



EUROPE PROGRAM E-BULLETIN

Center for Strategic and International Studies ■ Washington, D.C.

Welcome to E-Watch, the CSIS Europe Program monthly E-Bulletin. Under the direction of CSIS executive vice president and Europe program director Robin Niblett, this bulletin includes notices about upcoming and recent Europe Program events, relevant transatlantic news and information, and other Europe-related activities and publications. Simon Serfaty, holder of the CSIS Zbigniew Brzezinski Chair in Global Security and Geostrategy, is senior advisor to the Europe Program.

We hope that you find this bulletin informative and encourage you to forward it on to your colleagues. All CSIS Europe Program activities are developed with the generous support of The German Marshall Fund of the United States.

CSIS EUROPE PROGRAM E-WATCH

FEBRUARY 2006

For more information about the events listed below, please contact Natalia Filipiak at (202) 775-3138 or NFilipiak@csis.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS FEBRUARY – MARCH 2006

February 22nd – Transatlantic Marshall Dialogue with Joschka Fischer, MP, former Foreign Minister of the Federal Republic of Germany and Zbigniew Brzezinski, CSIS Trustee and Counselor and former U.S. National Security Adviser, 5:15 – 7pm, CSIS.

The Europe Program will host a Transatlantic Marshall dialogue with Joschka Fischer, MP, and Zbigniew Brzezinski, entitled “*The Future of Transatlantic Relations.*” Topics of discussion will include the recent improvements in transatlantic relations, as well as the global challenges facing Europe and the United States in the coming months. To RSVP for the event, please contact Natalia Filipiak at NFilipiak@csis.org.

RECENT EVENTS JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2006

January 11th – Senior European Dialogue with The Honorable Christian Schmidt, MP, German Deputy Defense Minister, 7-9:30pm, CSIS.

German Deputy Defense Minister Christian Schmidt led an off-the-record discussion on transatlantic relations following the German elections. The focus of the discussion was the new German government’s security and defense policy. For more information on the German Ministry of Defense, please visit: <http://www.bundeswehr.de/portal/a/bwde>.

January 17th – Statesmen’s Forum with Belgian Prime Minister Guy Verhofstadt, 4-5pm, CSIS.

Belgian Prime Minister Guy Verhofstadt gave a public policy speech entitled “*The View from Brussels,*” outlining his vision of Europe in the wake of last year’s rejection of the European constitutional treaty in France and the Netherlands. The complete speech can be found at: http://www.csis.org/media/csis/events/speechverhofstadtcsis_eng.pdf, and an audio recording of the event can be found at: http://www.csis.org/media/csis/events/060117_verhofstadt.m3u.

January 24th – Transatlantic Briefing with Italian Chief of Defense Staff Admiral Giampaolo di Paola, 12:30-2pm, CSIS.

Admiral Giampaolo di Paola met with a small group from the Washington policy community to discuss “*Emerging Transnational Threats*.” Subjects touched upon included NATO transformation and Italian contributions to the global war on terror. A summary of the event is forthcoming.

February 13th – Congressional Staff Forum, 12:15pm - 1:45pm, Capitol Hill

Jon B. Wolfsthal, Nonproliferation Fellow at the International Security Program of CSIS, led a discussion on “*Transatlantic Consensus and Iran’s Nuclear Ambitions*.” Jon Wolfsthal’s most recent report, “*Will Diplomacy Stop Iran*,” is available at: http://www.csis.org/index.php?option=com_csis_pubs&task=view&id=2697.

JANUARY – FEBRUARY NEWS & ANALYSIS ABOUT THE EUROPEAN UNION

JANUARY-FEBRUARY RECAP

- The six-month **Austrian Presidency of the European Union** began on January 1.
- **German Chancellor Angela Merkel embarked** on her first official visit to Washington on January 12.
- On January 22, center-right candidate and former prime minister, **Aníbal Cavaco Silva**, was elected Portugal’s new president.
- The president of Kosovo, **Ibrahim Rugova**, died on January 22, delaying scheduled talks on the final status of Kosovo.
- On January 29, **Tarja Halonen** of the Social Democratic Party won a second term in office as Finland’s president.
- The European Union agreed to continue its aid contributions to the Palestinian Authority on January 30, despite the recent parliamentary victory of **Hamas**.
- The reprinting of controversial **cartoons depicting the Prophet Muhammad** by several European newspapers on February 1 led to an outbreak of protests throughout the Muslim world.
- The European Commission adopted a new **EU Strategy for Biofuels** on February 8, aimed at increasing fuel production from raw agricultural materials.
- Spain and Russia pledged closer counterterrorism cooperation during the visit of **Russian President Vladimir Putin** to Madrid on February 10.

Europe and the European Union

Integration

- “*Finland opens door to new EU workers*,” Lucia Kubosova, *EUObserver*, February 13, 2006. *Finland has announced that it will drop immigration restrictions for workers from Central and Eastern Europe starting in May of this year.* <http://euobserver.com/9/20887>
- “*Mandelson attacks ‘populist’ EU protectionism*,” George Parker, *Financial Times*, February 7, 2006. *The EU trade commissioner argues that politicians in countries such as France are “holding back the continent’s economy.”*

Counterterrorism

- “*British Jury Finds Muslim Cleric Guilty of Inciting Murder*,” John Holusha, *The New York Times*, February 7, 2006. *Muslim cleric Abu Hamza al-Masri was sentenced to seven years in prison for inciting racial hatred and violence through his sermons.*

Enlargement

- “*Netting the untouchables; Romania and the European Union*,” *The Economist*, February 2, 2006. *While Brussels ‘mulls over’ Romania’s admittance to the EU, the country forges ahead in an effort to tackle corruption.* http://www.economist.com/World/europe/displayStory.cfm?story_id=5476198
- “*EU enlargement chief vows to press ahead, for ‘stability’*,” Judy Dempsey, *International Herald Tribune*, February 1, 2006. *Despite public unease, the EU remains committed to future enlargement.* <http://www.ihf.com/articles/2006/02/01/news/eu.php>

Economics & the Euro

- “Europe Hints That It May Raise Rates,” Mark Landler, *The New York Times*, February 3, 2006. *Amid fears of inflation, the European Central Bank is expected to increase rates in March for the second time in five years.*
- “EU Says Slovenia euro-worthy, but Baltics have more work to do,” Leigh Thomas, *Agence France Presse*, February 1, 2006. *The European Commission places Slovenia ahead of schedule and at the forefront of new EU member states in terms of progress towards euro adoption.*

Member States

Britain

- “Brown pledges new action on terror laws when he takes over,” Francis Elliott, Marie Woolf, and Tim Webb, *The Independent*, February 12, 2006. *British Chancellor Gordon Brown proposes a set of counter-terror measures, including additional funding for MI5 and MI6 and the right for police to detain terror suspects without charge for up to 90 days with judicial and parliamentary oversight.*
<http://news.independent.co.uk/uk/legal/article344956.ece>
- “UK troops ‘could leave Iraq soon,’” BBC News, February 7, 2006. *UK Defense Secretary John Reid states that UK troop withdrawal will begin when “conditions are right.”*
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/scotland/4690710.stm
- “Pension age increase inevitable, says minister,” Ben Hall and Nicholas Timmins, *Financial Times*, February 7, 2006. *The state pension age will most likely have to be raised by 2020 in order to take into account changing demographics.*
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/politics/4689604.stm

France

- “France favors skilled immigration,” Katrin Bennhold, *International Herald Tribune*, February 9, 2006. *French Interior Minister Nicholas Sarkozy, proposes a new immigration model that focuses heavily on the recruitment of highly qualified workers, while clamping down on family reunification.*
<http://www.ihrt.com/articles/2006/02/09/news/france.php>
- “French Unions, Students Plan Protest of De Villepin’s Jobs Plan,” Katrin Bennhold, *Bloomberg*, February 7, 2006. *Thousands protest proposed employment reforms, including a controversial plan to create short term contracts allowing employers to lay off employees under 26 years of age within the first 2 years without notice.*
<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=10000100&sid=augRu.e6ukoA&refer=germany>
- “Chirac: Nuclear Response to Terrorism is Possible,” Molly Moore, *The Washington Post*, January 19, 2006. *President Chirac, during a visit to a nuclear submarine base in Brittany, warned of the possibility of nuclear retaliation to state-sponsored terrorism.*
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wpdyn/content/article/2006/01/19/AR2006011903311.html>

Germany

- “Germany sees strike by civil servants,” Carter Dougherty, *International Herald Tribune*, February 7, 2006. *Thousands of civil servants have gone on strike to protest the proposed lengthening of the workweek.*
<http://www.ihrt.com/articles/2006/02/07/business/strike.php>
- “Merkel demands upgrade of NATO strategy,” Lisbeth Kirk, *EUObserver*, February 6, 2006. *Speaking at a security conference in Munich, German Chancellor Angela Merkel called for a reevaluation of NATO’s central strategic concept by 2008 or 2009.* <http://euobserver.com/13/20841>
- “Fulfilling vow, Merkel looks east,” Judy Dempsey, *International Herald Tribune*, February 2, 2006. *During her first three months in office, German Chancellor Angela Merkel has presided over an eastern reorientation of Germany’s foreign policy.*

Italy

- “Favourite Prodi presents manifesto as Italy’s election campaign begins,” *Agence France Presse*, February 11, 2006. *Presidential hopeful Romano Prodi unveiled his electoral platform, calling for increased job security and assistance to low-income earners.*

- “Italy to pull out of Iraq in 2006,” *BBC News*, January 19, 2006. *Italian Defense Minister Antonio Martino confirmed a timetable for Italy’s pull out of Iraq by the end of 2006.* <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/4628500.stm>

Spain

- “Spanish lawmakers to discuss constitutionality of proposal for greater Catalan self-rule,” Daneil Woolls, *The Associated Press*, February 6, 2006. *A special commission appointed by the Spanish Parliament began debating the constitutionality of a charter calling for increased Catalan autonomy.*
- “Zapatero stirs anger of Morocco,” Renwick McLean, *The International Herald Tribune*, February 1, 2006. *The two-day visit of Spanish Prime Minister José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero to the Spanish enclaves of Ceuta and Melilla draws criticism from the Moroccan government.* <http://www.ihf.com/articles/2006/01/31/news/spain.php>

Poland

- “Poland’s Leader Hopes to Gain from Support of U.S. Policies,” Craig Whitlock, *The Washington Post*, February 7, 2006. *During his first official visit to Washington, Polish President Lech Kaczynski announces possibility of extending Poland’s presence in Iraq until 2007.*
- “Poland lifts veto over new sales tax regime,” George Parker and Stefan Wagstyl, *Financial Times*, February 2, 2006. *Following a weeklong dispute, Poland and the EU reach an agreement regarding the extension of reduced value added tax rates.*

Europe and the United States

Transatlantic Relations

- “Barroso accuses US of unfair visa rules,” Guy Dinmore, *Financial Times*, February 11, 2006. *The President of the European Commission is urging the Bush administration to drop visa requirements to the newest EU member states.*
- “US seeks support from Europeans for aid cutoff to Hamas,” Anne Gearan, *Associated Press*, January 30, 2006. *The US is seeking an alliance with Europe and other Mideast peacemakers to withdraw aid to the Palestinian Authority if Hamas does not change its views on Israel and violence.*

NATO and Defense

- “More Dutch troops for Afghanistan,” *BBC News*, February 3, 2006. *The Netherlands will send an additional 1,400 troops to southern Afghanistan as part of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force.*
- “U.K., U.S. Enter Tech-Transfer Talks,” Andrew Chuter and Vago Muradian, *Defense News*, January 30, 2006. *A new initiative launched by the U.S. State Department hopes to increase British access to U.S. defense technologies.*

Transatlantic Trade & Economics

- “EU says will retaliate if US ignores WTO ruling,” *Reuters*, February 13, 2006. *The EU Trade Commission threatens retaliatory trade sanctions up to \$4 billion if the U.S. does not comply with a new WTO ruling against export tax breaks.* <http://www.abcnews.go.com/Politics/wireStory?id=1612366>

CSIS EUROPE PROGRAM- NEW AND RECENT PUBLICATIONS

VISIONS OF THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE: THE UNITED STATES, THE EUROPEAN UNION, AND NATO, (ED. SIMON SERFATY, CSIS PRESS, DECEMBER 2005). *Based on papers commissioned for the CSIS Think Tank Summit held in April 2005, this volume brings together the perspectives of leading U.S. and European scholars on key institutional, economic and security issues facing the transatlantic partnership now and in years to come. With a foreword by EU Ambassador to the United States John Bruton, **Visions of the Atlantic Alliance** features contributions by Graham Allison, Ronald D. Asmus, Alyson J.K. Bailes, Christoph Bertram, Hans Binnendijk, James Dobbins, James Elles, C. Randall Henning, Robert E. Hunter, Charles A. Kupchan, Emilio Lamo de Espinosa, Tod Lindberg, George Perkovich, Clyde Prestowitz, and Simon Serfaty. **Visions of the Atlantic Alliance** is available through the CSIS Press at http://www.csis.org/component/option.com_csis_pubs/task.view/id.2584/*

THE UNITED STATES, THE EUROPEAN UNION, AND NATO: AFTER THE COLD WAR AND BEYOND IRAQ, Report and Conclusions of the Think Tank Summit on “The Future of U.S.-EU-NATO Relations” convened by CSIS at the Wye Plantation, April 15-17, 2005, under the auspices of the Zbigniew Brzezinski Chair in Global Security and Geostrategy with support from the Europe Program. This paper, written by project director Simon Serfaty, builds on the participant contributions and extensive discussions of the Think Tank Summit held in April, at which senior representatives from approximately 40 think tanks on both sides of the Atlantic conducted an intensive review of many of the highest priority issues faced by the United States, the states of Europe, and the main institutions to which they belong. Download the report at: www.csis.org/zbc

TEST OF WILL, TESTS OF EFFICACY, the 2005 report of the CSIS Initiative for a Renewed Transatlantic Partnership. The CSIS Initiative for a Renewed Transatlantic Partnership, led by a steering committee of twenty-four senior current and former U.S. and European officials and business leaders, is proposing a near-term six-point agenda that would renew and strengthen the transatlantic partnership by providing an opportunity for successful joint action in a targeted set of areas. Each area is characterized by urgency and the potential for success:

- Preventing Iran’s acquisition of a nuclear weapons capability
- Securing Ukraine’s democratic future
- Fighting international terrorism
- Controlling weapons of mass destruction proliferation
- Facilitating trade and promoting global economic growth
- Strengthening European defense capability

Purchase the report at <http://csis.zoovy.com/product/0892064668>

Download the introduction at http://www.csis.org/europe/0502_testofwillintro.pdf

EURO-FOCUS

A quarterly brief analyzing of events and trends shaping Europe. <http://www.csis.org/europe/eurofocus/index.htm>

“Germany Stalled,” by Simon Serfaty with Derek Mix. The German election of 2005 punctuates the erosion of the national consensus that produced the centrist coalitions of the postwar decades and confirms the rise of a more fragmented multiparty system. While U.S. expectations of changes in Germany foreign policy with the departure of Schröder have been exaggerated, the election also does little to help unfreeze the daunting agenda of institutional renewal Europe faces. <http://www.csis.org/europe/eurofocus/v11n3.pdf>

“Shock Therapy,” by Robin Niblett. Emblematic of a popular frustration with the EU across the continent, the “no” votes in the French and Dutch referenda on the EU Constitutional Treaty were driven by concerns about the economy, EU enlargement, loss of national sovereignty, and national leadership. The defeat of the treaty, however, may provoke the debate over Europe’s future that the constitutional convention failed to deliver. <http://www.csis.org/europe/eurofocus/v11n2.pdf>

EUROPE PROGRAM DIRECTOR DR. ROBIN NIBLETT: RECENT PUBLICATIONS AND OUTREACH

Publications

- “Europe Inside-Out,” Robin Niblett, *The Washington Quarterly*, Winter 2005-2006, Volume 29, Number 1.
- “Diverging paths hurt U.S. and Europe,” Bates Gill and Robin Niblett, *International Herald Tribune*, September 6, 2005.

Outreach

- “Transatlantic ties on mend, albeit timidly, one year into Bush's second term,” Robin Niblett quoted, *Agence France Presse*, January 19, 2006.
- “Secretary of state's credibility on line in terrorism debate,” Robin Niblett quoted, Anne Gearan, *The Associated Press*, December 10, 2005.

- “Long View of the West, the Islamic World, and the Fight Against Terrorism,” participant, *American-Russian-European Dialogue*, organized by The Watson Institute for International Studies, Brown University, November 28, 2005.
- “La Belle France: A country of equality and exclusion,” Robin Niblett quoted, Steven Komarow and Rick Hampson, *USA Today*, November 10, 2005.
- “Paris Riots,” Robin Niblett interviewed, *BBC World News*, November 8, 2005.
- “Bush backs EU efforts to cut agricultural subsidies,” Robin Niblett quoted, Brian Knowlton, *The International Herald Tribune*, October 19, 2005.
- “Agricultural subsidies still unsettled as Bush, European leader meet,” Robin Niblett quoted, Harry Dunphry, *The Associated Press*, October 18, 2005.
- “Challenges and Obstacles; What Is There to Say That’s New?” panelist, *Europe at a Crossroads?* U.S. State Department conference, September 7, 2005.
- “U.S. and European Perspectives on Conflict Resolution in the Middle East: Where does the debate end and the cooperation begin?” panelist, *The Future of Western-Muslim Relations*, organized by Americans for Informed Democracy and The Atlantic Council of the United States, July 22, 2005.
- “China’s Growing Global Influence: Objectives and Strategies,” panelist, *US-China Economic and Security Review Commission*, July 22, 2005.
- “Bombs Hit London Transit System As World Leaders Meet For G-8 Summit,” Robin Niblett quoted, Shelley Emling, *Cox News Service*, July 7, 2005.
- “French-U.S. relations may be improving,” Robin Niblett quoted, Renee Williams, *UPI*, July 6, 2005.

EUROPE PROGRAM SENIOR ADVISER [DR. SIMON SERFATY](#): RECENT PUBLICATIONS AND OUTREACH

Publications

Vital Partnership: Power and Order America and Europe Beyond Iraq (Rowman & Littlefield, May 2005). *The Vital Partnership* is a political, historical, and intellectual assessment of the evolution of transatlantic relations. With a foreword by Brent Scowcroft and early praises by Senator Lugar, former Senator Sam Nunn, former NATO Secretary General Lord George Robertson, and CSIS President and CEO John Hamre, a former deputy secretary of defense. Available at www.rowmanlittlefield.com

- “A Europe of Weak Leaders,” Simon Serfaty, *International Herald Tribune*, October 1, 2005.
- “Deadlocked Destiny,” Simon Serfaty, *The Washington Times*, September 20, 2005.
- “Terms of Estrangement: French-American Relations in Perspective,” Simon Serfaty, *Survival*, Autumn 2005.
- “Handle Europe With Care,” Simon Serfaty, *Wall Street Journal Europe*, June 8, 2005.
- “Addio all’Occidente? Un America imperiale e un Europe in ascesa,” in *Quale Occidente, Occidente Perche?* Tiziano Bonazzi, ed., (Rubbettino, 2005) pp. 136-155.
- “The U.S., the EU, and NATO: After the Cold War and Beyond Iraq,” *Insight Turkey*, vol. 7, no. 2 (June 2005) pp. 66-83.

Outreach

- “Bush, Merkel addresses Iran and Guantanamo prison,” Simon Serfaty quoted, *All Things Considered*, NPR, January 13, 2006.
- “Un Moment Charniere,” featured lecturer, *Institut des Hautes Etudes de Défense Nationale (IHEDN)*, Paris, France, January 6, 2006.

- “Garantir le respect du TNP: Options possibles,” panelist, *Les activités de l’Iran et le TNP: état des lieux et options*, Seminar by Centre Thucydide—Université Panthéon-Assas in association with IHEDN and CAP, Paris, France, January 6, 2006.
- “Crowded Foreign Policy Calendar Will Test Bush’s Management Skills,” Simon Serfaty quoted, Fred Kempe, *Wall Street Journal Europe*, January 4, 2006.
- “A bit of sharing,” Simon Serfaty quoted, *De Standaard*, December 16, 2005.
- “The Vital Partnership at Half Past Bush: Europe Stalled and America Challenged,” featured speaker, *World Affairs Council Lecture Series*, Naples, FL, December 13, 2005.
- “La France, les Etats-Unis et l’Islam: confrontation, assimilation et integration,” featured speaker, *Alliance Française Naples*, December 13, 2005.
- “A Stalled Europe? Implications for the United States,” featured speaker, *Diplomatic and Consular Officers, Retired (DACOR) Lecture Series*, December 9, 2005.
- “Ce n’est pas acceptable,” Simon Serfaty quoted, *Le Soir*, December 6, 2005.
- “Europe and America split on war on terror,” Simon Serfaty quoted, *Dispatch Online*, December 6, 2005.
- “EU moet meer doen in Irak,” Simon Serfaty quoted, *De Standard*, December 6, 2005.
- “L’Europe devrait cesser de se définir par rapport aux Etats-Unis,” interview with Simon Serfaty, *L’Echo*, December 6, 2005.
- “Pour Washington, l’urgence justifie les moyens,” Simon Serfaty featured, *La Libre Belgique*, December 6, 2005.
- “The Vital Partnership at Half Past Bush: Europe Stalled, America Challenged,” featured lecturer, *Royal Institute for International Relations*, Brussels, Belgium, December 5, 2005.
- “CIA Scandal highlights split between Europeans/Americans on war on terror,” Simon Serfaty quoted, Jocelyne Zablit, *Agence France Presse*, December 4, 2005.
- “The Challenges of European Integration and their Impact on NATO-EU Relations,” panelist, *Towards a Renewed Transatlantic Partnership: NATO’s Transformation and ESDP*, organized by Istituto Affari Internazionali, Rome, Italy, November 21, 2005.
- “The Transatlantic and Multilateral Frameworks: Encouraging Reform,” rapporteur, *Transatlantic Policy Network*, Autumn Meeting, November 3, 2005.
- “Transatlantic Relations at a Crossroads: Is the Partnership at Risk?” featured speaker, *European American Business Council*, October 19, 2005.
- “‘Italienisierung’ Deutschlands; Amerikanische Erwartungen und Befürchtungen angesichts der Situations in Berlin,” Simon Serfaty quoted, Matthias Rüb, *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, September 23, 2005.
- “Villepin à l’Onu, sous le regard mi-figue, mi-raisin des Américains,” Simon Serfaty quoted, Christophe de Roquefeuil, *Agence France Presse*, September 14, 2005.
- “Katrina crisis may rub balm on raw transatlantic ties,” Simon Serfaty quoted, Jocelyne Zablit, *Agence France Presse*, September 9, 2005.
- “Transatlantic acrimony gives way to misunderstanding,” Simon Serfaty quoted, Philip Stephens, *Financial Times*, August 5, 2005.
- “L’Occidente Mobilitato Nella Caccia ai Killer di Londra,” Simon Serfaty quoted, Annunziata Lucia, *La Stampa*, July 10, 2005.

[OTHER EUROPE-RELATED CSIS PROGRAM NEWS](#)

New European Democracies Project: *Janusz Bugajski, Director*

The CSIS New European Democracies Project, formerly the CSIS East Europe Project, produces a weekly newsletter entitled *Select Briefing*. This publication highlights current developments in the new EU member states, including those countries scheduled to join in the next rounds of enlargement. This newsletter is available via email every Friday. If you would like to subscribe, please send a message with your name, affiliation and email address to nedp@csis.org.

International Action Commissions: *George W. Handy, Director* (<http://www.csis.org/iac>). For more information about recent and upcoming events of the Euro-Atlantic Action Commission and the U.S.-EU-Poland Action Commission, please contact Laura Jones, Coordinator, at 202-457-8728 or ljones@csis.org.

We welcome any questions or comments you may have. If you would like to unsubscribe from the CSIS Europe Program Monthly E-Bulletin, please email Natalia Filipiak at NFilipiak@csis.org with “*unsubscribe*” in the ‘subject’ line.

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