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What danger is there of contagion in the event of a "Brexit"?

Author: Julien Zalc



Beyond the economic and strategic amputation implied by an exit of the UK from the European Union, "Brexit" would also boost the Europhobic discourse of certain national political movements. If the UK did leave the EU might we fear a domino effect amongst other Member States?

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Contents

Elections : Spain - UK **Foundation** : Editorial - Report/State EU - UK-EU **Financial Crisis** : Greece - ECB - G7 **Migration** : Germany - Turkey **Commission** : Digital - Poland **Parliament** : Single Market - Netherlands **Council** : Economy/Finance - Competitiveness - Telecommunications - Future/EU - Education, Youth, Culture and Sport Council **Diplomacy** : Ukraine - Balkans-Turkey - Japan - Sanctions/EU **European Agencies** : Galileo **Germany** : Baltic States **France** : Verdun **Italy** : NATO - Economy **Poland** : Baltics/Security **Sweden** : NATO **Russia** : Greece **Ukraine** : Release/Savchenko - NATO **IMF** : Italy/France **Studies/Reports** : EIB - WTO - Attractiveness/France **Culture** : Exhibition/Liverpool - Exhibition/Athens - Festival/Lyon - Festival/Tallinn - Festival/Amsterdam - Cinema/Malta

[Agenda](#) | [Other issues](#) | [Contact](#)

Elections :

Parliamentary elections in Spain 26th June



The Spanish Parliamentary elections of 20th December did not enable the formation of a clear majority government and so the Spanish are being called to ballot again on 26th June. According to the most recent poll by IBES, published on 26th May the People's Party is due to come out ahead with 30% of the vote, followed by Unidos Podemos (25%), the PSOE (20%) and Ciudadanos (14%)... [Read more](#)

Analysis just one month before the UK referendum



British citizens are being called on 23rd June to answer the following question: "Should the UK remain a member of the European Union or should it leave the European Union?" Just one month before the election the most recent polls predict a slight lead for the supporters of the camp to remain in the Union... [Read more](#)

Foundation :

So, let's talk about Europe



In an editorial on his site, Jean-Dominique Giuliani, Chairman of the Foundation calls for debate about Europe... [Read more](#)

"Schuman Report on Europe, the State of the Union 2016"



The 10th edition of the "Schuman Report on Europe, State of the Union 2016" has just been published and is available in bookshops, on the Foundation's site and in digital form. Order your copy now!.. [Read more](#)

Will the UK remain in the EU?



On 2nd June in Paris there will be a debate on the British referendum of 23rd June notably with Thierry Chopin, Research Director for the Foundation... [Read more](#)

Financial Crisis :

Agreement concluded between Greece and its creditors



Euro zone Finance Ministers came to an agreement on 24th May on Greece in view of finalising the macro-economic adjustment programme from which the country is benefiting. This agreement will enable the European Stability Mechanism to release a further tranche of financial assistance of 10.3 billion €, of which 7.5 billion in June... [Read more](#)

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Financial Stability Review



On 24th May the European Central Bank published its financial stability review as well as a press release on the state of the euro zone's financial system... [Read more](#)

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G7 Summit



The G7 heads of State and government, who met in Japan on 26th and 27th May (Germany, Canada, France, Italy, Japan, UK, USA) exchanged views on the present main issues and published a joint declaration... [Read more](#)

Migration :

Integration Act adopted in Germany



After a two-day meeting in Meseberg, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and Sigmar Gabriel announced agreement on 25th May over the "Integration Act", based on the principle whereby the State will provide assistance to new arrivals but expects the latter to contribute in return to their integration... [Read more](#)

Facility in support of refugees in Turkey



On 26th May the European Commission announced the grant of 20 million € to increase the capacity of the Turkish Coast Guard and 27 million € to facilitate refugees' access to education... [Read more](#)

Commission :

E-trade, audiovisual and on-line platforms



On 25th May the European Commission presented measures aiming to help consumers and businesses purchase and sell products and on-line services more easily, in a totally safe manner across the Union. It also proposed an update of European audiovisual rules as well as a new

approach to on-line platforms... [Read more](#)

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Meeting between Beata Szydlo and Frans Timmermans



Polish Prime Minister Beata Szydlo met European Commissioner Frans Timmermans on 24th May in Warsaw following the ultimatum set by the European Commission regarding the rule of law in Poland. Agreement was found and the Polish government will have more time to settle the constitutional crisis... [Read more](#)

Parliament :

Strategy for the Single Market



On 26th May MEPs adopted a resolution that aims to increase the potential of the single market of goods and services to the benefit of consumers and businesses... [Read more](#)

The King of the Netherlands expresses his wish for the upkeep of the UK in the Union



The King of the Netherlands, Willem-Alexander, expressed his wish for the UK to remain in the European Union during a speech given to the European Parliament on 25th May... [Read more](#)

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Council :

Conclusions of the Economy and Finance Council



On 25th May the European Economy and Finance Ministers adopted the directive on country per country reporting and intra-Member State information exchange and conclusions on the Commission's action plan on VAT... [Read more](#)

Conclusions of the Competitiveness Council



On 26th and 27th May the European Ministers agreed on the main principles to maintain the portability of on line service digital content and adopted conclusions on digital technologies as well as on research and innovation... [Read more](#)

Decisions of the Telecommunications Council



On 26th May the European Ministers adopted a guideline on the draft decision on the use of UHF in the Union (470-790MHz)... [Read more](#)

Conclusions of the General Affairs Council



On 24th May the 28 European Affairs Ministers held their second annual dialogue on the rule of law, notably insisting on the challenges generated by the present migratory flows regarding the upkeep of European values... [Read more](#)

Education, Youth, Culture and Sport Council



On 30th May European Ministers adopted conclusions regarding the role played by the youth sector in preventing and countering violent radicalisation amongst young people, as well as regarding the promotion of education to the media and the critical approach adopted to the means of education and training. They also debated the modernisation of higher education. .. [Read more](#)

Diplomacy :

Normandy Format discussion on Ukraine

On 24th May the French, Russian and Ukrainian Presidents as well as



German Chancellor Angela Merkel discussed the implementation of the Minsk Agreements. Notably the potential role to be played by the OSCE in the Donbas region was discussed... [Read more](#)

[Other link](#) | [Other link](#)

Economic and financial dialogue EU-Balkans-Turkey



The economic and financial dialogue between the EU, the Western Balkans and Turkey took place on 25th May. On this occasion participants expressed their satisfaction with the timely submission of the Balkans' programme for economic reform (ERP) but regretted the delay suffered by Turkey's ERP... [Read more](#)

Free trade agreement EU/Japan



On 26th May on the sidelines of the G7 European and Japanese leaders recalled their firm intention of stepping up negotiations for the economic partnership between the EU and Japan... [Read more](#)

Sanctions against Syria and North Korea



On 27th May the Council extended the restrictive measures taken by the EU against the Syrian regime until 1st June 2017 and adopted further restrictions regarding North Korea... [Read more](#)

[Other link](#)

European Agencies :

Launch of two Galileo satellites



The Russian launcher Soyouz lifted off on 24th May from French Guiana with two new satellites on board that are destined for the European navigation system Galileo... [Read more](#)

Germany :

Frank-Walter Steinmeier visits the Baltics



German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier travelled to the Baltic States on 26th and 27th May. He discussed migratory and security issues and emphasised the importance of the integration of the Russian minorities in these countries... [Read more](#)

France :

Commemoration of the Centenary of Verdun



On 29th May French President François Holland and German Chancellor jointly commemorated the centenary of the battle of Verdun... [Read more](#)

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Italy :

NATO Secretary General Visits Italy



On 24th May NATO's Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg met the President of the Italian Council, Matteo Renzi. He said he was pleased with the Italian contributions made to the Alliance's missions and welcomed the Italian proposal for greater coordination in the Mediterranean... [Read more](#)

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Economic Festival Trento



From 2nd to 5th June 2016 the Economic Festival of Trento will be taking place. This is the festival's 11th year and will focus on the theme of "Where growth takes place"... [Read more](#)

Poland :

The Visegrad Group is to deploy military forces in the Baltics



The Visegrad Group (Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary) announced the dispatch of a military force to the countries of the Baltic as of 2017 as part of the plan to strengthen NATO's presence in eastern Europe... [Read more](#)

[Other link](#)

Sweden :

Sweden's rapprochement with NATO



On 27th May Swedish MPs ratified the NATO partnership agreement put forward by the government... [Read more](#)

Russia :

Russian President visits Greece



Russian President Vladimir Putin travelled to Greece on 27th and 28th May as part of the Russia-Greece year organised by the two countries to strengthen bilateral economic relations. He travelled to one of the 20 monasteries on Mount Athos, a holy Orthodox site... [Read more](#)

[Other link](#)

Ukraine :

Release of Ukrainian Pilot Nadia Savchenko



Held by Russia since June 2014 Ukrainian pilot Nadia Savchenko was freed on 25th May in exchange for the amnesty of two Russian prisoners who had been found guilty of terrorism... [Read more](#)

NATO helps Ukraine eliminate obsolete weapons



On 26th May NATO sent material to Ukraine to enable the removal and destruction of obsolete weapons in the regions of Donetsk and Lugansk... [Read more](#)

IMF :

IMF Reports on France and Italy



On 24th May the IMF published its economic reports on France and Italy. In France the economy is recovering but work has to continue. Italy is due to achieve 1.1% growth in 2016... [Read more](#)

[Other link](#)

Studies/Reports :

EIB 2015 Activity Report



On 24th May the European Investment Bank published its 2015 activity report presenting the main events of the past year as well as future prospects... [Read more](#)

2016 WTO Report



On 27th May the WTO published its 2016 annual report covering its activities in 2015 and at the beginning of 2016... [Read more](#)

Publication of the Economic Attractiveness Barometer in Europe



The annual report by Ernst&Young on France's economic attractiveness was published on 24th May. Focusing on 2015 and all 42 countries in the European Economic Area it draws up an extremely dark view of French attractiveness... [Read more](#)

Culture :

"Francis Bacon: Invisible Rooms" at the Tate Gallery Liverpool



The exhibition "Francis Bacon: Invisible Rooms" is running until 18th September at the Tate Gallery of Liverpool. The exhibition reviews the central leitmotif in the British artist's work... [Read more](#)

Ai Weiwei at the Museum of the Cycladic Art



Until 30th October the Museum of Cycladic Art -MCA- in Athens will be running an exhibition by Ai Weiwei, a first for the artist in Greece and in an archaeological museum... [Read more](#)

Fourvière Nights Lyon



From 1st June to 31st July in Lyon there will be a feast of music, circus and theatre productions on the historic site of the Romain amphitheatre of Fourvière... [Read more](#)

The Festival of the Old Town of Tallinn



The Festival of the Old Town of Tallinn will be taking place between 1st and 5th June. Organised since 1982 the festival takes place in the squares, streets, cafés and bars which are brought to life with music, artistic productions and theatre plays... [Read more](#)

"Holland Festival" Performing Arts Festival



The performing arts festival "Holland Festival" is taking place from 4th to 26th June in Amsterdam. The programme includes dance, theatre, concerts and films... [Read more](#)

Film Festival in La Valette



La Valette is hosting its second film festival from 3rd to 11th June... [Read more](#)

Agenda :



30th-31st May
Brussels
"Education, Youth, Culture and Sports" Council



30th May-3rd June
Brussels
Green Week 2016



31st May

31
May

Paris
Dialogue with Jean-Claude Juncker

1
Jun

1st June
Switzerland
Open of the Saint Gothard rail tunnel

2
Jun

2nd June
Vienna
ECB Council of Governors

6
Jun

6th-7th June
Brussels
Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council

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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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