiques**

*What role for China in the international climate regime*

by Jean-Paul Maréchal

25 January 2018

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

What role can and will China play in the "new" international climate regime, the regime that emerged after the adoption of the Paris Agreement in December 2015? It is impossible to address this question without going back to the "building blocks" of the regime that emerged at the beginning of the 90s. This paper thus discusses the evolution from the "old" climate regime - composed of two treaties: The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC - 1992) and the Kyoto Protocol (1997) - to the "new" one, where these two texts are complemented by the Paris Agreement (2015).

## **EDUCATION/YOUTH/CULTURE/SPORT**

### **GLOBSEC**

*How young central Europeans view the world*

by Katarína Klingová [@kateklingova](#) and Daniel Milo [@DanielMiloSK](#)

31 January 2018

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

The report provides an insight into the views and attitudes of the V4 states' young people concerning the EU, NATO, geopolitical orientation of their countries and the state of liberal democracy. The analysis contains data from public opinion polls carried out by GLOBSEC and its regional partners as well as qualitative information from focus group discussions organised with university students from the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia.

## **European Policy Centre**

*Supporting press publishers in a digital era*

by Iva Tasheva [@Iva\\_Tasheva](#) and Fabian Zuleeg [@FabianZuleeg](#)

26 January 2018

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

The media sector has been continuously transforming itself in line with the emergence of new distribution models and evolving consumer behaviour. Today, digitalisation is the main driver of that change. The media industry has no other option but to invest in innovation and modernise its business model. Outlets that have proven successful in doing so have gained access to bigger markets and found new audiences. Those who will fail to keep up with the digital transformation will progressively lose relevance. As it has already been doing for centuries, the media has to adapt to a changing landscape.

## SECTION 5 - FOREIGN AFFAIRS

### FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY / DEFENCE

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

*La UE y la responsabilidad de proteger*

by Emilio Menéndez del Valle [@emv\\_masai](#)

8 January 2018

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

This document reflects the active role played by the EU, as well as by several Member States, during the UN World Summit in 2005. This Summit, among other aspects, institutionalised the 'Responsibility to Protect'. The document reiterates the fact that the wave of migrants in Europe (insisting that migrants are the most affected) could have been avoided if Europe had properly and timely coordinated the 'Responsibility to Protect'.

#### International Crisis Group

*Watch list 2018*

January 2018

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

Crisis Group's early-warning Watch List identifies up to ten countries and regions at risk of conflict or escalation of violence. In these situations, early action, driven or supported by the EU and its Member States, could generate stronger prospects for peace. The Watch List 2018 includes a global overview, regional overviews, and detailed conflict analyses on Afghanistan, Bangladesh/Myanmar, Cameroon, Colombia, Egypt, Iraq, Sahel, Tunisia, Ukraine and Zimbabwe.

#### The German Marshall Fund of the United States

*Beyond European versus transatlantic defense*

by Erik Brattberg

11 January 2018

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

Over the past year, European defence collaboration has arguably made more progress than in the past decade. Significantly, unlike past attempts to deepen European defence, there seems to be both genuine political will and a sense of urgency this time around. Although many of the current initiatives date back several years, the election of Donald Trump has raised questions about the continued military reliance on the US, and Britain's exit from the EU means less internal opposition to ambitious EU defence proposals. As European capitals contemplate further steps to move forward on European defence collaboration, it is essential that they take into account viewpoints from the other side of the Atlantic.

#### Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations

*Cyber-diplomacy: the making of an international society in the digital age*

by André Barrinha [@a\\_barrinha](#) and Thomas Renard [@tom\\_renard](#)

8 January 2018

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

Most global powers have now streamlined cyber issues into their foreign policies, adopting cyber strategies, and appointing designated diplomats to pursue these strategic objectives. This article proposes to explore the concept of cyber-diplomacy, by analysing its evolution and linking it to the

broader discussions of diplomacy as a fundamental institution of international society. It argues that cyber-diplomacy is an emerging international practice that is attempting to construct a cyber-international society, bridging the national interests of states with world society dynamics - the predominant realm in which cyberspace has evolved in the last four decades.

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

*"Mind hacking": information warfare in the cyber age*

by Fabio Ruge

11 January 2018

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

Foreign actors with malicious intent can easily exploit social media manipulating online information in order to influence the public opinion. Moreover, cyberspace allows a large degree of anonymity, and cyber-attacks may be leveraged to exfiltration purposes and expose sensitive content or to gain information dominance during military operations. Operations in this domain are central in Russia's "New Generation War" military doctrine. What can we do in order to protect our open democracies while preserving a global, free and resilient Internet? The answer is multi-faceted, in as much as CEIW (cyber-enabled information warfare) is an emerging asymmetric threat that forces us to innovate our security approach in many ways.

### **European Values Think-Tank**

*Existing measures against Islamic extremism*

January 2018

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

Despite existing efforts to tackle jihadist terrorism, the number and severity of jihadist attacks have increased in recent years, prompting governments to enact new measures against terrorism as well as the underlying ideology of Islamic extremism that seeks to impose a specific interpretation of Islam onto the entire society, the paper reads. The work provides a brief introduction to the existing measures against Islamic extremism in Europe. It also describes some of the measures adopted by the EU, as well as selected Member States: France, UK and Germany.

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

*Prosecuting (potential) foreign fighters: legislative and practical challenges*

by Christophe Paulussen [@chpaulussen](#) and Kate Pitcher

30 January 2018

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

This research paper is the first publication based partly on the foreign fighter cases incorporated and analysed in the International Crimes Database (ICD). This is a comprehensive and free database on international crimes (broadly defined), which is maintained by the T.M.C. Asser Instituut and supported by, among others, the International Centre for Counter-Terrorism - The Hague (ICCT). The aim of this paper is to provide a critical assessment of both the underlying legal frameworks and the concrete prosecutions of (potential) foreign fighters at the national level.

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

### *Coupling or decoupling? Spillover in the multi-order*

by Frans-Paul van der Putten, Sico van der Meer [@SicovanderMeer](#), Dick Zandee, Kars de Bruijne [@KarsdeBruijne](#), Minke Meijnders [@Minke\\_M](#) and Lauriane Héau

31 January 2018

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

International relations are often issue-specific: international relations over terrorism or nuclear issues are fundamentally different from issue areas such as energy and free trade. In this 'multi-order' the question is how developments in one field spill over to another field. This report uses developments in the counter-terrorism and nuclear regimes to assess how both have affected other issue areas. The surprising conclusion is that many developments tend to stay within each policy domain. This report suggests that the international order appears to be more adaptive and able to accommodate change than is often thought.

### *International arms flows: monitoring, sources and obstacles*

by Pieter D. Wezeman

24 January 2018

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

Most violence requires arms to be carried and good insight into arms flows is therefore crucial in understanding the potential of violence. But how is the flow of arms to conflict and non-conflict zones monitored? This report provides an overview of the most important initiatives and methods to monitor arms flows and discusses their validity and utility. Despite the availability of valuable information there is no single database providing continuously detailed monitoring flows of all categories of arms. Hence, despite the need for general information many practical studies will have pinched together evidence from various sources.

## **Institut de relations internationales et stratégiques**

### *Prime contractor / SME relationship. How to best manage and fund cooperative programme*

by Patrick Bellouard and Antonio Fonfria

19 January 2018

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

Within the framework of the objective of strategic autonomy for Europe and the constitution of a European defence technological and industrial base (EDTIB), the roles of prime contractors and SMEs in the arms industry are different but equally important. The objective of this paper is to describe these roles in the prime contractor/SME supply chain and propose a policy with regard to the EU funding of future European defence equipment programmes, Research and Technology programmes, Research and Development programmes, and even acquisition programmes, as currently proposed or considered by the European Commission, by way of direct EU funding or a European defence fund.

## TRADE

### Fondation Robert Schuman

*International trade, the conditions of an ambition*

by Anne Marie Idrac, Sébastien Jean, Charles de Marcilly [@Charles2M](#), Karine Lisbonne de Vergeron, Aurelien Pastouret, Laurent Boulay and Angéline Garde

9 January 2018

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

The EU is one of the most important economies in the world, representing 17% of global wealth. It is the leading consumer market thanks to the average purchasing power of its 500 million citizens, and exercises an exceptional force of attraction. 55% of American investments abroad are designed for it and it is still the leading export market for more than 80 countries. Citizens benefit from it since 30 million jobs depend directly on external trade. However, the economic situation, fears surrounding the loss of status, the danger of a decline in its collective preferences are leading some to believe that the EU is globalization's "Trojan Horse".

### European Parliament Think Tank

*EU framework for FDI screening*

by Gisela Grieger

19 January 2018

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

In September 2017, the European Commission adopted a [proposal](#) for a regulation establishing a framework for screening foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows into the EU on grounds of security or public order. The proposal's objective is neither to harmonise the formal FDI screening mechanisms currently used by less than half of the Member States nor to replace them with a single EU mechanism. It aims to enhance cooperation on FDI screening between the Commission and Member States, to increase legal certainty and transparency.

## DEVELOPMENT

### Observer Research Foundation

*An incomplete transformation: multilateral development banks and the green infrastructure gap*

by Mihir Swarup Sharma

January 2018

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

According to the article, the global effort to meet the targets set by the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the Sustainable Development Goals will depend crucially on reforming the structure of development finance. Mobilising private capital will be an essential part of this effort, and existing development finance institutions, led by the complex of multilateral development banks (MDBs), will have to re-orient their strategies and functioning to prioritise this mobilisation. While a rhetorical commitment to this reorientation has been made, there remain significant functional, operational, and geopolitical hurdles to the transition.

## Stiftung Mercator

*Participation as an added value of macro-regions - The potential for developing macro-regional cooperation in Europe*

by Tobias Etzold

29 January 2018

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

A new format for regional cooperation within the EU was created from 2007 onwards with the European macro-regions and associated EU strategies. However, to date macro-regional cooperation has offered only limited added value in the regional and European context, and there is an absence of substantive results. It is nevertheless worthwhile reflecting on the extent to which effective macro-regional cooperation can contribute to strengthening European integration at the regional level. One of the advantages of the format is its participatory approach, which might help successfully integrate regional, local and civil-society structures more closely in shaping regional and European integration.

## ENLARGEMENT PROCESS

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

*2018 - The year credible EU enlargement policy returns?*

by Srdjan Majstorovic

31 January 2018

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

The previous year, 2017, was the year of annunciation of the return of the EU Enlargement Policy. The European Commission President Juncker, in his State of the Union Speech mentioned the need for defining a clear time perspective for the accession of the leading candidates Serbia, and Montenegro to the EU by 2025. This paper attempts to draw attention to certain essential elements that should be included in a new, credible EU enlargement Strategy. Proceeding from the assumption that the approach "business as usual" is unproductive and can lead to demotivation of candidates (and potential candidates), on the one hand, and the EU and its Member States, on the other.

### Fondation Robert Schuman

*The Western Balkans: between stabilisation and integration in the European Union*

by Pierre Mirel

22 January 2018

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

Accession by the Western Balkans to the EU is one of the priorities of the Bulgarian Presidency of the Council that has just started. The author recalls the vital conditions required for regional stabilization and integration into the EU.

### Centre for European Policy Studies

*A decisive year for the EU's re-engagement with the Western Balkans*

by Erwan Fouéré

January 2018

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

After years of taking the Western Balkan region for granted, the EU has woken up to the dramatic deterioration of democratic standards in its nearest neighbourhood, the author argues, claiming

that the EU now has a chance to reassert its leadership in the debate about the future of the Western Balkans and should seize it to renew its commitment to the region.

### **Istituto Affari Internazionali**

*Services: a key element in upgrading the EU-Turkey customs union?*

by Anja Palm [@AnjaPalm](#)

29 January 2018

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

The Global Turkey in Europe (GTE) project established a platform to discuss and analyse the rapid transformation of Turkey in a European and global context. In its fifth year, GTE focuses on the multiple dimensions of EU-Turkey relations, ranging from economy, energy, conflicts and security to migration and the role of civil society. The first event of the fifth GTE programme, held in Paris on 15 December 2017, discussed the issue of economic partnership between the EU and Turkey, with a particular attention to the upgrading of the customs union and its possible economic and political effects on Brussels - Ankara relations.

### **Institut de relations internationales et stratégiques**

*Une nouvelle séquence de la relation euro-turque*

by Didier Billion

9 January 2018

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

The visit to Paris of Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of the Republic of Turkey sparked many comments that once again indicate the importance and complexity of relations with this country. Beyond strictly bilateral aspects, the content of the joint press conference of the two presidents expresses very certainly the beginning of a new sequence of the Euro-Turkish relationship and marks a shift the consequences of which are not yet clear.

### **Oxford Institute for Energy Studies**

*Gas supply changes in Turkey*

by Gulmira Rzayeva [@GulmiraRzayeva](#)

January 2018

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

The Turkish government is in the process of making significant structural changes in the country's energy sector in attempts to lessen its dependence on current import and transmission infrastructure capacity which is constrained and cannot meet gas demand in peak periods. It intends to diversify supply sources and gas import types (both pipeline gas and LNG/FSRU) to ensure imports are available from a wider range of available sources on competitive terms, at the same time storing more gas in the country once downstream infrastructure capacity allows, to export the excess of gas in the future.

### **Euro-Mediterranean Study Commission**

*Turkey's fight against youth radicalisation: small steps on a long path*

by Ebru Ece Özbey

10 January 2018

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

Turkey has been targeted by different forms of radicalisation throughout history but its struggle has recently become more complex due to various domestic and regional reasons. The Turkish government has responded by combining both hard and soft approaches and resorting to different

methods. Regardless, youth radicalisation and extremism continue to pose serious threats to the country. This brief provides an overview of the Turkish government's current practices and methods to counter radicalisation and discusses the strengths and weaknesses of the present approach. The author argues that the Turkish government should develop a comprehensive, long-term strategy in order to tackle youth radicalisation more effectively.

## EASTERN PARTNERSHIP

### Centrum Analiz Społeczno-Ekonomicznych

*Will Ukraine be able to establish real property rights?*

by Anders Åslund [@anders\\_aslund](#)

January 2018

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

This paper discusses in the first section the Ukrainian market economic reforms, which worked very well in 2014-17. The second section is devoted to what has not worked well and is crucial for property rights, namely courts, prosecution, and law enforcement. The third section deals with what remains of political reform, primarily electoral reform.

### Expert-Grup

*Actualizarea cadrului de transparență bugetară din Republica Moldova*

by Dumitru Budianschi and Tatiana Savva

31 January 2018

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

The main vulnerability of the legal framework on transparency concerns the publication of documents and materials before they are submitted to the Government and after approval by the Government. The general transparency framework includes several provisions that can be interpreted differently by different authorities, and therefore the process of ensuring transparency is generally uneven and unstable in implementation. Regarding the acts approved by the Government, the vulnerability is manifested when the draft documents are submitted to the Government and when they leave the Government to the Parliament.

*Eficiența și transparența sistemului de sănătate din Republica Moldova*

by Dumitru Budianschi, Dumitru Pinteau, Mihail Ciocanu, Silvia Morgoci and Tatiana Savva

29 January 2018

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

For the first time in the Republic of Moldova, using an internationally established methodology, an assessment of the level of transparency in health was carried out. The concept of open health data was also described and all information on the applied methodology was presented.

### Ośrodek Studiów Wschodnich

*Moldova's political theatre. The balance of forces in an election year*

by Kamil Căluș [@KamilCaus](#)

31 January 2018

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

Since the end of 2015 Vlad Plahotniuc, an oligarch and the richest man in Moldova, leader of the ruling, nominally pro-European Democratic Party, has been de facto the only person who counts in Moldovan politics and business. He has been accused of transforming Moldova into a classic 'captured state'. However, he has been forced to work with Igor Dodon, the country's nominally opposition and pro-Russian President, as well as with the Socialist party (PSRM) which stands



behind him. Both politicians have created a particular system of government which is something like a political cartel. The parties which make it up are conducting a largely superficial ideological-political struggle which stirs up huge emotions and polarises society.

## MIDDLE EAST/NORTH AFRICA (MENA)

### Euro-Mediterranean Study Commission

*Imposing Middle East peace: why EU Member States should recognise Palestine*

by Dimitris Bouris [@BourisDimitris](#) and Daniela Huber [@dhuber81](#)

22 January 2018

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

In late 2017, US President Donald Trump broke long-standing US policy on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict when he recognized Jerusalem as the capital of Israel in contravention to international consensus and law. The US role as a broker has come to an end. The EU has so far appeared hesitant to scale up its own role which is of the essence now to uphold international law. January's Foreign Affairs Council, where the Middle East Peace Process featured on the agenda, and the meeting between the HR/VP and President Mahmoud Abbas in Brussels constituted an opportunity for the EU Ministers to take stock of the situation and to contemplate the next moves to make.

### Gulf Research Center

*Energy transitions in the Gulf: key questions on nuclear power*

by Ali Ahmad (ed.)

January 2018

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

Several countries in the Middle East, including the United Arab Emirates and kingdom of Saudi Arabia, are in the process of planning, establishing or expanding their nuclear power programs. The official rationale for investing in nuclear energy differs from one country to another, but broadly speaking, it seems to emerge from the need to improve energy security through reducing the reliance on oil and natural gas to generate electricity and desalinated water. This volume aims to examine the challenges as well as the opportunities associated with the deployment of nuclear power in the region.

### German Council on Foreign Relations

*Advancing energy transition while on the road to democracy*

by Shahrazad Far [@ShahrazadFar](#)

January 2018

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

The energy transition in Tunisia, which was first initiated in 2009 and reviewed in 2012, has underemphasized related social and political factors, such as employment and citizen participation in the country's overall transition context, the author argues. As the country continues on its path of democratization, the process of energy transition should underscore employment, enhance the role of local authorities and conducting energy-relevant surveys and opinion polls.

*In the triple threat to Tunisia's democracy, corruption is king*

by Fabien Stroetges

January 2018

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

As austerity protestors clash with security forces in Tunisia, the country's young democracy is threatened by a triple challenge: insecurity, a lack of socioeconomic development and persistent corruption are interlinked and reinforce each other. Individually and in concert they undermine citizens' confidence in the democratic system and hamper its ability to produce democracy dividends.

## **Atlantic Council**

*Energy: driving force behind increasing female participation in the Gulf*

by Bina Hussein [@BinaHussein](#)

January 2018

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

When global oil and gas prices fell in 2014, many oil-producing countries, felt the consequences and began to face the stark reality that oil revenue-based economies must diversify in order to continue prospering. Four such countries are Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, and Kuwait. For these four nations, in order to continue innovating and prospering economically, it is crucial to craft policies that strive to include women in the workforce. The author examines the current state and impact of female participation in the workforce in these four Gulf countries, the economic reforms the countries are implementing, and the role the energy sector could play in increasing female participation in the workforce region-wide.

## **Oxford Institute for Energy Studies**

*Saudi Arabia's energy pricing reforming a changing domestic and global context*

by Bassam Fattouh

24 January 2018

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

The sustainability of energy pricing reforms is highly dependent on developing effective social safety nets and cash transfer schemes. Second, the energy sector will continue to play a key role in the Saudi economy and therefore energy intensive industries are key in shaping the energy pricing reform agenda going forward, with the price of industrial fuels expected to rise gradually and to levels that ensure industrial competitiveness. Finally, the relationship between economic and political opening is complex: economic reform may not necessarily bring political reform; and social openness is not necessarily a substitute for successful economic reforms which are needed to generate wealth and jobs for young people, the new power base for the new leadership.

## **EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA**

### **Wise Europa**

*From the Vikings to the EU. The role of the Baltic and the Black Sea cities in European integration*

by Adam Balcer

January 2018

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

From the end of the Cold War, the Baltic Sea cities have been succeeding in establishing a regional cooperation which is considered to be one of the most developed in the world. The Union of the Baltic Cities (UBC) is the best illustration of this endeavour. The level of regional cooperation amongst the Black Sea cities, however, is well below its potential because of the geopolitical

divisions in the region, the paper's author argues. For instance, the Black Sea cities have not managed to establish a Union of the Black Sea cities. Although, the Baltic cities signed many twin/sister city agreements with the Black Sea partners, there is still large room for improvement.

## AFRICA

### Leuven Centre for Global Governance Studies

*EU cooperation with regional organizations in Africa*

by Anna-Luise Chané and Magnus Killander

January 2018

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

The adoption of the JAES in 2007 has laid the foundation for a strategic partnership between EU-Africa. This paper sketches EU-Africa interregional relations. It maps the legal and institutional framework of the EU's cooperation with the AU and the different Regional Economic Communities and examines the policy framework of the strategic partnership. Subsequently the tools for cooperation are examined, with a focus on political dialogue, trade and investment, and financing, before concluding with an analysis of the opportunities and challenges of EU-Africa cooperation.

### Deutsche Institut für Entwicklungspolitik

*African economic development: what role can the G20 compact play?*

by Rainer Thiele, Maximilian Köster, Ikechukwu Okoli and Friederike Rühmann

January 2018

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

The authors find that the overall scope of the CWA investment concept is rather limited. Most notably, investments in education and vocational training might limit the CWA's success when it comes, for example, to tackling youth unemployment. Furthermore, judged against its recognition of the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the CWA too narrowly focusses on achieving economic growth in Africa. To bring the CWA more closely in line with the 2030 Agenda, it should at least be ensured that the likely poverty impacts of the investment programmes are systematically assessed so as to render them as pro-poor as possible.

### Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

*A cost or benefit? Reviewing the economic impact of hosting refugees in Uganda*

by Phionah Kanyorobe [@phionahkanyoro2](#)

January 2018

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

As the third largest refugee-hosting country in the world, Uganda has a much-praised 'open door' policy for those fleeing conflict and persecution. The implications of this policy was at the centre of the #OpenDoorsUG dialogue in November 2017 at Makerere University, Kampala. Based on the contributions at the dialogue, as well as additional literature and interviews, the report provides a deeper analysis on the economic impact of hosting refugees in Uganda.

## Overseas Development Institute

*Violence against women and girls and resilience. Links, impacts and perspectives from the Chadian context*

by Virginie Le Masson, Colette Benoudji, Sandra Sotelo Reyes and Giselle Bernard  
January 2018

Link to the article in [English](#) (93 p.) and in [French](#) (106 p.)

The report explores the links between gender-based violence, and the resilience shown by survivors, their households and the wider community. The purpose of this study is to explore two main questions: 1. How does violence against women and girls (VAWG) impact the processes of social change required to build resilience? 2. How can resilience programmes address VAWG?

## ASIA-OCEANIA

### Real Instituto Elcano (Elcano Royal Institute)

*Europe-Japan cooperation for a rules-based international liberal order*

by Mario Esteban [@wizma9](#) and Luis Simon [@LuisSimn](#)  
25 January 2018

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

The rise of emerging powers and a significant questioning of key pillars of the liberal order in some OECD countries bring uncertainty to the durability of the current international order. Despite its shortcomings, this open and rule-based international liberal order has created conditions for reaching unprecedented levels of socioeconomic development and stability across the world. Therefore, likeminded actors such as Europe and Japan should redouble their efforts to reinvest the features of the liberal order that favour inclusiveness and fairness. Doing so, they will make it less likely for rising powers to resort to force to secure their interests and will deal more effectively with daunting traditional security threats and the provision of global common goods.

### Deutsche Institut für Entwicklungspolitik

*Monitoring and evaluation in South-South cooperation. The Case of CPEC in Pakistan*

by Murad Ali  
January 2018

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

Pakistan is one of the key countries in China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) where the latter is implementing a multibillion-dollar, multiyear investment plan known as the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). A collection of projects aimed at developing energy, industry and communication infrastructure, costing over USD 46 billion, CPEC is expected to contribute significantly to socio-economic development and poverty reduction in Pakistan. The main research question is to what extent China adheres to its avowed principles of international development cooperation comprising features such as mutual respect, non-conditionality, equality, building local capacity and addressing actual needs of partner countries.

## Atlantic Council

### *Asian energy transition: moving the oil market one step closer to peak demand*

by Robert J. Johnston and Lily Ghebrai

January 2018

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

Asian energy market has three critical factors that enable an acceleration away from fossil fuel-intensive energy dependence in the Asian energy market: energy insecurity, climate/environmental policy, and industrial policy, the paper's author finds.

## Council on Foreign Relations

### *Domestic constraints on South Korean foreign policy*

by Scott A. Snyder [@snydersas](#), Geun Lee, Young Ho Kim and Jiyeon Kim

January 2018

Link to the article in [English](#) (79 p.)

The authors argue that strong and effective presidential leadership is the most important prerequisite for South Korea to sustain and project its influence abroad. That leadership should be attentive to the need for public consensus and should operate within established legislative mechanisms that ensure public accountability. The underlying structures sustaining South Korea's foreign policy formation are generally sound; the bigger challenge is to manage domestic politics in ways that promote public confidence about the direction and accountability of presidential leadership in foreign policy.

### *Developing U.S.-ROK-ASEAN cooperation*

by Binh Thai Lai

January 2018

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

To solidify itself as a regional security bloc capable of addressing crises, ASEAN should develop greater security cooperation with outside nations, including the US, Australia, China, India, Japan, Russia, and South Korea. Presently, cooperation among nations within and outside the region is not strong enough to address the fundamental causes of territorial disputes or major financial or economic crises that endanger the region's development. In particular, South Korea stands out as an ideal non-ASEAN Asian power that has the potential to work with both the US and ASEAN to foster greater regional cooperation in Southeast Asia.

## Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung (Heinrich Böll Foundation)

### *Perspectives Asia: digital Asia*

January 2018

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

Over the last years, Asia has undergone an impressive digital transformation. Large parts of the continent have turned from the world's factory into a creative industry. Asian countries not only manufacture, but also develop new digital products. The region already accounts for half of world's 2.8 billion internet users and by 2025 fast changing technologies are expected to bring a massive economic change. Digitalization has therefore become a driving force of social change much more than in the Western hemisphere. However, on the flipside, if new technologies are in the wrong hands they can also be used as a mean to secure or abuse power. This paper will shed light on these developments.

## Observer Research Foundation

### *ASEAN and India: five for the next five*

by Terri Chapman

January 2018

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

This report outlines five strategic areas for the ASEAN-India partnership for the next five years. First, improved physical connectivity should be augmented by efforts to reduce other barriers to trade. Second, in addition to security cooperation in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR), ASEAN and India should leverage existing platforms to deepen collaboration on economic development in ocean-related activities. Third, in the context of the digital age, cooperation and dialogue on fostering inclusive growth should be undertaken. Fourth, new policy frameworks should be developed to improve the flow of labour. Finally, ASEAN and India should define a collective soft-power strategy that will support a rules-based approach to governance in the region.

### *SAARC vs BIMSTEC: the search for the ideal platform for regional cooperation*

by Joyeeta Bhattacharjee

January 2018

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

According to the author, the failure of SAARC to nurture cooperation in South Asia has pushed regional players to search for an alternative. BIMSTEC, grouping the nations in the Bay of Bengal region, is popularly favoured as the viable option. Two decades since its inception, however, BIMSTEC's successes have been minimal. How workable is BIMSTEC as an option for pursuing regional cooperation in South Asia? Are SAARC and BIMSTEC competitors or do they complement each other's efforts? This brief scrutinises both BIMSTEC and SAARC.

### *Strategic implications of Indo-Japanese cooperation on the 'Asia and Africa Growth Corridor'*

by Julian Richard Lasius

January 2018

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

India and Japan's economic vision is that of an Asia and Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC) empowering states to peacefully counter and constrain Chinese revisionism. However, a stable AAGC will depend on enhanced security cooperation and the current rules-based order upheld by the US-led security framework. While current Indian and Japanese engagements in Asia are conducive to successful cooperation, weaker economic and military engagements with African countries pose a challenge to the stable environment on which an Asia and Africa Growth Corridor depends.

### *India-ASEAN economic relations: examining future possibilities*

by Preeti Bhogal

January 2018

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

This paper analyses the trade and investment relations between India and the member states of ASEAN. It highlights the various challenges in the relationship in the areas of physical, institutional and people-to-people connectivity, which have restricted the integration of India in the regional value chain. The paper stresses the crucial role played by enhanced India-ASEAN connectivity for regional growth and prosperity.

### *The fall of ISIS and its implications for South Asia*

by Kabir Taneja [@KabirTaneja](#)

January 2018

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

With the territorial defeat of ISIS in Iraq and Syria, analysts are pondering the kind of organisational form the group would take next. The influence of the so-called Islamic State in South Asia may be minimal, but India, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan, have all had the shadow of ISIS' global footprint land on their doorstep. This brief sheds light on how the influence of ISIS spread across South Asia, specifically after 2014, when pro-ISIS social-media platforms circulated the 'ISIS Khorasan' maps that showed the region as part of the caliphate's global ambitions of conquest.

### *India's joint doctrine: a lost opportunity*

by Abhijnan Rej [@AbhijnanRej](#) and Shashank Joshi [@shashj](#)

January 2018

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

The Integrated Defence Staff released the first-ever public joint doctrine for the Indian armed forces (JDIAF-2017) in April 2017. This paper examines JDIAF-2017 in conjunction with other Indian military doctrines, public writings of leading Indian strategists, as well as foreign military doctrines and strategies that influence Indian military thinking.

## LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

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

#### *¿Por qué importa América Latina?*

by Carlos Malamud [@CarlosMalamud](#) (coord.)

December 2017

Link to the article in [Spanish](#) (100 p.)

The main objective of this report is to draw the attention on the potential of Latin America and of its various benefits for the EU to strengthen the bi-regional relationship. Therefore it provides some information, analysis and considerations on unity and diversity in Latin America, as well as regarding many of its strengths and weaknesses.

### *Las elecciones de Chile y Honduras y las tendencias políticas regionales en 2018*

by Carlos Malamud [@CarlosMalamud](#) and Rogelio Núñez

15 January 2018

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

Chile and Honduras inaugurated an intensive electoral period in Latin America that will run until 2019. This brief passes in review the regional political trends during 2018.

## CHINA

### Council on Foreign Relations

#### *Geostrategic and military drivers and implications of the Belt and Road Initiative*

by Ely Ratner [@elyratner](#)

25 January 2018

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

The author assesses the geostrategic drivers and implications of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). He recommends situating the US response to BRI within a comprehensive and competitive China policy that reasserts US leadership in economic, military, political, and information domains. To this end, the US should address security concerns that result from BRI by preventing Chinese control of the South China Sea, re-joining the Trans-Pacific Partnership, shifting overseas security burdens to China, enhancing US broadcasting and information operations, and building capacity in recipient countries to manage and evaluate potential BRI projects.

### Observer Research Foundation

#### *The Belt and Road Initiative aka: one belt one road scheme*

by Manoj Joshi

January 2018

Link to the article in [English](#) (56 p.)

This paper seeks to provide a descriptive account of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) by outlining Chinese economic and political activities in the broad region and seeking to connect the threads to create a narrative of what the BRI is all about and what it means for the region and the world.

#### *China's terror dilemma in CPEC: a Xinjiang strategy?*

by Dhananjay Sahai

January 2018

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

This brief aims to examine one of China's possible responses to the various extremist and terrorist activities that plague the internal security of Pakistan, given the necessity of securing its US\$62-billion investment in the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Pakistan is failing to control this problem. The response of China could possibly be inspired by its strategy in Xinjiang, where it has successfully managed to keep the insurgency under control with a mix of hard military power and wide-ranging measures aimed at clamping down on the religious rights of Muslims. This brief explores how a strategy inspired from Xinjiang will operate in Pakistan and the resistance it is likely to meet.

#### *The 19th Congress of the Communist Party of China and its aftermath*

by Kartik Bommakanti

January 2018

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

The recently concluded 19th Party Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) brought the world's attention to the future direction of the CPC. As the proceedings of the Party Congress revealed, sustaining the legitimacy of the CPC's hold on power is an overriding concern for the country's political leaders. The Party Congress addressed the corruption plaguing the CPC and the Chinese state writ large, which has deep, long-term consequences for the Party's capacity to rule. On the other hand, it also displayed the dynamism of the CPC in the form of its resilience, adaptability and discipline.



## *China in Latin America: a rising power's forays into US backyard*

by Ketan Mehta

January 2018

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

China, a late entrant in Latin America, has now emerged as the region's major economic partner. Bilateral trade between the two stands today at more than USD 200 billion. By augmenting investments and trade in Latin America, Beijing has managed to project itself as an alternative to the US, which had previously enjoyed overarching influence in the region. The US' inability to lead Latin America into a path of sustainable economic development as promised in the 'Washington consensus' of the 1990s further fuelled China's rise. This paper examines China's engagement in Latin America and proposes that Beijing's use of 'soft power' undermines US influence in the region.

### **Center for Strategic and International Studies**

#### *Meeting the China challenge. Responding to China's managed economy*

by James Andrew Lewis (ed.)

January 2018

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

The U.S.-China relationship is one that neither country can escape. Both benefit from it in important ways. The question for quite some time, though, has been whether China's economy, international presence, and participation in global institutions would come to look more like our own, or whether it would seek to challenge the order the US has built and led over the past 70 years.

### **Overseas Development Institute**

#### *Exploring the links between Chinese foreign policy and humanitarian action. Multiple interests, processes and actors*

by Miwa Hirono

January 2018

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

The paper outlines key elements of Chinese foreign policy and its sources; the evolution of China's humanitarian assistance; current funding volumes and flows; and decision-making and implementation structures. China's engagement in humanitarian aid derives from a very complex array of national interests and processes, paths and actors in foreign policy-making. China's emergence as a global player often brings with it accusations that its humanitarian action will be used as a disguise, or a means, to expand its power. As the paper demonstrates, such accusations are overly simplistic.

### **Peterson Institute for International Economics**

#### *China needs better credit data to help consumers*

by Martin Chorzempa

January 2018

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

Formidable barriers stand between the modern financial system and the hundreds of millions of Chinese citizens still using costly informal credit. For many, the financial data that could be used to give them a credit score that would lead to a fairly priced loan exist; they are just not being used. This analysis finds that the most formidable barriers cutting these data off from their potential use for greater financial inclusion are the legal and political restrictions on data sharing and use,

economic and competitive concerns from data holders, and the technical difficulty of integrating disparate systems.

## RUSSIA

### Centre for European Reform

*Nord Stream 2: more hot air than gas?*

by Noah Gordon

12 January 2018

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

Some EU member-states see the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline as Russia's latest anti-European weapon. But even if they are right, the threat can be mitigated.

### Oxford Institute for Energy Studies

*The SPIMEX gas exchange: Russian gas trading possibilities*

by James Henderson, Tatiana Mitrova, Patrick Heather, Ekaterina Orlova and Zlata Sergeeva

22 January 2018

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

The sale and purchase of Russian gas in the post-Soviet era has been dominated by the need for Gazprom, the dominant player, to sell to consumers at a regulated price. Since 1998 other producers, known in Russian legal terminology as the independents, have been able to sell gas at market prices, but these prices have always been heavily influenced by the regulated price because of the dominance of Gazprom's volumes.

### Institut français des relations internationales

*Beyond 'pro' and 'anti' Putin: debating Russia policies in France and Germany*

by Barbara Kunz [@BaKu\\_lfri](#)

31 January 2018

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

In both France and Germany, the general public is by and large sceptical of Vladimir Putin and his policies. The picture is more diverse in the political realm. In Germany, there (still) is an approach that might be qualified as "mainstream". The French debate, in turn, is highly fragmented. This study addresses the public debate in France and Germany regarding a number of key issues. It presents both dominant discourses, as well as those challenging them. The study thus offers insights into national debates generally unavailable to readers unfamiliar with the respective country's political playgrounds or without the necessary language skills.

### Council on Foreign Relations

*Containing Russia. How to respond to Moscow's intervention in U.S. democracy and growing geopolitical challenge*

by Robert D. Blackwill and Philip H. Gordon

January 2018

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

The US has failed to elevate Russia's intervention in its elections to the national priority that it is, and it has neglected to respond to it in a way sufficient to deter future attacks, warn the authors. They argue, that a wide range of additional measures is therefore needed in order to better protect US society and political and electoral systems from further intervention. Surveying the full scope of the "extraordinary Russian attack on the core of the American democratic system" during the 2016

US presidential election and beyond, the authors - who served in Republican and Democratic administrations respectively - conclude that, the US is currently in a second Cold War with Russia.

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

### **RAND Europe**

*Testing the value of the postwar international order*

by Michael J. Mazarr and Ashley L. Rhoades

January 2018

Link to the article in [English](#) (124 p.)

The collaborative mechanisms, implicit sense of global community, institutions, rules, norms, and habits that have accumulated since 1945 could potentially play an important role, and may in some cases be necessary, to meeting all of the major economic and security challenges that lie ahead. US responses to these challenges - while continuing to demand both US leadership and US power - will be stronger and more effective if they are nested in the supportive context of a shared order. This is not to suggest that the components of that order can achieve outcomes on their own; as noted at the beginning of this analysis, we presume that the order has been effective to the degree that its role has merged with that of US power and broader trends.

## SPECIAL FOCUS - DONALD TRUMP'S FIRST YEAR AS US 45TH PRESIDENT

### Bertelsmann Stiftung

*Cold love*

by Catherine E. de Vries [@CatherineDVries](#) and Isabell Hoffmann [@ur\\_echo](#)

24 January 2018

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

The 45th President of the US, Donald J. Trump, has been highly controversial ever since he took office in 2016. His isolationist message of 'America First', his decision to pull out of the Paris climate agreement and to move the US embassy to Jerusalem are just some of his actions that have created great controversy on the global stage. While his predecessor Barack Obama was hugely popular among the European public, how do Europeans view President Donald Trump and the future of the transatlantic partnership?

### Ulkopoliittinen instituutti (Finnish Institute of International Affairs)

*Between change and continuity: making sense of America's evolving global engagement*

by Mika Aaltola [@MikaAaltola](#), Charly Saloniemi-Pasternak [@charlyjisp](#), Juha Käpylä and Ville Sinkkonen (eds.)

31 January 2018

Link to the article in [English](#) (178 p.)

This report investigates the evolution of America's global engagement. In particular, it examines both the longer-term trends and the more immediate dynamics that affect the global role of the US. The report first considers domestic developments as well as strategic debates, to provide a context for understanding the potential changes and continuities in American foreign and security policy during and beyond the unfolding Trump era. The intention is to shed light on the evolution of US global engagement and national interests in terms of the future of international order, great-power relations and the strategic setting of Northern Europe.

### Migration Policy Institute

*In the Age of Trump: populist backlash and progressive resistance create divergent state immigrant integration contexts*

by Margie McHugh

January 2018

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

This report briefly examines how some of the key policies and programs that support the long-term integration success of immigrants and refugees are faring in this volatile era of immigration policy change, as well as key areas to watch ahead.

### Real Instituto Elcano (Elcano Royal Institute)

*Torres y muros frente al multiculturalismo: hispanos y español en la presidencia de Donald Trump*

by Ángel Badillo Matos [@angelbadillo](#)

26 January 2018

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

The arrival at the White House of Donald Trump has led to new tensions for the public use of Spanish in the US, but above all to multiculturalism as a paradigm of public policies in that country. Spain has been used by President Trump in order to highlight the risk posed by a language and

the Hispanic community in which cultural assimilation does not appear, for several reasons, to be as effective as others. This analysis reviews the delicate relationship between Hispanic-American citizens, Spanish language, the rise of paleoconservatism and Donald Trump, after the inauguration of the 45th President of the US.

*Trump y el mundo: un año de política exterior*

by Carlota García Encina [@EncinaCharlie](#)

18 January 2018

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

One year after the inauguration of the 45th President of the US, this paper analyses the elements of continuity and change in the US foreign policy.

*Trump y el cambio climático: acciones y reacciones, ¿iguales, opuestas e insuficientes?*

by Lara Lázaro Touza [@lazarotouza](#)

17 January 2018

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

The first year of the presidency of Donald Trump has been negative in climate issues. Internally, the US has taken the first steps to dismantle President Obama's climate initiatives. At the international level, the US announced its withdrawal from the Paris Agreement.

### **The German Marshall Fund of the United States / European Parliament Think Tank**

*What next after the US withdrawal from the TPP? What are the options for trade relations in the Pacific and what will be the impact on the EU?*

by Peter Chase

25 January 2018

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

The Trans-Pacific Partnership was a landmark trade agreement signed by 12 Pacific Rim countries including the US in February 2016. TPP had commercial as well as geopolitical significance for the Obama administration and was a key component of the former president's so-called "pivot" to Asia. On his first full day in office, in January 2017, President Trump pulled the US out of TPP leaving the other 11 signatories to grapple with the consequences. They have since vowed to move forward even without US participation, reviewing the existing clauses and rebranding the regional agreement under the name of Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for the Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).

## MISCELLANEOUS

### World Economic Forum

*The Global Risks Report 2018*

17 January 2018

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

This year's report covers more risks than ever, but focuses in particular on four key areas: environmental degradation, cybersecurity breaches, economic strains and geopolitical tensions. And in a new series called "Future Shocks" the report cautions against complacency and highlights the need to prepare for sudden and dramatic disruptions.

### Pew Research Center

*Publics globally want unbiased news coverage, but are divided on whether their news media deliver*

by Amy Mitchell [@asmitch](#), Katie Simmons, Katerina Eva Matsa [@katmatsa](#) and Laura Silver [@lauraruthsilver](#)

11 January 2018

Link to the article in [English](#) (55 p.)

Deep political divides in many nations on satisfaction with news media; the greatest is in the US.

### Fondation pour l'innovation politique

*Libérer l'islam de l'islamisme*

by Mohamed Louizi [@MohamedLOUZI](#)

24 January 2018

Link to the article in [French](#) (84 p.)

This note wagers on knowledge as a fundamental prerequisite for an enlightened political action, aimed at reaffirming the identity and the values of the progressive French and European narrative, in the face of the Islamist danger of resuscitating the Middle Ages. It invites to differentiate the Muslim faith from the Islamist narrative: Islam and Islamism are not synonymous. This necessarily involves a trip to the early days of political Islam to better understand the genesis and meaning of all its claims to impose on the Republic, the visibility of an ideology in a secularized landscape.

### Euro-Mediterranean Study Commission

*Les non-musulmans en Islam. Quel statut?*

by Nael Georges

10 January 2018

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

This paper provides a better understanding of issues related to religious freedom and the integration of religious minorities in Islam and Muslim states. It focusses on political-legal aspects relating to the status of non-Muslims in light of the precepts of Muslim law by showing their accounting or incompatibility with the international charter of human rights. The purpose is to highlight the position of different Islamic currents by emphasizing their interpretation of Muslim law and its effects on the status of non-Muslims.