

Library Link: Europe features the latest research on the region. Scroll down for **Sovereign Rating Reports, Books, and Working Papers**.

We hope this newsletter serves as a reliable resource to help you in your work. Email <u>Library@IMF.org</u> to share your thoughts and feedback. For an optimal reading experience, please use Chrome or Edge to open the links.

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SOVEREIGN RATING REPORTS-

Email <u>Library@IMF.org</u> to request the full reports; we'll send them to you as quickly as possible! *(reports are from Jan 13 to Feb 1, 2023)*

European Region

- Fitch: "Economics Dashboard: UK Households' Debt-Service Costs Set to Jump as Rates Rise" (Jan 17)
- Moody's: "Sovereigns Europe: Largest recipients are broadly on track with NGEU spending plans, but challenges will mount for some in" (Jan 24)
- Moody's: "Infographic: Europe's energy crisis is both a short and long-term economic challenge" (Jan 17)
- Moody's: "Sovereigns Euro area: 2023 outlook is negative driven by the energy crisis and geopolitics" (Jan 16)
- S&P: "Risky Credits: Downgrades Of European Issuers In Q4 2022 Top Pre-Pandemic Levels" (Feb 1)
- S&P: "Europe's Distressed Debt Purchasers Face Mounting Risks Amid Tough Economic Conditions" (Jan 24)

Central 1 & 2

- Fitch: "Fitch Revises Hungary's Outlook to Negative; Affirms at 'BBB'" (Jan 20)
- S&P: "Research Update: Hungary Downgraded To 'BBB-/A-3' From 'BBB/A-2' On Inflation And External Pressures; Outlook Stable" (Jan 27)

Eastern & Eastern 2

- S&P: "North Macedonia Full Analysis" (Jan 30)
- Fitch: "Fitch Affirms Ukraine at 'CC'" (Jan 20)

Nordic

- Moody's: "Fitch Affirms Denmark at 'AAA'; Outlook Stable" (Jan 27)
- Fitch: "Norway Rating Report" (Jan 31)

Northwestern 1 & 2

- Fitch: "Fitch Affirms Ireland at 'AA-'; Outlook Stable" (Jan 20)
- Fitch: "Luxembourg Rating Report" (Jan 30)
- S&P: "Luxembourg Full Analysis" (Jan 30)
- Moody's: "Government of the Netherlands Aaa stable: Update following rating affirmation; outlook unchanged" (Jan 31)

Other Advanced Economies

• Moody's: "Government of Iceland – A2 stable: Regular update" (Jan 17)

Poland & Baltics

- Moody's: "Government of Latvia A3 stable: Regular update" (Jan 31)
- Fitch: "Poland Rating Report" (Jan 30)

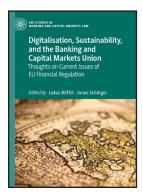
Southeastern 1 & 2

• Fitch: "Fitch Rtgs: Bulgarian Politics Slows EU Fund Absorption; Inflation Key to Euro Timeline" (Jan 25)

Southern 1-3

- Moody's: "Government of Andorra Baa2 stable: Regular update" (Jan 24)
- Moody's: "Fitch Upgrades Greece to 'BB+'; Outlook Stable" (Jan 27)
- Moody's: "Government of Spain Baa1 stable: Regular update" (Jan 17)

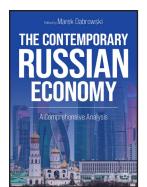
BOOKS-



<u>Digitalisation, Sustainability, and the Banking and Capital Markets Union:</u> <u>Thoughts on Current Issues of EU Financial Regulation</u>

Lukas Böffel, Jonas Schürger

This book covers three topics that have dominated financial market regulation and supervision debates: digital finance, sustainable finance, and the Banking and Capital Markets Union.



The Contemporary Russian Economy: A Comprehensive Analysis Marek Dabrowski

This textbook offers a wide-ranging, comprehensive analysis of the contemporary Russian economy (as it functions in the early 2020s) concentrated on the economy, economic policy, and economic governance.

WORKING PAPERS

International Organizations, the European Union and Peace: Bringing Organization Structure In (ARENA Working Paper 1/23, ARENA Centre for European Studies, University of Oslo)

The purpose of this research note is to increase our understanding of under what conditions international institutions could matter in this respect. The fierce debate between realists and institutionalists only marginally touches upon the effect that the various ways of organizing IOs might have on interstate peace. Arguably, the only international organization so far that in its structure and work clearly transcends a basically intergovernmental arrangement is the European Union (EU).

Inflation Expectations in the Wake of the War in Ukraine (Discussion Paper No 03/2023, Deutsche Bundesbank)

Russia's invasion of Ukraine is posing a range of new challenges to the global economy, including affecting the inflation expectations of individuals. In this paper, we aim to quantify the effect of the invasion on shortand long-term inflation expectations of individuals in Germany. Looking into the possible mechanisms of this increase, we suggest that it can be partially attributed to individuals' fears of soaring energy prices and increasing pessimism about economic trends in general. Our results indicate that large economic shocks can have a substantial impact on both short and long-term inflation expectations.

Why European Banks adjust Their Dividend Payouts? (Working Paper Series No 2765, European **Central Bank)**

Economic literature suggests that banks change their dividend payouts for three main reasons. They may be willing to signal good future profitability to shareholders to address information asymmetry, or use dividends to mitigate the agency costs, or could come under pressure from prudential supervisors and regulators to retain earnings. The COVID-19 pandemic led to introduction of sector-wide recommendation by regulators to suspend dividend payouts in view of prevailing large uncertainty.

Benefits and Costs of the ETS in the EU, a Lesson Learned for the CBAM Design (Working Paper Series No 2764, European Central Bank)

The EU is revising its emissions trading system (ETS) and plans to impose a carbon border adjustment mechanism (CBAM) on imports. We evaluate the efficacy of the ETS retrospectively and its anti-competitive effects. We find that the ETS contributed to cut greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the EU by 2-2.5 percentage points per year; pricier emissions and more stringent caps accelerated the EU greening process. However, some carbon leakages occurred as declining emissions in regulated industries within the EU were counterbalanced by an intensification elsewhere. Moreover, it burdened companies in regulated industries.

A Single Monetary Policy for Heterogeneous Labour Markets: the Case of the Euro Area (Working Paper Series No 2769, European Central Bank)

Differences in labour market institutions and regulations between countries of the monetary union can cause divergent responses even to a common shock. We augment a multicountry model of the euro area with search and matching framework that differs across Ricardian and hand-to-mouth households. In this setting, we investigate the implications of cross-country heterogeneity in labour market institutions for the conduct of monetary policy in a monetary union.

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