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CLEER
Centre for the Law of EU External Relations

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 week 14/2014 (31 March - 6 April 2014).

Kind regards,

Dr. Tamara Takács & Dr. Aaron Matta
Senior Researcher in EU Law
Academic Programme Coordinator of CLEER (Centre for the Law of EU External Relations)

t.takacs@asser.nl
a.matta@asser.nl
T +31 (0) 70 3420327
F + 31 (0) 70 3420359
www.asser.nl
www.cleer.eu

T.M.C. Asser Instituut
P.O. Box 30461
2500 GL The Hague, The Netherlands

EU Enlargement

31 March

Second meeting of the Accession Conference with Montenegro at Deputy level



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1 April

Commissioner for Enlargement and ENP Füle discusses the final stage of Stabilisation and Association Agreement negotiations & Kosovo's progress in the reform process

European Neighbourhood Policy

31 March

Statement of Commissioner Füle on the 2013 ENP Package: progress made, current & future challenges

Eastern Partnership

1 April

Statement of Commissioner Füle on preparing Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova for association with EU



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3 April

Commissioner Malmström on visa-free travel for Moldova: background & benefits



©Mission of Ukraine to the EU

Situation in Ukraine

2 April

Statement of Commissioner Füle on strengthening and empowering Ukraine through decentralisation

European Parliament MEPs call for EU sanctions against 32 Russian Officials on "Magnitsky list"

3 April

Committee of the Regions offers support to advance towards local democracy in Ukraine

European Parliament MEPs cut customs duties on imports from Ukraine

4 April

Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the reduction or elimination of customs duties on goods originating in Ukraine

'After Crimea: Putin's balance sheet' (EU-ISSAlert by N. Popescu)

Trade and Investment

31 March

Discussion with Sonjoy Mohanty, Secretary General for the International Spirits & Wines Association of India on the EU-India Free Trade Agreement (FTA) (EU policy video by viEUws)



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1 April

EU Trade Commissioner De Gucht discusses trade policy under this Commission's term

4 April

Commission welcomes the revised World Trade Organisation's Agreement on Government Procurement

CFSP & CSDP

31 March

EU security strategy in the Sahel (Brief by EP Research Service)



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1 April

EU military operation in the Central African Republic launched

Council Decision 2014/183/CFSP of 1 April 2014 on the launch of a European Union military operation in the Central African Republic (EUFOR RCA)

3 April

Iran: European Parliament MEPs call for an EU strategy beyond the nuclear file: human rights, civil society, Syria and Afghanistan

European Parliament MEPs call for a more coherent approach to EU foreign policy which uses all of its tools

Remarks by EU High Representative Ashton at the European Parliament in the debate on foreign and defence policy

EU High Representative Ashton hosts Maritime Security event with a number of African countries

European Defence Agency Annual Conference 2014: highlights (video by EDA)

4 April

Remarks by EU High Representative Ashton upon arrival at the Informal Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs (Gymnich)

President Van Rompuy delivers Kazeme Dossin Europa Lecture 2014 on the occasion of the commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the Rwandan Genocide

5 April

Informal Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs (Gymnich) concludes in Athens (press conference & videos)

6 April

Declaration by High Representative Ashton on behalf of the EU on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the start of the genocide in Rwanda

Development and Cooperation

2 April

EU-Egypt: reviewing on-going cooperation and priorities for the future

Remarks by President Barroso following his meeting with UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon



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3 April

President Barroso and President Aziz of Mauritania host a lunch for Heads of State of the 'Sahel G5' to discuss security & development issues

Statement by Commissioner Georgieva on learning that the number of registered Syrian refugees in Lebanon has now reached 1 million

Joint Statement of EU High Representative Ashton and Vice President Schulz of the Commission on the European Consensus on Development

Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps ("EU Aid Volunteers Initiative")

4 April

The EU launches a new project to fight falsified medicines in developing countries

Sharing European cities' experience with the world: Commissioner Hahn attends World Urban Forum in Medellín



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Human Rights

31 March

EESC President Malosse calls for a dialogue between China and Tibet and respect for human rights

1 April

New cooperation agreement between the Commission and Council of Europe on human rights, democracy and rule of law

External Dimension of AFSJ

1 April

Commission proposes more flexible visa rules for non-EU nationals to boost growth & job creation



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Statement by Commissioner Malmström on the new EU visa rules: fostering economic growth and jobs through enhanced mobility

FAQ on the new visa proposals: existing rules, problems to address and benefits of the proposals

3 April

A clear legal regime for family members of non EU citizens: Commission presents guidance for the correct and meaningful application of the Family Reunification Directive (2003/86/EC)

Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on guidance for application of Directive 2003/86/EC on the right to family reunification



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EU-Africa Relations

31 March

EU-Africa Business Forum: Working together towards sustainable growth and employment

EU-Africa Business Forum: The EU's Work on the Private Sector in Africa

The EU and Africa: A Strategic Partnership (EEAS press

release)

1 April

Closing remarks by President Van Rompuy at the 5th EU-Africa Business Forum

New European Commission initiative to provide access to energy to two million people in Africa

2 April

EU-Africa Ministerial Statement on Climate Change

4th EU-Africa Summit: "towards a partnership of equals", discussion with Pia Ahrenkilde Hansen spokeswoman of the European Commission (EU policy video by vEUws)

3 April

Remarks by President Barroso at the EU-Africa Summit

Fourth EU-Africa Summit 2-3 April 2014, Brussels: Declaration

Fourth EU-Africa Summit 2-3 April 2014, Brussels: EU-Africa Declaration on Migration and Mobility

Fourth EU-Africa Summit 2-3 April 2014, Brussels: Roadmap 2014-2017

Speech by the President Van Rompuy, following the 4th EU-Africa Summit

4 April

EU Africa Summit: People, Prosperity and Peace (EEAS press release)

EU-China Relations

31 March

Joint Statement: 'Deepening the EU-China Comprehensive Strategic Partnership for mutual benefit'

EU announces support for China joining talks on Trade in Services Agreement (TISA)



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1 April

EU and Chinese leaders pledge to deepen partnership (EEAS press release)

4 April

'Xi Jinping and the EU' (EU-ISS Alert by N. Casarini)



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EU-US Relations

2 April

EU-US Energy Council: Joint Press Statement

Remarks by EU High Representative Ashton before the EU-US Energy Council

3 April

The EU and the US decide on greater Energy Cooperation (EEAS press release)

EU Institutions

31 March

Commission Agenda: Priorities for the week of 31 March 2014 - Chinese President Xi Jinping's first official trip to Brussels, Visa Package and 4th EU-Africa Summit (EU policy video by vEUws)

Events

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)

Deadline: 30 April

Strategic Challenges for European Foreign and Security Policy (Call for Ph.D applications by the Institute for European Studies (IES) at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel in Brussels, BE)

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)

Deadline: 8 May

Vacancy: Senior Lecturer in European Studies (Political Science) (at the Institute for European Studies (IES) at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) in Brussels, BE)

22-24 May

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

Deadline 23 May

2nd CLEER Summer School on EU External Relations Law (Intensive one-week summer school from 23-27 June, hosted by UM Campus Brussels of Maastricht University, 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. Tamara Takács & Dr. Aaron Matta



The Centre for the Law of EU External Relations (CLEER) is hosted by the T.M.C. Asser Instituut in The Hague, The Netherlands.

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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