
Boards Tackling Geopolitical Challenges

Dynamic Briefing

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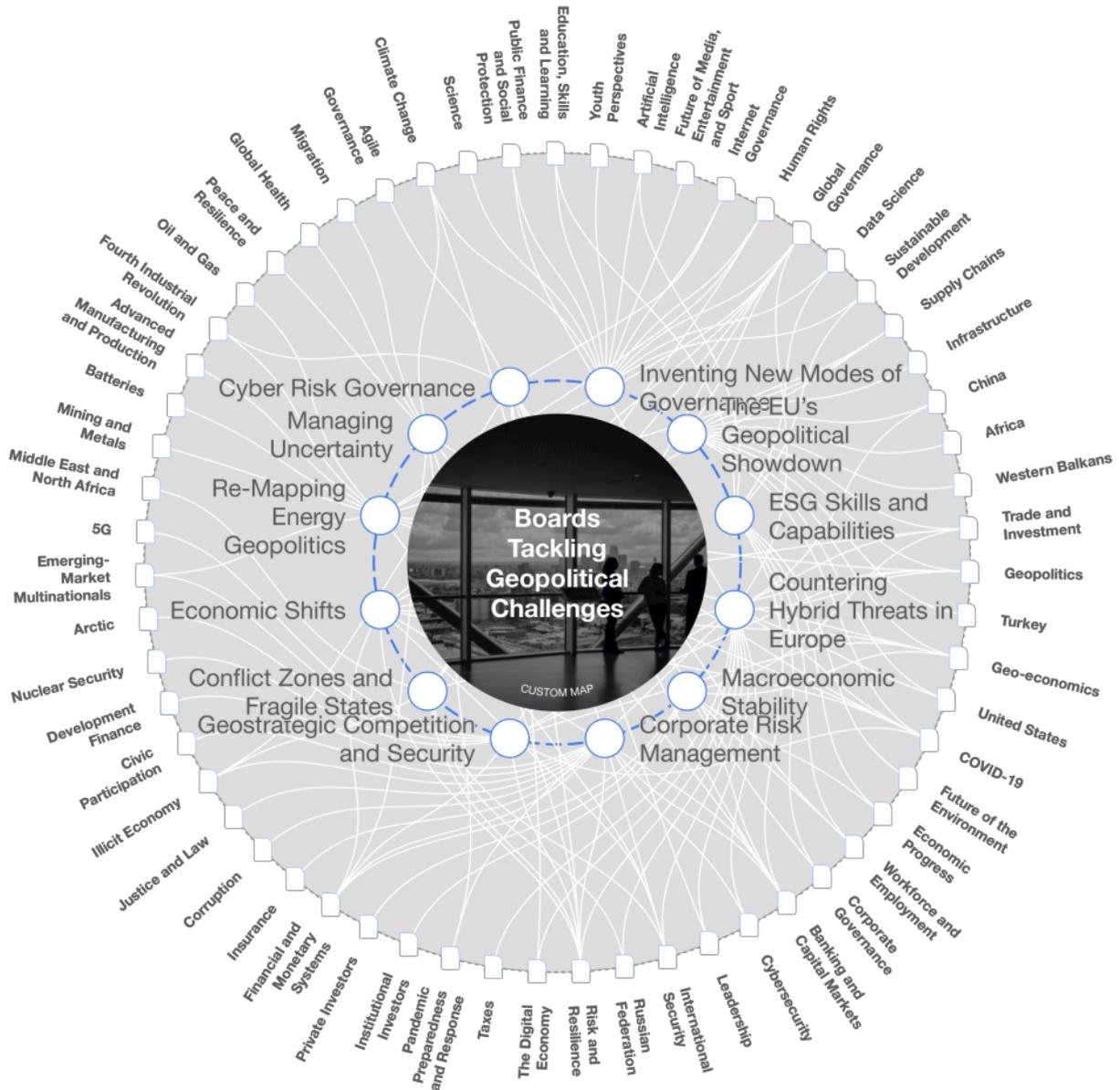


Boards Tackling Geopolitical Challenges

Last review on Sat 05 March 2022

About

This dynamic briefing draws on the collective intelligence of the Forum network to explore the key trends, interconnections and interdependencies between industry, regional and global issues. In the briefing, you will find a visual representation of this topic (Transformation Map – interactive version available online via intelligence.weforum.org), an overview and the key trends affecting it, along with summaries and links to the latest research and analysis on each of the trends. Briefings for countries also include the relevant data from the Forum’s benchmarking indices. The content is continuously updated with the latest thinking of leaders and experts from across the Forum network, and with insights from Forum meetings, projects communities and activities.



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Executive summary

Insights for Boards tackling Geopolitical challenges including the war by Russia on Ukraine. For individuals exploring to make a difference more insights can be found here <https://supportukrainenow.org>

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12. Cyber Risk Governance

The number of corporate boards with a dedicated cybersecurity committee is expected to increase sharply by 2025.

Inventing New Modes of Governance

The traditional institutions spawned after World War II are increasingly irrelevant

Growing inequality, the social and economic fallout from COVID-19, climate change, and migration all present increasingly thorny governance challenges. The climate crisis demands coordinated answers at the local and global level. However, governance structures largely inherited from the 19th and 20th centuries - like patriarchal institutions, political parties, or intergovernmental negotiations - are being questioned as they reach the limits of their usefulness. Voting, long the preferred mechanism for choosing decision-makers, has been undermined by low turnout and the interference of authoritarians. The pandemic spurred governments to restrict freedom of movement and pursue vaccination efforts, triggering reactions. Many countries have seen demonstrations against pandemic restrictions and mandates (even as other people have pressed for stronger measures to better help protect populations). The pandemic has also diverted attention and funding from other public health issues, reduced the capacity of civil society organisations to function, and generated geopolitical tensions. This has only further pressured a multilateral system mostly formed after World War II. The friction between the US and China is a symptom of this deterioration, as is Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

However, new means of global cooperation are emerging. Multi-stakeholder efforts like the Internet Governance Forum are demonstrating that open platforms for discussion are not only possible, but also useful. Efforts formed around the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals are also promising. Many international civic-participation movements are being powered by digital coordination and make decision making more inclusive. At the national level, the French Citizens' Convention for the Climate (2019-2020) demonstrated the power of embedding such a deliberative process in traditional decision making, and inspired similar processes in other countries. At the European level, the Conference on the Future of Europe has brought citizens from all EU member states together to discuss topics such as the economy, social justice, climate change, and migration. This marked the first time citizens' panels discussed and participated in political debate with decision makers in 24 different languages. At the global level, platforms like Avaaz and Change.org are gaining traction, and initiatives like the Global Citizens' Dialogues on the future of the Internet are connecting the informed views of citizens with decision-makers. Slowly but increasingly, deliberative democracy is scaling.

Related insight areas: [Human Rights](#), [Sustainable Development](#), [Inequality](#), [Science](#), [International Security](#), [Climate Change](#), [Data Science](#), [Youth Perspectives](#), [Education](#), [Skills and Learning](#), [Internet Governance](#), [Future of Media](#), [Entertainment and Sport](#), [Public Finance and Social Protection](#), [Global Governance](#), [Artificial Intelligence](#)



Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania
- Knowledge@Wharton

How Will Twitter Change?

04 May 2022

Wharton marketing professor Pinar Yildirim said the deal makes sense from a business perspective because there are a number of money-making features that Twitter hasn't implemented over the years, such as the edit button that Musk has clamored for or creative reels that would make it more competitive with Instagram and TikTok. Even after the departure last fall of co-founder and former CEO Jack Dorsey, the company has remained true to its original mission of public discourse, so it should be easy for Musk to pluck "low-hanging fruits" by adding features that would yield greater profit and please users.



FiveThirtyEight

States Aren't Waiting For The Supreme Court To Rule On Abortion

03 May 2022

On Monday night, Politico published a draft opinion from the Supreme Court that indicates a five-justice conservative majority plans to strike down Roe v. Wade and eliminate the constitutional right to abortion. It is not a final ruling, and it can change, but if it does not, the ruling would dramatically restrict abortion access across the country. Even before the leaked draft, state legislators weren't waiting for the justices' final word.



Reporters Without Borders

RSF's 2022 World Press Freedom Index : a new era of polarisation

03 May 2022

The 20th World Press Freedom Index published by Reporters Without Borders (RSF) reveals a two-fold increase in polarisation amplified by information chaos – that is, media polarisation fuelling divisions within countries, as well as polarisation between countries at the international level.



IndiaSpend

Why India Fell From 133 To 142 In The World Press Freedom Index In Five Years

03 May 2022

Hyderabad: India's ranking fell from 133 in 2016 to 142 in 2021, of 180 countries, on the World Press Freedom Index that highlights the degree of freedom that journalists, news organisations and netizens have in each country, and the government's efforts to respect such freedom. The report is put together by Reporters Sans Frontières (RSF), a non-governmental organisation. The index is based on a survey that looks at seven main criteria: pluralism (the degree to which different viewpoints are represented in the media), media independence, environment and self-censorship, legislative framework, transparency in sourcing of information, infrastructure for production of information, and abuses or assaults against journalists in the field.



International Telecommunication Union

How AI can help fight misinformation

02 May 2022

Identifying and isolating misinformation and disinformation poses a major challenge to increasingly digital news ecosystems. Advances in AI could help online information users sort out fact from fiction.



World Economic Forum

'Open' technology can tackle the world's biggest problems - here's what's holding it back

02 May 2022

Open source approaches to technologies can help governments more efficiently develop tailored solutions to big and urgent challenges. Implementing digital public goods (DPGs) to leverage digital public infrastructure (DPI) can provide crucial interventions for emergencies and development. DPI and DPGs, when combined with community engagement and accountable governance, form Open Digital Ecosystems (ODEs) that democratize access to government systems and enable collaborative citizen-centric services. Key changes must be made to ensure that governments can maximize digital ecosystems to accelerate the achievement of UN Sustainable Development Goals. The utility of technological solutions in a crisis has never been clearer.

The EU's Geopolitical Showdown

A 'geopolitical' European Commission must guide Europe while the risk of a global great-power standoff increases

The Russian invasion of Ukraine has raised the stakes in an intensifying global great-power competition. While the US and China vie for influence in terms of standard-setting, trade, and infrastructure - both physical and digital - Russia has applied blunt force to subjugate a sovereign state. As Russia and China call on NATO to stop enlargement, they have moved closer to a united front against the West; China has shied away from backing Russia militarily, but those who fear Chinese military intervention in Taiwan or the South China Sea are watching its positioning closely. Meanwhile a self-declared "geopolitical" European Commission aims to make the European Union a strategic global player capable of advancing its interests with one voice. COVID-19 laid bare the difficulties and opportunities for positioning Europe between the US and China. The EU has established its leadership in science and desire to forge cooperation, but its supply chains for energy, raw materials, and strategic health and digital products have created dependencies. With geopolitical tensions heating up and the ideological chasm growing between Western democracies and authoritarian regimes, balancing security interests with economic ties becomes more difficult.

In Europe's favour: The united Euro-American response to Russia's aggression in the form of economic sanctions and military support for Ukraine testifies to a revived transatlantic partnership. On the other hand, Europe has yet to find unity on strategic questions such as energy security, or its common approach to China. One way the EU has chosen to direct its geopolitical efforts is through a focus on regions. Its "Strategy with Africa" aims at advancing economic, political, and security cooperation - not least to counterbalance Chinese influence in Africa. In its more immediate neighbourhood including the Western Balkans, Eastern Europe, and North Africa, the "geopolitical" EU needs to provide more convincing answers on how to best address growing instability. Emerging powers in South Asia and elsewhere demand attention, which is acknowledged by the EU strategy for the Indo-Pacific - though it has yet to translate into action. In a world where a peaceful, rules-based globalization is on the backfoot and power politics is on the march, Europe must continue to advocate for democracy and multilateralism, and to serve as a laboratory (and model) for successful trans-national governance.

Related insight areas: [Trade and Investment](#), [China](#), [Africa](#), [COVID-19](#), [Supply Chains](#), [United States](#), [Turkey](#), [Geo-economics](#), [Geopolitics](#), [Infrastructure](#), [Global Governance](#), [Western Balkans](#)



Project Syndicate
Europe Is Its Own Enemy in Ukraine
 02 May 2022

Since invading its neighbor on February 24, Russia has received over €50 billion from Europe, more than ten times what the West has provided in cash and equipment to Ukraine. No European in their right mind should want to continue financing Putin's war.



Observer Research Foundation
Yuans and Euros: Decoding China's Influence in Europe
 28 April 2022

Lithuanian Minister of Foreign Affairs Gabrielius Landsbergis in conversation with Garima Mohan, Fellow, German Marshall Fund of the United States, Germany.



Brookings
How will France's changing political dynamics shape Macron's next term?
 26 April 2022

While Emmanuel Macron won re-election as France's president, far-right challenge Marine Le Pen gained a larger share of the vote than ever before. Célia Belin and Agneska Bloch explain how the political dynamics at play and the upcoming legislative elections are likely to shape Macron's second term.



swissinfo.ch
European leaders quick to congratulate France's Macron in EU sigh of relief
 25 April 2022

By Robin Emmott BRUSSELS (Reuters) -European Union leaders were quick to congratulate French President Emmanuel Macron on his election victory over his far-right rival on Sunday, reflecting relief that one of the bloc's most pivotal countries had avoided a political shock. European Council President Charles Michel, as well as the prime ministers of Belgium and Luxembourg, were among the first to congratulate Macron, followed by almost all of the bloc's 27 leaders, after his win over Marine Le Pen by a comfortable margin.



The Atlantic
Emmanuel Macron's Win Offers Him a Chance to Be Great
 24 April 2022

Winston Churchill was once asked whether he thought that Charles de Gaulle was a great man. "He is selfish, he is arrogant, he believes he is the center of the world," Churchill replied. "You are quite right. He is a great man." Something similar might be true of Emmanuel Macron. The French president, who is projected to be reelected for a second five-year term today, is certainly selfish, and arrogant, and seems to think the world revolves around his own apparently endless brilliance and grandeur.



Yale Environment 360
How U.S. Gas Exports to Europe Could Lock in Future Emissions
 21 April 2022

The U.S. plans to boost liquefied natural gas exports to Europe to help the EU reduce its dependence on Russian gas. This could spur an expansion of LNG terminals, which analysts say would lead to long-term increases in gas production and greenhouse gas emissions.



Istituto Affari Internazionali
Tackling Uncertainty: Turkish-EU Foreign Policy Cooperation in the Middle East and North Africa
 21 April 2022

With the withdrawal of NATO forces from Afghanistan and a return to open conflict in Europe, foreign policy cooperation between the EU and Turkey in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) has assumed even greater relevance and urgency. While tensions have subsided somewhat since 2020, the Turkey-EU relationship remains contentious and even conflictual as disagreements over key foreign policy files have mixed with domestic politics in both Turkey and certain European states to add further strain to the bilateral relationship.

ESG Skills and Capabilities

The employees required to assess new layers of corporate performance need a blend of competencies and skills

As the Environmental, Social and Governance marketplace grows, every firm involved is in need of people equipped with up-to-date sustainable business and investment skills. Banks and asset managers have been staffing up their ESG departments to help them analyse the non-financial performance of firms, and integrate that information with more traditional financial data in order to more comprehensively inform their investment decisions. Entirely new financial firms are also emerging, to supply the market with sustainable investment products like green bonds and access to activist shareholder funds and clean technology-focused venture capital investments. Their employees need a combination of foundational financial analysis skills and fluency in the language of carbon emissions, living wages, political activity, and other ESG matters - as well as an ability to critically consume related information. Non-financial firms need sustainability departments capable of measuring and monitoring firm performance, and communicating in an accurate and timely way to the capital markets and other stakeholders. The necessary related skillsets include an ability to engage and collaborate with business leaders while bringing a broader set of stakeholder concerns to the table.

To better connect businesses and disparate stakeholders, there is a growing industry of data providers, analytics and artificial intelligence firms, rating agencies, and other services designed to help process new layers of information about corporate performance. The necessary skillsets for this combine data analytics, computer science, and consulting with a deep understanding of sustainability. To develop a new generation of professionals equipped with these skills, business schools can further integrate sustainability into their curricula, and collaborate with operational and financial disciplines. Meanwhile academic programs in the environmental and social sciences can prepare people to apply their expertise to capital markets. Professional associations of investors, auditors, and accountants can provide continuing ESG education via organizations like the CFA Institute. Because ESG skills are often hybrid, the necessary certification and credentialing has been idiosyncratic - MBAs and Master of Finance degrees appear in credentials alongside degrees in environmental science or labour economics. While some people may have dual degrees covering such fields, others pursue specific sustainability certificates. As the ESG field matures and solidifies, employers may begin to seek more such harmonized certifications and credentials.

Related insight areas: [Workforce and Employment](#), [Sustainable Development](#), [Banking and Capital Markets](#), [Future of the Environment](#), [Economic Progress](#), [Corporate Governance](#), [Education, Skills and Learning](#), [Data Science](#), [Artificial Intelligence](#)



Frontiers

Does ESG Disclosure Help Improve Intangible Capital? Evidence From A-Share Listed Companies

10 May 2022

With the disclosure of ESG, the investment related to ESG disclosure has increased, and the trend of changes in intangible capital has shown an “inverted S-shaped” curve. The research shows that, in the initial stage of investment in ESG construction, new ESG investments increase intangible capital. With the increase in ESG investment and the advancement of time, the positive effect of the increase in ESG scores on intangible capital begins to appear and gradually offsets the cost of ESG investment. However, when the ESG score of a company is raised to a certain level, the marginal effect of continuing to increase ESG investment will reduce the increase in intangible capital.



MIT Sloan Management Review

What's Lost When We Talk 'ESG' and Not 'Sustainability' | Andrew Winston

05 May 2022

Our expert columnists offer opinion and analysis on important issues facing modern businesses and managers. More in this series Over the 20 years I've worked at the intersection of business and society, I've seen many terms applied to this part of the business agenda: compliance, eco-efficiency, corporate social responsibility, socially responsible investing, green, clean, sustainability, regenerative, net zero, net positive, and many more. Some variation in how we talk about all of this is helpful, but we also need some common language that's both relatively easy to comprehend and interesting.



Asian Development Bank

Debunking Viet Nam's Credit Rating Misconceptions

04 May 2022

There have been growing concerns that Viet Nam's fast-growing corporate bond market is harboring financial risks. The single most important step that the government could take to improve the transparency, safety, and sustainability of the corporate bond market is to mandate public credit ratings for all publicly and privately traded bonds. Under the 2019 Law on Securities, the government introduced some mandatory ratings. However, the regulations were tightly scripted and would mandate few, if any, issuers to be rated. Expanding the regulations to encompass all bonds is controversial, and opponents raise several objections.



GreenBiz

The sustainability job market is booming. What does that mean for hiring?

02 May 2022

Defining a "sustainability" job is tough. "Everybody who wants to work in sustainability should be cautious about a job that's called a 'sustainability' job," she said.



GreenBiz

The temperature is rising on heat as an ESG issue

02 May 2022

I've become reasonably immune, for better or worse, to most mind-numbing headlines. They seem to happen daily. The full plate of issues that comprise my daily media diet has been overflowing with dispiriting news as we humans seem to gorge ourselves on a smorgasbord of conflict and controversy.



GreenBiz

Definitive Guide to ESG

02 May 2022

This Definitive Guide to Getting Started with an ESG Program is a comprehensive resource full of tips, advice and examples to help companies implement and manage ESG as a part of a complete risk and compliance strategy. By proactively addressing impacts of ESG, like climate change, companies can better predict future innovation to avoid supply chain disruption by advancing ways in which materials are sourced and ensuring the global economy drives value creation with ESG elements in mind. For anyone responsible for: ESG program management or creation What you'll learn: What ESG is and why it's growing in importance ESG regulatory drivers and the risk of non-compliance The necessity and value of an ESG program and how to get started.



Rocky Mountain Institute

How Australia is Decarbonizing Its Premium Commercial Buildings: A Story of Ambition Loops

02 May 2022

Currently, more than half of the largest commercial property management companies in Australia have climate goals that are fully or closely aligned with the country's net zero by 2050 target. .

Countering Hybrid Threats in Europe

Russia's war on Ukraine reinvigorated Western security cooperation and may be a turning point in Europe's defence policy

When Russian forces invaded Ukraine in February 2022, war as a geopolitical instrument returned to Europe. Over the previous decade, illegal annexations, humanitarian crises, cyberattacks, and disinformation campaigns had already created a volatile security environment. Terrorism, trafficking, instability in Europe's neighbourhood, and the climate crisis all broadened the spectrum of potential threats, and made the notion of Europe as a continent at peace ring increasingly hollow. Russia's war of aggression inadvertently revived transatlantic security cooperation and emboldened the European Union to take unprecedented steps regarding its Common Security and Defense Policy. Under the leadership of US President Joe Biden and at the urging of East European allies, NATO massively stepped up its troop presence at the eastern flank. While NATO remains adamant about not becoming a party to the war, it has supported sanctions against Russia and provided military support to Ukraine. After years of simmering disagreement, NATO's new "Strategic Concept," due in summer 2022, is expected to show a new resolve in terms of strengthening collective defence and deterrence. Meanwhile the EU has coordinated with the US on its most far-reaching sanctions package ever imposed on a foreign country.

The bloc also decided for the first time to purchase weaponry and military equipment for a country under attack, and as of March 2022 planned to spend up to €1 billion out of the European Peace Facility. The EU also pledged to increase defence expenditures, expand capabilities and joint projects, and strengthen the industrial defence base. The EU's "Strategic Compass" reflects ambitions to increase Europe's strategic autonomy and make a stronger contribution to global and transatlantic security cooperation. Individual member states have stepped up related commitments, with the most noticeable change occurring in Germany. Challenges remain, however. The EU is not a global security player on par with China, the US, or Russia. It will take time and compromise to increase Europe's defence capabilities, and reformed modes of collective decision making. COVID-19 added an additional layer of complexity, as it laid bare vulnerabilities in strategic supply chains and in health security. Future threats related to energy and food security, as well as to cyber security - and multilateral security cooperation within the United Nations or NATO will remain a priority, as the EU has yet to demonstrate its capacity to act on its own.

Related insight areas: [COVID-19](#), [Geopolitics](#), [Global Governance](#), [Public Finance and Social Protection](#), [Russian Federation](#), [Pandemic Preparedness and Response](#), [Cybersecurity](#), [Risk and Resilience](#), [Taxes](#), [International Security](#), [The Digital Economy](#), [Leadership](#), [China](#), [United States](#)



VoxEU

A central bank view of reforming Europe's fiscal framework

13 May 2022

The economic landscape has changed dramatically since the European fiscal rules were designed some 30 years ago. This column contributes to the debate on reform by proposing a two-tier fiscal framework combining an expenditure rule that accounts for the ECB's inflation objective with a lower speed of adjustment under the Stability and Growth Pact's debt rule. Counter-cyclicality may be improved by automatic modulation of adjustment requirements, creating fiscal space when domestic inflation is low and constraining more when inflation is above target. The link to the debt anchor ensures a gradual phasing-in of debt reduction in the aftermath of COVID-19.



European Council on Foreign Relations

United Europe, Divided World? The Ukraine crisis and beyond

28 April 2022

With David Miliband, President & CEO, International Rescue Committee Chaired by Jana Puglierin, Head of Office & Senior Policy Fellow, European Council on Foreign Relations The Russian war of aggression on Ukraine puts millions of people's lives in danger. To find protection, families are forced to leave their homes and flee their country. Every day there are new reports about the catastrophic humanitarian situation inside Ukraine as well as in fragile contexts globally that are impacted by the knock-on effects of the war, e.g. as concerns rising food insecurity and hunger.



BBC News

French election: Historic win but Macron has polarised France

25 April 2022

Not enough is being made of this, but this is the first time ever that a governing president of the Fifth Republic has been re-elected.



the Guardian

Protests in Paris and Lyon as France's Macron is re-elected – video

25 April 2022

Demonstrators took to the streets in Paris and Lyon in protest against French President Emmanuel Macron's election win over far-right rival Marine Le Pen. Protesters threw fireworks at a police car in Lyon, while police fired tear gas and charged at dozens gathered in Place de la République square in Paris. Macron defeated Le Pen in a runoff vote, winning a second five-year term and preventing what would otherwise have been a major political upset. Although Macron won by a comfortable margin, the abstention rate was expected to settle at the highest since 1969, with a substantial chunk of voters unwilling to vote for either Macron or Le Pen Full report: Victorious Macron vows to unite France after fending off Le Pen threat What's in Emmanuel Macron's in-tray after his re-election as French president? What's next for Marine Le Pen?.

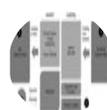


Al Jazeera

Macron defeats Le Pen in French election, promises change

24 April 2022

French President Emmanuel Macron has won a second term in office, defeating his far-right rival Marine Le Pen by a comfortable margin in a runoff election. His supporters erupted with joy on Sunday as the results appeared on a giant screen at the Champ de Mars park by the Eiffel tower. Leaders in Berlin, Brussels, London and beyond welcomed his defeat of the nationalist, eurosceptic Le Pen. With nearly all votes counted, Macron was on course for a solid 58.6 percent of the vote, according to interior ministry figures. Le Pen, the candidate of the far-right National Rally party (Rassemblement National or RN), received 41.4 percent of the votes, the highest in her three unsuccessful presidential bids.



VoxEU

A European Debt Agency could create a safe asset without debt mutualisation

22 April 2022

A European Debt Agency could greatly help in implementing a new fiscal policy strategy in Europe. This column identifies fluctuations in bond prices over the past 20 years that such an agency could have prevented, and argues that the agency could absorb the entire euro area debt while reducing its size due to less volatile price dynamics. A European Debt Agency could be used to hedge member states' financing from market sentiment vagaries, create a European safe asset, relieve the ECB of burden of debt management, and manage the implementation of fiscal rules efficiently.

Macroeconomic Stability

The Macroeconomic Stability category of the Global Competitiveness Index describes a country's efforts to curb inflation and successfully manage its public debt load.

Ukraine receives an overall progress score in this category of 58 out of a possible 100. That in turn translates into a rank of 133rd out of the 141 countries included in the category (in the overall Competitiveness Index - taking into account all categories - Ukraine ranks 85th out of 141 countries).

Ukraine's performance in specific areas of the Macroeconomic Stability category shows the greatest room for improvement in terms of debt dynamics, where it has a progress score (ranging from a poor mark of 0 to a top mark of one 100) of 40, resulting in a rank of 114th out of 140 countries.

One indicator reflects a better performance: inflation rate, where it has a progress score of 75.8 that results in a rank of 131st out of 141 countries.

Related insight areas: [Geo-economics](#), [Private Investors](#), [Trade and Investment](#), [Economic Progress](#), [Financial and Monetary Systems](#), [Institutional Investors](#), [Banking and Capital Markets](#), [Workforce and Employment](#)



VoxEU

Widespread food insecurity is not inevitable: Avoid escalating food export curbs

04 May 2022

Ukraine and Russia play an outsized role in global markets for key crops. Disruption to food prices and supplies arising from the conflict is being felt thousands of miles away, and not only in net food-importing countries. This column shows that governments are exacerbating matters through unilateral resort to export curbs. Bans on wheat exports alone are responsible for a 7 percentage point increase in world wheat prices (roughly one-sixth of the observed price surge) and risk igniting a multiplier effect. Assurances of adequate food supply must be provided by other suppliers.



Center for China and Globalization

IPD online panel: CCG President Huiyao Wang on impact of Ukraine War on China-U.S. relations

02 May 2022

CCG President Dr. Huiyao Wang was featured at a webinar "US-China Relations Amid War in Ukraine" hosted by Institute for Peace & Diplomacy on April 21, 2022. During the discussion, Dr. Wang addressed the issues, including the impact of the Russia-Ukraine war on US-China relations, and how China will manage the growing tension. .



Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

How the War in Ukraine is Impacting the French Election

14 April 2022

Contrary to expectations, the Russian invasion of Ukraine has not weakened Marine Le Pen's electoral position. Nevertheless, the political context in which France's Russia policy will be formulated has changed.



ReliefWeb

Global Impact of war in Ukraine on food, energy and finance systems

14 April 2022

The war in Ukraine is setting in motion a three-dimensional crisis - on food, energy and finance - that is producing alarming cascading effects to a world economy already battered by COVID-19 and climate change, according to the new findings of the Global Crisis Response Group (GCRG). "We are now facing a perfect storm that threatens to devastate the economies of developing countries," said UN Secretary-General António Guterres. "The people of Ukraine cannot bear the violence being inflicted on them.



United Nations

New report on the global impact of the war in Ukraine on food, energy and finance systems

13 April 2022

Press Conference on the new report on the global impact of the war in Ukraine on food, energy and finance systems. With UN Secretary-General, António Guterres; UN Deputy Secretary-General, Amina Mohammed and Rebeca Grynspan (UNCTAD).



Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania - Knowledge@Wharton

What Lies Ahead for the IPO Market?

13 April 2022

A high-profile and successful stock offering may well be the ignition the U.S. IPO market needs to rebound from its recent lackluster showing, according to Wharton management professor David Hsu . The drop in IPO activity has been steep: The first quarter of 2022 saw 77 IPOs that raised \$12.2 billion, compared to last year's first-quarter tally of 395 offerings that raised \$140 billion, according to a Barron's report which cited data from Dealogic. In 2021, the IPO market in the U.S. hit an all-time high with more than 1,000 IPOs raising about \$316 billion. Electric vehicle maker Rivian was the star performer, raising \$12 billion. Global IPO markets also boomed last year, raising \$594 billion, but they have also slowed down significantly in the latest quarter.



Project Syndicate

How to Sanction a Nuclear Foe

11 April 2022

Sanctions are an important and powerful weapon, and they are putting some pressure on the Kremlin. But unless the West employs them judiciously, Russian President Vladimir Putin may conclude that his regime has nothing to lose.

Corporate Risk Management

For boards, the volatility of risk scenarios is only increasing

Every organization is confronted with some type of risk - operational, financial, technological, environmental, regulatory - which can have devastating consequences. Effective corporate governance requires continuous and systematic management of all types of risk, both current and anticipated. First, risks must be prioritized, and here the board of directors can play a key role by deciding in what priority they should be addressed, what is to be deemed simply unacceptable, and how they should be addressed from a structural perspective. For example, evidence gathered from the 2007 global financial meltdown indicates that banks with boards that had identified a need to establish a separate risk management committee managed the crisis better than those with integrated committees. The benefits of this type of separation have become only more evident as fiduciary duties have come to include oversight of a broad range of matters, including compliance with international accounting rules and stability measures that require banks to set aside capital in case of potential losses. Implementing a robust risk management system requires the integration of different parts of an organization, including the board's risk committee, internal auditing, finance, legal, and operations.

Increasingly complex and rapidly changing economic, environmental, social, and technological conditions have multiplied potential risk scenarios. Worsening climate change, geopolitical tensions, trade wars, and social upheaval like the protests that spread in Hong Kong in 2019 require corporate governance that is proactive when it comes to identifying risks and addressing them. Determining an appropriate board structure and approach to risk management will depend upon both a company's industry and stage of its life cycle; risk exposure is very different for financial institutions than it is for petrochemical firms. Even within the financial sector, different approaches are required - from insurers exposed to extreme weather events related to climate change, to retail banks making loans to small businesses during volatile periods. Organizations are dealing with complexity and litigiousness like never before, forcing their boards to assess current and past organizational exposure. Still, there are some strategic advantages to taking risks; after all, achieving sustained growth requires some degree of risk-taking. Incorporating risk management into corporate strategy is therefore crucial.

Related insight areas: [Risk and Resilience](#), [Development Finance](#), [Financial and Monetary Systems](#), [Corruption](#), [Insurance](#), [Civic Participation](#), [Banking and Capital Markets](#), [Cybersecurity](#), [Climate Change](#), [Justice and Law](#), [International Security](#), [Illicit Economy](#)



World Economic Forum

Businesses are contributing to the Paris Agreement for nature. Here's how.

04 May 2022

The latest round of negotiations on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework was recently concluded in Geneva. For the first time at a United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) meeting, leading businesses turned out in force in support of more ambition. Leading businesses must step up and speak up to ensure a meaningful global agreement on nature is reached. It has been a tough start to 2022. The war in Ukraine has shaken global geopolitical order and brought immense grief while disrupting supply chains and global economic stability.

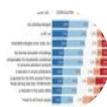


Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania - Knowledge@Wharton

Making the Business Case for ESG

04 May 2022

Witold Henisz is a Wharton management professor, director of the Wharton Political Risk Lab, and founder of the Wharton ESG Analytics Lab. He's also a subject-matter expert on one of the most pressing issues in business today, which is ESG. Many investors want to put their money into socially conscious companies that proffer environmental, social, and governance criteria, but actually measuring a company's ESG impact is an imperfect science at best.



VoxEU

Public support for carbon taxation

01 May 2022

While many economists are in favour of carbon taxation, the public often opposes this climate policy. This column uses data from a survey of 3,000 people in France to show that rejection of a carbon tax is driven by pessimistic beliefs regarding the properties of the tax. Even when revenues from the tax are redistributed to households so as to make the policy progressive, most people think that they and low-income households would lose out, and that the policy would not be effective at reducing emissions. Public investments and standards could help foster support for an ambitious climate policy.



The Tokenist

Gov. DeSantis Supports Musk's Twitter Bid, State Pension Fund Owns 946,960 Shares

21 April 2022

The State of Florida, which invested in Twitter through its state pension fund, may side with Elon Musk and his attempt to take ownership of Twitter. The post Gov. DeSantis Supports Musk's Twitter Bid, State Pension Fund Owns 946,960 Shares appeared first on The Tokenist .



World Economic Forum

Why private companies need to catch up on sustainability

08 April 2022

Public companies are leading private companies in three interlinked areas: environmental sustainability, corporate social responsibility and people sustainability. A diverse and inclusive culture attracts and retains the best talent, which leads to competitive advantages for those companies that have inclusive cultures. We call for improved transparency from private companies and their owners for better ESG and DEI insights to ensure that proper progress is being made. Sustainable businesses are focusing on three interlinked areas: environmental sustainability, corporate social responsibility and people sustainability. Their investors (i.e.



Electronic Frontier Foundation

Day of Action for Antitrust: Our Rights Are Tied to Having Choices

04 April 2022

Today, EFF joins a diverse coalition of civil society and tech companies to call on Congress to pass strong anti-monopoly rules for the Internet.

Geostrategic Competition and Security

Russia's Ukraine invasion demonstrates that competition with Moscow is a defining feature of security in Europe and beyond

Total global military spending reached \$1.98 trillion in 2020, the highest level since 1988. A 4.4% increase in the US compared with the prior year was accompanied by a 2.5% increase in Russia and a 1.9% increase in China. The abrupt exit of the US from Afghanistan in 2021 is symptomatic of a new American era focused less on nation-building and more on vying with China and Russia. Russia's invasion of Ukraine demonstrated that strategic and regional competition with Moscow is a defining feature of security in Europe and beyond; with a war the likes of which have not been experienced in Europe since World War II on its borders, NATO found new relevance. Shockwaves were felt in European countries, as illustrated by Germany's decision to boost defense spending by €100 billion. Meanwhile the AUKUS pact announced in 2021 transferring nuclear-submarine technology from the UK and the US to Australia illustrates the growing strategic importance of the Indo-Pacific region. The US aims to bolster Australia as a partner to counter what it perceives as an aggressive China - where survey results indicate the public sees US power and influence as the top international threat facing their country.

Geo-economics has become a far bigger factor in international security. The West's response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine has shown how sanctions have become a tool of choice in the geopolitical arena, as they enable economic isolation. In terms of technological competition, the US and China have been banning one another's companies (such as Huawei and Google), and the threat of a decoupling of the two economies still looms. COVID-19 only compounded related anxieties - when the pandemic hit, mostly-Chinese-made facemasks and other equipment were in short supply, highlighting the danger of depending on a single foreign source. Demand for broader, more inclusive power-sharing arrangements has been evident in the increased prominence of the G20 relative to the G7, and in the emergence of institutions like the Shanghai-based New Development Bank. Standards have become a geopolitical frontline - in 2019, China submitted more technical proposals to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) than any other country, and in 2020 the ITU approved blockchain standards developed by Huawei and the People's Bank of China, and facial-recognition standards from companies like Dahua and China Telecom. This creates economic value for China, while lending it soft power.

Related insight areas: [Financial and Monetary Systems](#), [Emerging-Market Multinationals](#), [Arctic](#), [5G](#), [COVID-19](#), [Geopolitics](#), [Trade and Investment](#), [Nuclear Security](#), [Geo-economics](#), [Risk and Resilience](#), [Global Governance](#)



Harvard Kennedy School - Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs

The Role of Nuclear Weapons in the 21st Century

13 May 2022

On May 10, the Belfer Center Project on Managing the Atom launched the Research Network on Rethinking Nuclear Deterrence (RNDn) to address two fundamental and interrelated questions: (1) Given the deteriorating geopolitical and security landscape, how do we make sure nuclear deterrence does not fail? And (2) What alternatives can replace nuclear deterrence, and what conditions should exist to materialize them?.



War on the Rocks

Too Fragile to Fight: Could the U.S. Military Withstand a War of Attrition? - War on the Rocks

09 May 2022

At the turn of the 20th century, Polish Jewish banker Ivan Bloch compiled a detailed analysis of the potential effects of war between major powers. He saw a world of interconnected economies with vast industrial power and large armies. He thought future great-power war would be too costly to contemplate, as bloody wars of attrition would bankrupt participants without worthwhile results. For him, a clash of arms between major powers would “ruin both belligerents, financially and economically, long before the end would come in sight.” As we know now, he was right about the course future wars would take, and the inability of the participants to end them before suffering bankrupting costs. He was wrong, however, in predicting that war was impossible, and decision-makers rational enough to avoid it.



Small Arms Survey

Global Violent Deaths (GVD)

05 May 2022

The Small Arms Survey tracks statistics on violent deaths and compiles them in its Global Violent Deaths (GVD) database. Within the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), states have pledged to ‘[p]romote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels’ (SDG 16). The first target identified under this goal, Target 16.1, commits all states to ‘[s]ignificantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere’. The GVD database, updated annually, provides a tool for assessing progress in implementing Target 16.1.



Chatham House

War on Ukraine: Volodymyr Zelenskyy

04 May 2022

Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelenskyy addresses what Ukraine needs from the West now. Zelenskyy provides his insight into the war on Ukraine. From Kyiv, the president will address the current situation, what the Russian military shift to the East means for the war, what are Ukraine’s key strategic objectives, and what can the UK and a united global coalition do to help. This is part of Chatham House’s ongoing work on the future of conflict.



Center for China and Globalization

Tsinghua National Strategy Institute Qian Feng optimistic about future of China-Pakistan relations

02 May 2022

CCG hosted a webinar titled "Political Change in Pakistan: What’s next for China Pakistan relations and CPEC" on April 20, 2022, featuring Pakistani Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, to discuss the intricate interplay between Pakistan’s domestic politics, foreseeable changes in Pakistan’s foreign policy- especially towards China, and the future of Chinese investments in Pakistan. Qian Feng, Director of Research and Development and Senior Research Fellow at the National Strategy Institute Tsinghua University, reviewed the China-Pakistan relations in the past decades and shared his analysis about the bilateral relations under the new Pakistani administration. .



Center for China and Globalization

CCG VP Victor Gao hopes China-Pakistan relations can be brought to a higher level

28 April 2022

CCG hosted a webinar titled "Political Change in Pakistan: What’s next for China Pakistan relations and CPEC" on April 20, 2022, featuring Pakistani Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, to discuss the intricate interplay between Pakistan’s domestic politics, foreseeable changes in Pakistan’s foreign policy- especially towards China, and the future of Chinese investments in Pakistan. Speaking of his expectation on the future of the Sino-Pakistan relations, CCG VP Victor Gao hopes it can be brought to a higher level and more widely felt in the world.

Conflict Zones and Fragile States

Nuclear material and reactors in parts of the world prone to conflict are particularly vulnerable

The theft of nuclear material dates back at least to 1957, and the pilfering of uranium-235 from a nuclear scrap recycling plant in Pennsylvania at the height of the Cold War, according to the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation. During any period of conflict, there is an increased risk of the theft of nuclear material and weapons. Due to the proliferation of nuclear technology in recent years and heightened global instability, related risks have spread to some of the world's least stable territories. Reports made to the Nuclear Security Summit held in the US in 2016, for example, noted that conflict between Azerbaijan and Armenia, and within Ukraine, have ratcheted up the risk of nuclear material being smuggled across borders. Fragile or breakaway states like Transnistria, between the Dniester River and Ukraine, and South Ossetia (officially a part of Georgia), provide both a safe haven for smugglers and sources of illicit nuclear material; significant amounts of highly enriched uranium have gone unaccounted for in the region since the breakup of the Soviet Union. In 1995, the International Atomic Energy Agency began compiling related information about unauthorized movements of nuclear or other radioactive material, by establishing a dedicated Incident and Trafficking Database.

Nuclear reactors have become key targets. According to media reports, an aborted Islamic State attack in Belgium in 2016 was likely meant to target a nuclear power plant, and suspected state-sponsored Russian hackers targeted nuclear facilities in the US in 2017 - as tension mounted over alleged Russian meddling in American elections. Live conflict zones add another layer of danger, as nuclear reactors can become targets of direct attacks. In 2014, Hamas, the Palestinian group that controls Gaza, launched three Iranian-designed rockets that targeted but narrowly missed the Dimona reactor in Israel. Amid renewed exchanges of violence during 2018 between Israel and Iranian proxies in Lebanon and Syria, and civil unrest in Gaza and the West Bank, a repeat attack became increasingly possible. The ongoing conflict in Syria is also a major risk factor, as nuclear material generated by the country's former nuclear weapons programme is largely unaccounted for. A March 2018 report published by the Institute for Science and International Security suggested that this material may include enriched uranium and related equipment, potentially providing the necessary elements for a so-called dirty bomb.

Related insight areas: [International Security](#), [Middle East and North Africa](#), [Global Governance](#), [Risk and Resilience](#), [Illicit Economy](#), [Human Rights](#), [Geopolitics](#), [Russian Federation](#)



Harvard Kennedy School - Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs

L'invasione dell'Ucraina e il rischio nucleare.

28 April 2022

La mia valutazione dei possibili rischi di uso di armi non convenzionali (anche tattiche nucleari) nel conflitto in Ucraina deriva in parte da precedenti storici importanti e in parte dalla mia esperienza diplomatica. Mi spiego meglio. Se guardiamo alla storia dei rischi nucleari, vediamo che in altri conflitti, paesi con armi atomiche hanno minacciato il loro uso per portare a conclusione il conflitto a loro vantaggio. L'amministrazione Eisenhower per esempio contemplò l'utilizzo di armi atomiche nel conflitto coreano per scoraggiare l'intervento della Cina. Israele nella famosa guerra dello Yom Kippur nel 1973 minacciò esplicitamente l'uso di armi nucleari per deterrenza nei confronti dell'invasione delle truppe arabe.



The Lancet

IAEA reviews plan to release treated water from Fukushima

28 April 2022

A Task Force from International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) did a safety review in Japan in March, 2022, to assess the regulatory aspects of the country's plan to release treated water, which has accumulated at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station (NPS), into the sea. The Task Force, established in 2021, under the authority of IAEA, was comprised of staff from the agency and senior experts from 11 countries.



Harvard Kennedy School - Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs

Four Unanswered Questions about the Intersection of War and Nuclear Power

21 April 2022

For a night on March 3, Russian military forces seized the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant in Ukraine, damaged its infrastructure, and spread fear of a nuclear catastrophe. Fortunately, the attack did not threaten sensitive areas of the nuclear power plant, and radiation levels around the plant did not raise concern. Still, the crisis underscored the danger posed by a war that crosses paths with a nuclear power plant. Since this may be a case of when, not if, the next wartime attack on a nuclear power plant happens, scholars and policymakers would be wise to revisit concepts for assessing and protocols for responding to nuclear power plant crises in war zones.



German Institute for International and Security Affairs

Russia's Nuclear Threats in the War against Ukraine

21 April 2022

Any conflict with a nuclear power like Russia carries the risk that nuclear weapons could be used, and President Vladimir Putin is aggressively exploiting such concerns.



VoxEU

The manifold impacts of compulsory invention secrecy

20 April 2022

Compulsory invention secrecy is a policy tool used primarily for preventing technology leaks to foreign competitors. This column exploits a natural historical experiment to study the impact of compulsory secrecy on the wider innovation system. During WWII, the US patent office issued secrecy orders on more than 11,000 patent applications, halting their examination and prohibiting disclosure. The effects of this policy – which prompted incumbent firms to shift the direction of their research – persisted through 1960, restricting commercialisation and impeding follow-on innovation while successfully keeping sensitive technology out of public view.



Harvard Kennedy School - Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs

Time to Shelve Denuclearization and Negotiate a Halt to North Korea's ICBM Program

15 April 2022

With the entire world's attention riveted on Ukraine, Kim Jong-Un is doubling down on his nuclear and missile programs and has recently tested what he claims to be a new intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM). According to early estimates the Hwasong-17 (a.k.a. KN-27) missile could have reached the U.S. East Coast if launched on a normal trajectory. Despite South Korean doubts over the claim, the test results clearly suggest the North's steady technological progress. Pyongyang is expected to carry out more provocations in the coming months, especially on April 15th on the occasion of the 110th anniversary of its founder Kim Il-Sung's birth. To reassure U.S. allies in the region, some U.S.



Harvard Kennedy School - Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs

Micro Deterrence Signaling

05 April 2022

The Korean Missile Crisis of 2017 presented General Brooks with a unique opportunity to rethink deterrence and develop a dynamic playbook to change Kim Jong Un's calculus. The result he called "micro deterrence signaling."

Economic Shifts

There has been a resurgence in the use of economic and financial sanctions

The tightened integration of the global economy has rebalanced power and created complex new financial interconnections. In the two decades leading up to 2017, the share of global economic output accounted for by developing countries jumped to 59.3% from 42.8%; much of that increase is attributable to China, which progressed from contributing 6.6% of total global output on its own to 18.7% over the two-decade period (China's dramatic integration into the global economy has been one of the most significant international developments since World War II). Increasingly, governments reach for economic and financial policy levers to advance national ambitions (or hinder others'), in both the economic and political realms. The dividing line between economics and national security has therefore blurred, sometimes as a matter of policy - as illustrated by the US Department of Commerce's strategic plan for 2018-22, which states that "economic security is national security." Meanwhile the increasingly domestic lens through which states assess their international economic policies and priorities has weakened support for the global economic governance framework that has been in place more than half a century.

Economic ties are now seen as a tool for advancing geopolitical goals through "weaponized interdependence." COVID-19 further underlined the fragility of supply chains, and global economic governance itself has long shown signs of systemic fragility; the US's blocking of appointments to the World Trade Organization's Appellate Body is one such sign (the body was crippled in late 2019 when it fell below the minimum number of members required to hear appeals). Some countries take relatively mercantilist approaches to trade, and see bilateral relations as a geopolitical zero-sum game - the tariffs levied by the US and China on one another during 2018 and 2019 provide an example. Trade is not the only means used to advance national ambitions; there has been a resurgence in the use of economic and financial sanctions (most prominently targeting Russia after its invasion of Ukraine), and foreign direct investment has also been affected. China's massive Belt and Road infrastructure-building initiative is a controversial example of outward investment with geopolitical ramifications, while on the flipside a growing number of countries are creating barriers to inward investment perceived as threatening.

Related insight areas: [COVID-19](#), [Risk and Resilience](#), [Global Governance](#), [Banking and Capital Markets](#), [Trade and Investment](#), [Geo-economics](#), [International Security](#), [Supply Chains](#), [Financial and Monetary Systems](#)



Smithsonian Magazine

At a Former Concentration Camp, Holocaust Survivors Draw Parallels Between Nazi and Russian Rhetoric

10 May 2022

“From prejudice to hatred to violence to murder, the paths are very short,” said Karl Freller, director of the Bavarian Memorial Foundation, to an audience of more than 500 at the Holocaust memorial site where the Nazi concentration camp Flossenbürg once stood. The crowd, including six survivors of the camp, had gathered in the German state of Bavaria on April 24, the 77th anniversary of the camp’s liberation.

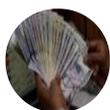


Institute for New Economic Thinking

The Dollar System in a Multi-Polar World

06 May 2022

The dollar has by now been de facto the primary world reserve asset for over a hundred years.



Project Syndicate

Is the US Dollar’s Global Hegemony at Risk?

05 May 2022

Predicting the end of the greenback’s international dominance has long been a popular, if fruitless, pastime.



Project Syndicate

When Does Inflation Stop?

03 May 2022

To understand the increase in consumer price inflation around the world, one must look not only at supply and demand but also at the wedge that the coronavirus introduced between them. And now Russia’s war on Ukraine has added another source of inflationary pressure.



The Diplomat

Country and the Blue Pacific: A Necessary Readjustment of Australian Foreign Policy

02 May 2022

Australia is in the midst of an election campaign where something incredibly rare is occurring. Due to the recently signed security agreement between the Solomon Islands and China, foreign policy has become a major election issue – with how Australia approaches its relationships with its Pacific neighbors now becoming a prominent public concern. Although the development that led to this is fraught, political parties having to address an issue that is usually not what they campaign on, and Pacific Islands themselves having their profile raised in Australia, are genuine positives. A new issue paper for the Australian Feminist Foreign Policy Coalition titled “Indigenous Foreign Policy: a new way forward?”



Project Syndicate

Mark Leonard on the Russia sanctions, European security, China’s view of the Ukraine war, and more

26 April 2022

Mark Leonard warns that the sanctions against Russia could hasten the demise of the Western-led international order, touts Europe’s geopolitical awakening, and considers how the Ukraine war might reshape the Indo-Pacific.



War on the Rocks

The Putinomics Playbook Won’t Work Forever - War on the Rocks

25 April 2022

On March 27, President Joe Biden claimed that U.S. sanctions had reduced Russia’s currency to “rubble.” Yet in the past few weeks, the currency has rebounded, while the country shows no outward signs of crisis. So what impact are sanctions having? Plenty of questions remain in the short term. The long-term consequences of the sanctions are clear and severe. Russian industry now faces difficulties in acquiring crucial tools and components.

Re-Mapping Energy Geopolitics

New resources are emerging, and China is becoming a cleantech manufacturing powerhouse

An energy system based on geographically concentrated fossil fuel resources enabled resource-rich countries to exercise geopolitical power related to the distribution of those resources. As a result, governance systems such as the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) were formed, shaping fossil fuel-dominated energy markets for decades. This dynamic has fundamentally shifted in recent years, however, as the US has re-emerged as a net energy exporter, and as the rise of new clean energy technologies has changed demand dynamics. The emergence of shale oil and gas resources has fundamentally reshuffled the traditional power balance between oil-producing and oil-consuming countries; the US, formerly a large net importer, now has an increased incentive to cooperate with other oil-producing nations like Saudi Arabia and Russia. The production cuts negotiated between Saudi Arabia, Russia, and the US in response to the supply-demand imbalances and declining oil prices caused in part by COVID-19 restrictions, for example, were unprecedented - and may have substantial long-term impacts. Meanwhile the manufacturing of clean energy technologies like solar and wind remain largely concentrated within just a few nations, even as worldwide installed capacity continues to expand.

The relative abundance of the natural resources powering renewables, in contrast to oil and gas resources, means they are available globally - enabling many different nations and localities to reduce their dependence on international markets. However, while the geopolitical dynamics of resource extraction may lose relevance over time, even the most renewables-heavy economies remain tied to international oil and gas markets in order to maintain transportation and industrial processes. In addition, the concentration of renewable technology manufacturing has its own geopolitical impact. As China has emerged as the primary manufacturing centre for clean energy technologies such as solar panels, wind turbines, and batteries for electric cars, new geopolitical realities have formed - and the COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated that severe disruptions to the few economies that are centres of manufacturing can lead to global supply chain bottlenecks. In addition, the energy transition to a net zero emissions future is also likely to create a unique geopolitical dynamic, as certain minerals (like lithium and cobalt) and rare earths become increasingly valuable. Supply dynamics, and concerns about the methods of extracting these resources in certain countries, have already led to industry and political collaborations such as the Global Battery Alliance.

Related insight areas: [COVID-19](#), [Advanced Manufacturing and Production](#), [Geopolitics](#), [Fourth Industrial Revolution](#), [Emerging-Market Multinationals](#), [Human Rights](#), [Batteries](#), [International Security](#), [Global Governance](#), [Oil and Gas](#), [Mining and Metals](#), [Supply Chains](#), [Geo-economics](#)



Project Syndicate

Supplying the Green Transition Must Be Fast and Fair

12 May 2022

Achieving global climate goals will require a quantum leap in investments to secure sufficient supplies of key minerals needed for clean-energy technologies. But while these inputs can greatly accelerate emission-reduction efforts, protecting human rights when extracting them is an essential condition for climate justice.



The Science Breaker

Watching the death of a distant galaxy

04 May 2022

Galaxies' gas is the fuel to form new stars. The formation process stops when galaxies run out of this fuel. However, the mechanisms that cause a galaxy to run out of gas are not yet clear. We discovered a galaxy that is ejecting a large fraction of its gas, and that will quickly stop forming new stars. This ejection has likely been produced by the collision between two galaxies.



Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft

Reference-factory.H2 – electrolyzer and fuel cell production of the future

02 May 2022

Hydrogen is a key element in the energy transition. To ensure that hydrogen can become generally established as an energy source, it must be produced at market prices, in sufficient quantities and in a climate-neutral manner, and used with a high CO2 reduction rate. This requires affordable, robust hydrogen systems in the form of electrolyzers and fuel cells. With the intent of launching their serial production in the future, Reference-factory.H2 provides both a design for guidance and a modular system based on new and specifically optimized technologies. This shall contribute to the economically viable production of electrolyzers and fuel cells, accelerate their market breakthrough and massively reduce the cost of hydrogen.



Yale Climate Connections

How a Wisconsin woman ditched natural gas

02 May 2022

In September, 2021, Susan Millar of Madison, Wisconsin, called her utility company. “And I said, ‘Would you please turn off my gas?’ And they were like, ‘Well, are you moving?’ And I was like, ‘No, I just am not going to be using gas anymore,’” she recalls. She says she’d converted her 90-year-old home to run entirely on electricity instead of natural gas. Her commitment to going all electric started after she installed rooftop solar panels and learned that they were generating more electricity than she was using. She still had a stove, water heater, and furnace that ran on gas.



Frontiers

How Does Green Credit Promote Carbon Reduction? A Mediated Model

28 April 2022

Using China’s provincial panel data from 2006 to 2016, this paper develops a dynamic panel data model to investigate the impact and mechanism of green credit on carbon emissions at the national and regional levels. According to the findings, green credit significantly reduces carbon emissions, with the eastern region having the greatest reduction effect. Green credit, with the exception of the western region, has a strong positive impact on disruptive low-carbon innovation. When green credit is combined with disruptive low-carbon innovation, both can significantly reduce carbon emissions; however, the green credit impact diminishes. It can be concluded that disruptive low-carbon innovation has a mediation effect on green credit’s contribution to carbon emission reduction.



Brookings Institution

New targets and metrics for energy reliability, productivity, and quality

28 April 2022

In this thirteenth interview of the “17 Rooms” podcast, Clare Boland Ross and Todd Moss discuss new “measurable metrics” to reframe SDG7 energy targets to be more ambitious and location-specific. Ross, managing director of the Power and Climate Initiative at The Rockefeller Foundation and Moss, executive director at the Energy for Growth Hub, moderated Room 7 focused on Sustainable Development Goal number 7—on affordable and clean energy—during the 2021 17 Rooms flagship process.

Managing Uncertainty

Experts should be placed prominently at the centre of efforts to deal with crises

The 2008 financial crisis, the 2015 migration crisis, and the COVID-19 pandemic all exposed deficiencies in the ways that governments handle uncertainty. Despite warnings in some quarters and - in the case of the pandemic - actual plans and structures having been put in place in some countries, most states and international institutions were underprepared when these crises hit. In order to enable better-prepared, responsive, and agile responses, the prominence and importance of experts must be better-emphasized, and civil society must be more thoroughly engaged. Civic institutions, which generally operate in closer proximity to local populations than heads of state or leaders of governments, and often boast greater local knowledge as a result, can contribute vital information. A wide range of experts must be called upon during crises, including those who operate outside of typical government institutions. With uncertainty on the rise, the usual channels and sources of knowledge will no longer be sufficient. By incorporating more diverse and comprehensive information, international institutions, national governments, and local leaders alike should be able to increase their analytical capacity and their ability to deliver effective and rapid responses.

When dealing with migration, institutions must carefully consider the “push factors” that trigger large-scale refugee flows, by closely monitoring conflict zones and failed states. In terms of climate change, while the problem is generally well-understood, too little is being done - in addition to addressing the source of the crisis (excessive and unchecked greenhouse gas emissions), governments must become better able to predict and mitigate the many near-term climate-related disasters that have become increasingly common. Meanwhile financial crises call for ensuring as much equilibrium as possible, and realizing that just because we may be experiencing a period of relative calm the necessary safeguards still should be firmly in place - and even strengthened. And when it comes to pandemics, preparedness is key. The exact nature of any new outbreak is always going to be difficult to ascertain, but the world must be able to collectively respond more quickly and comprehensively than it did with COVID-19. A diverse range of new challenges will no doubt affect us all in the coming decades. Only a multi-faceted, inclusive, and analytical governance approach can ensure that we will be relatively well protected.

Related insight areas: [COVID-19](#), [Banking and Capital Markets](#), [Migration](#), [Pandemic Preparedness and Response](#), [Peace and Resilience](#), [Risk and Resilience](#), [Climate Change](#), [Global Health](#), [Financial and Monetary Systems](#)



VoxEU
Zombie firms and the take-up of support measures during Covid-19
 04 May 2022

Governments around the world enacted unprecedented measures to support firms impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. This column focuses on Italy to examine the extent to which these measures ended up also benefitting non-viable but still active firms. The authors find that ‘zombie firms’ were less likely than healthy firms to access public support measures in the form of either grants, debt moratoria, or government-guaranteed loans, suggesting that these measures did not contribute to a zombification of the economy.



VoxEU
The two-dimensional feature of ECB monetary policy
 14 April 2022

The ECB has to decide not only on the timing and speed of exit from monetary easing, but also on the sequence. This column uses an empirical model to show that a short-term interest rate tightening in the euro area has undesired effects on output, inflation, and stock market prices if it is coupled with a widening of sovereign spreads. To be effective, the combination of monetary policy instruments as well as the sequence of the use of the tools in the announced tightening cycle must ensure both an increase in the position of the ‘risk-free’ yield curve and control of sovereign spreads.



Brookings
Institutions, informality, and conflict in the Sahel: The case for Mali
 12 April 2022

Ahmadou Aly Mbaye and Nancy Benjamin integrate the latest governance research with original survey-based results from the Sahel region in order to improve on policy approaches to increasing economic resilience.



GovLab - Living Library
Evidence is a policymaker’s biggest weapon
 30 March 2022

Report by Jacquelyn Zhang: “Fundamentally, public policy is supposed to address serious social problems. However, poorly designed policies exist. Often this happens when a well-intentioned policy generates unexpected and unintended consequences, and sometimes, these consequences leave policymakers farther away from their goal than when they started. Consider just a few examples. The first is the impact of an immigration law that was used in the United States ostensibly to control the flow of undocumented immigrants into the country.



Istituto Affari Internazionali
Central Bank Digital Currencies: Governance, Interoperability, and Inclusive Growth
 30 March 2022

As economies have become increasingly digitalized, central bank digital currencies (CBDCs) have been at the forefront of the agenda for central banks as a means to enhance payments systems’ efficiency (both domestically and cross-border) and increase financial inclusion, and more broadly to support the effective transmission of monetary policy in the digital age (BIS, 2020; Boar and Wehri, 2021). While the potential of CBDCs to meet these goals is clear, a secure underlying infrastructure and a credible, globally accepted system is of paramount importance.



The Conversation
Pandemic parliaments: lessons learned from two years trying to run democracies living under COVID-19
 18 March 2022

Parliaments matter more than ever in times of crisis. They oversee emergency responses, evaluate and pass legislation, and approve funds to meet urgent public needs. They have a key role to play in maintaining transparent, effective government. When they do all this well, they make it easier for people to trust their governments. When a government has to take extreme measures, it helps to know that other parties in parliament will act to stop it from going any further than is absolutely necessary.



Center for China and Globalization
Swedish Amb. to China Helena Sångeland on feminist development policy application in climate change
 10 March 2022

On March 8, 2022, CCG and UN Women China office co-hosted an event to celebrate the International Women's Day, bringing together a group of experts from government agencies, embassies, UN entities, financial institutions, practitioners, academia and think tanks to share their views and best practices in gender responsive climate change and environmental policies and programs and to identify methods that can enable gender just climate actions. H.E. Ms. Helena Sångeland, Ambassador of Sweden to China, introduced Sweden's feminist development policy and its application in climate change and environmental protection actions. .

Cyber Risk Governance

The number of corporate boards with a dedicated cybersecurity committee is expected to increase sharply by 2025

Governance relies on risk-based decision making as a fundamental means to both drive the efficient use of resources, and to improve confidence in an organization's ability to achieve strategic objectives. All organizations rely on their employees' ability to navigate a world of growing uncertainty, and to dodge threats to their ability to achieve its collective goals.

Unfortunately, complex organizations can easily be overwhelmed; each risk demands a distinct analysis and potential investment of additional resources, to respond in ways that adequately reduce exposure. A good governance structure will provide a framework that enables the right managers to make the right decisions, which will help prioritize and allocate resources as needed. All risks don't necessarily require analytic rigour or subsequent investment - immediate hazards like icy sidewalks or commonplace cyber incidents like phishing emails can be addressed at lower management levels. That is not the case for strategic risks like global pandemics or advanced, persistent cyber threats that have the potential to disrupt or damage an organization indefinitely. A structure that effectively prioritizes and adjudicates risks to the right organizational level is required.

Responsibility for risks is typically apportioned in accordance with an organization's willingness to accept them, also called "risk appetite." A risk-appetite statement can be used to direct employees and clarify who has the necessary level of authority to decide how to respond to any given situation. The National Institute of Standards and Technology Special Publication 800-37 addresses the divvying up of risk with a three-tier structure including the organization, the mission, and the system. Meanwhile the ISO 27000 series of standards provides recommendations for the use of policy and organizational structure to reduce risk, and the COSO framework connects governance to culture by highlighting the importance of board oversight, culture requirements, core values, and human resource development. Vigorous, board-level engagement in risk governance is essential for success. Thankfully, boards are increasingly recognizing the importance of cyber risk governance; a study published by Ernst and Young in 2020 found that 81% of board members categorize cybersecurity as "highly relevant," and Gartner researchers predict that 40% of all boards will have a dedicated cybersecurity committee by the year 2025 (currently, just 10% of boards have one).

Related insight areas: [Workforce and Employment](#), [The Digital Economy](#), [Banking and Capital Markets](#), [Corporate Governance](#), [Agile Governance](#), [Risk and Resilience](#), [Internet Governance](#), [Illicit Economy](#), [Fourth Industrial Revolution](#), [Leadership](#)



Cyber Rescue
Attack Maps
05 May 2022

Scroll down and click each image to go to live data on cyber attacks. .



ETH Zürich
Virtual world, real threats
14 April 2022

Ultimately, everyone is interested in improving security – yet this poses something of a dilemma for computer manufacturers. Additional security comes at a price, but few consumers are willing to pay more or sacrifice performance in return for more security. Razavi also faces a dilemma: as a scientist, he needs to publish his findings as soon as possible in order to gain an edge in the cut-and-thrust world of academia – but his industry partners have other ideas. “We follow the principle of responsible disclosure,” he says. “In other words, we give companies time to fix flaws before we publish them.” Razavi has also enlisted the support of Swiss federal authorities: for example, his discovery of the vulnerability in dynamic memory led to a joint publication with the National Cyber Security Centre.



FinDev Gateway
Digital Innovation: Three Key Lessons to Improve the Resilience of African MFIs and Their Clients
06 April 2022

If there is one thing that has become obvious during the COVID-19 pandemic for the financial inclusion sector, it is the need to accelerate the digitalization of financial service distribution channels. Of course, this is easier said than done. The path is replete with challenges, from managing the new cyber risks involved to establishing partnerships among the diversity of actors with different digitalization strategies. So how can we ensure the success of digitalization while maintaining manageable risk levels? The African Microfinance Week (SAM), which took place in October 2021 in Rwanda, was a unique opportunity to consider this question, share lessons learned and discuss the challenges of digitalization and its role in improving the resilience of the financial inclusion sector and its clients.



World Economic Forum
Artificial Intelligence for Children
30 March 2022

This toolkit is designed to help companies develop trustworthy artificial intelligence for children and youth. Children and youth are surrounded by AI in many of the products they use in their daily lives, from social media to education technology, video games, smart toys and speakers. AI determines the videos children watch online, their curriculum as they learn, and the way they play and interact with others. This toolkit, produced by a diverse team of youth, technologists, academics and business leaders, is designed to help companies develop trustworthy artificial intelligence (AI) for children and youth and to help parents, guardians, children and youth responsibly buy and safely use AI products. AI can be used to educate and empower children and youth and have a positive impact on society.



World Economic Forum
Why global harmonisation of cybersecurity would be music to everyone's ears
28 March 2022

Cybersecurity regulations have become complicated, costly and difficult to secure due to the web of national and regional regulations that have developed in recent years. There are three areas where global harmonisation of cybersecurity regulations could make us safer: data protection, innovation and interoperability, and cost. The US and EU have shown different jurisdictions can co-operate to reduce compliance cost and complexity for companies and consumers. This should be replicated on a global level. Cyberattacks pose a growing threat to the integrity of sectors that are critical to our economic and social well-being.



World Economic Forum
How the cyber world can support Ukraine
19 March 2022

The conflict in Ukraine has invoked fears over escalated cyberattacks. The international cyber community is showing its support to Ukraine through various means. To ensure a safe cyber society for all, we must unite around shared cyberspace values and ideals. Since the start of the Russian-Ukrainian conflict in 2014, most media reporting has centred on conflict within the physical world. Less attention has been paid to the very real cyber-component of the struggle.

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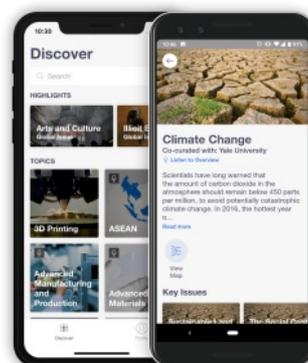
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