



Европейски парламент Parlamento Europeo Evropský parlament Europa-Parlamentet Europäisches Parlament
Euroopa Parlament Ευρωπαϊκό Κοινοβούλιο European Parliament Parlement européen Parlaimint na hEorpa
Europski parlament Parlamento europeo Eiropas Parlaments Europos Parlamentas Európai Parlament
Parlament Ewropew Europees Parlement Parlament Europejski Parlamento Europeu Parlamentul European
Európsky parlament Evropski parlament Euroopan parlamentti Europaparlamentet

List of publications from the EP Think Tank

<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank>

Search criteria used to generate the list :

Sort Sort by date
Keyword "social impact"

162 Result(s)

Creation date : 16-04-2024

[The social impact of public procurement - Can the EU do more?](#)

Publication type Study

Date 24-10-2023

External author Valentina CAIMI, Silvia SANSONETTI

Policy area Employment | Evaluation of Law and Policy in Practice | Internal Market and Customs Union | Social Policy

Keyword directive (EU) | economic structure | ECONOMICS | EUROPEAN UNION | European Union law | International Labour Organisation | INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS | public procurement | social affairs | social economy | social framework | social impact | social policy | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | TRADE | trade policy | United Nations

Summary The aim of this study is to present the possibilities offered by Directive 2014/24/EU on public procurement for the achievement of social goals and to analyse how these possibilities have been transposed into national law and implemented by contracting authorities across the EU. Another aim is to identify obstacles to the use of existing provisions and make recommendations with regards to possible future EU action.

Study [EN](#)

[The social impact of public procurement - Can the EU do more?](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 01-09-2023

External author Valentina CAIMI, Silvia SANSONETTI

Policy area Employment | Evaluation of Law and Policy in Practice | Internal Market and Customs Union | Social Policy

Keyword collective agreement | directive (EU) | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | employment policy | EUROPEAN UNION | European Union law | labour law and labour relations | public procurement | social affairs | social framework | social impact | social policy | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | TRADE | trade policy

Summary The aim of this study is to present the possibilities offered by Directive 2014/24/EU on public procurement for the achievement of social goals and to analyse how these possibilities have been transposed into national law and implemented by contracting authorities across the EU. Another aim is to identify obstacles to the use of existing provisions and make recommendations with regards to possible future EU action.

At a Glance [EN](#)

[Lessons learned from COVID-19 and recommendations for the future](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 05-07-2023

Author AMAND-EECKHOUT Laurence

Policy area Public Health

Keyword committee report | coronavirus disease | democracy | disease surveillance | economic analysis | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | EP Committee | epidemic | EU institutions and European civil service | EUROPEAN UNION | fundamental rights | health | LAW | parliamentary proceedings | political framework | POLITICS | public health | rights and freedoms | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary During the July plenary session, the European Parliament is expected to discuss the final report of its Special Committee on the COVID-19 pandemic, and vote on a series of recommendations to improve EU preparedness for future health emergencies.

At a Glance [DE](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#), [PL](#)

[Social climate fund: 'Fit for 55' package](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 15-06-2023

Author PARI MARIANNA | WIDUTO Agnieszka | WILSON Alex Benjamin

Policy area Energy | Environment | Social Policy

Keyword adaptation to climate change | carbon neutrality | cooperation policy | deterioration of the environment | distribution of EU funding | eligibility criteria | ENVIRONMENT | environmental policy | EU finance | EUROPEAN UNION | European Union law | financial aid | fund (EU) | greenhouse gas | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | proposal (EU) | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary On 14 July 2021, the European Commission adopted the 'fit for 55' package of legislative proposals to meet the new EU objective of a minimum 55 % reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2030. The package is part of the Commission's European Green Deal, which aims to set the EU firmly on the path towards net zero GHG emissions (climate neutrality) by 2050. The fit for 55 package includes a regulation establishing a new social climate fund (SCF). The aim of the SCF is to help vulnerable households, micro-businesses and transport users counter the additional costs they may face when the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS) Directive is revised to cover these two sectors. The SCF should provide up to €65 billion in EU funding over the 2026-2032 period, mainly through ETS credits in the buildings and road transport sectors. Member States are expected to co-finance 25% of the total estimated cost of their social plans. The fund can be used for temporary direct income support, as well as investments in energy efficiency-related building renovations and sustainable transport. Trilogue negotiations concluded on 18 December 2022 with a provisional agreement, which was then formally adopted by the Parliament and the Council in April 2023. The adopted text was published in the Official Journal of the EU on 16 May 2023 and entered into force on 5 June 2023. Third edition. The 'EU Legislation in Progress' briefings are updated at key stages throughout the legislative procedure.

Briefing [EN](#)

Multimedia [Social climate fund: Fit for 55 package](#)

[Policy instruments to tackle social inequalities related to climate change](#)

Publication type Study

Date 15-05-2023

External author Mariya GANCHEVA, Berkay AKBABA, Matthew GERACI, Vanessa LUDDEN, Ralitsa DONKOVA, Silvia BEGHELLI, Thomas NEUMANN, Francesca FINELLO, Anna-Maija LAINE

Policy area Employment | Environment

Keyword climate change | climate change policy | climatic zone | deterioration of the environment | ENVIRONMENT | environmental policy | natural environment | political situation | POLITICS | politics and public safety | social affairs | social framework | social impact | social policy | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | socioeconomic conditions

Summary This study assesses the extent to which policy frameworks at EU and national level are equipped to tackle the socioeconomic impacts associated with climate action policies, identifies gaps and outlines recommendations for action that could be taken up by the European Parliament in future policy debates. This document was provided by the Policy Department for Economic, Scientific and Quality of Life Policies at the request of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL).

Study [EN](#)

[Protecting whistle-blowers in the EU](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 25-04-2023

Author DEL MONTE Micaela

Policy area Area of Freedom, Security and Justice

Keyword data protection | directive (EU) | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | EUROPEAN UNION | European Union law | information and information processing | information technology and data processing | infringement of EU law | justice | labour market | labour market | LAW | national implementing measure | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | witness protection

Summary In December 2019, Directive (EU) 2019/1937 on the protection of persons who report breaches of Union law (hereafter 'the directive') entered into force. Member States had 2 years to transpose the directive into their domestic legal systems. Prior to the entry into force of the directive, the legal framework was fragmented at national level and limited in scope to specific sectors at EU level (i.e. financial services and transport safety). Transposition did not prove easy, and the European Commission was obliged to open infringement procedures against a number of Member States. The directive came into force after major cases of whistle-blowing (Panama Papers, Dieselgate, Wikileaks, Luxleaks, Cambridge Analytica) drew strong public attention to the situation of those who reveal misconduct and malpractice in public and private entities. Those who 'blow the whistle', and also their colleagues and their relatives, can face retaliation and suffer both economic and reputational harm. Fear of retaliatory measures can foster a culture of silence, with a dissuasive effect on individuals who are willing to report unlawful practices ('chilling effect'). The EU legislator has recognised the positive impact of whistle-blowers who act as public watchdogs. They promote a culture where speaking out is not penalised and where disclosing information in the public interest increases transparency, improves integrity and ensures public accountability. Whistle-blowers help the public to access accurate information on matters of public concern. Nevertheless, it has been pointed out that legislation alone is not enough, a cultural change in the workplace will also be necessary to ensure that those blowing the whistle are not stigmatised and do not suffer social, professional and personal repercussions.

Briefing [EN](#)

[Study in Focus: Social tracking methodology for the EU budget](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 28-02-2023

External author Iain BEGG, Francesco CORTI et al. (CEPS)

Policy area Budget | Budgetary Control | Evaluation of Law and Policy in Practice

Keyword budget | budgetary control | documentation | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | EU budget | EU finance | EUROPEAN UNION | FINANCE | financial policy | free movement of capital | LAW | monitoring report | rights and freedoms | social affairs | social budget | social cost | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | social rights

Summary The full study examines the evolving approach to tracking the effectiveness and impact of social expenditure from the EU budget. In the last decade, there has been a shift toward performance-based budgeting, putting the emphasis much more on the outputs and results of expenditure programmes. Despite these changes, ascertaining whether policies are achieving their underlying goals and contributing to the realisation of the European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR) remains difficult. This study analyses the strengths and weaknesses of the current system for monitoring and evaluating EU social spending and proposes improvements.

At a Glance [DE](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)

Research for REGI Committee - Cohesion Policy in EU Coal Regions

Publication type At a Glance

Date 14-02-2023

External author Javier FERNANDEZ (Study Director), Pouyan MALEKI-DIZAJI (Research Coordinator & Lead Author), Veronika MULLER (Key Researcher), Paul BAKER, Samuel GREGORY-MANNING, Antonio BETANCOR, Carmen HOYA, Gabriele GALASSI, Maria REYES, Alexandre MOHAMEDALY

Policy area Energy | Industry | Regional Development

Keyword air quality | atmospheric pollutant | carbon neutrality | coal and mining industries | coal industry | deterioration of the environment | economic analysis | economic and social cohesion | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | ENERGY | ENVIRONMENT | environmental policy | environmental protection | EU programme | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary Decarbonisation brings both significant challenges and opportunities for coal regions. This At a glance note summarises the study analysing the implementation and impact of Cohesion Policy, including Just Transition Funds, in EU coal regions. Looking retrospectively at the 2014-2020 programming period and forward to the 2021-27 period, the study concludes that Cohesion Policy has made, and is likely to continue to make a real contribution to achieving smarter, greener and more socially connected development of EU coal regions.

[At a Glance](#) [EN](#)

THE EFFECT OF COMMUNICATION AND DISINFORMATION DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Publication type At a Glance

Date 08-02-2023

External author Cécile JACOB, VVA Brussels
Pierre HAUSEMER, VVA Brussels
Adam ZAGONI-BOGSCH, VVA Brussels
Dr. Audra DIERS-LAWSON, Kristiania University College

Policy area Coronavirus | Evaluation of Law and Policy in Practice

Keyword communications | coronavirus disease | disinformation | economic analysis | ECONOMICS | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | epidemic | health | health policy | impact study | information and information processing | limited circulation | mass communications | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary This study analyses how governments, public health experts and other professionals communicated during the COVID-19 pandemic, and the impact of these communication strategies. It investigates COVID-19 misinformation and disinformation practices, and how these practices were addressed in the European Union by the Member States and the European Commission. It draws up recommendations to improve responses in the future, including by analysing the role of the Code of Practice on disinformation and the expected impact of the Digital Services Act.

[At a Glance](#) [EN](#)

Research for CULT Committee - Influence of social media on the development of children and young people

Publication type At a Glance

Date 01-02-2023

External author Brian O'Neill

Policy area Culture | Education

Keyword area of freedom, security and justice | child | civics | communications | demography and population | digital literacy | digital technology | education | education | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | family | information and information processing | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | rights of access | social framework | social impact | social media | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | teaching | technology and technical regulations

Summary This At a glance note summarises the study examining research on the impact of pervasive social media use on children's and young people's development. Acknowledging the many benefits children gain from being connected through social media, this study focuses on problematic use and the potential harm that may arise from content, contact, conduct and contract risks. Solutions are considered in light of EU policy and regulatory developments with particular reference to ensuring that children are protected, safe and empowered when they go online.

[At a Glance](#) [EN](#)

Stepping up the EU's efforts to tackle corruption – Cost of non-Europe Report

Publication type Study

Date 13-01-2023

Author FERNANDES MEENAKSHI | JANCOVA LENKA

Policy area European Added Value

Keyword area of freedom, security and justice | corruption | criminal law | democracy | economic analysis | ECONOMICS | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | FINANCE | financing and investment | impact study | LAW | political framework | POLITICS | public financing | public procurement | rule of law | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | TRADE | trade policy

Summary Corruption poses a significant threat in the European Union and can contribute towards an erosion of democracy and the rule of law, especially during times of crisis. The European Union can do more to tackle corruption and curb its negative impacts on society. This report presents a quantitative analysis of the potential gains from further EU action to tackle corruption, estimating that it could generate up to €58.5 billion per year. Other gains could also be expected in terms of reinforcing democracy and promoting international credibility and long-term growth.

[Study](#) [EN](#)

[Impact of COVID-19 measures on democracy and fundamental rights - Best practices and lessons learned in the Member States and third countries](#)

Publication type Study

Date 12-12-2022

External author Joelle GROGAN, CEU Democracy Institute, Hungary

Policy area Coronavirus | Democracy | EU Democracy, Institutional and Parliamentary Law | Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity | Human Rights | Public Health

Keyword coronavirus disease | democracy | epidemic | fundamental rights | health | health certificate | LAW | political framework | POLITICS | public health | rights and freedoms | rule of law | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | tariff policy | TRADE | vaccination

Summary This research study examines the impact of COVID-19 measures on democracy and fundamental rights in the EU. It considers what best practices have been evidenced, and the lessons that can be learned from comparative experience within EU Member States as well as relevant third countries. It examines pandemic governance in the EU and its Member States during the COVID-19 pandemic between 2020 and 2022. It describes how the COVID-19 pandemic was addressed by EU Member States, either in terms of declaring a state of emergency or similar regimes, or using emergency powers or emergency health legislation, or normal legislation. This study was provided by the Policy Department for Economic, Scientific and Quality of Life Policies at the request of the special committee on the COVID-19 pandemic: lessons learned and recommendations for the future (COVI).

Study [EN](#)

[Education policy in the National Recovery and Resilience Plans](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 09-12-2022

Author MILEUSNIC MARIN

Policy area Budget

Keyword economic conditions | economic independence | economic policy | economic recovery | ECONOMICS | education | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | education policy | EU aid | EU finance | EU financial instrument | EU initiative | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | international affairs | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary The Next Generation EU (NGEU) instrument and its centrepiece, the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF), are the largest-ever EU financing tools, created to mitigate the socio-economic fall-out of the pandemic. The facility is organised around six pillars representing policy areas of EU relevance that require strengthening in order to make the EU economies and societies robust and futureproof. The pillars define investment priorities and the scope of financing under the RRF. This briefing focuses on the 'Policies for next generation' pillar and in particular on the policy measures in education, training and skills, early childhood education and care that the Member States have laid out in their individual National Recovery and Resilience Plans (NRRPs). These NRRPs are required to list reforms and investments the Member States commit to making in order to meet the RRF objectives. To receive RRF grants and loans, the Member States should have successfully completed the relevant milestones and targets that accompany the planned measures. That is, the facility is a performance-based instrument, as specified in the RRF Regulation. Even though it only plays a supporting role in education policy, the EU has made RRF funding available for actions in this policy area to address the structural shortcomings in the education sector – likely worsened by the COVID-19 crisis – across all Member States. Tackling these shortcomings efficiently can guarantee recovery and resilience, maintain alignment with the job market and ultimately safeguard the integrity of the single market. The RRF is defined as a one-off instrument that would be discontinued after 2026, following the implementation of all the measures included in the NRRPs. While the main EU initiatives for education policy are defined in the long term and thus extend beyond the planned lifetime of the RRF, the facility is nevertheless capable of supporting large-scale investment and reforms with a medium- to long-term impact. The European Parliament welcomes the measures in the areas of education and training built into the NRRPs, and encourages the development of a European dimension in the Member States' education policies.

Briefing [EN](#)

[Country-Specific Recommendations for 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022](#)

Publication type Study

Date 19-07-2022

Author GRIGAITA KRISTINA | HECSEK ADRIANA HAJNALK | ZORPIDIS ANDREAS | ZSITNAK ALEXANDRA

Policy area Economics and Monetary Issues

Keyword economic analysis | economic conditions | economic consequence | economic geography | economic independence | economic recovery | economic reform | economic structure | economic transition | ECONOMICS | EU action | EU Member State | European construction | European Semester | EUROPEAN UNION | European Union law | FINANCE | fiscal policy | GEOGRAPHY | international affairs | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | monetary economics | recommendation (EU) | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | statistics | taxation

Summary This document presents:

- The 2022 CSRs adopted by the Council, in the framework of the European Semester, on 17 June 2022 and
- The 2021 fiscal recommendations adopted by the Council on 18 June 2021,
- The 2020 CSRs adopted by the Council, in the framework of the European Semester, on 20 July 2020,
- The 2019 Country-Specific Recommendations (CSRs) adopted by the Council on 9 July 2019,
- The European Commission's assessments of the implementation of the 2019, 2020 and 2021 CSRs based on its Country Reports published on 23 May 2022.

Study [EN](#)

Economic repercussions of Russia's war on Ukraine – Weekly Digest 17 June 2022

Publication type In-Depth Analysis

Date 17-06-2022

Author DE LEMOS PEIXOTO SAMUEL | HAGELSTAM Kajus | MAGNUS Marcel

Policy area Economics and Monetary Issues

Keyword economic analysis | economic consequence | economic geography | ECONOMICS | EU relations | EU restrictive measure | Europe | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | GEOGRAPHY | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | international security | military intervention | political geography | Russia | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | Ukraine | war

Summary This paper provides a summary of recent economic, financial and budgetary decisions and developments following President Vladimir Putin's decision of 24 February to start a military attack against Ukraine. It includes recent information relating to the EU sanctions regime, recent economic estimates, and policies supporting economic and financial resilience, including the coordination of national economic and fiscal measures. It also highlights policy recommendations made in the public domain to mitigate any adverse economic, financial and social effects and to support economic recovery in the EU and the Euro Area

In-Depth Analysis [EN](#)

Research for REGI Committee: Social Challenges in Cities

Publication type Study

Date 10-06-2022

External author Iselin MULVIK, Eigirdas SABALIAUSKAS, Hanna SIAROVA, Kristupas PRIBUIŠIS, Joanna KOSTKA

Policy area Regional Development

Keyword construction and town planning | coronavirus disease | ECONOMICS | epidemic | executive power and public service | health | local government | marginalisation | municipality | national accounts | POLITICS | poverty | social affairs | social framework | social impact | social inequality | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | socially disadvantaged class | town

Summary This study explores social challenges and policy responses in EU cities in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. It demonstrates that the pandemic has placed additional pressures on vulnerable groups and the institutions that work to support them. It finds that the local policy capacity to respond to the crisis has differed across cities and multi-level governance settings. Participatory and integrated policy efforts have often failed to meet the expectations of urban citizens and stakeholders. To move towards urban resilience in times of crisis, EU-level funding needs to become more accessible and focused on long-term transformations, as well as improving policy dialogue with those cities most limited by ineffective local governance structures and historical legacies.

Study [EN](#)

Executive summary [DE](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#)

Multilateral initiatives for upholding human rights in digital technologies: A task for the UN or for liberal democracies?

Publication type Briefing

Date 21-04-2022

Author ZAMFIR Ionel

Policy area Democracy | Human Rights

Keyword artificial intelligence | communications | digital technology | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | human rights | impact of information technology | information and information processing | information technology | information technology and data processing | LAW | new technology | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | rights and freedoms | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | technology and technical regulations

Summary With their rapid advancement in recent times, digital technologies have undeniably had major positive and also negative impacts on human rights. They have offered people better opportunities to communicate and exchange information, thereby empowering them to exercise their right to freedom of expression and association, among others, and to draw public attention to human rights violations. On the other hand, they have enabled disinformation, cyber-surveillance and abusive behaviour, such as hate speech, cyber-crime and misuse of personal data. There is a broad consensus that the same human rights and human rights obligations that apply offline also apply in the digital environment. However, new technologies are creating a fundamentally different paradigm for human interaction, and the current international human rights framework has conceptual gaps. The main question for the international debate is how to fill these gaps. Through soft ethical standards or binding rules? What is the best forum for this? While the UN is best placed, given its universal scope, it has been weakened by the actions of authoritarian states. Multilateral coalitions of democratic states are an alternative avenue, but they bring a risk of fragmentation of the global space for digital technologies. When looking at how human rights play out in the digital context, it is important to carefully balance the benefits and risks of new technologies, to apply a multi-stakeholder approach, and to bear in mind that human rights obligations, while still incumbent on states as the main duty bearers, also apply to businesses, particularly those behind new technological developments. The EU is involved in the discussions on the above issues, both in the UN and in coalitions of liberal democracies. In parallel, the EU is working on developing guidance and binding norms on how human rights obligations apply at EU and national level with respect to the digital environment.

Briefing [EN](#)

[Situation in Lebanon: Severe and prolonged economic depression](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 13-04-2022

Author IMMENKAMP Beatrix | JONGBERG Kirsten

Policy area Foreign Affairs

Keyword Asia and Oceania | economic conditions | economic geography | economic recession | economic situation | ECONOMICS | EU relations | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | FINANCE | financial situation | free movement of capital | GEOGRAPHY | Lebanon | political geography | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | socioeconomic conditions

Summary The Lebanese government's decision to impose new taxes in October 2019 sparked nation-wide protests by a population exhausted by poor public services, worried about increasing national debt and frustrated by widespread corruption. Since then, Lebanese politics have been marked by political deadlock that has prevented successive governments from implementing urgent reforms. The devastating explosion in the port of Beirut on 4 August 2020 only exacerbated the situation. By the time Prime Minister Najib Mikati presented his new government on 10 September 2021, the country had sunk deeply into a financial and economic crisis. Lebanon's severe and prolonged economic depression is, according to the World Bank, 'likely to rank in the top 10, possibly top 3, most severe crisis episodes globally since the mid-nineteenth century'. Poverty in Lebanon has spread dramatically over the past year and now affects about 74 % of the population. Lebanon is host to approximately 1.5 million Syrian refugees, 90 % of whom live in extreme poverty. There are also over 210 000 other refugees. The Lebanese pound has lost 90 % of its value in the past two years, most people have only two hours of electricity per day, and the healthcare sector is at breaking point. The middle class has been decimated, with many leaving the country or planning to do so. There is concern that parliamentary elections scheduled for May 2022 may be postponed, further prolonging the political deadlock that is preventing the implementation of critical reforms. The war in Ukraine is meanwhile expected to have a serious impact on Lebanon, which imports around 90 % of its wheat from Ukraine and Russia. The EU has supported Lebanon with €2.77 billion over the past decade, to help the country. However, in July 2021, the Council adopted a framework for targeted restrictive measures, offering the possibility to impose sanctions on persons and entities responsible for undermining democracy or the rule of law in Lebanon. The European Parliament has called Lebanon's present situation a 'man-made disaster caused by a handful of men across the political class'.

Briefing [EN](#), [FR](#)

[Economic repercussions of Russia's war on Ukraine – Weekly Digest 8 April 2022](#)

Publication type In-Depth Analysis

Date 08-04-2022

Author DE LEMOS PEIXOTO SAMUEL | GRIGAITE KRISTINA | MAGNUS Marcel | PACHECO DIAS CRISTINA SOFIA | TURCU OVIDIU IONUT | VERBEKEN Dirk | ZORPIDIS ANDREAS | ZSITNAK ALEXANDRA

Policy area Economics and Monetary Issues

Keyword economic analysis | economic consequence | economic geography | ECONOMICS | EU restrictive measure | Europe | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | GEOGRAPHY | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | international security | military intervention | political geography | Russia | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | Ukraine | war

Summary This paper provides a summary of recent economic, financial and budgetary decisions and developments following President Vladimir Putin's decision of 24 February to start a military attack against Ukraine. It includes recent information relating to the EU sanctions regime, policies supporting energy, economic and financial resilience in the EU, including the coordination of national economic and fiscal measures, and economic estimates for EU Member States. It also highlights policy recommendations made in the public domain to mitigate any adverse economic, financial and social effects and to support economic recovery in the EU and the Euro Area.

In-Depth Analysis [EN](#)

[EU-Ukraine trade and investment relations and the impact of Russia's war](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 06-04-2022

Author IGLER WOLFGANG | KRAMER Lorenz

Policy area International Trade

Keyword economic analysis | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | EU relations | Europe | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | GEOGRAPHY | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | international security | international trade | political geography | production | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | supply chain | TRADE | trade relations | Ukraine | war | war damage

Summary The EU-Ukraine Association Agreement is the main tool for bringing Ukraine and the EU closer together: it promotes deeper political ties, stronger economic links and the respect for common values. The Agreement was negotiated between 2007 and 2011, signed in 2014, and entered into force on 1 September 2017 after unanimous ratification by EU Member States. The Association Agreement includes a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA) between the EU and Ukraine that has been provisionally applied since 1 January 2016. By 2020, the EU had become Ukraine's most important export market and principal source of imports, dwarfing Ukraine's second partner – China – and placing Russia a distant third. Since the Russian Federation launched its military invasion of Ukraine on 24 February 2022, EU-Ukraine trade and investment relations have started to experience constraints, with some European (car) manufacturers reporting disturbances and temporarily halting production due to a lack of Ukrainian components. Ukraine's future trade prospects will depend not only on its trade partners, but also on rebuilding the physical damage the country has suffered, and on the status of its ports

Briefing [EN](#)

[The European Council in 2020](#)

Publication type Study

Date 04-04-2022

External author DG, EPRS; Dinan, Desmond

Policy area Democracy

Keyword agenda | communications | coronavirus disease | economic analysis | economic consequence | economic policy | ECONOMICS | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | epidemic | EU aid | EU institutions and European civil service | European Council | EUROPEAN UNION | health | parliamentary proceedings | POLITICS | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | video communications

Summary The onset of the coronavirus pandemic in early 2020 affected the work of the European Council in many ways. One was operational. The European Council switched in March from in-person meetings to video-conferencing. During the year, the European Council held eight video-conferences and met five times in person. Meeting via video-conference, notably in March-April, during the first wave of the pandemic, and in October-November, during the second wave, allowed the European Council to apply itself immediately to damage control and crisis management. Going beyond immediate concerns, the European Council addressed the immense challenge of socio-economic recovery. In what was by far the most consequential development for the EU in 2020, the Union's Heads of State or Government negotiated a momentous agreement for an ambitious recovery fund linked to the new Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) for 2021-2027. The complex and contentious negotiations on the MFF and the recovery fund, culminating in an epic special summit in July, will forever be remembered in the history of the European Council. So will the lingering dispute over rule of law conditionality, which, although in principle resolved by the end of the year with respect to the financial package, remained a deeply divisive issue among EU leaders. Despite the pressure of Covid-19 related business, EU leaders had to address other issues in 2020, such as climate change and external affairs. Relations with China, Russia and Turkey, in particular, required the European Council's attention. So did relations with the United Kingdom, which became a third country after it left the Union at the end of January.

Study [EN](#)

[Improving urgency procedures and crisis preparedness within the European Parliament and EU institutions](#)

Publication type Study

Date 31-03-2022

External author MAURER Andreas

Policy area Adoption of Legislation by EP and Council | Democracy | EU Democracy, Institutional and Parliamentary Law | EU Law: Legal System and Acts | Evaluation of Law and Policy in Practice

Keyword BUSINESS AND COMPETITION | coronavirus disease | crisis management | economic analysis | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | epidemic | EU institutions and European civil service | European Parliament | EUROPEAN UNION | health | institutional cooperation | management | parliament | parliamentary proceedings | parliamentary sitting | POLITICS | politics and public safety | powers of parliament | public health | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | state of emergency

Summary This study, commissioned by the European Parliament's Policy Department for Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs at the request of the AFCO Committee, analyses the obstacles to democratic, transparent and efficient decision-making in urgency situations at the EU level, with a specific focus on the European Parliament. It provides a systematic overview of Parliament's role and functions as well as the interinstitutional cooperation during recent crisis situations and concludes with proposals on how to improve the existing set-up and Parliament's internal procedures.

Study [EN](#)

Executive summary [DE](#), [EN](#), [FR](#), [IT](#)

[Social and environmental impacts of mining activities in the EU](#)

Publication type Study

Date 31-03-2022

External author MONONEN Tuija (lead author)
Sonja KIVINEN, Juha M. KOTILAINEN, Johanna LEINO

Policy area Employment | Energy | Environment | Petitions to the European Parliament | Public Health | Social Policy | Transposition and Implementation of Law

Keyword coal and mining industries | economic analysis | ECONOMICS | ENERGY | ENVIRONMENT | environmental impact | environmental policy | EU environmental policy | EU law | EUROPEAN UNION | European Union law | impact study | mining operation | natural environment | parliament | petition | POLITICS | protected area | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | underwater mineral resources

Summary This study, commissioned by the Policy Department for Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs for the Committee on Petitions, provides a brief overview of the main social and environmental impacts of mining activities in the EU. It also gives an overview of the most important relevant EU legislation and a short assessment of implementation and compliance by Member States. It discusses and assesses a number of petitions on mining, as well as possible measures to reduce unwanted impacts of mining, and the future of mining. Finally, the study provides conclusions, policy recommendations and suggestions to help improve the existing EU mining policy and legislation.

Study [EN](#)

Executive summary [DE](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FR](#)

[EU economic and financial developments: Weekly Picks - 11 March 2022](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 11-03-2022

Author HAGELSTAM Kajus | MAGNUS Marcel | PACHECO DIAS CRISTINA SOFIA | TURCU OVIDIU IONUT | ZORPIDIS ANDREAS | ZSITNAK ALEXANDRA

Policy area Economics and Monetary Issues

Keyword economic analysis | economic consequence | economic forecasting | economic geography | ECONOMICS | ENERGY | energy policy | energy supply | EU statistics | Europe | FINANCE | GEOGRAPHY | impact study | political geography | price increase | price of energy | prices | Russia | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary This paper provides a summary of recent analyses of the economic, financial and budgetary developments in the EU and the Euro, notably following the Russian invasion in Ukraine and the outbreak of the war. It also highlights related policy recommendations made in the public domain to mitigate any adverse effects and support sustainable recovery.

Briefing [EN](#)

[The impact of influencers on advertising and consumer protection in the Single Market \(At A Glance - Study In Focus\)](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 10-03-2022

External author Frithjof MICHAELSEN (VVA Brussels) (Lead author)
Luena COLLINI (VVA Brussels) (Lead author)
Cécile JACOB (VVA Brussels)
Dr Catalina GOANTA (Utrecht University)
Dr Sara Elisa KETTNER (ConPolicy Institute)
Dr Sophie BISHOP (University of Sheffield)
Dr Pierre HAUSEMER (VVA Brussels)
Prof Dr Christian THORUN (ConPolicy Institute)
Dr Sevil YESILOGLU (London College of Communication)

Policy area Adoption of Legislation by EP and Council | Consumer Protection | Internal Market and Customs Union | Transposition and Implementation of Law

Keyword advertising | advertising malpractice | BUSINESS AND COMPETITION | communications | competition | consumer protection | consumption | digital economy | digital single market | economic analysis | economic consequence | economic structure | ECONOMICS | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | marketing | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | TRADE | virtual community

Summary Influencer marketing as part of the advertising industry has grown significantly in recent years, becoming one of the most popular and effective forms of online advertising. The fast-growing market of influencers comes with potential risks for consumers and creates several challenges for regulators. This study provides information and analysis on the impact of influencers on advertising and consumer protection in the Internal Market, identifies best practices and makes recommendations for future action.
This document was provided by the Policy Department for Economic, Scientific and Quality of Life Policies at the request of the committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO).

At a Glance [EN](#)

[Urban areas in the post Covid-19 era: challenges and future pathways](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 01-03-2022

Author VAN LIEROP Christiaan

Policy area Regional Development

Keyword construction and town planning | coronavirus disease | economic analysis | economic conditions | economic consequence | economic policy | economic recovery | ECONOMICS | epidemic | health | regional aid | regional development | regions and regional policy | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | sustainable development | town planning | urban area

Summary With around 75 % of EU citizens living in urban areas, many of the policy challenges facing the EU have a disproportionate impact on its cities, a trend that has been exacerbated by the pandemic. While EU funds under the Recovery and Resilience Facility can help support cities, stakeholders have called for greater local and regional involvement in the process and for a new focus on cohesion funding. A resolution on challenges for urban areas in the post-Covid-19 era was adopted during Parliament's February 2022 plenary session.

At a Glance [EN](#)

Beyond the pandemic: The potential of ambitious gender equality policy

Publication type At a Glance

Date 28-02-2022

Author SHREEVES Rosamund

Policy area Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity

Keyword child care | coronavirus disease | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | epidemic | EU institutions and European civil service | European Institute for Gender Equality | EUROPEAN UNION | gender equality | health | LAW | organisation of work and working conditions | POLITICS | politics and public safety | position of women | rights and freedoms | sexual discrimination | social affairs | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | women's movement | work-life balance

Summary This year's International Women's Day will, once again, be held in the shadow of the coronavirus pandemic, which has exposed and exacerbated existing gender inequalities. To mark the occasion, Parliament's Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality (FEMM) is hosting a meeting with national parliaments on 3 March 2022, to explore the potential of gender-sensitive recovery policies, spotlighting inter-related issues around unpaid care work, teleworking and wellbeing.

At a Glance [BG](#), [CS](#), [DA](#), [DE](#), [EL](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FI](#), [FR](#), [GA](#), [HU](#), [IT](#), [LT](#), [LV](#), [NL](#), [PT](#), [RO](#), [SV](#), [ET](#), [HR](#), [MT](#), [PL](#), [SK](#), [SL](#)

An ambitious future for Europe's women after COVID-19: mental load, gender equality in teleworking and unpaid care work after the pandemic

Publication type Briefing

Date 24-02-2022

Author FERNANDEZ LOPEZ LAURA | SCHONARD Martina

Policy area Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity

Keyword coronavirus disease | economic analysis | ECONOMICS | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | epidemic | EU statistics | gender equality | health | home help | LAW | organisation of work and working conditions | position of women | rights and freedoms | social affairs | social framework | social impact | social protection | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | teleworking | unpaid work | work-life balance

Summary The COVID-19 pandemic and its associated economic crisis have impacted women differently than men in the European Union. Even if gender issues have never been so high-up in the European political agenda, the effects of the COVID-19 crisis are putting in jeopardy the progress achieved in the past decade in terms on the reduction of gender inequalities in European member states. The effects of the COVID-19 sanitary crisis have also served to highlight the need for member states to develop proactive – rather than reactive – gender mainstreaming policies. This year's International Women's Day is a perfect opportunity to look back on the past EU initiatives and reflect how to address the future, post-COVID-19, challenges.

Briefing [DE](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)

Research for REGI Committee - The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on EU cohesion and EU cohesion policy - Part I: Overview and first analysis

Publication type At a Glance

Date 17-02-2022

Author KOŁODZIEJSKI Marek | LECARTE Jacques

Policy area Evaluation of Law and Policy in Practice | Regional Development

Keyword coronavirus disease | economic analysis | economic and social cohesion | economic conditions | economic consequence | economic disparity | economic policy | ECONOMICS | epidemic | EU aid | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | FINANCE | financing and investment | health | investment | regional aid | regional disparity | regions and regional policy | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary The COVID-19 pandemic was a major shock deeply impacting people, enterprises, public authorities, municipalities and regions. In many regards the pandemic has accelerated fragmentation between societal groups and between places. Many of the pandemic impacts highlight the risks of increasing inequalities. The worst and most direct impacts have been avoided by swift policy actions. In this context Cohesion Policy played an important role.

At a Glance [EN](#)

[Revaluation of working conditions and wages for essential workers](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 28-01-2022

External author Manuela SAMEK LODOVICI, Elena FERRARI, Emma PALADINO, Flavia PESCE, Nicoletta TORCHIO and Alessandra CRIPPA

Policy area Coronavirus | Employment | Social Policy

Keyword cooperation policy | coronavirus disease | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | epidemic | female worker | foreign national | health | international law | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | labour market | labour mobility | LAW | occupational health | organisation of work and working conditions | pay | personnel management and staff remuneration | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | third country | work-life balance

Summary The study explores the working conditions and risks faced by essential frontline workers in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, with a focus on women and migrant workers in low-paid frontline occupations. The study also provides an overview of the main legislative and policy measures adopted at EU and national level to support essential workers in order to identify possible policy actions to reevaluate these occupations. The analysis is based on the triangulation of data and information resulting from a review of academic literature and policy documents and from field work, including semi-structured interviews and a web survey targeted at EU and national stakeholders, and five country case studies (Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Italy, and Romania).

[At a Glance](#) [EN](#)

[European Year of Youth 2022](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 09-12-2021

Author JOURDE PERNILLA

Policy area Culture | Education

Keyword coronavirus disease | culture and religion | demography and population | education | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | education policy | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | epidemic | European cultural event | health | mental health | social affairs | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | young person | youth employment | youth policy

Summary In her State of the Union address to the Parliament on 15 September 2021, the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, outlined the idea to make 2022 the 'European Year of Youth'. The aim would be to highlight and mitigate the pandemic's impact on young people's education, employment, social inclusion and mental health. Within a month, the Commission had adopted a formal proposal for a decision. During the December plenary session, Parliament is expected to vote on adopting the decision establishing the Year.

[At a Glance](#) [DE](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#), [PL](#)

[Ageing policies - access to services in different Member States](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 22-10-2021

External author Agnieszka SOWA-KOFTA, Izabela MARCINKOWSKA, Anna RUZIK-SIERDZIŃSKA and Raimonda MACKEVIČIŪTĖ

Policy area Coronavirus | Employment | Social Policy

Keyword care for the elderly | coronavirus disease | demography and population | economic policy | ECONOMICS | elderly person | epidemic | European social policy | health | population ageing | population forecast | population policy | silver economy | social affairs | social framework | social impact | social protection | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary The study focuses on active ageing policies and access to services for the ageing population in the EU-27 in five areas: economic activity, social participation, health and well-being, long-term care, and supportive environments including housing, transportation, and securing financial independence. It presents the challenges and trends in achieving active ageing policy goals in those areas, as well as the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Eight country studies for selected Member States provide a comparative assessment as well as examples of policies and good practices undertaken in recent years.

This document was provided by the Policy Department for Economic, Scientific and Quality of Life Policies at the request of the committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL).

[At a Glance](#) [EN](#)

[Youth in Europe: Effects of COVID-19 on their economic and social situation](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 12-10-2021

Author KONLE-SEIDL REGINA ANNA | PICARELLA FRANCESCA

Policy area Employment | Evaluation of Law and Policy in Practice | Social Policy

Keyword coronavirus disease | demography and population | economic analysis | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | education | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | education policy | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | employment statistics | epidemic | health | labour market | social affairs | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | young person | youth employment | youth policy | youth unemployment

Summary The full study analyses the effects of COVID-19 on youth unemployment, inactivity, work-based learning and mental health. The analysis is based on quantitative indicators and qualitative information from surveys and policy documents. It discusses the probability of long-term 'scarring effects', comparing the impact of the current crisis to that of the 2008/2009 global financial crisis and its aftermath

[At a Glance](#) [EN](#)

Cities in a globalised world: Exploring trends and the effect on urban resilience

Publication type Study

Date 07-10-2021

Author BINDER ECKHARD | GARCIA HIGUERA ANDRES | KULJANIC Nera | MORGADO SIMOES HENRIQUE ANDRE | PICHON Eric | RITTELMEYER Yann-Sven | SOONE Jaan | ZAMFIR Ionel

Policy area Regional Development

Keyword climate change | construction and town planning | demography and population | deterioration of the environment | economic analysis | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | ENERGY | energy consumption | energy policy | ENVIRONMENT | environmental impact | environmental policy | population ageing | population growth | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | urban economy | urban infrastructure | urban problem

Summary Cities are inevitably affected by shocks and disruptions, the pandemic being a case in point. The extent of the impact however depends on cities' preparedness and capacity to adapt. By thinking ahead, cities can explore emerging or plausible developments in order to anticipate them and contain potential disruption. Drawing on a report prepared by the European Strategy and Policy Analysis System (ESPAS), this EPRS paper explores the impact on and implications for cities of current global trends, such as climate change, population growth, urbanisation, economic growth, increasing energy demand, higher connectivity and a changing world order, that will have direct consequences for the future of cities and their inhabitants.

Study [DE](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)

Research for REGI Committee - Artificial Intelligence and Urban Development

Publication type Study

Date 30-07-2021

External author Julie PELLEGRIN, Louis COLNOT, Laura DELPONTE

Policy area Evaluation of Law and Policy in Practice | Regional Development

Keyword artificial intelligence | construction and town planning | digital technology | economic analysis | economic and social cohesion | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | information and information processing | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | smart city | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | technology and technical regulations

Summary This research paper explores the role of artificial intelligence (AI) in urban areas, and its impact on socio-economic and territorial cohesion. It argues that expectations surrounding AI are high, especially in the context of smart-city initiatives, but that the actual benefits are yet to be fully assessed. To avoid potential risks, local and urban authorities need to fulfil a series of conditions that are inherently challenging. The EU's AI Policy and its Cohesion Policy, in particular, may help, but they need to address the territorial dimension of AI more explicitly.

Study [EN](#)

Executive summary [DE](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#)

Research for TRAN Committee - The aviation and maritime sectors and the EU-ETS: challenges and impacts

Publication type Study

Date 09-07-2021

External author CE Delft: Dagmar NELISSEN, Jasper FABER

DLR: Sven MAERTENS, David ENNEN, Wolfgang GRIMME, Florian WOZNY

Policy area Transport

Keyword air and space transport | air quality | aircraft | climate change | deterioration of the environment | documentation | economic analysis | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | ENVIRONMENT | environmental policy | EU Emissions Trading Scheme | greenhouse gas | maritime and inland waterway transport | maritime shipping | reduction of gas emissions | research report | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | TRANSPORT | vessel

Summary This paper gives an initial overview of the market structure in a revised EU ETS for the European aviation and maritime sectors. Key design options like the scheme's geographical scope, the baseline year(s), cap and allocation of allowances, and – in the case of aviation – the relationship with CORSIA, can have impacts on the competitive situation of EU carriers and vessels. This is the first stage in the research project focusing on the implementation and socio-economic perspectives related to the eventual inclusion of aviation and maritime in the EU ETS system. The analysis of the Commission's proposal is expected to follow in fall 2021.

Study [EN](#)

Executive summary [DE](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#)

[Research for PECH committee: Impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on EU fisheries and aquaculture](#)

Publication type [Study](#)

Date 07-07-2021

External author Cogea: Alessandro PITITTO, Diletta RAINONE, Valentina SANNINO; AND International: Tanguy CHEVER, Lucas HERRY, Sibylle PARANT, Safa SOUIDI; CETMAR: Marta BALLESTEROS, Rosa CHAPELA, José L. SANTIAGO

Policy area Evaluation of Law and Policy in Practice | Fisheries

Keyword AGRI-FOODSTUFFS | AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES | aquaculture | case study | Community fisheries | consumption | coronavirus disease | documentation | economic analysis | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | epidemic | fisheries | food consumption | food processing | food technology | health | marketing | research report | sale | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | TRADE

Summary This study analyses the effects of COVID-19 on the EU fisheries and aquaculture sectors from March to December 2020. It gives an overview of the main effects experienced at EU level and develops eight case studies (Spain, Denmark, France, Italy, Sweden, Greece, Portugal and Bulgaria). The research also provides conclusions and policy recommendations to strengthen the sector's resilience to shocks, and to address current vulnerabilities in view of potential similar events.
The study was commissioned by the European Parliament's Policy Department for Structural and Cohesion Policies, at the request of the PECH Committee.

[Study](#) [EN](#)

[Executive summary](#) [DE](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#)

[Mapping threats to peace and democracy worldwide: Normandy Index 2021](#)

Publication type [Study](#)

Date 06-07-2021

Author LAZAROU Eleni | STANICEK BRANISLAV

Policy area Democracy | Foreign Affairs | Security and Defence

Keyword coronavirus disease | democracy | economic analysis | economic consequence | economic policy | economic policy | ECONOMICS | epidemic | FINANCE | health | political framework | POLITICS | public finance and budget policy | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | stability programme

Summary The Normandy Index, now in its third year, aims at measuring the level of threat to peace, security and democracy around the world. It was presented for the first time on the occasion of the Normandy Peace Forum in June 2019, as a result of a partnership between the European Parliament and the Region of Normandy. The Index has been designed and prepared by the European Parliamentary Research Service (EPRS), in conjunction with and on the basis of data provided by the Institute for Economics and Peace. This paper sets out the findings of the 2021 exercise, and explains how the index can be used to compare peace – defined on the basis of a given country's performance against a range of predetermined threats – across countries and regions. It is complemented by 51 individual country case studies, derived from the Index. The paper forms part of the EPRS contribution to the Normandy World Peace Forum 2021. It is accompanied by two papers, one on the EU's contribution to peace and security in 2021, the other on the EU's relations with Turkey.

[Study](#) [DE](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)

Multimedia [Peace and Security: Non-traditional threats](#)

[Peace and Security animated infographic](#)

[Normandy Index, 2021](#)

[2030 climate target plan: extension of European Emission Trading System \(ETS\) to transport emissions](#)

Publication type [In-Depth Analysis](#)

Date 18-06-2021

External author Cristina URRUTIA, Jakob GRAICHEN, Anke HEROLD

Policy area Adoption of Legislation by EP and Council | Environment | Forward Planning | Transport

Keyword climate change | deterioration of the environment | documentation | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | ENVIRONMENT | environmental impact | environmental policy | EU Emissions Trading Scheme | green economy | pollution | pollution control measures | reduction of gas emissions | report | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary The proceedings summarize the expert presentations and discussions of the workshop on the extension of the EU ETS to transport emissions. The workshop served to prepare the ENVI Committee for the upcoming legislative "Fit for 55" package of proposals, as part of the European Green Deal. The presentations focused on options and implications of the future inclusion of road transport, shipping and aviation in the EU ETS. This document was provided by the Policy Department for Economic, Scientific and Quality of Life Policies for the committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI).

[In-Depth Analysis](#) [EN](#)

[Economic Dialogue with the President of the Eurogroup - June 2021](#)

Publication type [In-Depth Analysis](#)

Date 18-06-2021

Author ANGERER Jost | GRIGAITE KRISTINA | LEHOFER WOLFGANG | PACHECO DIAS CRISTINA SOFIA | SEGALL REBECCA SARAH FANNY | ZOPPE Alice

Policy area [Coronavirus](#) | [Economics and Monetary Issues](#)

Keyword [coronavirus disease](#) | [documentation](#) | [economic analysis](#) | [economic conditions](#) | [economic consequence](#) | [economic governance \(EU\)](#) | [economic recovery](#) | [ECONOMICS](#) | [EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS](#) | [epidemic](#) | [EU banking union](#) | [Eurogroup \(euro area\)](#) | [European Semester](#) | [FINANCE](#) | [health](#) | [monetary economics](#) | [monetary relations](#) | [research report](#) | [social framework](#) | [social impact](#) | [SOCIAL QUESTIONS](#)

Summary Paschal Donohoe is attending his second Economic Dialogue in the ECON Committee since being elected as President of the Eurogroup in July 2020. His first Economic Dialogue took place on 25 January. The exchange of views will cover the ongoing work of the Eurogroup, notably short term policy measures intended to combat the economic, financial and social consequences of COVID-19, medium term policies to support a sustainable recovery and increase resilience of the euro area and longer term measures relating to the Economic and Monetary Union governance framework, including completing the Banking Union. This briefing covers the following issues: the Eurogroup work programme until June 2021 (Section 1); 2021 Euro Area Recommendation (Section 2); Economic situation and developments (Section 3); Recovery and Resilience Facility (Section 4); 2021 European Semester Cycle (Section 5); review of the governance framework (section 6) and Banking Union developments (Section 7).

[In-Depth Analysis](#) [EN](#)

[The impact of the coronavirus crisis on Roma and Travellers](#)

Publication type [At a Glance](#)

Date 23-03-2021

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area [Coronavirus](#) | [Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity](#)

Keyword [aid to disadvantaged groups](#) | [coronavirus disease](#) | [epidemic](#) | [EU finance](#) | [EU strategy](#) | [European construction](#) | [EUROPEAN UNION](#) | [health](#) | [migration](#) | [nomadism](#) | [public health](#) | [Roma](#) | [social affairs](#) | [social framework](#) | [social impact](#) | [social integration](#) | [social protection](#) | [SOCIAL QUESTIONS](#) | [support mechanism](#)

Summary The EU's Roma and Traveller communities are among those most at risk of contracting Covid-19. This only adds to the multiple difficulties they face as regards employment, education, housing and health, compounded by discrimination and anti-Gypsyism. To tackle this situation, the European Commission has introduced targeted measures and provided financial support. The European Parliament has repeatedly expressed its deep concern about the conditions of the Roma and people of other backgrounds during the ongoing pandemic.

[At a Glance](#) [EN](#)

[Combating Gender based Violence: Cyber Violence](#)

Publication type [Study](#)

Date 17-03-2021

Author FERNANDES MEENAKSHI | LOMBA NIOMBO | NAVARRA Cecilia

Policy area [European Added Value](#)

Keyword [communications](#) | [computer crime](#) | [criminal law](#) | [economic analysis](#) | [economic consequence](#) | [ECONOMICS](#) | [EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS](#) | [fight against crime](#) | [gender equality](#) | [help for victims](#) | [information technology and data processing](#) | [Internet](#) | [LAW](#) | [position of women](#) | [rights and freedoms](#) | [sexual discrimination](#) | [sexual violence](#) | [social affairs](#) | [social framework](#) | [social impact](#) | [SOCIAL QUESTIONS](#)

Summary With the rise of new technology and social media gender-based cyber violence is a constantly growing threat with impacts at individual, social and economic levels, on women and girls and on society as generally. Action taken so far has been inadequate, and the cross-border nature of gender-based cyber violence has yet to be properly addressed either. This European added value assessment (EAVA) complements the European Parliament's own initiative legislative report on Combating Gender based Violence: Cyber Violence (2020/2035(INL)). The costs to individuals and society are substantial and shown to be in the order of €49.0 to €89.3 billion. A combination of legal and non-legal policy options would generate the greatest European added value, promote the fundamental rights of victims, reduce costs imposed on individuals and society, and support law enforcement and people working with victims.

[Study](#) [EN](#)

Multimedia [Combating gender-based violence at EU level](#)

[EU/EA measures to mitigate the economic, financial and social effects of coronavirus State of play 8 March 2021](#)

Publication type In-Depth Analysis

Date 09-03-2021

Author ANGERER Jost | GRIGAITE KRISTINA | HAGELSTAM Kajus | MAGNUS Marcel | PACHECO DIAS CRISTINA SOFIA | RAKIC Drazen | SEGALL REBECCA SARAH FANNY

Policy area Coronavirus | Economics and Monetary Issues | Financial and Banking Issues

Keyword coronavirus disease | economic analysis | economic conditions | economic consequence | economic policy | economic recovery | ECONOMICS | epidemic | EU banking union | EU finance | EUROPEAN UNION | FINANCE | financial stability | financial supervision | free movement of capital | health | monetary economics | single monetary policy | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | State aid | support mechanism

Summary This document compiles information, obtained from public sources, on the measures proposed and taken at the EU or Euro Area level to mitigate the economic and social effects of Covid19 since its outbreak to early March 2021.

In-Depth Analysis [EN](#)

[Early leavers from education and training](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 02-03-2021

Author CHIRCOP Denise | CLAROS GIMENO Eulalia

Policy area Education

Keyword cooperation in the field of education | cooperation policy | demography and population | dropout | economic analysis | ECONOMICS | education | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | EU statistics | European Semester | FINANCE | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | job access | labour market | level of education | monetary economics | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | teaching | young person | youth employment

Summary Young adults whose highest level of education is at or below lower secondary school level are considered early leavers from education and training. Policy efforts have brought down their numbers to ratios that are very close to the EU target. Nevertheless all those who fall into this category suffer considerable disadvantage as they are more likely to be out of employment and less likely to engage in further education and training than others of their age group with a higher level of education. The EU supports Member States through policy coordination, and programmes such as the Youth Guarantee.

Briefing [EN](#)

Multimedia [Lifelong Learning](#)

[The coronavirus crisis: An emerging gender divide?](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 02-03-2021

Author LECERF Marie | SABBATI Giulio

Policy area Coronavirus | Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity

Keyword coronavirus disease | economic analysis | ECONOMICS | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | employment statistics | epidemic | equal pay | EU statistics | female worker | gender equality | health | labour market | LAW | national accounts | organisation of work and working conditions | personnel management and staff remuneration | rights and freedoms | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | standard of living | work-life balance

Summary The European Union remains severely hit by the coronavirus crisis, whose impact extends far beyond public health. The economic, social and psychological consequences of the pandemic are at the forefront of Member States' and EU institutions' concerns. Employment and working conditions have undergone major upheavals, raising the issue of a possible reversal of progress on gender equality. This infographic aims to shed light on the socioeconomic and psychological impacts of the pandemic on women, through the lens of the transformation of the labour market, work-life balance and well-being. It is based on Eurostat data and a study conducted by Eurofound on living and working in the times of Covid-19.

At a Glance [EN](#)

Multimedia [Covid-19 increases women's unpaid care work](#)

[The SURE: Main Features](#)

Publication type In-Depth Analysis

Date 26-02-2021

Author PACHECO DIAS CRISTINA SOFIA | ZOPPE Alice

Policy area Coronavirus | Economics and Monetary Issues | Financial and Banking Issues

Keyword cooperation policy | coronavirus disease | economic analysis | economic consequence | economic policy | ECONOMICS | emergency aid | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | epidemic | EU aid | EU finance | EU financial instrument | EUROPEAN UNION | European Union law | fight against unemployment | health | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | regulation (EU) | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | unemployment

Summary This document presents the main features of the European instrument for temporary support to mitigate unemployment risks in an emergency (SURE) and compares such facility with other financial assistance instruments that were already available in the European Union. It also highlights the differences between the Commission proposals and the final version agreed in Council. This note updates a previous version.

In-Depth Analysis [EN](#)

[The impact of COVID-19 on the Internal Market](#)

Publication type Study

Date 26-02-2021

External author J. Scott MARCUS et al.

Policy area Consumer Protection | Coronavirus | Evaluation of Law and Policy in Practice | Internal Market and Customs Union

Keyword BUSINESS AND COMPETITION | consumer protection | consumption | coronavirus disease | crisis management | economic analysis | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | epidemic | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | health | impact study | internal border of the EU | international law | LAW | management | passenger rights | single market | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | TRADE | TRANSPORT | transport policy

Summary This study assesses the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on the Internal Market and consumer protection, including the impact of measures introduced at national and EU level to mitigate the consequences of the pandemic. What further measures should be considered in order to reinforce the resilience of the EU's Internal Market in the face of future crises?

This document was provided by the Policy Department for Economic, Scientific and Quality of Life Policies at the request of the committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO).

Study [EN](#)

[Research for CULT Committee - Cultural and creative sectors in post-COVID-19 Europe – crisis effects and policy recommendations](#)

Publication type Study

Date 18-02-2021

External author IDEA Consult: Isabelle De Voldere, Martina Fraioli, Eveline Durinck
Goethe-Institut: Antonia Blau, Sina Lebert
Inforelais: Sylvia Amann
Values of Culture&Creativity: Joost Heinsius

Policy area Culture | Education

Keyword arts | coronavirus disease | cultural policy | culture and religion | economic analysis | economic consequence | economic policy | ECONOMICS | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | epidemic | health | incomes policy | innovation | organisation of work and working conditions | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | research and intellectual property | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | working conditions

Summary Cultural and creative sectors (CCS) have been hit hard by the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic. This study analyses the so far effects of the crisis on the CCS, as well as the policy responses that are formulated to support the sectors. Based on the analysis, policy recommendations are formulated to further improve the resilience of the CCS in Europe in the medium and longer term.

Study [EN](#)

Executive summary [DE](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#)

[Women's rights: 25-year review of the Beijing Platform for Action](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 04-02-2021

Author SHREEVES Rosamund

Policy area Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity

Keyword coronavirus disease | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | epidemic | female worker | gender equality | health | human rights | international affairs | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | labour market | LAW | organisation of work and working conditions | position of women | rights and freedoms | social affairs | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | UN Conference | women's rights | work-life balance

Summary Last year marked the 25th anniversary of the fourth United Nations World Conference on Women in Beijing, regarded as a turning point for the global agenda on gender equality. The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPfA) adopted at the conference is considered the international 'Bill of Rights' for women, defining women's rights as human rights and setting goals across a range of issues affecting women and girls. Under the BPfA, the EU and its Member States committed to achieving concrete targets in twelve critical areas. The 25-year review was disrupted by the coronavirus pandemic, which is now also having substantive impacts on gender equality per se. The European Commission and Council are expected to report on Europe's progress on the BPfA and future challenges, during the European Parliament's plenary session in February 2021.

At a Glance [DE](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#), [PL](#)

Human Rights report

Publication type At a Glance

Date 13-01-2021

Author PICHON Eric

Policy area Coronavirus | Foreign Affairs

Keyword activity report | common foreign and security policy | coronavirus disease | democracy | documentation | economic conditions | economic recovery | ECONOMICS | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | epidemic | equal treatment | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | health | human rights | human rights movement | LAW | political framework | POLITICS | politics and public safety | rights and freedoms | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary During the January 2021 plenary session, the European Parliament is due to debate the annual EU report on human rights and democracy in the world. The latest annual report, adopted by the Council in June 2020, highlights the EU's leading role in promoting human rights and democracy in 2019, against the backdrop of negative trends globally. The report of Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs takes into account more recent developments, such as the impact of coronavirus. It points out that the response to the pandemic has caused a decline in the respect of democratic and human rights standards in some countries. Based on this report, Parliament is expected to formulate recommendations for future EU action in favour of human rights and democracy.

At a Glance [DE](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#), [PL](#)

Achieving gender equality in the face of the pandemic and existing challenges

Publication type At a Glance

Date 13-01-2021

Author SHREEVES Rosamund

Policy area Coronavirus | Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity

Keyword coronavirus disease | digital economy | digital literacy | economic structure | ECONOMICS | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | epidemic | EU strategy | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | gender equality | health | information and information processing | LAW | organisation of work and working conditions | position of women | rights and freedoms | sexual discrimination | social affairs | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | work-life balance

Summary In March 2020, the European Commission released its new European Union (EU) Gender Equality Strategy for 2020-2025, setting out measures to tackle persistent gender inequalities and bring a gender perspective to future priorities such as the digital and green transitions. Since the Strategy's release, the coronavirus pandemic has exposed and exacerbated gender inequalities, creating further challenges. Reports on the EU Gender Equality Strategy, women's participation in the digital economy and the gender impacts of the pandemic are due to be put before the European Parliament during its plenary session in January.

At a Glance [DE](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#), [PL](#)

Sustainable economic recovery

Publication type At a Glance

Date 11-12-2020

Author NOONAN EAMONN

Policy area Budget | Budgetary Control | Democracy | Economics and Monetary Issues | Employment | Environment | EU Democracy, Institutional and Parliamentary Law | European Semester | Forward Planning | Social Policy

Keyword clean technology | coronavirus disease | economic analysis | economic conditions | economic consequence | economic policy | economic recovery | ECONOMICS | ENERGY | energy policy | ENVIRONMENT | environmental policy | epidemic | EU aid | fossil fuel | green economy | health | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | sustainable development | technology and technical regulations

Summary A panel at the 2020 ESPAS conference discussed how to create a sustainable economic recovery after the coronavirus pandemic. Robust governance is needed to get the most out of the new resources created at EU level. Both public funding and private capital are needed for the green transition. Public access to big data sets was identified as a critical issue, to prevent harmful monopolies. A poll of attendees identified dependence on fossil fuels as a key obstacle to a sustainable recovery.

At a Glance [EN](#)

[Next generation or lost generation? Children, young people and the pandemic](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 10-12-2020

Author MILOTAY Nora

Policy area Coronavirus | Education | Employment | Human Rights | Social Policy

Keyword access to education | communications | coronavirus disease | demography and population | digital divide | digital literacy | education | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | epidemic | health | information and information processing | information technology | mental health | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | young person | youth employment

Summary The next generation, sometimes referred to as 'Generation Z' or 'Gen Z', includes children and young people born after 1995/1996. Also known as the 'iGeneration' they are the first digital natives: they have grown up with smartphones and tablets, and most have internet access at home. While, in the EU, they are the most diverse generation when it comes to their origins, and best educated, in terms of level of education, they are the most vulnerable, including on the labour market. They are the generation most at risk of poverty, and worst affected by the lack of intergenerational earning mobility. In addition, they have been hardest hit by the coronavirus crisis, following school closures and also job losses. The negative trends this generation was facing prior to the pandemic solidified during the outbreak and the lockdown measures. The well-being, educational success and labour market integration of this generation have a major impact on the general well-being of society, as well as on productivity growth, and thus on the entire economy now and in the future. It will, however, be another 15 years before this generation, along with the 'Millennials' (born between 1981 and 1995/1996) form the majority in the voting age population across the EU, and their views, expectations and attitudes are taken into consideration when designing policies. In this context, policies must address Generation Z from a young age as active citizens who need to be both protected and empowered. In the von der Leyen Commission more than half the Commissioners have been entrusted with tasks that directly address challenges for this generation, ranging from access to quality education, health, housing, nutrition and labour markets to combating poverty and protecting children's and young people's rights. This is an opportunity to design comprehensive policies that cut across sectors and that address the entire generation under the age of 22/24 in a multidimensional way. It is also a way to include children and young people in the democratic process and monitor their progress across multiple indicators in relation to the United Nations sustainable development goals. Stronger pro-child and pro-youth policies can help to achieve more balanced and efficient welfare states that genuinely protect the entire population.

Briefing [EN](#)

[Reducing methane emissions: A new EU strategy to address global warming](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 08-12-2020

Author MORGADO SIMOES HENRIQUE ANDRE

Policy area Environment

Keyword coronavirus disease | economic analysis | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | epidemic | EU policy | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | health | impact study | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary Methane, a short-lived greenhouse gas, has a global warming potential much higher than that of carbon dioxide, and is directly linked to air pollution through the formation of ozone. Methane emissions are derived from both natural sources and human activity. Energy, agriculture, waste and wastewater treatment are the biggest sources of anthropogenic methane emissions. Globally, methane emissions increased by 24 % between 1990 and 2018. In the EU-27, methane emissions fell by 0.2 % between 2009 and 2018 and accounted for just over 10 % of total GHG emissions in 2018. The EU has been tackling methane through legislation, policies and strategies aimed at reducing emissions in Europe and internationally since 1996. The EU's methane emissions dropped by a third between 1990 and 2018. As a precursor to ozone, methane is a key factor in air quality and human health. On 14 October 2020, the European Commission presented an EU strategy to reduce methane emissions. The document focuses on cross-sectoral actions within the EU, and builds on actions in the energy, agricultural, waste and wastewater sectors within the EU and internationally. Stakeholders from the industry sector and environmental non-governmental organisations have given feedback on the strategic document and have welcomed the strategy while also highlighting aspects that could be strengthened. In 2019, the European Parliament asked the Commission to address methane emissions reductions through a strategic plan by the end of the first half of its 2019-2024 term. In October 2020, when the strategy was presented, MEPs from the Committees on Industry, Research and Energy welcomed the document and also posed questions in respect of its scope. Parliament's response is currently being prepared by the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety.

Briefing [EN](#)

[Exceptional coronavirus support measures of benefit to EU regions](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 02-12-2020

Author MARGARAS Vasileios

Policy area Coronavirus | Regional Development

Keyword coronavirus disease | economic analysis | economic and social cohesion | economic consequence | economic policy | ECONOMICS | epidemic | EU aid | EU finance | European construction | European Structural and Investment Funds | EUROPEAN UNION | health | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary The coronavirus pandemic is severely impacting the European population and the economy. Consequently the social and economic impact of the crisis is being felt in all EU regions. Although it is still too early to make concrete predictions about the long-term economic impact, the risks of increased disparities and the unravelling of previous years' progress are real. Furthermore, the consequences of the Covid 19 pandemic could well further impede the social, economic and territorial cohesion of the EU, by exacerbating existing divisions between EU regions. The European Commission has put forward a number of proposals to alleviate the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on EU territories. The European Parliament has been generally supportive of the Commission's proposals, triggering urgent procedures to approve them swiftly so that EU citizens could benefit immediately. Actions under various EU funds and policy instruments are now geared towards health-related purposes and the rekindling of the economy. In these critical times, cohesion policy is increasingly drawn upon to provide emergency relief and liquidity support to affected small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and companies. Amendments to the regulation governing the European structural and investment (ESI) funds were approved by Parliament to allow flexible use of the funds in addressing the challenges posed by the crisis. A number of additional regulations and policy instruments meanwhile complement the ESI funds in the fight against the pandemic's negative consequences. Local and regional authorities are at the forefront of the pandemic, as they are often responsible for providing much of the emergency response. They can use the adopted EU measures to reinforce their coronavirus action and to support their economic sectors. This briefing is an update of an earlier edition, published in May 2020.

[Briefing](#) [EN](#)

[Global mega-trends: Scanning the post-coronavirus horizon](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 13-11-2020

Author RECHARD Daniele

Policy area Economics and Monetary Issues | Environment | Public Health

Keyword climate change policy | cooperation policy | coronavirus disease | economic analysis | economic conditions | economic consequence | economic growth | economic structure | ECONOMICS | ENVIRONMENT | environmental policy | epidemic | executive power and public service | health | international cooperation | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | policy analysis | POLITICS | short-term forecast | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | world economy

Summary The European Strategy and Policy Analysis System (ESPAS) – the strategic foresight network of the European Union institutions – offers a valuable 'free space' in which to conduct a genuine continental, and potentially global, conversation about where the world is heading over the medium to long run. It was initiated by the European Parliament almost a decade ago in order to help promote a serious discussion of this kind. The third ESPAS Global Trends Report, Global Trends to 2030: Challenges and Choices for Europe, as published in April 2019. Transposing into the European context the kind of strategic foresight analysis undertaken in the United States by the National Intelligence Council (NIC) on global trends since the end of the 1990s, it aims to sketch the global and longer-term backdrop against which Europeans will seek to shape their future. The coronavirus pandemic broke out less than a year later.

[Briefing](#) [EN](#)

[Social Impact Investment - Best Practices and Recommendations for the Next Generation](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 12-11-2020

External author Raimonda MACKEVIČIŪTĖ, Žilvinas MARTINAITIS, Fiorenza LIPPARINI, Barbara Constance SCHECK, Izabela STYCZYŃSKA.

Policy area Coronavirus | Employment | Social Policy

Keyword documentation | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | EP Committee | EU institutions and European civil service | EUROPEAN UNION | FINANCE | financing and investment | investment | research report | social affairs | social framework | social impact | social policy | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary Social Impact Investment (SII) is a strategy that seeks to solve key societal challenges. The study sets out the rationale behind and the definition of SII and analyses the different components of the SII ecosystem. It looks at trends and challenges in SII in the EU, highlights a number of successful SII market initiatives, and makes recommendations on potential EU-level measures.

[At a Glance](#) [EN](#)

Data flows, artificial intelligence and international trade: impacts and prospects for the value chains of the future

Publication type In-Depth Analysis

Date 11-11-2020

External author Georgios PETROPOULOS, André SAPIR, Michele FINK, Niclas Frederic POITIERS, Dennis GÖRLICH

Policy area Economics and Monetary Issues | International Trade

Keyword artificial intelligence | communications | data transmission | digital technology | economic analysis | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | export (EU) | geopolitics | humanities | import (EU) | information and information processing | international law | international trade | international trade | international trade law | LAW | production | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | SCIENCE | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | technology and technical regulations | trade | TRADE | value chain

Summary Socio-economic effects of digital trade and artificial intelligence on EU industries

Artificial intelligence and new digital technologies are transforming digital trade. They facilitate the development of new business models of trade and reduce the geographical barriers of economic transactions. Such transformations are quite useful for the small and medium enterprises. Artificial intelligence is being adopted by both digital and non-digital sectors, but its adoption varies a great deal across countries, including within the EU. Data and information flow play a crucial role in digital trade by allowing personalization.

Digital trade is not new, but it is taking new forms that are ushering a new phase of globalisation. So far digital trade mainly affected trade in goods, including through global value chains, though some service activities have already become more tradeable thanks to digital technologies. The new phase of globalisation driven by artificial intelligence and new digital technologies is likely to do for services what the previous phase did for manufacturing: to vastly increase trade between advanced and emerging economies. This prospect raises important issues for domestic policies and trade policy.

Legal Analysis of International Trade Law and Digital Trade

This brief provides a legal analysis of existing rules in digital trade regarding the various components of artificial intelligence ('AI'), in particular (personal and non-personal) data, computer code in the form of algorithms, and computing power (including cloud computing). To do so, the first part of this analysis will map various international trade rules that affect cross-border flows of data, computer code and computing power to determine their respective advantages and disadvantages. This will form the basis for the second part of the analysis, which will address the desirability and necessity of global rulemaking in this area.

Geopolitical Aspects of Digital Trade

This in-depth analysis discusses issues in trade in digitally deliverable services and the geopolitics of digital trade policy. Digitally deliverable services are becoming increasingly important for global value chains, both in terms of final products exported to other countries, and in terms of inputs embedded in manufactured goods. To harness the potential of digital trade in services, both the regulation of the digital means by which a service is traded and the regulation of the services themselves have to be accommodative. Digital trade policy is still in its infancy, and many challenges in terms of policy and measurement remain. Looking at regulation of data flows, the EU's focus on privacy policy is incompatible with the laissez-faire approach pursued by the US administration and the political control of the internet by the Chinese government, limiting the potential for trade in digitally deliverable services and plurilateral agreements on digital trade. However, a number of other major economies are following similar approaches to the EU, which creates the potential for cooperation and intensifying trade in digital services. The EU should also increase its competitiveness in this strategically important services sector by completing the single market with respect to services and capital, and by strengthening research and development in digital technologies.

[In-Depth Analysis](#) [EN](#)

Socio-economic effects of digital trade and artificial intelligence on EU industries including their value chains and EU imports and exports with major trade partners

Publication type Briefing

Date 11-11-2020

External author Georgios PETROPOULOS, André SAPIR, Michele FINK, Niclas Frederic POITIERS, Dennis GÖRLICH.

Policy area Economics and Monetary Issues

Keyword artificial intelligence | common commercial policy | digital economy | digital technology | economic analysis | economic consequence | economic structure | ECONOMICS | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | electronic commerce | impact of information technology | information and information processing | information technology and data processing | international trade | international trade | marketing | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | technology and technical regulations | TRADE | trade policy

Summary Artificial intelligence and new digital technologies are transforming digital trade. They facilitate the development of new business models of trade and reduce the geographical barriers of economic transactions. Such transformations are quite useful for the small and medium enterprises. Artificial intelligence is being adopted by both digital and non-digital sectors, but its adoption varies a great deal across countries, including within the EU. Data and information flow play a crucial role in digital trade by allowing personalization.

Digital trade is not new, but it is taking new forms that are ushering a new phase of globalisation. So far digital trade mainly affected trade in goods, including through global value chains, though some service activities have already become more tradeable thanks to digital technologies. The new phase of globalisation driven by artificial intelligence and new digital technologies is likely to do for services what the previous phase did for manufacturing: to vastly increase trade between advanced and emerging economies. This prospect raises important issues for domestic policies and trade policy.

[Briefing](#) [EN](#)

Social Impact Investment - Best Practices and Recommendations for the Next Generation

Publication type Study

Date 10-11-2020

External author Raimonda MACKEVIČIŪTĖ, Žilvinas MARTINAITIS, Fiorenza LIPPARINI, Barbara Constance SCHECK, Izabela STYCZYŃSKA.

Policy area Coronavirus | Employment | Social Policy

Keyword documentation | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | EP Committee | EU institutions and European civil service | EUROPEAN UNION | FINANCE | financing and investment | investment | research report | social affairs | social framework | social impact | social policy | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary Social Impact Investment (SII) is a strategy that seeks to solve key societal challenges. The study sets out the rationale behind and the definition of SII and analyses the different components of the SII ecosystem. It looks at trends and challenges in SII in the EU, highlights a number of successful SII market initiatives, and makes recommendations on potential EU-level measures.

Study [EN](#)

Annex 2 [EN](#)

The situation of single parents in the EU

Publication type Study

Date 05-11-2020

External author Rense NIEUWENHUIS

Policy area Evaluation of Law and Policy in Practice | Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity

Keyword coronavirus disease | ECONOMICS | epidemic | family | family policy | health | national accounts | poverty | single parent | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary This study, commissioned by the European Parliament's Policy Department for Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs at the request of the FEMM Committee, describes trends in the situation of single parents in the EU (with additional evidence from Iceland and Norway). It analyses the resources, employment, and social policy context of single parents and provides recommendations to improve their situation, with attention to the Covid-19 pandemic and its consequences.

Study [EN](#)

Executive summary [DE](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)

THE CHILD PERSPECTIVE IN THE CONTEXT OF THE 1980 HAGUE CONVENTION

Publication type In-Depth Analysis

Date 31-10-2020

External author Marilyn FREEMAN

Policy area Area of Freedom, Security and Justice | EU Law: Legal System and Acts | Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity | Human Rights | Private international law and judicial cooperation in civil matters | Public international law

Keyword child protection | children's rights | coronavirus disease | criminal law | cross-border dimension | ECONOMICS | epidemic | health | illegal restraint | international affairs | international convention | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | justice | LAW | legal hearing | regions and regional policy | rights and freedoms | social affairs | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary This in-depth analysis, commissioned by the Policy Department for Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs at the request of the Committee on Legal Affairs in the context of the Workshop to mark the 40th Anniversary of the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, examines the way in which subject children feature within Convention proceedings. It considers the aims of the Convention, and the lack of supranational control of its application. It draws on empirical research relating to the effects and consequences of child abduction to discuss the opportunities for children and young people to participate within Convention proceedings, and highlights the international obligations for such participation within the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, and other regional instruments. Different jurisdictional approaches are explained, and the role of culture in this context is probed. The impact of COVID-19 on abducted children is also explored.

In-Depth Analysis [EN](#), [PL](#)

Coronavirus in the 'Disunited States of America'

Publication type At a Glance

Date 30-10-2020

Author BENTZEN Naja

Policy area Coronavirus | Foreign Affairs

Keyword America | communications | coronavirus disease | disinformation | economic geography | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | election campaign publicity | electoral procedure and voting | epidemic | GEOGRAPHY | head of State | health | political framework | political geography | political propaganda | political situation | POLITICS | politics and public safety | presidential election | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | United States

Summary The potential of the ongoing pandemic to accelerate already existing or underlying trends has become particularly visible ahead of the Presidential election in the United States. The coronavirus crisis has boosted environmental factors that can increase radicalisation, while at the same time intensifying the spread of conspiracy theories that can have a similar effect. The accelerated 'truth decay' and the partisan polarisation of the debate about the handling of the continued surge in Covid 19 cases and deaths will likely further undermine trust in institutions, while accelerated societal anxiety could increase the potential for post-election tension.

At a Glance [EN](#)

[The coronavirus pandemic in Latin America](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 30-10-2020

Author GOMEZ RAMIREZ Enrique

Policy area Coronavirus | Foreign Affairs

Keyword America | BUSINESS AND COMPETITION | cooperation policy | coronavirus disease | crisis management | disease prevention | economic analysis | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | epidemic | financial aid | GEOGRAPHY | health | humanitarian aid | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | Latin America | management | public health | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary Latin America is among the regions of the world worst affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, and its economies, employment and even human rights will suffer seriously. Governments, and regional and international organisations, including the EU, are making efforts to mitigate the consequences, but the results remain uncertain.

At a Glance [EN](#)

[Protecting civil society space: strengthening freedom of association, assembly and expression and the right to defend rights in the EU](#)

Publication type Study

Date 28-10-2020

External author Lina VOSYLIŪTĖ, Ngo Chun LUK

Policy area EU Democracy, Institutional and Parliamentary Law

Keyword civil society | coronavirus disease | epidemic | health | human rights | human rights movement | LAW | POLITICS | politics and public safety | rights and freedoms | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary This study, commissioned by the European Parliament's Policy Department for Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs at the request of the LIBE Committee, covers the challenges facing the civil society space. Watchdog NGOs and other human rights defenders have been under pressure during the humanitarian and rule of law 'crises'. Several EU Member States have passed laws that fall short of international, regional and EU freedom of association standards. Some governments have used the COVID-19 pandemic to further restrict the civic space. The study explores how the EU could protect civil society from unjust state interference by strengthening freedom of association, assembly and expression, as well as the right to defend human rights. The study elaborates on four policy options: introducing a European association statute; establishing internal guidelines to respect and protect human rights defenders; developing a civil society stability index; and creating a network of focal contact points for civil society at EU institutions. It recommends strengthening the independence of critical civil society actors and increasing funding for activities such as strategic litigation to uphold EU laws and values.

Study [EN](#)

Executive summary [DE](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)

[Corporate due diligence and corporate accountability](#)

Publication type Study

Date 20-10-2020

Author NAVARRA Cecilia

Policy area European Added Value

Keyword accounting | added value | BUSINESS AND COMPETITION | business classification | business organisation | company law | corporate social responsibility | documentation | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | ENVIRONMENT | environmental impact | environmental policy | European construction | European undertaking | EUROPEAN UNION | fundamental rights | human rights | LAW | production | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | research report | rights and freedoms | single market | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | supply chain

Summary This study analyses the potential European Added Value of a measure requiring companies to carry out due diligence on social, environmental and governance risks in their own operations and supply chain. There is evidence of human rights violations and environmental negative impacts related to business activities. This measure could increase firm compliance to international principles of responsible business conduct, increase access to remedy for victims, improve legal certainty and create a level playing field for businesses. This study reviews possible sources of costs and benefits for companies and, based on original analysis, suggests that stronger environmental and social accountability practices could contribute to improving EU firms' performance. From a qualitative analysis, it suggests a potential significant impact in addressing risks of environmental damages and human rights violations in global value chains, thus supporting EU commitment to human rights and environmental protection.

Study [EN](#)

[Tourism sector: EU funding to cope with the coronavirus crisis](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 06-10-2020

Author MARGARAS Vasileios

Policy area Coronavirus | Tourism

Keyword coronavirus disease | economic analysis | economic conditions | economic consequence | economic policy | economic recovery | ECONOMICS | epidemic | EU aid | EU investment | EU programme | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | FINANCE | financing and investment | health | social affairs | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | tourism

Summary Tourism has been severely hit by the coronavirus crisis. At the peak of the pandemic, most EU Member States introduced measures restricting free movement across borders. Tourism businesses were among the last to be allowed to resume activities, and have had to apply strict health protocols and containment measures, meaning that they are operating at restricted capacity with increased costs. Most tourist destinations have seen a huge drop in tourist numbers and their season curtailed. Many Member States have recently begun to impose new confinement and quarantine measures and travel restrictions.

[At a Glance](#) [EN](#)

[Recovery and Resilience Facility: Key features and developments](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 06-10-2020

Author KARABOYTCHEVA Miroslava Kostova

Policy area Budget | Coronavirus | Economics and Monetary Issues

Keyword coronavirus disease | distribution of EU funding | economic analysis | economic and social cohesion | economic conditions | economic consequence | economic geography | economic recovery | ECONOMICS | epidemic | EU finance | EU financial instrument | EU growth strategy | EU Member State | European construction | European Semester | EUROPEAN UNION | European Union law | FINANCE | GEOGRAPHY | health | monetary economics | proposal (EU) | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary The Recovery and Resilience Facility is intended to be the Union's main tool in support of economic and social recovery from the consequences of the coronavirus pandemic. It will provide €672.5 billion in grants and loans as financial support over the coming years. The aim of the Facility is to promote economic, social and territorial cohesion and secure lasting recovery. In its 2021 annual sustainable growth strategy, the Commission set out strategic guidance for implementation of the Facility. Currently, the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission are committed to completing the Facility's design phase and ensuring its prompt entry into force.

[At a Glance](#) [EN](#)

[An EU mechanism on democracy, the rule of law and fundamental rights](#)

Publication type Study

Date 30-09-2020

Author NAVARRA Cecilia | VAN BALLEGOIJ Wouter

Policy area Area of Freedom, Security and Justice | European Added Value

Keyword democracy | EU institutions and European civil service | European Parliament | EUROPEAN UNION | fundamental rights | LAW | legislative initiative | parliamentary proceedings | political framework | POLITICS | rights and freedoms | rule of law | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary This European Added Value Assessment assesses the potential added value of an EU pact on Democracy the Rule of law and Fundamental rights covering all Member States as proposed by the European Parliament, comparing it to the European Commission's approach in its annual rule of law report, which only covers the rule of law and further integration requiring Treaty change. It concludes that the pact proposed by the European Parliament would lead to significant benefits in terms of more effective monitoring and enforcement of EU values. An approximation of its potential positive effects on the EU economy indicates annual gains of €413 billion corresponding to 3.3 % of EU GDP, far outweighing the costs of its development.

[Study](#) [EN](#)

[The gendered impact of the Covid-19 crisis and post-crisis period](#)

Publication type Study

Date 30-09-2020

External author Clare WENHAM, Department of Health Policy, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), London, United Kingdom

Policy area Coronavirus | Evaluation of Law and Policy in Practice | Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity | Public Health

Keyword coronavirus disease | economic analysis | ECONOMICS | epidemic | gender equality | health | impact study | LAW | position of women | rights and freedoms | social affairs | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary Outbreaks affect men, women and other genders differentially. This can be both the direct infections with a pathogen, or the secondary effects of public health response policies. COVID-19 is no exception, and the gendered impacts thus far and in the future are numerous. This study outlines some of the key gendered effects thus far and suggestions for how these may extend into the post-crisis period based on currently available data on COVID and longer-term effects of previous outbreaks. This includes the lack of sex-disaggregated data, the role of healthcare workers and care workers, domestic violence, the impact of quarantine on feminised sectors of the economy, the additional unpaid labour on women as a result of lockdown, access to maternity, sexual and reproductive health services. This study commissioned by the European Parliament's Policy Department for Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs at the request of the FEMM Committee.

[Study](#) [EN](#)

Geopolitical implications of the COVID-19 pandemic

Publication type Study

Date 29-09-2020

External author Florence GAUB, Lotje BOSWINKEL; EUISS

Policy area Coronavirus | Democracy | Environment | Foreign Affairs | Global Governance | Public Health

Keyword coronavirus disease | economic analysis | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | epidemic | health | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary Since the Coronavirus began its spread across the world, many analysts have speculated about its impact: would it merely accelerate previously-existing trends, or would it prove to be a geopolitical 'game-changer', creating a world profoundly different than before? The answer is much more complex than either or: the world during and after COVID-19 will have elements of both, the old and the new, the known and the unknown. This study explores both dimensions of the pandemic's impact: how does it affect the geopolitical context it erupted into, and what possibility space does it open up? The first section assesses the geopolitical trends antedating the pandemic and measures its present and expected impact on them, while the second section lays out the space for action and change created by the disruption. In the third section, the interplay of trends and uncertainties is explored in three scenarios set in 2025: Strategic Distancing; Europe in Self-isolation; and Lockdown World. The study finds that European foreign policy is entering an era of re-definition in which the European Parliament should play a crucial role. This means outlining the elements of strategic autonomy, but also streamlining them with each other. As such, classical foreign policy needs to join forces with other policy areas such as environmental and technological matters, trade, strategic communication – and of course, health. In that sense alone, the pandemic is already proving to be a game-changer.

Study [EN](#)

Social and employment policies in Europe

Publication type Briefing

Date 10-09-2020

Author MILOTAY Nora

Policy area Coronavirus | Education | Employment | Social Policy

Keyword coronavirus disease | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | employment policy | epidemic | health | labour market | labour market | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary Whilst the disruption caused by the coronavirus crisis has affected all segments of society, some groups and geographic areas have been impacted more seriously than others. The crisis has opened up the opportunity to rethink how and what could be done differently and more efficiently over the longer term in the social and employment field at European level, including the possibility of putting social and economic considerations and rights on a more equal footing within the Union's governance framework. Focusing on the European Green Deal as the new growth strategy and strengthening the single market, of which social inclusion and fairness are an organic part, can help to tackle the root causes of the trends highlighted ever more strongly by the coronavirus triple crisis: health, economic and environmental. Some measures might imply changes to the Treaty base of the Union, but many can already be carried out within the current legal framework, where the European Union (EU) can function as a 'holding space' for experimentation and reform and pave the way to a truly resilient, sustainable and fair system. Such a system would then not only be able to absorb shocks but also to grow from them.

Briefing [EN](#)

Towards a more resilient Europe post-coronavirus: An initial mapping of structural risks facing the EU

Publication type Study

Date 29-07-2020

Policy area Coronavirus | EU Democracy, Institutional and Parliamentary Law

Keyword coronavirus disease | economic analysis | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | epidemic | EU policy | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | health | impact study | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary The current coronavirus crisis emphasises the need for the European Union to devote more effort to anticipatory governance, notably through analysis of medium- and long-term global trends, as well as structured contingency planning and the stress-testing of existing and future policies. In order to contribute to reflection on, and discussion about, the implications of the coronavirus pandemic for EU policy-making, this paper offers an initial 'mapping' of some of the potential structural risks which could confront Europe over the coming decade, with 66 such risks analysed briefly in a series of short notes. The document then goes on to take a closer look at some of the more immediate risks to be considered in the near-term and outlines possible EU action to prevent or mitigate them over the remainder of the 2019-24 institutional cycle.

Study [EN](#)

[Coronavirus: An uncertain future \[What Think Tanks are thinking\]](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 17-07-2020

Author CESLUK-GRAJEWSKI Marcin

Policy area Coronavirus

Keyword coronavirus disease | economic analysis | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | epidemic | health | impact study | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary The spread of the coronavirus pandemic is reshaping the world economy and politics. Analysts and politicians argue that the extent of changes will depend on the persistence of the crisis and the ability of global powers to cooperate in efforts to contain and control it. In Europe, where containment rules have already been eased in many countries, governments and citizens fear a second wave of the pandemic, especially given that infection rates are again slowly rising in certain regions. Worldwide, populations in conflict-zones find themselves in an especially precarious situation. This note offers links to recent commentaries and reports from international think tanks on coronavirus and related issues. Earlier publications on the coronavirus can be found in the previous item in this series, published by EPRS on 10 July.

Briefing [EN](#)

[Next Generation EU: A European instrument to counter the impact of the coronavirus pandemic](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 06-07-2020

Author D'ALFONSO Alessandro

Policy area Budget | Coronavirus

Keyword coronavirus disease | economic analysis | economic conditions | economic consequence | economic policy | economic recovery | ECONOMICS | epidemic | EU aid | EU budget | EU finance | EUROPEAN UNION | health | multiannual financial framework | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary The socio-economic impact of the coronavirus pandemic across the European Union (EU) is posing significant challenges, not least to the good functioning of the single market and the euro area. This has led to a growing consensus on the need for a common recovery plan to complement national stimulus packages. The European Commission has put forward a proposal to establish a €750 billion European recovery instrument, Next Generation EU, to reinforce the EU's 2021-2027 multiannual financial framework (MFF). The instrument would be financed from funds borrowed on the markets by the Commission on behalf of the EU, while a mix of new and already planned instruments under the EU budget would channel expenditure, combining grants (€500 billion) and loans (€250 billion). The proposal, which aims to focus on the geographical areas and sectors hardest hit by the crisis, seeks to ensure an economic rebound that is also about quality, since expenditure is to be in line with jointly agreed EU objectives such as the green and digital transitions. National allocations under the largest instrument, a new Recovery and Resilience Facility, are to address challenges identified in the context of the European Semester. The recovery instrument includes various proposals in which the European Parliament is involved to varying extents, depending on the issue at stake. The channelling of resources through the EU budget means that Parliament would be co-legislator of relevant spending instruments, and exercise democratic scrutiny of expenditure through the discharge procedure. The budgetary authority would not however determine annual expenditure of Next Generation EU in the budgetary procedure since financing would be based on external assigned revenue. The Commission has called for an agreement to be reached in July 2020, in order for the recovery instrument to be operational as of 2021. A €11.5 billion bridging solution would address some objectives already in 2020. Elements expected to be at the heart of the complex negotiations, which are linked to those on the 2021-2027 MFF, are: the size of the instrument; the mix of grants and loans; the allocation of resources between Member States; reform of the financing system of the EU budget with new own resources; and the repayment of the borrowed resources.

Briefing [EN](#)

[The role of cohesion policy in tackling the socio-economic fallout from coronavirus](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 06-07-2020

Author MARGARAS Vasileios

Policy area Coronavirus | Regional Development

Keyword Asia and Oceania | China | coronavirus disease | economic analysis | economic and social cohesion | economic consequence | economic geography | ECONOMICS | epidemic | EU finance | EU institutions and European civil service | European construction | European Parliament | European Structural and Investment Funds | EUROPEAN UNION | FINANCE | GEOGRAPHY | health | monetary economics | multiannual financial framework | parliamentary debate | parliamentary proceedings | POLITICS | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | stability pact

Summary The Committee on Regional Development has tabled a question to the European Commission on the role of cohesion policy in tackling the socio-economic fallout from Covid-19. The Commission is due to respond during a debate at Parliament's July plenary session.

At a Glance [EN](#)

Covid-19 Newsletter 2: Exit strategy

Publication type Briefing

Date 03-07-2020

Author BARBERA DEL ROSAL Adolfo | CIUCCI MATTEO | KENNEDY AOIFE | LAKY Zsuzsanna | RATCLIFF Christina | VERBEKEN Dirk

Policy area Adoption of Legislation by EP and Council | Coronavirus | Economics and Monetary Issues | Employment | Energy | Environment | Financial and Banking Issues | Industry | Internal Market and Customs Union | Public Health | Research Policy

Keyword coronavirus disease | disease prevention | economic analysis | economic conditions | economic consequence | economic recovery | ECONOMICS | epidemic | health | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary As EU Member States embark on a cautious de-confinement path, the economy slides into recession and the question of the proportionality of public health-related measures and their economic consequences is increasingly present in the public debate.
As long as a vaccine (or an effective treatment) for the Covid-19 disease is not found and deployed, post-Covid-19 societies will have to coexist with the virus, and find an equilibrium between the social constraints resulting from health protecting measures and the need to mitigate as much as possible a huge economic shock, which if not addressed adequately, could have unpredictable social and political consequences.
The Covid-19 crisis has shown above all the importance of joint European action. Although public health is primarily the competence of the Member States, the European Parliament has called on the Commission and the Member States to act together and to rise to the challenge and ensure that the Union emerges stronger from this crisis. In particular, a differentiated but coordinated post-lockdown approach in the EU should be ensured, in order to avoid a resurgence of the virus.
The present Covid-19 Newsletter focuses on the de-confinement strategies and EU measures to support the economic recovery. An update of ongoing Covid-19 related expertise work for the ECON, EMPL, ENVI, ITRE and IMCO committees is provided at the end of this document.

Briefing [EN](#)

Coronavirus in south-east Asia: Health, political and economic impact

Publication type Briefing

Date 19-06-2020

Author RUSSELL Martin

Policy area Coronavirus | Foreign Affairs

Keyword Asia and Oceania | coronavirus disease | economic analysis | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | epidemic | GEOGRAPHY | health | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | South-East Asia

Summary Coronavirus has affected the 10 south-east Asian countries in very different ways. Thanks to quick and decisive action, Vietnam came through relatively unscathed; Singapore also seemed to have the virus under control, before a second wave of infections among migrant labourers took off. Malaysia and Thailand initially struggled, but now seem to have turned the situation around. In Indonesia and the Philippines, the disease continues to spread rapidly. Although weak healthcare systems make Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar, the three poorest countries of the region, highly vulnerable, they have not reported many infections so far. Despite such differences, some of the issues raised by the coronavirus pandemic are common to all countries of the region. For example, pre-existing inequalities have widened, particularly affecting low-paid workers in informal employment, migrants, and refugees. Meanwhile, governments are clamping down on free speech and adopting emergency powers, raising concerns over authoritarian tendencies. Although the countries of the region are cooperating with each other and neighbours such as China, tensions (for example, in the South China Sea) have become more apparent. All south-east Asian economies have been affected, but the impact varies considerably. Vietnam is expected to do relatively well, and several other countries will also see modest growth. Due to a global downturn in trade and tourism, Singapore and Thailand are suffering most. Overall, the region is forecast to see less of an economic impact than Europe or North America, and growth is expected to rebound in 2021.

Briefing [EN](#)

CSDP missions and coronavirus

Publication type At a Glance

Date 15-06-2020

Author LAZAROU Eleni

Policy area Coronavirus | Foreign Affairs | Security and Defence

Keyword coronavirus disease | epidemic | EU civilian mission | EU military mission | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | health | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | international security | peacekeeping | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary As Covid-19 adds increased pressure on international security, the EU's Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) missions and operations have been adapted and contributed to the mitigation of the effects of the pandemic in host countries.

At a Glance [EN](#)

[Policy Departments' Monthly Highlights - June 2020](#)

Publication type [At a Glance](#)

Date 12-06-2020

Policy area [Area of Freedom, Security and Justice](#) | [Budget](#) | [Budgetary Control](#) | [Consumer Protection](#) | [International Trade](#) | [Regional Development](#)

Keyword [coronavirus disease](#) | [economic and social cohesion](#) | [epidemic](#) | [European construction](#) | [EUROPEAN UNION](#) | [health](#) | [social framework](#) | [social impact](#) | [SOCIAL QUESTIONS](#)

Summary The Monthly Highlights publication provides an overview, at a glance, of the on-going work of the policy departments, including a selection of the latest and forthcoming publications, and a list of future events.

[At a Glance](#) [EN](#)

[Mitigating the employment and social effects of the Covid-19 pandemic](#)

Publication type [Briefing](#)

Date 09-06-2020

Author [KENNEDY AOIFE](#) | [SZPEJNA MONIKA MARZENA](#)

Policy area [Coronavirus](#) | [Employment](#) | [Social Policy](#)

Keyword [coronavirus disease](#) | [digital divide](#) | [digital literacy](#) | [EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS](#) | [employment](#) | [EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS](#) | [epidemic](#) | [EU employment policy](#) | [health](#) | [information and information processing](#) | [labour market](#) | [labour market](#) | [social framework](#) | [social impact](#) | [SOCIAL QUESTIONS](#)

Summary The briefing reviews social and employment policy recommendations made by European and international organisations in relation to the coronavirus crisis.

[Briefing](#) [EN](#)

[Impact of coronavirus on EU aid to the most deprived](#)

Publication type [Briefing](#)

Date 04-06-2020

Author [LECERF Marie](#)

Policy area [Coronavirus](#) | [Social Policy](#)

Keyword [aid to disadvantaged groups](#) | [coronavirus disease](#) | [economic policy](#) | [ECONOMICS](#) | [epidemic](#) | [EU aid](#) | [health](#) | [marginalisation](#) | [national accounts](#) | [poverty](#) | [social affairs](#) | [social framework](#) | [social impact](#) | [social protection](#) | [SOCIAL QUESTIONS](#) | [socially disadvantaged class](#)

Summary Around 24 million people in the EU, or 5.6 % of the population, are 'severely materially deprived'. Fighting poverty and social exclusion is therefore a key priority, and to this end the EU supplements its Member States' aid to those most in need through the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD), which has a budget of €3.8 billion. Partner organisations selected by the Member States manage this support, providing food (e.g. distribution of food packages and meals) and material assistance (e.g. clothes), or activities to improve inclusion (e.g. better access to support and social services) to those in need. In parallel, the European Social Fund (ESF) remains the broader funding instrument fighting poverty and social exclusion. The coronavirus crisis poses specific risks for the most deprived and unparalleled challenges for the activities supported by the FEAD and the ESF. To safeguard the most vulnerable, and aid workers and volunteers, against the coronavirus disease, emergency measures have been taken to provide them with protective equipment. Changes, launched in April 2020, have sought to adapt the FEAD to the challenging situation. For instance, electronic vouchers have been introduced to deliver food aid and basic material assistance, to reduce the risk of contamination during delivery. Furthermore, FEAD money has been made available for buying protective equipment for those delivering the aid. Yet again, partner organisations and other players involved in the implementation of the FEAD have been enabled to quickly address the additional needs of the most deprived arising from the crisis. During the crisis, the fund will be 100 % EU-financed, including the 15 % normally paid by the Member States. Moreover, to face the acute labour crisis and its social consequences on the most deprived, the EU has taken initiatives to address immediate needs and mitigate negative impacts on employment and social policy, including measures to support the most vulnerable or deprived groups. Since the onset of the pandemic, the European Parliament has been at the forefront of initiatives to protect the most deprived.

[Briefing](#) [EN](#)

Multimedia [Impact of coronavirus on EU aid to the most deprived](#)

[Economic Dialogue with the European Commission on the 2020 Country Specific Recommendations](#)

Publication type [Briefing](#)

Date 27-05-2020

Author [ANGERER Jost](#) | [GRIGAITE KRISTINA](#) | [HAGELSTAM Kajus](#) | [LEHOFER WOLFGANG](#) | [MAGNUS Marcel](#) | [PACHECO DIAS CRISTINA SOFIA](#) | [ZOPPE Alice](#)

Policy area [Coronavirus](#) | [Economics and Monetary Issues](#) | [European Semester](#) | [Financial and Banking Issues](#)

Keyword [coronavirus disease](#) | [economic analysis](#) | [economic consequence](#) | [economic geography](#) | [ECONOMICS](#) | [epidemic](#) | [EU Member State](#) | [European Semester](#) | [EUROPEAN UNION](#) | [European Union law](#) | [FINANCE](#) | [GEOGRAPHY](#) | [health](#) | [monetary economics](#) | [recommendation \(EU\)](#) | [social framework](#) | [social impact](#) | [SOCIAL QUESTIONS](#)

Summary V. Dombrovskis, Executive Vice-President for An Economy that Works for People, P. Gentiloni, Commissioner for Economy and N. Schmit, Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights have been invited to an Economic Dialogue on the launch of the 2020 Country Specific Recommendations (CSRs), in line with the relevant EU law. This briefing note covers the main elements of the 2020 CSRs as proposed by the Commission (Section 1) on 20 May 2020, the EU/EA level economic responses to the pandemic (Section 2), the economic outlook (Section 3), the 2020 Euro Area Recommendation (Section 4), the implementation of 2019 CSRs (Section 5), and review of the European Semester and the deepening EMU (Section 6)

[Briefing](#) [EN](#)

[Coronavirus: The world in limbo \[What Think Tanks are thinking\]](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 26-05-2020

Author CESLUK-GRAJEWSKI Marcin

Policy area Coronavirus | Public Health

Keyword coronavirus disease | economic analysis | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | epidemic | health | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary Most countries recovering from the first – and hopefully last – wave of the coronavirus pandemic are now in limbo. Confinement measures are being cautiously relaxed while short-term assessments on the impact of the virus on the economy and society are being refined. Meanwhile, analysts are now also looking at the medium- to long-term implications of the disease and also assessing the situation in the developing world, as well as in Russia, where, notably, they see the crisis working against President Vladimir Putin. This note offers links to recent commentaries and reports from international think tanks on coronavirus and related issues. Earlier publications on the topic can be found in the previous item in this series, published by EPRS on 15 May.

[Briefing](#) [EN](#)

[Which 'new normal' after coronavirus? \[What Think Tanks are thinking\]](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 15-05-2020

Author CESLUK-GRAJEWSKI Marcin

Policy area Coronavirus | Public Health

Keyword coronavirus disease | economic analysis | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | epidemic | health | impact study | public health | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary Many countries are now beginning to relax their strict confinement measures as the infection, hospitalisation and death rates from the coronavirus all fall. However, the impact of such moves is being monitored very closely, in order to try to forestall any second wave of infection. Meanwhile, debate intensifies about whether people's previous life-styles and working practices, especially in richer industrialised countries, will be radically changed and/or remain sustainable in the emerging 'new normal'. In parallel, the possibility of finding a vaccine, and using other modern technology applications, to overcome the virus is being intensively discussed. Analysts are also looking at the disease's specific impact in the poorest regions of the world, notably in sub-Saharan Africa. This note offers links to recent commentaries and reports from international think tanks on coronavirus and related issues. Earlier publications on the topic can be found in the previous item in this series, published by EPRS on 8 May.

[Briefing](#) [EN](#)

[Coronavirus in Africa: A crisis with multiple impacts](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 07-05-2020

Author PICHON Eric | ZAMFIR Ionel

Policy area Coronavirus | Foreign Affairs

Keyword Africa | Africa | coronavirus disease | democracy | disease prevention | economic analysis | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | epidemic | GEOGRAPHY | health | health care system | political framework | POLITICS | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary At the beginning of May, the number of Covid-19 cases in Africa was lower than in other regions of the world. North African countries and South Africa are the most affected by the pandemic. Limited testing capacity and Africa's young population are often mentioned as possible explanations for this overall low rate. The very early preventive measures adopted by most governments are also credited for slowing down the spread of the disease. Africa's medical systems are poorly equipped to handle a massive epidemic, despite notable recent progress in preparedness for epidemics in general and increased testing capacity for the coronavirus. On the other hand, African economies have been severely hit by the pandemic. The drop in oil and other commodity prices, the disruption in global supply chains affecting African exporters, the drying up of external financial flows compounding an already difficult financial situation for many states, as well as the effects of confinement particularly on urban populations living off informal daily activities, are taking a heavy toll on the continent's economies. This creates a risk of social instability, with poorer people already facing food deprivation in urban slums. Long-term confinement and social distancing are simply impossible in many African settings. The pandemic has also affected the fragile democratic institutions of some African countries. Restrictions on freedom of expression and assembly, as well as the postponement of elections can undermine recent democratic progress. Africa needs massive help to overcome these challenges. The international community has prepared various packages, including a debt moratorium to relieve the economic and financial burden. The European Union is refocusing the funds earmarked for Africa to fighting the pandemic. The consequences of the outbreak will profoundly reshape the discussions on a renewed Africa-EU partnership, and if correctly seized, might be the opportunity to strengthen this partnership.

[Briefing](#) [EN](#)

[Thematic Digest on EU Economic Governance during the pandemic](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 27-04-2020

Author BOLDI DONELLA

Policy area Coronavirus | Economics and Monetary Issues | European Semester | Financial and Banking Issues

Keyword coronavirus disease | documentation | economic analysis | economic conditions | economic consequence | economic recovery | ECONOMICS | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | epidemic | health | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | summarising

Summary This document presents a selection of thematic briefings in the area of EU economic governance and banking union recently published by the Economic Governance Support Unit of the European Parliament, notably in view of the ongoing debate to find common solutions to combat the economic, financial and social effects of COVID-19.

[At a Glance](#) [EN](#)

[Coronavirus: Impact and challenges \[What Think Tanks are thinking\]](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 23-04-2020

Author CESLUK-GRAJEWSKI Marcin

Policy area Coronavirus | Public Health

Keyword coronavirus disease | economic analysis | economic conditions | economic consequence | economic recession | ECONOMICS | epidemic | health | impact study | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary As the coronavirus crisis continues to take its deadly toll across the world, it does so with varying degrees of severity depending on the country. Some states are considering relaxing preventive measures against the disease, others are doing so already. Many analysts and politicians are beginning to turn their attention from short-term measures to contain the virus and save economies from collapse to longer-term challenges, such as the pandemic's impact on international governance, defence, foreign policy and the international debt market. This note offers links to recent commentaries and reports from international think tanks on the coronavirus and related issues. Earlier publications on the topic can be found in the previous edition in this series, published by the EPRS on 15 April.

[Briefing](#) [EN](#)

[Covid-19 Newsletter 1](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 22-04-2020

Policy area Adoption of Legislation by EP and Council | Coronavirus | Economics and Monetary Issues | Employment | Energy | Environment | Financial and Banking Issues | Industry | Internal Market and Customs Union | Public Health

Keyword coronavirus disease | economic analysis | economic conditions | economic consequence | economic recession | economic recovery | ECONOMICS | epidemic | health | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary In its resolution of 17 April 2020, the European Parliament called on the Commission and the Member States to act together and to ensure that the European Union will emerge stronger from the COVID-19 crisis. This newsletter on COVID-19 aims to keep the ECON, EMPL, ENVI, ITRE and IMCO committees updated about the main EU recent developments and responses to the current crisis.

[Briefing](#) [EN](#)

[Specific flexibility measures for ESI funds in response to the coronavirus outbreak](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 15-04-2020

Author MARGARAS Vasileios

Policy area Adoption of Legislation by EP and Council | Coronavirus | Regional Development

Keyword Asia and Oceania | China | Cohesion Fund | coronavirus disease | distribution of EU funding | economic analysis | economic consequence | economic geography | ECONOMICS | epidemic | EU finance | European Regional Development Fund | European Social Fund | European Structural and Investment Funds | EUROPEAN UNION | European Union law | GEOGRAPHY | health | multiannual financial framework | proposal (EU) | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary With much of Europe in the grip of the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19), on 2 April, the European Commission announced a further series of measures to help Member States cope with the socio-economic impact of the crisis. Amongst them is a proposal aiming to provide more flexibility in the use of European structural and investment funds (ESI funds). It is expected to be voted under the urgent procedure during the 16-17 April plenary session.

[At a Glance](#) [EN](#)

[Policy responses to the coronavirus crisis \[What Think Tanks are thinking\]](#)

Publication type [Briefing](#)

Date 15-04-2020

Author CESLUK-GRAJEWSKI Marcin

Policy area Coronavirus | Public Health

Keyword BUSINESS AND COMPETITION | coronavirus disease | crisis management | economic analysis | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | epidemic | health | health policy | management | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary The coronavirus crisis is beginning to show signs of abating in some countries, but not in others. Governments and local authorities have introduced, maintained, and in certain cases even strengthened, a range of tough measures designed to prevent, suppress or mitigate the advance of the virus. Many analysts and politicians are increasingly calling for stronger global-level action to combat the pandemic, while medical scientists still struggle to find an effective treatment and a vaccine for the disease. This note offers links to recent commentaries and reports from international think tanks on the coronavirus and related issues. Earlier publications on the topic can be found in the previous edition in this series, published by EPRS on 3 April.

[Briefing](#) [EN](#)

[The EU's response to coronavirus in its neighbourhood and beyond](#)

Publication type [Briefing](#)

Date 15-04-2020

Author BENTZEN Naja | PRZETACZNIK Jakub

Policy area Coronavirus | Foreign Affairs

Keyword coronavirus disease | economic analysis | economic consequence | economic policy | ECONOMICS | epidemic | EU aid | European construction | European neighbourhood policy | EUROPEAN UNION | health | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary The true extent of the evolving coronavirus pandemic within the EU and across the world is still unclear, and the magnitude of the consequences is not known either. What is clear, however, is that the healthcare systems of many countries across the world are underfunded, and that even developed countries are severely challenged by the health crisis. Moreover, the socio-economic impact of the crisis across the world will likely be grave, while the multiple crises related to the pandemic – including the global infodemic – may have lasting effects on the global geopolitical balance. Against this backdrop, on 8 April 2020 the European Commission and the EU's High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (HR/VP) presented a proposal for a strong and targeted EU response to help partner countries cope with the pandemic, as outlined in a joint communication. In its response, the EU is adopting a 'Team Europe' approach, combining resources from the EU, its Member States and financial institutions. The collective package of €15.6 billion is to help here and now, but also has a longer-term perspective. It will focus on addressing the pressing health crisis and resulting humanitarian needs, bolstering partner countries' health, water and sanitation systems and their research and preparedness capacities to deal with the pandemic, as well as mitigating the impact on societies and economies. This should also help to reduce the risk of destabilisation. The EU's financial support for the countries covered by European Neighbourhood Policy will amount to €3.07 billion: €2.1 billion for the southern neighbourhood, and €962 million for the eastern neighbourhood. Moreover, €800 million will support the six western Balkan countries and Turkey. As a long-standing major international aid contributor, the EU will promote and lead a coordinated multilateral response, together with the United Nations (UN), international financial institutions, and the G7 and the G20.

[Briefing](#) [EN](#)

[Roadmap for Reallocation: A critical assessment of the Green Deal's growth, financing and regulatory challenges](#)

Publication type [Study](#)

Date 15-04-2020

External author Karel Volckaert

Policy area Energy | Environment | Evaluation of Law and Policy in Practice | Financial and Banking Issues | Taxation

Keyword BUSINESS AND COMPETITION | common commercial policy | competition | documentation | economic analysis | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | ENVIRONMENT | environmental policy | environmental tax | EP Committee | EU competition policy | EU institutions and European civil service | EUROPEAN UNION | executive power and public service | FINANCE | financial risk | financial supervision | free movement of capital | green economy | policy analysis | POLITICS | research report | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | TRADE | trade policy

Summary The aim of this study is to critically assess the proposed Green Deal's growth, financing and regulatory challenges. The study discusses the need for extended Shared Socio-economic Pathways. It examines the key growth drivers of the Green Deal and the green investment gap, the optimal mix of taxation and command-and-control measures, trade and competition policy and the implications for macroprudential supervision. This document was provided by Policy Department A at the request of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs.

[Study](#) [EN](#)

[COVID-19's impact on human rights outside the EU](#)

Publication type [At a Glance](#)

Date 03-04-2020

Author ZAMFIR Ionel

Policy area [Coronavirus](#) | [Development and Humanitarian Aid](#) | [Human Rights](#)

Keyword [coronavirus disease](#) | [epidemic](#) | [foreign policy](#) | [health](#) | [human rights](#) | [INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS](#) | [international security](#) | [LAW](#) | [rights and freedoms](#) | [social framework](#) | [social impact](#) | [SOCIAL QUESTIONS](#)

Summary In their attempt to contain the COVID-19 pandemic, many countries around the world have imposed limitations on freedom of movement and other related freedoms within their territories, thereby severely curtailing certain fundamental rights. In the event of a public emergency, international human rights norms do allow for the imposition of limitations under strict conditions. Moreover, so far no other approach has been as effective in slowing down the outbreak, while also upholding the right of the most vulnerable to health and life. However, some governments may be abusing the situation to suppress human rights and wield undue power.

[At a Glance](#) [EN](#)

[Coronavirus: Impact and reaction \[What Think Tanks are thinking\]](#)

Publication type [Briefing](#)

Date 26-03-2020

Author CESLUK-GRAJEWSKI Marcin

Policy area [Coronavirus](#) | [Public Health](#)

Keyword [BUSINESS AND COMPETITION](#) | [coronavirus disease](#) | [crisis management](#) | [economic analysis](#) | [economic consequence](#) | [ECONOMICS](#) | [epidemic](#) | [health](#) | [health policy](#) | [impact study](#) | [management](#) | [social framework](#) | [social impact](#) | [SOCIAL QUESTIONS](#)

Summary Governments around the world are introducing increasingly harsh measures to contain the highly contagious coronavirus, which causes the often lethal COVID-19 disease. In many countries, borders have been shut, schools, restaurants and non-food shops closed, and a ban on public and sometimes private meetings has been introduced. According to news media reports, as of 24 March, confirmed coronavirus cases around the world exceeded 377 000 across 194 countries and territories, with more than 16 500 of them having been fatal. This note offers links to recent commentaries and reports from international think tanks on the coronavirus and related issues. Earlier publications on the topic can be found in the previous item in the series, published on 18 March.

[Briefing](#) [EN](#)

[Coronavirus Response Investment Initiative](#)

Publication type [At a Glance](#)

Date 24-03-2020

Author PARI MARIANNA

Policy area [Budget](#) | [Coronavirus](#)

Keyword [coronavirus disease](#) | [economic analysis](#) | [economic consequence](#) | [economic policy](#) | [ECONOMICS](#) | [epidemic](#) | [EU aid](#) | [EU finance](#) | [EU investment](#) | [European Structural and Investment Funds](#) | [EUROPEAN UNION](#) | [FINANCE](#) | [financing and investment](#) | [health](#) | [social framework](#) | [social impact](#) | [SOCIAL QUESTIONS](#)

Summary On 13 March 2020, the European Commission adopted a legislative proposal to amend the regulations on the European structural and investment funds, to enable Member States to promote investments in healthcare systems and other sectors of the economy. This proposal aims to help Member States to address the consequences of the coronavirus pandemic. The proposal is due to be voted during the extraordinary plenary session being held on 26 March to enable the adoption of this and two other specific measures.

[At a Glance](#) [EN](#)

[The ethics of artificial intelligence: Issues and initiatives](#)

Publication type [Study](#)

Date 11-03-2020

External author DG, EPRS This study has been drafted by Eleanor Bird, Jasmin Fox-Skelly, Nicola Jenner, Ruth Larbey, Emma Weitkamp and Alan Winfield from the Science Communication Unit at the University of the West of England, at the request of the Panel for the Future of Science and Technology (STOA), and managed by the Scientific Foresight Unit, within the Directorate-General for Parliamentary Research Services (EPRS) of the Secretariat of the European Parliament.

Policy area [Area of Freedom, Security and Justice](#) | [Consumer Protection](#) | [Democracy](#) | [Employment](#) | [EU Law: Legal System and Acts](#) | [Financial and Banking Issues](#) | [Forward Planning](#) | [Global Governance](#) | [Public Health](#) | [Research Policy](#) | [Social Policy](#) | [Transport](#)

Keyword [artificial intelligence](#) | [economic analysis](#) | [ECONOMICS](#) | [EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS](#) | [ethics](#) | [humanities](#) | [impact study](#) | [information and information processing](#) | [information technology and data processing](#) | [new technology](#) | [PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH](#) | [robotics](#) | [SCIENCE](#) | [social framework](#) | [social impact](#) | [SOCIAL QUESTIONS](#) | [technology and technical regulations](#)

Summary This study deals with the ethical implications and moral questions that arise from the development and implementation of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies. It also reviews the guidelines and frameworks that countries and regions around the world have created to address these. It presents a comparison between the current main frameworks and the main ethical issues, and highlights gaps around mechanisms of fair benefit sharing; assigning of responsibility; exploitation of workers; energy demands in the context of environmental and climate changes; and more complex and less certain implications of AI, such as those regarding human relationships.

[Study](#) [EN](#)

[Annex 1](#) [EN](#)

[EU guidelines on ethics in artificial intelligence: Context and implementation](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 19-09-2019

Author MADIEGA Tambiama André

Policy area Area of Freedom, Security and Justice

Keyword artificial intelligence | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | ethics | humanities | information and information processing | information technology and data processing | robotics | SCIENCE | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary The discussion around artificial intelligence (AI) technologies and their impact on society is increasingly focused on the question of whether AI should be regulated. Following the call from the European Parliament to update and complement the existing Union legal framework with guiding ethical principles, the EU has carved out a 'human-centric' approach to AI that is respectful of European values and principles. As part of this approach, the EU published its guidelines on ethics in AI in April 2019, and European Commission President-elect, Ursula von der Leyen, has announced that the Commission will soon put forward further legislative proposals for a coordinated European approach to the human and ethical implications of AI. Against this background, this paper aims to shed some light on the ethical rules that are now recommended when designing, developing, deploying, implementing or using AI products and services in the EU. Moreover, it identifies some implementation challenges and presents possible further EU action ranging from soft law guidance to standardisation to legislation in the field of ethics and AI. There are calls for clarifying the EU guidelines, fostering the adoption of ethical standards and adopting legally binding instruments to, inter alia, set common rules on transparency and common requirements for fundamental rights impact assessments, and to provide an adequate legal framework for face recognition technology. Finally, the paper gives an overview of the main ethical frameworks for AI under development in countries such as the United States and China.

[Briefing](#) [EN](#)

[Harmful internet use - Part II: Impact on culture and society](#)

Publication type Study

Date 31-01-2019

External author DG, EPRS

Policy area Culture | Education | Public Health | Social Policy

Keyword communications | computer crime | disinformation | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | health | human relations | information technology and data processing | Internet | public health | social affairs | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary It is increasingly recognised that the internet, in spite of all its benefits to society, can also be correlated with significant harms to individuals and society. Some of these harms have been studied extensively, particularly harms to privacy, harms associated with security and cybercrime, and harms resulting from digital divides. This report covers less studied but equally important harms: harms associated with internet use that concern the health, well-being and functioning of individuals, and the impact on social structures and institutions. The Part II of the study address the harms of the internet at society level. The harms that are revised are among others: harms to cognitive development, information overload, harmful effects on knowledge and belief and harms to social relationships. The ultimate aim of the study is to develop concrete policy options to be considered by the EU Institutions and Member States, to mitigate harmful effects of the internet for European citizens.

[Study](#) [EN](#)

[Annex 1](#) [EN](#)

[What if all technologies were inherently social?](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 02-03-2018

Author BOUCHER Philip Nicholas

Policy area Consumer Protection | Democracy | Forward Planning | Internal Market and Customs Union | Research Policy | Social Policy

Keyword adaptation to climate change | automation | biofuel | communications | economic policy | ECONOMICS | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | ENERGY | energy policy | ENVIRONMENT | environmental policy | freedom of expression | LAW | pluralism in the media | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | research and development | research and intellectual property | rights and freedoms | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | sustainable development | technological change | technology and technical regulations

Summary How technology has shaped society and how future technologies might affect it in the years to come are subjects for frequent debate. It can be tempting in this context to think of technologies as neutral 'things' that can be used for good or bad depending on the user's intentions and skills. But what if technologies were social objects that reflected and reinforced human activities or even political values? In fact, while mechanisms, effects and implications remain open to debate, experts on the relationship between technology and society broadly agree that technologies are indeed social in this way. By scripting, restricting and enabling different human behaviours, technologies can influence our lives in much the same way that policy programmes do. A number of key ideas have emerged from this field over the last five decades, with various implications for European policy-making.

[At a Glance](#) [EN](#)

Multimedia [What if all technologies were inherently social?](#)

[Statute for Social and Solidarity-based Enterprises](#)

Publication type Study

Date 06-12-2017

Author THIRION Elodie

Policy area Economics and Monetary Issues | Employment | Social Policy

Keyword accounting | added value | austerity policy | BUSINESS AND COMPETITION | comparative analysis | consumption | cooperation policy | cost-benefit analysis | economic analysis | economic policy | economic structure | ECONOMICS | EU finance | European cooperation | European Fund for Strategic Investments | European Regional Development Fund | European social policy | EUROPEAN UNION | impact study | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | research and intellectual property | services of general interest | social affairs | social economy | social framework | social impact | social protection | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | social security | social services | TRADE

Summary Social enterprises combine societal goals with entrepreneurial spirit. These organisations focus on achieving wider social, environmental or community objectives. There is currently no specific European legal framework to help social enterprises to benefit from the internal market. Against this background, this European added value assessment identifies the challenges in the existing national legal frameworks regarding social enterprises. It argues that action at EU level would generate economic and social added value. Moreover, it outlines potential legislative measures that could be taken at EU level, and that could generate European added value through simplification and a coordinated approach in this area.

Study [EN](#)

[Research for REGI Committee - Integrated use of ESI funds to address social challenges](#)

Publication type Study

Date 14-07-2017

External author François LEVARLET, Nicola BRIGNANI, Andrea GRAMILLANO; Tamam Sarl: Armelle LEDAN PRADE; EureConsult: Thomas STUMM; Nordregio: Lisbeth GREVE HARBO

Policy area Forward Planning | Regional Development

Keyword aid to disadvantaged groups | economic and social cohesion | economic policy | ECONOMICS | EU finance | European construction | European Structural and Investment Funds | EUROPEAN UNION | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | international security | marginalisation | migrant | migration | refugee | social affairs | social framework | social impact | social integration | social protection | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | sustainable development

Summary The study aims to analyse the implementation of integrated approaches under the ESI Funds in addressing challenges related to social inclusion, including integration of migrants and refugees. Programme logic of intervention, combinations of thematic objectives, synergies with other EC policy instruments and the use of integrated tools are analysed for a set of programmes. Conclusions and recommendations are provided for the 2014-2020 and the next programming period.

Study [EN](#)

[Empowerment of national competition authorities](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 13-07-2017

Policy area Economics and Monetary Issues

Keyword BUSINESS AND COMPETITION | cartel | competition | competition (EU) | competition law | dominant position | economic analysis | economic sector | economic structure | ECONOMICS | EU competition policy | EU institutions and European civil service | EU law | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | European Union law | impact study | infringement of EU law | single market | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary The IA consistently emphasises the benefits of effective enforcement of EU competition law throughout the EU and assesses the contribution of the screened policy options to the general and specific objectives of the proposal. Its strengths lie in the solid expertise, based on internal and external research, its clear structure and its overall coherence. The analysis of the problems and their causes, and of the objectives, is comprehensive and concise. However, despite a clear attempt to comply with the BR guidelines, there are some weaknesses. These include the limited quantification of costs and benefits, the rather limited range of policy options – considering that option 1 and 2 are identified from the start as being ineffective – and the limited assessment of the options, except for option 3, which appears to have been identified very early in the process as the preferred option. Finally, the IA does not develop any operational objectives for the preferred option. Consequently, the proposed core indicators relate to the specific objectives, which, in this case, are rather general. This might imply some challenges for the monitoring, measuring and evaluation of the implementation of the provisions in the future.

Briefing [EN](#)

[Measuring social impact in the EU](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 16-05-2017

Author MILOTAY Nora

Policy area Economics and Monetary Issues | Evaluation of Law and Policy in Practice | Social Policy

Keyword drafting of EU law | economic analysis | ECONOMICS | EU growth strategy | European construction | European social policy | EUROPEAN UNION | European Union law | executive power and public service | impact study | policymaking | POLITICS | social affairs | social change | social framework | social impact | social indicator | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | social statistics | socioeconomic conditions | statistical method

Summary Austerity measures in the wake of the financial crisis, coupled with fragile economic growth, have triggered a shift in the focus of EU policy-makers towards deepening the economic and monetary union and achieving greater social convergence across Member States. In addition, due to growing inequalities and changing labour markets, discussions on investing in human capital have also come to the fore. In this context, it has become all the more important to understand and assess the social impact of policies and investments. Moreover, both public and private investors want to gain a better understanding of the social outcomes that are achieved by their investments. There is no clear consensual definition of the concept of social impact: while the social sciences look at the impact of policies and programmes, often in terms of social progress, social investors tend to look for the non-financial (that is, social and environmental) returns on their investments, which they tend to quantify and/or express in monetary terms, if possible. Metrics and methodologies to carry out the measurement of social impact are numerous but incoherent. The European Commission and European Parliament have their own mechanisms for impact assessment, in which they also assess social impact. In addition, several initiatives aim at measuring the social dimension of growth beyond GDP, arguing that GDP in itself does not hold enough information on social progress. The third sector has developed several methodologies to measure social impact as well, due to its interest in investing in social causes. Unlike outputs, it is often difficult to quantify outcomes and impacts. Moreover, it is debated whether quantification, no matter how comprehensive it is, can express the intricate nature of the issues at hand. Finally, developing a coherent framework that would help to effectively link strategic thinking with policy-making and policy implementation, including investment, remains a policy challenge.

Briefing [EN](#)

[The future of work in the EU](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 24-04-2017

Author KISS Monika

Policy area Employment

Keyword collaborative economy | economic analysis | economic structure | ECONOMICS | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | employment statistics | EU statistics | impact of information technology | information technology and data processing | INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS | job creation | job mobility | labour market | new type of employment | OECD | organisation of work and working conditions | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | robotisation | social framework | social impact | social protection | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | social security | technological change | technology and technical regulations | working environment | world organisations

Summary Economic and technical changes are redrawing the map of the world of work: new jobs are appearing while others are becoming obsolete, and atypical work patterns are replacing full-time work and open-ended contracts. In addition, work is increasingly being carried out on online platforms connecting buyers and sellers, or by large project teams across borders and time zones. Robotics and digitalisation raise new questions, as machines are progressively replacing the human workforce for routine tasks, and as new types of professional and personal skills are required to respond to technological progress. Active labour-market policies are needed to cater for the changing reality in the world of work. This concerns social security systems, which must adapt to new, constantly changing, requirements, unresolved ethical and practical problems relating to robotics, and the need for new digital skills, which are essential to survive in the new working environment.

Briefing [EN](#), [ET](#)

[Energy performance of buildings](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 28-02-2017

Author EISELE Katharina

Policy area Energy | Environment | Ex-ante Impact Assessment

Keyword building | building and public works | BUSINESS AND COMPETITION | business organisation | competitiveness | construction and town planning | economic analysis | ECONOMICS | ENERGY | energy consumption | energy efficiency | energy policy | energy saving | ENVIRONMENT | environmental impact | environmental policy | EU finance | EU financing | EUROPEAN UNION | impact study | improvement of housing | INDUSTRY | innovation | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | reduction of gas emissions | research and intellectual property | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | technological change | technology and technical regulations

Summary The IA appears to provide a thorough analysis of the current situation and of the likely impacts of the proposed options, based on sound and comprehensive research. The Commission explains the models used for the analysis and is open about the key assumptions. The IA relies largely on the wide stakeholder consultation activities carried out for the ex post evaluation of the EPBD (published on the same day as the IA). However, generally speaking, the information on stakeholders' views in the IA could have been more precise; the stakeholder support for each option is not readily apparent from the IA.

Briefing [EN](#)

Fostering social innovation in the European Union

Publication type Briefing

Date 17-01-2017

Author MILOTAY Nora

Policy area Education | Employment | Energy | Internal Market and Customs Union | Social Policy

Keyword collaborative economy | economic structure | ECONOMICS | EU finance | EU policy | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | executive power and public service | fund (EU) | governance | innovation | POLITICS | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | research and intellectual property | social economy | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary Strengthening the social dimensions of European Union policies, in general, and of the economic and monetary union, in particular is an increasingly important discourse across the Member States, particularly since the 2008 financial crisis. Social innovation, which is gaining increasing importance in the public, private and third (i.e. voluntary, non-profit) sectors, can greatly contribute to addressing the growing challenges, such as migration, poverty and global warming. The European Union particularly promotes social innovation through employment and social policies as well as policies on the single market. The main initiatives explicitly target the governance and funding mechanism of social innovation, including its regulatory environment, powering public-sector innovation, the social economy, as well as providing policy guidance and fostering new policy practices. Due to the complexity of the concept and ecosystem of social innovation and its very diverse contexts in the Member States, European Union policies have varied impact: regulations can have controversial effects in terms of visibility of initiatives, and many organisations still cannot access sufficient funding. To make these initiatives more effective it is important to know more about the impact of social innovation, including its social and environmental value and the importance of these for the economy. Please click here for the full publication in PDF format

Briefing [EN](#)

Gender Equality in Trade Agreements

Publication type Study

Date 28-11-2016

External author Marzia FONTANA

Policy area Contract Law, Commercial Law and Company Law | Economics and Monetary Issues | Employment | EU Law: Legal System and Acts | International Trade | Private international law and judicial cooperation in civil matters | Public international law | Social Policy

Keyword America | Canada | cooperation policy | economic geography | gender equality | GEOGRAPHY | industrial manufacturing | INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | international trade | LAW | marketing | political geography | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | provision of services | rights and freedoms | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | technology and technical regulations | third country | TRADE | trade agreement | United States | world organisations | World Trade Organisation

Summary Trade policies have different impacts on different groups of women and men. Carefully assessing the likely gender implications of specific trade agreements is therefore essential to ensure that both women and men benefit from the gains from liberalisation and are adequately protected from its negative effects. This study, commissioned by the European Parliament Policy Department for Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs upon request by the FEMM Committee, reviews evidence and makes recommendations on how to ensure that new trade agreements such as CETA, TTIP and TISA take gender equality objectives more fully into account.

Study [EN](#)

Vulnerable social groups: Before and after the crisis

Publication type Briefing

Date 11-07-2016

Author KISS Monika

Policy area Employment | Social Policy

Keyword aid to disadvantaged groups | economic conditions | economic recession | ECONOMICS | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | EU growth strategy | European construction | European social policy | EUROPEAN UNION | family | gender equality | health | homelessness | labour market | LAW | marginalisation | national accounts | poverty | protection | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | undernourishment | worker with disabilities | working poor

Summary 'Vulnerable social groups' are groups of people considered to be at risk of poverty or social exclusion because of physical disabilities, age factors, ethnic origins, lack of housing, or substance abuse. These people, who were already struggling with financial, social and employment difficulties before the 2008 economic crisis, have become further disadvantaged, and the gap between them and the rest of society has grown even wider. Three subgroups stand out as being most affected by the European economic and financial crisis. The number of people experiencing in-work poverty is rising, with economic constraints forcing them to work in increasingly precarious jobs or obliging them to accept self-employed status. Disabled people, already confronted by barriers hindering their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others, have, as a result of the crisis, lost a great deal of social, economic and mobility support and their chances of re-entering the labour market have diminished. Finally, changes in family structure mean that the number of single parents, especially single mothers, has increased in recent years. These parents struggle to achieve a work-life balance on account of their multiple obligations, and as a group they are also suffering from the effects of the crisis. The situation of vulnerable groups has been of concern to the European institutions for the last decade, from the point of view of poverty as well as of labour market participation and gender equality.

Briefing [EN](#)

Ethical Aspects of Cyber-Physical Systems

Publication type Study

Date 28-06-2016

Policy area Forward Planning | Research Policy

Keyword agricultural policy | AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES | artificial intelligence | automation | civil law | civil liability | communications | e-Health | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | ENERGY | energy policy | energy production | ethics | facilities for the disabled | health | humanities | impact of information technology | information and information processing | information technology and data processing | Internet | LAW | mechanisation of agriculture | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | prospective technological studies | protection of privacy | rights and freedoms | robotics | robotisation | SCIENCE | social affairs | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | technology and technical regulations

Summary Cyber-physical systems (CPS) are intelligent robotics systems, linked with the Internet of Things, or technical systems of networked computers, robots and artificial intelligence that interact with the physical world. The project 'Ethical aspects of CPS' aims to provide insights into the potential ethical concerns and related unintended impacts of the possible evolution of CPS technology by 2050. The overarching purpose is to support the European Parliament, the parliamentary bodies, and the individual Members in their anticipation of possible future concerns regarding developments in CPS, robotics and artificial intelligence. The Scientific Foresight study was conducted in three phases: 1. A 'technical horizon scan', in the form of briefing papers describing the technical trends and their possible societal, ethical, economic, environmental, political/legal and demographic impacts, and this in seven application domains. 2. The 'soft impact and scenario phase', which analysed soft impacts of CPS, on the basis of the technical horizon scan, for pointing out possible future public concerns via an envisioning exercise and using exploratory scenarios. 3. The 'legal backcasting' phase, which resulted in a briefing for the European Parliament identifying the legal instruments that may need to be modified or reviewed, including — where appropriate — areas identified for anticipatory parliamentary work, in accordance with the conclusions reached within the project. The outcome of the study is a policy briefing for MEPs describing legal instruments to anticipate impacts of future developments in the area of cyber-physical systems, such as intelligent robotics systems, linked with the Internet of Things. It is important to note that not all impacts of CPS are easily translated into legislation, as it is often contested whether they are in effect harmful, who is to be held accountable, and to what extent these impacts constitute a public rather than a private concern.

Study [EN](#)

Annex [EN](#)

Annex 1 [EN](#)

Multimedia [The Ethics of Cyber-Physical Systems](#)

TTIP and Labour Standards

Publication type Study

Date 14-06-2016

External author Jan Orbie, Ferdi de Ville and Lore van den Putte

Policy area Employment | Evaluation of Law and Policy in Practice | Forward Planning | International Trade

Keyword America | BUSINESS AND COMPETITION | business organisation | common commercial policy | corporate social responsibility | economic analysis | economic consequence | economic geography | economic policy | ECONOMICS | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | free-trade agreement | GEOGRAPHY | international labour law | international law | international trade | labour dispute | labour law and labour relations | labour standard | LAW | negotiation of an agreement (EU) | political geography | social affairs | social clause | social dumping | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | sustainable development | TRADE | trade agreement (EU) | trade policy | United States

Summary The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) will follow EU and US recent trade policy practice to include labour provisions. These could limit the risk that liberalisation results in social dumping and promote upward change. This Policy Department A study concludes that the EU could take a precautionary stance and employ various instruments that increase the chances that TTIP will have positive social consequences. TTIP may combine the strengths of the EU and US approaches to labour provisions, while improving their weaknesses. More analysis of the social consequences of liberalisation and labour provisions might be stimulated and strong flanking measures at the EU and national level be foreseen.

Study [EN](#)

Poverty in the European Union: The crisis and its aftermath

Publication type In-Depth Analysis

Date 16-03-2016

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Social Policy

Keyword economic conditions | economic recession | ECONOMICS | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | EU finance | EU financing | EU growth strategy | EU situation | European construction | European social policy | EUROPEAN UNION | homelessness | labour market | marginalisation | national accounts | poverty | social affairs | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | working poor

Summary In 2010, as part of the Europe 2020 strategy, Member States agreed on a target to have at least 20 million fewer people in or at risk of poverty and social exclusion by 2020, thus reducing poverty from 116.4 million people to 96.4 million over the decade. Unfortunately, since the Strategy was adopted, the European Union has moved away from this target: there are now 6.7 million more people living in poverty or social exclusion across Europe compared to 2008 (EU-27). In 2012, almost one quarter of the European population was at risk of poverty, on a 'wealthy continent'.

Which subgroups of society were the most hit by the 'Great Recession'? What are the current drivers of poverty in Europe today? And what political actions are undertaken to fight against this new 21st century social scourge?

Through a statistical analysis of the most recent trends in poverty in the European Union, this paper analyses the consequences of the crisis on the level and the nature of poverty in Europe and describes the political actions that are implemented to counter this phenomenon.

In-Depth Analysis [DE](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)

Research for TRAN Committee – Self-Piloted Cars: The Future of Road Transport?

Publication type Study

Date 15-03-2016

External author Roberta Frisoni, Andrea Dall'Oglio, Craig Nelson, James Long, Christoph Vollath, Davide Ranghetti and Sarah McMinimy

Policy area Evaluation of Law and Policy in Practice | Transport

Keyword common transport policy | driving mechanism | economic analysis | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | impact of information technology | INDUSTRY | information technology and data processing | intelligent transport system | land transport | mechanical engineering | motor vehicle industry | organisation of transport | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | research and intellectual property | research project | road safety | road transport | robotics | robotisation | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | technology and technical regulations | technology assessment | TRANSPORT | transport policy | transport regulations

Summary The study provides an analysis of the development of automated vehicles inside and outside the EU, including both the technologies which are already on the market and those under testing and research. The EU is giving increasing attention to automated and connected vehicles as they could have huge impacts on road safety, travel behaviour and urban development. The study reports on state of the art key research projects and large scale testing in this area and discusses future pathways and potential impacts of increasing vehicle automation. It concludes with recommendations on aspects that should be considered when shaping policies to sustain the research and development, and bringing to market, of highly automated and connected vehicles.

Study [EN](#)

Executive summary [DE](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#)

Research for TRAN Committee - From Responsible Best Practices to Sustainable Tourism Development

Publication type Study

Date 15-03-2016

External author Paul Peeters, Ghislain Dubois, Wolfgang Strasdas, Marie Lootvoet, Runa Zeppenfeld and Eke Eijgelaar (University of Central Lancashire, United Kingdom)

Policy area Evaluation of Law and Policy in Practice | Tourism | Transport

Keyword economic analysis | economic policy | ECONOMICS | ENVIRONMENT | environmental impact | environmental policy | EU finance | EU financing | EU policy | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | impact study | regional development | regions and regional policy | rural development | social affairs | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | sustainable development | sustainable mobility | tourism policy | TRANSPORT | transport policy

Summary This report explores sustainable development in EU tourism and concludes that there is a lack of up-to-date data for both the environmental and social effects of tourism. Furthermore, most sustainable tourism initiatives depend on public funding highlighting the failure of industry to internalise sustainable development costs. Tourism, environmental and transport policies in the EU need to integrate better to create sustainable development. The report concludes with general recommendations for sustainable development, improving impact evaluations tourism at the EU scale.

Study [EN](#)

The fourth railway package: Another step towards a Single European Railway Area

Publication type In-Depth Analysis

Date 14-03-2016

Author KATSAROVA Ivana | SCORDAMAGLIA Damiano

Policy area Adoption of Legislation by EP and Council | Transport

Keyword BUSINESS AND COMPETITION | carriage of passengers | common transport policy | competition | consumption | drafting of EU law | EU institutions and European civil service | EUROPEAN UNION | European Union Agency for Railways | European Union law | harmonisation of standards | land transport | liberalisation of the market | organisation of transport | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | rail transport | restriction on competition | services of general interest | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | technical standard | technology and technical regulations | TRADE | trade policy | TRANSPORT | transport law | transport market | transport policy

Summary The fourth railway package comprises six legislative proposals to enhance the efficiency and competitiveness of rail across the European Union, put forward by the European Commission in 2013. It aims to remove the remaining institutional, legal and technical obstacles, and create a truly integrated European Railway Area. Although the legislative process on technical issues did not present many difficulties, negotiations on the liberalisation of rail markets and governance structures (known as the market pillar) continue and prove more complex. Trilogue discussions began after the adoption of a general approach by the Council in October 2015, and should conclude in 2016. Once adopted, the fourth railway package is expected to give a new impetus to rail services across the EU, and will contribute to meeting the objectives of the Commission's 2011 White Paper on Transport.

In-Depth Analysis [DE](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)

Industry 4.0

Publication type At a Glance

Date 14-03-2016

Author GOUARDERES Frederic

Policy area Forward Planning | Industry | Research Policy

Keyword automation | BUSINESS AND COMPETITION | business classification | data protection | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | EU industrial policy | impact of information technology | industrial data processing | industrial revolution | industrial structures and policy | INDUSTRY | information and information processing | information technology and data processing | labour market | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | professional qualifications | small and medium-sized enterprises | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | technological change | technology and technical regulations

Summary The study Industry 4.0 explores three key dimensions of change relevant to Industry 4.0: technological, social and the business paradigm, outlines policy implications and makes recommendations. This leaflet presents short summary of this study.

Link to the original publication:

[http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2016/570007/IPOL_STU\(2016\)570007_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2016/570007/IPOL_STU(2016)570007_EN.pdf)

At a Glance [EN](#)

The Cost of Non-Europe in the area of Organised Crime and Corruption: Annex II - Corruption

Publication type Study

Date 10-03-2016

External author This study has been written by Marco Hafner, Jirka Taylor, Emma Disley, Sonja Thebes, Matteo Barberi and Martin Stepanek at RAND Europe and by Professor Mike Levi at the request of the European Added Value Unit of the Directorate for Impact Assessment and European Added Value within the Directorate General for Parliamentary Research Services (DG EPRS) of the General Secretariat of the European Parliament.

Policy area Area of Freedom, Security and Justice | European Added Value

Keyword application of EU law | corruption | criminal law | economic analysis | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | EU competence | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | European Union law | fight against crime | judicial cooperation in criminal matters in the EU | LAW | political morality | POLITICS | politics and public safety | public contract | social affairs | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | TRADE | trade policy

Summary Corruption is a phenomenon with significant negative consequences for the EU and its Member States. This research paper uses a mix of methodologies to quantify the overall costs of corruption in the EU in economic, social and political terms. The findings, based on new analysis, suggest that corruption costs the EU between €179bn and €990bn in GDP terms on an annual basis. Current anti-corruption measures relevant to Member States and the EU as a whole are described and their effectiveness in reducing the levels of, and opportunities for, corruption are assessed. Eight potential areas for EU action are identified that might address the barriers to the effectiveness of current measures. The costs of non-Europe are calculated in relation to two of these, as well as in relation to the implementation of recently created EU laws.

Study [EN](#)

Research for PECH Committee - Social and Economic Impact of the Penalty Point System

Publication type Study

Date 03-02-2016

External author Mike Beke and Roland Blomeyer

Policy area Fisheries

Keyword AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES | application of EU law | common fisheries policy | economic analysis | economic consequence | economic geography | ECONOMICS | EU Member State | EUROPEAN UNION | European Union law | fisheries | fishery management | fishing controls | fishing fleet | fishing industry | GEOGRAPHY | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary This research study focuses on the social and economic impact of the penalty point system for serious fisheries infringements. Overall this study has identified challenges in relation to the penalty point system and its implementation. Stakeholders highlight concerns relating lack of transparency, problems of accountability, and lack of participation. Further, this report flags concerns that different implementation of the system on the national level negatively impacts smaller vessels and those fishing species with tight quotas or higher risk of bycatch.

Study [EN](#)

The Cost of Non-Europe in the Sharing Economy: Economic, Social and Legal Challenges and Opportunities

Publication type Study

Date 25-01-2016

Author GOUDIN Pierre

Policy area European Added Value | Internal Market and Customs Union

Keyword accounting | application of EU law | BUSINESS AND COMPETITION | competition | cost-benefit analysis | economic analysis | ECONOMICS | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | electronic commerce | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | European Union law | FINANCE | freedom to provide services | impact of information technology | impact study | information technology and data processing | labour law | labour law and labour relations | labour market | marketing | new type of employment | restriction on competition | single market | social framework | social impact | social protection | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | social security | tax collection | taxation | TRADE | TRANSPORT | transport market | transport policy

Summary This 'Cost of Non-Europe' study examines the current economic, social and legal state of play regarding the sharing economy in the European Union, and identifies the cost of the lack of further European action in this field. The assessment of existing EU and national legislation confirms that there are still significant implementation gaps and areas of poor economic performance. The subsequent examination of areas where it was believed that an economic potential exists highlighted that substantial barriers remain, hindering the achievement of the goals set out in the existing legislation. Moreover, some issues are not or are insufficiently addressed (e.g. status of workers employed by sharing economy service providers). Consequently, more European action would be necessary to achieve the full economic potential of the sharing economy. In doing so, policy-makers should seek to ensure an adequate balance between creative freedom for business and the necessary regulatory protection. This research estimates the potential economic gain linked with a better use of capacities (otherwise under-used) as a result of the sharing economy is €572 billion in annual consumption across the EU-28. This figure should nevertheless be considered with caution; substantial barriers prevent the full benefits from being realised, and could reduce the value of potential increased use to up to €18 billion in the shorter-term and up to €134 billion in the medium and longer term, depending on the scale of regulatory obstacles.

Study [EN](#)

The Collaborative Economy

Publication type Study

Date 21-12-2015

Author IDE-KOSTIC PETER | VAN WOENSEL Lieve

External author External authors: Steve Robertshaw (editor), Nick Achilleopoulos, Johan E. Bengtsson, Patrick Crehan, Angele Giuliano, John Soldatos (AcrossLimits Ltd, Malta)

Policy area Consumer Protection | Forward Planning | Global Governance | Research Policy

Keyword communications | computer assisted design | consumer protection | consumption | copyright | data protection | economic analysis | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | electronic commerce | electronic money | FINANCE | impact of information technology | information and information processing | information processing | information technology and data processing | Internet | marketing | monetary economics | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | prospective technological studies | research and intellectual property | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | technological change | technology and technical regulations | TRADE

Summary Ever since its appearance, Internet has allowed us to collaborate with other people remotely. In the 80's, email was the breakthrough that enabled exchange of digital materials. In the 90's, the World Wide Web opened collaboration on web sites. After 2000, social media and e-meeting technologies enabled face-to-face interaction with others via the Internet. New modes of collaboration, such as crowd sourcing, crowd funding, co-creation or open design are reaching mainstream use. Advances in technologies related to Collaborative Internet, Big/Open Data, Crypto Currency and Additive Manufacturing are bringing the Collaborative Economy ever closer to us. This study reveals a wide range of opportunities and threats associated with these technologies, as well as social, political, economic, moral and ethical issues related to this new way of working. Policy options are presented, in order to help policy makers anticipate developments with effective policies that will nurture the positive impacts of collaborative Internet and avoid the negative ones.

Study [EN](#)

Annex [EN](#)

Multimedia [The Collaborative Economy](#)

The Gender Dimension of Climate Justice

Publication type In-Depth Analysis

Date 02-12-2015

Author BONEWIT ANNE | SHREEVES Rosamund

Policy area Adoption of Legislation by EP and Council | Development and Humanitarian Aid | Energy | Environment | Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity | Human Rights

Keyword civil society | climate change | climate change policy | cooperation policy | Council of the European Union | deterioration of the environment | development aid | economic policy | ECONOMICS | ENVIRONMENT | environmental policy | EU institutions and European civil service | European Commission | European construction | European Parliament | EUROPEAN UNION | gender equality | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | LAW | participation of women | POLITICS | politics and public safety | position of women | powers of the institutions (EU) | rights and freedoms | social affairs | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | sustainable development | the EU's international role

Summary Upon request by the FEMM Committee, the European Parliament's Policy Department for Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs examined the concept of Climate Justice. The analysis explains how climate justice could help to address the issues faced by women as a result of climate change in international and European climate policy. The research showed that both the UN and the EU should step up their commitments and actions to improve the participation of women in decision-making on climate change mitigation and adaptation policies and should do more to make their climate policies gender-sensitive.

In-Depth Analysis [EN](#)

COP21 and Agenda 2030: The challenges of complementarity

Publication type Briefing

Date 26-11-2015

Author LATEK Marta

Policy area Development and Humanitarian Aid | Environment

Keyword agricultural policy | AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES | climate change | climate change policy | cooperation policy | deterioration of the environment | developing countries | development aid | economic analysis | economic conditions | economic consequence | economic policy | ECONOMICS | ENVIRONMENT | environmental policy | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | international affairs | international negotiations | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | North-South relations | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | sustainable agriculture | sustainable development | the EU's international role | UN Framework Convention on Climate Change

Summary The interaction of climate change and development has found full recognition in the Agenda 2030 programme adopted in September 2015. The new universal policy framework integrates the global environmental and development concerns in a set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) The Paris agreement due to be adopted in early December is expected to complete this integration, addressing both key global environmental threats – climate change – and their development related concerns. Tensions between north and south have long been the main fault-line preventing progress in this matter. Although positions have been converging, in particular towards inclusion of strong adaptation support for developing countries and the legally binding character of the agreement, divergences remain on issues such as contribution to mitigation and adaptation finance for emerging economies and the mitigation effort of developing countries. At the heart of the problem is the perception of the relative responsibility of developing countries in climate change and their right to development, which mitigation efforts may undermine. Whether the Paris climate summit succeeds in reaching a legally binding agreement on emission reduction targets or not, supported in particular by the EU, the summit will be an opportunity to catalyse global action on inevitable climate adaptation. It will provide a platform for financial solidarity between rich countries, source of the lion's share of historical emissions responsible for climate change, and poor countries which suffer its worst immediate consequences.

Briefing [EN](#)

European Semester: 2015 priorities and beyond

Publication type At a Glance

Date 22-10-2015

Author STUCHLIK Andrej

Policy area Economics and Monetary Issues | European Semester

Keyword austerity policy | budget policy | coordination of EMU policies | corporate finance | economic analysis | economic policy | ECONOMICS | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | employment policy | euro area | FINANCE | financing and investment | impact study | labour flexibility | labour market | monetary economics | monetary relations | pay policy | personnel management and staff remuneration | public debt | public finance and budget policy | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | structural adjustment | tax reform | taxation

Summary The European Semester is a key monitoring element of the EU's economic governance framework which aims to detect, prevent, and correct problematic economic trends such as excessive government deficits or public debt levels. As part of the annual evaluation cycle, the European Parliament's Economic and Monetary Affairs (ECON) Committee notes insufficient implementation of country-specific recommendations in some Member States, and expresses concerns that economic recovery may be threatened by the EU's underlying structural weaknesses and regional differences. On 21 October 2015, the European Commission proposed to 'revamp' the European Semester process and to better align recommendations for the overall EU/euro area with those for individual Member States.

At a Glance [EN](#)

[Energy efficiency labelling: Initial Appraisal of a European Commission Impact Assessment](#)

Publication type [Briefing](#)

Date 17-09-2015

Author EISELE Katharina

Policy area [Energy](#) | [Ex-ante Impact Assessment](#)

Keyword [BUSINESS AND COMPETITION](#) | [business organisation](#) | [competitiveness](#) | [drafting of EU law](#) | [economic analysis](#) | [economic consequence](#) | [ECONOMICS](#) | [ENERGY](#) | [energy efficiency](#) | [energy policy](#) | [energy saving](#) | [ENVIRONMENT](#) | [environmental impact](#) | [environmental policy](#) | [EUROPEAN UNION](#) | [European Union law](#) | [impact study](#) | [product design](#) | [PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH](#) | [social framework](#) | [social impact](#) | [SOCIAL QUESTIONS](#) | [technology and technical regulations](#)

Summary This note seeks to provide an initial analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the European Commission's Impact Assessment (IA) accompanying the proposal for a Regulation setting a framework for energy efficiency labelling, adopted on 15 July 2015, and referred to Parliament's Committee on Industry, Research and Energy. The proposal repeals Directive 2010/30/EU on the indication by labelling and standard product information of the consumption of energy and other resources by energy-related products. The proposal for a revision of the rules regulating energy efficiency labelling forms part of the energy package and aims to ensure that consumers make better informed purchase decisions of energy efficient products, and thereby reduce energy consumption and associated energy bills (as well as other major environmental impacts of products).

[Briefing](#) [EN](#)

[EU Emissions Trading System: cost-effective emission reductions and low-carbon investments: Initial Appraisal of a European Commission Impact Assessment](#)

Publication type [Briefing](#)

Date 17-09-2015

Author DOSSI Samuele

Policy area [Environment](#) | [Ex-ante Impact Assessment](#)

Keyword [BUSINESS AND COMPETITION](#) | [business organisation](#) | [competitiveness](#) | [drafting of EU law](#) | [economic analysis](#) | [economic consequence](#) | [ECONOMICS](#) | [ENVIRONMENT](#) | [environmental impact](#) | [environmental policy](#) | [EU Emissions Trading Scheme](#) | [EU relations](#) | [European construction](#) | [EUROPEAN UNION](#) | [European Union law](#) | [impact study](#) | [LAW](#) | [reduction of gas emissions](#) | [simplification of legislation](#) | [social framework](#) | [social impact](#) | [SOCIAL QUESTIONS](#) | [sources and branches of the law](#)

Summary This note provides an initial analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the European Commission's Impact Assessment (IA) accompanying the proposal for a Directive to enhance cost-effective emission reductions and low carbon investments, which was adopted on 15 July 2015 and has been referred to the Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety. The EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) is the largest international trading system for greenhouse gas emission allowance. The ETS Directive was adopted in 2003 (and revised in 2009); it took effect in 2005 and now covers all EU Member States plus Iceland, Lichtenstein and Norway. The aim is to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 80 to 95 per cent compared to 1990 by 2050. The ETS works by putting a limit on the overall emissions from sectors included in the scheme and, ideally, these are reduced every year. Within the limits, companies can buy and sell emission allowances when needed (i.e. cap and trade approach). While until 2012 most allowances were given out for free by using the 'grandfathering' approach - based on historical Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG) -, since 2013, the system has operated through a benchmarking approach based on performance. A detailed overview of the mechanisms governing the ETS and its operation to date can be found in the EPRS Implementation Appraisal 'Climate action. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and the EU Emission Trading System'.

[Briefing](#) [EN](#)

[EU sport policy: An overview](#)

Publication type [In-Depth Analysis](#)

Date 03-09-2015

Author HALLEUX Vivienne

Policy area [Culture](#)

Keyword [corruption](#) | [criminal law](#) | [cultural transmission](#) | [culture and religion](#) | [EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS](#) | [EU finance](#) | [EU institutions and European civil service](#) | [EUROPEAN UNION](#) | [fund \(EU\)](#) | [health](#) | [interinstitutional cooperation \(EU\)](#) | [LAW](#) | [performance drugs](#) | [physical education](#) | [public health](#) | [social affairs](#) | [social framework](#) | [social impact](#) | [social integration](#) | [SOCIAL QUESTIONS](#) | [sport](#) | [teaching](#)

Summary Sport is a field in which the EU's responsibilities are new. The Lisbon Treaty, which entered into force in December 2009, grants the Union a supporting competence, meaning that legally binding measures are excluded. EU scope for intervention is further limited by the need to take the specific nature of sport into account and to respect the autonomy of sport organisations, which are traditionally in charge of regulating and organising their sport. In policy-making, the EU thus relies on soft power, i.e. on dialogue and cooperation, as well as incentive measures, taking the form of financial support for projects and networks. If one had to sum up the EU approach in one word, 'guidance' would probably be the most appropriate. Concrete achievements so far include mainly policy recommendations and guiding principles addressed to Member States and sport stakeholders. In the international context, where the Council of Europe, long active in the field of sport, already plays a prominent role, the EU seeks to strengthen unity and foster convergence between its Member States, with a view to arriving at coordinated positions on transnational issues, including the fight against doping and match-fixing.

[In-Depth Analysis](#) [DE](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)

[The EU's Trade Policy: From Gender-Blind to Gender-Sensitive?](#)

Publication type In-Depth Analysis

Date 09-07-2015

Author VIIUP Elina

Policy area Democracy | Development and Humanitarian Aid | Foreign Affairs | Global Governance | Human Rights | International Trade

Keyword Africa | America | Armenia | ASEAN countries | Asia and Oceania | Canada | China | common commercial policy | developing countries | economic analysis | economic conditions | economic consequence | economic geography | economic policy | ECONOMICS | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | equal pay | Europe | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | female work | GCC countries | gender equality | GEOGRAPHY | Georgia | globalisation | human rights | India | international labour law | international law | INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS | international trade | Jordan | Latin America | LAW | liberalisation of trade | Moldova | North Africa | participation of women | personnel management and staff remuneration | political geography | position of women | rights and freedoms | social affairs | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | South Korea | sustainable development | TRADE | trade agreement (EU) | trade policy | Ukraine | world organisations | World Trade Organisation

Summary The services of the European Commission are currently reflecting on the follow-up to the Strategy for equality between women and men 2010-2015 (COM (2010) final). The EU's trade policy has not yet been fully integrated into this Strategy, providing an opportunity for the INTA committee to consider whether and how gender issues should be dealt with in the context of the EU's trade policies. Article 8 TFEU provides that "in all its activities, the Union shall aim to eliminate inequalities, and to promote equality between men and women." The trade policy issues that are discussed by the European Parliament's INTA committee can have differing gender impacts across the various sectors of the economy. Understanding the gender dimension of trade agreements better will therefore contribute to better policy making and to ensuring that both sexes can take advantage of the benefits of trade liberalisation and be protected from its negative effects.

In-Depth Analysis [EN](#), [FR](#)

[European Progress Microfinance Facility - Interim evaluation: European Implementation Assessment](#)

Publication type In-Depth Analysis

Date 12-05-2015

Author TYMOWSKI Jan Mikolaj

Policy area Financial and Banking Issues | Transposition and Implementation of Law

Keyword BUSINESS AND COMPETITION | business classification | corporate finance | economic analysis | ECONOMICS | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | EU employment policy | EU finance | EU financial instrument | EU programme | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | FINANCE | financial institutions and credit | financing and investment | impact study | investment protection | job creation | microfinance | microloan | small business | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary The European Progress Microfinance Facility for employment and social inclusion was established by Decision 283/2010 and will be in operation until April 2016. Although only a limited number of conclusions can be made on the basis of data available so far, some criticism towards this instrument has already been reflected in the set-up of the next EU multi-annual framework to cover microcredit, namely the Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI). The specific effects of the Microfinance Facility, especially those related to social and employment matters, seem to correspond to the objectives that were set in response to the financial crisis in Europe. The commitment of 100 million euro from the EU budget (supplemented by an equal amount from the European Investment Bank), allowed a growing number of financial intermediaries to offer small loans (below and above 5,000 euro - but in any case below 25,000 euro which is the maximum limit of the micro-credit's definition) to persons starting-up or developing their own micro-enterprises (and often previously unemployed).

In-Depth Analysis [EN](#)

Main Causes of Female Poverty - Compilation

Publication type [Study](#)

Date [24-03-2015](#)

External author [Wim Van Lancker](#), [Vincent Corluy](#), [Jeroen Horemans](#), [Sarah Marchal](#) and [Julie Vinck](#) (Herman Deleeck Centre for Social Policy, University of Antwerp, Belgium) ; [Diane Perrons](#) (Gender Institute, London School of Economics and Political Science, Tthe UK) ; [Maria Stratigaki](#) (Department of Social Policy, Panteion University, Greece)

Policy area [Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity](#) | [Human Rights](#)

Keyword [economic analysis](#) | [economic conditions](#) | [economic geography](#) | [economic recession](#) | [ECONOMICS](#) | [EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS](#) | [EU finance](#) | [EU Member State](#) | [European Social Fund](#) | [EUROPEAN UNION](#) | [family](#) | [female migrant](#) | [female worker](#) | [gender equality](#) | [GEOGRAPHY](#) | [impact study](#) | [labour market](#) | [LAW](#) | [marginalisation](#) | [migration](#) | [national accounts](#) | [one-parent family](#) | [pauperisation](#) | [position of women](#) | [poverty](#) | [rights and freedoms](#) | [social affairs](#) | [social framework](#) | [social impact](#) | [SOCIAL QUESTIONS](#) | [working poor](#)

Summary Upon request by the FEMM Committee, these in-depth analyses highlight different aspects of female poverty. They complement two other Workshop contributions from a research project of the European Commission and from UNICEF.
[Wim van Lancker](#) and his team examine the extent of women's poverty in the EU and the impact of social exclusion through poverty on living and working conditions of women and their children. He concludes with a discussion of policy measures that have been taken in EU Member States for enabling paid employment and ensuring adequate income protection.
[Diane Perrons](#) explores the impact of the crisis on female poverty. Multiple differences exist among European Union Member States but overall poverty has increased and women are still more likely than men to live in poverty, though until 2012 the increase for men was greater than that for women. Economic performance and economic policies seem to be associated with poverty. The paper recommends that macroeconomic policy be mainstreamed to identify gender specific outcomes.
[Maria Stratigaki](#) focuses on European policies and activities and the role of the European Social Fund in the fight against female poverty. She emphasises the need for developing a holistic methodological approach to face gendered poverty, going beyond tackling poverty exclusively via active labour market policies.

[Study](#) [EN](#)

Technology options for deep-seabed exploitation - Tackling economic, environmental and societal challenges: Study

Publication type [Study](#)

Date [19-03-2015](#)

Author [KULJANIC Nera](#)

External author [Koen Rademaekers](#), [Oscar Widerberg](#), [Katarina Svatikova](#), [Roel van der Veen](#), [Triple E Consulting](#), [Eleonora Panella](#), [Milieu Ltd](#)

Policy area [Environment](#) | [Fisheries](#) | [Forward Planning](#) | [Research Policy](#)

Keyword [accounting](#) | [bio-industry](#) | [BUSINESS AND COMPETITION](#) | [cost-benefit analysis](#) | [ENVIRONMENT](#) | [environmental impact](#) | [environmental policy](#) | [EU environmental policy](#) | [evaluation of resources](#) | [exploitation of the sea-bed](#) | [genetics](#) | [international law](#) | [LAW](#) | [law of the sea](#) | [marine ecosystem](#) | [natural and applied sciences](#) | [natural environment](#) | [PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH](#) | [resources of the sea](#) | [SCIENCE](#) | [social framework](#) | [social impact](#) | [SOCIAL QUESTIONS](#) | [technology and technical regulations](#) | [underwater mineral resources](#)

Summary Exploration and exploitation of the deep-seas in search of marine minerals and genetic resources have over the past fifteen years received increased attention. Developments in sub-marine technologies, rising raw material prices and scarcity, and advancements in biotechnology, are changing the business-case for further investments in the marine environment. This report provides a state-of-play overview on exploring and exploiting deep-sea resources. A Cost-Benefit Analysis identifies the main potentials and challenges in a scenario where exploitation increases. Policy options are suggested to balance trade-offs between economic, social and environmental aspects associated with future developments. This STOA project 'Technology options for deep-seabed exploitation - Tackling economic, environmental and societal challenges' was carried out by Triple E Consulting and Milieu Ltd. at the request of the Science and Technology Options Assessment (STOA) Panel, within the Directorate-General for Parliamentary Research Services (DG EPRS) of the General Secretariat of the European Parliament.

[Study](#) [EN](#)

[Executive summary](#) [EN](#)

[Annex](#) [EN](#)

Towards Scientific Foresight in the European Parliament

Publication type In-Depth Analysis

Date 29-01-2015

Author VAN WOENSEL Lieve | VRSCAJ Darja

Policy area Forward Planning | Research Policy

Keyword BUSINESS AND COMPETITION | communications | decision-making | documentation | drafting of EU law | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | ENVIRONMENT | environmental impact | environmental policy | EU institutions and European civil service | European Parliament | EUROPEAN UNION | European Union law | impact of information technology | information technology and data processing | Internet | management | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | prospective technological studies | scientific report | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | technological change | technology and technical regulations

Summary We are living in a technological culture in which technologies penetrate every domain of our society. Techno-scientific innovations are often designed to make our lives easier, or to solve some societal issues. However, technologies pose unwanted and unintended impacts. This document describes a methodology for Scientific Foresight which offers the Members of the European Parliament legislative pathways to anticipate possible impacts of techno-scientific innovations.

In-Depth Analysis [EN](#)

Multimedia [Towards Scientific Foresight in the European Parliament](#)

Responsible sourcing of minerals from conflict-affected areas: Initial Appraisal of a European Commission Impact Assessment

Publication type Briefing

Date 05-12-2014

Author ZANDERSONE Laura

Policy area Ex-ante Impact Assessment | International Trade

Keyword accounting | BUSINESS AND COMPETITION | business ethics | business organisation | coal and mining industries | common foreign and security policy | conflict prevention | cost-benefit analysis | drafting of EU law | economic analysis | ECONOMICS | ENERGY | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | European Union law | gold | illicit trade | impact study | import (EU) | INDUSTRY | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | international security | iron, steel and other metal industries | LAW | mining of ore | non-ferrous ore | simplification of legislation | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | sources and branches of the law | surveillance concerning imports | trade | TRADE | trade policy

Summary This note seeks to provide an initial analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the European Commission's Impact Assessment (IA) accompanying the proposal setting up a Union system for supply chain due diligence of responsible importers of tin, tantalum and tungsten, their ores, and gold originating in conflict-affected and high risk areas. Armed groups and security forces in conflict regions partly finance their activities from the proceeds of the extraction and trade of minerals. These products later enter the global supply chain, meaning that business operators further down this chain are at risk of supporting armed activities through their purchases of mineral ores or their derivatives. Business operators from the EU and third countries have therefore expressed an interest in sourcing responsibly from such regions. The concept of responsible sourcing is not new and the proposal builds on existing international due diligence frameworks. The document concludes that the overall quality of the IA is good; however, it is regrettable that the wealth of core information included in Annexes is not fully exploited in the analysis of the policy options and possible impacts. More readily available synthesis and analysis of data could have been presented in the body of the IA for better readability. Finally, it should be noted that the usefulness of some options, for example, Options 1 and 2, is not clear, as the comparison tables (on pp. 62 and 63) show that few of the declared objectives could realistically have been met by these options. This note, prepared by the Ex-Ante Impact Assessment Unit for the Committee on Internal Trade (INTA) of the European Parliament, analyses whether the principal criteria laid down in the Commission's own Impact Assessment Guidelines, as well as additional factors identified by the Parliament in its Impact Assessment Handbook, appear to be met by the IA. It does not attempt to deal with the substance of the proposal. It is drafted for informational and background purposes to assist the relevant parliamentary committee(s) and Members more widely in their work.

Briefing [DE](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)

Commitments Made at the Hearing of Marianne Thyssen - Commissioner-Designate

Publication type Briefing

Date 04-11-2014

Author SMAJDA Laurence

Policy area Employment | European Semester | Public Health

Keyword adult education | appointment of members | Belgium | disabled person | economic geography | education | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | EU employment policy | EU institutions and European civil service | Europe | European Commissioner | EUROPEAN UNION | GEOGRAPHY | labour law and labour relations | labour market | labour market | occupational safety | organisation of work and working conditions | parliamentary proceedings | political geography | POLITICS | professional qualifications | public hearing | social affairs | social dialogue (EU) | social dumping | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | vocational training | worker participation | youth employment

Summary Briefing summarises the commitments made at the hearing of Marianne Thyssen Commissioner designate for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility.

Briefing [EN](#)

EU Road Surfaces: Economic and Safety Impact of the Lack of Regular Road Maintenance

Publication type Study

Date 15-07-2014

External author Roberta Frisoni, Francesco Dionori, Lorenzo Casullo, Christoph Vollath, Louis Devenish, Federico Spano, Tomasz Sawicki, Soutra Carl, Rooney Lidia, João Neri, Radu Silaghi, Andrea Stanghellini (Steer Davies Gleave)

Policy area Forward Planning | Transport

Keyword accident prevention | budget | building and public works | common transport policy | data collection | EC Directive | economic analysis | economic consequence | economic geography | ECONOMICS | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | ENVIRONMENT | environmental impact | environmental policy | EU Member State | EUROPEAN UNION | European Union law | FINANCE | GEOGRAPHY | health | INDUSTRY | information technology and data processing | land transport | maintenance | production | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | public expenditure | public works | road network | road safety | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | TRANSPORT | transport accident | transport planning | transport policy | transport statistics

Summary This study looks at the condition and the quality of road surfaces in the EU and at the trends registered in the national budgets on the road maintenance activities in recent years, with the aim of reviewing the economic and safety consequences of the lack of regular road maintenance. The authors investigate the key causes behind the registered variations identified and the consequent impacts on road safety; they recommend therefore a series of actions and best practices to help preserve the safety and quality of the EU road surfaces.

Study [EN](#)

Executive summary [BG](#), [CS](#), [DA](#), [DE](#), [EL](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FI](#), [FR](#), [HU](#), [IT](#), [LT](#), [LV](#), [NL](#), [PT](#), [RO](#), [SV](#), [ET](#), [HR](#), [MT](#), [PL](#), [SK](#), [SL](#)

Freedom of movement and residence of EU citizens: Access to social benefits

Publication type In-Depth Analysis

Date 10-06-2014

Author POPTCHEVA Eva-Maria Alexandrova

Policy area Area of Freedom, Security and Justice | Employment | Social Policy

Keyword Community migration | economic analysis | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | European citizenship | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | European Union law | European Union membership | free movement of persons | free movement of workers | international law | interpretation of the law | judgment of the Court (EU) | labour market | LAW | migration | non-working population | social affairs | social cost | social framework | social impact | social protection | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | social security legislation | social-security benefit | sources and branches of the law

Summary This paper seeks to provide an overview of the residence and benefits rights of EU citizens in a Member State other than their own, examining in particular criticisms of the current arrangements. Furthermore, it sets this issue in a wider context, providing statistical information on intra-EU immigration and access to benefits, as well as on the macro- and microeconomic impact of free movement within the EU.

In-Depth Analysis [EN](#)

EU-US Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership: Detailed Appraisal of the Commission's Impact Assessment

Publication type Study

Date 15-04-2014

External author Jacques Pelkmans, Arjan Lejour, Lorna Schrefler, Federica Mustilli and Jacopo Timini (CEPS)

Policy area Ex-ante Impact Assessment | International Trade

Keyword America | comparative analysis | economic analysis | economic consequence | economic forecasting | economic geography | economic model | ECONOMICS | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | ENVIRONMENT | environmental impact | environmental policy | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | free-trade agreement | GEOGRAPHY | impact study | international trade | labour market | labour market | non-tariff barrier | political geography | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | public contract | research and intellectual property | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | TRADE | trade agreement (EU) | trade policy | United States

Summary This research paper examines the appropriateness and validity of the methodology behind the European Commission's Impact Assessment (IA) of the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP), focusing in particular on the underlying economic model, a computable general equilibrium (CGE). The methodology applied by CEPR for this economic modelling is analysed in depth, together with the assumptions used to make the TTIP amenable to an economic appraisal. The research paper also compares the IA on the TTIP with selected previous empirical economic assessments of EU trade agreements and with a set of alternative studies on the TTIP itself. In reading our findings, two central caveats should be kept in mind that affect any analysis of the CGE model included in the European Commission's Impact Assessment. First, the TTIP is a rather unusual bilateral trade agreement; and second, the TTIP is so wide-ranging that an alternative approach, such as the so-called 'partial' (equilibrium) approach – already a second-best solution – would be totally inappropriate to the case under examination.

Study [EN](#)

Social dimension of austerity measures: Cases of four EU countries in receipt of financial assistance

Publication type Briefing

Date 10-12-2013

Author SZCZEPANSKI Marcin

Policy area Economics and Monetary Issues | Social Policy

Keyword austerity policy | budget policy | Cyprus | economic analysis | economic consequence | economic geography | economic policy | ECONOMICS | education | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | education budget | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | Europe | FINANCE | GEOGRAPHY | Greece | Ireland | marginalisation | national accounts | political geography | Portugal | poverty | public finance and budget policy | social affairs | social framework | social impact | social protection | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | social-security benefit | Spain | unemployment

Summary In the aftermath of the financial and economic crisis, Member States that requested financial assistance have sought to reduce deficits through a series of austerity measures. However research suggests that these spending cuts and tax increases may be associated with economic contraction, rising unemployment, growing inequalities and other negative social consequences. A comprehensive impact assessment of austerity measures is needed.

Briefing [EN](#), [IT](#)

European Capitals of Culture: Success Strategies and Long-Term Effects

Publication type Study

Date 15-11-2013

External author Tamsin Cox and Beatriz Garcia ,

Collaborators:

Matti Allam, Pete Campbell, Giannalia Cogliandro, Stephen Crone, Floris Langen, Dave O'Brien and Cristina Ortega Nuere

Policy area Culture

Keyword construction and town planning | cultural pluralism | cultural relations | cultural tourism | cultural transmission | culture and religion | economic analysis | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | European cultural event | European identity | exchange of information | information and information processing | POLITICS | politics and public safety | public opinion | regional development | regions and regional policy | social affairs | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | urban renewal

Summary The European City/Capital of Culture Programme was launched in 1985 and the ECoC title has been awarded to nearly 60 cities in 30 countries. The Programme has become a key platform for city positioning and a catalyst for economic and cultural regeneration. Immediate cultural, social and economic impacts are common and the capacity to secure long-term effects, though harder to evidence, has grown in key areas such as urban image change and tourism development. The latter is evidence of the stronger commitment towards sustainable legacy planning and ever more defined and locally sensitive vision statements. This report documents common approaches and success strategies, highlights the strongest claims of long-term effect and analyses recurrent challenges that limit the Programme's ability to reach its full potential. Key recommendations are the establishment of a standardised evaluation framework, greater emphasis on comparative research and the creation of a formal knowledge transfer programme so that future hosts can better benefit from the wealth of experience developed in the last three decades.

Study [DE](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)

Executive summary [BG](#), [CS](#), [DA](#), [DE](#), [EL](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FI](#), [FR](#), [HU](#), [IT](#), [LT](#), [LV](#), [NL](#), [PT](#), [RO](#), [SV](#), [ET](#), [HR](#), [MT](#), [PL](#), [SK](#), [SL](#)

Annex 1 [EN](#)

Air Passenger Rights: Initial Appraisal of the Commission's Impact Assessment

Publication type Briefing

Date 16-09-2013

Author BALLON Elke

Policy area Consumer Protection | Ex-ante Impact Assessment | Transport

Keyword air and space transport | air safety | air space | air transport | carriage of passengers | consumer protection | consumption | economic analysis | ECONOMICS | impact study | international law | LAW | organisation of transport | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | TRADE | TRANSPORT | transport policy

Summary This note seeks to provide an initial analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the European Commission's Impact Assessment (IA) accompanying its proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 261/2004 establishing common rules on compensation and assistance to passengers in the event of denied boarding and of cancellation or long delays of flights, and Regulation (EC) No 2027/97 on air carrier liability in respect of the carriage of passengers and their baggage by air (COM (2013) 130), submitted on 13 March 2013. It analyses whether the principal criteria laid down in the Commission's own Impact Assessment Guidelines, as well as additional factors identified by the Parliament in its Impact Assessment Handbook, appear to be met by the IA. It does not attempt to deal with the substance of the proposal.

Briefing [DE](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)

Application of the Principle of Equal Pay for Men and Women for Equal Work of Equal Value: European Added Value Assessment (+ Annexes I-III)

Publication type Study

Date 14-06-2013

Author DEL MONTE Micaela

External author Juliet Webster (Annex I), Usman Khan et al (Annex II), Fondazione Cultura Lavoro (Annex III)

Policy area Economics and Monetary Issues | European Added Value | Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity

Keyword accounting | approximation of laws | BUSINESS AND COMPETITION | cost-benefit analysis | EC Directive | economic analysis | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | equal pay | equal treatment | EU statistics | EUROPEAN UNION | European Union law | female work | female worker | gender equality | income | labour market | LAW | national accounts | personnel management and staff remuneration | rights and freedoms | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary Women across the European Union bring home 16.2% less than their male counterparts in the EU. This figure is more than just a statistic: it has real-life consequences for the women concerned, for their families and for society at large. The European Parliament firmly believes that reducing the pay gap remains a political priority. It is not only about economic empowerment, it is also a matter of social justice. This EU Added Value Assessment supports the European Parliament's view that reducing the gender pay gap, in particular by revising Directive 2006/54/EC, could be very beneficial, not only for individuals but also for society in general. It would help achieve inclusive growth and ensure economic and social cohesion and competitiveness, in line with the objectives set in the Europe 2020 Strategy.
ANNEX I: Social and Labour Market-Related Aspects
ANNEX II: Economic Aspects
ANNEX III: Legal Aspects

Study [DE](#), [EN](#), [FR](#), [HU](#)

Annex 1 [EN](#)

Annex 2 [EN](#)

Annex 3 [EN](#)

Belo Monte Dam project: an outline

Publication type Briefing

Date 12-06-2013

Author PONTIROLI GOBBI Francesco

Policy area Energy | Human Rights

Keyword America | Brazil | co-financing | economic geography | electrical and nuclear industries | ENERGY | energy grid | energy policy | ENVIRONMENT | environmental impact | environmental policy | FINANCE | financing and investment | GEOGRAPHY | hydroelectric development | hydroelectric power | political geography | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary The Belo Monte Dam is a hydroelectric dam under construction in the state of Pará, Brazil. Upon completion, with a generating capacity of 11 233 Megawatts, it will be the third largest hydroelectric power plant in the world. The project faces widespread criticism on economic, environmental and social reasons. Commercial generation is expected to begin in 2015, with the whole plant scheduled to run at full capacity in 2019.

Briefing [EN](#)

Development and Implementation of EU Road Cabotage

Publication type Study

Date 15-03-2013

External author Roberta Frisoni (Steer Davies Gleave), Francesco Dionori (Steer Davies Gleave), Christoph Vollath (Steer Davies Gleave), Karol Tyszka, Lorenzo Casullo, Clemence Routaboul, Andrius Jarzemskis and Katalin Tanczos

Policy area Internal Market and Customs Union | Transport

Keyword carriage of goods | drivers | EC Regulation | economic analysis | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | EUROPEAN UNION | European Union law | international road transport | land transport | liberalisation of the market | organisation of transport | road cabotage | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | TRADE | trade policy | TRANSPORT | transport market | transport policy | transport regulations

Summary The study provides an analysis of the European freight cabotage transport services in the EU and discusses the main changes that have occurred in the regulation of this market in recent years. The entry into force of Regulation (EC) No 1072/2009, and the gradual opening of the market to the Member States, have been the two major drivers of change in the past ten years. The study analyses the amendments that have been made to the Regulation and looks at enforcement provisions within Member States. The study provides updated statistical data on cabotage, where available. It also provides an assessment of socio-economic effects within Member States during the application of the current and previous Regulation commenting on the extent to which these changes were due to Regulation (EC) No 1072/2009 or to other factors.

Study [DE](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)

Executive summary [BG](#), [CS](#), [DA](#), [DE](#), [EL](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FI](#), [FR](#), [HU](#), [IT](#), [LT](#), [LV](#), [NL](#), [PT](#), [RO](#), [SV](#), [ET](#), [MT](#), [PL](#), [SK](#), [SL](#)

Annex 1 [EN](#)

Information and Consultation of Workers, Anticipation and Management of Restructuring Processes: European Added Value Assessment (+Annexes I-IV)

Publication type Study
Date 15-11-2012
Author DEL MONTE Micaela
External author Edoardo Ales (Annex I), Mark Carley (Annex II), Matrix Insight (Annex III) and Isabelle Schömann (Annex IV)
Policy area Employment | European Added Value | Industry
Keyword BUSINESS AND COMPETITION | business organisation | collective dismissal | competitiveness | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | EU action | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | fight against unemployment | industrial restructuring | industrial structures and policy | INDUSTRY | labour law and labour relations | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | worker consultation | worker information
Summary The economic crisis, accompanied by increased competitive pressure at EU level, has contributed to a steady rise in the number of companies undergoing restructuring and closure. Against this background, an open attitude to change is essential in order to be competitive in a global and challenging market. At the same time, there is also an urgent need to mitigate the negative consequences for both workers and employers of the ensuing labour market adjustments. The proposed measure is likely to generate added value. EU-level intervention might be appropriate, inter alia, to limit the social costs of structural adjustment; to provide an integrated and coherent approach to dealing with restructuring; to eliminate potential distortions of competition within the internal market and inequalities in treatment of workers, resulting from divergences in national regulations. This European Added Value Assessment analyses all these different aspects.
Annexes of the study :
ANNEX I : Legal and consistency aspects ;
ANNEX II : Aspects relating to the necessity of intervention at EU level ;
ANNEX III : Economic and social impacts ;
ANNEX IV : Aspects relating to the necessity of intervention at EU level
Study [DE](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FR](#)
Annex 1 [EN](#)
Annex 2 [EN](#)
Annex 3 [EN](#)
Annex 4 [EN](#)

Application of the System of Derogation to the Rules of Origin of Fisheries Products in Papua New Guinea and Fiji

Publication type Study
Date 14-09-2012
External author Blomeyer & Sanz , Centre of Marine Sciences, University of Algarve , University of Vigo and University of Wageningen
Policy area Economics and Monetary Issues | Environment | Fisheries
Keyword agreement (EU) | AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES | Asia and Oceania | conservation of resources | designation of origin | economic conditions | economic geography | economic situation | ECONOMICS | ENVIRONMENT | environmental impact | environmental policy | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | Fiji | fisheries | fishing industry | GEOGRAPHY | marketing | Papua New Guinea | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | TRADE
Summary This study aims to provide an independent assessment of the impact of the derogation to the standard Rules of Origin under the 2009 interim Economic Partnership Agreement (iEPA) between the EU and Papua New Guinea. Overall, the study findings validate, albeit to a limited extent, the iEPA's negative economic impact on the EU tuna processing industry (trade, production, added value, employment). The iEPA's economic and social impact on Papua New Guinea is largely considered positive (growing tuna processing and related employment opportunities). Finally, substantial concerns exist with regard to the environmental issues at stake (health of tuna stocks).
Study [EN](#)

[The European Cycle Route Network EuroVelo - Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainable Tourism](#) (Vol. 1 : Study ; Vol. 2 : Flyer)

Publication type [Study](#)

Date [15-08-2012](#)

External author [Richard Weston, Nick Davies, Les Lumsdon and Peter McGrath \(Institute of Transport and Tourism, University of Central Lancashire, UK\) ;](#)

[Paul Peeters, Eke Eijgelaar and Peter Piket \(Centre for Sustainable Transport and Tourism, NHTV Breda University of Applied Sciences, Netherlands\)](#)

Policy area [Environment | Tourism | Transport](#)

Keyword [cycle track | ecological tourism | economic analysis | economic analysis | ECONOMICS | ENVIRONMENT | environmental impact | environmental policy | land transport | organisation of transport | public transport | social affairs | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | TRANSPORT](#)

Summary [This update of the 2009 study evaluates the challenges and opportunities of developing a cycle tourism network across Europe. It focuses on EuroVelo, a network of 14 long distance routes managed by the European Cyclists' Federation which is being developed in different countries by a wide range of partners. The study reviews the market for cycle tourism and presents a model of demand for EuroVelo. It also evaluates the recent developments on the Iron Curtain Trail.](#)

Study [DE](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)

Executive summary [BG](#), [CS](#), [DA](#), [DE](#), [EL](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FI](#), [FR](#), [HU](#), [IT](#), [LT](#), [LV](#), [NL](#), [PT](#), [RO](#), [SV](#), [ET](#), [MT](#), [PL](#), [SK](#), [SL](#)

Annex 1 [EN](#)

[Proceedings of the Workshop on "Mental Health in Times of Economic Crisis"](#)

Publication type [Study](#)

Date [15-06-2012](#)

External author [David McDaid \(European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies, London School of Economics and Political Science\) ,](#)
[Jean-Paul Matot \(Action for Teens\) ,](#)
[Roberto Bertolini \(WHO Regional Office for Europe\) ,](#)
[Michael Huebel \(DG SANCO\) ,](#)
[Jurgen Schefflein \(DG SANCO\) ,](#)
[Jorge Costa-David \(DG EMPL\) ,](#)
[José Luis Ayuso-Mateos \(Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Hospital Universitario de la Princesa, CIBERSAM\) and](#)
[Pedro Montellano \(GAMIAN\)](#)

Policy area [Economics and Monetary Issues | Public Health | Social Policy](#)

Keyword [bankruptcy | BUSINESS AND COMPETITION | business organisation | civil law | economic conditions | economic recession | ECONOMICS | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | financial solvency | health | health risk | LAW | mental health | mental illness | social affairs | social framework | social impact | social protection | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | suicide | unemployment | welfare](#)

Summary [This report summarises the presentations and discussions at the Workshop on Mental Health in times of Economic crisis, held at the European Parliament in Brussels, on Tuesday, 19 June 2012. The aim of the workshop was to exchange views on the detrimental effects of the economic crisis on the mental health of European citizens. The workshop reviewed evidence on the link between mental health and the global financial crisis and included a panel discussion on possible solutions to tackle the issue. The workshop was chaired by MEP Glenis Willmott.](#)

Study [EN](#)

[Greek debt restructuring](#)

Publication type [At a Glance](#)

Date [16-03-2012](#)

Author [PONTIROLI GOBBI Francesco](#)

Policy area [Economics and Monetary Issues](#)

Keyword [debt reduction | economic conditions | economic geography | economic recession | ECONOMICS | Europe | FINANCE | GEOGRAPHY | Greece | international loan | International Monetary Fund | INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS | monetary relations | national accounts | political geography | poverty | public debt | public finance and budget policy | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | United Nations](#)

Summary [Greece has recently secured a deal with private-sector lenders to ease its financial situation. Implementing this deal will make it possible for Greece to receive further bailout funds from the European Union \(EU\) and the International Monetary Fund \(IMF\).](#)

At a Glance [EN](#)

[The Effects of Oil Companies' Activities on the Environment, Health and Development in Sub-Saharan Africa](#)

Publication type Study

Date 08-08-2011

External author BAUMÜLLER Heike, DONNELLY Elizabeth, VINES Alex and WEIMER Markus (Chatham House, United Kingdom)

Policy area Development and Humanitarian Aid | Energy | Environment | Public Health | Social Policy

Keyword Africa | deterioration of the environment | ENERGY | ENVIRONMENT | environmental impact | environmental policy | GEOGRAPHY | health | health risk | oil industry | oil industry | oil pollution | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | sub-Saharan Africa

Summary Negative impacts of the oil industry are a major concern in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), threatening not only the health of local communities, but also the livelihoods they depend on. The following study examines the impacts of the oil industry in sub-Saharan Africa and current measures to mitigate these impacts. It offers possible solutions that could be put forward by different stakeholders, including the EU and the European Parliament in particular, to reduce the negative impacts and enhance the contribution of the oil sector to sustainable development. The study focuses in particular on Nigeria and Angola, sub-Saharan Africa's largest oil producers, but is supplemented by insights from other SSA countries. Specifically, the study examines a range of impacts, including the environmental, health-related and social effects of oil spills and gas flares; the employment opportunities offered and the wider economic implications of the sector; to what extent the oil industry has contributed to conflict in oil-producing regions, and the extent and consequences of oil theft. It goes on to review current efforts to mitigate some of these impacts through government regulations in oil-producing and importing countries, community engagement, and international standards and initiatives. It also draws on experiences from other natural resources sectors to assess what can be learned with regard to regulating trade in resources from conflict areas or that are illegally sourced. The study concludes with a set of recommendations focusing on regulatory measures, technology solutions, partnership-building and European development assistance.

Study [EN](#)

[Impact of Globalisation on Employment and Social Policies in the EU](#)

Publication type Study

Date 02-08-2011

External author Ken HEYDON (London School of Economics, UK)

Policy area Employment | Industry | International Trade | Social Policy

Keyword common commercial policy | economic conditions | economic development | economic policy | ECONOMICS | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | employment structure | EU employment policy | EU finance | European social policy | EUROPEAN UNION | fund (EU) | globalisation | innovation | labour law and labour relations | labour standard | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | research and intellectual property | social affairs | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | TRADE | trade policy

Summary The demands on the European social model are unlikely to abate; globalisation will continue and the EU's mandate will widen. And yet the ability to pay for social protection will be severely tested in the face of ageing populations, fiscal consolidation and action to address sovereign debt. Three broad policy implications suggest themselves. First, in coming years there will be a compelling case, not least in the EU, for open markets as a stimulus to innovation and growth. Second, EU social protection linked to globalisation, within the framework of flexicurity, will need to be better targeted and better implemented, in order to help those who lose from globalisation and to realise the EU's full potential in skill-intensive activity. Third, trade policy will need to be seen in the broader context of sound domestic economic management.

Study [EN](#)

[Citizens' Agora: 'Crises and poverty' - background papers for the working groups](#)

Publication type Study

Date 15-12-2010

Author ANDREANELLI Moira | MAKIPAA Arttu | MELLAR Balazs | SMAJDA Laurence

Policy area Area of Freedom, Security and Justice | Economics and Monetary Issues | Employment | EU Law: Legal System and Acts | Social Policy

Keyword anti-crisis plan | communications | economic conditions | economic policy | economic recession | ECONOMICS | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | EU migration policy | European social policy | FINANCE | financing and investment | information technology | investment | job creation | migration | national accounts | poverty | social affairs | social framework | social impact | social integration | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary Working Group 1 - Economic and financial crises and new forms of poverty
Working Group 2 - The impact of the economic and financial crisis on migration and social integration
Working Group 3 - Challenges for a Model of European Society: Towards a sustainable and inclusive growth model

Study [DE](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)

[An assessment of the EU-Korea free trade agreement](#)

Publication type Study

Date 14-07-2010

External author LSE Enterprise Limited on behalf of the London School of Economics and Political Science and Consortium Partners

Policy area Environment | Intellectual Property Law | International Trade

Keyword Asia and Oceania | customs tariff | economic geography | economic policy | ECONOMICS | ENVIRONMENT | environmental impact | environmental policy | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | free-trade agreement | GEOGRAPHY | intellectual property | INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS | international trade | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | research and intellectual property | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | South Korea | sustainable development | tariff policy | TRADE | trade agreement (EU) | world organisations | World Trade Organisation

Summary The free trade agreement negotiated between the EU and the Republic of Korea (EU-Korea FTA or the Agreement) is far-reaching. In terms of the scope of tariff liberalisation it goes beyond anything the EU has agreed in previous agreements. The coverage of services is also ambitious. In a range of other measures, such as the treatment of technical barriers to trade, protection of intellectual property rights including geographic indicators, as well as provisions on dispute settlement and sustainable development the Agreement breaks new ground. It therefore represents forward movement on trade at a time when multilateral negotiations in the Doha Development Agenda (DDA) continue to stagnate and international trade needs of promoting in the wake of the financial crises induced slow down.

Study [EN](#)

[On the Social Consequences of Unemployment](#)

Publication type In-Depth Analysis

Date 15-01-2010

External author Bengt Furåker (Department of Sociology, University of Gothenburg, SWEDEN)

Policy area Economics and Monetary Issues | Employment | Social Policy

Keyword economic conditions | economic recession | ECONOMICS | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | marginalisation | national accounts | poverty | social affairs | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | social well-being | unemployment

Summary The world economy presently suffers from a financial crisis. As a result, unemployment has risen considerably in many countries and it may continue to rise even further. This note attempts to explore the social consequences of unemployment. In doing so, this note concentrates on the individual level. It asks whether the social networks of unemployed individuals are affected. A further significant issue is how unemployment impinges on individual satisfaction and well-being. There is no reason to believe that the present crisis is an isolated phenomenon. Also in the future, there are likely to be recurrent serious economic downturns and as a result unemployment levels will vary substantially across time. To some extent, these variations can be counteracted by national economic policies, but with an increasingly integrated global economy the possible actions by national governments are rather circumscribed.

In-Depth Analysis [EN](#)

[Social Impact of the Crisis - Demographic Challenges and the Pension System](#)

Publication type In-Depth Analysis

Date 15-01-2010

External author Axel Börsch-Supan (Mannheim Research Institute for the Economics of Aging, University of Mannheim, Germany)

Policy area Economics and Monetary Issues | Social Policy

Keyword demography and population | economic conditions | economic recession | ECONOMICS | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | FINANCE | monetary crisis | monetary relations | pension scheme | population ageing | retirement conditions | social framework | social impact | social protection | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary This briefing looks into the wider context of the financial and economic crisis 2008/09 with view of the already existing demographic expectations and challenges in the EU, specifically the state of the diverse EU pension systems and the extra impact of the crisis on the already existing challenges. It has three parts. Section 1 describes differences and similarities between the challenges of the crisis and of population aging. Section 2 quantifies the impact of the crisis on funded and unfunded pension systems. Section 3 takes a long-run perspective on which pension policies are necessary with or without future crises which are certain to happen again in some form or another.

In-Depth Analysis [EN](#)

[The European Cycle Route Network - Eurovelo - Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainable Tourism](#)

Publication type Study

Date 15-04-2009

External author Les Lumsdon, Richard Weston, Peter McGrath and Nick Davies (Institute of Transport and Tourism, University of Central Lancashire, UK) ; Paul Peeters, Eke Eijgelaar, Pieter Piket (Centre for Sustainable Transport and Tourism, Breda University, the Netherlands)

Policy area Environment | Tourism

Keyword cycle track | ecological tourism | economic analysis | economic analysis | ECONOMICS | land transport | organisation of transport | organisation of transport | social affairs | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | TRANSPORT

Summary This study evaluates the challenges and opportunities of developing a cycle tourism network across Europe. It focuses on EuroVelo, a network of 12 long-distance routes managed by the European Cyclists' Federation, which is being developed in different countries by a wide range of partners. The study reviews the market for cycle tourism in Europe and presents a EuroVelo demand modal. It reviews the carriage of cycles on trains. Finally, it evaluates the potential of the Iron Curtain Trail.

Study [DE](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)

Executive summary [XL](#)

["Future Financing of Social Security and Pensions"](#)

Publication type Study

Date 23-06-2008

External author Asghar Zaidi
46, rue de la Rochefoucauld
F-92100 Paris
Tel: (33-1) 45 24 1738
E-mail: Asghar.ZAIDI@oecd.org

Policy area Employment | Public Health | Social Policy

Keyword pension scheme | social affairs | social budget | social framework | social impact | social protection | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | social-security harmonisation

Study [EN](#)

[An Impact Study on Relocation, Restructuring and Viability of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund: The Impact on Employment, Working Conditions and Regional Development](#)

Publication type Study

Date 05-02-2006

External author Prof. Mark Stuart, Dr. Chris Forde
Dr. Robert MacKenzie, Dr. Emma Wallis

Policy area Employment | Social Policy

Keyword BUSINESS AND COMPETITION | business organisation | collective dismissal | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | European Globalisation Adjustment Fund | industrial restructuring | industrial structures and policy | INDUSTRY | integration into employment | offshoring | redundancy | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Study [EN](#)

[Inclusion of Social Elements in Impact Assessment](#)

Publication type Study

Date 16-01-2006

External author Chiara Crepaldi (co-ordinator) and Barbara Da Roit, in collaboration with Claudio Castegnaro, Stefano Cima, Ivana Fellini, Andrea Forti, Daniela Oliva, Flavia Pesce under the scientific direction of Emanuele Ranci Ortigosa (Istituto per la Ricerca Sociale, Milano, Italy)

Policy area Employment | Ex-ante Impact Assessment | Social Policy

Keyword economic analysis | ECONOMICS | impact study | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | research and intellectual property | research method | social framework | social impact | social indicator | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary The study reviewed if and how social elements are taken into account in Impact Assessments (IA) carried out by the European Commission before adopting legal acts and important communications to consider the effects of policy proposal in the economic, social and environmental dimensions. Quite a few Impact Assessments did not or only marginally consider social elements. Many IA cases are based on general statements and shared assumptions concerning the relations between a set of social and economic elements, without any identification of possible social indicators able to describe the impacts expected. The impacts described in the IA rarely appear "specific, measurable, accepted, realistic and time-dependent"; statistical data, evaluation reports from previous or similar programmes are not systematically used by the IA.

Study [EN](#)

The Precautionary Principle in the Information Society - Effects of Pervasive Computing on Health and Environment

Publication type Study

Date 01-08-2004

External author Lorenz M. Hilty, Andreas Köhler, Claudia Som, Arend Brunink, Siegfried Behrendt, Lorenz Erdmann, Felix Württemberger, Mathias Binswanger, Niels Kuster, Jürg Fröhlich

Policy area Environment | Industry | Public Health

Keyword deterioration of the environment | economic policy | ECONOMICS | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | electromagnetic interference | electronics and electrical engineering | ENVIRONMENT | environmental impact | environmental policy | health | health risk | impact of information technology | INDUSTRY | information and information processing | information society | information technology and data processing | microelectronics | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | sustainable development

Summary This study was drawn up on the instructions of TA Swiss.

Study [EN](#)

Bullying at Work

Publication type In-Depth Analysis

Date 01-08-2001

External author Frank Lorho, Ulrich HILP

Policy area Employment

Keyword data collection | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | information technology and data processing | occupational psychology | organisation of work and working conditions | quality of life | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | working environment | workplace

Summary Bullying at work: Phenomenon which is not a single action but a series of one or several different harassing actions over a period of time. The study considers the current legal situation in the Member States of the European Union. It also offers propositions to fight workplace bullying and investigates how far the European Union could possibly carry those measures into effect.

In-Depth Analysis [DE](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)

The Social Consequences of Changes in VAT

Publication type Study

Date 01-05-1999

External author NEI, Rotterdam

Policy area Economics and Monetary Issues | Internal Market and Customs Union | Social Policy

Keyword consumption | domestic consumption | economic geography | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | Europe | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | FINANCE | GEOGRAPHY | job cuts | Netherlands | political geography | single market | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | tax exemption | taxation | TRADE | VAT

Summary Taking the Dutch model as a basis, this study examines three different scenarios of consequences for employment of the change in the VAT rate. It outlines the consequences at Union level. This comprehensive analysis is supplemented by graphics, a large bibliography and statistical data.

Study [EN](#)

Innovations for the Promotion of Renewable Energies

Publication type Study

Date 01-04-1998

External author Ole Langniß (coordinator), Dr. Franz Trieb (German Aerospace Research Establishment, Stuttgart), Dr. Andreas Bandi, Dieter Geyer (Center for Solar Energy and Hydrogen Research Baden-Württemberg, Stuttgart), Prof. Dr.-Ing.habil Jürgen Giesecke, Prof Dr.rer.nat. Dr.-Ing.habil.Andras Bardossy, Gabriele hartmann, Dr.-Ing.Walter Marc (University of Stuttgart)

Policy area Development and Humanitarian Aid | Energy | Environment

Keyword Africa | developing countries | diffusion of innovations | economic conditions | economic geography | ECONOMICS | Egypt | ENERGY | energy demand | energy policy | energy resources | ENVIRONMENT | environmental impact | environmental policy | GEOGRAPHY | natural environment | political geography | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | renewable energy | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | soft energy | technology and technical regulations | water resources

Summary This study seeks to give an overview of various innovative strategies to promote renewable energy sources (including energy pricing policy ('green pricing')). The possibilities and prospects for the use of renewable energy sources in developing countries are also discussed in a separate section. In addition, some space is devoted - in connection with the use of renewable sources of energy - to the water situation (drinking water, irrigation and water purification) in developing countries (particularly in Africa and the Middle East).

Study [EN](#)

The Social and Economic Consequences of Abolishing 'Duty Free' Within the EU

Publication type Study

Date 01-10-1997

Author PATTERSON Ben

Policy area Economics and Monetary Issues | Internal Market and Customs Union

Keyword customs harmonisation | duty-free sale | exemption from customs duties | intra-EU trade | intra-EU transport | marketing | organisation of transport | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | tariff policy | TRADE | trade policy | TRANSPORT

Summary The abolition in 1999 of duty-free sales for persons travelling within the European Union has become the subject of a lively controversy. This study considers the basic statistics, the legal situation, the consequences of national budgets, the foreseeable results of the abolition of duty-free sales and in particular the regional and local effect of abolition.

Study [DE](#), [EN](#)