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Dear Readers,

This Think Tank Review* covers articles and reports published in February relating to different political and policy topics. ([click to share on Twitter](#))

Under the section **EU politics and institutions**, several articles look at the EP elections, identifying the key issues that are crucial for the EU, explaining how the cultural dimension can be a strong predictor of radical party choice, and commenting on how anti-Europeans plan to divide Europe and what campaign is needed to strengthen the EU. Other topics covered include scenarios for a wider Europe and what comes after the last-chance Commission of President Juncker.

On **Agriculture**, reports explore what the EU farming sector could look like in a net-zero world by 2050, and what challenges are involved in scaling up production for meat analogues. On **Competitiveness**, a publication puts forward recommendations on how to design a responsible and sustainable artificial intelligence. As for **Social Policy**, a report asks 'How are you Europe?' and highlights six social challenges arising from the fact that Europe's economy is growing and unemployment is falling.

On **ECOFIN**, articles look at how to redesign the fiscal regime of the eurozone by drawing inspiration from the US fiscal regime, how the post-2020 EU budget can best reinforce Europe's climate risk management, and what kind of social convergence is needed for the EMU.

On **Foreign Affairs**, a number of articles shed light on the new brain drain that has taken place in Russia, especially since 2012, the influence of Russian disinformation operations, and efforts aimed at a more stable NATO-Russia relationship. On China, all related articles are published in the [special China](#) issue.

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Brexit topics include: the repatriation of competences in agriculture after Brexit; how to manage post-Brexit relations drawing for instance on the experience of Nordic cooperation to define a new agenda for European competitiveness; managing migration after Brexit, and options for renegotiating the backstop.

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The next Think Tank Review will be out in April with papers published in March 2019.

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SECTION 1 - EU POLITICS AND INSTITUTIONS

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

[Desinformation und die Wahlen zum Europäischen Parlament](#)

by Annegret Bendiek [@annegretbendiek](#) and Matthias Schulze

Politicians and experts fear that the European Parliamentary election process will be severely disrupted by disinformation campaigns and cyber-attacks. In December 2018, the EU Commission put forward an action plan against disinformation and will provide 5 million Euro to raise voters and policy-makers awareness against manipulation. It is also about increasing the cyber security of electoral systems and processes. (8 p. - DE)

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES

[European elections 2019: structuring the debate](#)

by Thomas Gomart [@ThomasGomart](#), Marc Hecker (eds.)

This analysis does not present an overview of the political forces in Europe on the eve of the elections, but rather seeks to succinctly identify the key issues facing the EU in the short, medium, and long term, at a time when it appears more fragile than ever. Clearly, its oft-proclaimed disintegration would transform European countries into third-rate actors, set against the logics of power currently at work and the weakening of multilateralism. (74 p.)

LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS IDEAS

[Nuancing the voter landscape: radical right and radical left constituencies in Europe](#)

by Alexandru Filip

Analysing data from the European social survey, this paper finds the cultural dimension to be a very strong predictor of radical party choice: voters at the 'progressive' pole of the cultural dimensions have a strong likelihood of voting for the radical left, while those at the 'conservative' pole register a high probability of voting for the radical right. These results stand even when controlling for attitudes towards immigration. This paper also finds that the effect of this 'new politics' dimension amplifies over time, speaking to the growing salience of the vertical cleavage. (46 p.)

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

[Shaking up the 2019 European election. Macron, Salvini, Orbán, and the fate of the European party system](#)

by Julie Hamann [@jul_hamann](#), Milan Nič [@milann_sk](#) and Jana Puglierin [@jana_puglierin](#)

More fragmented than ever, Europe is at a crossroads, making the 2019 EP election an immensely political event. Stakes are high for Emmanuel Macron, Matteo Salvini and Viktor Orbán, all of whom could shake up the balance of power in the EP. Macron has lost much of his initial vigor, and the disruptive potential of Salvini and Orbán is significant. If played well, their combined power could send shock waves across all European institutions. (12 p.)

EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

[The 2019 European election: how anti-Europeans plan to wreck Europe and what can be done to stop it](#)

by Susi Dennison [@sd270](#) and Paweł Zerka [@PawelZerka](#)

With anti-Europeans on their way to winning more than one-third of seats in the next EP, the stakes in the May 2019 election are unusually high. This paper marks the start of a campaign to strengthen Europe in the face of efforts by anti-European parties to divide it. It analyses, in detail, the political situation in each of the EU's 27 member states ahead of the 2019 EP election. (48 p.)

BROOKINGS INSTITUTION

[Populist and authoritarian referendums : the role of direct democracy in democratic deconsolidation](#)

by Katherine Collin [@KatyCollin](#)

Referendums are often seen as a tool that empowers populist authoritarians. Globally, democratic backsliding has coincided with increased use of popular votes. However, any relationship between democratic deconsolidation and the rising numbers of referendums is often asserted without being explored. It is not clear whether referendums are an effective mechanism of choice for illiberal leaders. (18 p.)

NOTRE EUROPE - JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE

[«Démocratie illibérale» ou «autoritarisme majoritaire» ? Contribution à l'analyse des populismes en Europe](#)

by Thierry Chopin [@Th_Chopin](#)

For several years, liberal democracy has been strongly questioned in Europe under the pressure of the national-populist political forces that portray themselves as "illiberal democracies". One of the fundamental problems of the current political situation in Europe is that the rise of populism is accompanied by a dissociation of the two components of constitutional and liberal democracy at the foundation of our democracies since the end of the second World War. In this perspective, it is essential to return to the links that unite democracy and political liberalism. (14 p. - FR)

BROOKINGS INSTITUTION

[The role of Islam in European populism : how refugee flows and fear of Muslims drive right-wing support](#)

by Shadi Hamid [@shadihamid](#)

Today, fear of and opposition to Islam or Muslims provides a connective thread uniting otherwise disparate political parties. In Europe, nearly every major right-wing populist party emphasizes cultural and religious objections to Muslim immigration. The bigger issue is that the immigrants in question are Muslim, not that they are immigrants. Importantly, anti-Muslim sentiment also affects Muslims who are already citizens. The ongoing debate then is less about immigration and more about integration. (16 p.)

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

[What comes after the last chance Commission? Policy priorities for 2019-2024](#)

Ahead of the 2019 institutional reconfiguration of the EU, is a fitting moment to take stock of the European integration process and decide which priorities should define the strategic agenda of the next generation of incumbents. This report assesses how the 'last chance Commission' of President Juncker has fared; whether it has followed the ten guidelines it set out at the beginning of its mandate; how far it was blown off course by critical events; and whether we might see the return of a 'political' Commission in the second half of this year. (135 p.)

THE GERMAN MARSHALL FUND OF THE UNITED STATES

[Civic engagement for democracy from abroad - Hungarian, Polish, and Romanian diasporas](#)

by Alexandra Ioan [@alexandraioan](#)

This paper looks at new Hungarian, Polish, and Romanian diaspora initiatives and organizations, and the way they engage with the democratic issues of their countries of origin. They have a strong community-building focus and carry out a wide range of activities, from protests to campaigns to public debates and fundraising events. They are actively engaging with civil society organizations in their countries of origin. The new diaspora initiatives see an alignment of their values with those of the EU, but they have limited capacity for direct interaction with EU-level political actors. (25 p.)

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

[Scenarios for a wider Europe](#)

by Michael Emerson

This paper makes the case for enhancing the economic and political integration of the entire wider European space with the EU, involving all those neighbouring states willing to subscribe to EU standards while at the same time facilitating the EU's further enlargement in due course. The author advocates: upgrading the EU's association agreements with East European states (Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine); replacing the European Neighbourhood Policy with a wider Europe policy concept; and continuing the development of a multi-speed Europe which, with other EU reforms, could facilitate further enlargement of the EU when the conditions are met. (19 p.)

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

[The European Court of Justice: do all roads lead to Luxembourg?](#)

by Allan Rosas

The increasing tendency to submit questions of great political and constitutional significance to the ECJ prompts the question whether the Court has become the arbiter of all major problems facing the EU today. Judge Allan Rosas observes that de Tocqueville's description of the importance of the US Supreme Court could apply to today's ECJ. The author refers to the EU's external relations, asylum and immigration, economic and monetary policy, citizenship, the rule of law in general, and Brexit, as cases that would probably not have come before the Court were it not for the Treaty of Lisbon. (8 p.)

BROOKINGS INSTITUTION

[Terrorism and the threat to democracy](#)

by Daniel Byman [@dbyman](#)

Terrorism does more than kill the innocent: it undermines democratic governments, even in mature democracies like those in the US and much of Europe. The fear terrorism generates can distort public debates, discredit moderates, empower political extremes, and polarize societies. An array of actors, including governments, international institutions, and civil society can decrease the scale and scope of terrorist violence and mitigate its most dangerous political effects. (10 p.)

BROOKINGS INSTITUTION

[The opening of Europe's Overton window](#)

by Thomas Wright [@thomaswright08](#)

Over the past decade, Europe's political discourse has expanded to include ideas that used to be on the fringe. The three most significant are Brexit, right-wing populism, and left-wing populism. Meanwhile, the old centrist consensus has shrunk and new divisions have emerged, particularly between Germany and France. The EU and eurozone remain robust and are very unlikely to collapse but their future will be shaped by the new ideological environment, rather than by the traditional ideals associated with European integration. (8 p.)

SECTION 2 - EU POLICIES

AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

CHATHAM HOUSE - THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

[Meat analogues: considerations for the EU](#)

by Antony Froggatt and Laura Wellesley [@LauraWellesley](#)

Plant-based 'meat' and 'lab-grown' meat may help to tackle the unsustainability of the livestock sector. Focusing on the EU, this paper explores the challenges of scaling up production and generating demand for such meat analogues. In order to meet its climate change commitments, the EU will need to change European eating patterns, including a reduction in meat consumption. (44 p.)

INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

[Net-zero agriculture in 2050: how to get there?](#)

by Anna Lorant and Ben Allen

This report explores how the EU farming sector could look like in a net-zero world, what roles it would play and what is needed to make the transition by mid-century. (23 p.)

COMPETITIVENESS (INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND SPACE)

PROGRESSIVE POLICY INSTITUTE

[Escaping the startup trap: can policymakers help small companies grow to major employers?](#)

by Elliott Long [@elliottlong](#) and Michael Mandel [@MichaelMandel](#)

Europeans have long fretted about their lack of ‘unicorns’— privately held startups with a valuation of more than \$1 billion. Even in the relatively successful US, it seems that new companies are scaling-up less frequently than they used to. This paper analysed census bureau data on business dynamics over time, focusing on “young” businesses—aged 6-10 years after being founded. According to the findings, in 2014, 0.05% of young businesses were major employers, defined as having 1,000 or more workers. (10 p.)

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

[Artificial Intelligence: ethics, governance and policy challenges](#)

by Andrea Renda [@profAndreaRenda](#)

This report argues that the EU and its member states are uniquely positioned to lead the global community towards responsible and sustainable AI development. It puts forward 44 recommendations on how to design and promote lawful, responsible and sustainable AI and how to approach future policy and investment decisions with the aim of positioning Europe in the driver’s seat to address the most disruptive technology transition of our times. (152 p.)

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

EUROPEAN TRADE UNION INSTITUTE

[How to redesign the fiscal regime of the Eurozone: an alternative take on lessons from US and Eurozone experiences](#)

by Jörg Bibow [@JoergBibow](#)

This study investigates the design of a workable fiscal union for the euro area in the near and medium-term future. As a comparative study of fiscal institutions in the US and the euro area, the objective is to identify elements in the US fiscal regime that might potentially serve the euro area well in ‘completing’ its own, hitherto dysfunctional euro regime. Empirical evidence appears to suggest that the US’ monetary union also features a fiscal union that offers relatively little in terms of official risk sharing. (74 p.)

CENTRUM FÜR EUROPÄISCHE POLITIK (CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY)

[20 Jahre Euro: Verlierer und Gewinner](#)

by Alessandro Gasparotti [@alegasparotti](#) and Matthias Kullas

The euro 20th anniversary celebrations are modest. The reason for this is the euro crisis, which is still smoldering. This development has led to a discussion on the pros and cons of the common currency in almost all euro countries. However, there is still a lack of reliable empirical studies analyzing in which countries the introduction of the euro has created benefits and disadvantages. (20 p. - DE)

JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE - BERLIN/ BERTELSMANN STIFTUNG

[Finding common ground. A pragmatic budgetary instrument for the euro area](#)

by Lucas Guttenberg [@lucasguttenberg](#), Johannes Hemker, Ole Funke [@Ole_Funke](#) (et al.)

This report outlines a pragmatic proposal for a budgetary instrument for the euro area in line with the decision of the December 2018 Euro summit. It is based on a very simple principle: any new instrument should make the euro area function better as a currency union. The two objectives set out in the Euro summit decision – competitiveness and convergence – ought to be operationalized strictly in terms of their contribution to a better functioning of the euro area as a currency union. (14 p.)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

[A fiscal capacity for the Eurozone: constitutional perspectives](#)

by Federico Fabbrini

This paper explores the establishment of a fiscal capacity for the Eurozone from a constitutional perspective. The EU treaties already provide sufficient legal bases to set up such a budgetary instrument, and – paradoxically – Brexit may represent a window of opportunity to reach this objective, as the withdrawal of the UK creates a shortfall in the EU budget that will need to be compensated. But it is crucial that the design of a possible fiscal capacity for the Eurozone anticipates potential challenges, including the sources of funding and the governance and accountability of this new tool. (35 p.)

CENTRAL PLANBUREAU (CPB NETHERLANDS BUREAU FOR ECONOMIC POLICY ANALYSIS)

[Do SVARs identify unconventional monetary policy shocks?](#)

by Adam Elbourne and Kan Ji

The paper shows that the technique employed in previous structural vector autoregression (SVAR) estimates of the effects of unconventional monetary policy does not successfully identify unconventional monetary policy shocks in the euro area. (30 p.)

NOTRE EUROPE - JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE

[Fiscalité: l'unanimité à dépasser](#)

by Olivier Marty [@oli_marty](#)

In January, the EU Commission submitted to the Council a communication on the use of "passerelle clauses" in tax matters. The Commission initiative is very delicate in this sensitive subject. The differences of opinion between member states remain strong. Nevertheless, the proposal pursues laudable objectives, which should be made clear in light of the debates in the EP, the March European Council and the informal Ecofin Council in April. In the same way, the initiative will impose itself as an important stake in the European elections. (6 p. - FR)

NOTRE EUROPE - JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE

[Réforme de l'Union économique et monétaire: quelle dimension sociale?](#)

by Sofia Fernandes [@fernandesofiaEU](#)

While important steps have been taken in recent years to strengthen the EMU, its architecture remains incomplete. This report attempts to answer three key questions to define the social dimension of EMU: why the EMU must have a social dimension; what kind of social convergence is needed to ensure the smooth functioning and prosperity of the common monetary area; what are the instruments to be deployed to ensure this social convergence and what social governance is desirable for the euro area? (29 p. - FR)

NOTRE EUROPE - JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE

[Une assurance-chômage européenne : ce qu'en pensent vraiment les citoyens](#)

by Frank Vandembroucke and Francesco Nicoli [@FrancescoNicoli](#)

The EU Commission has repeatedly stated that the EMU needs a stabilization mechanism. The welfare states have their own automatic stabilizers to cushion economic shocks, including unemployment benefits in support of the purchasing power of people who have lost their jobs. The main argument for such EMU stabilizers is that a monetary union needs mechanisms to strengthen or complement the automatic stabilizers of its member states. However, there remains the crucial question of whether EU citizens are willing to share the risks of unemployment crises. (8 p. - FR)

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

[Working paper on the impact of the monetary policy of the ECB on credit provision of European economies through the mortgage credit channel](#)

by Vangelis Arvanitis

In this paper the author tries to identify the impact of the monetary policy of the ECB on credit provision of European economies through the mortgage credit channel, including during the period of the crisis. He uses data for the loans of commercial banks to households for housing purposes after a contractionary monetary policy by the monetary authority (increase of the main interest rate). Given that the mortgage channel has not been adequately studied during the crisis period for EU member states, this paper contributes towards covering this gap in the literature. (31 p. - GR)

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

[Can the V4's priorities shape "Europe's priorities"? The Multiannual Financial Framework 2021–2027](#)

by Sejla Almadi

The research objective was to decide whether the priorities of the Visegrád Group (V4) could shape Europe's priorities in the MFF 2021–2027 and to see how the priorities in the proposal were reflected by the members' communication or opinion in the EU institutions. The most important conclusions were that the individuals' opinion at the EU institutions could differ from the organisational manifestation, which had the potential for the V4 countries to enforce their interests in the debate. (13 p.)

[Toward the new Multiannual Financial Framework: fuel for the EU global strategy and development cooperation?](#)

By Bernardo Venturi [@bervent](#)

The EU has made some progress in implementing the EU global strategy since its unveiling in June 2016. Yet, when it comes to the MFF, improvements are not easily quantifiable since the new MFF (2021–2027) is still under negotiation among EU institutions and member states. However, some preliminary considerations can be drawn on the basis of the current negotiations, the proposed architecture for the next MFF and its possible innovations in the field of development cooperation. (5 p.)

E3G

[Reducing climate risk in the post-2020 EU budget](#)

by Lea Pilsner [@Lea_Pilsner](#), Elisa Giannelli [@elisagiannelli6](#) and Luca Bergamaschi [@lucaberga](#)

Recent droughts, wildfires and heatwaves across Europe show the danger climate change poses to economic production, natural systems and human life. As climate risks intensify, unmanaged, ever greater and far-reaching climate impacts could jeopardise European's unity and solidarity. This briefing offers analysis and recommendations for how the EU budget can best reinforce Europe's climate risk management. (14 p.)

INSTITUTE FOR FISCAL STUDIES

[Principles of tax design, public policy and beyond: the ideas of James Mirrlees, 1936–2018](#)

by Richard Blundell [@R_Blundell_UCL](#) and Ian Preston [@IanPPreston](#)

This article outlines how the work of Sir James Mirrlees, co-recipient of the 1996 Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences, has transformed economists' understanding of their discipline – from the principles of tax design to the theory of contracts and beyond. By conceiving of policy questions in terms of information asymmetries between governments and taxpayers, Mirrlees demonstrated how to conduct convincing analysis of redistributive objectives together with incentive effects in the design of general tax systems and public policy more broadly. (14 p.)

EMPLOYMENT/SOCIAL POLICY/HEALTH AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

EUROPEAN POLICY CENTRE

[Integrating refugees into the labour market: how can the EU better support employers?](#)

by Claire Dhéret [@cdheret](#) and Olivia Sundberg Diez

The authors make a case for the EU to step in as the interface between national authorities and employers and create an enabling environment for integration policies to be developed, implemented and assessed at the local level. It can do this by harmonising the patchwork of different approaches across the Union, offering policy guidance to national authorities and leverage financial support. (12 p.)

JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE - BERLIN/ BERTELSMANN STIFTUNG

[How are you doing, Europe? Mapping social imbalances in the EU](#)

by Philipp Ständer [@P_Staender](#) and Sylvia Schmidt

Europe's economy is growing, unemployment is falling, but Europeans continue to see social issues as the EU's biggest challenges? The authors explore social imbalances by asking: "How are you, Europe?" The report highlights six social challenges of EU-wide relevance and provides a lifelike and multi-faceted insight into the different life situations and working conditions in the EU. (44 p.)

DEUTSCHES INSTITUT FÜR ENTWICKLUNGSPOLITIK (GERMAN DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE)

[Comparing global trends in multidimensional and income poverty and assessing horizontal inequalities](#)

by Francesco Burchi, Daniele Malerba [@MalerbaDaniele](#), Nicole Rippin (et al.)

To what extent did poverty fall? Is poverty higher among women? The discussion paper finds that the decline in income poverty is twice as large as that in multidimensional poverty. Gender differences in poverty levels are minimal, while there is a minimal sign of the feminization of poverty. (58 p.)

UCD GEARY INSTITUTE

[Severe housing deprivation : addressing the social sustainability challenge in the EU](#)

by Nessa Winston [@WinstonNessa](#) and Patricia Kennedy

Severe housing deprivation is an important element of social sustainability. This paper argues that meeting basic human needs is central to social sustainability and housing is a key dimension of need. It draws on data from the EU survey on income and living conditions for this purpose. The authors supplement collected data with a case study of a particularly vulnerable group who experience housing exclusion in several relatively wealthy European countries - Roma in Ireland. The paper concludes with a discussion of strategies to address severe housing deprivation in the EU. (35 p.)

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

DEUTSCHES INSTITUT FÜR WIRTSCHAFTSFORSCHUNG (GERMAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH)

[Fighting climate change with disclosure? The real effects of mandatory greenhouse gas emission disclosure](#)

by Benedikt Downar, Jürgen Ernstberger, Hannes Rettenbacher (et al.)

This paper examines how mandatory disclosure of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions influences companies' emission levels. It identifies the effect of full transparency by exploiting a mandate requiring UK-incorporated listed companies to disclose information on GHG emissions in their annual reports. Comparing the emissions of installations (e.g. power plants, or oil refineries) owned by listed companies and installations owned by firms not subject to the mandate, it documents that disclosing GHG emissions in annual reports reduces emission levels by up to 18%. (43 p.)

INSTITUT DER DEUTSCHEN WIRTSCHAFT KÖLN (COLOGNE INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH)

[Defining green bonds. The danger of neglecting the issuer side](#)

by Markus Demary [@DemaryMarkus](#) and Adriana Neligan [@a_neligan](#)

One of the EU's main efforts here is to establish a market for green bonds by introducing a common taxonomy. A technical expert group on sustainable finance is currently developing this taxonomy for sustainable finance. The expert group should shift its focus away from single green products towards the green value chain. Businesses should at least in part be allowed to issue green bonds if they invest in technologies that reduce their CO₂-emissions significantly. (16 p.)

ENERGIEWIRTSCHAFTLICHES INSTITUT AN DER UNIVERSITÄT ZU KÖLN (INSTITUTE OF ENERGY ECONOMICS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF COLOGNE)

[How does climate change affect optimal allocation of variable renewable energy?](#)

by Jakob Peter

Ongoing climate change affects complex and long-lived infrastructures like electricity systems. Main impacts for Europe include changes in wind and solar resources, hydro power, cooling water availability for thermoelectric generation and electricity demand. Hence, it is not only important to understand the total effects, i.e., how much welfare may be gained when accounting for climate change impacts in all dimensions, but also to disentangle various effects in terms of their marginal contribution to the potential welfare loss. (38 p.)

JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

EUROPEAN POLICY CENTRE

[European programme for integration and migration - policy update: February 2019](#)

by Katharina Bamberg [@KatBamberg](#), Marie De Somer [@MarieDeSomer](#) and Ilene van Brouwershaven

This edition looks at the situation in the Mediterranean with regards to temporary disembarkation arrangements. Other key highlights of this paper include UK-French border management cooperation, new Schengen Information System (SIS) rules, progress on the Frontex reform and a closer look from the international detention coalition on progress towards reducing immigration detention. (15 p.)

DEUTSCHES INSTITUT FÜR ENTWICKLUNGSPOLITIK (GERMAN DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE)

[Migration: solid nations and liquid transnationalism? The EU's struggle to find a shared course on African migration 1999-2019](#)

by Irene Schöfberger [@ISchoefberger](#)

This paper investigates how European states and institutions have negotiated the relation between EU borders and African mobility between 1999 and the beginning of 2019. It focusses in particular on how the process of negotiation of migration policies has been interrelated with a process of negotiation of narrative frames on migration. It does so based on an analysis of EU policy documents from 1999 to 2019 and on interviews with representatives of European and African states and regional organisations. (42 p.)

MIGRANT POLICY INSTITUTE

[Global governance of international migration: what lies ahead?](#)

By Kathleen Newland

In the final days of 2018, a resounding majority of states adopted the global compact for safe, orderly, and regular migration—the first comprehensive framework of principles and objectives to guide international cooperation on migration. The compact emerged from a sense of crisis, with large-scale, unanticipated migration in a number of regions driving home to governments the limitations of attempting to manage such flows unilaterally. (19 p.)

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES

[Le pacte de Marrakech. Vers une gouvernance mondiale des migrations?](#)

by Matthieu Tardis

The pact of Marrakech illustrates an evolution of the objectives of the global governance of migration, originally placed in the post-war context, under the banner of the protection of human rights. The stake of the pact goes beyond the only migratory questions and touches on the role of the UN in a context of questioning the multilateralism. The managerial approach to migration promoted by the pact allows the UN to play a role of technical support to states on a voluntary basis. (30 p. - FR)

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR COUNTER TERRORISM – THE HAGUE

[Violence and terrorism from the far-right: policy options to counter an elusive threat](#)

By Daniel Koehler

Extreme right-wing violence and terrorism are a growing threat to Western societies. Since the September 11 attacks, policy makers, law enforcement, intelligence agencies and researchers have focused most of their attention on Islamic extremist violence and terrorism. This paper, using Germany as a main case study, argues that far-right violence has a potential risk of being misunderstood and under-classified, thus creating the perception among victims of that violence that democratic countries “are blind on the right side”. (21 p.)

RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN STUDIES

[Intelligence is in the head not in the age: tight-corner of intelligence sharing within the European Union](#)

by Musa Khan Jalalzai [@musakhanjalalza](#)

Most discussions in electronic media and intellectual forums about the effect of globalization and national security predominantly focus on the threat of radicalization, lone-wolves and jihadism in Europe. In yesteryears, dozens of terror-related fatalities in several EU member states brought to light the Achilles' heel of poor and reluctant intelligence sharing on law enforcement level. Notwithstanding the plethora of books, journals and research papers on national security and intelligence cooperation in Europe, there has been an iota research work on interconnectedness and togetherness since years. (6 p.)

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES

[The US-EU rivalry for data protection: energy sector implications](#)

by Arnault Barichella

With potentially hundreds of millions of smart meters to be installed in the EU and the US in the coming years, ICTs make it possible to collect and analyse large amounts of complex data to optimize the whole energy system, while providing consumers with a number of customized services. Firms in the energy sector are gradually turning into massive data collectors. As a result, the energy industry is one of the sectors that has been most impacted by the requirements outlined in the EU's new general data protection regulation, launched in May 2018. (7 p.)

TRANSPORT/TELECOMMUNICATIONS/ENERGY

FONDATION POUR L'INNOVATION POLITIQUE

[Energie-climat en Europe: pour une excellence écologique](#)

by Emmanuel Tuchscherer [@emmanueltuch](#)

Energy and climate issues can be the starting point of a renaissance of the European project, deepen political integration and promote ecological excellence. According to Eurobarometer (autumn 2018), 75% of EU citizens are in favour of an EU common energy policy. The survey also confirms the climate and the environment, among the key themes of the next EP elections, as top concerns. No matter the technologies and costs, the path to ecological excellence will require a flexible, non-ideological approach to Europe's major energy policy choices. (48 p. - FR)

HEINRICH-BÖLL-STIFTUNG (HEINRICH BÖLL FOUNDATION)

[Fuel to the fire. How geoengineering threatens to entrench fossil fuels and accelerate the climate crisis](#)

by Carroll Muffett [@cmuffett1](#), Steven Feit [@FeitingWords](#), Lili Fuhr [@lilifuhr](#) (et al.)

This report investigates the role of the fossil fuel industry in developing, patenting, and promoting key geoengineering technologies. It examines how the most heavily promoted strategies for carbon dioxide removal and solar radiation modification depend on the continued production and combustion of carbon intensive fuels for their viability. It highlights the growing incoherence of advocating for reliance on speculative and risky geoengineering technologies in the face of mounting evidence that addressing the climate crisis is less about technology than about political will. (78 p.)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

[Optimal development of electricity generation mix considering fossil fuel phase-out and strategic multi-area interconnection](#)

by Desta Fitiwi, Muireann Á Lynch [@mu_lynch](#) and Valentin Bertsch [@BertschValentin](#)

Increased renewable generation worldwide is posing new challenges for power system planners. The location, as well as the level and operation, of each generation resource is increasingly important. This work presents a constrained generation expansion planning optimization model. One of the salient features of the model is its reasonably accurate representation of the physical characteristics of power systems. It considers both active and reactive power flows in a linear manner. (34 p.)

SECTION 3 - FOREIGN AFFAIRS

FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY / DEFENCE

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES / EUROPEAN LEADERSHIP NETWORK

[Are PESCO projects fit for purpose?](#)

by Alice Billon-Galland [@AliceBillon](#) and Yvonne-Stefania Efsthathiou [@YvonneEfst](#)

In 2018 the launch of 34 capability projects under the EU's Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) framework was hailed by some as a breakthrough for European defence. This policy brief draws upon the EU's 2018 revised capability development plan and its level of ambition capability requirements to assess whether current projects address the EU's identified shortfalls to any meaningful extent. (15 p.)

EUROPEAN POLITICAL STRATEGY CENTRE

[Joining forces - The way towards the European Defence Union](#)

Under the Juncker Commission, European defence cooperation has gained unprecedented momentum. Yet, notwithstanding the substantial progress achieved over the last two years, the lion's share of the work lies ahead. This brief highlights how a genuine and credible European Defence Union, in strong partnership with NATO, can effectively contribute to global stability, and deliver on the promise of lasting peace, security and prosperity. (19 p.)

EGMONT – ROYAL INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

[What's in the CARDS?](#)

by Roland Van Reybroeck [@rvr230559](#)

The EU global strategy envisaged that "an annual coordinated review process at EU level to discuss member states' military spending plans could instil greater coherence in defence planning and capability development". In 2017, the Council endorsed the modalities to establish the coordinated annual review on defence (CARD) starting with a trial run involving all member states as of autumn 2017. The CARD trial run was to prove the relevance of the concept and test the agreed methodology in view of paving the way for the first full CARD cycle to be launched in autumn 2019. (7 p.)

FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG (FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION)

[Security radar 2019: wake-up call for Europe!](#)

by Reinhard Krumm, Alexandra Dienes, Simon Weiß [@SicherWeiss](#) (et. al)

There is a transformative character of the current security situation in Europe and the states surveyed (Germany, France, Latvia, Poland, Serbia, Ukraine and Russia) are in the midst of this transformation. The main reason for this is the reorientation of important players in European security (EU, China, Russia and the US): international relations have become much more volatile, while old alliances and 'special relationships' are being redefined by domestic developments. This study uncovers also positive factors that at least offer some hope that people's fears right across Europe and the demands arising from them could influence the political agenda. (72 p.)

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

[Strategische Autonomie Europas](#)

by Barbara Lippert, Nicolai von Ondarza [@NvOndarza](#) and Volker Perthes [@volkerperthes](#)

Europe must increasingly take responsibility for its well-being and safety. The debate on strengthening Europe's ability to act and shape revolves around concepts such as strategic autonomy or, especially in France, European sovereignty. Rarely, however, are these terms defined and what is politically and practically required. The study does not only offer a definition of terms. It also discusses what Germany needs to do, and in cooperation with its European partners, to achieve greater strategic autonomy. (44 p. - DE)

EGMONT – ROYAL INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

[The Aachen mutual defence clause: a closer look at the Franco-German treaty](#)

by Elie Perot [@Elie_Perot](#)

In January 2019, Emmanuel Macron and Angela Merkel signed a new treaty on “Franco-German cooperation and integration” in Aachen. This treaty aims to further strengthen the ties between the two countries in the domains of economy, culture, administration, environment, diplomacy and defence. In spite of some criticism for its lack of ambition, a closer reading of its text reveals its mutual defence clause. The paper explores what this new clause means for the Franco-German tandem and for collective defence in Europe. (7 p.)

BERTELSMANN STIFTUNG

[A jumbo financial instrument for EU external action?](#)

by Loes Debuysere [@LoesDebuysere](#) and Steven Blockmans [@StevenBlockmans](#)

In preparing for the next MFF, the Commission has proposed to integrate 11 existing financial instruments in the realm of external affairs into a unified Neighbourhood, Development, and International Cooperation Instrument. This commentary discusses if the new instrument can overcome the traditional budgetary fragmentation and overlap and can be also an instrument to facilitate the Union's 'integrated approach' as set forth by the EU global strategy to external conflict and crisis. (8 p.)

INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

[Reinforcing environmental dimensions of European Foreign and Security Policy](#)

by Marianne Kettunen [@makettunen](#), Dominique Noome and Johanna Nyman [@johannanyman](#)

Environment and ecosystems underpin security, both in terms of human and national security. As part of the 2030 sustainability agenda, the report calls for a more holistic security regime for the EU, going beyond military preparedness or response and with due links to sectoral activities that impact the environmental quality and ecosystem resilience. (30 p.)

DEVELOPMENT

EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT POLICY MANAGEMENT

[Leveraging the next EU budget for sustainable development finance: the European Fund for sustainable development plus](#)

by San Bilal [@SanBilal1](#)

In the next budget 2021-2027, the Commission proposed a Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument regulation which introduces an innovative unified financial architecture to crowd in private sector investment outside the EU, based on three pillars: the European Fund for Sustainable Development-plus, the External Action Guarantee and financial assistance. The EU has an opportunity to show it can innovate in a responsive manner to changing times and increasing challenges. (30 p.)

AFRICA

EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT POLICY MANAGEMENT

[Mixed messages from Europe and Africa stand in the way of an intercontinental deal](#)

by Emmanuel De Groof [@EmmanuelDeGroof](#) and Jean Bossuyt

European and African leaders have underlined the merits of a hypothetical fully-fledged continent-to-continent partnership on several occasions, most recently in a EU-African Union joint communiqué of January 2019. But in practice, they are sending mixed signals or even acting dividedly and divisively. This two-faced approach on both continents, and the tensions surrounding the appropriate diplomatic framework, AU-EU or ACP-EU, stand in the way of setting out the contours for a fully-fledged continent-to-continent partnership. (28 p.)

ÖSTERREICHISCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR EUROPAPOLITIK (AUSTRIAN SOCIETY FOR EUROPEAN POLITICS)

[Cotonou 2020 - what the European Union can learn from Chinese trade and investment relations with Africa](#)

by Jasmin Baier [@jassilike](#)

In light of the upcoming Cotonou negotiations, this paper aims to ascertain what exactly makes Chinese activities in Africa arguably more successful and more popular. The results make it clear that current plans to go forward with similar propositions as in the old Cotonou agreement will be met with frustration and disagreement. Change is needed and instead of looking West, maybe this time solutions can rather be found in the East. (11 p.)

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI

[An EU integrated approach in the Sahel: the role for governance](#)

By Bernardo Venturi [@bervent](#)

The role that the EU plays in governance in the Sahel is multi-layered. Focussing specifically on the EU's approach and involvement across two components of governance performance, safety and the rule of law, and participation and human rights, it emerges how the EU has not a fully coherent long-term strategy. Brussels applies an integrated approach. However, its application is at the experimental level and is significantly conditioned by short-term needs, such as curbing migration, that risk trumping reforms in local governance. (22 p.)

[The EU fight against transnational crime in Sahel](#)

by Eva Magdalena Stambøl

The EU now invests a growing amount of efforts towards fighting 'security threats' and transnational crime in the (extended) neighbourhood in particular in the Sahel region of West Africa. The question is whether the EU's emerging role as a 'global crime fighter' contributes to fostering human security or satisfying the internal security priorities of the member states and whether the two are at all compatible. A closer look at EU policies in the Sahel suggests that solutions based on criminalisation and repression can have harmful unintended consequences which can even destabilise the region. (4 p.)

ASIA-OCEANIA

UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE

[Pakistan's approach to navigating the Saudi-Iranian split](#)

by Ankit Panda [!\[\]\(e474458956c9a37fbf9586ddb60a7fa1_img.jpg\) @nktpnd](#)

For decades, Pakistan has hewed closer to Saudi Arabia than to Iran, but successive Pakistani civilian and military leaders have pursued a more even-keeled foreign policy to avoid being perceived as pro-Saudi and anti-Iranian. In 2015, Pakistan remained neutral as a Saudi-led coalition embarked on a military campaign in Yemen against Iran-aligned Houthis. Subsequent Pakistani moves highlighted its sensitivity to Saudi perceptions of insecurity. (24 p.)

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

[Die Regierung Shinzō Abe](#)

by Elli-Katharina Pohlkamp

Shinzō Abe's government is providing an unknown continuity in the country's politics. Since assuming the post of prime minister in 2012, Abe has focused his agenda on the ambitious economic program "Abenomics", on security policy reforms, and on a more visible, active foreign policy. His goal is to protect Japan from isolation and place it globally as an actor. The US caused uncertainty in trade and security policy, China's quest for supremacy in Asia, and changes in the international system are forcing Abe to reorient in his last term. His foreign policy is now turning increasingly towards Europe and Asia. (8 p. - DE)

EUROPEAN INSTITUTE FOR ASIAN STUDIES

[The EU-Vietnam Free Trade Agreement: reflecting on the issue of child labour](#)

by Ngoc Diep Tran

Child labour is no new phenomenon throughout the developing world, and as globalisation increasingly links together global markets and supply chains, this issue has witnessed sharp changes. This paper takes Vietnam as a typical case where, despite a considerable decline in recent years, child labour constitutes an ordinary reality. It is concluded that child labour is not only a matter of national social affairs, but also a question of human rights, and resultantly should be considered throughout the ratification of the FTA between the EU and Vietnam. (7 p.)

EASTERN EUROPE

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES

[Kremlin-linked forces in Ukraine's 2019 elections: on the brink of revenge?](#)

by Vladislav Inozemtsev

The 2019 presidential and parliamentary elections in Ukraine take place against the backdrop of the continuing “hybrid war” with Russia. For the Kremlin, the stakes are high: for years, the entire Putin policy has been aimed at bringing Ukraine back into Moscow’s “zone of responsibility.” The Kremlin’s primary objective has been to lower President Poroshenko’s ratings and take him out of competition in the first round of the presidential elections. To secure this outcome, Moscow has been building relationships with any opposition forces that fiercely reject the current leaders. (48 p.)

TÜRKIYE EKONOMI POLİTİKALARI ARAŞTIRMA VAKFI (ECONOMIC POLICY RESEARCH FOUNDATION OF TURKEY)

[A peaceful transition of power & public's expectations in Armenia](#)

by Diana Yayloyan [!\[\]\(ec9132f1d27c8919987d92907322654d_img.jpg\) @Diana_Yayloyan](#)

Armenia is passing through a hectic period of domestic reforms, which are penetrating into the economic, social, legal and political layers of the system. The fact that the Velvet revolution was a bottom-up, non-violent civil resistance movement offers cautious optimism for a successful and deeper democratization process, shepherded and supported by Armenian civil society. (12 p.)

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

BROOKINGS INSTITUTION

[Latin America's struggle with democratic backsliding](#)

by Ted Piccone [!\[\]\(fe3aebe81acea8d45108cd2768939da7_img.jpg\) @piccone_ted](#)

Latin America has entered a new stage in its wobbly consolidation of liberal democracy. Presidential elections outcomes in 2018 mainly shifted to the right, especially in Brazil, while Mexico embraced a populist leftist. The real democracy story in the region was of crisis and despair, as Venezuela’s authoritarian leader, Nicolás Maduro, entered uncharted territory of near-collapse, with a repressive Nicaragua following close behind. (12 p.)

KONRAD-ADENAUER-STIFTUNG

[Venezuelas energiepolitisches Erbe](#)

by Christian Hübner

The US sanctions on Venezuelan oil are a stroke of great symbolic power that alone will not bring about a change of power. For this, the military leadership circle should be convinced to look closely at the reaction of China and Russia. For China and Russia, however, their investments and their geopolitical influence are of great importance. The announced acquisition of international debt by Juan Guaidó was therefore an important step. Nevertheless, a new government would take over a heavy energy legacy that could scarcely contribute to the reconstruction of Venezuela in the short term. (6 p. - DE)

MIDDLE EAST/NORTH AFRICA (MENA)

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

Tunesiens Demokratisierung: Erhebliche Gegenbewegungen

by Max Gallien [@MaxGallien](#) and Isabelle Werenfels [@iswerenfelsi](#)

Tunisia is at risk of developing into a hybrid - partly democratic, partly authoritarian - system despite considerable democratic achievements. This is not only due to the difficult economic and regional context. Rather, the political, economic and administrative cliques of the old system, as well as authoritarian practices that still exist and "old" rhetoric in politics and society make it difficult to deepen fragile democracy. A clear goal for Tunisia's international partners should be to weaken these countermovements. (8 p. - DE)

BROOKINGS INSTITUTION

Tunisian democracy at a crossroads

by Sharan Grewal [@sh_grewal](#)

Tunisia has emerged as the one success story of the 2011 Arab Spring uprisings. While Libya, Yemen, and Syria have descended into civil war, and Egypt into military dictatorship, Tunisia has instead transitioned to and thus far maintained its democracy. Yet Tunisia's transition is still fragile. In recent years, the Tunisian public has become disillusioned with democracy for its failure to improve the economy. Meanwhile, governing elites have pursued a series of problematic laws and measures indicative of democratic backsliding. (13 p.)

BROOKINGS INSTITUTION

Youth employment in the Middle East and North Africa : revisiting and reframing the challenge

by Nader Kabbani

Youth unemployment rates in the MENA region have been the highest in the world for over a quarter century, being a source of frustration and social unrest for the region's youth. This policy briefing reviews the MENA youth employment challenge, documenting previous policy and programmatic attempts to address it and analysing why they failed. It contends that program and policy failures have largely been the result of weak implementation and governance structures. Furthermore, it argues that boosting employment should remain a top priority and calls for renewed efforts to do so. (17 p.)

INSTITUTE FOR NATIONAL SECURITY STUDIES

Eight years after the upheaval: alternative approaches to understanding the current Middle East

by Itai Brun, Sarah Feuer [@sjfeuer](#) and Itay Haiminis

This essay examines three approaches to understanding the Middle East today: the Middle East has settled into a "new order" and will remain relatively stable as such, the region remains in a state of upheaval and will be marked by instability and uncertainty in the coming years, the Middle East has largely returned to its pre-2011 order and will likely remain there for the foreseeable future. The essay closes with recommendations on the approach Israel should take regarding strategic regional planning. (5 p.)

EURO-MEDITERRANEAN STUDY COMMISSION

[Challenges faced by Syrian refugees in the higher education systems of host countries and how to overcome them. Lesson learned from Jordan](#)

by Francesca Ruisi [@FrancescaRuisi](#)

The Syrian crisis has had a significant impact on most of the countries hosting Syrian refugees. Due to the political stalemate regarding the Syrian conflict, the common framework in terms of standard laws, regulation and inclusive practices appears to be needed not only in the Hashemite Kingdom but also in the European countries hosting and integrating young Syrian refugees in their respective social and economic contexts. The Jordan model might be considered a key case from which to take lessons and employ them in other countries. (9 p.)

GLOBAL PUBLIC POLICY INSTITUTE

[Nowhere to hide: the logic of chemical weapons use in Syria](#)

by Tobias Schneider [@tobiaschneider](#) and Theresa Lütkefend [@tluetkefend](#)

This study shows that the Assad regime did not merely “get away” with its use of these banned weapons, but succeeded in using them for strategic ends. More than two-thirds of Syria’s population are internally or externally displaced, and opposition-held communities have been buckling and surrendering under the cumulative weight – and eventually the mere threat – of violence, including the use of chemical weapons. (48 p.)

NEDERLANDS INSTITUUT VOOR INTERNATIONALE BETREKKINGEN - CLINGENDAEL (NETHERLANDS INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS)

[Libyan tribes in the shadow of war and peace](#)

by Al-Hamzeh Al-Shadeedi and Nancy Ezzedine

In this policy brief authors provide recommendations on how to realistically and effectively engage with tribal actors and traditional authorities for the benefit of the current central state-building process while avoiding past mistakes. National politicians and international actors cannot ignore the resilience of pre-modern tribalism in Libya. Libyan governance structures have historically relied on the top-down distribution of favours to selected tribal allies, rather than on inclusive and representative governance. (13 p.)

CHINA

EGMONT – ROYAL INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

[Redefining the EU-China economic partnership: beyond reciprocity lies strategy](#)

by Tobias Gehrke [@TGehrke](#)

A new EU strategy on China must start at home. Of course, member states’ political expediency is the Union’s eternal handicap. But this policy brief offers three lines of action in which policy reform can support Europe’s resilience and reinforce the foundation of an EU strategy on China: follow the money; invest in substance; and step up in your neighbourhood. (8 p.)

NOTRE EUROPE - JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE

[Les enjeux du contrôle des investissements chinois en Europe](#)

by Elvire Fabry [@elvirefabry](#) and Jacopo Maria D'Andria

While all major economic powers (US, China, Japan, Canada, Australia) already have some means to control foreign direct investment (FDI), Europeans have begun to coordinate to better assess the risks associated with certain FDI in the single market. The creation of a European mechanism is to be voted by the EP and the Council in the spring 2019. This contribution explains that, in order to better react, Europeans must anticipate more effectively the risks posed by these FDI with a common strategic thinking that must be put on the agenda of the next Commission. (6 p. - FR)

MERCATOR INSTITUTE FOR CHINA STUDIES / RHODIUM GROUP

[Chinese FDI in Europe: 2018 trends and impact of new screening policies](#)

by Thilo Hanemann [@ThiloHanemann](#), Mikko Huotari [@m_huotari](#) and Agatha Kratz [@AgathaKratz](#)

Chinese foreign direct investment (FDI) in the EU continued to decline in 2018. Chinese firms completed FDI transactions worth EUR 17.3 billion, which represents a decline of 40 percent from 2017 levels and over 50 percent from the 2016 peak of EUR 37 billion. This decline is very much in line with a further drop in China's global outbound FDI, a trend that can be attributed to continued capital controls and tightening of liquidity in China as well as growing regulatory scrutiny in host economies. (26 p.)

EUROPEAN INSTITUTE FOR ASIAN STUDIES

[Moving towards a bright future: Chinese students in the EU](#)

by Jia Fu

This paper provides an analytic description of mobility trends of Chinese students pursuing overseas education in the EU, and discusses major characteristics of Chinese students' mobility. It focuses on potential economic and social benefits brought in by Chinese students. It addresses existing challenges and prospects in promoting educational mobility between China and the EU, as well as retention of Chinese talent in the EU, and a discussion of its implications and a list of policy recommendations. (10 p.)

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

[5G, Huawei und die Sicherheit unserer Kommunikationsnetze](#)

by Daniel Voelsen [@d_voelsen](#)

The planned launch of the new 5G mobile communications standard triggered a debate over the security of digital communication networks. The question is whether Western states should use the network technology of the Chinese company Huawei. The US and its closest allies from Five Eyes see it as a security risk and Beijing's attempt to influence the digital infrastructure of the West, and they are pushing for Huawei to be excluded from setting up 5G mobile networks. The controversy on Huawei has a technical but also economic and geopolitical dimension. (8 p. - DE)

BROOKINGS INSTITUTION

[The China challenge, democracy, and US grand strategy](#)

by Tarun Chhabra [@ChhabraT](#)

The rise of China and the persistence of deep, internal challenges across open societies have created tremendous headwinds for democracy and liberal values globally, threatening US alliances, liberal economic order, and even the political identity of the US and its democratic partners and allies. Beijing's "flexible" authoritarianism abroad, digital tools of surveillance and control, unique brand of authoritarian capitalism, and "weaponization" of interdependence may in fact render China a more formidable threat to democracy and liberal values than the Soviet Union was during the Cold War. (20 p.)

BROOKINGS INSTITUTION/ AMERICAN ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE

[The US-China economic relationship : a comprehensive approach](#)

by Joshua P. Meltzer [@JoshuaPMeltzer](#) and Neena Shenai

The US-China economic relationship has reached a critical juncture. Over the past year, the US has imposed tariffs on \$250 billion worth of Chinese imports and China has retaliated, raising tariffs on US exports. At the G-20 leaders' summit in November 2018, Presidents Trump and Xi agreed to resolve the trade dispute within 90 days—by March 1, 2019, though this deadline has been recently extended. (25 p.)

CARNEGIE ENDOWMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE/ NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE/MIDDLE EAST INSTITUTE

[Kazakhs wary of Chinese embrace as BRI gathers steam](#)

by Philippe Le Corre [@PhLeCorre](#)

Kazakhstan is one of China's direct neighbours, and a prominent one by size and border. As the Chinese proverb states, "a close neighbour is more valuable than a distant relative", hence the importance of Sino-Kazakh ties, especially at a time when Beijing tries to promote its "Belt and Road initiative" across Eurasia. It is known that many Uyghurs –the main tribe of Xinjiang, China's troubled autonomous region – live in Kazakhstan. There are also ethnic Kazakhs living on the Chinese side, in Xinjiang (many of them facing great political difficulties, if not persecutions). (6 p.)

CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL GOVERNANCE INNOVATION

[Chinese industrial actors in global rule marking - a preliminary exploration](#)

by Hanzhi Yu [@Hanzhi_YU](#) and Hongying Wang

In contrast to the growing profile of the Chinese government in global governance, the engagement of Chinese industrial actors in global rule making is quite limited and uneven. This policy brief offers suggestions to Chinese industrial actors and to those concerned about China's role in global governance, with the purpose of reducing misunderstanding and building trust between Chinese industrial actors and businesses, regulators, non-governmental organizations, and stakeholders from other parts of the world in developing global standards for good governance. (12 p.)

S. RAJARATNAM SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

[Introduction to China's military operations other than war](#)

by Fan Gaoyue and James Char

With its increasing capability witnessed in recent decades, the People's Liberation Army's (PLA) conduct of military operations other than war (MOOTW) remains woefully understudied. This report provides a retrospective account of how the PLA has overseen previous MOOTW activities and identifies those areas of PLA MOOTW expected to undergo further refinement. A better appreciation of non-traditional security and China's MOOTW will provide a positive platform for facilitating cooperation between Beijing and other countries in the region. (17 p.)

CENTER FOR NEW AMERICAN SECURITY

[Understanding China's AI strategy - clues to Chinese strategic thinking on artificial intelligence and national security](#)

by Gregory C. Allen [@Gregory_C_Allen](#)

This paper summarizes the authors key judgements on China's leadership's views, strategies, and prospects for artificial intelligence and how those apply to China's economy and national security. (32 p.)

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES

[Going green: are chinese cities planting the seeds for sustainable energy systems?](#)

by Thibaud Voïta

Aimed at using artificial intelligence to develop smart energy systems, the Chinese central government is creating the "city of the future" in the Xiongan zone 100 km southwest of Beijing. It is currently the most promising city-level experiment, as the project covers a zone three-time the size of New York. While digital innovations in Chinese smart cities do not only aim at greening these cities, but also at strengthening social control over inhabitants, this may ultimately limit the exportability of the Chinese concept. (44 p.)

MERCATOR INSTITUTE FOR CHINA STUDIES

[Manufacturing creativity and maintaining control: China's school struggle to balance innovation and safeguard conformity](#)

by Didi Kirsten Tatlow [@dktatlow](#)

China entered the top 20 most innovative world economies for the first time in 2018, according to the UN global innovation index. With a state policy in China that is utilitarian and focused on innovation, not creativity, the push for citizens to be more creative in order to establish world class tech companies appears to be working. The survey shows that teachers in China must straddle a fine line between the needs of the children and the needs of the system. (11 p.)

INDIA

OBSERVER RESEARCH FOUNDATION

[India-EU cooperation in the sustainable development goals era: unlocking the potential of a development partnership in transition](#)

by Sebastian Paulo [Twitter](#) [@paulo_globaldev](#)

This study assesses the India-EU development partnership and makes recommendations for the next steps to move it forward during 2020–30. Based on a detailed analysis of the “what” (areas of cooperation), “where” (geographic scope) and “how” (forms of engagement) of cooperation, the study aims to inform strategic choices on the future direction of the partnership. It concludes by highlighting 10 recommendations as a possible way forward for the India–EU development partnership. (112 p.)

INSTITUTE FOR DEFENSE STUDIES AND ANALYSES

[Pulwama attack: time to get the messaging right](#)

by Vivek Chadha

It needs little emphasis that battles are fought not merely in the operational domain, but in the psychological domain as well. This is where strategic communications play an important role. India does not have a ministry for focussing on this critical element of countering hybrid wars. Unlike a number of areas which need specialisation, political leaders, by virtue of their experience, are best suited to undertake this endeavour. It is time that this facet receives their direct and immediate attention. (8 p.)

RUSSIA

ULKOPOLIITTINEN INSTITUUTTI (FINNISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

[What has remained of the USSR: exploring the erosion of the post-Soviet space](#)

by Arkady Moshes, András Rácz

The aim of this report is to take stock of the process of erosion in the post-Soviet space that has been going on since the break-up of the Soviet Union in 1991. The authors analyse the remaining material and other structural legacies of the USSR to find out, among other things, whether re-integration of the post-Soviet space, or a part thereof, around Russia is still possible and what kind of centrifugal and centripetal forces are still at play. (270 p.)

BARCELONA CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

[Will Russia return to Europe?](#)

By Andrey Kortunov

Could Russia return to Europe in the foreseeable future? Not in the geographical sense, for geographically, of course, Russia has always been, is and apparently will always be a European country. In the sense of Russia being included in the institutions and values of the EU, of returning to the path of integration with the European West, the path that Moscow left with a bang a few years ago when it slammed the door in Crimea and Donbass. (7 p.)

ATLANTIC COUNCIL

[The Putin exodus: the new Russian brain drain](#)

by John Herbst [@JohnEdHerbs](#) and Sergei Erofeev

Human capital is fleeing Russia. Since President Vladimir Putin's ascent to the presidency, between 1.6 and 2 million Russians – out of a total population of 145 million – have left for Western democracies. This emigration sped up with Putin's return as president in 2012, followed by a weakening economy and growing repressions. It soon began to look like a politically driven brain drain, causing increasing concern among Russian and international observers. (60 p.)

EVROPSKÉ HODNOTY (EUROPEAN VALUES)

[Influence of Russian disinformation operations – specific examples in data and numbers](#) [Einfluss russischer Desinformationsoperationen: konkrete Beispiele und Zahlen](#)

by Veronika Špalková

This research describes examples of research on the impact of Kremlin influence and disinformation operations on particular political events or public opinion in general, such as the operations related to Brexit, the Catalan referendum, the US presidential election, the 2018 Italian elections, or the efforts to shape public opinion regarding NATO. Although spreading disinformation and the manipulation of public opinion has never been easier, the ways in which we can defend ourselves against these operations continue to improve. (17 p. - EN) (17 p. - DE)

РОССИЙСКИЙ СОВЕТ ПО МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫМ ДЕЛАМ (RUSSIAN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL) / EUROPEAN LEADERSHIP NETWORK

[На пути к стабильным отношениям Россия — НАТО](#) [Towards a more stable NATO-Russia relationship](#)

by Katarzyna Kubiak (ed.)

The NATO-Russia confrontation is likely to last for years. It is therefore in the interests of both parties to make relations more stable and less costly. Dialogue about risk reduction does not mean the acceptance of arguments of the other side. This report offers practical, realistic, and politically viable recommendations distilled from discussions held in Moscow, NATO Headquarters and several NATO capitals on the art of the possible. There are two sets of recommendations, one for immediate implementation and the other for future stabilised relations. (42 p. - RUS) (28 p. - EN)

OBSERVER RESEARCH FOUNDATION

[Russian Far East and Central Asia: impediments to Sino-Russian partnership](#)

by Dhananjay Sahai

This brief analyses the politico-economic relations between Russia and China and the recent changes in their power equation owing to Russia's fall in economic and demographic strength and, for its part, China's economic and military growth. Russia's unfavourable position has been identified as a possible reason for the rise in Chinese influence in Central Asia and the Russian Far East. The brief closes with recommendations for India to position itself as a strategic partner for Russia while subverting Chinese influence. (20 p.)

TURKEY

BROOKINGS INSTITUTION

[The rise and fall of liberal democracy in Turkey : implications for the West](#)

by Kemal Kirişçi [@kemalkirisci](#) and Amanda Sloat [@A_Sloat](#)

After nearly two decades of rule in Turkey by the Justice and Development Party (AKP) and its leader Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, the initial promise of reform has given way to authoritarian and dysfunctional politics. The democratic and economic achievements of the AKP's early years helped launch membership negotiations with the EU and made Turkey a model for neighbouring states undergoing reforms. However, this positive picture did not last long: democratic gains eroded, economic growth stalled, EU accession ground to a halt, and relations with most neighbours grew acrimonious. (19 p.)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

EGMONT – ROYAL INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

[American leadership and Grand Strategy in an age of complexity](#)

by Tanguy Struye de Swielande

As it possesses the most material and immaterial capabilities (“power to”), the US remains the great power with the most means to dominate coercively (“power over”). According to the author, this approach is too limited to guarantee the US primacy in world affairs. When “power distance” diminishes, resorting only to “power over” is very short-sighted. The more Washington sticks to a position of going it alone, the more the resistance from allies and foes will increase, and create a spill-over effect of allies and partners abandoning the US. (7 p.)

KONRAD-ADENAUER-STIFTUNG

[ASEAN und die USA. Perspektiven Südostasiens auf die Beziehungen zu den USA seit Donald Trump](#)

by Frederick Kliem, Norbert Eschborn [@NEschborn](#), Peter Girke (et al.)

How have US relations with ASEAN developed since Trump, and how are US priorities shaping up in times of weakened multilateralism, impending armaments race and escalating tensions in ASEAN and individual member states? This report highlights the US ambivalent role in the region since the inauguration of Donald Trump. (8 p. - DE)

NEW AMERICA FOUNDATION

[Twenty-first century proxy warfare: confronting strategic innovation in a multipolar world](#)

by Candace Rondeaux [@CandaceRondeaux](#) and David Sterman [@Dsterms](#)

Proxy warfare will shape twenty-first century conflicts for the foreseeable future. Cold war norms, however, no longer apply in a highly networked, multipolar world. The erosion of state power, rise of transnational social movements, and proliferation of advanced military and communications technology are shifting the horizons of strategic surprise. The enhanced military capacity of former Cold war client states to engage either covertly or overtly in conflicts is erasing front lines, transforming alliances, and reshaping battlefield dynamics. (73 p.)

SECTION 4 - EU MEMBER STATES

GERMANY

STIFTUNG GENSHAGEN (GENSHAGEN FOUNDATION)

[Deutschland, Polen und Europa. Eine Erfolgsgeschichte in der Bewährungsprobe](#)

by Ireneusz Karolewski

The German-Polish relations are currently in a cooling phase. The author concludes that it is too early to speak of a prolonged crisis in bilateral relations. It is rather a serious test, which should even be treated as an opportunity. Accordingly, specific recommendations for action will be presented on how the currently strained relations can be shaped under the changing internal and external framework conditions in favour of a revival of the German-Polish partnership for Europe in the future. (20 p. - DE)

MAX PLANCK INSTITUT FÜR GESELLSCHAFTSFORSCHUNG

[The German undervaluation regime under Bretton Woods: how Germany became the nightmare of the world economy](#)

by Martin Höpner [@HopnerMartin](#)

Germany is an undervaluation regime, a regime that steers economic behaviour towards deterioration of the real exchange rate and thereby towards export surpluses. This regime has brought the Eurozone to the brink of collapse. But it is much older than the euro. It was established during the Bretton Woods years and has survived all subsequent European currency orders. The regime operates in two steps: competitive disinflation against trading partners; and resistance against correcting revaluations. (42 p.)

ECOLOGIC INSTITUTE / DEUTSCHES INSTITUT FÜR WIRTSCHAFTSFORSCHUNG (GERMAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH) / WUPPERTAL INSTITUT

[Phasing out coal in the German energy sector interdependencies, challenges and potential solutions](#)

by Andreas Prah, Katharina Umpfenbach [@UmpfenbachK](#) and Pao-Yu Oei [@PaoYuOei](#)

In January 2019, Germany made a big step towards phasing out coal-firing by agreeing on a schedule for plant retirement and on measures to support coal regions. The publication explains why the phase-out is needed and how it can become a success. It also provides facts and figures on the German coal industry, including a list of all large coal plants and their technical characteristics. (127 p.)

BERTELSMANN STIFTUNG

[Zuwanderung und Digitalisierung. Wie viel Migration aus Drittstaaten benötigt der deutsche Arbeitsmarkt künftig?](#)

by Johann Fuchs, Alexander Kubis und Lutz Schneider

There are scenarios regarding immigration needs by 2060 - taking into account the development of domestic labor force participation, migration from EU countries and the impact of digitization on the labor market - in order to answer following question: how many immigrants does Germany need each year to reduce the labor force potential to manageable levels? (116 p. - DE)

HANNS-SEIDEL-STIFTUNG (HANNS SEIDEL FOUNDATION)

Fakten zur europäischen Strategie gegen Plastikmüll

by Silke Franke

Plastic waste is increasingly becoming a problem for the environment, but also for health and a resource-efficient economy. The EU wants to step up efforts against this with the "Strategy for plastics in the circular economy". This paper summarizes key facts and objectives of the strategy, supplemented by information on the situation in Germany. (6 p. - DE)

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

What are the perspectives for improving current German–Turkish relations?

by Yaşar Aydın, Enes Bayraklı [@EnesBayrakli](#), Lorenz Fischer (et al.)

In this work, four researchers share their views for instance that both countries have entered an era of conciliation in their bilateral relations. After at least three years of tense bilateral relations, from early 2018 on, German and Turkish leaders started avoiding accusations against each other. After the Turkish currency decline in August 2018, German decision-makers even stressed the importance of a stable Turkey in economic, political, and geostrategic terms. (12 p.)

IRELAND

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE / EUROPEAN MIGRATION NETWORK

Beneficiaries of international protection travelling to their country of origin: challenges, policies and practices in Ireland

by Samantha Arnold

This report collates information on policies and procedures in Ireland that govern cessation and revocation of refugee and subsidiary protection, in instances where beneficiaries travel to the country of origin or contact national authorities of the country of origin. Irish law mirrors international and EU law and provides for cessation consistent with the 1951 Convention relating to the status of refugees, under the international protection act 2015. Nevertheless, while cessation is permitted under Irish law, it is not often applied in practice. (30 p.)

SPAIN

KONRAD-ADENAUER-STIFTUNG

Spanien wählt erneut ... doch eine Überwindung der politischen Spaltung und Instabilität ist ungewiss

by Wilhelm Hofmeister

For the third time in just over four years, national elections will be held in Spain on 28 April. After the Catalan nationalists and the opposition parties rejected the state budget of the minority government of Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez in February, the latter had to call new elections. However, it is completely uncertain whether the elections will solve the political problems of the country or whether the political division and instability will deepen. (6 p. - DE)

FRANCE

FORUM OBYWATELSKIEGO ROZWOJU

[Masowe demonstracje we Francji to reakcja na skutki interwencjonizmu, nie liberalizmu](#) [The mass demonstrations in France is a reaction to the effects of interventionism, not liberalism](#)

by Rafał Trzeciakowski [@ratrzeci](#) and Marcin Zieliński

Mass protests of the “yellow vests” have been taking place in France since 17 November 2018. The catalyst of the demonstration was a fuel tax increase, supposed to place a disproportionate burden on the middle class from the province. However, the list of demands quickly grew to include various social and protectionist slogans. The protestors are demanding a simultaneous growth of the state and a reduction of taxes. (17 p. - PL) (18 p. - EN)

BERTELSMANN STIFTUNG

[Citizens' consultations on Europe: French citizens' panel](#)

by Céline Diebold and Dominik Hierlemann

In the framework of the citizens' consultations, 52 citizens from across France meet from October 25 to 27, 2018 in Paris to talk about the future of Europe. The format was a premiere in France. This publication analyses and evaluates the French citizens' panel. (24 p.)

ITALY

FONDATION POUR L'INNOVATION POLITIQUE

[Un an de populisme italien](#)

by Alberto Toscano [@toscano_alberto](#)

The beginning of 2019 was marked by tensions in Franco-Italian relations. These events put once again in the spotlight the duo formed by Matteo Salvini and Luigi Di Maio, leaders of the populist parties of the League and the Five Star Movement respectively. Both parties were the big winners of the Italian general elections of March 4, 2018. This paper takes stock of the first year of the ruling coalition and evaluates its deeds. (56 p. - FR)

LUISS SCHOOL OF EUROPEAN POLITICAL ECONOMY

[Testing the EU framework for the recovery and resolution of banks: the Italian experience](#)

by Stefano Micossi

The paper surveys five Italian cases of recovery or resolution of distressed banks during the last five years to test the flexibility and effectiveness of the EU rules. In Italy, the application of the bail-in was avoided while the application of burden sharing raised specific challenges because of the large amount of subordinated debt held by households. This challenge has been addressed by means of compensation tools aiming at remedying specific cases of mis-selling to retail investors. However, the broader provisions in the budget law for 2019, if resulting in blanket compensation for losses to bondholders (95%) and even to shareholders (30%), would be in clear violation of EU rules. (13 p.)

NETHERLANDS

THE HAGUE CENTRE FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES

[Groningen gas: the loss of a social license to operate](#)

by Lucia van Geuns and Jilles van den Beukel [@JillesAppelscha](#)

In March 2018, the Dutch government decided to stop natural gas production from the Groningen field as soon as the demand for Groningen gas allows. This implies that gas production will stop in 2030 at the latest and that about 500 BcM of gas will be left in the ground. In this paper the authors give an overview of the developments leading to this decision; from a geological, financial, political and societal point of view. (21 p.)

POLAND

FORUM OBYWATELSKIEGO ROZWOJU

[System dyscyplinarny sędziów pod kontrolą ministra sprawiedliwości](#)

by Karolina Wąsowska

By the act of December 2017 on the Supreme Court, the Law and Justice party made radical changes in the system of the disciplinary liability of judges. As a result of this change, important powers have been transferred to the Minister of Justice and the Prosecutor General, who may influence the conduct of disciplinary proceedings against judges, both directly and through the disciplinary ombudsmen whom he chooses. Such a system creates the danger that it will be used to intimidate judges. (19 p. - PL)

FINLAND

ELINKEINOELÄMÄN TUTKIMUSLAITOS (RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF THE FINNISH ECONOMY)

[2013 – the Finnish divergence](#)

by Jetro Anttonen, Tero Kuusi [@TeroKuusi](#), Markku Lehmus [@MarkkuLehmus](#) and Seppo Orjasniemi [@OrjasniemiSeppo](#)

In this paper, the authors use the synthetic control method to analyze the Finnish economic performance after the onset of the great recession. Their main interest is to study the slow recovery from the global downturn that began in 2008. (14 p.)

ELINKEINOELÄMÄN TUTKIMUSLAITOS (RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF THE FINNISH ECONOMY)

[Tutkimus- ja kehitystoiminnan kansainvälistyminen](#)

by Jyrki Ali-Yrkkö and Mika Pajarinen [@MikaPajarinen](#)

The aim of this paper is to broaden the knowledge concerning the development of Finnish firms' innovation activities. The results show that during 2008–2017 the share of overseas R&D has risen. Currently, 14–25% of Finnish firms' total R&D are conducted overseas. (16 p. - FI)

UNITED KINGDOM

ROYAL UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE

[The scale of money laundering in the UK : too big to measure?](#)

by Anton Moiseienko [@a_moiseienko](#) and Tom Keatinge [@keatingetom](#)

Money laundering in the UK is often acknowledged as a serious threat to the country's reputation, the integrity of its financial sector and, ultimately, its security. Despite the near-universal recognition that concerted action is necessary to tackle money laundering in the UK, the basic question of how much money is laundered in the UK remains unanswered. (11 p.)

ROYAL UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE

[China–UK relations: where to draw the border between influence and interference?](#)

by Charles Parton

The boundary between influence (legitimate) and interference (unacceptable) in another country's affairs is hard to define. This paper seeks to outline the likely extent of the Chinese Communist Party's interference activities in the UK and to make some recommendations on what needs to be done to counter them. (46 p.)

THE HENRY JACKSON SOCIETY

[Global Britain: a twenty-first century vision](#)

by Bob Seely [@loWBobSeely](#) and James Rogers [@james_rogers](#)

This report answers the question "What is Global Britain?" by setting out strategy, structure, spending and policy ideas. The authors argue that British global policy should be structured around the promotion of freedom for trade, freedom from oppression, and freedom of thought. The report concludes by offering suggestions on how the UK might strengthen its global role and position in the twenty-first century, from promoting greater cooperation the so-called "CANZUK" group, to refocusing Britain's strategic posture on the European continent. (48 p.)

THE HENRY JACKSON SOCIETY

[Radicalising our children: an analysis of family court cases of British children at risk of radicalisation, 2013-2018](#)

by Nikita Malik [@nixmalik](#)

From 2013, judges in the family division of the High Court have presided over a number of cases involving children at risk of radicalisation. These cases have concerned at least 156 children. In 2015, the president of the family division of the High Court saw fit to issue specific guidance on radicalisation and attempts by families to travel to join the Islamic state. This indicates the family courts system was previously unequipped to respond to crises such as the emergence of the Islamic state. (72 p.)

BREXIT

ROYAL UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE

[No deal, no data? The future of UK–EU law enforcement information sharing](#)

by Alexander Babuta

The UK has been instrumental in developing many of the systems relied upon by EU law enforcement agencies, but the advent of Brexit means that the UK may lose access to these important tools. This briefing paper examines three options for UK–EU law enforcement information sharing post-Brexit. (10 p.)

INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH

[Regional funding after Brexit: opportunities for the UK's shared prosperity fund](#)

by Kate Henry and Marley Morris

This briefing aims to outline three challenges facing the UK: regional inequality; centralisation of power; and a lack of community voice. It then provides recommendations for how the shared prosperity fund could be designed effectively to tackle these problems. (32 p.)

EUROPEAN POLICY CENTRE

[Brexit: the compromise](#)

by Andrew Duff [@AndrewDuffEU](#)

The author argues that the only route to British acceptance of the withdrawal package deal is to make substantial improvements to the Declaration that has been provisionally endorsed by the UK and the EU 27. He also argues that a reliable Commons majority for the deal can only be found if the outline of the future association agreement is made clearer and future relations with the EU are shaped closer than originally intended by the prime minister. Lastly, he warns against an extension of Article 50 beyond 30 June. (9 p.)

UK IN A CHANGING EUROPE

[The repatriation of competences in agriculture after Brexit](#)

by Michael Keating [@EIPKeating](#)

This paper reviews the current scope and practice of policy divergence and convergence under the CAP. It examines the issues over which common policies and harmonization might be needed. These depend to a great extent on future trade agreements with the EU and other states and on decisions on English policy. It considers the future of agricultural funding and the possible ways in which it might be distributed after Brexit. (22 p.)

REAL ISTITUTO ELCANO (ELCANO ROYAL INSTITUTE)

[The economic effects of Brexit in the “Campo de Gibraltar”: an econometric approach](#)

by Luis Galiano Bastarrica

Geographical proximity generates positive economic effects to the inhabitants of the Campo de Gibraltar, the area adjoining Gibraltar, due to cross-border employment (workers with a job in Gibraltar who live in the Campo) and the exchange of goods. This economic impulse is clearly necessary in a region with high levels of unemployment. However, the increasingly likely absence of an agreement is jeopardising these effects: both parties (Gibraltar and the Campo), considering the institutional instability in the UK, are readying themselves for the worst-case scenario. (6 p.)

EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY

[Sweden, UK and the EU: managing post-Brexit relations and defining a new agenda for European competitiveness](#)

By David Henig [@DavidHenigUK](#)

There is an urgent need to move on from the shock of the UK's vote to leave the EU, and all the melodrama in the past two years over what form Brexit should take, and focus on building a new relationship between the UK and EU including member states such as Sweden. Trade and political relationships face change, but there is much that can be done to make sure that negative effects are temporary and a stable future path is found. Both the EU and the UK wish to pursue a deep economic relationship, maintaining trade links insofar as possible in line with the stated red lines of both. (35 p.)

SCOTTISH CENTRE ON EUROPEAN RELATIONS

[Brexit, Scottish independence and leaving a Union](#)

by Kirsty Hughes [@KirstyS_Hughes](#)

The tangled, chaotic and damaging process of Brexit will drag on for many years to come, unless the UK changes its mind and stays in the EU. This policy paper examines whether and to what extent there are similarities and differences between the Brexit process and Scottish independence. It finds, unsurprisingly, both points of comparison and points of difference. It also suggests areas where more research and analysis are still needed. (18 p.)

UK IN A CHANGING EUROPE

[Resolving the Brexit impasse](#)

by Jack Simson Caird [@jasimsoncaird](#), Alan Wager [@DrAlanWager](#) and Matthew Bevington

The article lists and explains the possible ways to break the Brexit deadlock as of February 2019. The authors suggest that indicative votes by the Commons should focus solely on what is contained in the political Declaration. In case of a request for an extension to the Article 50, there are two main factors that shape the EU's response: how an extension is requested and for what purpose, and time. Any extension ought to achieve a clear purpose and must be for a strictly limited period of time to achieve that purpose. (16 p.)

UK IN A CHANGING EUROPE

[The future of our shared island: a paper on the logistical and legal questions surrounding referendums on Irish unity](#)

by Mark Bassett and Colin Harvey

The debate on Irish unity has intensified. Brexit is only one part of this, as more people question the merits of the existing constitutional arrangements. The focus is now shifting to constitutional conversations about how the island is shared in the future, and the timeframe for what is often referred to as a "border poll". (19 p.)

UK IN A CHANGING EUROPE

[Voting with their money: Brexit and outward investment by UK firms](#)

by Holger Breinlich, Elsa Leromain, Dennis Novy [@DennisNovy](#) and Thomas Sampson

Media reports suggest that some UK firms have started to move production abroad in anticipation of Brexit. This has generated fears that the UK is missing out on new investment and jobs. In this report, the authors provide a first systematic analysis of how the Brexit vote has affected outward investment by UK firms. (13 p.)

INSTITUTE FOR GOVERNMENT

[Managing migration after Brexit](#)

by Joe Owen [@j_owen](#), Maddy Thimont Jack [@ThimontJack](#), Adela Iacobov [@AAIacobov](#) (et al.)

Leaving the EU will allow the UK to 'take back control' of aspects of migration policy previously determined by EU law. The Government will be able to restrict EU immigration in a way that has not been possible for decades. 'Taking back control' of immigration is about much more than just designing and implementing a new immigration system. Over the past 15 years, the UK has come to depend on the free movement of workers from the EU to meet skills gaps and labour shortages; large numbers have moved to the UK from the EU without coming into contact with the UK immigration system. (70 p.)

DEUTSCHES INSTITUT FÜR ENTWICKLUNGSPOLITIK (GERMAN DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE)

[How Brexit affects least developed countries](#)

by Zoryan Olekseyuk

Regardless of the final outcome of the negotiations, Brexit implies fundamental changes in the British trade regime concerning third countries. This starts with a negotiation of national terms of access for WTO membership and extends to renegotiation of the numerous EU free trade agreements. Developing countries with close ties to the UK will suffer from Brexit as import duties are once again imposed. (4 p.)

OPEN EUROPE

[Legal changes to the Brexit deal? Four examples when the EU revised deals they had already signed off](#)

by Dominic Walsh

This paper outlines four historical precedents when the EU agreed additional legally-binding protocols or instruments, in order to help secure ratification of treaties or agreements which had already been signed off by its leaders. None offer an exact parallel for the UK's current situation, but they show how the EU has been able to act flexibly in the past. (15 p.)

OPEN EUROPE

[Options for renegotiating the backstop](#)

by Stephen Booth, David C. Shiels, Dominic Walsh (et al.)

Prime Minister Theresa May has set out her intention to renegotiate the Protocol on Ireland/Northern Ireland in the UK-EU Withdrawal agreement – more commonly known as the Irish backstop. This comes after MPs voted in favour of an amendment by Conservative MP Sir Graham Brady, which instructed her to return to the EU to seek “alternative arrangements” to the existing backstop. However, she has stated that she is not looking to remove the backstop entirely (19 p.)

INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

[Environmental policy risks and opportunities of different outcomes from the Brexit negotiations](#)

by Martin Nesbit [@arrhenius](#) and David Baldock

This paper looks at the risks and opportunities for environmental policy of possible Brexit outcomes. Crashing out without a deal would pose significant risks, while the Withdrawal agreement has valuable elements which mitigate some environmental downsides of Brexit. (26 p.)

MISCELLANEOUS

FONDATION POUR L'INNOVATION POLITIQUE

[Vers une société post-carbone](#)

by Patrice Geoffron

Limiting global warming below +2° C requires a three-fold split of CO₂ emissions by 2050 (i.e. 1950 level), with a tenfold increase of the GDP. Some countries, such as the US, are divided, with a climate alliance bringing together 17 states versus mining states hoping for a return of coal. Such crises have struck France as well and are at the origin of the "yellow vests" phenomenon. This reflects the longevity of the fossil fuels era and the emergence of a post-carbon society, though against a background of constant uncertainty. (60 p. - FR)

INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH

[This is a crisis: facing up to the age of environmental breakdown](#)

by Laurie Laybourn -Langton, Lesley Rankin [@lesleyfrankin](#) and Darren Baxter [@DarrenBaxter](#)

Mainstream political and policy debates have failed to recognise that human impacts on the environment have reached a critical stage, potentially eroding the conditions upon which socioeconomic stability is possible. This paper argues that three shifts in understanding across political and policy communities are required: of the scale and pace of environmental breakdown, the implications for societies, and the subsequent need for transformative change. (44 p.)

**NEDERLANDS INSTITUUT VOOR INTERNATIONALE BETREKKINGEN - CLINGENDAEL
(NETHERLANDS INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS)**

[Climate security: making it #doable](#)

by Dan Smith, Malin Mobjörk [@MalinMobjork](#), Florian Krampe [@FlorianKrampe](#) (et al.)

The authors review the progress made in global and regional organisations on addressing and mitigating climate-related security risks despite the turmoil in global politics at large. The report focuses on progress in the UN and in regional intergovernmental organisations, both showcasing achievements and highlighting new challenges. (30 p.)

**NEDERLANDS INSTITUUT VOOR INTERNATIONALE BETREKKINGEN - CLINGENDAEL
(NETHERLANDS INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS)**

[Implementing the Hague declaration on climate and security](#)

by Susanne Wolfmaier and Janani Vivekananda [@JanVivekananda](#)

The Hague declaration is a six-point plan covering a call for an institutional mechanism on climate and security within the UN system, for a process to develop a climate security risk assessment in Lake Chad, and for concrete action in two of the most vulnerable post-conflict countries: Mali and Iraq. This note presents the outcome of a survey by the planetary security initiative on the objectives with the Hague declaration, its achievements so far, and the gaps in and challenges to progress that still need to be overcome. (7 p.)

OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

[Blockchain and distributed ledger technologies in the humanitarian sector](#)

by Giulio Coppi [@GiulioWolfe](#) and Larissa Fast [@AidinDanger](#)

Blockchain and the wider category of distributed ledger technologies (DLTs) promise a more transparent, accountable, efficient and secure way of exchanging decentralised stores of information. The key components of DLTs include shared recordkeeping, multi-party consensus, independent validation, tamper evidence and tamper resistance. Building on these claims, proponents suggest DLTs can address common problems of non-profit organisations and non-governmental organisations (NGOs), such as transparency, efficiency, scale and sustainability. (46 p.)

CARNEGIE ENDOWMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE

[Upholding democracy in a post-Western order](#)

by Richard Youngs [@YoungsRichard](#)

Many Western analysts and policymakers increasingly see the world in terms of a geopolitical struggle between the West and a loosely affiliated set of autocratic, non-Western powers, especially China and Russia. Many of these thinkers tend to assume that the liberal parts of the global order derive almost exclusively from Western international influences. This mentality sometimes breeds the view that the struggle between democracy and autocracy—or liberalism and illiberalism—inherently pits Westerners against non-Westerners. (25 p.)

[When the lenders leave town: partisanship, electoral calculations and vested interests as determinants of policy reversals in Spain and Portugal](#)

by Catherine Moury [@mourycatherine](#), Daniel Cardoso and Angie Gago [@angiegagoflores](#)

To what extent are reforms made under external constraint maintained in the medium term? Under which conditions do decisions-makers reverse those, or alternatively keep them? This articles addresses these questions in Spain and Portugal. It shows that since 2014, 44% of the most important measures adopted under conditionality in both countries have been reverted. Nevertheless, the bulk (90%) of structural reforms enacted during the crisis remained. (16 p.)
