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The Airline Industry: Re-establishing free, fair competition



European airlines are facing an offensive strategy on the part of their State competitors in the countries of the Gulf, which is leading to their demise. The European Union has in its possession regulatory tools that it must use to the full but which in all likelihood require completion so that they can rise to the new situation. It must also draw up a global strategy which brings fair competition to the heart of the airline industry of all players who want to enjoy the benefits of the Single European Sky. The European Parliament has turned its attention to the issue by adopting two resolutions on transport and the Aviation Package, which both move in this direction. The European Commission use this work to finalise the "Aviation Package" that it is due to present at the end of 2015.

[Read more](#)

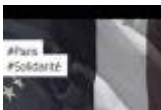
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Foundation :

Mourning and Hope



Following the attacks in Paris on 13th November Jean-Dominique Giuliani, Chairman of the Robert Schuman Foundation recalls the wave of emotion caused by these crimes and Europe's response, along with that of the world to this barbarous act... [Read more](#)

Conference on European aviation at the European Parliament



On 17th November in Brussels at the European Parliament Franck Proust (EPP, FR) and the Robert Schuman Foundation are organising a conference entitled "European aviation, hitting turbulence?" Debate will focus on emergency measures to restore the competitiveness of European aviation... [Read more](#)

Migration :

Euro-African Summit in La Valetta



On 12th November in La Valetta, the Europeans launched a trust fund totalling 1.8 billion € in a bid to convince the countries of Africa to help in stemming the flow of migrants. The EU hopes to foster the return of illegal migrants to their countries of origin, whilst participating in local projects to enable their re-integration... [Read more](#)

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According to FRONTEX 540,000 migrants arrived in Greece over the last ten months



According to FRONTEX, the European Agency for Monitoring the EU's external borders, more than 150,000 left Turkey for Greece in October and more than 540,000 have done the same since the beginning of the year, ie 13 times more than the number over the same period in 2014... [Read more](#)

Slovenia builds a border fence



On 10th November Slovenian Prime Minister Miro Cerar declared at a press conference that Slovenia was to build a fence on its border with Croatia... [Read more](#)

Sweden re-introduces temporary border controls



The Swedish government decided on 12th November to re-introduce temporary border controls in order to be able to cope with the influx of tens of thousands of refugees who are a threat to "public order"... [Read more](#)

Financial Crisis :

Lower GDP growth in the euro zone in 3rd quarter



According to Eurostat data published on 13th November the euro zone's GDP rose by 0.3% in the third quarter of 2015 (-0.1% in comparison with the second quarter) and by 0.4% in the EU (=)... [Read more](#)

Audition of Mario Draghi at the European Parliament



The European economy is resisting external challenges but the ECB is prepared to step up its action if the outlook in terms of inflation takes a turn for the worse admitted the President of the ECB, Mario Draghi, to MEPs on 12th November... [Read more](#)

Eurogroup Meeting



Jeroen Dijsselbloem said he was pleased on 15th November with the "good progress" made between Greece and its creditors, saying that they had come to agreement on "many issues". The agreement between Greece and its euro zone creditors targeted many points in the reform programme that Athens has to implement in exchange for further loans ... [Read more](#)

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European Council :

Informal Summit of European heads of State and government



The 28 European heads of State and government met on 12th November to discuss the migrant and refugee situation... [Read more](#)

Commission :

Reports by the Commission on the Balkan countries and on Turkey

In its annual reports adopted on 10th November the European



Commission assessed progress made by the Western Balkan countries (Albania, Serbia, Montenegro, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Macedonia (FYRM) and Kosovo). Regarding Turkey there is a "negative trend" in terms of the rule of law and "serious regression" concerning the freedom of

speech... [Read more](#)

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Improvement in the protection of victim of crimes in the EU



The EU's new rules on victims' rights that entered into force on 16th November will greatly change the way victims of crime are treated in Europe... [Read more](#)

Parliament :

MEPs want to strengthen the European aviation sector



To stimulate the European aviation sector MEPs approved a resolution on 11th November 428 votes in support, 149 against and 53 abstentions, to guarantee fair competition conditions... [Read more](#)

Tax evasion : the representatives of eleven multinationals at the European Parliament



Following the LuxLeaks scandal on practices undertaken in some countries that have enabled multinationals to pay less tax, the representatives of eleven large companies attended a hearing before the special committee on tax rulings on 16th November. The companies maintained that their practices in terms of taxation are

legal but that the groups' coordinators might ask for a 6 month extension to the investigation [Read more](#)

MEPs approve a reform of the European electoral act



On 11th November MEPs approved the reform of the 1976 European electoral act hoping that the European elections will no longer be as dependent on national frameworks... [Read more](#)

Council :

Conclusions of the "Economy/Financial" Council



The 28 Economy-Financial Ministers came to a political agreement on 10th November to establish bridge finance under the Single Resolution Mechanism... [Read more](#)

Agreement on the Budget

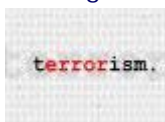


The European Parliament and the Council came to an agreement on 14th November on the 2016 budget, which is due to total 155 billion €... [Read more](#)

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Diplomacy :

Meeting of European Foreign Affairs Ministers



On 16th November during a meeting of the 28 Foreign Affairs Ministers in Brussels, the countries of Europe called for "unity" in countering terrorism after the deadly attacks in Paris. They also expressed their concern about the worrying situation in Burundi... [Read more](#)

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Euro-American Meeting of Justice and Internal Affairs Ministers

On 13th November Dimitris Avramopoulos, European Commissioner for Immigration and Jeh Johnson, the representative for the Department



of Homeland Security, discussed, amongst other matters, police and judicial cooperation between the EU and the USA... [Read more](#)

G20 Summit



The leaders of the world's richest countries who met in Turkey on 16th November said that they were determined to counter Islamic State, in spite of their divergence regarding Syria after the terrorist attacks in France. ... [Read more](#)

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Court of Auditors :

Court of Auditors' on the EU Budget



The European Court of Auditors validated the EU's account on 10th November for the eighth year running. Both revenues and administrative spending are without any significant error. The overall error level in payments declined for the second year running to lie at 4.4% in 2014... [Read more](#)

European Agencies :

Rosetta homes in on Philae



A year after landing on the comet Chury contact might be re-established with the robot Philae, whilst the probe Rosetta has come within 200 km of it... [Read more](#)

Ariane 5 sets two communication satellites in orbit



Ariane 5 orbited two telecommunications satellites on 10th November, Arabsat-6B for the Saudi operator Arabsat and Gsat-15 for the Indian space agency ISRO, from the Guianese Space Centre in Kourou... [Read more](#)

Germany :

Former German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt has passed away



Former German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt passed away on 10th December. Chancellor from 1974 to 1982 he was a mainstay of Franco-German friendship, which he embodied with French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing... [Read more](#)

Annual report by German Expert Panel



The German Economic Panel of Experts delivered its annual report to Chancellor Angela Merkel on 11th November regarding Germany's economy. In its opinion the country is able to overcome the challenges set by the refugee crisis and even stands to benefit from immigration from an economic point of view... [Read more](#)

Poland :

New Polish Government



On 13th November Beata Szydlo (Law and Justice PiS) winner in the general elections on 25th October in Poland was appointed Prime Minister by President Andrzej Duda. The new government comprises 18 ministers of whom three are women... [Read more](#)

Portugal :

Motion of no-confidence against the government

The Portuguese government led by Prime Minister Pedro Passos Coelho elected in 2011 and who won the general elections on 4th October last, was forced to resign on 10th November after a no-confidence vote by an alliance on the left (socialists, communists and left bloc)... [Read](#)



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Romania :

New Romanian government



On 10th November Romanian President Klaus Iohannis appointed Dacian Cioloș, former European Commissioner for Agriculture to the post of Prime Minister - the latter announced his new government on 15th November. He will be auditioned by parliament on 17th November... [Read more](#)

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UK :

EU Referendum: David Cameron presents his four renegotiation goals



British Prime Minister David Cameron presented his four goals in the renegotiation process with the other EU Member States on 10th November. He asked for reform in terms of economic governance, competitiveness, national sovereignty and immigration... [Read more](#)

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Indian Prime Minister visits the UK



On 13th November David Cameron hosted Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Deeming that both countries "had not used all of their potential" the British Prime Minister aimed for India and the UK to establish renewed relations... [Read more](#)

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Kosovo :

Kosovo suspends the implementation of a vital agreement with Serbia



On 10th November Kosovo suspended the implementation of the "historic" agreement that was designed to normalise its relations with Serbia. The agreement, concluded under the aegis of the EU. This action has come in the wake of the country being rejected as a candidate for UNESCO under pressure from Belgrade... [Read more](#)

Macedonia :

Macedonia (FYRM) reshuffles its government to organise early elections



The Macedonian opposition entered the government on 11th November following a reshuffle as part of a plan to bring the country out of a long political crisis, the aim of which is to organise early elections in April 2016... [Read more](#)

IMF :

IMF Report on Eastern Europe



On 13th November the International Monetary Fund published a report on the economic situation of the countries of Central and Eastern Europe ... [Read more](#)

Eurostat :

Euro zone: inflation revised up in October at +0.1%



Inflation was revised slightly upwards in October in the euro zone at +0.1% over one year according to figures published on 16th October by Eurostat... [Read more](#)

20.5 billion € trade surplus for the euro zone



The export of goods from the euro zone to the rest of the world increased by 1% totalling 173.4 billion €, whilst imports decreased by 1% to lie at around 152.8 billion €... [Read more](#)

Culture :

Pablo Picasso Exhibition - Jean Cocteau in Athens



The B&M Theocharakis Foundation in Athens is running an exhibition devoted to Pablo Picasso and Jean Cocteau until 28th February 2016... [Read more](#)

Aesthetics of Love



Until 17th January 2016 the museum "Quai Branly" in Paris is providing visitors with a glimpse of far eastern Siberian decorative art from the 19th to the beginning of the 20th century... [Read more](#)

Agenda :



16th November
Brussels
"Agriculture and Fisheries" Council



16th and 17th November
Brussels
"Foreign Affairs" Council



17th and 18th November
Brussels
"General Affairs" Council



20th November
Brussels
Meeting of 28 Home Affairs Ministers



23rd November
Brussels
Eurogroup Meeting



23rd and 24th November
Brussels
"Education, Youth, Culture and Sports" Council



23rd to 26th November
Strasbourg
Plenary Session of the European Parliament

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The Robert Schuman Foundation, created in 1991 and acknowledged by State decree in 1992, is the main French research centre on Europe. It develops research on the European Union and its policies and promotes the content of these in France, Europe and abroad. It encourages, enriches and stimulates European debate thanks to its research, publications and the organisation of conferences. The Foundation is presided over by Mr. Jean-Dominique Giuliani.

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