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The Letter in PDF format

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## The Future of the European Project

Authors: Thierry Chopin, Jean-François Jamet



The major challenges facing the Europeans – such as terrorism, the migratory crisis, and differently "Brexit" as well as the rise of anti-European populism – call for the redesign and revival of the integration of a united Europe. These various challenges should not be treated separately, in a fragmented manner but rather put in perspective and addressed in a structured way. They all bring into play the Europeans' ability to rise together to overcome the series of crises they are facing. However unity cannot be taken for granted. Indeed extremely strong political tension is threatening the cohesion and stability of the European Union.

[Read more](#)

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Front page! :

Will Europe's year debut be a success?



In an editorial published on his site, Jean-Dominique Giuliani, the Foundation's President explores the conditions for a revival in Europe...  
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Elections :

HDZ wins the general election in Croatia

The HDZ won the general election in Croatia on 11th September with



36.6% of the vote and 61 seats of the 151 in Parliament. The social democrats of the SPD in coalition with other parties only won 33.5% and 54 seats. Most came third with 9.8% and 13 seats followed by Zivi zid with 8 sets. Turnout totalled 52.59%. Since it did not win the absolute majority the HDZ will have to form a coalition government... [Read more](#)



**Foundation :**

**Europe and Sovereignty**



In partnership with the Egmont Institute and Eurodéfense France, the Robert Schuman Foundation is organising a seminar in Brussels entitled "Europe and sovereignty: reality, limits and perspectives." Enrol on-line... [Read more](#)



**Financial Crisis :**

**Informal Finance Ministers' Meeting**



On 9th and 10th September the 28 European Ministers for the Economy and Finance exchanged views on the future of economic policies, taxation and investment in the EU... [Read more](#)



**GDP up by 0.4% in the EU and by 0.3% in the euro zone**



According to an estimate published on 6th September by Eurostat over the second quarter of 2016 the GDP rose by 0.4% in the EU and by 0.3% in the euro zone... [Read more](#)



**Migration :**

**A network of smugglers dismantled in Europe thanks to police cooperation**



A network of mainly non-European smugglers who were illegally smuggling migrants across Europe was dismantled on 6th September thanks to cooperation between several European police forces coordinated by Europol and Eurojust... [Read more](#)



**EU-Turkey Dialogue**



On 9th September 2016 the EU's High Representative Federica Mogherini met several members of the Turkish government in Ankara to discuss democracy, the refugee crisis and the liberalisation of visas... [Read more](#)



**Humanitarian aid plan of 348 million € for refugees**



On 8th September the EU signed a major humanitarian aid plan to a total of 348 million € in aid of the most vulnerable refugee families in Turkey... [Read more](#)



**Commission :**

**The Commission wants to improve aviation security and competitiveness**



On 7th September the Commission proposed the introduction of a single EU certification procedure on inspection and screening equipment used for aviation security... [Read more](#)



## Table of projects financed by the EU budget in the world



On 8th September the European Commission published an interactive map detailing the projects that are financed at present by the EU across the world... [Read more](#)

## European Ombudsman asks for clarification over José Manuel Barroso's situation



On 6th September Emily O'Reilly, the European Ombudsman, made an official request to the President of the European Commission for clarification over the situation of his predecessor, José Manuel Barroso... [Read more](#)

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## Nearly 160 billion € in VAT lost in 2014 in the EU



According to figures published by the Commission on 6th September 159.5 billion € in VAT were not collected by the Member States in 2014... [Read more](#)

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### Parliament :

#### Guy Verhofstadt appointed as the European Parliament's representative for the Brexit



On 8th September the Conference of Presidents of the European Parliament appointed Guy Verhofstadt, MEP and former Belgian Prime Minister as the EP's representative for the negotiations over the Brexit... [Read more](#)

### Council :

#### Eurogroup Meeting



During the Eurogroup meeting on 9th September the Greek government was encouraged to introduce any remaining reforms rapidly... [Read more](#)

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### Diplomacy :

#### Europe must become an international political and diplomatic force



On 6th September Federica Mogherini, the EU's High Representative addressed the EU's ambassadors in Brussels calling for a stronger EU in world affairs... [Read more](#)

### Court of Justice :

#### Differences in treatment in protection against extradition



In a decision C-182/15 dated 6th September the European Court of Justice recognises that a State is not obliged to grant the same protection to an EU citizen having been present on its territory as it does to its own citizens... [Read more](#)

### ECB :

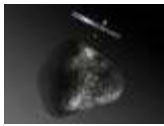
#### ECB Council of Governors Meeting



On 8th September the ECB's Council of Governors announced that the key rates were to be maintained and made no changes to its inflation forecast for the euro zone at 0.2% in 2016, 1.2% in 2017, and 1.6% in 2018. However GDP growth in the euro zone is now expected to be 1.7% for 2016 and 1.6% in 2017 then in 2018 against a previous 1.7%... [Read more](#)

## European Agencies :

### Rosetta probe finds the little robot Philae



Just one month before the end of its mission the European probe Rosetta has located the little robot Philae, the trace of which had been lost since its historic, turbulent landing in November 2014 on the comet Churyumov-Gerasimenko announced the European Space Agency (ESA) on 5th September... [Read more](#)

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### Agreement between ESA and Arianespace for the launch of a new satellite



On 7th September the European Space Agency signed a contract with Arianespace for the launch of a new satellite, "Aeolus" at the end of 2017... [Read more](#)

## Germany :

### No deficit in Germany's 2017 Budget



On 7th September German Chancellor Angela Merkel spoke to the Bundestag on the occasion of the budgetary debate. On 6th Wolfgang Schäuble, the Finance Minister presented, for the third year running, a balanced budget for 2017... [Read more](#)

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## Austria :

### Postponement of the 2nd round of the Presidential Election in Austria



[more](#)

Following defects found in some electoral equipment (envelopes, voting slips) - the Austrian government decided to postpone the 2nd round of the presidential election. Initially planned for 2nd October, it will now take place either on 27th November or 2nd December... [Read more](#)

## Ireland :

### The Irish parliament supports the Irish government against the Commission's decision over Apple



On 7th September the Dáil Éireann (the Irish parliament) supported the Irish government's decision to appeal against the EU's decision regarding tax advantages granted to Apple deemed to be illegal State aid... [Read more](#)

## UK :

### The issue of exiting the EU at the British Parliament



[Read more](#)

On 6th September the European Committee at the House of Lords started its inquiry into the possible effects of the Brexit on relations between Ireland and the UK. On 8th September David Davis, the British Secretary of State for Exiting the EU travelled to Ireland to discuss bilateral relations. On 5th September he gave a speech to the House of Commons... [Read more](#)

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### Nicola Sturgeon presents her general policy programme



On 6th September Nicola Sturgeon, Scotland's First Minister presented her general policy for 2016-2017 which will mainly focus on education and healthcare... [Read more](#)

## Slovenia :

### The IMF publishes a report on Slovenia



On 7th September the IMF published a report on Slovenia calling for the country to continue the reforms it has started... [Read more](#)

#### Ukraine :

##### The World Bank prepared to support Ukraine



On 8th September the World Bank said it was pleased with the decision taken by the Ukrainian Ministers to approve the programme to re-establish and consolidate peace in the eastern regions of Ukraine. As a result the World Bank said it is prepared to continue providing aid to Ukraine... [Read more](#)

#### UN :

##### The summit on the UN's peacekeeping operations aims to improve the latter



On 8th September during a summit on the UN's peacekeeping operations in London, the participating States expressed their satisfaction with the work and cooperation achieved, estimating that further improvements were necessary in order to overcome contemporary threats and to guarantee international peace and security... [Read more](#)

#### Eurostat :

##### Survey on Cultural Facilities in European Capitals



On 8th September in the context of the European Heritage Days on 17th and 18th September Eurostat published a survey on citizen satisfaction with the cultural facilities in their town... [Read more](#)

##### Statistical portrait of towns, agglomerations and suburbs of the EU



On 7th September Eurostat published a file illustrating a statistical portrait of towns, agglomerations and suburbs of the EU... [Read more](#)

#### Studies/Reports :

##### The Commission presents its Consumer Markets Scoreboard 2016



On 6th September the European Commission published the Consumer Markets Scoreboard. This covers EU consumer ratings of 42 goods and services markets... [Read more](#)

#### Culture :

##### European Heritage Days



The 33rd European Heritage Days will be taking place on 17th and 18th September in 50 countries of Europe... [Read more](#)

##### 17th Dance Biennale in Lyon

From 14th to 30th September the 17th Dance Biennale of Lyon is taking place. It aims to support new talent and reveal the world of dance in all of its diversity. An exhibition will run alongside the festival entitled "Corps Rebelles" at the Musée des Confluences reviewing the history of dance... [Read more](#)



### Kandinsky, Marc & Der Blaue Reiter Exhibition at the Beyeler Foundation



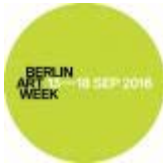
The Beyeler Foundation is running an exhibition devoted to Kandinsky, Marc & Der Blaue Reiter (a group of Expressionist painters) until 22nd January 2017. This exhibition offers visitors a new approach to one of the most significant artistic turning points in the 20th century... [Read more](#)

### Exhibition of Douanier Rousseau's Paradise Lost



From 15th September 2016 to 15th January 2017 the National Gallery of Prague together with the Musée d'Orsay in Paris is organising an exhibition devoted to Henri Rousseau... [Read more](#)

### Berlin Art Week



The 5th Berlin Art Week is taking place from 13th to 18th September... [Read more](#)

### Antiquarian Biennale in Paris



Both professionals and amateurs of art will meet in Paris until 18th September at the Grand Palais for the Antiquarian Biennale... [Read more](#)

### 49th International Puppet Festival of Zagreb



From 13th to 18th September the 49th International Puppet Festival is taking place in Zagreb, Croatia... [Read more](#)

### 64th International Film Festival of San-Sebastian



From 16th to 24th September the 64th International Film Festival is taking place in San Sebastian... [Read more](#)

### Scientific Festival for young people in Vilnius



The International "Spaceship Earth" Festival is taking place until 17th September. This event aims to promote science amongst young people... [Read more](#)

### Oktoberfest Munich



Munich will be hosting the 183rd Oktoberfest from 17th September to 3rd October 2016. It is the biggest fair in the world paying tribute each year to the culture and traditions of Bavaria... [Read more](#)

#### Agenda :



11th-13th September  
Bratislava  
Informal Meeting of Agriculture Ministers



12th-15th September  
Strasbourg  
Plenary Session of the European Parliament



16th September  
Bratislava  
Informal meeting of the 27 heads of State and government



20th September  
Brussels  
General Affairs Council

The Letter is also available in:



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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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