



Newsletter

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European Voice special report on security and defence

Hard choices about the European Union's soft power

The leaders of the European Union's member states will at their summit in December address questions about the EU's defence and security for the first time in five years.

The United States is pressing EU states to spend more on defence, saying that it cannot continue to cover 75% of NATO's costs. Analysts argue that the strategic case for EU-level defence co-operation has never been stronger, while military planners are worried that austerity is aggravating long-standing weaknesses in Europe's military power.

Reflecting these anxieties, Herman Van Rompuy, the president of the European Council, has described December's European Council as no less than a summit about the state of defence in Europe.

In this special report, European Voice looks at the state of defence in Europe and what should be the defence priorities at the EU level.

[Click here](#) to sample this week's European Voice special report on defence and security.

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The EU-China partnership: 10 years on



The EU-China partnership: 10 years on
by Nicola Casarini

The year 2003 was one of many events for the European Union – both internal and external. Among them was the beginning of a more structured relationship with Beijing.

A flying start

The establishment of the EU-China strategic partnership on 30 October 2003 came at a time of converging priorities between the two actors. It also coincided with one of the worst crises in transatlantic relations, mainly due to disagreements over the US-led war in Iraq and the foreign policy stance of the first Bush administration. As a result of the partnership, the then EU-15 and China adopted three initiatives which caught the attention of US policymakers.

First, the declaration inaugurating the strategic partnership included an agreement on the joint development of Galileo, the EU-led global navigation satellite system and a potential alternative to the heretofore dominant US Global Positioning System (GPS). At the time, the proposed amount of money to be invested and the number of projects to be launched would make China the most important non-EU partner in the project.

Second, the same EU member states that were keen on Chinese participation in the Galileo project also proposed to initiate discussions on lifting the EU arms embargo imposed on China following the crackdown by the People's Liberation Army (PLA) on students in Tiananmen Square in June 1989.

Apart from sending out a powerful political message, the spreading of the embargo would have made it easier for the two partners to develop space cooperation due to the dual-use nature of space technology as well as the different interpretations that EU member states tend to give to it.

Third, as bilateral trade was booming, the People's Bank of China (PBOC) made an informal commitment to further diversify its holdings of foreign currency reserves – away from the dollar and towards the euro.

Support for the European common currency and the Galileo satellite system in the context of the establishment of the EU-China strategic partnership can thus be seen as part of China's traditional strategy of backing European integration in order to drive a wedge between the Western allies.

The year 2003 was one of many events for the European Union – both internal and external. Among them was the beginning of a more structured relationship with Beijing.

The establishment of the EU-China 'strategic partnership' on 30 October 2003 came at a time of converging priorities between the two actors. It also coincided with one of the worst crises in transatlantic relations, mainly due to disagreements over the US-led war in Iraq and the foreign policy stance of the first Bush administration. Ten years on, which direction will the partnership now take?

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Disarming Syria

by Jean Pascal Zanders

Analysing recent unexpected developments in the international reaction to the chemical weapons attacks in Syria, this brief examines how the new emphasis on disarmament may actually open up the prospect of a negotiated end to the conflict.

[Click here to read the brief](#)

New EPC Publication - Beyond Vilnius - keeping the Eastern Partnership on track



Almost a decade after the EU launched its European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) and four years since the creation of the Eastern Partnership (EaP), the forthcoming November EaP Vilnius Summit represents a litmus test for the success of the EU's policies. While it is hoped that an Association Agreement and Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (DCFTA) will be signed with Ukraine, while Moldova and Georgia will initial their agreements, the real challenge will begin thereafter. In 2014, Ukraine will move to the costly and difficult stage of implementation, while all three are expected to come under increased pressure from Russia in an effort to derail their European integration processes. In this Commentary, Amanda Paul looks at the challenges the EaP states face, the issue of Russian coercion and the EU's response.

This Commentary can be downloaded from our website: www.epc.eu

College of Europe/UNU CRIS - BRIGG papers n°1/2013 & 2/2013

The Department of "EU International Relations and Diplomacy Studies" (College of Europe) in cooperation with UNU-CRIS is pleased to announce that two new papers from the "Bruges Regional Integration & Global Governance Papers Series" have been released:



Paper 1/2013: The Arab Spring: A Litmus Test for the EU's Women's Rights Policy in the Euro-Mediterranean Area?, by Emily Claire

Robinson <https://www.coleurope.eu/system/files_force/research-paper/brigg_1_2013_robinson.pdf?download=1>

Paper 2/2013: To Be or Not to Be a Normative Power: The EU's Promotion of Human Rights and Democracy in Russia, by Ana

Daskalova <https://www.coleurope.eu/system/files_force/research-paper/brigg_2_2013_daskalova.pdf?download=1>

Additional information and the call for papers is available on our website <<http://www.coleurope.eu/website/study/eu-international-relations-and-diplomacy-studies/research-activities/bruges-regional>>.

Best wishes,

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FIIA Briefing Paper 139: Iceland and Europe

Publication release 26 September 2013

ICELAND SAYS NO TO THE EU WHILE BECOMING MORE DEPENDENT ON IT

Iceland applied for EU membership in 2009 at the height of the economic crisis. Four years later, a new government has put the application on hold: the majority of Icelanders are opposed to entry, but want to continue the accession process and put the results to a vote.

Iceland's longer-standing problems with European integration stem from the issue of sovereignty in general, and maintaining control over fisheries and agriculture in particular.

The latest FIIA Briefing Paper examines Iceland's EU policies. It is co-authored by Alyson J.K. Bailes, Adjunct Professor at the University of Iceland, and Baldur Thorhallsson, Professor of Political Science and Jean Monnet Chair in European Studies at the University of Iceland.

You can download the publication at

<http://www.fia.fi/en/publication/360/><http://www.fia.fi/en/publication/360/iceland_and_europe/?utm_source=julkaisutiedote&utm_medium=sähköposti&utm_campaign=FIIA+Briefing+Paper+139>.

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<http://asp.bdb.fi/upi/q?pk=951-313-42>

New CER report 'The future of Europe's economy: Disaster or deliverance.'

by Paul De Grauwe, George Magnus, Thomas Mayer and Holger Schmieding

<http://cer.us2.list-manage1.com/track/click?u=e5ac52c2f8bd1b249ef1a8d18&id=d6a3bc1b67&e=ba8869b585>

Edited by Simon Tilford

Four leading economists give widely divergent diagnoses of the eurozone's problems and very different policy prescriptions. The EU's future could depend upon which is right. View [press release](#)

Engaging Indonesia

by David Camroux

This brief highlights the need to develop deeper bilateral relations with a country that is both strategically important and a hub in its own region. Can the EU really afford, as a whole, to engage only sporadically with the world's largest Muslim country and third-largest democracy?

[Click here to read the brief](#)

· [Download PDF](#)

Centre for European Reform (CER)

[Latest CER insight 'Division and indecision over Syria' by Rem Korteweg](#)

[Britain is held back by its business culture, not the EU' by Simon Tilford](#)

Drones for Europe

by Andrea Gilli

The unmanned revolution in military affairs is reshaping global power and the conduct of warfare. This brief highlights the implications of drone adoption for the EU: from industrial base issues to force structure, from public support to the development of appropriate battle-networks.

[Click here to read the brief](#)

The added value of CSDP operations

by Hadewych Hazelzet

For the EU to continue to attract civilian and military contributions from member states it needs to show its comparative advantage over other actors in bringing about lasting peace and security. This brief explores the question of the 'added value' of the CSDP compared to NATO and UN as well as to other EU instruments deployed in response to crises.

[Click here to read the brief](#)

Setting the stage for the defence summit

by Anna Barcikowska

This alert examines the role of the EU as a security provider in the light of recommendations contained in a report issued by HR/VP Catherine Ashton in the run-up to the European Council in December. The report underlines the need to enhance the CSDP with credible defence capabilities.

[Click here to read the alert](#)

SIPRI Update September 2013: Syria, Afghanistan and the cost of war

Stockholm International Peace Research Institute
SIPRI Update: Global Security and Arms Control
September 2013 Issue

In this issue:

- * Calculating the costs of the continuing conflict in Syria (essay)
- * Upcoming events
- * Recent activities
- * SIPRI in the media
- * New publications

Read the newsletter online at <http://bit.ly/1dInHTs>

Partnering in crisis management: ten years of UN-EU cooperation

by Thierry Tardy

A decade after the UN and the EU signed a Joint Declaration on UN-EU Cooperation in Crisis Management, this brief examines the achievements and obstacles faced by the two organisations in this field. With the December 2013 European Council on defence looming, what opportunities exist to further enhance this partnership?

[Click here to read the brief](#)

NATO—articles and speeches

Statement by the NATO Secretary General on the Presidential Elections in Georgia 28 Oct. 2013

<http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/index.htm>



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