

THE TODAY AND TOMORROW OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Janusz Józef Węc, Reform of the European Union's immigration policy, control of external borders and asylum policy at a time of migration crisis (2015-2016)

The first part of the study presents the dynamics of migration crisis in the European Union in the years 2015-2016. The second part discusses the reform of immigration policy and control of the EU's external borders, the international agreement between the EU and Turkey on cooperation in stopping irregular migration signed on March 18 2016 is analyzed and new humanitarian and funding instruments as well as aid programmes for migrants established by the EU in the years 2015-2016 are described. The third part characterizes the changes in asylum policy designed by the EU in 2016.

Anita Adamczyk, European solidarity and relocation of persons requiring international protection

Migration crisis showed the division of EU Member States and thus a lack of solidarity in tackling the problem of immigration. The analysis in this article focuses on presenting the approach of EU Member States to the idea of solidarity in the face of the migration crisis. Joint decisions taken at EU level on the issue of relocation of persons in need of international protection and implementation of those decisions are discussed. According to the author of the article realization of the principle of solidarity of the EU in the face of migration crisis is not observed.

Anna Skolimowska, Facets of a coherence crisis in EU's common foreign and security policy after the Treaty of Lisbon

The European integration project is in a deep crisis that touches many aspects of the European Union's functioning - its economy, political activities, migration policy or even its external credibility and identity towards third parties. Crisis, however, is seen as a permanent feature of European integration and even perceived by some as an engine of its development. Each crisis was responded to by the treaty reforms and in that way helped to improve the EU's institutional and political structure. The aim of the article is to seek an answer to the following questions: What are the features of the European Union's crisis in the sphere of its external policy? What kind of solutions aimed to improve

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this policy are undertaken by the political actors of the European integration? Do they have a potential to strengthen the European Union's position in a globalized world? The article is divided into three sections. The first section characterizes the foreign policy of the EU as well as the features of its external policy crisis. In the second section activities of the political actors of the European project toward overcoming such a crisis are shown. In the third section the author seeks an answer to the question if those solutions have a potential to strengthen the EU's role in a globalized world?

Magdalena Szkudlarek, Turkey's significance for the security of the European Union in the light of migration crisis

The purpose of this paper is to verify the hypothesis that bilateral relations with Turkey will be in the near future a fundamental factor for the security of the European Union, especially in the context of the migration crisis that the European Union has been facing since 2014. Although the escalation of influx of migrants and refugees is a serious challenge both for Turkey and the EU, the final destination for hundreds of thousands of people coming from North Africa and Middle East is indeed the European Union, which naturally makes it more interested in stopping the uncontrolled stream of irregular migrants. But it is Turkey who holds the key to solving the problem, as its territory is one the most popular trails to Europe. Turkish authorities being aware of their own significance play a well thought-out diplomatic game focused on strengthening Turkey's position towards the EU which has until today treated Turkey as an eternal candidate to membership, ready to implement ever far-reaching requirements in return for a hazy vision of future accession. The migration crisis and related risk of deep destabilization of the whole EU seems to have become a factor of change of Turkey's position from a petitioner to a decision-maker with actual impact on European security. In order to verify this hypothesis the following methods have been applied in the research: examination of documents, institutional-legal analysis and analysis of the decision-making process. Moreover, to ensure that the analysis is comprehensive, both English and Turkish language sources have been examined.

Magdalena Karolak-Michalska, Ethnically and culturally heterogeneous – on the ethnopolitics of modern Eastern European countries

This article aims to deepen the analysis of the status of ethnopolitics in Eastern European countries - Belarus, Lithuania, Ukraine and Moldova. In the first part of the discussion the author explores the concept of "ethnopolitics", indicating that it pertains to the relationship between ethnicity and politics. Showing the main objectives of ethnic policy she states that they can be classified into two groups: 1) concerning inter-ethnic relations; 2) targeted to specific entities (ethnic groups and the state in which they reside). Later in the article the author examines the ethno policy in the region, in practice, revealing its conditions and determinants at an intra-state and international level. It indicates the

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current balance of ethnic policies of selected countries in the region, the potential development of these policies. In the final part of the study she notes that in the discussions on the role of ethnopolitics in the countries and in the regions, there are voices that ethnic policy in Eastern Europe is an extremely important element of the basic functions of the states and the region, including the central phenomenon of the construction, reconstruction and strengthening of national identity. What is particularly important, ethnopolitics, understood in terms of public policy addressed to national and ethnic minorities living in the country, it is an important backbone of domestic and foreign policy, and the political and cultural identity of all ethnically and culturally heterogeneous countries of Eastern Europe.

Piotr Madajczyk, Russian propaganda in Germany (2000-2016)

After aggression against Ukraine, Russian propaganda was part of a broader concept of the use of soft power, formulated in Russia in the 21st century. The article shows the creation of the structures of the propaganda, whose main aim was the Federal Republic of Germany. The analysis of this propaganda focuses on the use of anti-Americanism, and such political milieus in Germany as Alternative for Germany and some organizations related to the populist-nationalistic conservatism. Attention is drawn to the role that Russia would like to assign to *Russlanddeutsche*, i.e. to persons of German nationality who resettled to Germany from the former Soviet Union since the 1980s. The end date is 2016, which brought significant changes in this issue. It is then that German public opinion, media, politicians and the relevant state institutions recognized the importance of the Russian propaganda and partially successful Russian attempts to manipulate sentiments in Germany.

Michał M. Kosman, Germany's stance on the Libyan crisis of 2011. An enfant terrible of the Western world?

The article presents the events related to the process of changes in North Africa. They were dubbed Arab Spring at the beginning of the second decade of the twenty-first century. In Libya they took a dramatic turn at the end of the rule of Muammar Gaddafi. In response, a group of Western countries launched a military intervention in accordance with the "Responsibility to Protect" due to massive human rights violations by government troops and threats of the Libyan leader. The Western intervention received the mandate of the UN Security Council, but Germany abstained from voting, which was a big surprise for Western partners. Germany was then a non-permanent member of the Council. The aim of the article is to discuss the above circumstances, and to analyze the reasons of the German position in the UN Security Council.

Katarzyna Gelles, Teenage voters. From the Austrian experience

In a democratic country, participation in elections is an indicator of the maturity of the civil society, the government should therefore enhance a broader mobilization of the citizens. Facing the challenge of an ageing society, demographic decline and the phenomenon of the low electoral turnout or a general decline of citizens' interest in politics, some European countries have considered lowering the age limit for the right to vote to the age of sixteen. At European level, Austria is the first – and so far only country – to introduce the appropriate regulations in all types of elections in 2007. This article presents and analyzes the main arguments which were put forward in the discussion preceding the said changes in the election law as well as their outcomes based on the examples of parliamentary elections (in 2008 and 2013) and presidential elections (in 2010 and 2016). A systematic survey conducted in Austria allows us to conclude that politics can be made interesting for the young, however, it must be approached comprehensively, taking care of providing thorough and responsible civic education at schools and by using carefully selected communication channels. The government should also be able to prove that they truly care about this group of voters. Due to the topicality of the subject, the basic sources of this article are essentially statistical data, research analysis, statements, opinions and comments of scholars and politicians as well as press coverage.

Magdalena Szyszko, Central banking in the light of the 2007-2016 decade's experience. Is there room for strategic changes?

Prior to the financial crisis that erupted in 2007 in the United States, monetary policy had been conducted according to theoretical (new neoclassical synthesis) and practical consensuses (Jackson Hole consensus). These consensuses were combined into the central banks' strategic frameworks. Monetary strategy goal was established together with reaction function and communication strategy. After eruption of the crisis, the central bank mandate was augmented with the explicit support of financial stability. Most central banks gained a new responsibility – macroprudential policy. The conduct of monetary policy and macroprudential policy under one roof creates a new challenging quality. The article's goal is to assess the redefinition of monetary policy strategy – or more broadly – central banks' strategy in the light of their newly acknowledged mandate. Up to 2016 central banks did not present a framework of such an enlarged strategy. This situation seems to be temporary. Modern monetary policy which is still central banks' mandate must shape economic agents' expectations. Therefore, a state of affairs when central banks avoid a declaration on their own priorities and possible conflict of goals is dissatisfying.

Ewa Szymanik, The competitiveness of export – new factors

The article shows new factors which can have an impact on the competitiveness of export, especially in the Polish – EU trade, such as: worldwide terrorism, migration problems, Brexit, changing oil prices and non-tariff barriers. These factors are characterized by diverse features and are not easily measurable as their inherent discrepancies make it difficult to verify their impact on competitiveness. Some of them, like terrorism and immigration, have gained in significance, the importance of another one (non-tariff barriers) has also increased, whereas others (e.g. prices of oil) undergo rapid changes. However, it is necessary to take them into consideration on account of their importance to competitiveness of export.

Tomasz Nieborak, Soft lex, sed lex? On new forms of the EU financial market regulation

The aim of the article is to analyze new forms of the EU financial market regulation with special attention to the so called soft law. Although it has long been in use in international law regulations, soft law continues to spark heated debate among representatives of legal science who differ on such issues as whether soft law can at all be recognized as law, its binding character, and the effectiveness of its implementation. The specificity of the financial market and its regulations render the use of soft law a “third way” that alongside legal and extra-legal norms can allow the employer and participants in the market to develop optimal solutions resulting in security and stability of the financial sector.

Magdalena Śliwińska, Is the CETA agreement a remedy for the crisis of the European Union?

The natural consequence of the current trends in global economy is the rise of the so called “new generation” international trade agreements (TPP, CETA, TTIP) that encompass trade liberation and a range of different areas of economic and social life variously connected with trade. The Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) signed between the EU and Canada in October 2016 has caused numerous controversies both on the political and scientific level. The question of the fairness of signing the CETA is not only about whether the EU as an organization wants to tighten its trade and investment cooperation with Canada and the possible effects of the agreement for both parties, but it is essentially a question about whether the EU wants to take a step towards global economic integration, and if so, then does it want to take this step right now, at a time when it is facing serious problems. For these reasons the aim of this study is to draw attention to the fact that this unprecedented agreement with a highly developed third state deeply interferes in the economic, political and social life of both parties and was negotiated and signed by the European Union in an unprecedented way amid its most challenging and complex crisis so far. The above mentioned

unprecedented and complex character of both phenomena is crucial because it is impossible to assess the effects of the implementation of the agreement or to estimate whether it will contribute to overcoming or deepening the crisis within the EU. CETA is therefore a major practical problem with implications for millions of EU citizens, but also a scientific problem as it represents the dilemma of contemporary economics - who and under what circumstances benefits from trade liberalization and economic integration.

Jakub Staniszewski, The concept of a sustainable intensification of agriculture in EU countries

The article presents the European context of the concept of a sustainable intensification of agriculture. The main premise of the idea is to increase agricultural yields with a concurrent limitation of adverse environmental impact by using modern technologies. This concept seems to be especially relevant in light of the challenges currently faced by the European Union and its aims defined in the Europe 2020 strategy. Although the agricultural sector in the EU countries operates within the framework of a single European model of agriculture, there are significant differences in methods and yields among individual countries. The dividing line between the “old” member states and those who joined the EU in 2004 is clearly visible and the differences determine particular countries’ varied approaches to the concept of sustainable intensification. Whereas in the EU-12 countries it should consist chiefly in improving the economic effects without a deterioration of the state of the natural environment, the EU-15 countries will rather focus on the ecologization of production methods while maintaining the current economic results.

Joanna Stefaniak, Joanna Kuczevska, The road map to a single internal market – assumptions or reality?

Contemporary economic problems, institutional transformation, subsequent enlargements, counteracting the effects of economic and euro area crisis are factors that have contributed to limiting the EU’s activity in developing a single market. In 2015 the European Commission presented a new strategy for strengthening the internal market which is to raise the effectiveness of its functioning. The aim of the article is to assess the progress in accomplishing the priorities formulated in the strategic documents of the internal market. The discussion focuses on issues related to the question whether programmes and measures aimed at strengthening the potential of the internal market have actually been implemented. When assessing the rate of the process of implementation of internal market strategy over a span of thirty years it can be concluded that it is the effect of factors that arise both on the part of the EU institutions and particular member states. Considering the experience of the EU so far in implementing specific strategies to enhance the realization of an internal market it can be supposed that in light of the current social-political-economic events the very ambitious and comprehensive premises of the present single market development strategy will not be fully realized in the assumed time frame.

In recent years, the political and economic discourse has been dominated by the crises that the European Union (EU) is still facing. The crises are spilling over from one sphere to another; from the financial crisis, through the economic, political, institutional, axiological to social sphere. As a result, declining confidence of the Member States in the integration process strengthens the nationalist sentiments, populist and Eurosceptic movements, and moreover, Great Britain has decided to leave the European community. The EU is blamed for its democratic deficit, technocracy and decisiveness, which disrupts national orders, while Europeanization is seen as forcibly imposing the adoption of supranational solutions, “top-down”. Meanwhile, Germany has come through the crises unscratched, and points out how to order the destabilizing effects of EU governance through the transfer of national practices to the Community level, “bottom-up”. It turns out, that the German economic order, based on the principles of ordoliberalism and the style of policy-making and social management called the Social Market Economy (Soziale Marktwirtschaft) is so efficient and effective, that not only in times of crisis, but from the beginning of European integration its components are transferred to the sub-national level. The purpose of article is to clarify the phenomenon of Europeanization, taking particular account of Germany’s role, which has strengthened its position in the EU through the Social Market Economy. Based on its experience, Germany consistently introduces economic, social, institutional (formal and informal) solutions to the governance structure of the EU, thereby strongly influencing policies and politics of the European community.

Marta Ulbrych, The Evolution of the German industrial policy in the context of challenges to the global economy

The manufacturing sector plays a much stronger role as a driver of growth and employment in Germany than in other countries. Therefore it seems appropriate to identify the essential features of German manufacturing and to analyse the evolution of industrial policy priorities in this country. In this respect, the research is performed primarily on the basis of the review of the literature and an analysis of statistical data.

Małgorzata Czermińska, The trade effects of Poland’s inclusion into the EU single internal market for goods

Trade on the EU single internal market is regulated by a customs union established on 1st July, 1968. It has an internal dimension, based on one of the freedoms of the common market, i.e. the free movement of goods, as well as an external one, connected with the common trade policy, which involves, among others, introduction of the common customs duty tariff in import. The aim of the article is to show the trade effects of Poland's inclusion into the EU single internal market for goods a decade after Poland became a member of the EU. The integration processes, particularly the creation of the common market without internal customs borders, are a major influence in Poland’s trade exchange, both within the union and outside it. Therefore, it is in this area that the impact of the accession was most readily noticeable.

Piotr Kalka, Is the euro area still in crisis?

The object of the analysis presented in the article is the crisis that has been taking place in the euro area member states. The author specifies the factors that have enabled particular countries to overcome the crisis and concludes that the country which has managed to cope with the crisis to the largest extent is Ireland. However, maintenance of the changes introduced in response to the crisis and continuance of reforms of the euro area are necessary to ascertain a further success of the actions taken so far.

Piotr Pawlak, The image of Germans in the context of migration crisis. Analysis of the users' comments of selected Polish information portals

Serious migration and humanitarian crisis related to the conflict in Syria, is particularly associated with the Germans, and German politics. Therefore, attention of many observers from Europe (and not only) is focused largely on the Germans, who are thus one of the most widely commented nations. This applies especially to the Polish part of the Internet. The intent of the author is to present the image of Germans in the context of German immigration policy, that emerges from the comments in Polish news portals.