EU security, defence and foreign policies

Russia's war on Ukraine has been redefining the European Union's security, defence and foreign policies, changing its priorities on the continent and globally. The biggest military conflict on European soil since World War II has shone a spotlight on territorial defence and the shifting international order. Before the brutal conflict erupted a year ago, security and defence policy had focused mainly on conflict prevention and the strengthening of international security in general. The main foreign policy objectives had included the preservation of peace, strengthening international security and promoting international cooperation.

The war has highlighted the importance of NATO and transatlantic relations for European security, despite efforts to bolster the EU's 'strategic autonomy'. The conflict has solidified EU solidarity in foreign and security policy, but also brought to light certain divisions among Member States.

This note gathers links to recent publications and commentaries from many international think tanks on European defence, security and foreign policies. It includes only the most recent papers related to Ukraine. Earlier reports on Russia's war on Ukraine can be found in the previous item in the 'What think tanks are thinking' series.

The EU must reconcile geopolitics and democracy
Carnegie Europe, February 2023

Can Europe influence U.S.-China rivalry?
Carnegie Europe, February 2023

The unfulfilled promise of EU foreign and security policy towards Iran
Centre for European Policy Studies, February 2023

The South China Sea and Indo-Pacific in an era of "multipolar" competition
Centre for European Policy Studies, February 2023

The impact of the war in Ukraine: Annual report 2022
Centre for European Reform, February 2023

Europe and the Iran nuclear threat
Centre for European Reform, February 2023

A new momentum grows for UK-France defence cooperation
Chatham House, February 2023

Seven ways Russia's war on Ukraine has changed the world
Chatham House, February 2023
Culture notes: Will the EU find its voice at last?
Chatham House, February 2023

Europe: Crossing the East-West divide
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Auswärtige Politik, February 2023

The European Union and Latin America: Renewing the partnership after drifting apart
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Auswärtige Politik, February 2023

Repair, replace, reimburse: Sustaining a European tank coalition for Ukraine
European Council on Foreign Relations, February 2023

Russia’s defeat in Ukraine must be the top transatlantic priority
European Policy Centre, February 2023

One year of war in Ukraine: Why Western policy towards Russia has not changed enough
Finnish Institute of International Affairs, February 2023

Leopard 2 tanks and Ukraine’s war: Keeping an eye on the geopolitical ball
Friends of Europe, February 2023

Pushing back against the authoritarians: Everyone can play a part, not just the military
Friends of Europe, February 2023

Watching China in Europe: February 2023
German Marshall Fund, February 2023

Turkey’s disengagement from the European Union
German Marshall Fund, February 2023

Comment la guerre a déjà changé l’Union européenne?
Institut Jacques Delors, February 2023

Guerre en Ukraine et nouvel ordre du monde
Institut Montaigne, February 2023

Back to the roots: Nato returns to territorial defence in Europe
Istituto per gli Studi di Politica Internazionale, February 2023

European missile defence: Right questions, unclear answers?
International Institute for Strategic Studies, February 2023

La guerre en Ukraine et l’action de l’Union européenne : expertise technique et politique
Robert Schuman Foundation, February 2023

Germany’s fragile leadership role in European air defence
Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, February 2023

Is European strategic autonomy over?
Carnegie Europe, January 2023

Is European defence missing its moment?
Centre for European Reform, January 2023
Europe’s strategic technology autonomy from China
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Auswärtige Politik, January 2023

How Europe can shape changes in the world economy
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Auswärtige Politik, January 2023

Strategy, capabilities, technology: A manifesto for new European defence
European Council on Foreign Relations, January 2023

Will 2023 mark a shift towards a more realist EU foreign policy?
Friends of Europe, January 2023

What to watch in 2023
German Marshall Fund, January 2023

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Institut français des relations internationales, January 2023

Naval combat systems: Developments and challenges
Istituto Affari Internazionali, January 2023

Europe-Africa relations in a multi-crisis world: Turning the page after COVID-19, the EU-AU Summit and the war against Ukraine
Istituto Affari Internazionali, January 2023

Geopolitics and energy security in Europe
Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, January 2023

Time to re-engage with Kosovo and Serbia: Strengthening EU foreign and security policy amidst internal contestation
Barcelona Centre for International Affairs, December 2022

Centre of gravity: Security and defence in the Indo-Pacific – What role for the European Union
Brussels School of Governance, December 2022

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Centre for Eastern Studies, December 2022

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GLOBSEC, December 2022

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Egmont, November 2022

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European Policy Centre, November 2022

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Friends of Europe, November 2022

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Istituto Affari Internazionali, November 2022

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