# Centre for the Law of EU External Relations (CLEER)

# News Service weeks 11-13/2012

# (12 March – 1 April 2012)

* ***EU ENLARGEMENT***

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| **14 March** | European Parliament resolutions: support for Iceland to join the EU, call for date to start accession talks with Macedonia and concern at limited progress of Bosnia and Herzegovina [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/pressroom/content/20120314IPR40746/html/Iceland-former-Yugoslav-Republic-of-Macedonia-and-Bosnia-and-Herzegovina) |
| **15 March** | Start of the High Level Accession Dialogue with the government of Macedonia [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/12/187&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en) |
| **22 March** | Commissioner Füle and Prime Minister Lukšić of Montenegro on keeping up the speed of accession process [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/12/210&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en) |
| **28 March** | Commissioner Füle in European Parliament debate on Serbia’s European integration process [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/12/240&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en) |
| **28 March** | Commissioner Füle in European Parliament debate on the resolution on Montenegro’s progress report [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/12/245&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en) |
| **28 March** | Commissioner Füle in European Parliament on renewed efforts to bring the process forward for Turkey [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/12/242&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en) |
| **30 March** | Second meeting of the accession conference with Iceland at deputy level [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/EN/genaff/129376.pdf) |
| **30 March** | European Parliament to welcome Croatian “observer” members [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/pressroom/content/20120330IPR42291/html/Parliament-to-welcome-Croatian-observer-members) |

* ***EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICY***

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| **19 March** | Commissioner Füle on more intense cooperation with Algeria [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/12/255&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en) |

* ***EU – WIDER EUROPE***

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| **23 March** | Council Decision 2012/170/CFSP amending Decision 2010/573/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against the leadership of the Transnistrian region of Moldova [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2012:087:0092:0094:EN:PDF) |
| **23 March** | Council conclusions on Belarus [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/129229.pdf) Factsheet on the EU and Belarus [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/129232.pdf) Council implementing Regulation 265/2012/EU implementing Article 8a(1) of Regulation 765/2006/EC concerning restrictive measures in respect of Belarus [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2012:087:0037:0044:EN:PDF) |
| **28 March** | Commissioner Füle officially launches Kosovo feasibility study on Stability and Association Agreement [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/12/229&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en) |
| **29 March** | Commissioner Füle launches European dialogue on modernisation in Belarus [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/12/226&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en) |
| **30 March** | EU and Ukraine initial text to Association Agreement, including deep and comprehensive free trade area [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/12/238&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en) |

* ***TRADE***

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| **16 March** | Euro area statistics on external trade deficit 7.6 billion euro [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_PUBLIC/6-16032012-AP/EN/6-16032012-AP-EN.PDF) |
| **22 March** | Commissioner De Gucht on EU-US cooperation for recovery at AmCham EU Transatlantic Conference [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/12/220&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en) |
| **26 March** | Council approves conclusion of Euro-Mediterranean convention on preferential rules of origin [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/129255.pdf) |
| **28 March** | International Trade Committee of the European Parliament rejects ACTA referral to the ECJ [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/pressroom/content/20120327IPR41978/html/ACTA-reasons-for-committee-vote-against-referral-to-Court-of-Justice) |
| **29 March** | EU-ASEAN meeting set to strengthen trade and investment relations with South-East Asia [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/12/331&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en) |
| **30 March** | Agreement between EU and Georgia on the protection of geographical indications of agricultural products and foodstuffs [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2012:093:0003:0140:EN:PDF) |
| **31 March** | EU and Vietnam move closer to starting trade negotiations [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/12/339&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en) |

* ***EU - WTO***

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| **12 March** | WTO finds that Boeing received billions in illegal subsidies from the US [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/12/180&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en) |
| **13 March** | EU challenges China’s rare earth export restrictions after WTO ruled in favour of EU against China’s export restraints on raw materials [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/12/239) |

* ***CFSP***

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| **13 March** | Council Decision 20012/149/CFSP amending Decision 2010/638/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against the Republic of Guinea [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2012:074:0008:0008:EN:PDF) |
| **15 March** | Council Decision 2012/152/CFSP amending Decision 2010/413/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Iran [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2012:077:0018:0018:EN:PDF) |
| **19 March** | Council Decision 2012/158/CFSP amending Decision 2011/173/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2012:080:0017:0017:EN:PDF) |
| **23 March** | Council tightens sanctions against Iran [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/129215.pdf) Council Decision 2012/169/CFSP amending Decision 2010/413/CFSP concerning restrictive measures directed against Iran [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2012:087:0090:0091:EN:PDF) |
| **28 March** | The EU deploys an expert team for the by-elections in Myanmar [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/129297.pdf) |
| **ECJ Judgment** | ECJ judgment on restrictive measures against Myanmar (sanctions cannot be applied to natural persons solely on grounds of family connections) [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://curia.europa.eu/jcms/upload/docs/application/pdf/2012-03/cp120024en.pdf) Full version of the judgment [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://curia.europa.eu/juris/document/document.jsf?text=&docid=120361&pageIndex=0&doclang=EN&mode=lst&dir=&occ=first&part=1&cid=297955) |

* ***CSDP***

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| **22 March** | Council Conclusions on pooling and sharing of military capabilities [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/129161.pdf) |
| **23 March** | Council Decision 2012/174/CFSP amending Joint-Action 2008/851/CFSP on a European Union military operation to contribute to the deterrence, prevention and repression of acts of piracy and armed robbery off the Somali coast [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2012:089:0069:0071:EN:PDF) |
| **23 March** | Council Decision 2012/173/CFSP on the activation of the EU Operations Center for the Common Security and Defence Policy missions and operation in the Horn of Africa [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2012:089:0066:0068:EN:PDF) |
| **23 March** | Council extends EU counter-piracy operation Atalanta **[ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/129216.pdf)** |
| **EU Security and Defence news** | Newsletter Issue 59 [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/esdp/129385.pdf) |

* ***AVATION POLICY***

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| **22 March** | EU-Israel aviation agreement; Israel joins Europe in aviation [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/12/307&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en) |

* ***DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION***

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| **22-23 March** | Council conclusions on Sahel [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/129222.pdf) |
| **23 March** | EU suspends development aid to Mali [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/12/214&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en) |
| **23 March** | Commission’s response to the food crisis and long-term food insecurity in the Sahel region [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/12/215&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en) |
| **26 March** | Letter from South Sudan on accession to the revised Cotonou Partnership Agreement [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/12/st08/st08160.en12.pdf) |
| **28 March** | EU development cooperation with Vietnam [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/12/222&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en) |
| **European Court of Auditors**  **Report** | Special report on effectiveness of European Union development aid for food security in sub-Saharan Africa [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=ECA/12/10&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en) Full report [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://eca.europa.eu/portal/pls/portal/docs/1/13260735.PDF) |
| **Press Pack** | EU actions in Somalia [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://europa.eu/newsroom/highlights/somalia/index_en.htm) |

* ***EXTERNAL DIMENSION OF AFSJ***

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| **13 March** | Ombudsman investigates Frontex’s fundamental rights implementation [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=EO/12/4&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en) |
| **23 March** | The number of asylum applicants registered in the EU27 rose to 301,000 in 2011 [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=STAT/12/46&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en) |
| **29 March** | Decision 281/2012/EU amending Decision 573/2007/EC establishing the European Refugee Fund for the period 2008-2013 as part of the general programme “Solidarity and Management of Migration flows” [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2012:092:0001:0003:EN:PDF) |
| **30 March** | Commission moves to boost social security rights for people migrating to and from the EU [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/12/333&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en) |

* ***EU – MIDDLE EAST***

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| **12 March** | Middle East Quartet statement [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/128895.pdf) |
| **23 March** | Council conclusions on Syria [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/129234.pdf) |
| **23 March** | Council tightens EU sanctions against Syrian regime [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/129235.pdf) |

* ***EU – KOREA***

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| **27 March** | Korea-EU Summit statistics on EU27 deficit of 4 billion euro in 2011 [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=STAT/12/49&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en) |
| **28 March** | Korea-EU Summit joint press statement [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/12/224&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en) |

* ***EVENTS***

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| **19 April** | ‘The experiences of the Polish presidency of the Council of the EU in the field of EU external relations’, Presentation organised by T.M.C. Asser Instituut, CLEER, and the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in The Hague, NL [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://www.asser.nl/events.aspx?id=298) |
| **10-11 May** | ‘One year after the Arab Spring: the EU’s relations with the Southern-Mediterranean’, Conference organised by CLEER, Universidad Pablo de Olavide and the T.M.C. Asser Instituut, Seville, Spain [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://www.asser.nl/events.aspx?id=291) |
| **25 May** | ‘Human rights and EU crisis management operations: a duty to respect and to protect?’ workshop organised by T.M.C. Asser Instituut, CLEER and NLDA, The Hague, NL [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://www.asser.nl/events.aspx?id=295) |
| **19 June** | ‘Legal approximation and application of EU law in the Eastern neighbourhood of Europe’, Conference organised by Gent University and CLEER, Ghent, BE [ArticlesIcon1.jpg](http://www.asser.nl/events.aspx?id=299) |

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