

THE EURO BRIEF

[תכנית אירופה במכון למחקרי ביטחון לאומי](#) גאה להשיק את המהדורה הראשונה של הידיעון המקוון The Euro Brief. הידיעון יתפרסם שלוש פעמים בחודש, ויסקור אירועים פוליטיים, ביטחוניים וכלכליים אקטואליים ומרכזיים ביבשת. הידיעון מתפרסם בשפה האנגלית, ומכיל קישורים לכתבות נבחרות בעיתונות הבינלאומית, ביחס לנושאים פנים אירופאים כגון: בחירות, תנועות פוליטיות, אירועים כלכליים, הגירה ואנטישמיות באירופה, וכן בנושאי חוץ של אירופה כגון: יחסי אירופה - ארצות הברית, יחסי אירופה-רוסיה, יחסי אירופה-סין, אירופה-מזרח תיכון ויחסי אירופה-ישראל.

[The European Program at the Institute for National Security Studies](#) is proud to launch the first edition of THE EURO BRIEF, an online newsletter. The newsletter will be published three times a month, and will cover current political, security and economic events in the continent. The newsletter is published in English, and includes links to selected articles in the global press regarding internal European issues such as elections, political movements, economic events, immigration and anti-Semitism, as well as European foreign affairs such as: Europe-US relations, Europe-Russia relations, Europe-China relations, Europe and the Middle East, and Europe-Israel relations.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

EUROPE - US

[Trump, Brexit and the rise of the far-right risk harming global innovation, companies say](#)

Rising economic nationalism, embodied by Donald Trump, Brexit and resurgent far-right movements across Europe, is causing companies to reconsider investing in research and development, according to research by PwC. US, UK, and China are seen as being most at risk from damage caused by protectionist policies. [*Independent*, October 23, 2017]

[NATO Leaders Set To Meet In July 2018](#)

U.S. President Donald Trump and his NATO counterparts will meet for a summit in Brussels in July 2018. NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said on October 20 that the summit will be held at the alliance's new headquarters near the Brussels airport on July 11-12. [*RFERL*, October 20, 2017]

[France dials back on digital tax plans after US meetings](#)

Following a trip to Washington, Bruno Le Maire and other EU officials change their tune on going after Silicon Valley tech Companies. [*Politico*, October 23, 2017]

[Poland to U.S. White Nationalist Leader Richard Spencer: Keep Out](#)

Poland's Foreign Ministry said “as a country which was one of the biggest victims of Nazism, we believe that the ideas promoted by Mr. Spencer and his followers could pose a threat.” [*Haaretz*, October 29, 2017]

EUROPE – RUSSIA

[EU governments to warn cyber attacks can be an act of war](#)

In a show of strength to countries such as Russia and North Korea, European Union governments will formally state that cyber attacks can be an act of war. [*The Telegraph*, October 29, 2017]

[Report: NATO Has Little Confidence In Its Ability To Counter Russian Attack](#)

NATO has little confidence in its ability to counter a Russian attack against East European members, according to a leaked internal document. German newspaper *Der Spiegel* published excerpts from NATO’s “Progress Report on the Strengthened Deterrence and Defense Capability of the Alliance” in its Saturday edition. The report outlines the alliance’s ability to “react rapidly and – if necessary – sustainably” in the event of a crisis. [*The National Interest*, October 22, 2017]

[Divided EU Declines To Act On Objections To Russian Gas Project](#)

At a summit in Brussels some European Union leaders raised objections to Russia's plan to build a new gas pipeline to Germany, but the bloc is divided on the matter and took no action, European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker says. [*RFERL*, October 20, 2017]

[Wary of Russia, Finns take another look at NATO](#)

Moscow’s military assertiveness makes the alliance an issue in the upcoming presidential election. For decades, Finland managed its delicate relationship with Russia by avoiding any move that could provoke the “sleeping bear” on its eastern border. Now, a retired senior diplomat is pushing his country to risk angering the beast — by joining the NATO military alliance. [*Politico*, October 30, 2017]

EUROPE – MIDDLE EAST

[EU under mounting pressure to ban arms sales to Saudi Arabia](#)

The European Union is under mounting pressure from MEPs to ban arms sales to Saudi Arabia in response to the Gulf state’s bombing campaign in Yemen. The leaders of four political groups in the European parliament have urged the EU foreign policy chief, Federica Mogherini, to propose an EU arms embargo on Saudi Arabia. [*The Guardian*, October 26, 2017]

[European think tank warns of clash between EU, US over Iran](#)

The European Union and the United States are headed for a clash over the issue of Iran, according to the European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR). The think tank warned policymakers that the Trump administration's take on the Iran nuclear deal and regional issues could divide foreign policy in the West, as the EU urges the US not to back out on the diplomatic breakthroughs made by former US President Barack Obama. [*Middle East Monitor*, October 25, 2017]

[Turkey plans charges against Turkish peace academics in Germany](#)

Turkish prosecutors have prepared charges against academics living in Germany. The Turkish academics signed a petition against military operations against Kurdish militants. [*DW*, October 30, 2017]

[Kurdish demonstration in Brussels](#)

Hundreds of Belgians with Kurdish origin and supporters for an independent Kurdistan gather in front of the EU institutions on Schuman roundabout to demonstrate for Kurdish independence. [*Brussels Times*, October 25, 2017]

[EU offers \\$200m grant to Sudan](#)

The European Union has offered a \$200m grant to Sudan to help citizens affected by natural disasters. The grant was announced during the visit of the EU Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management, Christos Stylianides, to the Deputy Sudanese President Bakri Hassan Saleh. [*Middle East Monitor*, October 23th 2017]

EUROPE – ISRAEL

[Germany approves deal on three submarines for Israel](#)

The German government has announced that it will sign off on a deal to sell three new ThyssenKrupp submarines to Israel. Officials had delayed the deal as concerns arose about a corruption investigation in Israel. [*DW*, October 23th 2017]

[U.K.'s Boris Johnson Defends Balfour Declaration: 'Proud of Britain's Part in Creating Israel'](#)

Despite praise for the “incontestable moral goal” behind the document that lent British support to the foundation of Israel, he said its spirit “has not been fully realized.” [*Haaretz*, October 30, 2017]

[Top Labour MP: UK should mark Balfour by recognizing Palestinian state](#)

A top Member of Parliament for the UK's Labour Party has said “the most important way” for the United Kingdom to mark the 100th anniversary of the Balfour Declaration is to “recognize Palestine.” [*The Times of Israel*, October 30, 2017]

[British public's feeling about Israel revealed by new survey](#)

As the community prepares to celebrate the centenary of the Balfour Declaration, polling has revealed Britons now feel more favorably towards Israel than at any point since 2010. The poll, conducted for Bicom, found that 38 per cent of people thought the British government made the right decision on the Balfour Declaration. [*The Jewish Chronicle*, October 26, 2017]

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

EU POLITICS

[The EU is preparing for a no-deal Brexit, a top Brussels official admits](#)

An advisor to EU Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier has admitted that Brussels is actively preparing for Britain to crash out with no deal. Prime Minister Theresa May and Brexit Secretary David Davis have in recent weeks publicly acknowledged that Britain could leave the EU with no deal in place at the end of Article 50 talks in March 2019. [*Business Insider UK*, October 27, 2017]

[EU leaders disagree on Brexit progress at summit](#)

Theresa May has not left Brussels empty-handed, but at the end of a two-day EU summit, the bloc still lacks "all the details we need." EU leaders remained at odds on some internal reforms, as well. [*DW*, October 20, 2017]

[EU threatens visa restrictions for countries that don't accept rejected asylum-seekers](#)

The European Union is upping the pressure on countries that don't take back rejected asylum-seekers by making it harder to obtain visas. [*DW*, October 29, 2017]

[United States of Europe: Juncker's plot for Chancellor for ALL](#)

Britain's exit from the European Union has accelerated plans within Brussels to form a giant superstate with its own army, currency and shared rules, as well as a EU Chancellor of the Exchequer, it has been revealed. [*Express*, October 29, 2017]

DOMESTIC POLITICS

[State prosecutor announces legal action against Catalan politicians](#)

The now-deposed regional government, which declared independence for the region on Friday, will be investigated for rebellion, sedition, misappropriation of funds and other related crimes by the Supreme Court and the High Court. [*El Pais*, October 30, 2017]

[World reacts as Catalonia calls for independence](#)

Leaders from Europe and elsewhere have largely rallied behind Spain's central government after the Catalan parliament voted in favour of splitting from Madrid and establishing an independent republic. [*Al Jazeera*, October 28, 2017]

[Beyond Catalonia: pro-independence movements in Europe](#)

Nationhood and autonomy are issues that transcend north-east Spain, with others wanting to redraw the map of Europe. [*The Guardian*, October 27, 2017]

[Austrian Far Right Says 'Very Good Start' in Kurz Coalition Talks](#)

Austria's far-right Freedom Party said coalition talks with conservative leader Sebastian Kurz made a "very, very good start" on Wednesday, mapping out a process that could end its decade in opposition. [*New York Times*, October 25, 2017]

[Climate, Migration Disputes Cloud German Coalition Talks](#)

Disputes about climate and immigration policy dominated German media ahead of resumed talks among Chancellor Angela Merkel's conservatives, the pro-business Free Democrats (FDP) and the environmental Greens about forming a coalition government. [*New York Times*, October 28, 2017]

[Czech election winner Babis meets anti-EU party in hunt for viable government](#)

Czech billionaire Andrej Babis's party ANO won three times the votes of its nearest rival in last weekend's election that saw a popular swing from mainstream traditional parties towards outsiders, echoing a recent shift in Europe in favor of anti-establishment groups. [*Reuters*, October 26, 2017]

JEWISH COMMUNITIES

[Breaking neutrality, Spanish Jews come out against Catalan independence](#)

Despite umbrella body statement, Jews living in the secessionist region appear divided over the crisis that is roiling the country. [*The Times of Israel*, October 27, 2017].

[Jewish leader urges Italian sports authorities to fight anti-Semitism](#)

Italian sports authorities must do more to root out anti-Semitism in stadiums and apply sanctions against offending fans, the head of the country's Jewish communities said on Thursday. According to Italian media reports, police have identified 20 people who are suspected of having placed the Anne Frank stickers and anti-Semitic slogans at the stadium. [*Reuters*, October 26, 2017]