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## The Dutch rejected the Association Treaty between the EU and Ukraine

Authors: Corinne Deloy, Pascale Joannin



The Dutch rejected the Association Treaty between the European Union and Ukraine on 6th April in a consultative referendum. Only 38.41% voted "yes" in the popular consultation in which only 32.2% of the Dutch went to ballot. This "unique" situation raises both legal and political questions.

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#### Foundation :

##### 3rd edition of the Atlas of the European Union



The third edition of the Atlas of the European Union is a work of reference that presents the Union, its institutions, each of its 28 Member States and a new feature - the overseas territories via their history, culture and their version of reality... [Read more](#)

#### Migration :

##### Proposals for the management of migration



On 6th April the Commission presented measures to improve the management of the migratory crisis which include a reform of the European asylum and information systems together with a regulation to establish an entry/exit system... [Read more](#)

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[Drop in the number of asylum seekers in Germany](#)



Germany has noted a decline of two-thirds in the number of new asylum seekers with around 20,000 people registered in March against 60,000 the previous month announced the German Home Affairs Minister Thomas de Maizière... [Read more](#)

### European Border Guard



On 6th April since the Council now has its position regarding the European Border Guard negotiations can start with Parliament... [Read more](#)

### Migration: Frontex analysis 2016



On 5th April Frontex published a risk analysis for 2016 reviewing the migratory phenomenon in 2015 and highlighting the major challenges to be met on the EU's external borders in the future... [Read more](#)

### Financial Crisis :

#### Meeting of the G7 Foreign Affairs Ministers



On 11th April in the so-called "Hiroshima Declaration" the heads of diplomacy from the countries of the G7 advocated a world "free of nuclear arms.".. [Read more](#)

#### Cyprus joins the coordination of economic policies



On 7th April the Commission announced that after having finished the three year economic adjustment programme Cyprus had joined the coordination of economic policies... [Read more](#)

#### COSME Agreement between the EIF and the Société Générale



On 4th April the EIF (European Investment Fund) and the Société Générale signed an agreement to finance 250 million € targeting 14,000 SMEs in France... [Read more](#)

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### Counter/Terrorism :

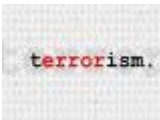
#### Increase in armed forces staff



French President François Hollande decided on 6th April to cancel the destruction of 10,000 jobs in the armed forces and to create 800 additional posts over the next three years in order to rise to the terrorist threat... [Read more](#)

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#### Agreement between Europol and the FBI



The FBI and Europol announced on 7th April that they had signed a reciprocal agreement to step up the joint fight to counter foreign terrorist fighters... [Read more](#)

### Commission :

#### Single VAT area in the EU



On 7th April the European Commission adopted an action plan on VAT called "Towards a single VAT area in the Union.".. [Read more](#)

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Security: the EU steps up its response to hybrid threats



The European Commission and the High Representative adopted a common framework on 6th April to counter hybrid threats and to strengthen the resilience of the EU, its member states and its partners... [Read more](#)

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**Council :**

**Conclusions on Agriculture and Fisheries**



On 11th April the Agriculture and Fisheries Ministers agreed on additional measures for European agriculture. They adopted measures to strengthen countries that produce timber and also the management of fisheries partnerships with third countries... [Read more](#)

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**Extension of restrictive measures in Iran against a humanitarian backdrop**



On 11th April the Council decided to extend its restrictive measures against 82 people and one organisation for a further year due the humanitarian situation in Iran... [Read more](#)

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**Diplomacy :**

**Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the EU and Malaysia**



On 6th April the EU and Malaysia signed a partnership and cooperation agreement after five years of negotiation. Malaysia is the EU's second biggest trade partner within ASEAN... [Read more](#)

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**Progress in the EU/Mercosur trade agreement**



On 8th April the Commissioner for External Trade, Cecilia Malmström and the Foreign Minister of Uruguay Rodolfo Nin Novoa agreed on the next stages in the negotiations on the EU/Mercosur agreement... [Read more](#)

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**EU-Chile Trade Agreement on Organic Products**



On 7th April the European Commission announced the conclusion of an agreement with Chile on the trade of organic products... [Read more](#)

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**Germany :**

**Angel Merkel meets the Armenian President**



German Chancellor Angela Merkel met Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan on 6th April to discuss bilateral relations and the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan... [Read more](#)

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**Meeting between the German Chancellor, the ILO, OECD, IMF, WTO, and the World Bank**



The German Chancellor and the leaders of five international organisations called on 5th April for the introduction of long term, rigorous, structural reforms to stimulate world economic growth... [Read more](#)

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**France :**

**Franco-German Council of Ministers**



François Hollande and Angela Merkel presided over the 18th Council of Franco-German Ministers in Metz on 7th April. The meeting was dominated by issues associated with offshore accounts, the refugee crisis, the fight to counter terrorism and economic revival... [Read more](#)

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**Italy :**

### Official signature of the purchase of 28 Eurofighter planes by Kuwait



Kuwait and Finmeccanica signed a contract on 5th April for the delivery of 28 Eurofighter Typhoon planes... [Read more](#)

### The Netherlands :

#### The Dutch reject the Association Agreement with Ukraine



61.1% of the Dutch rejected the European Association Agreement with Ukraine during a consultative referendum on 6th April... [Read more](#)

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### UK :

#### Issues at stake in the UK remaining in the EU



On 6th April British Prime Minister David Cameron announced the dispatch of a brochure on the issues at stake in the referendum... [Read more](#)

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### Iceland :

#### Appointment of a new Prime Minister in Iceland



Icelandic Fisheries and Agriculture Minister Sigurdur Ingi Johannsson was appointed Prime Minister on 6th April in replacement of Sigmundur David Gunnlaugsson - until the next general elections that are planned for the autumn... [Read more](#)

### Kosovo :

#### New President of Kosovo



Hashim Thaçi was sworn in on 7th April as President of Kosovo by Parliament during a session that was boycotted by the opposition... [Read more](#)

### Ukraine :

#### Resignation of Prime Minister Arseny Yatsenyuk



Ukrainian Prime Minister Arseny Yatsenyuk announced on 10th April that he had resigned from his post. He is due to be replaced by the present leader of Parliament Volodymyr Groissman... [Read more](#)

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### OSCE :

#### Ceasefire in Nagorno-Karabakh



The Minsk Group on Nagorno-Karabakh within the OSCE co-chaired by France, the USA and Russia met on 5th April to discuss the rise in fighting in this region disputed by Azerbaijan and Armenia... [Read more](#)

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### Council of Europe :

#### Visit by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe of Poland



The Secretary General of the Council of Europe Thorbjørn Jagland visited Poland on 4th and 5th April to discuss the crisis regarding the Constitutional Tribunal and the public media with Polish President Andrzej Duda and Prime Minister Beata Szydło... [Read more](#)

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#### Companies and human rights

On 4th April the Commissioner for Human Rights at the Council of Europe, Muižnieks declared that businesses had to assume their



responsibilities in terms of protecting human rights... [Read more](#)

## Studies/Reports :

### 2015 ECB Annual Report



On 7th April the European Central Bank published its annual report reviewing the economic, monetary and financial situation of the euro zone in 2015... [Read more](#)

### Justice Scoreboard in the EU



On 11th April the Commission published the Justice Scoreboard in the EU which enables a comparison on the efficacy, quality and independence of the respective legal systems in force in the Member States... [Read more](#)

### Rise in world military spending



World military spending totalled nearly 1,700 billion \$ in 2015 i.e. a rise of 1% in real terms in comparison with 2014 according to new data issued by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) published on 5th April... [Read more](#)

### Report on the drugs market in the Union



On 5th April the EMCDDA (European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction) published the 2016 report on the EU's drugs market... [Read more](#)

### Panama Papers



An international consortium of investigative journalists (ICIJ) accessed 11.5 million documents that reveal that assets belonging to some of the most important people in the world have been hidden in opaque tax havens... [Read more](#)

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## Culture :

### Gauguin Exhibition in Copenhagen



From 15th April to 28th August 2016 the Glyptothèque Ny Carlsberg of Copenhagen is hosting an exhibition "Gauguin's Worlds" which covers Paul Gauguin's artistic development from 1848 to 1903... [Read more](#)

### "Self-portraits, from Rembrandt to the selfie" Lyon



Until 26th June 2016 the Fine Arts Museum of Lyon is hosting the exhibition "Self-portraits, from Rembrandt to the Selfie" featuring the various approaches to the self-portrait from the 16th to 21st century... [Read more](#)

### Conceptual Art in Britain 1964-1979

From 12th April to 29th August the Tate Britain London is hosting the exhibition "Conceptual Art in Britain 1964-79" covering development in



British art over this period... [Read more](#)

### "Napoleon on Saint Helen's" in Paris



On 24th July the Army Museum in Paris is running an exhibition "Napoléon à Sainte-Hélène. La conquête de la mémoire" and offers the public an opportunity to see nearly 240 works on show for the first time in France together with the furniture that surrounded the Emperor during his exile... [Read more](#)

### European Film Days in the Czech Republic



The European Film Days are taking place in Prague from 7th to 16th April, in Brno from 14th to 18th April and from 20th to 24th April in other towns across the Czech Republic... [Read more](#)

### Bourges Spring



The Bourges Spring that is taking place from 12th to 17th April is hosting dozens of artists of all types... [Read more](#)

### Film Festival of Istanbul



Until 17th April the 35th Film Festival of Istanbul is taking place offering more than 200 international cinema productions... [Read more](#)

### Agenda :



11th April  
Luxembourg  
Agriculture and Fisheries Council



11th to 14th April  
Strasbourg  
Plenary Session of the European Parliament



14th and 15th April  
Washington DC  
Meeting of G20 Foreign Affairs Ministers and Central Bank governors



18th and 19th April  
Luxembourg  
"Foreign Affairs" Council

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