Dear CLEER Community members,

Please find below the collection of latest legal and policy developments in EU external relations from week 30-34/2015 (July 20 - August 22, 2015).

Kind regards,

Dr. Luca Pantaleo  
Senior Researcher in EU Law  
Academic Programme Coordinator of CLEER (Centre for the Law of EU External Relations)

l.pantaleo@asser.nl  
T +31 (0)70 3420 337  
F +31 (0)70 3420 359

www.asser.nl  
www.cleer.eu

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

22 July
‘EU member states and enlargement towards the Balkans’
EPC Issue Paper No.79 edited by R. Balfour and C. Stratulat

23 July
European Economic and Social Committee issues an Opinion on the situation and operating conditions of civil society organisations in Turkey

05 August
'Is the EU losing the Western Balkans? What local experts think' (ECFR Commentary by F. de Borja Lasheras and V. Tcherneva)

EU Neighborhood Policy

23 July
‘From survival to revival: The Riga Summit 2015 and the revised ENP’ (Security Policy Brief No.65 by T. Schumacher and S. Carp)

28 July
European Union and the Republic of Belarus hold a dialogue on human rights in Brussels

31 July
EU approves new funding package to strengthen security sector and support socio-economic and regional development in Tunisia

14 August
‘Europe without Borders 2025: Overcoming the EU neighbourhood policy deadlock’ (ECFR Commentary by A. Novak)

EU - Ukraine

22 July
EU Commission disburses €600 million assistance to Ukraine

23 July
The European Investment Bank is lending EUR 400 million to finance public infrastructure projects in Ukraine

25 July
European Union and Ukraine held their annual Human Rights Dialogue meeting in Kyiv

30 July
‘Is Europe losing Ukraine?’ (ECFR Note from Berlin by G. Gressel)
EU Trade and Investment

22 July
EIB approves EUR 10 billion of new EIB loans and launches European Fund for Strategic Investments

24 July
The majority of WTO members agree to eliminate custom duties on 201 high-tech products

30 July
‘Quantifying Non-Tariff Measures for TTIP’ (Paper No. 12 in the CEPS-CTR project ‘TTIP in the Balance’ and CEPS Special Report No. 116 by K. Berden and J. Francois)

04 August
EU and Vietnam reach agreement on free trade deal

‘TTIP’s hard core technical barriers to trade and standards’ (Paper No. 13 in the CEPS-CTR project ‘TTIP in the Balance’ and CEPS Special Report No. 117 by M. Egan and J. Pelkmans)

20 August
‘Putting the cart before the horse: a doomed constitutional strategy for negotiating the T-TIP’ (EU Law Analysis blog entry by E. Matei)

CFSP & CSDP

20 July
Council endorses the agreement on Iran’s nuclear programme and the accompanying Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action

EU reaffirms its commitment to a just and comprehensive resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict

23 July
‘Sanctions: moving targets and goalposts’ (EUISS Alert No.36 by F. Giumelli)

24 July
EUCAP Nestor and Somali Prosecutors Train Coast Guards

‘Putting numbers on capabilities: defence inflation vs. cost escalation’ (EUISS Brief No.27 by K. Wolf)

29 July
‘Fighting back in the ‘information war’ (ECFR Commentary by D. Hegedűs)

11 August
‘Action points for Europe after the Libya deal’ (ECFR Commentary by T. Megerisi and M. Toaldo)
**External Dimension of AFSJ**

20 July
JHA Council agrees to relocate from Italy and Greece 40 000 persons in need of international protection

24 July
'Asylum flows to the EU: blip or norm?' (EUISS Alert No.38 by R. Parkes)

27 July
MEPs call for more EU solidarity on visit to reception centres in Sicily

10 August
European Commission approves €2.4 billion worth of programmes under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund and the Internal Security Fund

19 August
EASO cooperates with the Jordanian Ministry of Interior

**EU Energy and Climate Change**

21 July
'European Energy Security Should Remain a U.S. Priority' (GMF Blog entry by D. Hengel)

23 July
'Looking outwards: Expanding Europe's energy policy' (ECFR Commentary by J. Popov)

20 August
EU Commission prepares for the Paris Climate Conference
EU assistance to third countries

30 July
EU increases humanitarian aid for Burundi refugees

03 August
European Commission gives €6 million for humanitarian needs in Libya

05 August
EU gives €12 million in new humanitarian aid for the crisis in Yemen and its impact in the Horn of Africa

06 August
EU supports people affected by floods in Myanmar and Bangladesh

07 August
EU approves the disbursement of €80 million in Macro-Financial Assistance to Jordan

13 August
EU provides civil protection experts to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia following recent floods

EU Human Rights

20 July
Council adopts new EU action plan on human rights and democracy: “Keeping human rights at the heart of the EU agenda”
Events

Deadline for submission: 05 September

Call for papers: Settlement of Tax Disputes under International Law (Junior Scholars) (Event organized by the Research Unit in Law of the University of Luxembourg, 12-13 November 2015, Luxembourg)

08 September

‘Reforming the EU ETS: Striking the right balance between the EU objectives of decarbonisation and competitiveness’ (Symposium organized by the Egmont Institute, Brussels, Belgium)

09 September

‘Rule-makers or rule-takers? Exploring the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership’ - Launch of a new CEPS - Centre for Transatlantic Relations report (Event organized by the Centre for European Policy Studies, Brussels, Belgium)

14-15 September

‘European Perspectives on China’s New Silk Road’ (Workshop organized by the EU-China Research Centre and the InBev-Baillet Latour Chair of EU-China Relations at the College of Europe, Brussels, Belgium)

17-18 September

‘Theorizing the European Neighbourhood Policy’ (Conference organized by the College of Europe, Bruges, Belgium)

18 September

‘Tiptoeing to the TTIP: What Kind of Agreement for What Kind of Partnership?’ (Roundtable organized by the T.M.C. Asser Instituut, Amsterdam Centre for International Law, University of Amsterdam and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, The Hague, Netherlands)

29 September

‘The experience of the Latvian Presidency of the EU Council in the field of external relations’ (CLEER Presidency Lecture organized by the Centre for the Law of EU External Relations, The Hague, Netherlands)

22-23 October

‘A Guide to the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP)’ (Seminar organized by the European Institute of Public Administration, Maastricht, the Netherlands)

Edited by Cristina Reul and Dr. Luca Pantaleo
The Centre for the Law of EU External Relations (CLEER) is hosted by the T.M.C. Asser Instituut in The Hague, The Netherlands.

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