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# Europe Dynamic Briefing

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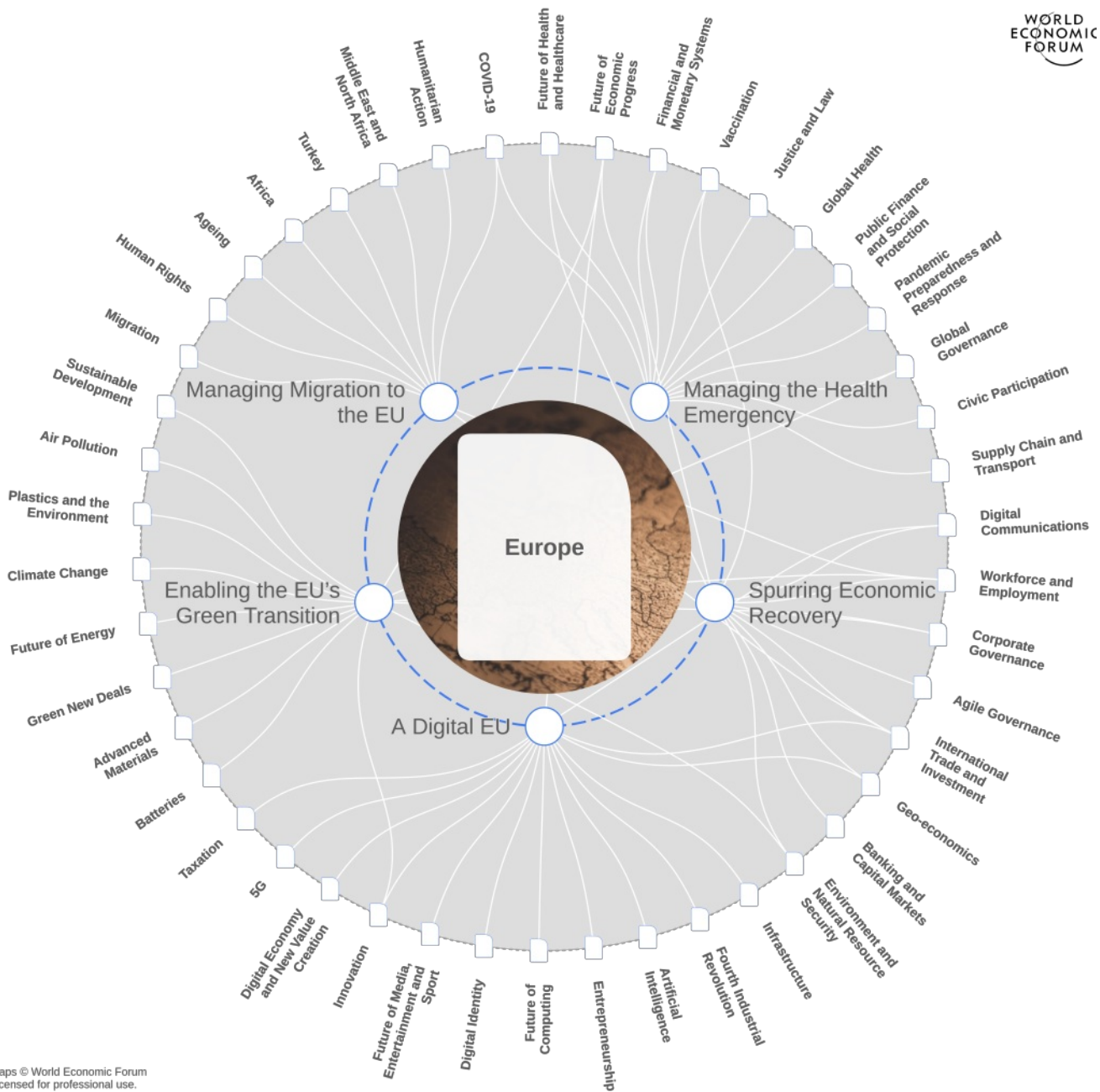


# Europe

Last review on Mon 10 May 2021

## About

This dynamic briefing draws on the collective intelligence of the Forum network to explore the key trends, interconnections and interdependencies between industry, regional and global issues. In the briefing, you will find a visual representation of this topic (Transformation Map – interactive version available online via [intelligence.weforum.org](https://intelligence.weforum.org)), an overview and the key trends affecting it, along with summaries and links to the latest research and analysis on each of the trends. Briefings for countries also include the relevant data from the Forum’s benchmarking indices. The content is continuously updated with the latest thinking of leaders and experts from across the Forum network, and with insights from Forum meetings, projects communities and activities.



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# Executive summary

Europe

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COVID-19 has tested the ability of EU institutions to respond to a large-scale public health crisis.

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COVID-19 has underscored and aggravated shortcomings that existed prior to the pandemic.

# Managing the Health Emergency

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## COVID-19 has tested the ability of EU institutions to respond to a large-scale public health crisis

The European Union has been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic. According to existing treaties, member states enjoy exclusive competence over domestic health systems, but share competence over public health - related measures are applied across the EU population. A strong, lingering attachment to the principle of subsidiarity (which dictates that decisions should be made by the least-centralized authority when possible) made initial member state reactions to the pandemic uncoordinated and slow. In addition, the virus hit in an environment where the capacity of national health systems had been degraded following years of reforms to make them “leaner” in order to sustain public finances - leading to fewer hospital beds and shorter stays. Though member states are all parties to the World Health Organisation’s International Health Regulations, the EU itself is not; procedures for cooperation and reporting responsibilities between the EU, its member states, and the WHO are not completely settled. And, the institutionalization of health policy services within EU institutions - and within the European Commission in particular - is at an early stage. As a result the EU has been criticized for its management of the crisis, especially at its beginning.

The EU is not completely unarmed, however. Past crises led it to develop more informal and regionally broad bodies and procedures, in particular the Health Security Committee - the highest-level European platform for coordination on public health emergencies. Apart from mobilizing funds, its response to the coronavirus has been threefold. First, to limit the spread it closed external borders and allowed member states to close their internal borders, while monitoring developments through the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. Second, it is seeking to ensure the provision and distribution of medical equipment by stimulating domestic production, regulating exports of key supplies, and activating joint public-procurement mechanisms - while supplying a common strategic reserve through the EU Civil Protection mechanism. Finally, it is promoting research for related treatments and vaccines, by allocating funds for research institutions, startups, and small firms, and hosting a common data platform. However, the COVID-19 crisis has exposed gaps in the EU’s current institutional ability to confront a large-scale, transnational public health crisis. Following a delayed initial response, subsequent measures may lead to more durable institutional arrangements that help facilitate emergency management, coordination, and protection.

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Related insight areas: [Pandemic Preparedness and Response](#), [Future of Health and Healthcare](#), [Civic Participation](#), [Public Finance and Social Protection](#), [Future of Economic Progress](#), [Vaccination](#), [Global Health](#), [Justice and Law](#), [Financial and Monetary Systems](#), [Global Governance](#), [COVID-19](#), [Supply Chain and Transport](#)



**Australian Institute of International Affairs**  
**The Reality of Brexit: Empty Shelves and Troubles in Northern Ireland**

28 October 2021

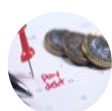
The news of empty supermarket shelves and rationed petrol in the UK seemed to come as a surprise but yet did not surprise anybody. Yet, long lines for daily supplies is not the only Brexit-related issue facing the UK.



**London School of Economics and Political Science**  
**De facto differentiation in action: Why Poland will stay in the EU, with or without the blessing of Brussels**

22 October 2021

Tensions between the Polish government and the European Union have raised speculation about a potential ‘Polexit’. Tobias Hofelich writes that while there is no mechanism for expelling a member state, inaction risks undermining the EU’s legal framework and pushing the principle of differentiated integration to its limits. The Polish Constitutional Court’s ruling of 7 October ... Continued.



**Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS)**  
**Fiscal rules in a post-Covid brave new world**

22 October 2021

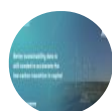
On 19 October 2021, the European Commission published a Communication to relaunch the public debate on the review of the EU economic governance framework. A key issue to be discussed is how to ensure sustainable public finances in all Member States when the ‘general escape clause’ is eventually lifted, in place since March 2020. At the centre of this debate is the question as to whether, with the onset of the economic recovery, there should (or should not) be a return to a rigid enforcement of the fiscal rules.



**London School of Economics and Political Science**  
**Voters can become more populist if parties don’t represent their views**

19 October 2021

Do voters become more populist if no party represents their views? Bruno Castanho Silva and Christopher Wratil conducted an experiment in twelve European countries during the 2019 European Parliament election campaign to see how citizens react when told that no party shares their opinions on issues. The study shows that a lack of representation increases ... Continued.



**Bruegel**  
**Better sustainability data is still needed to accelerate the low-carbon transition in capital markets**

18 October 2021

Capital reallocation towards sustainable investments is viewed as essential to Europe’s low-carbon transition. The European Union has already developed global standards with its taxonomy of sustainable activities and disclosure rules applying to financial market firms. Data on the environmental, social and governance (esg) characteristics of companies, which are used extensively in asset management, remain a source of much frustration, and are increasingly in the regulators’ spotlight. ESG quality means many things to many investors ESG-focused investment has been a key trend in capital markets over the past two years.



**The Economist**  
**The first big energy shock of the green era**

14 October 2021

Next month world leaders will gather at the COP 26 summit, saying they mean to set a course for net global carbon emissions to reach zero by 2050. As they prepare to pledge their part in this 30-year endeavour, the first big energy scare of the green era is unfolding before their eyes. Since May the price of a basket of oil, coal and gas has soared by 95%. Britain, the host of the summit, has turned its coal-fired power stations back on, American petrol prices have hit \$3 a gallon, blackouts have engulfed China and India, and Vladimir Putin has just reminded Europe that its supply of fuel relies on Russian goodwill.



**London School of Economics and Political Science**  
**Democratic backsliding has not (yet) united the populist radical right in the European Parliament**

14 October 2021

The European Union is currently facing the double challenge of the rise of radical right populism and the presence of democratic backsliding in several member states. Yet despite the overlap of actors engaged in both processes, Mihail Chiru and Natasha Wunsch show that democratic backsliding has not yet served as a catalyst for populist radical ... Continued.

# Spurring Economic Recovery

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## COVID-19 plunged the EU into a deep economic crisis, and elicited an unprecedented recovery plan

The European Union is confronting its steepest economic downturn since 1929. Social contact restrictions have dampened business activity by impacting consumer spending, industrial output, investment, trade, and capital flows - and by disrupting supply chains. According to a European Commission estimate, the EU economy will contract by at least 8.3% in 2020, instead of growing by 1.5% as predicted before the pandemic. Meanwhile the unemployment rate is expected to rise from 6.7% in 2019 to at least 9% for 2020. All member countries have eased restrictions following extensive lockdowns, but resuming economic activity in the absence of a vaccine involves politically challenging trade-offs between growth and safety. Risk aversion and vulnerability to the virus vary among demographic groups, and the gradual emergence from lockdowns has had distributional consequences. EU member states have invested in strengthening their health care systems and their capacity to trace and isolate; technical specifications agreed upon with the European Commission should ensure the safe exchange of information between national tracing apps. To counteract the drop in consumer demand and disruptions in supply, and to suppress rising unemployment, national governments have implemented a number of domestic fiscal stimulus measures.

As a result of these measures, the aggregate public deficit in the EU is expected to surge from 0.6% of GDP in 2019 to about 8.5% in 2020 - before, presumably, falling back to around 3.5% in 2021. The European Central Bank took early action to loosen the money supply and ensure adequate liquidity would flow into the economy. In addition, in order to help the hardest-hit member states recover and rebuild without incurring excessive additional debt, the European Council, following a proposal by the European Commission, agreed in July 2020 on a groundbreaking €750 billion recovery fund, dubbed “Next Generation EU,” which enables the commission to borrow directly on open markets and distribute grants and loans. Together with the more than €1 trillion long-term EU budget for 2021-27, these financing instruments aim to prevent further economic divergence between member states, and to “build back better” through investment in a green, digital, social, and more resilient EU. The long-term budget, which may be endorsed by the European Parliament before the end of 2020, in addition to an unprecedented recovery effort including the issuance of long-term debt by the Commission, represent big steps forward for EU economic governance.

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Related insight areas: [Geo-economics](#), [Future of Health and Healthcare](#), [Workforce and Employment](#), [Future of the Environment](#), [Vaccination](#), [Corporate Governance](#), [Agile Governance](#), [Financial and Monetary Systems](#), [International Trade and Investment](#), [Banking and Capital Markets](#), [Digital Communications](#)



World Economic Forum

**The EU wants business to be sustainable. But it must empower companies to do that**

26 October 2021

A new European Parliament report sets out recommendations for sustainable corporate governance. The present voluntary due-diligence regime on sustainability is inadequate. Any mandatory regime must still leave room for businesses to tailor their own path to sustainability. Since its inception, the EU has been confronted with numerous crises and debates on how to advance a plan for a united and peaceful post-war Europe. In essence, what began as an imperfect economic union with the ultimate ambition of political integration evolved and transformed step by step into an organization spanning policy areas from climate change, environment and human rights protection to external relations and security, justice, and migration.



London School of Economics and Political Science

**The sovereignty cartel: What citizenship for sale schemes tell us about the nature of sovereignty**

26 October 2021

What makes sovereignty possible? Drawing on the example of citizenship for sale programmes, J. Samuel Barkin argues that sovereignty is built on state collusion – states work together to privilege sovereignty in global politics because they benefit from its exclusivity. Last summer, the Guardian published a series of stories on the alarming participants in the ... Continued.



VoxEU

**The EU economy after COVID-19: Implications for economic governance**

21 October 2021

On 19 October 2021, the European Commission adopted a Communication relaunching the public consultation on the EU's economic governance framework - which had been put on hold in March 2020 to focus on the Covid-19 pandemic.



Project Syndicate

**Central Banking With a Straight Face**

18 October 2021

Over time, central banks have been given additional objectives and have expanded their policy toolkits accordingly, particularly when called upon to prevent major shocks from triggering global depressions. But with policy innovation comes new risks, not least to central banks' independence.



VoxEU

**ECB monetary policy and catch-up inflation**

14 October 2021

In July, the ECB issued its first Strategic Review since 2003. The latest CfM-CEPR survey investigates one component of the announced policy shift: the new definition of price stability. Most members of the panel of experts on the European economy support the ECB explicitly allowing inflation to exceed its target for extended periods to make up for below-target inflation in the past. This 60% majority has divided views on the optimal alternative policies, with the largest share supporting average inflation targeting and some members supporting nominal GDP targeting or hybrid policies. 40% of the panel would prefer to maintain the current policy of traditional inflation targeting.



VoxEU

**The search for a congruent euro area policy mix**

13 October 2021

The way European policymakers solve the policy mix trilemma of asymmetric fiscal rules, no central fiscal capacity and constrained monetary policy in the post-pandemic economy will define the resilience of the euro area in the face of future shocks and the transition to a more sustainable growth model. In a new CEPR Policy Insight, the authors argue that moving to a structured vertical coordination between national and EU budgets would help ensure an adequate fiscal stance and avoid the overburdening of the single monetary policy.



VoxEU

**Globalisation and inflation: Insights from the ECB strategy review**

11 October 2021

Since the start of the pandemic, inflation has re-entered mainstream discussion. This column reviews the analysis of globalisation and inflation conducted in the context of the ECB strategy review. Although global factors (mainly commodity prices) matter for inflation synchronisation, their role in lowering both inflation and its sensitivity to the business cycle in advanced economies has been limited since the late 1980s. Global shocks can exert temporary pressure on price dynamics, but the destiny of inflation remains in the hands of central banks.

## Amid fierce competition, efforts are underway to reposition Europe as a digital leader

The COVID-19 crisis has highlighted the central role of the digital revolution for European societies, and for the European Union's economy. As telework, digital entertainment, and e-commerce become more prevalent, and the overall shift to digital accelerates and increases demand for new infrastructure, European tech companies and platforms are seeking to strengthen their positions in global markets. However, they are starting from a weak position - as there are few world-beating digital companies in Europe. Tech companies are targets for competition and tax policy-makers, as digital services and e-commerce challenge traditional methods of scoping markets and measuring harm. The fragmentation of the EU market, coupled with relatively risk-averse regulation, makes it a less hospitable environment than the US or China. This has revived talk of designating strategic companies for digital infrastructure, which also reflects concerns about the penetration of European markets by American and Chinese companies. The EU's foreign investment screening regulation, and its toolbox on 5G cybersecurity, are important in this regard. Tax issues relating to the presence of US tech multinationals in Europe also continue to be central, as seen in the July 2020 European Court of Justice ruling on Apple's Irish tax bill.

In February 2020, the European Commission presented its "Shaping Europe's Digital Future" strategy, which aims to reposition Europe as a digital leader by pursuing key objectives related to technologies over the next five years, while at the same time preserving the core European values of democracy, fairness, and inclusiveness. The plan presents a characteristically EU approach to data, artificial intelligence, and platform regulation. It also envisages a wide variety of legislative and non-legislative actions, and includes a new Digital Services Act to reinforce the single market for digital services. The EU continues to actively regulate in a way that sets global standards, not least in the area of privacy and data protection - the General Data Protection Regulation implemented in 2018 has built a foundation for protecting the online rights of EU citizens, and has also become more broadly adopted outside of Europe. Following the approval of the Directive on Copyright in the Digital Single Market in 2019, EU member states are now faced with the challenge of integrating the directive into domestic law. In addition, transnational data flows have been impacted by a European Court of Justice ruling striking down the EU-US Privacy Shield agreement.

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Related insight areas: [Taxes](#), [Fourth Industrial Revolution](#), [Digital Economy and New Value Creation](#), [Future of Computing](#), [Artificial Intelligence](#), [Digital Communications](#), [Digital Identity](#), [Infrastructure](#), [Future of Economic Progress](#), [5G](#), [International Trade and Investment](#), [Future of Media](#), [Entertainment and Sport](#), [Entrepreneurship](#), [Innovation](#), [Geo-economics](#)





**Project Syndicate**  
**The Promise of European Power**  
 26 October 2021

While some in Europe beat the drum of “strategic autonomy” and set their sights on faraway regions, the specter of renewed nationalism and war still stalks the bloc’s immediate neighborhood. A serious EU security and foreign policy would address these nearby threats before venturing farther afield.



**Project Syndicate**  
**Five Visions for a New International Order**  
 13 October 2021

The shift in global power to new (and more) actors has made the need to reform global institutions increasingly obvious. At last month’s UN General Assembly meeting, world leaders advanced distinct approaches to the international order and its future.



**London School of Economics and Political Science**  
**MEPs are more likely to oppose close EU-Ukraine ties when they represent areas that receive high levels of Russian investment**  
 25 October 2021

Do Russian investments in Europe help further the country’s interests when it comes to political decision-making? Drawing on a new study, Sara Norrevik presents evidence that MEPs representing areas that receive high levels of investment from Russia are more likely to have voted against closer EU-Ukraine ties in the European Parliament. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) ... Continued.



**Center for Global Development**  
**Convergence, Development, and Energy-Intensive Infrastructure: Getting Africa to High-Income Status**  
 13 October 2021

The structural changes in an economy that accompany its growth to high-income status have been predictable in Europe, the United States, and Asia, characterized by declining employment in agriculture and rising levels of urbanization driven by jobs in the modern industrial sector. As agricultural productivity rises, the share of people employed in agriculture declines, and both urbanization and employment in manufacturing increase.



**London School of Economics and Political Science**  
**‘Transnational’ citizens have more engagement with EU politics**  
 20 October 2021

The concept of ‘transnationalism’ refers to the extent to which an individual’s background, interactions and practices extend beyond national borders. But do more ‘transnational’ citizens identify to a greater extent with the work of the European Union? Drawing on a new study, Anna Kyriazi and Francesco Visconti illustrate that those who display high levels of ... Continued.



**Australian Strategic Policy Institute**  
**Transport’s make-or-break decade**  
 11 October 2021

Pick any sector of the European economy, and you will find a lot of companies cutting greenhouse-gas emissions. But, while sectors like construction, electricity production and agriculture now emit much less than they did in 1990, transport emissions have increased by 33% . Unless we put the brakes on transport pollution soon, the European Union will have a very hard time reaching its climate goals.



**Istituto Affari Internazionali**  
**The future of AU-EU cooperation: Towards a new era?**  
 14 October 2021

Topical challenges to global governance provide relations between the European Union (EU) and the African Union (AU) with a more than ever fertile ground for cooperation. The struggle of multilateralism and the fight against the pandemic offer the AU-EU partnership a unique opportunity to rise as one of the main forces leading global recovery initiatives and demonstrating the great value of multilateral cooperation.

# Enabling the EU's Green Transition

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## The bloc has ambitious climate goals, but still needs to decide which policies to strengthen

The European Commission has designated the green transition as one of two primary strategic goals for the European Union (alongside digital development), and translated this ambition into a “European Green Deal.” To pursue this, the Commission will seek an agreement with EU member states to commit the bloc to climate neutrality (no net new man-made carbon emissions) by 2050, and to a much higher greenhouse gas reduction target for 2030 - by as much as 55% from 1990 levels. That would be a large step up compared to the EU's current pledge under the Paris Agreement on climate change, which is to reduce emissions by 40% by 2030. To meet its ambitious climate goals, the EU must decide which policies to strengthen. Its Emissions Trading System, a flagship climate instrument meant to ensure cost-effective emissions reduction, will be one of those policies; European companies can therefore expect a higher carbon price. Different climate targets for each EU member state with emissions excluded from the trading system will also have to be tightened - requiring national and European policies to be made more stringent in ways that impact transport, buildings, and small businesses.

A carbon border adjustment mechanism (which could involve requiring foreign companies to buy carbon credits at the border, and selectively taxing certain carbon-intensive imports) has been flagged as one potential means of ensuring the effectiveness of climate policies, and preventing carbon leakage. The details of such a mechanism are yet to be worked out, however. There will be considerable amounts of “greenness” and “building back better” in the EU's future funding programmes, with an emphasis on research and innovation, industrial transformation, investment in public goods (such as digital- and energy infrastructure) and on a “just transition” for workers to a low-carbon economy. Much of this will leverage higher amounts of capital expenditure through the European Investment Bank, now considered the EU's “climate bank.” Alongside new definitions of what investments qualify as “green,” there will be a strong bias towards the sustainable. The stated ambition is that Europe's transition to low-carbon technologies and products will stimulate investment, innovation, and employment. EU know-how may then be exported worldwide, and added value from the low-carbon space could become Europe's new growth engine.

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Related insight areas: [Climate Change](#), [Sustainable Development](#), [Global Governance](#), [Air Pollution](#), [Future of the Environment](#), [Batteries](#), [Future of Economic Progress](#), [Future of Energy](#), [Plastics and the Environment](#), [Green New Deals](#), [Workforce and Employment](#), [Corporate Governance](#), [Innovation](#), [Advanced Materials](#)



**Project Syndicate**  
**Restoring Citizens' Trust on Climate Change**

27 October 2021

A recent survey of public opinion in Europe, Britain, the United States, and China finds that most people consider climate change to be the defining issue of this century and expect their governments to do more to address it. Policymakers must respond with massive investments in the green economy before fatalism sets in.



**Clean Energy Wire**  
**European CO2 price should be central to German climate policy – economists**

21 October 2021

Germany should think of its climate policy plans on a European and ultimately global level, economists write in an article for the Ifo.



**World Economic Forum**  
**How green funds help protect investors from climate change risks**

20 October 2021

Investment funds in Europe are more exposed to climate-sensitive economic sectors than banks, insurers and pension funds. However, few investment fund climate-related financial risk assessments have been conducted. We've examined the portfolios of more than 23,000 EU investment funds and reveal some relative long-term benefits of green funds. Getting to carbon neutrality is immensely expensive. In the EU alone, reaching zero emissions by 2050 is estimated to cost \$300 billion per year for the foreseeable future.



**London School of Economics and Political Science**  
**Highlights from the ECB's work on climate-related financial risks and opportunities**

20 October 2021

It is now almost universally agreed that the impact of climate change will prompt fundamental changes to the global economy, including the financial sector. The financial system can play a crucial role in financing the transition towards a climate-neutral economy, but at the same time it may be prone to climate-related risks that need proper ... Continued.



**Project Syndicate**  
**The Possibility of Polesxit**

19 October 2021

By manufacturing a constitutional court ruling that effectively rejects the legal basis of EU membership, Poland's ruling Law and Justice party may have finally bitten off more than it can chew. Sadly, whatever happens next, all Poles are likely to bear the costs of the government's brinkmanship.



**Project Syndicate**  
**The EU Must Step Up in Glasgow**

18 October 2021

As world leaders prepare to gather for COP26 next month, expectations for progress are low, even as the need to address climate change becomes more urgent. The European Union was critical in building the coalition needed to conclude the Paris climate agreement in 2015, and success in Glasgow may again depend on EU leadership.



**Australian Strategic Policy Institute**  
**The EU's vision for a rapidly changing Arctic**

14 October 2021

The Arctic is changing rapidly, owing to the impact of global warming, increasing competition for resources and geopolitical rivalries. Regarding the region's future, the European Union has both interests to uphold and a meaningful contribution to make. We intend to step up our engagement there through climate action, international cooperation, sustainable economic development and putting people first.

# Managing Migration to the EU

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## COVID-19 has underscored and aggravated shortcomings that existed prior to the pandemic

The EU and its member states have shaped global migration dynamics to a considerable degree, by actively creating or eliminating reasons for people to move there. COVID-19 has challenged the EU's approach at the intra-European, extra-European, and global levels. The pandemic severely challenged the free movement of people inside the bloc, for example. A domino effect of unilateral border closures, made necessary by the urgency of the situation, complicated the coordination of measures at an EU level. The European Commission later quickly regained the initiative, particularly when it came to the sequencing of the reopening phase - and in terms of the management of travel across external EU borders, which has potential consequences for all member states in the Schengen Area. The spectre of the 2015 refugee crisis remains tangible throughout Europe, most notably in relation to Turkey. Even as the pandemic struck, the Turkish government threatened once again to renege on a 2016 deal it had agreed to with Brussels that limits the flow of irregular migrants seeking to enter the EU via that country.

EU leaders have not been able to come up with a convincing answer to Ankara's confrontational stance on what is likely to remain a sore spot in EU migration policy for the foreseeable future. The European Commission is expected to announce a new Pact on Migration and Asylum; for it to be productive, it should herald a shift in the way the EU and its member states address migration, by advancing a "whole-of-government" approach that takes adjacent issues such as conflict resolution, trade, employment, and the environment into account. Creating legal immigration pathways to foster economic growth and counter the effects of Europe's ageing population continues to be one of the least developed areas of EU cooperation. With 5% of the population born in a non-member state, and another 3% born in another member state than the one where they currently reside, the problem is not in the numbers. Yet, the EU remains subject to the intensely-politicized discourse that surrounds migration - and the world will continue to see what happens in the EU as a forerunner of global trends to come.

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Related insight areas: [Human Rights](#), [Ageing and Longevity](#), [Humanitarian Action](#), [COVID-19](#), [Migration](#), [Africa](#), [International Trade and Investment](#), [Workforce and Employment](#), [Middle East and North Africa](#), [Turkey](#)



World Economic Forum

### What is a carbon border tax and what does it mean for trade?

26 October 2021

The EU has proposed a levy on imported carbon-intensive products, which will shape the role of trade in the fight against climate change. These measures are controversial with the EU's trading partners, some of whom consider them 'green protectionism'. At best, the proposed carbon border tax should encourage a shared understanding on carbon-based trade policies, maximizing both environmental and economic benefits. 2021 has already left its mark on global discussions about trade and the climate change. In July, the EU proposed a levy on imported carbon-intensive products.



VoxEU

### Subsidies and market access: New data and findings from the Global Trade Alert

25 October 2021

Corporate subsidies are a major source of controversy in the world trading system, exacerbated by a lack of comparable and reliable information on subsidy schemes and awards. The latest Global Trade Alert report assembles an inventory of 18,137 corporate subsidies awarded by China, the EU, and the US since November 2008 to demonstrate that the cumulative effect of thousands of largely under-the-radar screen corporate subsidies has taken its toll on the competitive conditions faced by foreign manufacturers seeking to sell into the markets of China, the EU, and the US, and in third markets.



German Institute for International and Security Affairs

### On Words and Votes in Venezuela

21 October 2021

The Talks Between the Conflict Parties and the Elections in November Regional and local elections are to be held in Venezuela on 21 November. After several years of election boycotts opposition forces are taking part in the elections again. In addition, since August this year they have participated in a dialogue with envoys of President Nicolás Maduro in Mexico. While many Venezuelans are struggling to merely survive, the two conflict parties are seeking to extend their room for manoeuvre. The international community should support the dialogue and election process and dose pressure on and incentives for the Maduro regime giving priority to the needs of society.



Chatham House

### Why Europe must end limbo for Afghans seeking asylum

14 October 2021

With a focus on evacuations from Afghanistan, the situation in Europe is often forgotten as thousands of asylum seekers continue to wait for their cases to be settled. Following the Taliban's takeover of Afghanistan, European leaders shared messages to welcome those evacuated, but the reality of European responses to displacement in Afghanistan paints a more contentious picture.



London School of Economics and Political Science

### Using refugees as leverage? Greece and the instrumentalisation of the European migrant crisis

11 October 2021

How does forced migration feature in the foreign policy approaches of EU member states and how does it affect their bargaining strategies? Drawing on a new study, Gerasimos Tsourapas and Sotirios Zartaloudis assess the foreign policy response of Greece during the 2015-16 migrant crisis. They detail how the Greek government first adopted a 'blackmailing' strategy focused on threats, before shifting to a 'backscratching' strategy of co-operation once the numbers of asylum seekers within its territory were reduced.



Australian Institute of International Affairs

### A Future for Australia's Free Trade Agreement With Europe?

11 October 2021

The AUKUS announcement creates extra challenges for Australia's trade negotiations with the EU. Now scheduled for mid-October, this development is seen as a French and European reaction to the so-called "sub snub."



LSE Business Review

### Return of the guest worker: guest or servant?

11 October 2021

Demands for temporary visas are increasing in the UK, but few are discussing the details of how such short-term visas are going to work. Alan Manning writes a nuanced account of the trade-offs involved. The worse the conditions under which the migrants are hired, the worse it is for the migrants, but probably the better ... Continued.

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## 2. Spurring Economic Recovery

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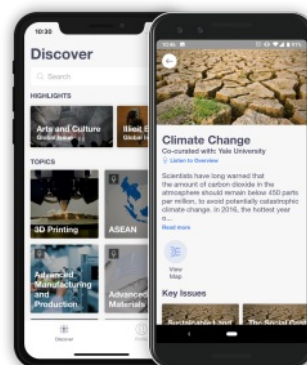
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