

WORK PROGRAMME 2017

BREXIT AND TRUMP: RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE EU

Throughout 2017, our work will contribute to clarifying the grounds for the main controversies concerning the EU, to offering national and European decision-makers analyses and operational recommendations, and to foster standpoints which aim to consolidate and deepen European integration.

Conducted from our offices in Paris and Berlin, our work will be completed against a political and geopolitical backdrop punctuated by the referendum outcome in favour of Brexit, the inauguration of Donald Trump, an increasingly unstable situation in neighbouring states and the need to consolidate and reinvigorate European integration, sixty years on from the signature of the Treaty of Rome.

1. Consolidating the foundations of European integration

1.1. Consolidating the “European Federation of Nation States” following the British referendum

We are developing our work on “unity in diversity” within the EU, by highlighting the elements of a **European identity** in relation to other regions of the world and in light of the shift in transatlantic relations and China’s growing weight.

We draft recommendations aimed at **strengthening the EU’s political cohesion**, reducing the risks of fragmentation between Member States, while taking a stance on the organisation of **political and institutional differentiation** within the EU and the euro area.

We are also taking a stand in the debate on the **division of competences** between the national and European levels and on the impact of the **production of community standards**.

1.2. Deepening the single market sixty years after the Treaty of Rome

Sixty years on from the signature of the Treaty of Rome and thirty years after the entry into force of the Single European Act, we publish analyses which illustrate the **benefits of the single market**.

We draft recommendations with a view to getting the best out of the single market, in particular in terms of **energy**, but also on the **digital market**.

Our work also focuses on the **social dimension of the single market**, on **taxation within the single market** and on **fiscal cooperation/coordination** in Europe.

1.3. Adapting and stepping up European funding

We take a position on the actions conducted on a European level to lift the EU out of the crisis via support for **growth and investment**, paying special attention to the implementation of the Juncker Plan.

We are working in greater depth on the amount, resources and structure of the **EU’s budget post-2020**, and on the content and format of European policies (in particular the CAP and the cohesion policy).

We also analyse the **budgetary repercussions of Brexit** for the EU’s public finances and those of its Member States, as the United Kingdom’s departure requires a major adjustment of the multiannual financial framework while the removal of the British rebate provides an opportunity for an in-depth reform of the system of own resources.

1.4. Optimising the EU’s trade policy

While a ratification of CETA by 38 parliaments of the EU remains uncertain, we analyse the **consequences of the Trump presidency on the European trade policy**, both in terms of the expected uncertainty surrounding the TTIP negotiations and of the possible emergence of renewed American protectionism. We also work on the relations between the EU and other regional blocs with which it will strive to consolidate its economic and trade relations.

The turbulent period ahead of us requires us to focus on the increasing opposition to free trade in various Member States and to conduct work on the **major priorities of the common commercial and investment policy** which may go some way to increasing its legitimacy amongst its citizens (preparation methods, political priorities and coordination with the EU’s other external action policies).

2. Demonstrating that there is strength in unity through new practical achievements

2.1. Strengthening our collective security

We are actively in favour of the strengthening of **European common actions in terms of collective security** (diplomacy, defence, Schengen, police and judicial cooperation, etc.) against a backdrop punctuated by crises rendering the EU’s immediate neighbours unstable (Ukraine/Russia, Syria, the Mediterranean, Africa), terrorist threats and the uncertainty arising from Donald Trump’s election.

We strive to ensure that **changes to transatlantic relations** are in line with Europeans’ strategic interests and that the new balance of power between **the EU and the United Kingdom, Russia and China** are correctly taken into account.

2.2. Developing a European migration policy

We take a stance in the debates following the refugee crisis and further our work on the European administration of **asylum rights**.

In particular, we draft proposals aimed at ensuring the effective control of the external borders of the Schengen area and at developing a **common legal immigration policy** which would contribute to boosting our economic and social dynamism.

2.3. Completing the Economic and Monetary Union

We promote the analyses and recommendations set out in our Report "Repair and Prepare: growth and the Euro after Brexit" in favour of a deepening of the EMU and improved leveraging of **the single currency's growth potential**.

In these years of crucial elections, in particular in France and Germany, we produce analyses aimed at **informing EU citizens** of the benefits of membership in the euro area and the reasons why the euro area must undergo reform.

2.4. Making "Social Europe" a reality for citizens

In line with the work conducted since 2012 on the social dimension of the EMU, we take part in the debate on the **EU's basic core of social rights**, paying specific attention to initiatives aiming to: i) re-establish **social convergence** between Member States, ii) promote **social investment**, and iii) ensure **fair mobility** for workers. We continue our work on the ways in which the EU can combat **youth unemployment** and consider initiatives which could reduce the **risk of social competition** between Member States, in particular with regard to the posting of workers. Lastly, we develop the idea of a **social pact for the "Energy Union"**.

2.5. Building a genuine "Energy Union"

With the launch of its Energy Union project, the European Commission is taking on board the idea to create a **European Energy Community**, an idea first put forward by the Jacques Delors Institute back in 2010 and set out in its report published in January 2015 entitled "From the European Energy Community to the Energy Union". With the entry into force of the Paris Climate Agreement, we are furthering our proposals on how to build up a genuine Energy Union able to step up the **energy transition**, focused on citizens, based on renewable energy and energy efficiency, driven by innovation and including a strong social dimension.

3. Fostering European democracy and citizenship

3.1. Taking part in debates on the French and German elections in 2017

We draft analyses and recommendations aimed at **informing citizens of the choices open to them with regard to the EU** for the French and German national elections in 2017, the results of which will determine the future of European integration.

We strive to promote a **rapprochement between the French and German positions** in order to find responses to a series of crucial challenges for both countries and for the EU as a whole (immigration and asylum policy, domestic and external security policy, the energy transition, a deepening of the Economic and Monetary Union, etc.).

3.2. Championing the right to freedom of movement and mobility programmes

We take a stance in relation to the questions raised by the exercise of Europeans' right to freedom of movement and the administration of the **Schengen area**.

We celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of the launch of the **Erasmus** programme by the Delors Commission and insist on the importance of strengthening apprentices' mobility via the development of **"Erasmus Pro"**.

We promote the measures required to set up an effective **single labour market** and champion the upholding of free movement in negotiations between the EU and the United Kingdom.

3.3. Stepping up relations between the EU and its citizens

We analyse the shifts in **public opinions** of the EU, by focusing on the rise in extremist and anti-European discourse and on the ways and means to curb its progression. We produce **"country-specific analyses"** on how the EU is perceived by its Member States and citizens.

We analyse the **activities of the European Parliament halfway through** its 2014-2019 parliamentary term, in particular by drafting and disseminating analyses of voting intentions which clarify the positions taken by elected representatives on around twenty key challenges of economic, social, political and external dimensions.

We work on the strengthening of **participative democracy on European challenges** and organise many **"citizen dialogue"** events involving the lay public (social stakeholders, teachers and young people in particular), with a focus on the "More EU" project and the European Estates General.

3.4. Arriving at a successful conclusion of the divorce proceedings between the EU and the UK

We analyse the potential consequences of the divorce proceedings that a majority of British voters wished to launch with the EU, while ensuring that **the EU's interests and cohesion are preserved**.

We contribute to discussions on the **preparation of a new partnership with the United Kingdom**, with regard to the upholding of the application of the four freedoms and the new trade policy that could be implemented.

We strive to ensure that **good neighbourhood relations may be established** between the EU and the UK, which is set to remain a strategic partner for the EU. ●

The Jacques Delors Institute is the European think tank founded by **Jacques Delors** in 1996 (under the name Notre Europe), at the end of his presidency of the European Commission. Our aim is to produce analyses and proposals targeting European decision-makers and a wider audience, and to contribute to the debate on the European Union.

We publish **numerous papers** (Tribunes, Policy Papers, Studies & Reports, Syntheses), sounds and videos, organise and take part in **seminars and conferences** throughout Europe, and make appearances in the **European media** via our presidents, director and team.

Our work is inspired by the action and ideas of Jacques Delors and guided by the general principles set out in the **Charter** adopted by our Board of Directors. It is structured around **three main axes**: “European Union and citizens” – covering political, institutional and civic issues; “Competition, cooperation, solidarity” – dealing with economic, social and regional issues; “European external actions” – research with an international dimension.

The president of the Jacques Delors Institute is Enrico Letta, Dean of the Paris School of International Affairs (PSIA) at Sciences Po and the former Prime Minister of Italy. He succeeded **António Vitorino**, **Tommaso Padoa-Schioppa**, **Pascal Lamy** and Jacques Delors. The director, **Yves Bertoncini**, leads an **international team** of around 15 members, who work in close coordination with the members of our office in Germany, the **Jacques Delors Institut - Berlin**, led by **Henrik Enderlein**.

The governing bodies of the Jacques Delors Institute comprise high-profile European figures from diverse backgrounds. Our **Board of Trustees** takes care of our moral and financial interests. Our **Board of Directors** is responsible for the management and direction of our works. Our **European Steering Committee** meets to debate issues of fundamental importance for the future of the EU.

All publications are available free of charge, in French and English, on our **website** and through the **social networks**. The Jacques Delors Institute is wholly independent of any political influence or economic interests.

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