



Council of the European Union
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THINK TANK REVIEW

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This Think Tank Review* covers articles and reports published in April relating to different political and policy topics.

Papers set out some of the key lessons of the current response to **Covid-19**, along with policy recommendations to help prepare for the real possibility of a pandemic age.

The recovery and resilience facility is an important test for the EU, and its successful implementation could lead to significant and necessary transformations in the EU in terms of structural reforms, climate and the digital transition.

For instance, reports:

- look at how the Commission intends to steer and monitor member states' public investment and structural reforms through the national recovery and resilience plans;
- ask if European social dialogue has played a useful part in this exceptional economic and social situation, analyse recent trends in teleworking and its impacts on workers and employers, and note that the gap in labour force participation between men and women in some economies has widened;
- discuss the travel measures and border closures implemented by governments worldwide in 2020; and
- examine the trade dimension of medical goods supplies in the context of the pandemic, reviewing how governments have sought to minimise risks of shortages of medical goods.

EU POLICY AREAS

Articles comment on the **primacy of EU law** and the related legal consequences following the May ruling of the German Constitutional Court, as the primacy doctrine is one of the cornerstones of the EU legal order. Publications track developments in **European civil society** over the period from 2018 to 2020, pointing out that the **Conference on the Future of Europe** offers an opportunity to bring the EU closer to the visions of civil society.

Papers review the **digital services act**, focusing on the crucial balance between a 'culture of openness' and content-moderation demands. They also look at Europe's capacity to act in the global tech race as **technological leadership** has become a central dimension of geopolitical power.

Papers explore the **distribution of household wealth** in the EU member states, and the view of **European trade unions** that the transition to a climate-neutral economy should not result in unemployment, precarious working conditions or loss of purchasing power for employees. They argue that now is **Europe's green moment** in terms of meeting the climate challenge and that the EU needs a strong foreign policy strategy to manage the geopolitical dimension of the deal. Reports look at the **future role of hydrogen** in decarbonising the iron and steel industries and

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note that the **emissions trading system** can be reformed to act as a powerful catalyst that will accelerate clean energy innovations and help the EU reach climate neutrality by 2050.

Publications examine how central bank autonomy is impacted by the creation of a **Central Bank digital currency**, discuss evidence that **interest rate swaps** can be strategically used by public administrations to manage their debt, and comment on rising **inflation** at a time when central banks have to step up measures against inflation at the cost of slowing down the economic recovery.

On **foreign affairs**, reports analyse how the pursuit of **strategic autonomy** is transforming EU policies in the fields of security, diplomacy, trade, and technology, examine how the EU can strike a balance between protectionist tendencies and the need to stay open to international engagement and cooperation, and describe the **three seas initiative** targeting energy, infrastructure and telecommunications in Central and Eastern European countries located between the Baltic, Black and Adriatic seas. Articles also discuss the legal characteristics of the **EU-UK trade and cooperation agreement**, outlining challenges to the parties' future relationship, and comment on **President Biden's 100 days** in office, focusing on his climate protection agenda.

The TTR can be downloaded from Council's Library [blog](#). TTR articles are available via [Eureka](#), the resource discovery service of the Council Libraries.

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EU digital COVID certificate

For EU citizens who:

-  have been vaccinated
-  have a negative test result
-  have recovered from COVID-19



COVID -19

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

Steering and monitoring the recovery and resilience plans: reading between the lines

by Francesco Corti  [@f_corti1992](#) et al.

This paper provides an extensive account of the procedures and rules of the recovery and resilience facility (RRF). It analyses the European Commission's (EC) guidance, how the process is being steered and how the implementation of the national recovery and resilience plans will be monitored. The aim is to highlight not only the opportunities, but also the pitfalls of the RRF governance system. (20 p.)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

Towards a more resilient Europe post-coronavirus: options to enhance the EU's resilience to structural risks

by Étienne Bassot  [@EtienneBassot](#) et al. (ed.)

Delving in 25 specific areas, this paper identifies priorities for building greater resilience within the Union system, drawing on the EP's own resolutions and proposals made by other EU institutions, as well as by outside experts and stakeholders. (240 p.)

BARCELONA CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

The effect of Covid on EU democracies

by Sophia Russack  [@SophiaRussack](#) (ed.)

To better understand how the pandemic has so far affected Europe's democracies, the European Policy Institutes Network has analysed 19 succinct national perspectives. The article presents the results: while in some member states (MS) the democratic institutions and electoral processes have proved robust and flexible, some outstanding democratic issues across all MS were detected such as an overly powerful executive, limited checks on government, and the side-lining of parliaments. (38 p.)

PETERSON INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

Economic policy for a pandemic age: how the world must prepare

by Monica de Bolle  [@bollemdb](#) et al.

The global health and economic threats from the Covid-19 pandemic are not yet behind us. This briefing sets out some key lessons of the current response to Covid-19, along with policy recommendations to help prepare for the real possibility of a pandemic age. It covers several policy areas in which cooperative forward-looking policy action will materially improve our chances of truly escaping today's pandemic and making future pandemics less costly. (83 p.)

INSTITUTO ESPAÑOL DE ESTUDIOS ESTRATÉGICOS

Riesgos geoeconómicos en la era de la Covid y capacidad para anticiparse a las crisis

by Belinda Romero Pedraz

This article analyses geo-economic risks in the Covid era through logical models. It studies the crisis across areas related to the economy and social welfare, security and geopolitical balance. (ES - 12 p.)

EUROPEAN TRADE UNION INSTITUTE

«Union sacrée ? » Les partenaires sociaux sectoriels face à la crise du Covid-19 en Europe

by Christophe Degryse

The interdependence of various economic sectors through supply chains, materials and transport mean that the crisis can be described as systemic. The gross domestic product of the EU shrank by 6.2% in 2020 (6.6% in the euro area), leading to soaring unemployment and temporary unemployment. This paper asks if the European social dialogue has played a useful part in this exceptional economic and social situation. (FR - 115 p.)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

The impact of teleworking and digital work on workers and society: special focus on surveillance and monitoring, as well as on mental health of workers

by Manuela Samek Lodovici et al.

The study analyses recent trends in teleworking, its impacts on workers, employers, and society, and the challenges for policymaking. It provides an overview of the main legislative and policy measures adopted at EU and national level; it is based inter alia on five case studies of EU countries: Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy and Romania. (174 p.)

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

Labour market responses to the Covid-19 crisis in the United States and Europe

by Daniel Gros et al.

Labour markets have reacted very differently to the Covid-19 crisis. In the US, the impact on unemployment rates was rapid across all states. They increased sharply in March and April 2020 and recovered steadily thereafter. In Europe, by contrast, unemployment increased far less, and the adjustment was more gradual. (19 p.)

POLSKI INSTYTUT SPRAW MIĘDZYNARODOWYCH (THE POLISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

Gender equality in international relations: the slow implementation of established norms

by Veronika Józwiak  [@verusj](#)

Women worldwide have been more affected by the social and economic consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic than men. The paper examines global commitments and standards as well as the EU regulations in this regard. (5 p.)

PETERSON INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

The evolving gender gap in labour force participation during Covid-19

by Simeon Djankov et al.

In response to the pandemic and the global economic downturn it precipitated, the gap in labour force participation between men and women in some economies has widened, with repercussions for women's career prospects and pay. This brief measures the difference between the share of women employed or actively looking for paid work, relative to the share of men, analysing the situation across various countries. (20 p.)

WISSENSCHAFTSZENTRUM BERLIN FÜR SOZIALFORSCHUNG (SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH CENTER BERLIN)

Choice architecture and incentives increase Covid-19 vaccine intentions and test demand

by Marta Serra-Garcia  [@m_serra_garcia](#) et al.

Willingness to vaccinate and test are critical in the pandemic. The authors study the effects of two measures to increase vaccination and testing: "choice architecture" and monetary compensations. Choice architecture has the goal of "nudging" people into a socially desired direction without affecting their choice options. (30 p.)

TERRA NOVA / FORUM POUR L'INVESTISSEMENT RESPONSABLE

Quel choix stratégique face au Covid ? Plaidoyer pour une stratégie d'endiguement

by Mélanie Heard [@melanieheard11](#)

Strategic thinking in the fight against Covid-19 seems to have lost sight of a third way: the containment strategy known in public health as the "suppression" strategy. This strategy allows the test / trace / isolate triptych to break the chains of contamination. It is this viral circulation threshold that would guide the choice of appropriate measures to reduce the number of infections in support of the vaccination campaign, so as to preserve health, economic, social and political interests. (FR - 57 p.)

MIGRATION POLICY INSTITUTE

Covid-19 and the state of global mobility in 2020

by Meghan Benton [@meghan_benton](#) et al.

This report is a comprehensive analysis of the travel measures and border closures that governments worldwide implemented during 2020. (63 p.)

LUXEMBOURG INSTITUTE OF SOCIO- ECONOMIC RESEARCH (LISER)

Covid-19 in Europe: dataset at a sub-national level

by Hichem Omrani et al.

Many of the existing Covid-19 public datasets are aggregated at country level, and not coupled with socio-demographic, economic, public policy, health, pollution and environmental factors. The paper presents a new dataset with socio-demographic, economic, public policy, health, pollution and environmental factors for the EU at the small regions level. (8 p.)

HANNS-SEIDEL-STIFTUNG (HANNS SEIDEL FOUNDATION)

Ein Jahr mit Covid-19: Perspektiven für die Internationale Zusammenarbeit

by Susanne Luther (ed.)

This publication looks at the international cooperation and the effects of Covid-19 in different geographical areas and countries, among them South Korea, China, Latin America, India, MENA and Africa. It also deals with the future of foreign development cooperation by MS and the EU at large. (DE - 80 p.)

REAL INSTITUTO ELCANO (ELCANO ROYAL INSTITUTE)

Globalización y pandemia

by Iliana Olivé [@iolivie](#) et al.

This study updates previous analyses of the impact of the pandemic on globalization. While de-globalization is expected to a lower extent than last fall, the contraction of the added value of the Elcano global presence index could be between 4.9% and 6.1% in 2020, compared to 2019. (ES - 14 p.)

CHATHAM HOUSE - THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Trade policy and medical supplies during Covid-19: ideas for avoiding shortages and ensuring continuity of trade

by Simon J. Evenett [@SimonEvenett](#)

This briefing examines the trade dimension of medical goods supplies in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic. It reviews how governments have sought to minimize risks of shortages of medical goods, highlights the flaws in some of the approaches advocated to date, and proposes a framework to address these supported by international coordination. (20 p.)

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

**The European Union and the geopolitics of
Covid-19 vaccines in the Western Balkans**

by Isabelle Ioannides  [@iioannides](#)

Despite the impressions that China and Russia have the upper hand, the EU has not been absent from the region. The brief points out that given the difficulties to meet vaccine needs in its MS, the EU has concentrated on long-term consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic in the WB. As Covid cases and deaths are increasing in the region, the time has come for the EU to prioritise the delivery of Covid-19 vaccines to the WB. (6 p.)

REAL INSTITUTO ELCANO (ELCANO
ROYAL INSTITUTE)

**Bolsonaro, navegando entre crisis: efecto
Lula, Covid, reforma ministerial y fuerzas
armadas**

by Esther Solano et al.

This analysis looks at the political strategy of Bolsonaro and his government in the changing situation in Brazil, examining the impact of recent political events such as the pandemic, ministerial reform and the crisis with the armed forces. The article considers that Bolsonaro has found a difficult balance that, for the moment, allows him to hold on to power. (ES - 7 p.)

REAL INSTITUTO ELCANO (ELCANO
ROYAL INSTITUTE)

**La democracia latinoamericana tras un año
de pandemia**

by Carlos Malamud  [@CarlosMalamud](#) et al.

The authors argue that this year of pandemic in Latin America has unleashed not only important conjunctural changes, but rather it has also deepened the magnitude of the structural problems that already afflicted Latin American democratic systems, which give new and worrying signs of weakness and even crisis. (ES - 13 p.)

DEUTSCHES INSTITUT FÜR
WIRTSCHAFTSFORSCHUNG (GERMAN
INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH)

**Quantitative und qualitative
Wirkungsanalyse der Maßnahmen des
Deutschen Aufbau- und Resilienzplans
(DARP)**

by Marius Clemens  [@MariusClemens](#) et al.

This impact analysis of the national recovery and resilience plans (NRRP) quantifies the economic and fiscal effects, and evaluates the NRRP measures relating to the EC requirements. It also quantifies the qualitative impacts of the measures which are assessed in terms of their environmental and social added value, as well as their contribution to social and territorial convergence. (DE - 106 p.)

FUNDACIÓN DE ESTUDIOS DE ECONOMÍA
APLICADA

**La situación cíclica de la economía
española un año después del inicio de la
crisis Covid-19**

by José E. Bosca  [@bosca_e](#) et al.

This study evaluates the factors that explain the cyclical behaviour of the Spanish economy during 2020 and the first quarter of 2021. The main structural disturbances that explain GDP growth, consumption and investment per person of working age are estimated during 2019, 2020 and the first quarter of 2021. (ES - 17 p.)

FUNDACIÓN DE ESTUDIOS DE ECONOMÍA
APLICADA

**Aspectos económicos de la crisis del
Covid-19**

by Florentino Felgueroso et al.

This document presents a list of indicators to interpret the consequences of the pandemic on the economy, analyses and evaluates the main economic measures that have been taken in the recent weeks, and offers an analysis of some aspects of the recent evolution of the labour market. (ES - 73 p.)

FUNDACIÓN DE ESTUDIOS DE ECONOMÍA APLICADA

¿Cómo ayudar a las empresas en la crisis del Covid?

by Ángel de la Fuente et al.

This paper reviews the current situation in Spain, based on some recent studies that approximate the effects of Covid on the accounts of Spanish companies. It also investigates the reasons why public intervention could reduce the welfare costs that the pandemic originates for companies and the self-employed. (ES - 36 p.)

INSTITUTE FOR GOVERNEMENT

The coronavirus inquiry

by Marcus Shephard  [@MShephard](#) et al.

This report sets out the case for an inquiry about UK experience of the pandemic. More than 150,000 people have died during the pandemic. The economy is in recession, unemployment and national debt have soared. The authors argue that the government should establish a public inquiry now; it should open on parliament's return from recess on 6 September. (33 p.)



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

Primacy's twilight? On the legal consequences of the ruling of the federal constitutional court of 5 May 2020 for the primacy of EU law

by Niels Petersen et al.

This study analyses the repercussions of the judgment of the German Federal Constitutional Court of 5 May 2020. It puts the decision into context, makes a normative assessment, analyses the potential consequences and makes some policy recommendations. (82 p.)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

The role of the European Council in negotiating the 2021-27 MFF

by Ralf Drachenberg et al.

To assess the evolution of the role of the European Council, this paper provides a comparative analysis of the similarities and differences between the European Council's involvement in the 2014-2020 and 2021-2027 MFF negotiations. The paper includes a content analysis of EU leaders' Twitter communication on the MFF, focusing in particular on key moments in the European Council's decision-making process. (34 p.)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

Inter-institutional relations in the treatment of petitions: the role of the Commission

by Maxime Moulac [@MaximeMoulac](#) et al.

The study presents an analysis of the EU right to petition, as a key element of participatory democracy. It examines the procedures to deal with petitions and infringements of EU law, in particular EU environmental law. It provides an overview of key features of national petition systems in relation to the EU system. (56 p.)

LSE IDEAS

The rise of insurgent Europeanism

by Luke Cooper [@lukecooper100](#) et al.

Civil society in Europe and its attitudes towards the European project have changed dramatically in the past decade of multiple crises. This study maps, tracks and monitors developments in European civil society over a two-year period from 2018 to 2020, revealing the nature and implications of these changes. (38 p.)

JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE (NOTRE EUROPE)

Climate: how do MEPs vote?

This report provides an overview of the political dynamics within the EP on EU climate legislation topics (emissions reduction targets, deforestation, emissions trading system, the just transition fund, the carbon border adjustment scheme, etc.). It discusses the alliances formed in the EP, revealing the main divisions within the European political families and the key role played by specific national groups in steering climate legislation through the legislative chamber. (26 p.)



COMPETITIVENESS (INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND SPACE)

EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY (ECIPE)

["Too big to care" or "too big to share": the digital services act and the consequences of reforming intermediary liability rules](#)

by Fredrik Erixon [@FredrikErixon](#)

This paper reviews the digital services act (DSA) by looking at the crucial balance between "culture of openness" and content-moderation demands. It argues that, despite targeting big platforms, the current form of the DSA will most likely create new obstacles to digital entrepreneurship and platform competition and, consequently, threatens to strengthen the incumbent advantages of very large platforms. (11 p.)

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

[Europe's capacity to act in the global tech race: charting a path for Europe in times of major technological disruption](#)

by Kaan Sahin [@KaanSahinDe](#) et al.

Technological leadership has become a central dimension of geopolitical power. In this development, the primary front in the emerging tech power rivalry is between the US and China. This study sheds light on

Europe's approach to technological mastery. It looks into the progress of the EU and its MS across selected technological fields and their global entanglements with other nations and technology actors. (43 p.)

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES (IFRI)

[Europe in the geopolitics of technology: connecting the internal and external dimensions](#)

by Alice Pannier [@AlicePannier](#)

As a result of growing US-Chinese technology competition and early lessons of the Covid-19 crisis, the EU and MS ambitions concerning critical technologies, in particular in the digital domain, have grown. However, Europe has been faced with three difficulties: while the US and China are engaged in a bilateral race, Europe needs to address simultaneously the challenges from both country's technology policies; the global tech competition requires a "whole-of government" approach; and there are paradoxes to Europe's power. (11 p.)

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI (IAI)

[Technological competition: can the EU compete with China?](#)

by Francesca Ghiretti [@Fraghiretti](#)

The author notes that the debate on technological development tends to neglect the role of the EU since the leadership positions are occupied by the US and China. Nevertheless, he concludes that the EU still stands a chance of guaranteeing the delivery of a technological revolution. (18 p.)

THE HAGUE CENTRE FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES

[Batteries require battery minerals, should Europe ramp up its efforts to secure them?](#)

by Jeff Amrish Ritoe

To meet the Paris climate agreement targets, the author suggest the EU must ramp up its efforts to secure the rare earth minerals required for batteries. At present, large parts of the lithium-ion battery (LiB) supply chain

are dominated by China. This paper describes the impact that battery minerals have on the production costs of LiBs and the EU's chances to create a mass market for electric vehicles on European soil. (16 p.)

FONDATION POUR LA RECHERCHE STRATEGIQUE

Faire converger spatial et numérique : quels enseignements pour la constellation satellitaire européenne ?

by Xavier Pasco

The EU has recently come out in favour of a sovereign satellite constellation. Although Europe can legitimately claim technical excellence in the field, the author asks if Europe is ready to take up the global challenge that this undertaking represents, for which the US, and perhaps China, seem to be arming themselves. (FR - 6 p.)

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

EUROPEAN POLICY CENTER / KONRAD ADENAUER STIFUNG

National recovery and resilience plans: empowering the green and digital transitions?

by Marta Pilati

If designed well, national recovery and resilience plans (NRRP) could encourage comprehensive reform and the long-term investment needed to make the twin green and digital transitions a success. This article argues that MS and the EC should improve the content of national NRRP by enhancing cross-references and links between measures, exploiting complementarities with other EU funding sources, and strengthening the reform components. (21 p.)

JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE (NOTRE EUROPE)

Prévenir la fraude dans l'emploi des fonds du plan de relance européen sans retarder leur déboursement

by Eulalia Rubio [@eulaliarubio](#)

This report examines how to reconcile rapid implementation and actions to fight fraud in the use of funds from the EU recovery plan. The basic message is: the urgency should not lead to the removal of these anti-fraud controls, but they must be more efficient to allow rapid disbursement of funds. (FR - 16 p.)

CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL GOVERNANCE INNOVATION

Central bank digital currency and governance: fit for purpose?

by Pierre L. Siklos

This paper addresses three main issues: should the data-gathering activities of central banks be separated from other central banking activities? Do current governance arrangements, limited to G20 economies, constrain the introduction of CBDC? And how is central bank autonomy impacted by the creation of CBDC? (36 p.)

ATLANTIC COUNCIL

The digital Yuan, digital Euro, and the Diem: key issues for public debate

by Hung Tran

As momentum grows globally for the development of central bank digital currencies, the author considers it will be important to watch what the two of the most prominent players in the field, the People's Bank of China and the ECB, are doing. (10 p.)

SAFE - SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE FOR FINANCE IN EUROPE

Reset required: the euro area crisis management and deposit insurance framework

by Thomas F. Huertas

The crisis management and deposit insurance framework in the euro area requires a reset. The author proposes measures that would complete the banking union, promote market discipline, avoid imposing additional burdens on taxpayers, help untie the doom loop between weak banks and weak governments, strengthen the euro and enhance financial stability. (33 p.)

LUISS SCHOOL OF EUROPEAN POLITICAL ECONOMY

Sustainability of public debt in Europe: the use of swaps

by Chiara Oldani  [@ChiaraOldani](#) et al.

This study addresses the current European fiscal framework and provides evidence that interest rate swaps can be strategically used by public administrations to manage their debt. Looking at a panel of EU countries between 2006-2018, the results of the study suggest that EU countries were able to increase their primary surplus after a period of rising debt by actively managing their debt with swaps. (20 p.)

LITHUANIAN FREE MARKET INSTITUTE

Position note on EC's initiative on a fair & competitive digital economy - digital levy

This position paper deals with the EC's proposal for a digital levy. It argues that any of the suggested taxation measures would negatively affect the development of the digital sector and economy at large. They would disincentive investments and innovations, resulting in negative effects on employment, productivity, and income growth. (8 p.)

INSTITUT DER DEUTSCHEN WIRTSCHAFT (IW, KÖLN) GERMAN ECONOMIC INSTITUTE

Global inflation: low for long or higher for longer?

by Markus Demary et al.

Inflation has started to increase, and the return of inflation comes at a time in which economies begin to recover from pandemic/ lockdown-induced recessions. This raises questions about how much and how long inflation will go up as well as about whether central banks have to step-up against inflation at the cost of slowing down the economic recovery. (23 p.)

BERTELSMANN STIFTUNG / HERTIE SCHOOL / JACQUES DELORS CENTRE

Jenseits von Wirecard: Europa braucht unabhängige Finanzaufsichtsbehörden, nicht nur in Deutschland Beyond Wirecard - All of Europe needs independent financial supervisors

by Sebastian Mack

This paper states that - as exemplified by the Wirecard case - national financial regulation authorities within the EU are not independent enough of political and economic influence. The author recommends Europe-wide rules for independence, accountability and transparency of financial regulation authorities to address this problem. (DE - 12 p./ EN - 11 p.)

EMPLOYMENT / SOCIAL POLICY / HEALTH AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

EUROFOUND

Wealth distribution and social mobility

by Zsolt Darvas  [@ZsoltDarvas](#) et al.

This report explores the distribution of household wealth in the EU MS and analyses the role of wealth in social mobility. It also suggests that regularising wealth declaration in the EU could be a way of promoting social justice by minimising

hidden wealth and combating tax evasion. (108 p.)

BERTELSMANN STIFTUNG

The impact of education and health on labour force participation and the macroeconomic consequences of ageing Effekte von Bildung und Gesundheit auf Erwerbsbeteiligung und Gesamtwirtschaft im demografischen Wandel

by Thomas Horvath et al.

This study evaluates how demographic changes, education, health and a better labour market inclusion of workers with poor health influences the labour force participation in Germany, France, Italy, Spain and Austria. (EN- 83 p./ DE - 22 p.)

CENTER FOR POLICY STUDIES / CEU DEMOCRACY INSTITUTE

Comparative overview of the capacity of the education systems of five Central Eastern European countries to adapt to changing gender roles

by Dorottya Redai

The paper conceptualizes the characteristics of education systems and schools which are able to handle gender inequalities and assesses the state of the art of the educational systems in this respect in Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia and Slovakia. (60 p.)

INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH

Women in the North: choosing to challenge inequalities

by Amreen Qureshi et al.

This paper is a call to leaders across the northern hemisphere to commit to a better understanding of the impact of the pandemic on women and to take action to help build back fairer. (20 p.)

EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT POLICY MANAGEMENT

Taking the gender agenda forward in EU programming

by Chloe Teevan [@ChloeTvan](#) et al.

This paper analyses how the EU is approaching gender through a three-pronged approach, based on political dialogue, standalone projects and gender mainstreaming. (30 p.)

JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE (NOTRE EUROPE)

Vers un compte de formation individuel européen

by Sofia Fernandes [@FernandesSof](#) et al.

The authors suggest action in adopting a European recommendation for the establishment of individual national training accounts, and of an individual European training account ensuring the portability of rights not only from one job or status to another, but also from one country to another. (FR - 15 p.)

FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG (FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION)

The socio-ecological transformation of the European economy: trade union perspectives

by Lukas Hochscheidt [@LukiHochscheidt](#) et al.

The European trade unions are at the forefront of shaping the transitions to a climate-neutral economy, together with employers and the state. The authors argue that employees must not be left to bear the costs of transformation of the economy, in the form of unemployment, precarious working conditions or loss of purchasing power. (18 p.)

HERTIE SCHOOL / JACQUES DELORS CENTRE

The EU talent pool: an opportunity for skills-based pathways to protection

by Lucas Rasche  [@LuRasche](#)

In light of the need to diversify and increase the number of safe and legal pathways for refugees, this paper proposes to incorporate a designated refugee track into the envisioned talent pool and outlines three ways of linking it with complementary pathways. (20 p.)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

The traumas endured by refugee women and their consequences for integration and participation in the EU host country

by Konstantina Davaki

The study focuses on the trauma that refugee and asylum-seeking women suffer when reaching their host country. It argues for coordinated, gender- and culture-sensitive policies, EU collective responsibility in managing the refugee crisis and multilevel interventions from an intersectionality perspective. (66 p.)

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

Global governance toolkit for digital mental health

by Stephanie Allen et al.

The Covid-19 crisis has exposed an enduring silent epidemic and accelerated the need for a properly funded and regulated global mental health ecosystem. The primary purpose of this toolkit is to provide governments and independent assurance bodies with the tools to adopt standards and policies that address major ethical concerns relating to the use of disruptive technology in mental health. (72 p.)

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Europe's green moment: how to meet the climate challenge

by Susi Dennison  [@sd270](#) et al.

MS are publicly committed to the European Green Deal (EGD), but are divided over the details of its implementation. This report states that the EU needs a strong foreign policy strategy to manage the geopolitical dimension of the deal and to generate the political resolve to drive climate action. (85 p.)

EGMONT – ROYAL INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

A transition for the citizens? Ensuring public participation in the European Green Deal

by Francesca Colli  [@fs_colli](#)

The EU acknowledges that citizen participation in the EGD is vital to ensure the legitimacy of policies and public buy-in for climate measures. This brief discusses specific options for public participation in policymaking as well as the extent to which each stakeholder is already included in the EGD. (7 p.)

ECOLOGIC INSTITUTE / INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Using nature-based solutions to foster synergies between biodiversity and climate: missed chances and new opportunities for a sustainable future

by Erik Gerritsen et al.

This paper discusses how EU policies and investments have spurred the uptake of nature-based solutions to support biodiversity and ecosystem health. It also outlines remaining gaps and opportunities on how best to scale up efforts to meet the current EU policy framework's 2030 objectives. (30 p.)

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

From coal to low carbon: coal region development opportunities under EU recovery programmes

by Irina Kustova [@IrKustova](#) et al.

Economic recovery and associated funding, and new low-carbon solutions offer a unique opportunity to address the transition of coal regions. The authors suggest the EU recovery and resilience facility together with EU budgetary sources will be able to provide sufficient public money to catalyse private investment where regional plans are sufficiently developed. (15 p.)

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES (IFRI)

Le climat face au défi du charbon : comment fermer 1000 gigawatts de centrales d'ici à 2035 ?

by Marc-Antoine Eyl-Mazzega

The author describes the challenges to limit global warming to well below + 2 ° C and argues there is no other choice than to immediately halt any new coal-fired power plant construction and speed up the closure of the current operating fleet. A new international climate governance initiative is expected to aim to shut down 1,000 GW by 2035. (FR - 11 p.)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

Carbon-free steel production : cost reduction options and usage of existing gas infrastructure

by Juan Correa Laguna et al.

The steel sector is one of the most challenging sectors to decarbonise and has recently received special attention owing to the potential use of low-carbon hydrogen to reduce its fuel combustion and process-related carbon emissions. This report evaluates the potential and limitations of the future role of hydrogen in decarbonising the iron and steel industries. (73 p.)

E3G / JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE (NOTRE EUROPE)

The EU ETS: from cornerstone to catalyst

by Johanna Lehne [@JohannaLehne](#) et al.

This paper explores the relationship between carbon pricing and innovation, setting out the key theoretical dynamics and elaborating on how these have played out in practice in the EU emissions trading system (ETS). (15 p.)

JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE (NOTRE EUROPE)

Le système européen d'échange de quotas: le rôle de la tarification du carbone dans l'innovation verte

by Johanna Lehne [@JohannaLehne](#) et al.

This paper explores the relationship between carbon pricing and innovation, setting out the key theoretical dynamics and elaborating on how these have played out in practice in the EU ETS. It concludes that the ETS can be reformed to act as a powerful catalyst to accelerate the clean energy innovations the EU needs in order to reach climate neutrality by 2050. (FR - 15 p.)

ECOLOGIC INSTITUTE

Urban nature: a shared solution to the climate and biodiversity crises?

by McKenna Davis et al.

Building on research findings from Horizon 2020 project NATURVATION, the brief discusses the question how we can realise the added value of urban climate nature-based solutions for biodiversity. (9 p.)

FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN PROGRESSIVE STUDIES (FEPS)

The role of the EIB in the green transformation

by Stephany Griffith-Jones [@stephanygj](#) et al.

This study looks at the role of the European Investment Bank (EIB) and its instruments for tackling the major challenges of the European green transition, particularly in the

financing of SMEs. The instruments available to the EIB should be used in a way to achieve an appropriate level of risk sharing with private financial institutions and companies, rather than transferring risk directly from the private sector to the EIB. (34 p.)

JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE (NOTRE EUROPE)

Make regulation fit for innovation: how EU regulations can enable innovations for a climate neutral economy

by Marion Bachelet et al.

This report seeks to understand how this major EU legislative initiative can help deliver the clean energy innovation needed to avoid a climate disaster. It concludes that regulation is a very powerful tool to stimulate innovation. The EC should therefore use its 'Fit for 55' proposals to boost the creation, testing, scale up and deployment of clean energy innovation. (26 p.)

INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Aligning high climate and biodiversity ambitions in 2021 and beyond: why, what, and how

by Alexandra Deprez et al.

Climate change and biodiversity loss have long been interrelated challenges. The study discusses ways to better align ambitions and actions with high climate and biodiversity. (30 p.)

GENERAL AFFAIRS

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

Cohesion policy and climate change

by Andrea Ciffolilli  [@andreciffo](#) et al.

This study provides an assessment of how EU cohesion policy currently contributes and can contribute in the future to the attainment of the goals of EU climate policy. It explains how much of the budget goes to climate action and to what kind of initiatives across

EU regions. It also discusses the obligations from the Paris agreement, the role of cohesion policy within the EGD and the impact of phasing out fossil fuels. (113 p.)

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

Πολιτική συνοχής στην Ευρωπαϊκή Ένωση: η επόμενη μέρα μετά την πανδημία

by Alekos Kritikos

Titled "Cohesion policy in the EU: the day after Covid-19", the report notes that the recovery fund abandons the complex procedures of the structural funds and introduces simplified management principles making reforms an integral part of planning. The fund promotes the reorientation of cohesion policy towards overall economic growth and less towards the reduction of regional disparities. (EL - 17 p.)

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI (IAI)

Financing infrastructure investments for local communities

by Valeria Branca

The author claims that a key factor in governments' success will be the capacity to restart and reorient infrastructure investments. Investments in local infrastructures are particularly important because social needs, work habits and production patterns have been greatly affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. (13 p.)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

Disinformation and propaganda: impact on the functioning of the rule of law and democratic processes in the EU and its member states

by Judit Bayer  [@JuditBayer](#) et al.

Between January 2019 and January 2021, the impact of disinformation actions and responses to them were considerably different than in previous years. This study aims to provide recommendations on legislative and policy measures to protect

democracy, the rule of law, and fundamental rights from the impact of disinformation, as well as to create a structured informational ecosystem which promotes and protects these values. (173 p.)

JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THINK TANK

EU-UK private-sector data flows after Brexit

by Hendrik Mildebrath [@h_mildebrath](#)

EU-UK data flows have come under pressure following the UK's withdrawal from the EU. To take regulatory and business decisions, a clear understanding of the state of play and future prospects of EU-UK transfers of personal data is indispensable. This analysis reviews trade dealings, adequacy challenges and transfer instruments under the general data protection regulation. (39 p.)

AMERICAN ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE

Privacy and fair information practices: the struggle to protect threatened values

by Jim Harper

This report analyses how legislation based on fair information practices has not solved the privacy problem and cannot be expected to. Other modes for responding to information age challenges may better protect privacy and related values. (28 p.)

TRANSPORT / TELECOMMUNICATIONS / ENERGY

NEDERLANDS INSTITUUT VOOR INTERNATIONALE BETREKKINGEN - CLINGENDAEL

How smart is the use of smart devices in the office?

by Sanne van der Lugt et al.

This report discusses how to manage and limit the associated security risks for companies. Security devices can be full of sensors that collect data, which are often non-European and limit European control

over how data is collected and used. This report's case study of industrial cleaning robots shows the possible security risks of using smart devices. (20 p.)

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES (IFRI)

Green batteries: a competitive advantage for Europe's electric vehicle value chain?

by Carole Mathieu [@CMathieu](#)

This study looks at how Europe competes in the global electric vehicle battery industry and how the quest for sustainability can impact industrial projects targeting the European electric vehicle market. It identifies under what conditions the legislative proposal can best contribute to the environmental imperative and the successful renewal of the EU's industry strategy. (38 p.)

BRUEGEL

Navigating through hydrogen

by Ben McWilliams [@McWilliamsBen](#) et al.

Hydrogen is likely to play at least some role in the EU's achievement by 2050 of a net-zero greenhouse gas emissions target. The authors suggest key principles such as: driving down supply costs of low-carbon hydrogen production; and strengthening of climate policies such as the EU ETS to stimulate the growth of hydrogen-based solutions in the areas for which hydrogen is most suitable. (24 p.)

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

The case for the Ionian-Adriatic pipeline

by Luis Nasi

This article presents the Ionian-Adriatic pipeline project, which would connect the trans-Adriatic pipeline with the Croatian gas transport system. It could make access to gas a reality for most of the Western Balkans, while strengthening energy security in the region. (11 p.)

E3G

Boosting renewable energy in the Visegrad region: the role of business

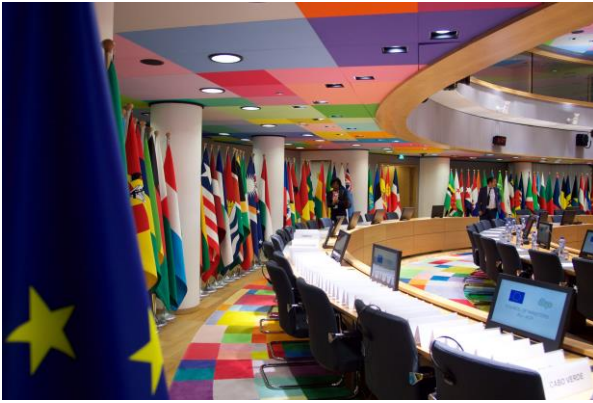
by Rebekka Popp  [@RebekkaPopp](#) et al.

There is strong interest by businesses in the Visegrad countries to meet their electricity needs from renewable energy sources. This briefing presents findings from a survey and interviews with mostly multinational companies operating in the region. (16 p.)

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

Fostering effective energy transition: 2021 edition

As countries continue their progress in transitioning to clean energy, it is critical to root the transition in economic, political and social practices to ensure progress is irreversible, according to this report. (51 p.)



FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY / DEFENCE

ULKOPOLIITTINEN INSTITUUTTI (FINNISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

Strategic autonomy and the transformation of the EU: new agendas for security, diplomacy, trade and technology

by Niklas Helwig [@NHelwig](#) (ed.)

This report analyses how the pursuit of strategic autonomy transforms EU policies in the field of security, diplomacy, trade, and technology. It makes recommendations on how the EU can advance strategic autonomy, while striking a balance between protectionist tendencies and the need to stay open to international engagement and cooperation. (138 p.)

FONDATION POUR LA RECHERCHE STRATEGIQUE

L'Union européenne entre autonomie stratégique et souveraineté technologique : impasses et opportunités

by Jean-Pierre Darnis [@jpdarnis](#)

The issue of data control in the context of transatlantic trade, and the dependence on China for certain supplies, have recently reinforced the idea that Europe needs to be independent in order to assert its own global projection and build its resilience. This article examines two concepts: technological sovereignty and strategic autonomy. (FR - 17 p.)

COLLEGE OF EUROPE

The new 'concept on EU peace mediation': boosting EU capacities in crisis response and conflict resolution?

by Elene Panchulidze [@ElePanchulidze](#) et al.

The birth of the EU's new concept on mediation and its enhanced ambition sensibly align with the EU's unveiled ambition for a greater 'geopolitical' role. The new concept underlines that the EU's peace mediation efforts add to its geopolitical power and should not be seen as opposed to a vision of the EU becoming a more assertive global actor. (5 p.)

EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT POLICY MANAGEMENT

Reinvigorating human development in EU external action

by Pauline Veron [@PaulineVeron1](#) et al.

The Covid-19 pandemic has demonstrated the urgency to step up strategic and smart investments in human development, which is regaining political attention in the EU's global agenda. This paper explores trends and challenges regarding human development in the EU's external action and make recommendations for how to reinvigorate it. (44 p.)

EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Built to order: how Europe can rebuild multilateralism after Covid-19

by Anthony Dworkin [@AnthonyDworkin](#)

The paper argues that, in trying to promote global cooperation, the EU must take account of competition with China and other illiberal powers. The EU should look for ways to coordinate with China on climate and global debt, while focusing on work with its liberal partners on technology and human rights. (19 p.)

EUROPE'S EXTERNAL ACTION AND THE DUAL CHALLENGES OF LIMITED STATEHOOD AND CONTESTED ORDERS (EU-LISTCO)

New models in theory-practice exchange: the case of EU support for resilience in the neighbourhood

by Riccardo Alcaro [@Ric_Alcaro](#) et al.

This article takes the case of European policies in support of resilience in the EU's neighbourhood to explore the potential of a more flexible model of theory-practice engagement based on knowledge exchange rather than transfer. (31 p.)

ATLANTIC COUNCIL

What will the impact be if Nord Stream 2 is completed?

by Anders Åslund [@anders_aslund](#)

A completed Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline will have an impact on national and energy security, geopolitical and governance considerations, while gas supply is already operated by already sunk costs. The author asks if the pipeline makes commercial sense. (8 p.)

BROOKINGS INSTITUTION

Nord Stream 2: background, objections, and possible outcomes

by Steven Pifer [@steven_pifer](#)

The note suggests the Nord Stream 2 project could become a major point of tension between the US and Germany at a time when they seek to rebuild good relations. For the Biden's administration, the pipeline seems a geopolitical project targeted at Ukraine, while the German government regards it like a commercial project. (10 p.)

INSTITUTO ESPAÑOL DE ESTUDIOS ESTRATÉGICOS

La iniciativa de los tres mares: configuración y consecuencias geopolíticas mundiales

by Óscar Méndez Pérez

This paper describes the three seas initiative, an alliance of Central and Eastern European countries located among the Baltic, Black and Adriatic seas. The initiative aims at achieving an interconnected region in the fields of energy, infrastructure and telecommunications. It has also an eminent geopolitical component which also involves the four major world powers: the US, Russia, China and the EU. (ES - 17 p.)

ECONOMIC POLICY INSTITUTE

The three seas initiative and south east Europe: striking a balance between ambition and reality

by Yassen Georgiev [@yassen_georgiev](#)

This brief provides a snapshot of the current state of play in the three seas initiative focusing on its progress in terms of funding and financial commitments on behalf of participating countries and other stakeholders as well as in light of priority projects. It presents recommendations on how the initiative can strike a balance between ambitions and expectations in order to deliver tangible results. (16 p.)

POLSKI INSTYTUT SPRAW MIĘDZYNARODOWYCH (THE POLISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

The end of the beginning? EU-UK relations 100 days after Brexit

by Przemysław Biskup

The paper analyses the legal characteristics of the EU-UK trade and cooperation agreement (TCA) and its basic provisions and outlines challenges to the parties' future relationship. It warns against the risk of the rapid disintegration of many existing EU-UK economic and non-economic links, underlining the need of maintaining the effective cooperation before the first TCA review scheduled for 2025. (11 p.)

CHATHAM HOUSE - THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

[Towards a strategic agenda for the E3 opportunities and risks for France, Germany and the UK](#)

by Alice Billon-Galland [@AliceBillon](#) et al.

This paper explores how the E3 format – involving France, Germany and the UK – might develop in response to the challenges presented by the UK's departure from the EU. It outlines how the trilateral format has supported policymaking to date, most notably in dialogue on Iran's nuclear programme. However, any effort to broaden and deepen E3 activity is now complicated by Brexit, which paradoxically makes E3 cooperation simultaneously more necessary and more difficult. (22 p.)

NORSK UTENRIKSPOLITISK INSTITUTT (THE NORWEGIAN INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

[Swiss-EU relations with a focus on the current situation](#)

by Michael Ambühl et al.

The draft for an EU-Switzerland Institutional Framework Agreement (IFA), presented in 2018, raised three concerns about which the Swiss Government sought clarification from the EU: wage protection, state aid, and the citizens rights directive. The authors note that without clarification on these points, there is a risk that the Swiss people could reject the IFA in a future referendum, which would put Switzerland and the EU in a difficult situation. (7 p.)

POLSKI INSTYTUT SPRAW MIĘDZYNARODOWYCH (THE POLISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

[EU-China comprehensive agreement on investment: political and economic implications for the European Union](#)

by Damian Wnukowski [@WnukowskiDamian](#) (ed.) et al.

In December 2020, China and the EU concluded the negotiations of the comprehensive agreement on investment (CAI). The report analyses the political

significance of the deal, explores its legal and economic issues and offers recommendations to the EU, which should be taken into account before the ratification of CAI. (32 p.)

BRUEGEL

[Is the European Union's investment agreement with China underrated?](#)

by Uri Dadush

This paper assesses the gains that, EU firms planning to invest in China or that have already done so, will derive from the comprehensive agreement on investment (CAI) in terms of better market access. It does not overlook the potential economic implications of increased investment in Europe by Chinese firms in the wake of the CAI, but it recognises that, since EU markets are already largely open to Chinese investment, the most likely and largest source of gains for the EU will derive from the new opportunities in China. (14 p.)

WILFRIED MARTENS CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES

[The 17+1 mechanism: something doesn't add up](#)

by Dimitar Lilkov

China saw the 16+1 platform as an opportunity to step up and engage with both EU and non-EU countries in order to increase its presence and open up additional export avenues. In 2019, Greece officially joined the initiative, which has since been dubbed the '17+1'. In essence, the 17+1 mechanism should be seen as an effective conduit between CEE countries and BRI projects. (5 p.)

EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

[Home advantage: how China's protected market threatens Europe's economic power](#)

by Agatha Kratz [@AgathaKratz](#) et al.

China's vast yet protected home market has allowed some of its firms to undercut European companies. This report argues

that the EU urgently needs to incorporate the concept and reality of this 'protected home market advantage' into its thinking on China. (36 p.)

HERTIE SCHOOL / JACQUES DELORS CENTRE

[An EU trilateral cooperation agenda with Africa and China for a post-Covid-19 world](#)

by Anna Stahl

On the basis of recommendations formulated by a group of European, African and Chinese experts, this paper proposes an EU strategic agenda for cooperation with Africa and China. The ambitious trilateral cooperation strategy is centred around three policy areas: health, economic development, good governance and security. (29 p.)

EUROPEAN THINK TANK GROUP

[Green transitions in Africa–Europe relations: what role for the European Green Deal?](#)

by Christine Hackenesch [@CHackenesch](#) et al.

The paper affirms that the green transitions have the potential to support Africa–Europe cooperation by combining the climate agenda with an innovative socio-economic project for jobs creation and sustainable growth. Green transitions can be a fruitful area for cooperation because common interests and interdependencies between both continents are high. (20 p.)

EUROPEAN THINK TANK GROUP

[A new multilateralism for the post-Covid world: what role for the EU-Africa partnership?](#)

by Chloe Teevan [@ChloeTvan](#) et al.

The report aims to prove that the EU should engage with African countries on how to formulate a common and mutually beneficial vision and position for the international climate and environmental negotiations set for this year. Particularly, this concerns decisions on the post-2020 biodiversity framework and post-2025 climate finance target and reporting standards. (21 p.)

BARCELONA CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

[The EU's new agenda for its southern neighbourhood: the case for a green and inclusive review](#)

by Eduard Soler i Lecha [@solerlecha](#) et al.

The paper elaborates on the EU's new agenda for the southern neighbourhood. It argues that the EU could regain relevance in a multipolar region by putting itself more firmly behind citizens and their demands in the region. Rather than seeing citizens as "norm-takers" of the EU, it needs to begin to see them as "norm-makers", including for the EU. (10 p.)

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI (IAI)

[Libya as a Transatlantic litmus test for European strategic autonomy](#)

by Silvia Colombo [@silvius_colombo](#) et al.

The paper affirms that European credibility and leverage in foreign policy depends on the action Europe will take with regards to Libya. The authors claim that only by taking some risks and acting on Libya, Europeans will be able to capitalise on the partially new international and regional contexts and safely navigate the winds of change that are blowing across the Mediterranean. (6 p.)

NEDERLANDS INSTITUUT VOOR INTERNATIONALE BETREKKINGEN - CLINGENDAEL

[Europe's and Taiwan's paths after world's first digital pandemic](#)

by Birgitte Dekker et al.

This report discusses to what extent Taiwan can be an EU partner for closer cooperation on digital matters. It focuses on strengthening resilient societies, so-called 'Big Tech' regulation and digital development assistance. Findings suggest that while the underlying strategic interests and goals of Taiwan and Europe on digital connectivity align, priorities and strengths diverge. (30 p.)

FONDATION POUR LA RECHERCHE STRATEGIQUE

Directive marchés publics de défense et de sécurité (MPDS) : une mise en œuvre toujours aussi contrastée

by Kévin Martin

In March, the EP adopted a resolution on the implementation of two flagship directives of the defence package. This article highlights the latest statistical results from the Observatory of the Foundation for strategic research dedicated to monitoring the directive concerning procurement in the fields of defence and security. (FR - 8 p.)

HERTIE SCHOOL / JACQUES DELORS CENTRE

Can France and Germany relaunch Europe's security agenda?

by Nicole Koenig  [@Nic_Koenig](#) et al.

This brief reviews the degree of Franco-German convergence while focusing on three issues: geopolitical assessment, strategic cultures, and capability development. To be able to shape Europe's security agenda in the short- to medium-term, deeper Franco-German convergence and more inclusive co-leadership will be needed. (8 p.)

EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY STUDIES (EUISS)

Securing the heavens: how can space support the EU's strategic compass?

by Daniel Fiott  [@DanielFiott](#)

This brief outlines the major space threats and makes concrete suggestions on how space can support the EU's strategic compass. The strategic compass could lead to initiatives such as the development of a dedicated EU space and defence strategy, financing counter anti-satellite weapon technologies, capitalising on the EU government satellite communications programme (GovSatcom) and the Galileo public regulated service. (8 p.)

EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY STUDIES (EUISS)

The EU's arms control challenge: bridging nuclear divides

by Clara Portela

This paper highlights the key role the EU can play in building the intellectual groundwork for the emergence of a new arms control treaty system to replace those agreements which are currently being abandoned. The EU can prevent the deepening of such divisions and mitigate global polarisation in order to promote a successful outcome of the upcoming review conference of the nuclear non- proliferation treaty. (56 p.)

UTRIKESPOLITISKA INSTITUTET (SWEDISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

Sweden, the European Defence Fund and permanent structured cooperation: challenges ahead for third party participation

by Anna Lundborg Regnér  [@annaregner](#) et al.

The EU has sought to ensure its own security and strengthen its defence capabilities, part of what has been conceptualized as "strategic autonomy". This paper aims to study the negotiations on third-party access to EU defence funding and initiatives, the Swedish position and its industry's perception of the way forward under the new conditions. (20 p.)

FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG (FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION) / GLOBSEC

Restoring European security: from managing relations to principled cooperation

by Walter Kemp (ed.) et al.

In the authors' view, states urgently need to work together to resolve conflicts in Europe, while carrying out confidence and security-building measures. The authors urge states to hold a high-level meeting on European security to restore principled cooperation in the Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian region by 2025 – the 50th anniversary of the Helsinki final act. (26 p.)

POLSKI INSTYTUT SPRAW MIĘDZYNARODOWYCH (THE POLISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

Keeping collective defence the main priority in NATO's new strategy

by Sławomir Dębski [@SlawomirDebski](#) (ed.) et al.

At the next meeting of NATO leaders this year, Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg will present recommendations on updating the Alliance's strategy. The paper explores issues which should be included into this new strategy in order to broaden the political dimensions of NATO and its functions but not to weaken the importance of collective defence and the allies' determination to support it with necessary resources. (5 p.)

JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE (NOTRE EUROPE)

Permettre le renouveau de la coopération transatlantique: perspectives de collaboration entre l'UE et les États-Unis en matière de climat et d'énergie sous l'administration Biden

by Arnault Barichella et al.

This paper argues that, after four years of decline in EU-US relations, clean energy and climate change offer a tangible and realistic pathway for renewing the transatlantic partnership in the near future. It assesses prospects for renewed EU-US cooperation and develops policy recommendations on how the EU can proactively engage with the US. (18 p.)

INSTITUT PRO EVROPSKOU POLITIKU EUROPEUM (EUROPEAN INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY)

The EU's military engagement in Central Mediterranean: migrant crisis and arms embargo intertwined

by Vojtěch Freitag

It is apparent that the peace process in Libya requires more attention from the international community, and particularly the EU, than before. This paper identifies two main aspects: an agreement on the migration pact and a more realistic foreign policy towards

Turkey, which are essential to any successful mission in the Mediterranean. (8 p.)

TRADE

INSTITUT DER DEUTSCHEN WIRTSCHAFT (IW, KÖLN) GERMAN ECONOMIC INSTITUTE

Trade club for climate: a climate approach to revive multilateralism

by Hubertus Bardt [@H_Bardt](#) et al.

This article explores a trade club for climate (TCC) or a sector/industry climate club (SICC) as alternative ways to address both the climate crisis and the crisis of the global trading system at the same time. The TCC could draw on the potential of trade policy to contribute to climate protection and to liberalise trade with environmental and climate goods and services. A SICC could focus on the main producing countries of specific industries. (19 p.)

INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Environmental credentials of EU trade policy

by Eline Blot [@elineblot](#) et al.

The report conducts a comparative analysis of eleven EU free trade agreements and assesses the EU's trade policy with regard to environmental integration in free trade agreements and their underpinning processes. (66 p.)

EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT POLICY MANAGEMENT

New beginnings or a last hurrah? The OACPS - EU partnership in 2021-2041

by Alfonso Medinilla

The EU and the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) are moving towards the finalisation of a new partnership agreement. This paper argues that while there is a high degree of continuity on paper between the ACP-EU Cotonou partnership agreement and the new

agreement, the partnership relation that underpins it has been irreversibly altered, not least with the discontinuation of the dedicated off-budget European Development Fund. (14 p.)

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI (IAI)

Clean molecules across the Mediterranean: the potential for North African hydrogen imports into Italy and the EU

by Luca Franza [@Lufranza](#)

The study takes stock of the current initiatives promoting North African–EU hydrogen trade; explains how these plans can be advantageous for the EU and Italy in particular; and investigates why Italy is a key country for North African hydrogen export schemes, discussing the enabling factors that create prospects for a long-lasting Italy - North Africa hydrogen partnership. (43 p.)

EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY (ECIPE)

We need to talk trade and technology

by Lucian Cernat [@Lucian_Cernat](#)

This brief makes the case to further connect technological developments with EU trade policy, noting that the rules of the current global trading system, written in the late 1990s, are not compatible with the new digital era. The author presents three possible ways for trade rules to embrace technological advancements. (10 p.)

ASIA-OCEANIA

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES

Time for a reckoning: missiles have flown under the radar for too long in Asia

by David Santoro et al.

Ballistic missiles have long been invaluable components of national defence strategies. Yet despite this, their impact on regional-security dynamics is understudied and underappreciated. The authors consider the Asian missile landscape and the impact of

missiles on stability and security in the region. (13 p.)

INSTITUTO ESPAÑOL DE ESTUDIOS ESTRATÉGICOS

Innovación y tecnología en Japón: lecciones por aprender

by Gloria García

The author argues that Japan is an innovative country that focuses on solving ongoing and common problems, such as natural disasters, energy, aging, labour shortages, health care and safety. Technological innovation can help solve the problems it faces. (ES - 17 p.)

EASTERN PARTNERSHIP

ULKOPOLIITTINEN INSTITUUTTI (FINNISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

Ukraine's half-hearted reforms: what needs to change in the West's approach?

by Arkady Moshes et al.

This paper puts the Western policy of reform promotion in Ukraine into the country's evolving domestic context and discusses how its efficiency can be enhanced. (7 p.)

FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG (FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION) / UKRAINIAN PRISM

Ukrainian prism: foreign policy 2020

by Nadiia Bureiko (ed.) et al.

This study represents a systematic and comprehensive analysis of the Ukrainian foreign policy in 2020. It also presents the review of the foreign policy dimension of the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic and its consequences. (334 p.)

MIDDLE EAST / NORTH AFRICA (MENA)

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

Grenzen der Einigung in Libyen: Die Bildung der Einheitsregierung verbirgt alte und neue Gräben

by Wolfram Lacher [@W_Lacher](#)

This paper describes the current actors in Libya. It outlines their power structures as largely defined by foreign involvement and clientele structures vying for state resources. The author also sees a standstill in reforms and resulting potential problems in the elections of December 2021 that could cause further conflicts. (DE - 8 p.)

BARCELONA CENTRE FOR
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

How neoliberalism fosters state capture: insights from Tunisia

by Matteo Capasso

According to the author, the political economy of Tunisia is largely characterized by processes of state capture and cronyism. He proposes to adopt an alternative outlook, arguing for the need to critically reflect on the key role of the current neoliberal economic model in sustaining these dynamics. (9 p.)

NEW AMERICA FOUNDATION

Social networks, class, and the Syrian proxy war

by Anand Gopal et al.

This report explores how local social networks and socioeconomic class influenced the origins and trajectory of Syria's proxy war. (69 p.)

FRIENDS OF EUROPE/ANNA LINDH
FOUNDATION

Towards Agenda 2030 in the Euro- Mediterranean: mitigating the impact of Covid-19

by Mary Fitzgerald et al.

The report notes that the pandemic has presented a significant setback for ambitions to achieve the UN sustainable development goals (SDGs) in the Euro-Mediterranean region and immediate action is needed if the region is to sustain past achievements and overcome obstacles for further progression. This brief explores the advancement of Agenda 2030 efforts in the Euro-Mediterranean region. (11 p.)

FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG (FRIEDRICH
EBERT FOUNDATION)

Radicalization during the Rouhani years : Iran's political shifts and their implications

by David Jalilvand [@davidrjalilvand](#) (ed.) et al.

This publication examines the growing radicalization of Iranian politics and assesses its implications for Tehran and its approach to foreign relations. The underlying assumption is that the recent radicalization of politics in Iran will be a defining trend shaping the immediate and mid-term future of the country. (52 p.)

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR
STRATEGIC STUDIES

Missile multinational: Iran's new approach to missile proliferation

by Fabian Hinz [@fab_hinz](#)

How does Iran equip its proxies and allies with increasingly sophisticated and longer-range ballistic missiles and artillery rockets? The author considers Iran's new missile-proliferation strategy. (14 p.)

CARNEGIE ENDOWMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE

Breaking the Israel-Palestine status quo

by Zaha Hassan [@zahahassan](#) et al.

This paper outlines an approach which would reaffirm and safeguard Israeli rights to security and peace while paying equal attention to long-neglected Palestinian rights. (20 p.)

WESTERN BALKANS

ЦЕНТЪР ЗА ИЗСЛЕДВАНЕ НА ДЕМОКРАЦИЯТА (CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF DEMOCRACY)

Western Balkans 2020: state-capture risks and policy reforms

by Ognian Shentov (ed.) et al.

The report provides a model for reporting on anticorruption progress by civil society in the WB. It underlines that releasing the governance from the state capture grip can only be achieved by an alliance of reform-minded policy makers, civil society and international partners. It suggests the EU would need to be more active in its political engagement with the WB, providing them with a clear perspective for the future. (68 p.)

HERITAGE FOUNDATION

Sustaining momentum in the Western Balkans during the coronavirus pandemic

by Daniel Kochis [@dankochis](#)

Recent examples of progress in the WB resulting from direct US engagement should not give way to complacency. The pandemic has created space for both China and Russia to cash in on the region's troubles. The US should continue to seek constructive engagement in the WB, working with European partners to ensure that the region remains firmly planted on a transatlantic trajectory post-pandemic. (11 p.)

CHINA

NEDERLANDS INSTITUUT VOOR INTERNATIONALE BETREKKINGEN - CLINGENDAEL

China's soft power in Europe: falling on hard times

by Ties Dams [@TiesDams](#) et al.

This report states that Chinese soft power in Europe has fallen on hard times. It identifies three prominent Chinese approaches to developing soft power in Europe: promoting Chinese language and culture; shaping China's image through the media; and using the secondary soft-power effects of economic prowess. (117 p.)

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

Xi Jinpings "Rechtsstaatskonzept": neue Substanz im Systemkonflikt mit China

by Moritz Rudolf [@MoritzRudolf](#)

The authors claim China is aiming to build a coherent legal system under the central term "socialist rule of law with Chinese characteristics", utilising Marxist-Leninist legal concepts. Beijing's explicit goal is to promote its legal perceptions, establish international standards and pursue its interests via legal means. (DE - 8 p.)

FONDATION POUR LA RECHERCHE STRATEGIQUE

Critiquer et faire face : la Chine et la défense antimissile américaine

by Antoine Bondaz [@AntoineBondaz](#)

China has for decades condemned the development of US missile defence. Yet, it is clear now that China is also developing a national missile defence policy. This report aims to contextualise Chinese criticisms of US missile defence; first by placing them in a historical perspective, and then by analysing recent Chinese arguments. (FR - 30 p.)

BROOKINGS INSTITUTION

Northern expedition: China's Arctic activities and ambitions

by Rush Doshi  [@RushDoshi](#) et al.

This report explores China's external and internal discourse on the Arctic as well as its activities and ambitions across the region. It finds that China sometimes speaks with two voices on the Arctic: an external one aimed at foreign audiences and a more cynical internal one emphasizing competition and Beijing's Arctic ambitions. (72 p.)

RUSSIA

ULKOPOLIITTINEN INSTITUUTTI (FINNISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

Russia's redefined view on strategic stability: a security dilemma in Northern Europe?

by Jyri Lavikainen

This paper maps out the contemporary security landscape of northern Europe from Russia's perspective. It explains how Russia's concept of strategic stability affects its perception of military threats in northern Europe and how it attempts to maintain military superiority in the region. (9 p.)

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES (IFRI)

Soft power russe : sources, cibles et canaux d'influence

by Marlène Laruelle

This note argues that Russia deploys a soft power sector, which precisely targets specific audiences based on four peculiarities: the history and culture of Russia's Soviet legacy, its current conservative and illiberal political identity, and its "joker" status on the international scene. (FR - 32 p.)

CARNEGIE ENDOWMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE

New tools, old tricks: emerging technologies and Russia's global tool kit

by Andrew S. Weiss  [@andrewsweiss](#)

This paper assesses the extent to which Russian actors have successfully embraced certain technological innovations to enhance the Kremlin's global activism. It examines whether existing, off-the-shelf capabilities are largely adequate for the Kremlin's purposes. It also draws inferences regarding the possible future evolution of Russia's tool kit. (27 p.)

EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY STUDIES (EUISS)

In Russia's hands: Nagorno-Karabakh after the ceasefire agreement

by András Rác

This brief analyses to what extent the Russian-brokered ceasefire agreement of November 2020 has created the basis for a lasting settlement in Nagorno-Karabakh. The deployment of Russian troops in the region may lead to a new 'freezing' of the conflict resolution process, instead of politically resolving the conflict itself. (8 p.)

TURKEY

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES (IFRI)

Mavi Vatan, la «Patrie bleue»: origines, influence et limites d'une doctrine ambitieuse pour la Turquie

by Aurélien Denizeau  [@ADenizeau](#)

Turkey's activism in the Eastern Mediterranean appears to be guided by an ambitious legal and geopolitical doctrine, based on the claim of a vast maritime domain. Mavi Vatan offers President Erdoğan the opportunity to consolidate his alliance with nationalist movements and to provide a legal framework for his action in Libya, notes the author. (FR - 32 p.)

UNITED KINGDOM / BREXIT

ZENTRUM FÜR EUROPÄISCHE
WIRTSCHAFTSFORSCHUNG (CENTRE FOR
EUROPEAN ECONOMIC RESEARCH)

How effective is carbon pricing? – A machine learning approach to policy evaluation

by Jan Abrell et al.

This paper analyses the emissions and cost impacts of the UK carbon price support (CPS), a carbon tax levied on all fossil-fired power plants. The results indicate that in the period 2013-2016 the CPS lowered emissions by 6.2 percent at an average cost of €18 per ton. (46 p.)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS (CFR)

The future of strategic arms control

by Rebecca Lissner

To manage the increasingly stark geopolitical power shifts of the past decade-plus, the author suggests the US should pursue arms control strategies that regulate rivalry and introduce a broader array of reciprocal restraints. (42 p.)

COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS (CFR)

Major power rivalry in East Asia

by Evan S. Medeiros

The risks of conflict are real and growing in East Asia, and US policymakers should revitalize existing tools and build new ones to manage an increasingly militarized competition, suggests the author. The issues of war and peace will soon become center in global politics in ways not seen in decades. US policymakers need an updated and larger tool kit of strategy and policy responses. (44 p.)

KONRAD-ADENAUER-STIFTUNG

Ein Demokratiegipfel als Meilenstein im Wettbewerb der Systeme? Joe Bidens Vorschlag für einen Summit for Democracy und was dahintersteckt

by Magdalena Jetschgo-Morcillo

Joe Biden announced during the election campaign that he would convene a Summit for Democracy once he would be elected. The agenda includes the fight against corruption and authoritarianism, and the issue of human rights. The author asks how J. Biden got the idea and what are the risks of this proposal? (DE - 5 p.)

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS
INTERNATIONALES (IFRI)

De la taxe numérique à l'imposition des multinationales: la révolution fiscale de Joe Biden

by Laurence Nardon  [@LaurenceNardon](#) et al.

Important negotiations aimed at putting an end to tax drifts are underway within the OECD. They relate to two distinct pillars: establishment of a right to tax large digital companies in countries where their profits are truly made; and establishment of a minimum tax rate on multinational companies. (FR - 10 p.)

REAL INSTITUTO ELCANO (ELCANO
ROYAL INSTITUTE)

Cien días de Biden: unos EEUU más europeos, ¿y debería Europa volverse ahora un poco más norteamericana?

by Miguel Otero-Iglesias  [@miotei](#) et al.

US President Joe Biden reaches his first 100 days in the White House with economic policies that have been branded revolutionary. The analysis argues that, while technology makes it more and more accessible, from a legal perspective outer space is very blandly regulated, allowing for geopolitical rivalries over the legal access to it. (ES - 4 p.)

KONRAD-ADENAUER-STIFTUNG

Bidens Klimaagenda: innenpolitischer Handlungsspielraum und Anknüpfungspunkte für die transatlantischen Beziehungen

by Sonja Thielges

Biden has been in office for 100 days and it's worth taking a look at his climate protection agenda. Has it been able to turn around in climate policy? How is his political room for manoeuvre? And on which topics can transatlantic cooperation in climate policy focus? (DE - 8 p.)

INSTITUT PRO EVROPSKOU POLITIKU EUROPEUM (EUROPEUM INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY)

100 days of Biden's new transatlantic strategy – where does Central and Eastern Europe stand?

by Danielle Piatkiewicz  [@dpiatkiewicz](#)

The author provides an in-depth review of President Biden's first 100 days in office. He particularly examines Biden's new transatlantic strategy and how it affects the Central and Eastern Europe region. (9 p.)

CENTRE FOR STRATEGIC AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Security in northern Europe in the Biden era: redesigning multilateralism

by Rachel Ellehuus  [@rach_ellehuus](#)

This paper reviews US policies and approach to the transatlantic agenda following the Biden inauguration. (15 p.)



AUSTRIA

ÖSTERREICHISCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR
EUROPAPOLITIK (AUSTRIAN SOCIETY
FOR EUROPEAN POLITICS)

25 Thesen zu „100 Jahre österreichische Europa- und Integrationspolitik“ 1919-2020

by Michael Gehler

Three options for action can be derived from the 25 theses: Austria has been able to integrate itself very well in terms of trade, investment, economic and currency policy since its EU membership. Austria can use its geopolitically and economically favourable location and its potentials far more and more profitably for the EU members in East and West. Research on European history and political science and integration research at educational institutions and universities should be promoted more intensively. (DE - 12 p.)

CROATIA

INSTITUTE FOR DEVELOPMENT AND
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Marine litter in Croatian Adriatic: sources, quantities and stakeholders' perspectives

by Marina Funduk et al.

The main goal of this paper is to investigate issues related to marine litter in the Croatian Adriatic, from the current state of sources and quantities of marine litter, through marine litter monitoring and legislation, to stakeholders' awareness about the marine litter issue in Croatia. (18 p.)

DENMARK

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS
INTERNATIONALES (IFRI)

Denmark: a case study for a climate neutral Europe

by Thibault Menu

Given the recent announcements and climate goals set by the EC, Denmark serves as an interesting case study for other European and world nations alike on how to embark on their own energy transitions. This paper assesses whether the country is really successful in accelerating even more than its European peers in its decarbonization process. And if so, what is so special about Denmark and what can be learned from its transformation (32 p.)

FINLAND

FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN
PROGRESSIVE STUDIES (FEPS)/ KALEVI
SORSA FOUNDATION/ FRIEDRICH-EBERT-
STIFTUNG

Unequal Finland: regional socio-economic disparities in Finland

by Stefan Fina et al.

The authors take a closer look to social cohesion in Finland, arguing that the country's ability to adapt to the current economic, digital and ecological transitions is being unequally spread, leading to increasing regional inequalities. The results indicate a need for a more intertwined approach for economic and social policies at the national level, with a lesser focus on spatial concentration of growth and employment effects. (26 p.)

FRANCE

JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE (NOTRE
EUROPE)

Les Français et l'environnement: évolution d'une préoccupation politique croissante

by Bruno Cautrès  @BCautres et al.

This paper evaluates the evolution of pre/post-Covid French public opinion, with

SECTION 4 - EU MEMBER STATES

regard to environmental issues. It determines the factors to understand the complexity of the support of the French public opinion to the climate cause. (FR - 27 p.)

GERMANY

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

Nord Stream 2: Deutschlands Dilemma

by Kirsten Westphal [@kirstenwestpha1](#)

The North Stream 2 project forces the German government to decide between energy and foreign policy interest, notes the author, stating that a prioritisation should always keep energy policy in mind. (DE - 8 p.)

POLSKI INSTYTUT SPRAW
MIĘDZYNARODOWYCH (THE POLISH
INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

Nord Stream 2 —What Germany should discuss with its allies

by Bartosz Bieliszczuk [@BBieliszczuk](#)

The controversies surrounding Nord Stream 2 since the beginning of the investment have not been addressed and some of them have grown even stronger. Russia has not given up its aggressive foreign policy while the German authorities are still advocating the project. The paper presents perspectives and recommendations for a discussion about Germany's long-term policy on Russia. (7 p.)

DEUTSCHES INSTITUT FÜR
WIRTSCHAFTSFORSCHUNG (GERMAN
INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH)

Am Klimaschutz vorbeigeplant – Klimawirkung, Bedarf und Infrastruktur von Erdgas in Deutschland

by Peter Ahmels et al.

This advice provides a clear summary of the current state of knowledge on the role of natural gas in Germany. It sheds light on the climate impact of natural gas and current

regulatory incentives for its continued use. (DE - 41 p.)

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS
INTERNATIONALES (IFRI)

La sortie du charbon pour la production d'électricité en Allemagne : un modèle pour l'Europe ?

by Felix Christian Matthes

The purpose of this study is to provide an overall picture allowing to present and assess the context, modalities and results of strategies aimed at ending coal mining and coal-based electricity production in Germany, developed since 2015 and adopted by law in 2020. (FR - 40 p.)

GREECE

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

Revisiting and going beyond the EU-Turkey migration agreement of 2016: an opportunity for Greece to overcome being just "Europe's aspis"

by Kemal Kirisci [@kemalkirisci](#)

The prolonged presence of 3.6 million Syrian refugees in Turkey encourages for more cooperation with EU about moving from humanitarian aid to creating livelihoods and facilitate opportunities to improve their self-reliance and social inclusion in the host country. Greece, on the front line, will have a role to play. (25 p.)

HUNGARY

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

Die Zukunft von Fidesz jenseits der EVP : Folgen des Austritts für das europäische Parteienggefüge und für Ungarns Verhältnis zu Deutschland

by Kai-Olaf Lang et al.

This paper deals with the exit of the Hungarian Fidesz party from the European Peoples' Party. This step will have consequences in the far right spectrum of the EP. In the long term there will be effects on the Hungarian domestic, foreign and European policies, because Fidesz will lose access to a communication framework with important partners, note the authors. They appeal to Germany to maintain a dialogue despite all differences. (DE - 8 p.)

IRELAND

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH
INSTITUTE

A comparative assessment of minimum wage employment in Europe

by Paul Redmond et al.

Using data for 2017 and 2018, this report provides a comparative analysis of minimum wage employment in Ireland, relative to a selection of other European countries with a statutory minimum wage. The authors estimate that just under 10 per cent of employees in Ireland were on the minimum wage during this time. This compares to an average incidence of 10.5 per cent among the countries studied. (66 p.)

ITALY

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI (IAI)

La collaborazione italo-britannica nel settore della difesa e sicurezza dopo la Brexit

by Ester Sabatino  [@Ester_Sab1](#) et al.

The paper analyses the cooperation between Italy and the UK with regards to the defence sector, both on an operational and industrial level. The cooperation between the two countries is part of the broader European defence context. The authors claim that, with Brexit, the lack of agreement on foreign, security and defence policy makes it necessary to define new ways of cooperation. (IT - 36 p.)

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI (IAI)

Italy and Africa: "Value oriented diplomacy" in action

by Fabrizio Lobasso  [@FabrizioLobasso](#)

The author claims that the "Partnership with Africa" outlines present and future scenarios for the African continent and the role Italy can play in pursuing its national interests while genuinely contributing to the further development of African states and societies. The document highlights specific thematic priorities and four geopolitical areas of intervention (the Mediterranean, Horn of Africa, Sahel and Southern Africa). (7 p.)

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI (IAI)

Europe's missile defence and Italy: capabilities and cooperation

by Alessandro Marrone  [@Alessandro_Ma](#) et al.

The authors affirm that being exposed to missile threats from the MENA and participating in allied nuclear sharing, Italy has a primary interest in upgrading its military capabilities through PeSCo, maintaining them fully integrated within NATO. (117 p.)