



Dear CLEER Community members,

Please find below the latest issue in the Centre's News service, collecting legal and policy developments from EU external policies in weeks 12 and 13/2014 (17- 30 March 2014).

Kind regards,

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EU Enlargement

20 March

EU-former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: work programme for 2014



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21 March

Statement of Commissioner Štefan Füle on the blocking of Twitter in Turkey: doubt over commitment to European values

European Neighbourhood Policy

27 March

EU's annual report on the implementation of its Neighbourhood Policy (ENP): taking stock of the challenges

Joint Communication to the EP, the Council, EESC and Committee of the Regions:
'Neighbourhood at the Crossroads: Implementation of the European Neighbourhood Policy in 2013'

Eastern Partnership

17 March

'The ideas of March in the Eastern neighbourhood: An overview'
(In-depth analysis by EP Directorate-General for External Policies)522333_EN.pdf



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27 March

ENP Country Progress Report 2013: Armenia

ENP Country Progress Report 2013: Azerbaijan

ENP Package: Belarus

ENP Country Progress Report 2013: Georgia

ENP Country Progress Report 2013: Republic of Moldova

ENP Country Progress Report 2013: Ukraine



© Mission of Ukraine to the EU

Situation in Ukraine

17 March

Commission Agenda: Priorities for the week of 17 March 2014: Crimea, Macro Financial Assistance for Ukraine and the EU Summit (EU policy video by viEUWs)

18 March

Updated EEAS Factsheet on EU-Ukraine Relations

19 March

EU/Ukraine: Commission proposes a further €1 billion in macro-financial assistance

Speaking points by European Commission Vice-President Olli Rehn on Macro-Financial Assistance to Ukraine

20 March

European Council conclusions on Ukraine

European Parliament's International Trade Committee backs plan to remove EU tariffs on imports from Ukraine

21 March

European Council focuses on Ukraine crisis and further sanctions

Ukraine – Russia: EU should examine every possibility to put an end to present crisis, says Dominique Ristori (EU policy video by viEUWs)

24 March

Commissioner for Enlargement and ENP Füle visits Ukraine following up on the Association Agreement signature

Statement by Commissioner Füle on Ukraine: Decentralisation and support for regions important part of EU help

The Hague Declaration of G7 leaders on Russia and the situation in Ukraine

26 March

Statement by Commissioner Füle on practical support for urgently needed reforms in Ukraine

Trade and Investment

20 March

EU reports on progress in fight against protectionism: trade-distortive barriers hindering companies' access to markets



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25 March

Brussels Briefing on Trade : All you need to know for March 24 –April 7 (EU policy video by viEUWs)

26 March

China's export restrictions on rare earths and other raw materials incompatible with WTO rules: dispute settlement panel proceedings launched by EU concluded

27 March

European Commission launches public online consultation on investor protection in TTIP

Questions and Answers: Public online consultation on investor protection in TTIP

Trade facilitation: "win-win deal for all WTO members", says Executive Director of International Trade Centre (EU policy video by viEUWs)

28 March

Speech by Commissioner for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Damanaki on cooperation for economic growth over the Atlantic

CFSP & CSDP

17 March

EEAS Factsheet on the Central African Republic: Summary of EU's response to the crisis



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19 March

MEPs and MPs from the ACP-EU Assembly call on UN to beef up peace-keeping efforts in the Central African Republic

21 March

Summary record of the meeting of the European Parliament Subcommittee on Security and Defence (SEDE), Brussels, 19 March 2014

23 March

Nuclear Security Summit (EP Research Service briefing)

24 March

Factsheet on the Nuclear Security Summit of 24-25 March: Background & the EU's role

25 March

EU's role in nuclear security: speech by President Barroso at the 3rd Nuclear Security Summit

27 March

EU announces some €2 million in support of the fight to eliminate the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) in the Central African region

Statement by EU High Representative Ashton on the grave situation in the Central African Republic

Speech by EU High Representative Ashton at the Annual Conference of the European Defence Agency

Development and Cooperation

17 March

Central African Republic: European Union airlifts emergency aid relief



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18 March

European voluntary humanitarian aid corps established

19 March

EU launches an Election Observation Mission (EOM) in Guinea Bissau

20 March

Commissioner for Development Piebalgs announces over €6.5 billion in new support for countries and organisations in Asia for the period 2014-2020

EU-Latin America relations (EP Research Service briefing)

24 March

EU cooperation with Latin America: overview of regional and bilateral cooperation and the Development Cooperation Instrument

Development Commissioner Piebalgs announces new EU support of €2.5 billion for Latin America for the years 2014 to 2020

25 March

Joint declaration by President Van Rompuy, President Barroso and Prime Minister Key on deepening the partnership between New Zealand and the EU

27 March

Joint press release: 2nd EU-Pakistan Strategic Dialogue, Brussels, 25 March 2014

28 March

Ebola in West Africa: European Union joins effort to stop spread of disease and releases €500 000 in immediate funding

Human Rights

20 March



24 March

Speech by Commissioner Füle: 'Human rights and fundamental freedoms – the silver thread running through EU actions'

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25 March

Statement by EU High Representative Ashton on the death sentences against 529 members of the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt

External Dimension of AFSJ

24 March

Commissioner Malmström on the Common European Asylum System: challenges and perspectives



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Eurostat Commission report: Asylum in the EU28 large increase to almost 435 000 asylum applicants in 2013 - Largest group from Syria

28 March

European Commission on EU migration policy and the EU's Return Policy: how to ensure fair, humane and effective return procedures

FAQs on the EU's Return Policy

Communication from the Commission to the Council and EP on the EU Return Policy



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EU-Africa Relations

28 March

European Commission Factsheet on EU-Africa relations

Press release: 4th EU-Africa Summit

Eurostat Commission report: EU-Africa Summit, deficit of 15 bn euro in EU28 trade in goods with Africa in 2013 - Africa accounts for 9% of EU28 trade

Three-year Action Programme for the African Peace Facility, 2014-2016

EU-China Relations

21 March

Agreement reached between European and Chinese wine industries putting an end to China's anti-dumping and anti-subsidy cases



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24 March

EU and China hold investment talks ahead of President Xi Jinping visit to Brussels

27 March

EU not to pursue the anti-dumping investigation against mobile telecommunications networks from China



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EU-Canada Relations

24 March

EU-Canada Strategic Partnership Agreement: Background

Joint statement on EU-Canada Strategic Partnership Agreement by President Van Rompuy and President Barroso

EU-US Relations

21 March

'No TTIP-ing point for European defence?' (EU-ISS Alert by D. Fiott)



24 March

Eurostat Commission report: EU - US Summit trade surplus in goods and services in 2012



EEAS Factsheet on the EU-US Summit (Brussels, 26 March 2014) and EU-US relations

26 March

EU-US Summit 2014: Press conference, key topics discussed and video highlights by the European Council

Remarks by President of the European Council Van Rompuy following the EU-US Summit

Q&A with Christian Ehler, chair of the delegation for relations with the US on EU-US cooperation

Joint statement of EU and US leaders at the EU-US Summit

EU-US summit affirms closer transatlantic ties (EEAS press release)

EEAS Factsheet on EU-US cooperation on cyber security and cyberspace

Safe Harbor: Reding warns US that progress is needed before summer (EU policy video by [viEUws](#))

EU Institutions

18 March

Pre-EU Summit Insights: What's on the table? – Ukraine to steal the spotlight (EU policy video by [viEUws](#))

21 March

European Council conclusions of 20/21 March 2014 (discussing Ukraine, EU-Africa relations and Sri Lanka)

25 March

Summary record of the meeting of the European Parliament Committee on Foreign Affairs, 17-18 March 2014

EU Post-Summit Takeaways – A Summit to be remembered? Ukraine dominates agenda (EU policy video by [viEUws](#))

Events

4 April (Registration: 1 April)

Eastern Partnership: challenges after the "Maidan" Revolution (International Seminar organised by National University of "Kyiv-Mohyla Academy" in Kyiv, UA)

Registration: 10 April

Academy of European Law Summer School on Human Rights Law and the Law of the European Union (Summer School organised by EUI in Florence, IT)

10 April

'Keeping the judges out! Three strategies for defending 'sporting autonomy' (Keynote Address by Professor Stephen Weatherill, University of Oxford organised by the T.M.C. Asser Institute in The Hague, NL)

11-12 April

Approaching EU-Russia Relations Differently (Workshop organised by the LLP Programme of the European Union in Mainz, DE)

28 April-2 May

International Disaster Law Course (Training organised by International Disaster Law Project and the International Institute of Humanitarian Law, in cooperation with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Sanremo, IT)

8 May

The European Union at the UN Human Rights Council: Multilateral Human Rights Protection Coming of Age? (Seminar organised by Leuven University's Centre for Global Governance Studies in Leuven, BE)

22-24 May

The European Union in International Affairs IV (Conference organised by Vrije Universiteit Brussel in Brussels, BE)

5-7 June

ECPR 7th Pan-European Conference on the European Union (Conference organised by ECPR Standing Group on the European Union in The Hague, NL)

Edited by Alice Venn & Dr. Aaron Matta



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Founded in 2008, the [Centre for the Law of EU External Relations \(CLEER\)](#) is the first authoritative research interface between academia and practice in the field of the Union's external relations. CLEER serves as a leading forum for debate on the role of the EU in the world, and engages its extended network of partner institutes throughout Europe in its various activities (research projects conferences, publications etc...).



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