

## Future EU reforms

Several simultaneous crises have put renewed pressure on the European Union to revise decision-making procedures and economic policies. Russia's war on Ukraine, growing protectionism worldwide, technological rivalry with China and the US, problems with the rule of law in some Member States, post-pandemic issues and migration woes pose many challenges on the political side. On the economic front, many economists and politicians are calling for fiscal reforms, energy system overhaul and new EU funds. Those funds would finance the EU's transition towards a green economy, and boost the bloc's ability to deal with external shocks, such as the current energy crisis.

Among topics discussed are increasing the scope of qualified majority voting by EU Member States in the Council, creating more coherent unions for energy and health, improving rules for sharing the costs of immigration, and modifying enlargement policies. In the economic area, discussions focus on overhauling fiscal rules for the euro area and the wider EU, issuing more EU debt, countering unfair competition from abroad, increasing cooperation in the energy sector, and new industrial policies to foster growth of innovative and high-technology companies.

This note offers links to recent **commentaries and reports from international think tanks** on the EU and proposed reforms. Earlier papers on the State of the Union can be found in a [recent edition](#) of 'What Think Tanks are Thinking'.

### Economy

[The European Stability mechanism is not ready for the next crisis](#)  
Centre for European Reform, November 2022

[The EU's trillion-euro question](#)  
European Policy Centre, November 2022

[RePowering EU: Managing a tough energy transition](#)  
Istituto per gli Studi di Politica Internazionale, November 2022

[European Union fiscal rules: is a better system feasible?](#)  
Bruegel, October 2022

[Does the European Union need an energy crisis fund?](#)  
Bruegel, October 2022

[European fiscal rules and the German debt brake: Reform options](#)  
Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, October 2022

[La stratégie industrielle de l'Union européenne: Concilier concurrence et défis géoéconomiques](#)  
Institut français des relations internationales, October 2022



[The future of common borrowing](#)

Jacques Delors Institute, October 2022

[Monetary policy and central fiscal capacity in the euro area](#)

LUISS School of European Political Economy, October 2022

[Two large shocks in quick succession: How can Europe avoid another decade of growth disappointment?](#)

Brookings Institution, September 2022

[Should the European Union turn to financial markets to finance its programs?](#)

Bruegel, September 2022

**Politics**

[Europeans must prepare for the post-Biden era](#)

Carnegie Europe, November 2022

[Flexible 'EU-centricness' is the key ingredient to ensure the European Political Community's success](#)

Centre for European Policy Studies, October 2022

[Can EU enlargement gain momentum?](#)

Centre for European Reform, November 2022

[Europe's power is built upon its social contract](#)

European Policy Centre, November 2022

[After the storm: The EU in uncharted waters](#)

European Policy Centre, November 2022

[No power without values: Why the EU needs to embrace political leadership if it wants to safeguard democracy](#)

European Policy Centre, November 2022

[European strategic autonomy and defence after Ukraine](#)

Real Instituto Elcano, November 2022

[The European \(geo\)Political Community: More than meets the eye?](#)

Barcelona Centre for International Affairs, October 2022

[The EU and the creative and destructive impact of crises](#)

Carnegie Europe, October 2022

[Five takeaways from the European Political Community summit](#)

Carnegie Europe, October 2022

[The \(sorry\) state of EU defense cooperation](#)

Carnegie Europe, October 2022

[Analysis of the European Political Community misses the point](#)

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Auswärtige Politik, October 2022

[A new generation of European Citizens' Panels: Making citizens' voices a regular part of policymaking](#)

European Policy Centre, October 2022

[Can Europe master its destiny through the European Political Community?](#)

German Marshal Fund, October 2022

[The potential implications of a proposed European Political Community](#)

Institute of International and European Affairs, October 2022

[Towards QMV in EU foreign policy: Different paths at multiple speeds](#)

Jacques Delors Centre, October 2022

[More EU decisions by qualified majority voting: But how?](#)

Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, October 2022

[The Commission v the member states: Who wins in court, and why?](#)

Swedish Institute for European Policy Studies, October 2022

[Enlarging and deepening: Giving substance to the European Political Community](#)

Bruegel, September 2022

[Five lessons on international rule of law support](#)

Carnegie Europe, September 2022

[European unity can endure the winter of discontent](#)

Carnegie Europe, September 2022

[The economic basis of democracy in Europe](#)

Chatham House, September 2022

[Science-based and evidence-based policy-making in the European Union: Coexisting or conflicting concepts?](#)

College of Europe, September 2022

[When founding member states look at the future of Europe: Benelux countries' contribution to the COFOE](#)

Egmont, September 2022

[Mapping eco-social policy mixes for a just transition in Europe](#)

European Trade Union Institute, September 2022

[Strengthening the European Health Union](#)

Federation for European Progressive Studies, September 2022

[Is nationalism compatible with the European project?](#)

Friends of Europe, September 2022

[Divergence in the quality of political institutions in Europe](#)

Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy, September 2022

[Putin vs Monnet: European resilience, energy and the Ukraine war](#)

Istituto Affari Internazionale, September 2022

[A new dawn for EU enlargement?](#)

Peterson Institute for International Economics, September 2022

[The Italian elections of 2022: What do they mean for the EU?](#)

Swedish Institute for European Policy Studies, September 2022

[EU subsidiarity as an antidote to centralisation and inefficiency](#)

Wilfried Martens Centre, September 2022

## DISCLAIMER AND COPYRIGHT

This document is prepared for, and addressed to, the Members and staff of the European Parliament as background material to assist them in their parliamentary work. The content of the document is the sole responsibility of its author(s) and any opinions expressed herein should not be taken to represent an official position of the Parliament.

Reproduction and translation for non-commercial purposes are authorised, provided the source is acknowledged and the European Parliament is given prior notice and sent a copy.

© European Union, 2022.

[eprs@ep.europa.eu](mailto:eprs@ep.europa.eu) (contact)

[www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank) (internet)

<http://epthinktank.eu> (blog)