

BRUSSELS BRIEF

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Guido Westerwelle: Der Wert Europas: Vier Thesen zum Zukunftsprojekt Europa

Das europäische Projekt durchlebt die schwerste Vertrauenskrise seiner Geschichte. Viele Menschen fragen sich, ob es gelingen wird, die Schuldenkrise zu meistern. Neue Spaltungen Europas drohen; alte Ressentiments sind



EU News: Greek Stavros Lambrinidis appointed EUSR for Human Rights

On 25 July, Stavros Lambrinidis, former Foreign Affairs Minister of Greece, was appointed first ever European Union special representative (EUSR) for human rights by the Council. The former Socialist MEP (since 2004) and

zurückgekehrt. Bei einigen Nachbarn sind wieder Ängste vor einem übermächtigen Deutschland erwacht. Darüber sind Zweifel an der europäischen Idee selbst aufgekommen. In dieser Lage ist es notwendig, Europa neu zu begründen. Bundesaußenminister Guido Westerwelle stellt in seinem Beitrag vier Thesen zum Wert Europas zur Debatte, als politische Gestaltungskraft im Zeitalter der Globalisierung, als Wertegemeinschaft und als Wirtschaftsmacht. Nicht-Europa, also eine Abkehr von der Integration, wäre gerade für Deutschland ein Irrweg.

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Work-Life-Balance: Why women still can't have it all

EU Commissioner for Justice and Vice President of the European Commission, Viviane Reding has been advocating the implementation of a Europe-wide gender quota system. The directive would force member states to adopt binding quotas and is supposed to end workplace inequalities. The German government is doubtful of the appropriateness of a binding quota system and favours voluntary commitments. The debate is not limited to Europe, however. The current July/August 2012 issue of The

vice-president of the European Parliament (2009-2011) will take office on 1 September with an initial mandate running until 30 June 2014. EU High Representative Catherine Ashton considers Lambrinidis a "tremendous asset" and is "looking forward to working with him in putting the protection and promotion of human rights and democracy at the heart of EU external action, and enhancing the coherence, effectiveness and visibility of our work in this field." His nomination follows the adoption in June of the Strategic Framework and the Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy. Guy Verhofstadt MEP, ALDE group leader in the European Parliament, has welcomed the appointment: "The appointment of a dedicated EU representative to defend and uphold respect for Human Rights around the globe sends a very powerful signal to all the European Union's partners that we take the matter extremely seriously and will henceforth place extra emphasis on this as a central plank of EU foreign policy under the overall direction of the External Action Service."

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Liberal Family: Portrait of Swedish Minister Eskil Erlandson

Sweden's Minister of Rural Affairs opposes farm subsidies. In May 2007, Eskil Erlandsson of the liberal Centre Party had been Sweden's agriculture minister for just over six months when he fired a salvo from Stockholm all the way to Brussels, to Paris, and even to Athens. Scrap all European Union farm subsidies, he said, and let the markets dictate food prices. We should free up 40% of the budget for long-term investment, environment, and green energy, he suggested. The Swedish liberal politician has recently been

however. The current July/August 2012 issue of The Atlantic has received much attention, featuring an article read by 725,000 in which Anne-Marie Slaughter discloses her personal struggle as a working-mum in a high-powered career. Slaughter was the Director of Policy Planning for the US State Department from January 2009 until February 2011. It's time to stop fooling ourselves, Slaughter says about combining a high-powered career with raising children. She has concrete ideas, however, for what would have to change in order to make family-life and work reconcilable for both men and women.

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Save the Date: Jan Fleischhauers "unlinke" Ansichten zur Eurokrise

In Brüssel präsentiert Spiegel-Journalist Jan Fleischhauer am 18. September dezidiert "unlinke" Ansichten zur Eurokrise. In seinem im Mai 2012 erschienen Buch "Der Schwarze Kanal" kommentiert er wider den öffentlichen Meinungsstrom schwimmend, was die Republik beschäftigt: Eurokrise und Einflugschneisen, Plagiatsaffären und Pressemacht, Gleichstellung und Atomausstieg. Er kritisiert dabei insbesondere die Dauermoralisierung von Politik. Jan Fleischhauer ist seit 1989 Redakteur beim SPIEGEL in wechselnden Funktionen, darunter stellvertretender Leiter des Wirtschaftsressorts und stellvertretender Leiter des Hauptstadtbüros. Von 2001 bis 2005 Wirtschaftskorrespondent in New York, seit September 2008 Autor des SPIEGEL in Berlin.

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suggested. The Swedish liberal politician has recently been portrait by European Voice.

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Ab in die Ferien! It's vacation time!

Kaum zu glauben - aber der Sommer ist nun auch endlich in Brüssel angekommen! Wir verabschieden uns hiermit von Ihnen in die Sommerpause und melden uns im September wieder mit einer weiteren Ausgabe unseres Newsletters. Bis dahin wünschen wir Ihnen einen schönen und erholsamen Sommer!

It's hard to believe - but summer has finally arrived in Brussels! We now bid you farewell as the summer break takes off and will be back with a new issue of our Newsletter in September. Until then: have a wonderful and relaxing summer!

Wichtige Termine

24./25. August 2012 Parteitag der D66, Den Haag

25. August 2012 Wahlparteitag der VVD, Rotterdam

3. September 2012 Ende Sommerpause, Europäisches Parlament

18. September 2012 Veranstaltung aus der Serie Freiheitsdenker: "Bis Deutschland die Nerven verliert - Ansichten zur Eurokrise" mit Jan Fleischhauer

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Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung für die Freiheit | Internationaler Politikdialog | Dialogprogramm Brüssel | Avenue de Cortenbergh / Kortenberglaan 71 | B-1000 Brüssel | www.fnf-europe.org

Verantwortlich: Hans H. Stein, Redaktion: Dr. Ellen Madeker