Bruegel is registered as a Belgian international non-profit association (Association Internationale Sans But Lucratif) under the number 0867636096, with registered offices at rue de la Charité 33, B-1210 Brussels. The basis for its governance is found in its statute and bylaws.

Bruegel is a European think tank specialising in economics. Established in 2005, Bruegel is independent and non-doctrinal. Its mission is to improve the quality of economic policy with open and evidence-based research, analysis and debate.

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WE WILL CONTINUE TO ENGAGE IN ALL THESE DISCUSSIONS, BRINGING EVIDENCE-BASED ANALYSIS THAT INFORMS AND EXPLAINS WITH THE AIM OF PROMOTING OUTCOMES THAT ARE SUSTAINABLE AND EQUITABLE.

Jean-Claude Trichet
Chairman of the Board
A YEAR OF LOOKING BACK
IN ORDER TO MOVE FORWARD

by Jean-Claude Trichet,
Chairman of the Board

In 2017 we celebrated 60 years since the signing of the Treaty of Rome. The European project has expanded to many more countries since the original six. 60 years ago, twenty-seven members, including many central and eastern European countries, would have appeared as a marvellous dream.

Still, the European challenges on the global stage remain formidable. As the global powers are shifting, Europe continues to advocate firmly for the legitimacy of the multilateral system. This year we have published an important study on the EU-China relationship. We discussed issues ranging from access to markets and reciprocity questions to cooperation on climate change. We concluded that we all share responsibility in upholding the rules-based multilateral global relationships.

Promoting resilience in such ways was also the content of the IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde’s curtain-raiser speech that we hosted at Bruegel ahead of the IMF-World Bank spring meetings.

As we move forward, I can hardly think of an institution better placed than Bruegel to advance the debate on the challenges that we face, how to complete the euro-area architecture, how to strategically react to looming trade wars and how to preserve the multilateral system. We will continue to engage in all these discussions, bringing evidence-based analysis that informs and explains with the aim of promoting outcomes that are sustainable and equitable.

Bruegel is established as a highly professional, independent, transparent and fact-based think tank that is non-partisan in policy discussions. We are determined to preserve our impartiality as we approach this year’s policy challenges.

Let me finish with a few words of appreciation. On behalf of all the board members, I would like to recognise the extremely valuable support of our members, friends and partners who have helped Bruegel become a world-class institution. Lastly, let me thank all Bruegel scholars, the entire team and Bruegel’s director and deputy director, whose dedication have led to our institution being voted the 2nd best managed think-tank in the world, the 2nd best in international economics in the world and the 2nd think tank in the world (non-US) in the University of Pennsylvania’s Global GoTo Think Tank Index.
POLICYMAKERS SHOULD NOT THINK THAT GOOD CURRENT ECONOMIC DATA MEANS THAT NO FURTHER REFORM IS NEEDED.

Guntram B. Wolff, Director of Bruegel
The year 2017 was a good one for the European economy. The EU created around 3.7 million jobs. Growth numbers were revised upwards. Yet, these good numbers should not give rise to complacency. On the contrary, inaction itself risks leaving a number of key challenges to the side – with possibly significant negative long-term side effects. Complacency now narrows choices tomorrow.

We warned in early 2017 that the global multilateral order will be seriously challenged. As we write these lines in 2018, the trade conflict between the US, China and the EU is escalating with an unpredictable consequences. It is clear that the EU is vulnerable to both US mercantilism and an increasingly assertive China. Europe needs to not only collaborate with allies but also to adjust its domestic policies and prioritise growth and innovation while safeguarding its social models.

The euro area remains, despite its significant reforms, a construction more prone to crisis than single-country currencies. Policymakers should not think that good current economic data means that no further reform is needed. Banking union remains incomplete, capital markets fragmented and fiscal rules imperfect, to name just some of the significant construction sites. The key here is to prioritise and make concrete progress.

Europe continues to have relatively low productivity growth and substantial structural weaknesses in a number of countries. There is a need to work on how artificial intelligence, robots and digital platforms transform our economies, create opportunities, give rise to distributional challenges and challenge the nature of work so that we can employ them for the good of the many. We also need to speed up our work on making the energy transformation a success for our citizens.

Let me finally mention migration. Immigration represents opportunities but also gives rise to major uncertainties and societal challenges. Also here, Bruegel has been and will be leaving its mark.

As the European Union gradually moves into electoral mode for the 2019 European Parliament elections, please count on the entire Bruegel team to continue providing you with rigorous analysis, open debate and new ideas. Let me thank you for your support. I can assure you that we remain committed to improving economic policy with contributions based on facts and sincerity.
ANATOMY OF A THINK TANK

DEMAND-DRIVEN QUESTIONS; INDEPENDENT ANSWERS

Bruegel’s researchers and diverse stakeholders, including members, collaboratively design the research programme. The board takes the final decision on the research programme based on a proposal by the director and deputy director. Once a topic or question is chosen, the research team work independently. All publications are released under the signature of their authors. Bruegel takes no institutional standpoint. The director exercises editorial oversight and quality control.

EVIDENCE-BASED POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Bruegel scholars use data-driven analysis based on rigorous applications of theory to assess economic processes, discuss policy options and make proposals. We keep an eye on their feasibility but we do not limit our interventions by political red lines. Bruegel does not stand for any particular policy doctrine or political dogma.

CONNECTING RESEARCH, GOVERNMENT, BUSINESS AND CIVIL SOCIETY

Bruegel provides a forum for informed policy discussions between individuals from diverse backgrounds and sectors through publications, events, social media and its blog. Bruegel also cooperates with leading European and international research institutions on specific research projects or exchange programmes.

EUROPEAN IDENTITY, OUTWARD FACING

Bruegel scholars address policy areas relevant to individual countries, the European Union, global governance groups and international organisations. Interactions with decision-makers take place at every governance level and in many parts of the world.
Independence and integrity are essential for the credibility of any think tank. Transparify, an independent NGO, has repeatedly awarded Bruegel five stars out of five for transparency, recognising its openness about financing and governance. However, transparency is about more than just money.

**RESEARCH INTEGRITY**

Bruegel's statement on research integrity, adopted by the board in May 2006, is available on our website. The statement sets out rules for the avoidance of political, national or commercial conflicts of interest, which could harm the integrity of Bruegel’s research. It helps staff and scholars avoid capture by any particular interests. Bruegel researchers and senior staff promise to abide by this statement when they sign contracts with Bruegel.

**EVALUATION REPORT**

Every three years the scientific council delivers an evaluation report on the academic value of Bruegel’s publications. This report informs the research strategy and serves as a basis for the work of the review task force, an independent group appointed by members every three years to evaluate all aspects of Bruegel’s work, from research to management.

**PUBLIC DECLARATIONS**

Scholars and managers also make annual declarations of outside interests, which are available on the Bruegel website. These interests are not just financial: it is important for readers to be aware of other potential influences on a scholar’s work. These public declarations are extensive in the areas they cover and represent the highest standard in public transparency for think tanks.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Finally, Bruegel's commitment to transparency means that we publish detailed financial statements every year (see page 86). Our accounts are independently audited. We detail the origin of every cent of income, and we also report spending along nine spending lines. The financial statements clearly show what every member contributed in any given year, a level of transparency that is rare in our sector. State members of Bruegel also have the right to audit Bruegel at any time.
STRUCTURAL DETERMINANTS OF INEQUALITY
Over the past few years, we have made concerted efforts to increase our internal gender balance policies. It is a gradual change that requires time and, while much more needs to be done, we believe that small steps and changes can contribute to bringing more equal participation by women and men at all levels of an organisation.

Following recommendations from the Review Task Force (2016) and from Bruegel members and stakeholders, we took steps to improve the gender representation among Bruegel staff and governing bodies. Since 2016, female representation has increased from 25% to 40% on the Bruegel management team; from 18% to 36% on the Bruegel board; and from 12.5% to 37.5% on the Bruegel scientific council.

In 2013, the female/male ratio of speakers at all Bruegel events was 10%. In 2017 the ratio had risen to 24%. As an example, in 2012 our Annual Meetings – Bruegel’s flagship conference – featured no female speakers, while in 2017 28% of the panellists were women.

Key to this improvement was the collection of data and the implementation of a system of speaker tracking. We constantly monitor gender balance and share these with Bruegel staff, who have gradually become more involved.

This was also made possible by the awareness created by The Brussels Binder (www.brusselsbinder.org), a database of female experts aiming to improve diversity in panels, co-founded by a group of women in Brussels-based think tanks, including Bruegel.

While our operational team is balanced (50% are women), we are struggling to increase gender diversity in our research staff, with women representing only 18% of our scholars. We are keen to improve this, but are also limited by the small pool of female professors in top European Universities from which to draw.
A NETWORK OF TALENTS

The team includes senior fellows and non-resident fellows, research fellows and affiliate fellows. Research fellows have several years of professional experience while senior fellows as well as non-resident fellows are highly recognized scholars with usually significant experience in policy making. Affiliate fellows are typically younger scholars still working on their PhDs.

Bruegel strives for a geographically diverse team. Visiting fellows add to this diversity, coming from internationally recognised institutes to stay at Bruegel temporarily to conduct research work.

Fellows rely on a team of research assistants and research interns whose skills and commitment are gratefully acknowledged.

A dedicated non-research team is responsible for the daily management, outreach and development of the organisation.
Jochen was the Secretary General of the German Council of Economic Experts from June 2015 to April 2018. Before joining the Council, he served at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Washington DC for nine years where he worked on the euro-area crisis, among other topics. From 2008 to 2010 he was seconded as adviser to the National Bank of Ukraine in Kiev. He obtained degrees in economics and politics from the University of St. Gallen, Switzerland. Following a visiting scholarship at the University of California UCSC, he completed his dissertation on debt crises at the University of St. Gallen in 2006.

René Arnold is an non-resident fellow at Bruegel. Since 2013, he is head of department ‘Markets and Perspectives’ at WIK Consult in Bad Honnef, Germany. He holds a PhD in consumer behaviour from the University of Edinburgh and has previously worked at the Cologne Institute for Economic Research. Throughout his career, he has advocated an evidence-based behavioural approach to policy and economic issues revolving around the use of ICT and digitisation. He has served in various roles advising the ITU as well as various European and national institutions.
MAREK DABROWSKI
NON-RESIDENT FELLOW

Marek focuses on economic reforms and prospects in Russia, Ukraine and central Europe. He is a professor at the Higher School of Economics in Moscow and was a fellow under the 2014-2015 fellowship initiative of the European Commission. He was previously first deputy minister of finance of Poland, a member of the Polish Parliament and a member of the Monetary Policy Council of the National Bank of Poland.

UURIINTUYA BATSAIKHAN
AFFILIATE FELLOW [UNTIL AUGUST 2017]

Uuriintuya’s research interests include macroeconomics, banking and monetary policy, access to finance of SMEs and political economy of emerging countries. She has a master’s degree from Central European University in Budapest and a master of public policy specialising in political economy, economic institutions and monetary policy from Hertie School of Governance in Berlin. Prior to joining Bruegel, she worked at UNDP in Mongolia and the German Institute for Economic Research in Berlin.

AGNES BENASSY-QUÉRÉ
NON-RESIDENT FELLOW [AS OF MAY 2018]

Agnès is a Professor at the Paris School of Economics - University of Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne. Until December 2017, she also served as the Chair of the French Council of economic analysis. She is a Member of the French macro-prudential authority and of the Banque de France’s Board. She is a former columnist at France Culture. Her research interests focus on the international monetary system and European macroeconomic policy.

GRÉGORY CLAEYS
RESEARCH FELLOW

Grégory’s research interests include international macroeconomics and finance, central banking and European governance. From 2006 to 2009 Grégory worked as an economist in the research department of the French bank Crédit Agricole. Grégory is an associate professor at the Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers in Paris where he teaches macroeconomics. He previously taught undergraduate macroeconomics at Sciences Po in Paris. He holds a PhD in economics from the European University Institute (Florence), an MSc in economics from Paris X University and an MSc in management from HEC (Paris).
Zsolt's research interests include macroeconomics, international economics, central banking and time-series analysis. He is also a research fellow at the Institute of Economics of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. From 2005 to 2008, he was a research adviser to the Argenta Financial Research Group in Budapest. Zsolt holds a PhD in economics from Corvinus University of Budapest. From 1994-2005, he worked in the research department of the Central Bank of Hungary, where he was deputy head.

Uri works mainly on trends in the global economy and on how countries deal with the challenge of international integration through flows of trade, finance, and migration. Dadush is a non-resident scholar at Bruegel, based in Washington DC and a senior fellow at the OCP Policy Center in Rabat, Morocco. He is also Principal of Economic Policy International LLC, providing consulting services to the World Bank and to other international organisations and corporations. He was previously director of international trade at the World Bank.

Maria is the deputy director of Bruegel. She has previously worked at the European Commission and the research department of the Dutch Central Bank. She has also held academic positions at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government in the USA and the University of Strathclyde in the UK, from where she holds a PhD in economics. She has published extensively in international academic journals and contributed regularly to both the European Commission’s and the Dutch Central Bank’s policy outlets.

Konstantinos holds a Master in International Economics and International Relations from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), where he specialised in Quantitative Methods and European Studies. Before joining Bruegel, he was at the European Commission, as a Blue Book Trainee in the Cabinet of President Juncker. He also interned at the Central Bank of Luxembourg as a research assistant, involved in projects related to the Wage Dynamics Network research group.
ALICIA GARCÍA-HERRERO
SENIOR FELLOW

Alicia is a senior fellow at Bruegel. She is also the chief economist for the Asia Pacific region at NATIXIS and is based in Hong Kong. Alicia is currently an adjunct professor at City University of Hong Kong and Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and visiting faculty at China-Europe International Business School. Alicia holds a PhD in economics from George Washington University and has published extensively in journals and books.

PIA HÜTTL
AFFILIATE FELLOW

Pia’s research interests include macroeconomics, international economics and European political economy. She holds a bachelor’s degree in European economics and a master’s degree in international economics from the University of Rome Tor Vergata. She also holds a master’s degree in European political economy from the London School of Economics and is currently enrolled in a PhD programme at Humboldt University in Berlin.

MARK HALLERBERG
NON-RESIDENT FELLOW

Mark writes on fiscal governance, tax competition, and exchange rate choice. He is a Professor of Public Management and Political Economy at the Hertie School of Governance and is Director of Hertie’s Fiscal Governance Centre. He has previously held professorships at Emory University, the University of Pittsburgh, and the Georgia Institute of Technology.

ALEXANDER LEHMANN
NON-RESIDENT FELLOW

Alex is an expert in financial regulation, pension systems and trade policies. He was the lead economist with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) in Warsaw. Previously Alex Lehmann was with the Policy Review Department of the International Monetary Fund in Washington, acted as consultant for the World Trade Organisation and the central Bank of Mexico, and worked in research and teaching positions at the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House) and the London School of Economics. He holds a PhD in economics from Oxford.
MAKING ECONOMICS A PUBLIC GOOD

At Bruegel I had the wonderful opportunity to work on research questions that are at the centre of the economic policy debate and contribute to shape economic policy as a public good.

Inês Goncalves Raposo
Research assistant
Silvia’s research focuses on international macro and financial economics, central banking, and EU institutions and policymaking. She has written on various aspects of the sovereign banking crisis, on monetary policy, macroeconomic imbalances and adjustment and the dynamics of capital flows in the euro area. Silvia was an economic analyst at the European Commission (DG ECFIN), providing supportive analysis for the policy negotiations around the European Stability Mechanism. Silvia holds an MSc in economics and social sciences from Bocconi University in Milan and is enrolled in the PhD programme of Johns Hopkins University.

Emmanuel’s research ranges across a variety of topics in European and international economic relations, including European monetary integration, the development of Western European financial regulation in the 1960s-1980s, and the rise of the European Council. He is Lord Kelvin Adam Smith Fellow in the Adam Smith Business School, University of Glasgow. Prior to this, he was Pinto Post-Doctoral Fellow at LSE IDEAS, the London School of Economics’ centre for the study of international affairs. He is also a visiting professor at the Université Libre de Bruxelles.

Francesco is an expert on international economics and monetary policy. Between 1998 and 2012, he was the Director General for Market Operations at the European Central Bank. He worked previously at the Banca d’Italia, first as director of the International Section of the Research Department and then as deputy head of the Foreign Department. He is also the chair of the Selection Panel of the Hellenic Financial Stability Fund. Mr. Papadia has a degree in law from the University of Rome and attended postgraduate studies in Economics and Business at the Istituto Adriano Olivetti in Ancona and at the London Business School.

Georgios’ research at Bruegel focuses on the digital economy, market definition in the digital era, the economic value of big data and the generated privacy concerns, and the welfare implications of the emergence of the sharing economy. He holds a bachelor’s degree in physics from Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and a master’s degree in econometrics and mathematical economics from Tilburg University. He holds a PhD from Toulouse School of Economics.
**Jean Pisani-Ferry**
*Mercator Senior Fellow at Bruegel*

Jean is an expert on European macroeconomics, governance and international economics. He is a professor at Sciences Po Paris and the Hertie School of Governance in Berlin. He was the Director for Programme and Ideas for Emmanuel Macron’s presidential campaign. From 2013 to 2017, he served as Commissioner-General of France Stratégie, the ideas lab of the French government. Prior to this appointment, he was from 2005 to 2013 the director of Bruegel which he had helped set up. Before creating Bruegel, he was executive president of the French Prime Minister’s Council of Economic Analysis (2001-2002), Senior Economic Adviser to the French Minister of Finance (1997-2000), Director of CEPII, the French institute for international economics (1992-1997), and Economic Adviser to the European Commission (1989-92).

**Jörg Rocholl**
*Non-Resident Fellow*

Jörg is an expert on corporate finance and governance, and financial intermediation. He is professor and president of ESMT European School of Management and Technology in Berlin and a member of the economic advisory board of the German Federal Ministry of Finance. He is also the deputy chairman of the economic advisory board of the Deutsche Welle, research professor at the Ifo Institute in Munich, and Duisenberg fellow of the European Central Bank.
AN OPEN COMMUNITY FREELY SHARING IDEAS

Before visiting Bruegel, I had in mind the image of a unique collection of economists well versed in the latest academic research, with a keen instinct for practical policy-making and excellent communication skills. Actually, Bruegel turned out to be much more impressive from close up! I got to appreciate their recipe for success: an open community that regularly and freely share ideas to bring state-of-the-art knowledge to bear on pressing societal problems. I appreciated the focus on evidenced-based policy that is not divorced from an awareness that the evidence one chooses to collect or not to collect does make a difference, and these choices reflect values.

Stavros Zenios
Visiting Fellow

ANDRÉ SAPIR
SENIOR FELLOW

André's research focuses on international trade, European governance, and global and European macroeconomics. He is a professor of economics at the Brussels Free University (ULB). He was an economic adviser to the president of the European Commission, a chair of the scientific council of the European Systemic Risk Board. In 2004 he published An Agenda for a Growing Europe, a report for the president of the Commission by a group of independent experts that is known as the Sapir Report. André holds a PhD in economics from Johns Hopkins University. He is also a research fellow the Centre for Economic Policy Research.

DIRK SCHOENMAKER
NON-RESIDENT FELLOW

Dirk has published research on central banking, financial supervision and stability, European financial integration and climate change. He is a professor of banking and finance at Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University Rotterdam. He is also a member of the Advisory Scientific Committee of the European Systemic Risk Board at the European Central Bank and a research fellow at the Centre for European Policy Research. Dirk was dean of the Duisenberg School of Finance from 2009 to 2015. From 1998 to 2008, he served at the Ministry of Finance in the Netherlands.
Simone is an expert in international energy and climate issues. Before joining Bruegel he spent a year in Istanbul as a visiting researcher at the Istanbul Policy Centre at Sabanci University. He is also a senior researcher at the Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei. He holds a master’s degree in international relations from the Faculty of Political and Social Sciences of the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore in Milan, where he completed his PhD on European and Mediterranean energy relations at the department of international economics, institutions and development.

Nicolas’ research is about financial systems and financial reform around the world, including global financial regulatory initiatives and current developments in the European Union, banking supervision and crisis management, financial reporting, the euro-area policy framework and economic nationalism. He was a co-founder of Bruegel in 2002. He joined the Peterson Institute as a visiting fellow in 2009 and divides his time between the US and Europe. He is a board member of the derivatives arm (Global Trade Repository) of the Depositary Trust and Clearing Corporation (DTCC), a financial infrastructure company that operates globally on a not-for-profit basis.

Reinhilde’s research focuses on industrial organisation, international economics and strategy, innovation, and science. She is a full-time professor at the University of Leuven in the Department of Management, Strategy and Innovation. She has been a senior fellow at Bruegel since 2009. She is also a CEPR research fellow and a member of the Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium for Sciences. From 2004-2008, she was an adviser for the European Commission’s Bureau of European Policy Analysis. She was the president-elect of the European Association for Research in Industrial Economics. She currently serves on the ERC Scientific Council.
Thomas is an expert on EU economic policies, financial stability and European governance. He joined Bruegel in February 2018, previously he was President of the Euro Working Group and of the European Financial Committee of the European Union. He previously chaired the Committee between March 2009 and March 2011. Before becoming President of the EWG/EFC, he was Director General for Economic Policy and Financial Markets at the Ministry of Finance, Vienna.

Guntram has been the director of Bruegel since June 2013. His research focuses on the European economy and governance, fiscal and monetary policy and global finance. He regularly testifies to the European finance ministers’ informal ECOFIN meeting, the European Parliament, and national parliaments. From 2012-16, he was a member of the French prime minister’s economic advisory council. He joined Bruegel from the European Commission, where he worked on the macroeconomics and governance of the euro area and the Deutsche Bundesbank. Guntram holds a PhD in economics from the University of Bonn and has taught in Pittsburgh and Brussels.
Jianwei research mainly focuses on international economics and labour economics. He is particularly interested in topics related to China’s economic transformation and foreign relationships. Xu is an associate professor at Beijing Normal University, and also works as an affiliate fellow at China Academy of Social Science and a youth member of the China Finance Forum 40. Prior to this, he completed an internship at the Development Research Centre of the State Council in China as a research assistant. He holds a PhD from Peking University. He is also Senior Economist for Greater China at Natixis.

Georg’s work at Bruegel focuses on energy and climate change issues. He is also an expert on Ukraine. He is a member of the German Advisory Group in Ukraine and the German Economic Team in Belarus and Moldova. Previously, he worked at the German Ministry of Finance and the German Institute for Economic Research in Berlin. He has worked on the EU emissions trading system, the European electricity market and European renewables policy. In addition he covers fuel and commodity markets. Georg holds a PhD from the Technical University of Dresden, and a diploma in economics from Humboldt University, Berlin.

Timothy Yeung obtained his PhD in economics from Toulouse School of Economics in 2015. Before coming to France, he got his first master’s degree from the University of Hong Kong. He is now a postdoctoral fellow at Université Paris-Dauphine, PSL Research University, applying statistical analysis to various projects. His research interest is the digital economy and in particular the impact of new digital platforms on traditional sectors. He is also interested by the interactions between politics and economics.

Stavros is a visiting fellow, as part of a Marie Curie Fellowship. He is a Cypriot citizen with a long career in the USA. His current research focuses on sovereign debt issues. He is working on the development of stochastic dynamic models for debt sustainability analysis and risk management for sovereigns, on sovereign contingent debt such as GDP-linked bonds and sovereign CoCo’s, and on disentangling the impact of economic policy and political stability risks. He is a professor of finance and management science at University of Cyprus, adjunct professor at the Norwegian School of Economics and senior fellow at the Wharton School, USA.
STAFF LIST
(As of May 2018)

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Guntram Wolff

DEPUTY-DIRECTOR
Maria Demertzis

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Jochen Andritzky, visiting fellow (as of May 2018)
René Arnold, non-resident fellow (as of May 2018)
Carlo Altomonte, non-resident fellow
Agnès Bénassy-Quéré, non-resident fellow (as of May 2018)
Suman Bery, non-resident fellow
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Bruno van Pottelsberghe, non-resident fellow
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Reinhilde Veugelers, senior fellow
Thomas Wieser, non-resident fellow
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Publications editor
Sean Gibson
Press and communications officer

Zouhir Khelili
Junior accountant
Katja Knezevic
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Alma Kurtovic
Executive office coordinator
Kevin Mendonça
Communications and events intern
Matilda Sevón
Events manager
Scarlett Varga
Partnerships manager

Bruegel is also grateful all those who worked at Bruegel during 2017:
Non-research staff: Cécile Lavis, Bryn Watkins
Non-research interns: Ariane Giraneza, Calum Inverarity, Gray Morfopoulos, Antonija Parat
Research assistants: Filippo Biondi, Justine Feliu, Robert Kalcik, Enrico Nano
Scholars: Uuriintuya Batsaikhan, Hideyuki Makimoto

MANAGEMENT TEAM
Guntram Wolff
Director
Maria Demertzis
Deputy director
Matt Dann
Secretary general
Paola Maniga
Head of development
Giuseppe Porcaro
Head of communications and events
Bruegel’s mission is to improve economic policy. This ultimately means persuading policymakers to consider and take on board the research and suggestions of Bruegel scholars.

Being present in public debates is a cornerstone of our strategy. Through our publications, social media, blog, events and press outreach, Bruegel has carved out a discussion space for economic policy.
WE RELEASED 
85 PUBLICATIONS

Our diverse editorial output is tailored to reach different audiences.

**Policy briefs** are aimed primarily at a policy audience and provide concise, strategic analysis of current issues plus concrete policy recommendations. They are designed to have an impact ahead of policy development or in the evaluation of existing policy frameworks.

**Policy contributions** are focused and concise analytical papers, which contribute to ongoing debates while policies are being drafted. They also include testimonies at hearings or responses to political consultation papers during earlier stages of policymaking.

**Working papers** aim to foster academic debate.

**Blueprints** are longer reports that explore a policy area in depth. They are technical studies, with a wider time horizon, leading to policy conclusions.

We also publish **essays and lectures** on topical questions that may be relevant to or arise from Bruegel events.

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**AWARDS & RANKINGS**

**TRANSPARIFY** has repeatedly awarded Bruegel **five stars out of five for transparency**, including in 2017, recognising its openness about financing and governance.

**PROSPECT MAGAZINE** awarded Bruegel **European Economic Think Tank of the Year** in 2015 and in 2016 and 2017. Bruegel has been recognised as Think Tank of the Year at the European Public Affairs Awards 2017.

**THE 2017 GLOBAL GO TO THINK TANK REPORT**, published by the **University of Pennsylvania**, ranked Bruegel as:

- #2 top international economics think tank (worldwide)
- #2 best managed think tank (worldwide)
- #2 think tank with best policy oriented research programme (worldwide)
- #2 think tank in the world (non-US)
- #4 think tank in the world (including US)
- #5 think tanks with the most significant impact on public policy
WE PUBLISHED 189 BLOG POSTS

The Bruegel blog has grown as a source of timely analysis on the latest developments in economic policy. It has become a reference for policymakers, influencers and journalists.

The blog is also a tool to disseminate our work to a wider audience, by providing information about ongoing research or less technical summaries of working papers and academic debates.

1.76 MILLION VISITS TO OUR WEBPAGE BRUEGEL.ORG
Bruegel sets the bar for economic research in Brussels. Original, meticulous and relevant - its work is an invaluable resource for policymakers throughout Europe, and its influence is impossible to miss.

Alex Barker
Brussels Bureau Chief, Financial Times
Bruegel’s ability to bring together policy-influential people, in Brussels and beyond, means that our events achieve several strategic goals: helping to set the policy agenda, exploring pragmatic solutions to political impasses, and analysing the policy relevance of current economic research.

Our different event formats address different needs. Smaller meetings help inform our research, while larger conferences offer space for debate and to hold officials to account. Many events bring together parties that would not ordinarily have a chance to exchange ideas. In 2017, we have increased the balance between these larger public events and discussions in smaller circles, and successfully engaged remote audiences in our discussions through livestreams and live twitter debates.

Including online livestreams, audio and video recordings, our events reached more than 30,000 people over the year.
OUR PODCAST SERIES
THE SOUND OF ECONOMICS

WAS PLAYED MORE THAN

24.000 TIMES THIS YEAR

WE RELEASED 11 EPISODES IN 2017:

1. Banks and borrowers in distress - Europe’s NPL crisis
2. Special edition - The Treaty of Rome at 60
3. A glance into the future — how will AI change our lives?
4. Labour mobility in Europe
5. How will Europe’s banking system respond to future challenges?
6. What’s next for France and Europe?
7. Global trade and Europe
8. Surprising priorities for Europe and China
9. Housing for the modern metropolis
10. The future of Capital Markets Union
11. Inclusive Europe: a journey towards integration

Bruegel is a think tank doing such significant work in in Europe.

Vítor Constâncio
Vice-President,
European Central Bank
TESTIMONIES
IN 2017
TESTIMONIES IN 2017

Bruegel scholars spoke at the European Parliament and at numerous national parliaments during the year. They also gave evidence to informal meetings of finance ministers.

INFORMAL ECOFIN
Europe’s role in North Africa: development, investment, migration
Uri Dadush, Maria Demertzis, Guntram B. Wolff
Policy contribution prepared for informal ECOFIN in Valetta, Malta, April 8

Capital markets union and the fintech opportunity
Maria Demertzis, Silvia Merler, Guntram B. Wolff
Policy brief prepared for the informal ECOFIN in Tallinn, Estonia, September 15

PARLIAMENT TESTIMONIES
Brexit: UK-EU movement of people
Zsolt Darvas
Written evidence submitted to the UK House of Lords Select Committee, Home Affairs Sub- Committee, 3 February

Brexit: EU budget
Zsolt Darvas
Written evidence submitted to the UK House of Lords Select Committee on the EU, 7 March

Testimony to Parliamentary Conference on the WTO
Guntram B. Wolff
Policy Brief prepared for the European Parliament’s Steering Committee on the WTO, 15 March

Carving out legacy assets: a successful tool for bank restructuring?
Alexander Lehmann
Policy Contribution prepared for the European Parliament’s Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, 21 March

Interdependence in difficult times
Uri Dadush
Presentation delivered in Malta at the Western Mediterranean Forum, 10 April

Is the recent increase in long-term interest rates a threat to euro-area recovery?
Grégory Claeys and Konstantinos Efstatiou
Policy Contribution prepared for the European Parliament’s Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, 29 May

Charting the next steps for the EU financial supervisory architecture
Nicolas Véron
Policy Contribution derived from the hearing of the Finance Committee of the German Bundestag, 7 June

Exiting the European Union Committee
Zsolt Darvas
Written evidence submitted to the UK House of Commons Exiting the EU Committee, 20 June

Precautionary recapitalisations: time for a review
Nicolas Véron
European Parliament’s Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee, 12 July

Could revising the posted workers’ directive improve social conditions?
Zsolt Darvas
Presentation delivered at the European Parliament on the revision of the Posting of Workers Directive, 29 August

Europe’s fourfold union: Updating the 2012 vision
Nicolas Véron
Policy contribution prepared for the Expert Meeting on Deepening the Economic & Monetary Union, Dutch Tweede Kamer, Finance Committee, 21 September

The single monetary policy and its decentralised implementation: An assessment
Francesco Papadia and Alexander Roth
European Parliament’s Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, 4 October

Sovereign Concentration Charges: A New Regime for Banks’ Sovereign Exposures
Nicolas Véron
Committee on European Parliament’s Economic and Monetary Affairs, 17 November

After the crisis: what new lessons for euro adoption?
Zsolt Darvas
Speech delivered at an event organised in the Croatian Parliament, 20 November

How should the European Central Bank ‘normalise’ its monetary policy?
Grégory Claeys and Maria Demertzis
Policy contribution prepared for the European Parliament’s Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, 23 November

Critical functions and public interest in banking services: Need for clarification?
Silvia Merler
European Parliament’s Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, 18 December

The Impact of Brexit on the EU Energy System
Guystav Fredricksson, Alexander Roth, Simone Tagliapietra and Georg Zachmann
European Parliament’s Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, 19 December
BRUEGEL’S RESEARCH PROGRAMME

EUROPEAN MACROECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE

GLOBAL ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE

FINANCE AND FINANCIAL REGULATION

INNOVATION AND COMPETITION POLICY

ENERGY AND CLIMATE
BRUEGEL’S RESEARCH PROGRAMME

"Policy relevance should not be done without strong foundations. Our scholars have continued this year to publish their Bruegel research in established academic journals. We continue to strive for policy influence based on facts, method and peer review."

Maria Demertzis, Bruegel Deputy-director

Bruegel’s research is built on a focused medium-term programme. The programme is structured into three-year cycles. Long-term research investment is combined with rapid responses to unanticipated policy developments.

Our annual research programme is adopted by the board in September, after intensive discussions between Bruegel scholars, members and other stakeholders.

Several evaluation processes are used to maintain high research standards, relevance and impact. In 2016 the scientific council conducted the last three-year evaluation. Internal evaluations are carried out throughout the year, including weekly research seminars, quarterly outreach reports by the communications team and regular discussions with the Bruegel board and the scientific council. The director has the overall editorial responsibility for Bruegel’s research.
POLICY RELEVANCE
WITH ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Bruegel scholars regularly publish in top academic outlets. And while not every fellow has to publish every year in top journals, we are convinced that high academic standards are conducive to high-quality policy recommendations. All significant Bruegel policy papers therefore undergo a collective feedback process within the research team.

Selected academic publications of Bruegel scholars are listed below.

JOURNALS


BOOKS


In 2017, national elections in France, the Netherlands and Germany meant significant shifts in the debate of how to reform European governance. Departing from both Juncker’s and Schäuble’s proposals, Guntram Wolff argued that economic policy coordination will always remain political, requiring a strengthening of the Eurogroup’s chairmanship. Nicolas Véron highlighted that, in the past half-decade, Europe’s financial union has been significantly strengthened but remains incomplete, and is challenged by Brexit. Meanwhile, fiscal union, economic union, and political union were advancing slowly.

Two of the banking union’s pillars – common European supervision by the European Central Bank, and common European resolution by the Single Resolution Fund – are up and running. But the third, common European deposit insurance, is still missing. André Sapir and Dirk Schoenmaker proposed to design the European Monetary Fund as part of a broader risk-sharing and market-discipline agenda.

Emmanuel Mourlon-Druol assessed what the Franco-German relationship can achieve, what its shortcomings are, and what it means for the wider governance of the euro area and the EU. Grégory Claeys explored what are the remaining fragilities of the euro architecture and assessed the institutional reforms put in place during and after the crisis, making some proposals for a coherent economic governance framework to make Europe’s monetary union more resilient.
Guntram Wolff

Departing from both Juncker’s and Schäuble’s proposals, the Eurogroup should be developed into a Eurosystem of fiscal policy as the centre of euro-area fiscal governance. The Eurogroup should have a permanent, full-time president, with a mandate to represent the interests of the whole euro area, and who will report regularly to the European Parliament. The European Stability Mechanism should become a permanent fire brigade to manage sovereign debt crises, including possible restructurings in extreme cases. Finally, the EU budget should be reformed to focus on European public goods and on a stabilisation function.

HOW TO REFORM THE EURO AREA

“The Posted Workers Directive is a political issue in my view, because President Juncker made this promise,” said Zsolt Darvas, a senior fellow at the Bruegel think tank. “It’s very topical in some countries like France, Belgium and the Netherlands. Politicians in these countries see there is a problem with posted workers and that it can undermine the functioning of the single market.”
"A recent paper from the Bruegel think-tank notes the scale and significance of the shifts in competitiveness among the eurozone’s three most important economies – Germany, France and Italy – since creation of the single currency. It shows the huge improvement in competitiveness of Germany in the form of falling relative unit labour costs. These shifts occurred because compensation of workers grew more slowly than productivity in Germany, at much the same rate in France and faster in Italy. As a result, the share of labour in the incomes of the German business sector fell sharply, while it rose in France and Italy."

Martin Wolf

PRIVATE INDEBTEDNESS AND BAD LOANS

Maria Demertzis

The level of private debt in the hands of households and private firms cannot be addressed automatically by resolving the issue of bad loans in EU banks. Finding ways to remove unproductive loans from the balance sheets of banks is useful and necessary; but we will not resolve the whole problem unless we find ways of removing these loans from the balance sheets of debtors. Removing obstacles to the demand for credit at the same time as ensuring new credit can be supplied is the only way to a sustainable economic recovery.
We have continued our timely analysis of the Brexit process as the negotiations have unfolded, through numerous blogs and publications touching several topics across our research areas – from the Irish border to the banking system; from trade to data roaming, pharmaceuticals, and funding for research and development.

Zsolt Darvas made an original contribution in the attempt to bring transparency to the debate on the Brexit bill, and to foster an agreement. He completed a comprehensive quantification of the various assets and liabilities that might be part of the financial settlement. André Sapir and Maria Demertzis started the discussion on the second phase of negotiations and looked at a possible time path towards a new EU-UK relationship with a post-2021 horizon.

Moreover, Guntram Wolff and Robert Kalcik proposed that Brexit offers a political opportunity for the European Parliament to reform the allocation of seats to member states. They explored different options for reform and the varying implications for equality of representation and distribution of seats to countries, within the constraints set by the EU treaties.

"Britain is an example for all of us, as a longstanding democracy, with centuries of the rule of law and traditional institutions," said Guntram Wolff. "And if such a country has such difficulties, most of us wonder how our own countries would handle such political upheaval – whether we, too, are so vulnerable."

The New York Times
We continued to look at monetary policies and their implications for the European governance. Francesco Papadia and Alexander Roth assessed the decentralised implementation of monetary policy by the Eurosystem in terms of its transparency, efficiency and simplicity. Maria Demertzis applied the info-gap approach to the unconventional monetary policy of the Eurosystem, and so took into account the fundamental uncertainty of inflation shocks.

**THE ROAD TO NORMALISATION FOR THE ECB**

**Grégory Claeys**

The ECB has put in place many new policies to tackle the crisis. As growth picks up in the euro area, there are discussions about how to normalise monetary policy, but it is unclear if normalisation means returning to monetary policy as it was prior to the crisis, or whether there is a ‘new normal’ that would justify different monetary policies. In a paper written with Maria Demertzis for the European Parliament, we discussed how the ECB should normalise its policies and what the ‘new normal’ might look like in terms of interest rate levels, size of the balance sheet and operational framework of the ECB.

**ECB AND FRENCH ELECTIONS**

"The ECB has several lines of defense if there is a surprise result in the French elections this year but if Le Pen is to announce, as she promised, she is going to hold a referendum to quit the EU then I don’t see the ECB granting any lines of defense to try and help,” Maria Demertzis, deputy director at Brussels-based think tank Bruegel, told CNBC.
Since the early 1990s, immigration has been a greater source of population increase in the EU than natural change due to births and deaths, while Eurobarometer opinion surveys show that immigration tops the list of challenges that EU citizens are most concerned about.

Zsolt Darvas conducted an extensive literature review and careful data analysis, and his study focused on four key issues. First, the economic impacts of immigration in the EU, especially focusing on output, labour markets and the fiscal impact. Second, he evaluated the process of integration of migrants in several aspects – socio-demographics, labour markets, education, social inclusion, active citizenship and financial inclusion. In order to assess the problems of financial inclusion, he conducted a survey of financial institutions in Europe. Third, he assessed policy implications for the EU, including a common European asylum policy. And fourth, he assessed possible private-sector initiatives to foster integration.

Migration is a divisive policy topic in Europe. With the exception of a few EU countries, integration of immigrants has been unsatisfactory, which could be a reason for, but also a consequence of, adverse public opinion towards immigration. Beyond better protection of the EU’s borders, a key challenge is to integrate immigrants while managing often distorted public perceptions of immigration. Well integrated immigrants contribute to economic growth, create new jobs for natives and support public finances.
LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

Analysis of developments in EU capital flows in the global context (3rd annual report)
Zsolt Darvas, Konstantinos Efstathiou, Pia Hüttl and Dirk Schoenmaker
External Publication, 10 January

Why is it so hard to reach the EU’s ‘poverty’ target?
Zsolt Darvas
Policy Contribution, 19 January

Is Brexit an opportunity to reform the European Parliament?
Robert Kalcik and Guntram B. Wolff
Policy Contribution, 27 January

Making the best of the European single market
Vincent Aussilloux, Agnès Bénassy-Quéré, Clemens Fuest and Guntram B. Wolff
Policy Contribution, 2 February

Improving the Responses to the Migration and Refugee Crisis in Europe
Massimo Bordignon, Yves Pascoaua, Matthias M. Meyer, Mehrad Mehregani, Demetrios G. Papademetriou, Meghan Benton, Pedro Góis and Simone Moriconi
External Publication, 13 February

Europe in a new world order
Maria Demertzis, Guntram B. Wolff and André Sapir
Policy Brief, 17 February

Fundamental uncertainty and unconventional monetary policy: an info-gap approach
Yakov Ben-Haim, Maria Demertzis and Jan Willem van Den End
Working Paper, 28 February

The case for a common European refugee policy
Massimo Bordignon and Simone Moriconi
Policy Contribution, 20 March

Divorce settlement or leaving the club? A breakdown of the Brexit bill
Zsolt Darvas, Konstantinos Efstathiou and Inês Goncalves Raposo
Working Paper, 30 March

Regional and global financial safety nets: the recent European experience and its implications for regional cooperation in Asia
Zsolt Darvas
Working Paper, 20 April

The global decline in the labour income share: is capital the answer to Germany’s current account surplus?
Bennet Berger and Guntram B. Wolff
Policy Contribution, 26 April

Is the recent increase in long-term interest rates a threat to euro-area recovery?
Grégory Claeys and Konstantinos Efstathiou
Policy Contribution, 29 May

Review of EU-third country cooperation on policies falling within the ITRE domain in relation to Brexit
J.Scott Marcus, Georgios Petropoulos, André Sapir, Simone Tagliapietra, Alession Terzi, Reinhilde Veugelers and Georg Zachmann
External Publication, 5 July

Europe’s fourfold union: Updating the 2012 vision
Nicolas Véron
Policy Contribution, 21 September

Ukraine’s unfinished reform agenda
Marek Dabrowski
Policy Contribution, 27 September

A European perspective on overindebtedness
Nicolas Véron and Jeromin Zettelmeyer
Policy Contribution, 28 September

An innovation deficit behind Europe’s overall productivity slowdown?
Reinhilde Veugelers
External Publication, 2 October

The single monetary policy and its decentralised implementation: An assessment
Francesco Papadia and Alexander Roth
External Publication, 4 October

Spotting excessive regional house price growth and what to do about it
Grégory Claeys, Konstantinos Efstathiou and Dirk Schoenmaker
Policy Contribution, 18 October

The missing pieces of the euro architecture
Grégory Claeys
Policy Contribution, 26 October

The time is right for a European Monetary Fund
André Sapir and Dirk Schoenmaker
Policy Brief, 30 October

Rethinking Franco-German relations: a historical perspective
Emmanuel Mourlon-Druol
Policy Contribution, 7 November

The economic effects of refugee return and policy implications
Uri Dadush
External Publication, 14 November

How should the European Central Bank ‘normalise’ its monetary policy?
Grégory Claeys and Maria Demertzis
Policy Contribution, 23 November

Beyond the Juncker and Schäuble visions of euro-area governance
Guntram B. Wolff
Policy Brief, 1 December

Find all our work on this topic at:
http://bruegel.org/topic/european-macroeconomics-and-governance/
The UK’s Brexit bill: could EU assets partially offset liabilities?  
Zsolt Darvas, Konstantinos Efstathiou, Ines Goncalve Raposo, 14 February

Debunking 5 myths about Frexit  
Grégory Claeys, 10 March

What could a euro-area finance minister mean?  
Guntram B. Wolff, 17 May

Debt relief or a fourth financial assistance programme for Greece?  
Zsolt Darvas, 22 May

Revision of the Posted Workers Directive misses the point  
Zsolt Darvas, 18 October

European worries about isolationist trends  
Maria Demertzis, 7 November

German wages, the Phillips curve and migration in the euro area  
Guntram B. Wolff, 29 November

How the EU has become an immigration area  
Zsolt Darvas, 6 December

Brexit, phase two (and beyond): The future of the EU-UK relationship  
Maria Demertzis & André Sapir, 13 December

Can migration work for all in Europe, 9 January

Europe’s growth champion: will Poland’s success continue?, 31 January

Tackling Europe’s non-performing loans crisis: restructuring debt, reviving growth, 3 February

Brexit and trade: what EU and WTO rules imply, 6 February

The Belarusian economy: are real changes on the way?, 9 March

Conversations on the future of Europe, 22 March

Central bank communication in a low interest rate environment, 31 March

Micro- and macro-based methods in assessing the impact of investment, 5 April

Can EMU survive a multi speed Europe?, 6 April

Understanding the French elections, 19 April

Financial Times – Bruegel Forum: the future of Europe after the French election, 11 May

Inclusive growth: global and European lessons for Spain, 31 May, Madrid

Fiscal frameworks in Europe: background and perspectives, 1-2 June, Copenhagen

Lessons for the future governance of financial assistance in the EU, 14 June

Is there a way out of non-performing loans in Europe, 6 July

Perspectives on Universal Basic Income, 12 July

Europe’s trust deficit, 21 September

Unfinished business: The unexplored causes of the financial crisis and the lessons yet to be learned, 28 September

Growth, productivity and social progress in Europe, 26 October

An independent assessment of the EU’s fiscal framework: a presentation by the European Fiscal Board, 6 November

Vision Europe Summit 2017, 14 and 15 November, Lisbon

Sustainable growth in transition countries, 28 November

Responsibility to reform Europe, 30 November

Flexicurity and labour market reforms in Europe, 4 December

Health care and macro-economics in Europe, 7 December

Better policies for people on the move, 13 December
Nicolas Véron and Jeromin Zettelmeyer highlighted that the sequence of crisis and policy responses after mid-2007 was a gradual recognition of the unsustainability of the euro-area policy framework. The most impactful initiative has been the initiation of a banking union in mid-2012, but this remains incomplete and needs strengthening. In this regard, Dirk Schoenmaker proposed the completion of a banking union in which the European Stability Mechanism (ESM) becomes the fiscal backstop to the euro-area banking system.

Dirk Schoenmaker and Nicolas Véron, outlined a ‘Twin Peaks’ vision for Europe’s financial supervisory architecture, moving away from the current sectorial model. Moreover, in another contribution co-authored with André Sapir, they concluded that the EU27 needs to upgrade its financial surveillance architecture, to minimise the financial market fragmentation resulting from Brexit and the corresponding increase in borrowing costs for firms.

Our researchers also focused on the issue of non-performing loans. Maria Demertzis and Alexander Lehmann made a comprehensive review of how there remain obstacles to the recovery of bank credit and investment. Meanwhile, Christopher Gandrud and Mark Hallerberg addressed investigated how Italian banks can address the issue of non-performing loans and what lessons they can learn from Japan. Silvia Merler looked at the liquidation of two Italian banks to show how resolution and liquidation differ substantially when it comes to the scope of legislation applicable to the use of public funds.

Throughout the year our scholars also ventured into new fields of research, – in particular looking at fintech, sustainable finance and the financial consequences of housing bubbles. Maria Demertzis, Silvia Merler and Guntram Wolff called for a new regulatory framework for fintech, as it has the potential to change financial intermediation structures substantially. It could disrupt existing financial intermediation with new business models empowered by intelligent algorithms, big data, cloud computing and artificial intelligence. Dirk Schoenmaker provided a framework for sustainable finance, highlighting the move from the narrow shareholder model to the broader stakeholder model, aimed at long-term value creation for the wider community. Grégory Claeys, Konstantinos Efstathiou and Dirk Schoenmaker examined whether there are regional differences in house-prize growth within European countries and whether this warrants more targeted measures to address the financial system’s vulnerabilities.
Critics lament the splurge of public money: Europe’s new rules, after all, are supposed to discourage that. They argue that the bail-out of Banca Popolare di Vicenza and Veneto Banca has put paid to Europe’s proposed “banking union”, in which one set of rules should apply to all. That is overblown, says Nicolas Véron of Bruegel, a Brussels think-tank. Banking union is incomplete: this episode serves as a reminder. “The single resolution mechanism is not really single as long as you have different insolvency regimes for banks,” says Mr Véron.
Dirk Schoenmaker

Against the backdrop of the ECB’s quantitative easing, asset price bubbles are popping up; also in the housing market. New research shows that housing bubbles can be local, in particular in capitals and other large cities. Macroprudential policies should therefore be differentiated at the regional level. An example is tightening loan-to-value limits for mortgages in cities where housing prices are rising fast. However, some countries still adopt a wait and see approach.

HOT HOUSING AND FINANCIAL BUBBLES

Nicolas Véron

The International Monetary Fund made a significant contribution to addressing the euro area’s financial sector challenges. It pointed early on to unchecked fragilities in the region’s banks, and was a consistent advocate of policy integration and of what we now call banking union. Regarding the individual countries under assistance programmes, the IMF helped to preserve short-term stability in Greece and had a successful role in Ireland and Spain, but, together with other creditors, missed the opportunity to clean up the financial sector in Portugal.

THE IMF’S ROLE IN THE EURO-AREA CRISIS: FINANCIAL SECTOR ASPECTS
LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

Making the best of Brexit for the EU27 financial system
André Sapir, Dirk Schoenmaker and Nicolas Véron
Policy Brief, 8 February

Brexit and the European financial system
Uuriintuya Batskhan, Robert Kalcić and Dirk Schoenmaker
Policy Contribution, 9 February

Institutional investors and home bias in Europe’s Capital Markets Union
Zsolt Darvas and Dirk Schoenmaker
Working Paper, 6 March

How not to create zombie banks: lessons for Italy from Japan
Christopher Gandrud and Mark Hallerberg
Policy Contribution, 8 March

What happened to global banking after the crisis?
Dirk Schoenmaker
Policy Contribution, 14 March

Carving out legacy assets: a successful tool for bank restructuring?
Alexander Lehmann
Policy contribution, 21 March

Regional and global financial safety nets: the recent European experience and its implications for regional cooperation in Asia
Zsolt Darvas
Working Paper, 20 April

Tackling Europe’s crisis legacy: a comprehensive strategy for bad loans and debt restructuring
Maria Demertzis and Alexander Lehmann
Policy Contribution, 21 April

The Banking Union: An Overview and Open Issues
Dirk Schoenmaker
External Publication, 2 May

Les banques européennes se retirent-elles de la scène internationale?
Dirk Schoenmaker
External Publication, 23 May

The governance and ownership of significant euro-area banks
Nicolas Véron
Policy Contribution, 30 May

Charting the next steps for the EU financial supervisory architecture
Nicolas Véron
Policy Contribution, 7 June

A New Liquidity Risk Measure for the Chilean Banking Sector
Grégory Claeys, Sebastián Becerra and Juan Francisco Martínez
External Publication, 7 June

A macro approach to international bank resolution
Dirk Schoenmaker
Policy Contribution, 10 July

Investing for the common good: a sustainable finance framework
Dirk Schoenmaker
Essay/Book, 11 July

Precautionary recapitalisation: time for a review?
Nicolas Véron
Policy Contribution, 13 July

Capital Markets Union and the fintech opportunity
Maria Demertzis, Silvia Merler and Guntram B. Wolff
Policy Contribution, 15 September

Europe’s fourfold union: Updating the 2012 vision
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Policy Contribution, 21 September

A ‘twin peaks’ vision for Europe
Dirk Schoenmaker and Nicolas Véron
Policy Contribution, 13 November

Sovereign Concentration Charges: A New Regime for Banks’ Sovereign Exposures
Nicolas Véron
External Publication, 17 November

Returns on foreign assets and liabilities: exorbitant privileges and stabilising adjustments
Zsolt Darvas and Pia Hüttl
Working Paper, 29 November

Critical functions and public interest in banking services: Need for clarification?
Silvia Merler
External Publication, 18 December

Find all our work on this topic at: http://bruegel.org/topic/finance-and-financial-regulation/
SELECTED BLOGS

Will better insolvency standards help Europe’s debt deleveraging? Alexander Lehmann, 23 January

Brexit should drive integration of EU capital markets Dirk Schoenmaker and Nicolas Véron, February 24

The Trump market rally conundrum Alessio Terzi, 27 February

Italian banks: not quiet on the eastern front Silvia Merler, 31 March

How to make finance a force for sustainability Dirk Schoenmaker, 12 July

Nordea’s move to the Banking Union is no surprise Dirk Schoenmaker, 12 September

How has banking union changed mergers and acquisitions? Inés Goncalves Raposo and Guntram B. Wolff, 13 September

Accounting for true worth: the economics of IFRS9 Alexander Lehmann, 13 November

Why US investors earn more on their foreign assets than Germans Zsolt Darvas, 1 December

Brexit: When the banks leave Nicolas Véron, 1 December

EVENTS

The outlook for European financial centres, 16 January

Debt restructuring through better insolvency standards, 18 January

Tackling Europe’s non-performing loans crisis: restructuring debt, reviving growth, 3 February

Micro- and macro-based methods in assessing the impact of investment, 5 April

Substance requirements for financial firms moving out from the UK, 2 June

Sovereign exposure limits, 19 June

Bail-ins and bank resolution in Europe, 19 June

Fintech and the digital transformation of banking, 20 June

The EU27’s trade-offs in setting policy on central counterparties, 5 July

Is there a way out of non-performing loans in Europe?, 6 July

How can sustainable finance contribute to the Paris climate goals?, 25 September

Financial Stability Conference 2017, 18 October, Berlin

Sustainable growth in transition countries, 28 November

Zombie firms and weak productivity: what role for policy?, 6 December
GLOBAL ECONOMICS & GOVERNANCE
EUROPE
IN A NEW WORLD ORDER

The year 2017 has been characterised by a changing global landscape, emphasised by the inauguration of Donald Trump as the president of the United States.

The new US administration seems intent on replacing multilateralism with bilateral deals. Meanwhile, 2017 was also a year of increasing Chinese global presence. From President Xi Jinping’s support for multilateralism in Davos to the 19th Party Congress, a more assertive China has emerged.

Our scholars continued their analysis of the economic impact of the changes in global geopolitics. Maria Demertzis, André Sapir and Guntram Wolff explored what the EU’s strategic reaction should be to the US’s ‘diminishing giant’ policies, and the EU’s role in a world of declining hegemony and shifting balances.

Alicia García-Herrero continued her timely analysis of the Chinese economic system, particularly studying the role of state-owned enterprises as one of the main obstacles preventing the European Union from agreeing a bilateral investment agreement. Alongside this, Reinhilde Veugelers proposed the steps to be taken by the EU to engage more with China, not to miss out in the future multipolar science and technology world.
Bruegel actively promotes a global dialogue between European and Asian policy experts and economists. The Asia-Europe Economic Forum is Bruegel’s leading initiative in Asia.

The yearly forum alternates between Asia and Europe and is jointly organised with the Centre d’Etudes Prospectives et d’Information Internationale and the Bertelsmann Stiftung on the European side; the Asia-Europe Foundation, Asian Development Bank Institute, Caixin Insight Group, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and Korea University on the Asian side.

It is an event only for invited speakers, who include former and current high-ranking officials, senior parliamentarians, central bank governors, prominent academics, and private-sector economists.

In 2017 the AEEF was held in Seoul in conjunction with the 7th ASEM Economic Ministers’ Meeting (ASEM EMM7). On this occasion, Guntram Wolff addressed the economic ministers discussing the future of ASEM trade and investment relations. The 2018 AEEF is planned to take place in Brussels as a side-event of the ASEM Summit.

THE EVOLVING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CHINA AND THE EU

Alicia García-Herrero

The new political reality is tilting EU-China relations further towards Europe’s dependence on China. This is especially true for eastern Europe but also for the smallest southern European countries. Moving forward, EU authorities seem to be increasingly uncomfortable with China’s growing influence on the EU’s territory and its neighborhood through China’s landmark project, the Belt and Road Initiative. All in all, the development of 2017 did not bode well for EU-China economic relations.
The EU and China, as the world’s second and third largest economies, share a responsibility for upholding the rules-based, global free trade system and other forms of multilateral cooperation, especially on combating climate change. This report sets out the main conclusions of a research project between European and Chinese think-tanks, which addresses the prospects for the EU–China economic relationship. A joint report by Bruegel, Chatham House, the China Center for International Economic Exchanges and the Institute of Global Economics and Finance at The Chinese University of Hong Kong.
President Xi Jinping’s plan for billions of dollars of infrastructure investment in countries along the ancient Silk Road linking China with Europe is a good idea that the Asian nation probably can’t finance on its own. Alicia Garcia-Herrero, a senior fellow at the Brussels-based think tank Bruegel said China’s economy has slowed, its foreign reserves have fallen, and Chinese bank balance sheets are increasingly saddled with questionable loans. If the country needs to look elsewhere for funding, European banks might be well-placed to step up their financing.
André Sapir

The year 2017 was again eventful as far as EU trade policy was concerned. Three developments were particularly important. The first concerns the EU-Canada agreement, which was approved by the European Parliament in February, but can only enter into force after ratification by national legislatures and if no adverse opinion is given by the EU Court of Justice. Until then, substantial parts of the agreement have been provisionally applied since September 2017. The second development was the opinion of the CJEU on the EU-Singapore trade agreement, which confirmed the EU’s exclusive competence in a number of key areas of trade and investment, yet ruling that investor-state dispute settlement is a shared competence. Hence, the EU will have to negotiate two separate types of agreements with its partners: trade agreements, requiring ratification only by the Council and the European Parliament, and investment agreements, requiring also ratification by national legislatures. The third key development was the decision of President Trump to pull out of the TPP agreement and to freeze negotiations with the EU on TTIP, as well as his threats to impose unilateral measures to protect US manufacturing. These threats became reality in March 2018, when President Trump decided to impose tariffs on steel and aluminium products on grounds on national security, risking a trade war with the EU and other trading partners.
Throughout 2017, the geopolitical situation at the borders of the European Union and beyond has continued to be characterised by turmoil and complexity. Bruegel scholars covered topics relevant to this diverse geographical area within their research. Uri Dadush, Maria Demertzis and Guntram Wolff proposed five ways in which EU policymakers can contribute to development in North Africa and build partnerships on trade, investment and migration. Marek Dabrowski analysed the Ukrainian economic, institutional and political reforms of 2014-17 in terms of their sustainability and completeness, and evaluated what remains to be done. Together with Uuriintuya Batsaikhan he also explored how, after a decade of growth based on hydrocarbon booms, Central Asian countries are faced with increasing challenges to complete their transitions to market economy and towards economic development and integration.

Marek Dabrowski

Compared to previous attempts, the current reform round in Ukraine has proved more successful and some politically difficult decisions have been taken (elimination of gas subsidies). But reform remains incomplete in many important areas, such as local and regional self-government, the judiciary, law enforcement agencies, privatisation and land ownership. Worse, the window of political opportunity seems to be closing as Ukraine is approaching a new electoral cycle in 2018-19.
LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

Europe in a new world order
Maria Demertzis, André Sapir and Guntram B. Wolff
Policy Brief, 17 February

Collapse of the Ruble zone and its lessons
Marek Dabrowski, 15 March

Key policy options for the G20 in 2017 to support an open and inclusive trade and investment system
Sait Akman, Axel Berger, Uri Dadush, Simon Evenett, Lise Johnson, Maximiliano Mendez-Parra, Raul Ochoa and Claudia Schmucker
External Publication, 3 April

Europe’s role in North Africa: development, investment and migration
Uri Dadush, Maria Demertzis and Guntram B. Wolff
Policy Contribution, 8 April

Regional and global financial safety nets: the recent European experience and its implications for regional cooperation in Asia
Zsolt Darvas
Working Paper, 20 April

Central Asia at 25
Uuriintuya Batsaikhan and Marek Dabrowski
5 May, Policy Contribution

The future of globalization
Uri Dadush
External Publication, 29 May

How to handle state-owned enterprises in EU-China investment talks
Alicia Garcia-Herrero and Jianwei Xu
Policy Contribution, 19 June

The challenge of China’s rise as a science and technology powerhouse
Reinilde Veugelers
Policy Contribution, 4 July

EU–China Economic Relations to 2025. Building a Common Future

Alicia Garcia-Herrero, K.C. Kwok, Tim Summers, Liu Xiangdong and Zhang Yansheng
Book/Special Report, 13 September

The economic effects of refugee return and policy implications
Uri Dadush
External Publication, 14 November

Central Asia—twenty-five years after the breakup of the USSR
Uuriintuya Batsaikhan and Marek Dabrowski
External Publication, 14 November

Returns on foreign assets and liabilities: exorbitant privileges and stabilising adjustments
Zsolt Darvas and Pia Hüttl
Working Paper, 29 November

SELECTED BLOGS

Europe needs to react to Trump’s trade agenda – four urgent questions
Guntram B. Wolff, 26 January

The EU must stand ready to confront US leadership
Emmanuel Mourlon-Druol, 3 February

The border adjustment tax: a dangerous proposal
Uri Dadush, 9 February

NAFTA in play: How President Trump could reshape trade in North America
Uri Dadush, 1 March

Trump’s U-turn on trade with China is good news, but the EU should not be complacent
André Sapir, 19 April

China cannot finance the Belt and Road alone
Alicia García-Herrero, 12 May

The EU and the US: a relationship in motion
Maria Demertzis, 28 July

Should the EU have the power to vet foreign takeovers?
Alicia García-Herrero and André Sapir, 1 September

Is China Deleveraging? Too Early to Cheer
Alicia García-Herrero, 13 September

Employment in Europe and the US: the EU’s remarkable strength
Zsolt Darvas and David Pichler, 28 September

Moroccan job market issues, and labour trends in the Middle East and North Africa
Uri Dadush, 7 December
EVENTS

Implications of the new US trade policy by the incoming president Trump, 19 January
The future of EU trade policy, 24 January
Why are think tanks more important now than ever before?, 26 January
Achieving inclusive growth: what have we learnt?, 26 January
Brexit and trade: what EU and WTO rules imply, 6 February
Financing the Belt and Road Initiative, 9 February
Towards EU-MENA shared prosperity, 10-11 April
Global outlook and policy priorities, 12 April, Brussels
Inclusive growth: global and European lessons for Spain, 31 May, Madrid
Europe’s global positioning and its trade implications for Asia, 7 July, Hong Kong
EU-China economic relations: looking to 2025, 13 September
14th Asia Europe Economic Forum (AEEF), 20-21 September, Seoul
Global Excess Imbalances: How worried should we be?, 26 September
Unfinished business: The unexplored causes of the financial crisis and the lessons yet to be learned, 28 September
Vision Europe Summit; 14-15 November 2017, Turin
Europe and Japan: Monetary policies in the age of uncertainty, 2 October
EU – CELAC Economic Forum – Channels for a joint future, 11 October
A conversation on USA economic policy with Kevin Hassett, 9 November
INNOVATION & COMPETITION POLICY
How well are European firms responding to the new opportunities for growth, and in which global value chains are they developing these new activities? How can Europe realise the potential for industrial rejuvenation?

A team of numerous Bruegel scholars, led by Reinhilde Veugelers, contributed to this crucial debate with the publication of an extensive Blueprint on the future of manufacturing, advancing the policy discussion and the understanding of the changing role of manufacturing in Europe’s growth agenda. This report revisits the old questions of whether we need a special industrial policy and if it should target specific sectors, technologies or even consumers. In response, the report proposes a more holistic approach.

**The New Manufacturing as an Engine for Growth**

**Reinhilde Veugelers**

Manufacturing once provided Europe with many jobs that did not require high skills. The idea that such jobs can be revived is a central issue for many politicians and is behind the demand that products should be ‘made in’ the countries that consume them. But such rhetoric has as its reference point an old version of manufacturing, which has been supplanted by complex value chains and is highly automated and data driven. This new version of manufacturing also needs attention from politicians, but for different reasons than the provision of millions of old-style production-line jobs.
Our scholars highlighted the challenges in digital innovation within the frame of the European digital single market and beyond. Understanding how digital markets work is a decisive step in order to design the proper policies that address associated challenges and concerns.

Scott Marcus explored the economic implications of further harmonisation of electronic communications regulation in the EU, and other related policy debates around network-sharing, 5G, geoblocking, as well as the privacy shield agreement between the EU and the US. Georgios Petropoulos focused on the implications of the digital transformation of the EU economy. In particular, he has been studying the disruptive forces of online commerce and collaborative economy platforms, the impact of artificial intelligence and machine learning on employment and wages, as well as the challenges in strengthening market competition in the digital era.

The taxation of digital enterprises poses serious challenges. It is too easy for these firms to shift profits to low tax jurisdictions, thus causing economic distortion. A short term quick fix might perhaps produce near-term net benefit for Europe, but at the cost of further economic distortion. A long-term fix is needed, but is elusive in the absence of a global consensus backed by political will.
THE RAPID GROWTH OF THE COLLABORATIVE ECONOMY

Georgios Petropoulos

Recent technological developments in information technologies have enabled the emergence of collaborative economy platforms and, through which providers of durable goods and services can trade online with individuals. The emergence of these new business models poses the challenge of how to ensure a level playing field in market competition, as well as how to regulate and define employment in these new platforms so that fair social benefits and protection as well as safety are guaranteed. My research tries to identify and address these challenges.

DIGITAL SINGLE MARKET STRATEGY

I would like to thank Bruegel for the very good input given when the Commission prepared the Digital Single Market strategy. When we talk about digital developments in Europe, we are talking about Bruegel.

Andrus Ansip,
Vice-President of the European Commission, responsible for the Digital Single Market

EU VS USA: EMERGING MARKETS.

According to Bruegel, an economic think tank, only 12 big new European companies were birthed after 1950, against 51 in the US. Of these, only 3 were produced after 1975 in Europe, compared with 25 in the US and 21 in emerging markets.
LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

The Future of the Postal Sector in a Digital World
Georgios Petropoulos
External Publication, 15 February

An economic review of the collaborative economy
Georgios Petropoulos
Policy Contribution, 27 February

Extending the scope of the geo-blocking prohibition: an economic assessment
J. Scott Marcus and Georgios Petropoulos
External Publication, 27 February

From start-up to scale-up: examining public policies for the financing of high-growth ventures
Gilles Durufle, Thomas Hellman and Karen E. Wilson
Working Paper, 10 April

The challenge of China's rise as a science and technology powerhouse
Reinhilde Veugelers
Policy Contribution, 4 July

Economic Implications of Further Harmonisation of Electronic Communications Regulation in the EU
J. Scott Marcus and Christian Wernick
External Publication, 11 August

Remaking Europe: the new manufacturing as an engine for growth
Reinhilde Veugelers
Blueprint, 7 September

Capital Markets Union and the fintech opportunity
Maria Demertzis, Silvia Merler and Guntram B. Wolff
Policy Contribution, 15 September

An innovation deficit behind Europe's overall productivity slowdown?
Reinhilde Veugelers
External Publication, 2 October

Network Sharing and 5G in Europe: The Potential Benefits of Using SDN or NFV
J. Scott Marcus and Gabor Molinar
External Publication, 7 December

SELECTED BLOGS

How good a shield is Privacy Shield?
J. Scott Marcus, 7 February

Big data and first-degree price discrimination
Silvia Merler, 20 February

High expectations for 5G confront practical realities
J. Scott Marcus, 14 March

Is China's innovation strategy a threat?
Robert Kalcik, 3 April

Machines that learn to do, and do to learn:
What is artificial intelligence?
Georgios Petroulos, 6 April

Do we understand the impact of artificial intelligence on employment?
Georgios Petroulos, 27 April

Standing on the shoulders of distant giants
Fabio Matera and Georg Zachmann, 23 May

The growing presence of robots in EU industries
Georgios Petroulos, 20 December

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State Aid and Tax Rulings, 1 February
Intellectual Property and Competition Policy in Europe and Japan, 14 March
Inclusive growth and competitiveness in Europe, 21 March
Artificial intelligence: challenges and opportunities, 23 March
Protecting the privacy of electronic communications: getting the next steps right, 25 April
Standardisation and patents: problems and policy options, 9 May
Geo-blocking in the digital single market, 30 May

Fintech and the digital transformation of banking, 20 June
Crowd Employment, 5 October
Start-ups' scale-up and innovation, 21 November
Mergers and innovation, 29 November
Antitrust Concerns in Digital Markets, 29 November
Zombie firms and weak productivity: what role for policy?, 6 December
The impact of Brexit for Research & Innovation in Europe, 12 December
The geopolitical developments of 2017 have had a significant effect on the energy sector. US president Donald Trump withdrew from the Paris Agreement at the beginning of the year, and our senior fellow Georg Zachmann assessed what that might mean for the global fight against climate change, pointing out that the EU would need to step up and defend global climate governance. Against this background, he also posited that the effort to define rules for international emissions trading runs counter to the strong desire of nation states to develop their own climate policies, colliding on the point of needing tradable units in one country to be equivalent to tradable units in another country. To overcome this dilemma he proposed a club of carbon-buying countries that would regulate only imported mitigation outcomes.

Simone Tagliapietra highlighted that coal is producing a quarter of the EU’s electricity, but three-quarters of its emissions. The EU should propose that its member countries speedily phase out coal and put in place a scheme to guarantee the social welfare of coal miners who stand to lose their jobs. Tagliapietra also continued to explore the complex energy relations between Europe and other geographical areas – for example, Turkey; the Middle East and North Africa, oil exporters in times of global decarbonisation; and sub-Saharan Africa, a region where electrification is one of most pressing socio-economic challenges. Georg Zachmann continued to work on pipelines, and argued that Nord Stream II has clear commercial benefits for Germany, but it will also increase the dependence of eastern Europe on Gazprom.
BREXIT WOULD NOT PREVENT THE EU FROM REACHING ITS ENERGY AND CLIMATE POLICY OBJECTIVES

Georg Zachmann

Brexit will also affect the energy sector in the EU. Without a far-reaching compromise, we expect a substantial impact on the Irish energy market that after Brexit would be physically decoupled from the EU. Also the European emissions trading system would be affected by losing one of the most ambitious member states. Finally, the exceptional expertise of UK representatives in EU regulatory bodies will be missed. However, we think that these effects will be manageable, and modest compared to the effects in other areas or in the UK energy sector.

Simone Tagliapietra, an energy expert at Bruegel, a research organization in Brussels, said Britain would inevitably face higher costs as a result of leaving Euratom, mostly because the organization oversees safety rules and the delivery of nuclear fuels.

"Now that the U.K. is deciding to exit Euratom," he said, "it will have to establish its own agency for safety and nonproliferation. And that will entail major costs mostly because of how hard it will be to find skilled people who may be from other parts of Europe and no longer eligible to work in Britain automatically."

The New York Times
Europe has a dirty energy secret: coal is producing a quarter of the electricity, but three-quarters of the sector’s CO2 emissions. We believe that the EU should encourage member states to overcome their dependence on coal for supplying electricity. To facilitate this transition, we proposed to invest 0.1% of the total EU budget to put in place a European scheme to guarantee the social welfare of coal miners who stand to lose their jobs, making a better use of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF).

Simone Tagliapietra
LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

Securing the Energy Union: five pillars and five regions – Southern Europe
Simone Tagliapietra
External Publication, 30 March

The carbon buyers’ club: international emissions trading beyond Paris
Georg Zachmann
Policy Brief, 4 April

The political economy of Middle East and North Africa oil exporters in times of global decarbonisation
Simone Tagliapietra
Working Paper, 11 April

Electrifying Africa: how to make Europe’s contribution count
Simone Tagliapietra
Policy Contribution, 8 June

Investing for the common good: a sustainable finance framework
Dirk Schoenmaker
Essay/Lecture, 11 July

Towards EU-MENA Shared Prosperity
Simone Tagliapietra, Abdelhak Bassou, Marion Jansen, Yassine Msadfa, Mario Filadore and Larabi Jaidi
Book/Special Report, 17 August

The European Gas Markets
Simone Tagliapietra
External Publication, 31 August

The role of international institutions in fostering sub-Saharan Africa’s electrification
Simone Tagliapietra and Morgan Bazilian
External Publication, 22 September

A new strategy for European Union-Turkey energy cooperation
Simone Tagliapietra and Georg Zachmann
Policy Contribution, 24 October

Beyond coal: facilitating the transition in Europe
Simone Tagliapietra
Policy Brief, 23 November

Investing for the common good: a sustainable finance framework
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The role of international institutions in fostering sub-Saharan Africa’s electrification
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Fostering energy access in Sub-Saharan Africa: what role for Europe?, 5 October

Fiscal aspects of the Energy Transition, 17 October

EU-Turkey energy and climate dialogues, 20 October

SELECTED BLOGS

Brexit goes nuclear: The consequences of leaving Euratom
Enrico Nano and Simone Tagliapietra, 21 February

Trump’s Energy Policy: America First, Climate Last?
Simone Tagliapietra, 28 February

The EU antitrust case: no big deal for Gazprom
Simone Tagliapietra, 15 March

Global decarbonisation: a wake-up call for the Middle East and North Africa
Simone Tagliapietra, 11 April

Standing on the shoulders of distant giants
Fabio Matera and Georg Zachmann, 23 May

Adieu Paris: what’s next for climate policy if Trump ditches the Paris Agreement?
Simone Tagliapietra and Georg Zachmann, 30 May

Lights on, Africa! Europe must coordinate support for electrification
Simone Tagliapietra, 20 June

The US 100% renewables dispute
Silvia Merler, 26 June

How to make finance a force for sustainability
Dirk Schoenmaker, 12 July

Trump and the Paris Agreement: better out than in
Simone Tagliapietra, 18 September

Reinforcing the EU energy industry transformation: stronger policies needed
Simone Tagliapietra and Georg Zachmann, 21 September

We need a broader, greener EU-Turkey energy partnership
Simone Tagliapietra, 19 October

The impact of Brexit on the Irish energy system – pragmatism vs. principles
Georg Zachmann, 21 November

FIND ALL OUR WORK ON THIS TOPIC AT: http://bruegel.org/topic/energy-and-climate/

EVENTS

Different perspectives on Nord Stream II, 21 February

Trump’s energy policy: America first, climate last?, 7 March

Future of the European energy industry, 14 June, Milan

Renewing the 2050 Roadmap, 22 June

How can sustainable finance contribute to the Paris climate goals?, 25 September
Bruegel’s distinctive nature rests on a balanced partnership between private and public stakeholders.

Our member base is composed of EU member states, international corporations and independent institutions.

With membership fees constituting more than 80% of the annual budget, but no single member contributing more than 4%, Bruegel succeeds in collaborating with a wide array of partners while protecting its principal assets: independence, professional integrity and objectivity.

Bruegel is committed to the highest levels of transparency, both at the level of the institution and at the level of individual scholars. This level of disclosure represents a new standard in public transparency for think tanks.
Ratifies the appointment of the board and of the director and deputy-director.
Approves the budget and the accounts.
Participates in the design of the Research Programme through multilateral consultations, and bilateral exchanges involving each member individually.

State members
Corporate members
Institutional members

Elect 3 members each

11 members (6 elected, 5 appointed)
Chair: Jean-Claude Trichet

Works with the management team to guide the organisation, holds director accountable.
Approves the budget and the annual research programme, which is prepared on the basis of a wide consultation of members.
Approves new members and senior staff

8 members
Chair: Svend E. Hougaard Jensen

Advises Bruegel's board and management.
Assesses the scientific quality of Bruegel's output with a yearly report.
Attends Bruegel's board meetings through presence of the chair.

Director: Guntram Wolff
Deputy director: Maria Demertzis

Executive management • Research supervision • Editorial responsibility • Preparation of research programme & board meeting
The board's composition reflects the diversity of Bruegel’s stakeholders. An 11-person group, it is made up of high-ranking individuals from government, industry, academia and civil society, each of them acting in a personal capacity.

A diversity of backgrounds, nationalities and genders is guaranteed through a combination of elections and appointments. It reflects Bruegel’s nature as a public good.

The new board of Bruegel was confirmed by members in March 2017 and comprises:

JEAN-CLAUDE TRICHET
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FORMER PRESIDENT, EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

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RACHEL LOMAX
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MANAGING DIRECTOR, BLACKROCK INVESTMENT INSTITUTE

SIMONE MORI
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ELENA PISONERO
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PAWEL SAMECKI
MEMBER OF THE MANAGEMENT BOARD OF NARODOWY BANK
POLSKI

TUOMAS SAARENHEIMO (AS OF MARCH 2018)
PERMANENT UNDER-SECRETARY AT THE MINISTRY OF
FINANCE, FINLAND

HANS VIJLBRIEF (UNTIL JANUARY 2018)
TREASURER-GENERAL, DUTCH MINISTRY OF FINANCE
The scientific council consists of internationally recognised economists appointed by the board for a three-year mandate. It advises Bruegel’s board, director and deputy director, and assesses the scientific quality of Bruegel’s output. The scientific council chair attends board meetings.

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THOMAS PHILIPPON
PROFESSOR OF FINANCE AT NEW YORK UNIVERSITY, STERN SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
Members are at the core of our organisational framework. They engage in a partnership, an exchange of ideas and a commitment to Bruegel’s mission.

Their representation at board level, their contribution to the research agenda, their interactions with scholars and their participation in events are a guarantee that Bruegel remains both accountable and relevant.

Members are committed to Bruegel’s standards of transparency and integrity. They recognise Bruegel’s independence and agree to refrain from seeking to influence the course of Bruegel’s research work or to obstruct publication. We are grateful to each of them for their support.
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<td>Uber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>UniCredit Group</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MANAGEMENT TEAM

GUNTRAM WOLFF

Director

Guntram Wolff is responsible for Bruegel’s overall executive management, for the preparation of the board meetings, the preparation of Bruegel's strategy, the research strategy and the hiring of staff. He exercises editorial oversight and quality control. Guntram was deputy director of Bruegel before being appointed director in 2013. Before this, he worked on euro-area governance at the European Commission and fiscal policy at the Bundesbank. He holds a PhD in economics from the University of Bonn and has published numerous pieces on the European economy and governance, on monetary and fiscal policies and on finance.

MARIA DEMERTZIS

Deputy director

Maria is the deputy director of Bruegel since 2016. The deputy director assists the director in leading the organisation, with a specific focus on shaping the research programme and ensuring its execution is of the highest quality. She has previously worked at the European Commission and the research department of the Dutch Central Bank. She has also held academic positions at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government in the USA and the University of Strathclyde in the UK, from where she holds a PhD in economics.

MATT DANN

Secretary general

Matt supports the director in his executive tasks. He oversees the management of Bruegel’s non-research operations, takes care of finances and manages institutional relations with Bruegel’s members. Matt is an experienced media professional who has worked in both television and the financial sector. He is a graduate of Keele University, UK, and has an MBA from the Solvay Business School of the Université Libre de Bruxelles.

PAOLA MANIGA

Head of development

Paola and her team are responsible for raising new income streams from public and private sources. She was previously secretary general of the European Association of Sugar Traders (ASSUC) and trade policy adviser for the associations representing international trade in flowers and EU imports of processed agriculture and fishery products. Paola holds two master’s degrees, in local economic development from the London School of Economics and in management from Bocconi University. She is also co-founder of The Brussels Binder, an online database of female policy experts.

GIUSEPPE PORCARO

Head of communications & events

Giuseppe Porcaro and his team are responsible for press and online outreach and the organisation of Bruegel's events. He has extensive experience of organisational management, communication and policy development at European and international level. He was secretary general of the European Youth Forum between 2009 and 2014 and previously worked at the World Bank in Kosovo and Paris. Giuseppe holds a master’s degree in international relations and a PhD in geography of development from the University of Naples L’Orientale.
BRUEGEL'S FUNDING

Understanding who funds think tanks, and to what end, is an important part of maintaining the reputation our sector has for independence. Bruegel’s management is required by the board and members to pursue balanced funding, with goals stipulating the proportion of funding that should be received from membership and non-membership sources. Bruegel is therefore committed to building a diverse set of stakeholders, to help buttress independence and allow the budget to cover the funding cycle. Diversity of funding also allows Bruegel to operate during downturns in the business/funding cycle. Our funding structure is based on:

- **Core funding**
  85% of funding comes from the membership programme:
  - EU member states
  - Corporations
  - Central banks and autonomous institutions

- **Non-core funding**
  15% of funding comes from project-based grants
  - EU and other public institutions
  - Private organisations

**Grants from European institutions** for specific multi-annual research projects or papers. This also gives Bruegel an opportunity to interact with policymaking institutions and makes advocacy for Bruegel’s work more effective.

**Grants from private organisations**, such as private foundations and top research institutes. Bruegel adopts a flexible approach to cooperation. Joint activities with partners focus on intellectual dialogue through visiting fellowships, joint publications and policy debates with relevant decision makers and practitioners.

**Members** are the core of organisational framework. No member contributes more than a small percentage of the annual budget (1-4% of 2018 budget), which protects independence further. An arm’s-length relationship with members is also guaranteed by Bruegel’s statute and bylaws, which clearly define the role that members play in the organisation.

The financial statements fully detail our funding streams for both core and non-core funding. Bruegel’s development is planned to be organic, with a gradual expansion of the membership programme and the sustainable growth of other funding streams in harmony with Bruegel’s core values. A large part of making Bruegel’s financial future sustainable also rests in constant innovation in operations: finding ways to cut costs whilst expanding output.

Bruegel maintains reserves of just over 2.5 million euros. These reserves make six months’ operating costs available and help maintain financial stability. Bruegel’s cash flows are carefully managed and Bruegel has never borrowed to finance operations or for capital investments.
## BALANCE SHEET 2017 - 2016

### FIXED ASSETS

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>2016</th>
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<tr>
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<td>IT Development</td>
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<td>New Office Space Development</td>
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### CURRENT ASSETS

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<tr>
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<td>Other Debtors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Funded Project Receivables</td>
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<td><strong>CASH AND FINANCIAL ASSETS</strong></td>
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### DEFERRALS AND ACCRUALS

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<td>Accrued Income</td>
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### TOTAL ASSETS

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<td>3,393,124.98</td>
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### CURRENT LIABILITIES

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<td>Remuneration and Social Security Payables</td>
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<td>Funded Project Creditors</td>
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<td>Prepaid Income</td>
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<td>VAT Payable</td>
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<td>Provisions</td>
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### NET ASSETS

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<td><strong>NET ASSETS</strong></td>
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<td>Surplus/Loss of the Year</td>
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<td>Accumulated Reserves</td>
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### TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

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<th>2016</th>
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<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</strong></td>
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<td>3,393,124.98</td>
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## INCOME STATEMENT 2017 - 2016

### REVENUE

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<th>2016</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SUBSCRIPTIONS - STATE MEMBERS</strong></td>
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<td>2,124,992.00</td>
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<td><strong>SUBSCRIPTIONS - CORPORATE MEMBERS</strong></td>
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<td>1,433,333.32</td>
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<td><strong>SUBSCRIPTIONS - INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>(see Complete Funding Annex for breakdown)</td>
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<td><strong>OTHER REVENUES</strong></td>
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<td><strong>HONORARIA</strong></td>
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<td><strong>PROJECT-BASED FUNDING</strong></td>
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<td><strong>FOUNDATION GRANTS</strong></td>
<td>246,132.14</td>
<td>273,893.71</td>
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<td><strong>FINANCIAL INCOME (GROSS)</strong></td>
<td>260.92</td>
<td>516.83</td>
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<td><strong>OTHER INCOME</strong></td>
<td>108,024.00</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUE</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,939,108.01</strong></td>
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### EXPENSES

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>WAGES AND COMPENSATION</strong></td>
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<td><strong>OPERATING EXPENSES</strong></td>
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<td><strong>STAFF TRAVEL COSTS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FINANCIAL CHARGES</strong></td>
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<td><strong>DEPRECIATION EXPENSES</strong></td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
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### SURPLUS / DEFICIT

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>[BEFORE EXTRAORDINARY ITEMS]</strong></td>
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<td><strong>INCOME WRITE-OFFS FROM PREVIOUS YEARS</strong></td>
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<td><strong>FINAL RESULT</strong></td>
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87
### Revenue

#### Subscriptions - State Members

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<th>Category</th>
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<th>2016</th>
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<td></td>
<td>110,676.66</td>
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<td>Luxembourg</td>
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<td>Estonia</td>
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<td>99,609.00</td>
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<tr>
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#### Subscriptions - Corporate Members

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Subscriptions - Corporate Members</th>
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<td>AMZON, Joined 2016</td>
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### Subscriptions - Institutional Members

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<tr>
<td>Bank of England</td>
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<tr>
<td>Banque Centrale du Luxembourg</td>
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<td>25,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banque de France</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caisse des Dépôts</td>
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<td>Danmarks Nationalbank</td>
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<td>European Bank for Reconstruction and Development</td>
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<td>European Investment Bank</td>
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### Projects & Grants Annex

#### Income for Research Activities from Public Organisations

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<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
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<td>COP 21 Ripples Project, Funded by the European Commission HORIZON 2020</td>
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#### Income for Research Activities from Private Organisations

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<td>Compagnia di San Paolo (Policy Dialogue with Emerging Economies Project)</td>
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#### Honoraria, for Conferences, Written Pieces etc.

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STATUTORY AUDITOR’S REPORT TO THE GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS OF THE AISBL BRUEGEL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

In the context of the statutory audit of the annual accounts of the Aisbl Bruegel (the association), we hereby present our statutory auditor’s report. It includes our opinion on the audit of the annual accounts as well as our report on the other legal and regulatory requirements. These reports form part of an integrated whole and are indivisible.

We have been appointed as statutory auditor by the general meeting of members of 28 April 2015, following the proposal by the board of directors. Our statutory auditor’s mandate will expire on the date of the general meeting of members which will deliberate on the annual accounts closed on 31 December 2017. We have performed the statutory audit of the annual accounts of the Aisbl Bruegel for 6 consecutive years.

Report on the audit of the annual accounts

Unqualified opinion

We have audited the annual accounts of the association, which comprise the balance sheet as at 31 December 2017, the profit and loss account for the year then ended and the notes to the annual accounts, characterised by a balance sheet total of € 3,412,518 and a profit and loss account showing a positive result for the year of € 50,413.

In our opinion, the annual accounts give a true and fair view of the association’s net equity and financial position as at 31 December 2017, as well as of its results for the year then ended, in accordance with the financial reporting framework applicable in Belgium.

Basis for unqualified opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) as applicable in Belgium. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the ‘Statutory auditor’s responsibilities for the audit of the annual accounts’ section in this report. We have complied with all the ethical requirements that are relevant to the audit of annual accounts in Belgium, including those concerning independence.

We have obtained from the board of directors and the officials of the association the explanations and information necessary for performing our audit.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.
Responsibilities of the board of directors for the annual accounts

The board of directors is responsible for the preparation of annual accounts that give a true and fair view in accordance with the financial reporting framework applicable in Belgium, and for such internal control as the board of directors determines is necessary to enable the preparation of annual accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the annual accounts, the board of directors is responsible for assessing the association’s ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the board of directors either intends to liquidate the association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Statutory auditor’s responsibilities for the audit of the annual accounts

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the annual accounts as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a statutory auditor’s report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these annual accounts.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the annual accounts, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control;
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association’s internal control;
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the board of directors;
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the board of directors’ use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the association’s ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our statutory auditor’s report to the related disclosures in the annual accounts or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our statutory auditor’s report. However, future events or conditions may cause the association to cease to continue as a going concern;
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the annual accounts and whether the annual accounts represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the board of directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identified during our audit.

**Report on other legal and regulatory requirements**

**Responsibilities of the board of directors**

The board of directors is responsible for the compliance with the legal and regulatory requirements regarding bookkeeping, as well as for compliance with the Law of 27 June 1921 on non-profit organisations, foundations, European political parties and European political foundations, and with the association's by-laws.

**Responsibilities of the statutory auditor**

In the context of our mandate and in accordance with the Belgian standard which is complementary to the International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) as applicable in Belgium, it is our responsibility to verify, in all material aspects, compliance with certain provisions of the Law of 27 June 1921 on non-profit organisations, foundations, European political parties and European political foundations and with the by-laws, as well as to report on these elements.

**Statement related to independence**

- Our audit firm did not provide services which are incompatible with the statutory audit of annual accounts, and we remained independent of the association throughout the course of our mandate.

- The fees related to additional services which are compatible with the statutory audit of annual accounts as referred to in article 17 of the Law of 27 June 1921 on non-profit organisations, foundations, European political parties and European political foundations, which refers to article 134 of the Company Code, were duly itemised and valued in the notes to the annual accounts.
Other statements

- Without prejudice to certain formal aspects of minor importance, the accounting records are maintained in accordance with the legal and regulatory requirements applicable in Belgium.

- There are no transactions undertaken or decisions taken in breach of the by-laws or of the Law of 27 June 1921 on non-profit organisations, foundations, European political parties and European political foundations that we have to report to you.

May 3, 2018

The Statutory Auditor

[Signature]

VRC Registered Auditors
Represented by Geert Keunen
Bruegel is a European think tank specialising in economics. Established in 2005, Bruegel is independent and non-doctrinal. Its mission is to improve the quality of economic policy with open and evidence-based research, analysis and debate.

Bruegel is registered as a Belgian international non-profit association (Association Internationale Sans But Lucratif) under the number 0867636096, with registered offices at rue de la Charité 33, B-1210 Brussels. The basis for its governance is found in its statute and bylaws.

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1210 Brussels, Belgium

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Fax: +32 2 227 4219

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