

**November 2016**

Further to the United States presidential election, this topical digest presents some of the EPRS publications on US politics and EU-US relations.

**[Oversight of the US executive – The Congressional experience and its lessons for the EU](#)**

*In-depth analysis by Cornelia Klugman, November 2016*

Oversight and scrutiny by the US Congress over the administration can be based on facts, with the aim of improving governance, but also politically motivated, as is often in the case when there is a divided government..

**[Congressional oversight of the US Administration: Tools and agencies](#)**

*Briefing by Cornelia Klugman, November 2016*

The US Congress holds the administration to account using formal and informal tools such as hearings, talks with federal officials and subpoenas. Various agencies assist Congress in this task: the Government Accountability Office, the Congressional Budget Office and the Congressional Research Service.

**[Understanding US Presidential elections](#)**

*Briefing by Carmen-Cristina Cîrlig, Micaela Del Monte, April 2016*

In July 2016, the two major US parties will nominate their respective official candidate for the 58th US presidential election which takes place in November. The presidential campaigns have evolved over time to an almost exclusively political party-dominated convention system, and finally to the modern system of nominations based on primaries, introduced progressively to increase democratic participation.

**[What Think Tanks are thinking: US Elections](#)**

*Briefing by Marcin Grajewski, November 2016*

This note offers links to recent commentaries and reports published by major international think tanks and other research centres on the U.S. elections, divided into three broad topics: future U.S. policies, the phenomenon of Donald Trump and President Barack Obama's legacy.

**[USA: State of the Union 2016](#)**

*At a glance by Elena Lazarou, January 2016*

On 12 January 2016, President Obama delivered his seventh State of the Union Address before a Congress dominated by Republicans since the 2014 mid-term elections. According to analysts, the President aimed to shape his legacy and US politics rather than to push legislation, but his optimism does not fully reflect the sentiment of the American public.

**[Appointment of US Supreme Court Justices](#)**

*Briefing by Micaela Del Monte and Lucas Leblanc, May 2016*

In February 2016, Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia passed away, vacating a position on America's highest court. That quickly focused American political discussion, in the midst of a heated Presidential campaigning season, on his possible replacement

**[Making the US federal budget: Process and hazards](#)**

*Briefing by Matthew Parry, March 2015*

The federal budget makes up roughly half of all public spending in the US. Congress is responsible for passing the legislation that constitutes the budget, but the President also plays an important role, both in launching the process through a formal budget proposal and in bringing it to an end by signing appropriations, revenue and entitlement bills into law.

**[US Congress: Speaker of the House](#)**

*Briefing by Micaela Del Monte, October 2015*

The House Speaker is the political and parliamentary leader of the House of Representatives. He or she is elected by the House of Representatives and the role is the only House leadership position mentioned in Article 1 of the US



Constitution (on the legislature).

### [US: Economic indicators and trade with the EU](#)

Infographic by Odile Maise, Giulio Sabbati, Laura Bartolini, July 2016

Amid an intense public debate on Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) talks, this Infographic provides you with essential data on trade between the world's 2 largest economies.

### Transatlantic Relations

#### [Perspectives on transatlantic cooperation: Science and research. Upgrading EU-US cooperation.](#)

Briefing by Vincent Reillon, August 2016

#### [Perspectives on transatlantic cooperation: Development - Addressing global poverty and insecurity through better transatlantic cooperation](#)

Briefing by Marta Latek, August 2016

#### [Perspectives on transatlantic cooperation: Cybersecurity and cybercrime - Building more resilient and prosperous transatlantic societies](#)

Briefing by Patryk Pawlak, July 2016

#### [Perspectives on transatlantic cooperation: Digital Economy](#)

Briefing by Risto Nieminen, July 2016

#### [Perspectives on transatlantic cooperation: Security and defence - Achieving efficiency and resilience](#)

Briefing by Elena Lazarou, September 2016

#### [EU-US negotiations on TTIP: A survey of current issues](#)

In-depth analysis by Laura Puccio, July 2016

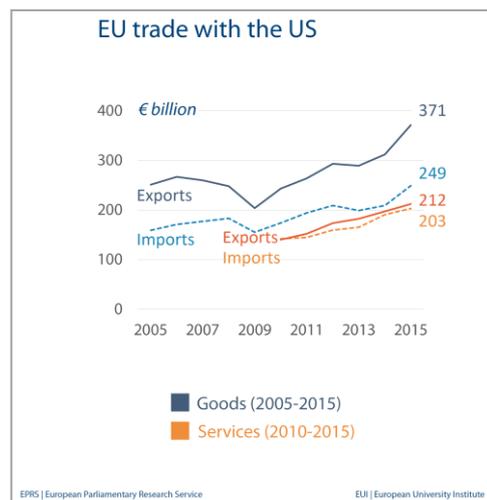
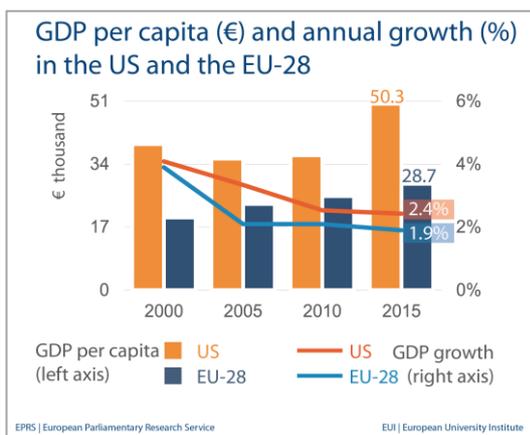
#### [Transatlantic data flows](#)

Plenary at a glance by Shara Monteleone, June 2016

#### [EU-US cooperation in Justice and Home Affairs – an overview](#)

Briefing by Carmen-Cristina Cîrlig, April 2016

### More in the [Graphics Warehouse](#)



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