NEG: Reception Capacity Benchmarks

By Luke Vickers

***Resolved: The European Union should substantially reform its immigration policy.***

The affirmative case argues that EU countries have are insufficiently prepared to provide adequate necessities to migrants arriving on their shores, and mandates that the EU should establish minimum reception capacity standards countries must meet.
 There are far fewer migrants arriving in Europe and the EU is finding other solutions to care for them. Additionally, there are several disadvantages to the AFF plan. Their plan requires countries to increase their reception capacity which will cost them money. Additionally, this plan directly opposes many countries current stance toward immigration and reception capacity. Countries such as Italy are even reducing their reception capacity. Requiring them to change their policies could cause backlash and instability throughout the EU.

NEG: Reception Capacity Benchmarks 3

INHERENCY 3

1. Quantity of migrants declining in SQ 3

Less immigration: EU countries are making an effort to increase boarder protection 3

Migration is a much smaller issue now 3

2. The Reception Conditions Directive (RCD) 3

Reception Conditions Directive setting better standards to provide migrants with necessities 3

3. The European Asylum Support Office (EASO) new Operating Plans 3

EASO has new Operating Plans to support improved reception systems 3

EASO cooperation plan will improve reception quality and reduce backlogs 4

EASO reception plan has information collection, reporting, cost reimbursement, and followup on implementation 4

SOLVENCY 5

1. Written standards don’t guarantee actual results 5

Even when governments sign contracts with companies to provide for migrants, the companies fail to provide sufficient necessities. Example: Greece 5

2. Can’t solve root causes / Can’t solve real problem 5

The real problem of increased irregular immigration is the increased security designed to stop migration 5

3. Reception condition improvements won’t help much 6

Better health care in reception camps won’t help much and masks the real problems 6

4. Conflicting goals 6

AFF’s goals of flexibility and efficiency conflict with the goals of quality and cost control 6

DISADVANTAGES 7

BIG LINKS TO DISADs 1, 2 and 3: Increased cost burden fractures / divides the EU 7

Link: Plan requires EU countries to increase reception capacity and pay for it 7

Link: Whatever the EU does for improving immigration conditions, more money will be needed 7

Link: EU countries are already upset with a lack of immigration support 7

Link: Italy, Greece, Spain, and Malta have more immigrants and thus have a larger burden 7

Link & Brink: Poorer EU countries are already upset about paying for EU immigration initiatives 7

Brink: EU economies are projected to do significantly worse 8

Link: Conflicts over immigration funding have the potential to paralyze or destroy the EU 8

1. Populist / Authoritarian / Right-wing backlash 8

Link: Plan will have substantial opposition. Example: Italy is tearing down migrant camps to deter immigration 8

Link: Italy receives the most immigrants from Africa and has a very anti-immigration government 8

Link: Pro-immigration policies fuel far-right conspiracies 9

Link: Trust is key to EU stability. Brink: EU is hurtling towards a crisis of trust right now 9

Brink: Countries try to ignore EU mandates on human rights, even when it could get them kicked out of the EU 9

Historical Example: Eastern European countries refused to accept EU immigration quotas 9

Brink: Italy is on the verge of defying immigration agreements, and other countries may join 10

Link & Brink: EU authority and stability are dependent on countries following EU standards 10

Link & Brink: Challenges to EU authority threaten the EU’s existence 10

Link: Fear, anxiety and skepticism about the EU leads to the rise of populist authoritarian figures 10

Brink & Example: Hungary now has authoritarian government, putting EU at high risk right now 11

Link & Impact: Weak EU leads to rise of dictatorship and loss of freedom for millions more 11

2. Reduced world stability from fracturing the EU 11

Example: Disagreement over immigration policy was a major reason Britain left the EU 11

Brink: EU faces an uncertain future with multiple crises threatening unity and increasing division 11

Link: EU stability promotes US ability to maintain global security and stability 12

Impact: World peace & prosperity at risk without US influence. US hegemony is key to global peace & prosperity 12

3. Economic recession (from weakening / fracturing the EU) 12

Link: AFF plan weakens / fractures the EU with greater division 12

Link: EU unity is necessary for beneficial trade deals 12

Brink: Cracks already being seen in EU unity, and even partial non-cooperation will eventually bleed it to death 13

Impact: Devastating economic impact. Financial recession 13

Past precedent: Brexit caused serious economic damage 13

4. Debt crisis (from spending more on reception improvement) 14

Link: Italy and Greece (the countries where many of the migrants arrive) already have the highest debts in the EU 14

Brink: Italy and Greece are close to the debt brink 14

Impact: European Debt Crisis II would create Great Depression II 14

5. Masking Disad. Plan rhetoric and mandates distract us from the real problem, making it worse 15

1) Rhetoric of “improving human rights” for arrested migrants masks the problems that are causing so many suffering migrants in the first place. 2) And we can’t trust the organization (EU) that committed the human rights violations in the first place to be the solution to human rights violations 15

Works Cited 16

NEG: Reception Capacity Benchmarks

INHERENCY

1. Quantity of migrants declining in SQ

Less immigration: EU countries are making an effort to increase boarder protection

Daniel Trilling 2018 (journalist and author) Five myths about the refugee crisis 5 June 2018 <https://www.theguardian.com/news/2018/jun/05/five-myths-about-the-refugee-crisis>

And most migration to Europe takes place legally: an estimated 90% of migrants who enter Europe do so with permission. But wealthier countries are making increasingly severe efforts to keep out the uninvited: in 1990, according to research by the geographer Reece Jones, 15 countries had walls or fences on their border; by the beginning of 2016, that number had risen to almost 70.

Migration is a much smaller issue now

Crispian Balmer 2019 (Reuters' chief correspondent, Italy.) Despite falling numbers, immigration remains divisive EU issue 14 May 2019 <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-eu-election-migrants/despite-falling-numbers-immigration-remains-divisive-eu-issue-idUSKCN1SK1GD>

Migrant arrivals to Italy have almost dried up, new asylum requests across the European Union have more than halved in three years and at the end of 2018, Hungary’s reception centers housed just three refugees. On the face of it, Europe’s migrant crisis appears over, but the shockwaves still resound around the continent ahead of this month’s European Parliament election, and nationalist politicians are looking to capitalize on the continued tumult.

2. The Reception Conditions Directive (RCD)

Reception Conditions Directive setting better standards to provide migrants with necessities

The EU official website 2016 Reception conditions, (no publication date is listed, but it cites works published in 2016) <https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/asylum/reception-conditions_en>

The Reception Conditions Directive aims at ensuring better as well as more harmonized standards of reception conditions throughout the Union. It ensures that applicants have access to housing, food, clothing, health care, education for minors and access to employment under certain conditions.

3. The European Asylum Support Office (EASO) new Operating Plans

EASO has new Operating Plans to support improved reception systems

European Asylum Support Office 2020 (agency of the European Union) New 2020 Operating Plans signed with Greece, Italy, Cyprus and Malta (no month shown in the article website) <https://www.easo.europa.eu/new-2020-operating-plans-signed-greece-italy-cyprus-and-malta>

EASO will continue stepping up support and helping EU Member States that face increased pressures on its asylum and reception systems. In late December 2019, the European Asylum Support Office (EASO) signed four new Operating Plans with authorities in Cyprus, Greece, Italy and Malta. The new plans are updates of previous versions, and detail the support that the Agency will provide to the asylum authorities of the four EU Member States throughout 2020 in order to ensure that EASO continues to meet the operational needs of the authorities that request it.

EASO cooperation plan will improve reception quality and reduce backlogs

European Asylum Support Office 2020 (agency of the European Union) New 2020 Operating Plans signed with Greece, Italy, Cyprus and Malta (no month shown in the article website) <https://www.easo.europa.eu/new-2020-operating-plans-signed-greece-italy-cyprus-and-malta>

Cooperation between EASO, Greece, Italy, Malta and Cyprus will continue in 2020. Through the Operating Plans signed in December 2019, EASO will provide quality and capacity support in the areas of asylum procedures and reception, reduction of case backlogs, enhanced coordination among asylum authorities and efficient information systems. Through its support, EASO aims to help alleviate the pressure on the Greek, Italian, Maltese and Cypriot asylum systems. The activities under the Operating Plans will be closely coordinated with the national authorities, in consultation with the European Commission, and in complementary continuation of the fruitful cooperation with UNHCR.

EASO reception plan has information collection, reporting, cost reimbursement, and followup on implementation

European Asylum Support Office 2020 (agency of the European Union) New 2020 Operating Plans signed with Greece, Italy, Cyprus and Malta (no month shown in the article website) <https://www.easo.europa.eu/new-2020-operating-plans-signed-greece-italy-cyprus-and-malta>

The Host Member State and EASO will provide Member States’ experts with information on the general state of play with regard to the procedure for international protection and reception system in the Host Member State and specific information about the state of play of the deliverables as described in the specific measures. Every effort will be made by the different parties to provide a suitable working place for the expert(s) participating in the activities to implement the Plan. EASO will provide the technical equipment required for the work of the Asylum Support Teams and will reimburse costs incurred by persons participating in the activities, according to the applicable EASO rules. The Host Member State shall provide EASO with information on the implementation of the Plan through timely input to the Early warning and Preparedness System and the delivery of tailored information on the execution of measures agreed in the Plan.

SOLVENCY

1. Written standards don’t guarantee actual results

Even when governments sign contracts with companies to provide for migrants, the companies fail to provide sufficient necessities. Example: Greece

John Psaropoulos 2018 (independent journalist based in Athens. He has covered Greece and southeast Europe since the fall of communism) Greek official blows the whistle on refugee costs) 15 October 2018 <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/10/greek-official-blows-whistle-refugee-costs-181012195955232.html>

None of the catering contracts seen by Al Jazeera contains specifications as to what food is to be served, only that the contractor must serve three meals a day and 1.5 litres of bottled water; so the contractor is able to expand its profit margin at the expense of providing quality food. Asylum seekers frequently complain about the food mess on the islands and use their own money to buy fresh produce to cook.

2. Can’t solve root causes / Can’t solve real problem

The real problem of increased irregular immigration is the increased security designed to stop migration

**Analysis: The EU uses tougher border security because they’re worried about irregular migration. But tougher security, when it works, blocks avenues of legal and safe migration and catches more illegal migrants who otherwise wouldn’t have been caught. More people turn to illegal methods (because legal methods are blocked) and more get caught, increasing the refugee “crisis.” The system is fundamentally flawed and the problem isn’t reception capacity, it’s the system that generates so many refugees in the first place.**

Prof. Nick Vaughan-Williams 2015. (Professor of International Security, Politics and International Studies, University of Warwick ) Europe's Border Crisis: Biopolitical Security and Beyond (no month shown in the date of publication) <https://books.google.com/books?id=vfiJCgAAQBAJ&pg=PA16&lpg=PA16&dq=EU+reception+capacity+plan+2020&source=bl&ots=DFVRikrbwo&sig=ACfU3U1TYAIcSQsCwQYpo8MOkyC89WjbrA&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjgvsHWxuvpAhWvg3IEHdPFApkQ6AEwBXoECAoQAQ#v=onepage&q=EU%20reception%20capacity%20plan%202020&f=false>



3. Reception condition improvements won’t help much

Better health care in reception camps won’t help much and masks the real problems

Prof. Nick Vaughan-Williams 2015. (Professor of International Security, Politics and International Studies, University of Warwick ) Europe's Border Crisis: Biopolitical Security and Beyond (no month shown in the date of publication) <https://books.google.com/books?id=vfiJCgAAQBAJ&pg=PA16&lpg=PA16&dq=EU+reception+capacity+plan+2020&source=bl&ots=DFVRikrbwo&sig=ACfU3U1TYAIcSQsCwQYpo8MOkyC89WjbrA&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjgvsHWxuvpAhWvg3IEHdPFApkQ6AEwBXoECAoQAQ#v=onepage&q=EU%20reception%20capacity%20plan%202020&f=false>



4. Conflicting goals

AFF’s goals of flexibility and efficiency conflict with the goals of quality and cost control

Michael Kegels 2016 (Operational Director of Fedasil, the Belgian reception agency; responsible for the management of the Belgian reception system; master’s degrees in international politics and public management) Getting the Balance Right: Strengthening Asylum Reception Capacity at National and EU Levels, Feb 2016 <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/research/getting-balance-right-strengthening-asylum-reception-capacity-national-and-eu-levels>



DISADVANTAGES

BIG LINKS TO DISADs 1, 2 and 3: Increased cost burden fractures / divides the EU

Link: Plan requires EU countries to increase reception capacity and pay for it

We’re not arguing AFF can’t fiat that they spend the money. We’re arguing that when they do, the EU countries will resent it.

Link: Whatever the EU does for improving immigration conditions, more money will be needed

Dr. Olivier Blanchard and Dr. Jacob Kirkegaard 2018 (Blanchard: Senior Fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics and former chief economist at the International Monetary Fund. Professor of Economics emeritus at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. PhD in economics. Kirkegaard - PhD, senior fellow at Peterson Institute for International Economics. A graduate of the Danish Army's Special School of Intelligence and Linguistics ) Immigration reform in Europe needs external border controls, respect for sovereignty, and shared costs 4 July 2018 <https://voxeu.org/content/immigration-reform-europe>

Second, there must be full EU-level mutualisation of costs associated with refugees admitted through offshore processing centres. The European Council conclusions state that immigration is “a challenge not only for a single Member State, but for Europe as a whole”. The Council calls for “full EU support” to member states and continuing EU financing of the Facility for Refugees in Turkey, the EU Trust Fund for Africa, and other such vehicles. This statement represents acceptance of the principle of centralised financing of immigration-related expenses in the EU. But more resources will no doubt be needed.

Link: EU countries are already upset with a lack of immigration support

Holly Ellyatt 2018 (writes for CNBC.com focusing on European macro-economics and politics) ‘Pack your bags,’ Italy’s new leaders tell 500,000 illegal migrants — but it’ll cost them 4 June 2018 <https://www.cnbc.com/2018/06/04/pack-your-bags-italys-new-leaders-tell-500000-illegal-migrants--but-itll-cost-them.html>

Salvini is not alone in criticizing European institutions. Eastern European countries, which became a conduit for hundreds of thousands of refugees arriving on land from Syria at the height of its civil war in 2015, as well as Greece, Malta and Spain, have also criticized the response to the migrant crisis, citing a lack of support.

Link: Italy, Greece, Spain, and Malta have more immigrants and thus have a larger burden

Alessandro Giovanni Borghese 2018 (journalist for Bloomberg) Why European Tension Is Rising Over Migrants (Again) 21 June 2018 <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-06-22/why-european-tension-is-rising-over-migrants-again-quicktake>

The EU asylum rules, enshrined in the so-called Dublin regulation, assign responsibility for processing asylum claims -- a lengthy and costly process -- to the first nation a migrant enters. That puts a bigger burden on Italy, Malta, Greece and Spain. The rule is widely flouted, and once they enter the EU many migrants press ahead through Europe’s passport-free travel zone to richer countries, notably Germany and Sweden.

Link & Brink: Poorer EU countries are already upset about paying for EU immigration initiatives

FAISAL AL YAFAI 2019 (Faisal al Yafai is an award-winning journalist and commentator) The EU’s new migration policy is a gift to the far-right 10 April 2019 <https://www.euractiv.com/section/justice-home-affairs/opinion/the-eus-new-migration-policy-is-a-gift-to-the-far-right/>

That will infuriate the eastern bloc, which sees migration as an issue of identity and sovereignty. For them, it is more straightforward: they do not want African and Middle Eastern migrants. They do not believe in the liberal values that offer refuge to such large numbers of them. Not only that, they feel that they, the poorer nations of the EU, are being forced to pay for the liberalism they do not espouse. And if Paris and Rome won’t take the migrants in, why should Budapest or Warsaw?

Brink: EU economies are projected to do significantly worse

Robert J. Samuelson 2020 (Journalist; finalist for Pulitzer Prize in commentary 1998; began working in journalism in 1969) Why Italy’s debt matters for everybody 24 May 2020 <https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/why-italys-debt-matters-for-everybody/2020/05/24/12b2f310-9baf-11ea-ac72-3841fcc9b35f_story.html>

Like the United States, much of Europe has now entered a deep recession. In 2020, Germany’s economy (gross domestic product) will contract 8 percent, France’s 10 percent, Spain’s 15 percent, Italy’s 18 percent and Greece’s 15 percent, reports a new study from Capital Economics, a major forecasting firm. Consumer confidence has plunged, and budget deficits have widened.

Link: Conflicts over immigration funding have the potential to paralyze or destroy the EU

Bernd Riegert 2019 (senior European correspondent for Deutsche Welle and has been a journalist for over 28 years) Opinion: EU immigration policy is grist to the far-right mill October 32019 <https://www.dw.com/en/opinion-eu-immigration-policy-is-grist-to-the-far-right-mill/a-47843707>

The real test, however, will come at the end of the year, when the EU negotiates the distribution of grant money for the next decade. Will states that take more immigrants get more money? Will those that take none be penalized by receiving less? The showdown has the potential to paralyze the EU, or even worse, destroy it entirely.

1. Populist / Authoritarian / Right-wing backlash

**We’re not arguing they can’t fiat that their plan takes effect. Quite the contrary: When they fiat their plan into effect, the anger it will generate will inflame tensions, further fracture the EU, and lead to a dangerous backlash.**

Link: Plan will have substantial opposition. Example: Italy is tearing down migrant camps to deter immigration

Vicki Squire 2019 (PhD in Politics and Government; Associate Professor of International Security, Univ of Warwick) As EU stresses the migration ‘crisis’ is over, Italy makes hundreds of migrants homeless 8 March 2019 <https://theconversation.com/as-eu-stresses-the-migration-crisis-is-over-italy-makes-hundreds-of-migrants-homeless-113137>

The consequences of policies made on such unfounded assumptions is now starkly evident in Italy. On March 6, the same day as Timmermans made his comments, bulldozers and paramilitary police demolished an informal “migrant camp” at San Fernando, near Gioia Tauro in Calabria, southern Italy. The country’s far-right interior minister, Matteo Salvini, described in a tweet that this represents a commitment to closing large centres while cutting costs and increasing transparency. “There are those who talk, there are those who do,” he claimed.

Link: Italy receives the most immigrants from Africa and has a very anti-immigration government

Alessandro Giovanni Borghese 2018 (journalist for Bloomberg) Why European Tension Is Rising Over Migrants (Again) 21 June 2018 <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-06-22/why-european-tension-is-rising-over-migrants-again-quicktake>

Anti-immigration political parties across the bloc have surged in popularity, emboldening the push for change. The new populist Italian government came to power arguing that Italians unfairly bear the brunt of the influx -- and their EU neighbors should shoulder more of the burden. The anti-immigrant firebrand Matteo Salvini, Italy’s interior minister, refused to allow rescue ships carrying migrants and refugees to dock in Sicily on two separate occasions. Spain and Malta stepped in to offer shelter. Most migrants from Africa land in Italy, arriving via human-trafficking networks in overcrowded vessels from a lawless Libya. Italy estimates that it spent 4.3 billion euros ($5 billion) on migrants in 2017, while receiving only 77 million euros in EU aid.

Link: Pro-immigration policies fuel far-right conspiracies

Gerald Knaus 2018 (an Austrian migration policy specialist who leads the European Stability Initiative, a think tank in Berlin) quoted by journalist Joanna Kakissis (covers Greece, Cyprus and the Balkans for NPR, and she has written for TIME, Foreign Policy, The New York Times and The New Yorker online.) A U.N. Migration Pact Is Dividing Europe — And Has Become Fodder For Nationalists 10 December 2018 <https://www.npr.org/2018/12/10/674527496/a-u-n-migration-pact-is-dividing-europe-and-has-become-fodder-for-nationalists>

The pact, while a lightning rod, is not the central issue, says Gerald Knaus, an Austrian migration policy specialist who leads the European Stability Initiative, a think tank in Berlin. "The U.N. pact will really not change much in Europe for good or bad," he says. "What it has revealed is the success of the far right in Europe to take almost any document, and spin it to create the myth of a conspiracy of global elites who want to have a mass invasion of Europe."

Link: Trust is key to EU stability. Brink: EU is hurtling towards a crisis of trust right now

Luke McGee 2019 (senior producer for CNN and CNN International.) Brexit was a distraction. Now Europe is facing a hellish 2020 20 December 2019 <https://www.cnn.com/2019/12/20/europe/europe-is-in-deep-trouble-analysis-intl/index.html>

Bluntly, the old continent is hurtling towards a crisis in mutual trust on values and law. And trust is arguably the central pillar of European unity and stability. Agata Gostyńska-Jakubowska, a senior research fellow at the Centre for European Reform, explains that the "backtracking on the rule of law in any member states" creates "a challenge to the whole mutual trust. That is a founding principle for crucial projects such as the single market or justice."

Brink: Countries try to ignore EU mandates on human rights, even when it could get them kicked out of the EU

Luke McGee 2019 (senior producer for CNN and CNN International.) Brexit was a distraction. Now Europe is facing a hellish 2020 20 December 2019 <https://www.cnn.com/2019/12/20/europe/europe-is-in-deep-trouble-analysis-intl/index.html>

For the EU is being undermined by nations within its ranks ignoring the rule of EU law, deviating from Europe's high standards on human rights and laughing in the face of freedom of expression. The most recent example of this comes from Poland, where the country's Supreme Court had to warn the governing Law and Justice party that its proposed judicial reforms could violate European law so blatantly that it might be booted out of the EU.

Historical Example: Eastern European countries refused to accept EU immigration quotas

Holly Ellyatt 2018 (writes for CNBC.com focusing on European macro-economics and politics) ‘Pack your bags,’ Italy’s new leaders tell 500,000 illegal migrants — but it’ll cost them 4 June 2018 <https://www.cnbc.com/2018/06/04/pack-your-bags-italys-new-leaders-tell-500000-illegal-migrants--but-itll-cost-them.html>

This quota system has largely failed — as of the end of May, only 12,690 migrants had been relocated from Italy and 21,999 from Greece, according to EU data. Eastern European states refused to sign up to the quota system — another hugely contentious issue.

Brink: Italy is on the verge of defying immigration agreements, and other countries may join

Dr. MIGUEL OTERO-IGLESIAS 2018 (PhD; Senior Analyst on the European Economy and the Emerging Markets at the Elcano Royal Institute in Spain and Research Fellow in International Political Economy at the EU-Asia Institute at ESSCA School of Management in France.) Europe’s two-faced migration reality 21 September 2018 <https://www.politico.eu/article/europe-two-faced-migration-reality-immigration-positives-negatives/>

If the situation — or more accurately, the perception of the situation — worsens, more Europeans will come out against the application of the Geneva Convention that protects refugees. Italy, for one, is getting close to that point.

Link & Brink: EU authority and stability are dependent on countries following EU standards

Luke McGee 2019 (senior producer for CNN and CNN International.) Brexit was a distraction. Now Europe is facing a hellish 2020, 20 Dec 2019 <https://www.cnn.com/2019/12/20/europe/europe-is-in-deep-trouble-analysis-intl/index.html> ( brackets added)

The problem is that members of the EU are overseen by the European Court of Justice. National courts are expected to respect European law. [Ronan] McCrea [professor of European Law at University College London] explains that "the web of rules under which members states automatically recognize each others' decisions is threatened by undermining the rule of law. The EU is a very small bureaucracy. It largely depends on national judges and national civil servants to implement the law." With so many European nations terrified at the prospect of the EU juggernaut taking a closer look at their alleged indiscretions, there is no way that as a bloc, the member states would give a green light to Brussels singling out one member. So Article 7 is a non-starter.

Link & Brink: Challenges to EU authority threaten the EU’s existence

Luke McGee 2019 (senior producer for CNN and CNN International.) Brexit was a distraction. Now Europe is facing a hellish 2020 20 December 2019 <https://www.cnn.com/2019/12/20/europe/europe-is-in-deep-trouble-analysis-intl/index.html> words in brackets copied from earlier in the article for clarity

"What might bring the EU to an end? It won't be a meeting of EU member states, saying let's end this. But what might start its collapse is some states saying, we don't really accept the primacy of EU law anymore," says Charles Crawford, a former British ambassador to Poland. "Once nation states start challenging the legal order, that is desperately serious for the EU." The paradox at the heart of the EU is that it insists all states play by the same rules while also being reluctant to interfere in the domestic politics of any members. In some respects, the EU is little more than an agreement between 28 countries to not cheat the system.

Link: Fear, anxiety and skepticism about the EU leads to the rise of populist authoritarian figures

Meagan Araki, Annie Chang, Troy Lindell, Alison Wendler 2017. (members of the “Challenges to European Unity Task Force” at the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies, Univ. of Washington) March 2017 CHALLENGES TO EUROPEAN UNITY: OPTIONS FOR U.S. POLICYMAKERS <https://jsis.washington.edu/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Task-Force-J-Report-2017_Lorenz.pdf>

Additionally, the complications surrounding EU accession and instability in Turkey and the Balkans present unique challenges to the dynamic of the EU. These real and perceived threats have induced fear and anxiety into the European public. As these security threats have worsened with little to no progress made, Euroscepticism has grown and enabled the populist movement. By capitalizing on this sentiment, populist parties have gained increasing support throughout Europe. Populists promise to take back power from the corrupt and inefficient political elite, and give it back to the general public. Europeans have increasingly turned to strongman figures who value strength and security over tolerance and unity.

Brink & Example: Hungary now has authoritarian government, putting EU at high risk right now

Philippe Dam 2020 (master’s degree in international administration; Human Rights Watch’s advocacy director for Europe and Central Asia) 1 Apr 2020 “Hungary’s Authoritarian Takeover Puts European Union at Risk” <https://www.hrw.org/news/2020/04/01/hungarys-authoritarian-takeover-puts-european-union-risk>

On Monday, under the pretext of addressing the COVID-19 public health emergency, [Hungary's](https://www.hrw.org/europe/central-asia/hungary) parliament gave [green light to the Orban-led government](https://www.hrw.org/news/2020/03/23/hungarys-orban-uses-pandemic-seize-unlimited-power) to rule with unlimited power for an indefinite time. Prime Minister Viktor Orban can now suspend any existing law and implement others by decree, without parliamentary or judicial scrutiny. Elections have been suspended. The law allows for new criminal penalties of five years in prison for publishing vaguely defined “false” or “distorted” facts – another blow to media freedom in the country. With this law, Hungary becomes the first country in the European Union to virtually abolish all democratic checks-and-balances. How has it come to this? In the past [10 years](https://www.hrw.org/report/2013/05/16/wrong-direction-rights/assessing-impact-hungarys-new-constitution-and-laws), the government has spared no efforts to [curb judicial independence](https://www.hrw.org/europe/central-asia/hungary), restrict [civil society](https://www.hrw.org/news/2018/07/17/hungary-determined-silence-any-critics-left-standing) activities, and gain near full [control over the media](https://www.euronews.com/2019/06/12/don-t-be-fooled-hungary-s-government-remains-a-threat-to-european-values-view). Having repeatedly failed to appreciate the gravity of the situation, EU institutions risk making the same mistake again.

Link & Impact: Weak EU leads to rise of dictatorship and loss of freedom for millions more

Kenneth Roth 2020 (executive director of Human Rights Watch, one of the world's leading international human rights organizations; former federal prosecutor in New York; graduate of Yale Law School) 27 Apr 2020 “Stopping the Authoritarian Rot in Europe” [https://www.hrw.org/news/2020/04/27/stopping-authoritarian-rot-europe#](https://www.hrw.org/news/2020/04/27/stopping-authoritarian-rot-europe)

Rot tends to spread when it encounters no resistance. Dictator wannabes prey upon weakness. EU and member state leaders now need to ask themselves: is the EU only a trading bloc or also a club of democracies? The answer to that question used to be obvious. Sadly, it no longer is. Ten million EU citizens now live under authoritarian rule. How many millions more will have to suffer the loss of their freedoms before Europe’s leaders draw the line?

2. Reduced world stability from fracturing the EU

Example: Disagreement over immigration policy was a major reason Britain left the EU

Max Boot 2016 (leading military historian and foreign policy analyst. He is the Jeane J. Kirkpatrick Senior Fellow in National Security Studies at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York) “Brexit: Isolationism or Atlanticism?”  <https://www.hoover.org/sites/default/files/issues/resources/strategika_issue_33_web.pdf>

Britons might never have voted to leave the European Union had it not been for the refugee crisis that hit Europe as a result of the Syrian civil war. Even though Britain has accepted only some 5,000 Syrian refugees, German premier Angela Merkel agreed to take in 800,000, thus fueling fears across the continent of an influx of possible terrorists. Those fears were exploited by elements of the “Leave” campaign, principally Nigel Farage and the UK Independence Party, and no doubt contributed crucial momentum to the final outcome.

Brink: EU faces an uncertain future with multiple crises threatening unity and increasing division

Meagan Araki, Annie Chang, Troy Lindell, Alison Wendler 2017. (members of the “Challenges to European Unity Task Force” at the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies, Univ. of Washington) March 2017 CHALLENGES TO EUROPEAN UNITY: OPTIONS FOR U.S. POLICYMAKERS <https://jsis.washington.edu/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Task-Force-J-Report-2017_Lorenz.pdf>

Today, Europe faces an uncertain future. The migration crisis, rise in terrorism, economic downturn, mounting external pressures and a responsive populist movement, have threatened the basis of European stability. The major influx of refugees into Europe has placed immense pressure on the EU’s infrastructure and capacity to integrate refugees into the European identity. Europe has experienced a growing number of terrorist attacks, leading to nationalist and xenophobic policies. Additionally, Russia’s encroachment into Eastern Europe has strained Russia and Europe’s relationship. The Euro crisis has furthered the divide between the core and peripheral EU countries, revealing the inequality between European citizens and growing stagnant employment and growth opportunities.

Link: EU stability promotes US ability to maintain global security and stability

Meagan Araki, Annie Chang, Troy Lindell, Alison Wendler 2017. (members of the “Challenges to European Unity Task Force” at the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies, Univ. of Washington) March 2017 CHALLENGES TO EUROPEAN UNITY: OPTIONS FOR U.S. POLICYMAKERS <https://jsis.washington.edu/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Task-Force-J-Report-2017_Lorenz.pdf>

Policies that encourage the unity between EU member states should be strongly supported. It is significant that the United States demonstrate support in this ongoing migration crisis, as it will help relieve the pressures member states are experiencing, as well as help mend existing tensions. The cohesion, stability, and cooperation of European Union serve a key interests of the United States. With these aspects, a more unified European Union can strengthen its position as a global actor, as well as strengthen its existing relations with the United States. This can further United States’ objectives of security and stability throughout the international community.

Impact: World peace & prosperity at risk without US influence. US hegemony is key to global peace & prosperity

Capt. M. V. Prato 2009 (United States Marine Corps, Command and Staff College, Marine Corps Combat Development Command, Marine Corps University) “The Need for American Hegemony” 20 Feb 2009 http://www.dtic.mil/dtic/tr/fulltext/u2/a508040.pdf

The world witnessed a vast shift in the polarity of geopolitics after the Cold War. The United States became the world’s greatest hegemon with an unequalled ability to globally project cultural, political, economic, and military power in a manner not seen since the days of the Roman Empire. Coined the “unipolar moment” by syndicated columnist Charles Krauthammer, the disparity of power between the U.S. and all other nations allows the U.S. to influence the world for the mutual benefit of all responsible states. Unfortunately, the United States is increasingly forced to act unilaterally as a result of both foreign and domestic resentment to U.S. dominance and the rise of liberal internationalism. The United States must exercise benevolent global hegemony, unilaterally if necessary, to ensure its security and maintain global peace and prosperity.

3.  Economic recession (from weakening / fracturing the EU)

Link: AFF plan weakens / fractures the EU with greater division

See the “Big Link” + the additional links to DA-1 about controversy

Link: EU unity is necessary for beneficial trade deals

Julian Bonte-Friedheim 2020 (head writer at The Perspective) “IS THE EU BETTER OFF DIVIDED OR TOGETHER?” (no month shown in the published article)  <https://www.theperspective.com/debates/businessandtechnology/is-the-eu-better-off-divided-or-together/>

Better trade deals can be negotiated from within the EU. For any European nation, negotiating trade deals with other countries is much more advantageous as part of the EU rather than as an independent economy. As one of the world’s [biggest economic unions](https://www.thebalance.com/world-s-largest-economy-3306044), the EU has a lot more leverage when brokering a deal with China or India. Being able to offer (or withhold) access to its many consumers is a strong bargaining tool. Additionally, there is [free trading](https://www.ft.com/content/1688d0e4-15ef-11e6-b197-a4af20d5575e) between members of the EU, as it is a customs union. Individual countries, while able to create their own terms, are unlikely to reach deals as beneficial as the EU does on its own.

Brink: Cracks already being seen in EU unity, and even partial non-cooperation will eventually bleed it to death

Hans Vollaard 2020 (Lecturer in Dutch and European Politics at Utrecht University, Netherlands.) “One down, many to go? European disintegration after Brexit” 23 Mar 2020 <https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/brexit/2020/03/23/one-down-many-to-go-european-disintegration-after-brexit/>

Even though there may not be other instances of European disintegration like Brexit, dissatisfaction may lead to other forms of disintegration. Not by countries leaving the EU entirely, but only partially. These partial exits involve member states not complying with the EU rules, for instance with respect to public finances in the Eurozone (Italy), or the Schengen rules, many member states have introduced “temporary” national border surveillance since the migration crisis of 2015. Another partial exit is the desire to pay less money to ‘Brussels’, such as expressed by the so-called Hanseatic group of EU member states led by the Netherlands. Disintegration can also occur involuntarily, when one member state wants to exclude another member state, such as the calls to push Greece out of the euro or the Schengen area. These partial forms of disintegration undermine the functioning of the EU. Its rules are less respected, and it gets fewer resources to function properly. In such a scenario, the EU would gradually ‘bleed to death’.

Impact: Devastating economic impact. Financial recession

Dr. Mauro Guillen 2016 (Professor of International Management at the Wharton School of Business, Univ. of Pennsylvania. Was Director of the Lauder Institute of Management & International Studies 2007 -2019. PhD in sociology from Yale and a Doctorate in political economy from Univ. of Oviedo in Spain.) “On the Brink: How a Brexit Could Fracture a Fragile Europe” 13 June 2016 <https://knowledge.wharton.upenn.edu/article/on-the-brink-how-brexit-could-fracture-a-fragile-europe/>

The European Union is the largest economy in the world. It’s not as rich as the U.S., but it is bigger in terms of gross domestic product if you combine those 28 countries. If there is a crisis of confidence that undermines consumer spending and business confidence, then you are going to get into maybe even a third recession. That would be devastating for Europe itself, but it would be really bad for everybody else in the world that has business with Europe, including the United States. Exporters to Europe and American companies that have investments in Europe are going to suffer. Companies such as GE or GM or Boeing, 20% to 30% of their business is in Europe, so it could have a large impact.

Past precedent: Brexit caused serious economic damage

Kimberly Amadeo 2020 (over 20 years of senior-level corporate experience in economic analysis and business strategy. She is a U.S. Economy expert for The Balance and president of WorldMoneyWatch, which produces publications about the global economy) “Brexit Consequences for the U.K., the EU, and the United States” last updated 14 March 2020  <https://www.thebalance.com/brexit-consequences-4062999>

The day after the Brexit vote, the currency markets were in turmoil. The [euro fell 2% to $1.11](https://www.thebalance.com/what-is-the-euro-to-dollar-conversion-its-history-3306091).﻿ The pound fell 8% to $1.36.﻿ Both increased the [value of the dollar](https://www.thebalance.com/value-of-us-dollar-3306268). That strength is not good for U.S. [stock markets](https://www.thebalance.com/what-is-the-stock-market-how-it-works-3305893). It makes American shares more expensive for foreign investors. A weak pound also makes U.S. exports to the U.K. more expensive. The United States has an $18.9 billion trade surplus with the U.K. In 2018, it exported $141 billion while importing $122 billion.﻿ Brexit could turn this surplus into a deficit if a weak pound makes U.K. imports more competitive. Brexit dampens business growth for companies that operate in Europe. U.S. companies invested $758 billion in the U.K. in 2018.﻿ Most of this was the finance sector with some manufacturing. These companies use the U.K. as the gateway to free trade with the EU nations. U.K. businesses invested $561 billion in the United States. Brexit puts at risk jobs in both countries.

4. Debt crisis (from spending more on reception improvement)

Link: Italy and Greece (the countries where many of the migrants arrive) already have the highest debts in the EU

Reuters 2019 Italy, Greece debt rose in 2018, bucking euro zone trend- Eurostat 23 April 2019 <https://www.reuters.com/article/eurozone-italy-debt/italy-greece-debt-rose-in-2018-bucking-euro-zone-trend-eurostat-idUSB5N20U001>

Public debt in Greece and Italy, the two most indebted countries of the euro zone, grew last year while the bloc as a whole recorded an overall decrease in its liabilities, the European Union statistics office said on Tuesday. The widening gaps in Greece and Italy, although expected, are seen as stretching EU fiscal rules that require countries with high debts to gradually bring them down.

Brink: Italy and Greece are close to the debt brink

Robert Samuelson 2020. (journalist for The Washington Post, where he has written about business and economic issues since 1977 ) WASHINGTON POST, 25 May 2020 “Why Italy’s debt matters for everybody” <http://thewashingtonpost.newspaperdirect.com/epaper/viewer.aspx>

Based on many factors — low interest rates, a record of repaying past loans, low inflation — some countries can borrow more than others. Although Germany’s debt ratio is rising, hardly anyone thinks it may default. By contrast, Italy and Greece are closer to the brink. If some sort of financial rescue isn’t organized, Italy might be forced out of the euro, dragging along some other highly indebted countries.

Impact: European Debt Crisis II would create Great Depression II

Robert Samuelson 2020. (journalist for The Washington Post, where he has written about business and economic issues since 1977 ) WASHINGTON POST, 25 May 2020 “Why Italy’s debt matters for everybody” <http://thewashingtonpost.newspaperdirect.com/epaper/viewer.aspx>

The U.S. and global economies are in a perilous state, and yet we may be underestimating the dangers. Just out of sight lies a second large threat: a global debt crisis that, centered in Europe, would further destabilize a world already struggling to combat the dreadful consequences of the coronavirus pandemic. In the United States and elsewhere, tens of millions have lost their jobs, and business losses total in the trillions of dollars. What’s certain is that another debt crisis would prolong and deepen the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression of the 1930s.

5. Masking Disad. Plan rhetoric and mandates distract us from the real problem, making it worse

1) Rhetoric of “improving human rights” for arrested migrants masks the problems that are causing so many suffering migrants in the first place.
2) And we can’t trust the organization (EU) that committed the human rights violations in the first place to be the solution to human rights violations

Prof. Nick Vaughan-Williams 2015. (Professor of International Security, Politics and International Studies, University of Warwick ) Europe's Border Crisis: Biopolitical Security and Beyond (no month shown in the date of publication) <https://books.google.com/books?id=vfiJCgAAQBAJ&pg=PA16&lpg=PA16&dq=EU+reception+capacity+plan+2020&source=bl&ots=DFVRikrbwo&sig=ACfU3U1TYAIcSQsCwQYpo8MOkyC89WjbrA&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjgvsHWxuvpAhWvg3IEHdPFApkQ6AEwBXoECAoQAQ#v=onepage&q=EU%20reception%20capacity%20plan%202020&f=false>



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