

## Russia and security

Relations between the European Union and Russia remain strained after, late in June, the EU extended its sanctions against the country until 31 January 2018, citing a lack of progress in the implementation of the Minsk agreements aimed at ending the Russian-Ukrainian conflict. Russia's annexation of Crimea and its conflict with Ukraine have challenged the post-Cold War security order in Europe. Russia's other assertive foreign policy moves, such as its role in the Syrian war and steps to extend its sphere of influence in Europe, also worry many Western security analysts.

This note offers links to **commentaries, studies by major international think tanks**, which discuss Russia's policies and how to respond to them. More reports on the topic can be found in a [previous edition](#) of 'What Think Tanks are Thinking', published in October 2016.

### Russia and the rest of Europe

[The NATO-Russia founding act: A dead letter](#)

Carnegie Europe, June 2017

[The renewal of the Russian challenge in European security: History as a guide to policy](#)

German Marshall Fund, June 2017

[The great unravelling: Four doomsday scenarios for Europe's Russia policy](#)

European Council on Foreign Relations, June 2017

[The Donbas Blockade: Another blow to the Minsk peace process](#)

Centre for European Policy Studies, June 2017

[Getting beyond Minsk: Toward a resolution of the conflict in Ukraine](#)

Transatlantic Academy, May 2017

[Crimintern: How the Kremlin uses Russia's criminal networks in Europe](#)

European Council on Foreign Relations, April 2017

[Europe and the great powers: Playing our Trump Cards](#)

Egmont, April 2017

[The new NATO-Russia military balance: Implications for European security](#)

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, March 2017

[Contested space: Eastern Europe between Russia and the EU](#)

Centre for European Reform, March 2017

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[Reducing tensions between Russia and NATO](#)

Council on Foreign Relations, March 2017

[What the EU can do for Belarus and Russia](#)

Carnegie Europe, March 2017

[President Dodon's visit to Brussels: Contemplating economic suicide](#)

Centre for European Policy Studies, February 2017

[Belarus et Russie: Divorce en cours](#)

Groupe de Recherche et d'Information sur la Paix et la Sécurité, February 2017

[A strategy for Europe's neighbourhood: Keep resilient and carry on?](#)

Real Institut Elcano, January 2017

[The wind that blows from the east: Russian influence in Central and Eastern Europe](#)

Center for the Study of Democracy, January 2017

[Heavy metal diplomacy: Russia's political use of its military in Europe since 2014](#)

European Council on Foreign Relations, November 2016

[The implications of Russia's legislative vote for the EU](#)

College of Europe, November 2016

**Other studies on security and politics**

[New protests question Russia's social contract](#)

Carnegie Europe, June 2017

[Meeting the Russian hybrid challenge: A comprehensive strategic framework](#)

Atlantic Council, May 2017

[What does Russia want?](#)

European Council on Foreign Relations, May 2017

[Energy, Russian influence and democratic backsliding in Central and Eastern Europe: A comparative assessment and case studies from Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova, Hungary, Romania](#)

Expert Forum, National Endowment for Democracy, May 2017

[Iceland's relations with its regional powers: Alignment with the EU-US sanctions on Russia](#)

Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, May 2017

[Is Russia extending its Syria strategy to Libya?](#)

German Marshall Fund, May 2017

[Russia in action, short of war](#)

Rand Corporation, May 2017

[How Russia became the Jihadists' No. 1 target](#)

Rand Corporation, April 2017

[Grundeinstellungen der russischen politischen Elite: Recht, Wahrheit, Gemeinwohl und Gewalt](#)

Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, March 2017

[Armenia: Russia first, EU second?](#)

European Union Institute for Security Studies, March 2017

[Russia's role as an arms exporter: The strategic and economic importance of arms exports for Russia](#)

Chatham House, March 2017

[The information battle: How governments in the former Soviet Union promote their agendas and attack their opponents abroad](#)

Foreign Policy Centre, March 2017

[The Russian web in the Mediterranean region](#)

Istituto per gli Studi di Politica Internazionale, February 2017

[Russia's best enemy: Russian policy towards the United States in Putin's era](#)

Centre for Eastern Studies, February 2017

[China and Russia: An Eastern partnership in the making?](#)

European Union Institute for Security Studies, February 2017

[Russia's nuclear energy diplomacy in the Middle East: Why the EU should take notice](#)

European Policy Centre, February 2017

[Russia's attempts to influence the presidential election in France](#)

Polish Institute for International Relations, February 2017

[Dealing with a revanchist Russia](#)

Rand Corporation, February 2017

[Russia in Syria: Domestic drivers and regional implications](#)

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Maison du Futur, January 2017

[Going to the people and back again: The changing shape of the Russian regime](#)

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, January 2017

[The future of U.S.-Russia relations](#)

Center for a New American Security, January 2017

[US, Russia, and the world: The passing of empires](#)

Dahrendorf Forum, January 2017

[Russia's evolving South Caucasus policy: Security concerns amid ethno-political conflict](#)

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Auswärtige Politik, January 2017

[Evaluating western sanctions on Russia](#)

Atlantic Council, December 2017

[Renewing mechanisms for Russia-EU cooperation](#)

Russian International Affairs Council, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Auswärtige Politik, November 2016

[La Russie et l'Europe centrale et orientale: Entre confrontations et connivences](#)

Institut français des relations internationales, November 2016

[Western intelligence and counter-intelligence in a time of Russian disinformation](#)

Institute for European Studies, November 2016

[The Kremlin's Trojan horses](#)

Atlantic Council, November 2016

[Russia's 2016 Duma elections: Ambiguous triumph and new challenges for the regime](#)

Finnish Institute of International Affairs, November 2016

[Neubelebung der konventionellen Rüstungskontrolle in Europa: Ein Beitrag zur militärischen Stabilität in Zeiten der Krise](#)

Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, November 2016

[Europe's security governance and transatlantic relations: The West, Russia and Europe's security order](#)

Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, November 2016

[Russische Regionen: Sichere Basis oder Quelle der Instabilität für den Kreml?](#)

Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, November 2016

## **Economy**

[Nord Stream 2 means gains for Germany but pain for Europe](#)

Bruegel, June 2017

[The Kremlin's gas games in Europe: Implications for policy makers](#)

Atlantic Council, May 2017

[The Eurasian Economic Union: Deals, rules and the exercise of power](#)

Chatham House, May 2017

[The Caspian Sea and Southern gas corridor: A view from Russia](#)

Atlantic Council, April 2017

[The EU antitrust case: No big deal for Gazprom](#)

Bruegel, March 2017

[Collapse of the ruble zone and its lessons](#)

Bruegel, March 2017

[The Russian economy in focus: recovery is further away than some might think](#)

Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies, February 2017

[Painful adaptation: The social consequences of the crisis in Russia](#)

Centre for Eastern Studies, February 2017

[Nord Stream 2: A Legal and policy analysis](#)

Centre for European Policy Studies, November 2016

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