



# LIBRARY LINK

## EUROPE

**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 [Library@IMF.org](mailto:Library@IMF.org) to share your thoughts and feedback. For an optimal reading experience, please use Chrome or Edge to open the links.

## Contents

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| SOVEREIGN RATING REPORTS ..... | 1 |
| BOOKS.....                     | 3 |
| WORKING PAPERS.....            | 4 |

## SOVEREIGN RATING REPORTS

Email [Library@IMF.org](mailto:Library@IMF.org) to request the full reports; we'll send them to you as quickly as possible! *(Reports are from April 7 to May 2, 2022)*

### European Region

- Fitch: "Fitch Ratings: Imported Inflation Will Have Less Benefit for Eurozone Public Finances" (Apr 20)
- Fitch: "Fitch Rtgs: Revised Growth Forecasts Point to Slower Eurozone Fiscal Recovery" (Apr 13)
- Moody's: "Sovereigns – Europe: Embargo on Russian coal mainly affects Poland and Germany, but negative credit impact is limited" (Apr 12)
- Moody's: "Sovereign – Europe: Credit profiles resilient to passing Russian gas shock, lasting supply cut raises risks" (Apr 11)
- S&P: "The Russia-Ukraine Conflict: European Banks Can Manage The Economic Spillovers, For Now" (Apr 21)
- S&P: "EU Membership Has Changed Trade Patterns For Many CEE Countries" (Apr 6)

### Central 1 & 2

- Moody's: "Government of Austria – Aa1 stable: Update following change to forecasts and political risk score" (Apr 8)
- Moody's: "Government of Croatia – Ba1 stable: Annual credit analysis" (Apr 19)
- Moody's: "Government of Czech Republic – Aa3 stable: Update following change to forecasts and political risk score" (Apr 12)
- S&P: "Research Update: Czech Republic 'AA-/A-1+' Foreign Currency And 'AA/A-1+' Local Currency Ratings Affirmed; Outlook Stable" (Apr 29)

- Moody's: "Government of Slovenia : Incoming government will ease pressure on civil society and the judiciary, a credit positive" (Apr 27)

## Eastern & Eastern 2

- Moody's: "Government of Moldova – B3 negative: Update following outlook change to negative, rating affirmation" (Apr 14)
- S&P: "Research Update: Russia Foreign Currency Ratings Cut To 'SD', Local Currency Ratings Kept At 'CC'; All Ratings Subsequently Withdrawn" (Apr 8)
- Moody's: "Government of Turkey: FAQ on Turkey's vulnerability to Russia-Ukraine conflict" (Apr 25)
- Moody's: "Government of Ukraine – Caa2 RUR-: Regular update" (Apr 13)

## Nordic

- Moody's: "Government of Denmark – Aaa stable: Update following change to forecasts and political risk score" (Apr 14)
- Moody's: "Government of Finland – Aa1 stable: Update following change to forecasts and political risk score" (May 2)

## Northwestern 1 & 2

- Moody's: "Government of Belgium – Aa3 stable: Update following change to forecasts and political risk score" (Apr 14)
- Moody's: "Government of France – Aa2 stable: Update following change to forecasts and political risk score" (Apr 26)
- Moody's: "Government of Germany: Another year of very high borrowing reflects Russia-Ukraine's credit-negative impact" (Apr 28)
- Fitch: "[Ireland Rating Report](#)" (Apr 13)
- Moody's: "Government of Ireland – A2 positive: Update following change to forecasts" (Apr 8)
- Moody's: "Government of the Netherlands – Aaa stable: Update following change to forecasts and political risk score" (Apr 8)
- S&P: "Full Analysis: Netherlands" (Apr 25)

## Other Advanced Economies

- Moody's: "Government of Israel – A1 positive: Update following outlook change to positive, rating affirmation" (Apr 8)
- Moody's: "Government of Switzerland – Aaa stable: Update following change to forecasts and political risk score" (Apr 7)
- S&P: "Research Update: United Kingdom 'AA/A-1+' Ratings Affirmed; Outlook Stable" (Apr 22)

## Poland & Baltics

*No new reports*

## Southeastern 1 & 2

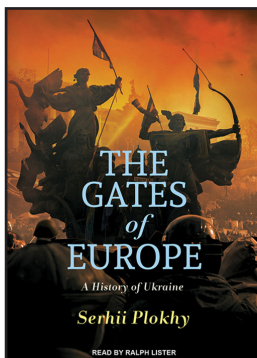
- Moody's: "Government of Albania – B1 stable: Update following change to forecasts" (Apr 13)
- Fitch: "[Romania Rating Report](#)" (Apr 19)
- Moody's: "Government of Romania – Baa3 stable: Regular update" (Apr 19)
- S&P: "Research Update: Romania 'BBB-/A-3' Ratings Affirmed; Outlook Stable" (Apr 15)
- Moody's: "Government of Serbia – Ba2 stable: Annual credit analysis" (Apr 14)

## Southern 1-3

- Fitch: "[Cyprus Rating Report](#)" (Apr 13)
- Moody's: "Government of Cyprus – Ba1 stable: Update following change to forecasts and political risk score" (Apr 8)
- S&P: "Research Update: Greece Upgraded To 'BB+' On Improved Economic Policy Governance; Outlook Stable" (Apr 22)
- S&P: "Research Update: Italy 'BBB/A-2' Ratings Affirmed; Outlook Positive" (Apr 22)
- Moody's: "Government of Portugal – Baa2 stable: Update following change to forecasts and political risk score" (Apr 8)
- Moody's: "Government of Spain - Baa1 stable: Update following change to forecasts and political risk score" (Apr 12)

## BOOKS

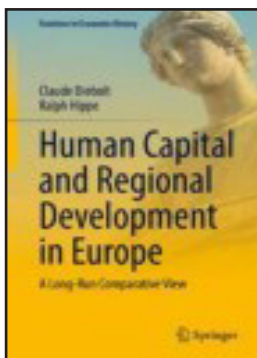
---



### [The Gates of Europe: A History of Ukraine](#)

**By Serhii Plokhy and Ralph Lister**

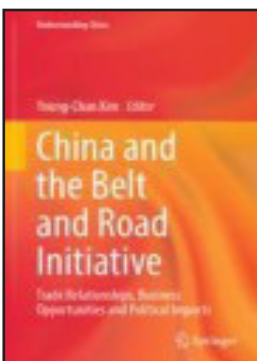
(Audiobook) Ukraine is currently embroiled in a tense battle with Russia to preserve its economic and political independence. But today's conflict is only the latest in a long history of battles over Ukraine's existence as a sovereign nation. As award-winning historian Serhii Plokhy argues in *The Gates of Europe*, we must examine Ukraine's past in order to understand its fraught present and likely future. Authoritative and vividly written, *The Gates of Europe* will be the definitive history of Ukraine for years to come.



### [Human Capital and Regional Development in Europe: A Long-Run Comparative View](#)

**By Claude Diebolt and Ralph Hippe**

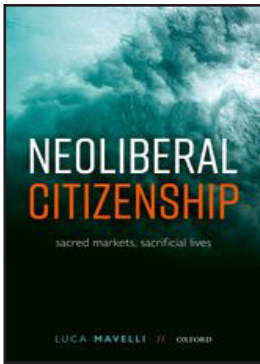
Human capital is of utmost importance for the future of our knowledge economies and societies. However, it is unequally distributed in Europe, contributing to marked spatial patterns of economic prosperity within and across countries. Taking a long-run perspective over more than 150 years, this book shows the development and the distribution of human capital in the regions of Europe and its connections with the economy.



### [China and the Belt and Road Initiative: Trade Relationships, Business Opportunities and Political Impacts](#)

**By Young-Chan Kim**

This book offers critical insights into the China-led Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) from an EU perspective. It analyzes the political, cultural, and diplomatic effectiveness of Xi's efforts to expand socio-cultural ties and build new trade corridors between Europe and the Far East, and sheds light on the lasting success and influence of China-led economic programs.



### **Neoliberal Citizenship: Sacred Markets, Sacrificial Lives**

**By Luca Mavelli**

With cosmopolitan illusions put to rest, Europe is now haunted by a pervasive neoliberal transformation of citizenship that subordinates inclusion, protection, and belonging to rationalities of value. Against the backdrop of four major crises - Eurozone, refugee, Brexit, and the COVID-19 pandemic - this book explores how neoliberal citizenship rewrites identities and solidarities in economic terms.



### **Off the Target: The Stagnating Political Economy of Europe and Post-Pandemic Recovery**

**By Muhammad Ali Nasir**

Europe today is deeply divided. Thirty years after the end of the Cold War and the celebratory moment when the wall came down, we are faced with a new Cold War. Russia-Western relations are arguably more dangerous than ever since the Cuban missile crisis. Diplomatic relations are frozen, sanctions installed, the old arms control treaties abandoned, and new nuclear weapons and carriers developed. How did it come to this and what happened with the post-Cold War dream? And what has happened to the post world war visions of European integration and security order? What are the critical processes and events that have led us unto this path?

## **WORKING PAPERS**

---

### **Climate change and credit risk: the effect of carbon tax on Italian banks' business loan default rates (Occasional Papers No. 688, Banca D'Italia)**

The study investigates the potential impact on Italian banks' business loan default rates at the sector level, following the introduction of a tax on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (carbon tax). We perform a counterfactual analysis, building on the microsimulation model of the Bank of Italy, which estimates the share of financially vulnerable firms and their debt.

### **Addressing COVID-19 outliers in BVARs with stochastic volatility (Discussion Paper No 13/2022, Deutsche Bundesbank)**

The COVID-19 pandemic has led to enormous data movements that strongly affect parameters and forecasts from standard VARs. To address these issues, we propose VAR models with outlier-augmented stochastic volatility (SV) that combine transitory and persistent changes in volatility. The resulting density forecasts are much less sensitive to outliers in the data than standard VARs.

### **Inflation expectations and climate concern (Discussion Paper No 12/2022, Deutsche Bundesbank)**

Using survey data from German households, we find that individuals with lower climate concern tend to have higher inflation expectations up to five years ahead. This correlation is most pronounced among individuals with extremely high inflation expectations. Overall, our results suggest that climate change perceptions matter for inflation expectations.

## **Household spending and fiscal support during the pandemic – the role of public perceptions** **(Research Bulletin No. 94, European Central Bank)**

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic shock posed an enormous challenge to fiscal policy in supporting household consumption. This article discusses to what extent the pandemic-related fiscal interventions influenced consumers' spending behaviour. It reports results from a recent study, which finds that improving perceptions about the adequacy of fiscal interventions incentivises spending. Importantly, this perceptions channel operates equally strongly for consumers who receive government support and for those who do not.

## **Europe and Central Asia Economic Update, Spring 2022: War in the Region** (Europe and Central Asia Economic Update 13, World Bank)

In February 2022, the world was shocked by the Russian Federation's invasion of Ukraine. The war is having a devastating impact on human life and causing economic destruction in both countries, and will lead to significant economic losses in the Europe and Central Asia (ECA) region and the rest of the world. It comes at a particularly vulnerable time for ECA as its economic recovery was expected to be held back by scarring from the pandemic and lingering structural weaknesses. The economic impact of the conflict has reverberated through multiple channels, including commodity and financial markets, trade and migration links, and the damaging impact on confidence.

Previous newsletters can be found on the [Library Link Newsletters page](#).

For questions regarding the content and coverage please contact the [IMF Library](#).

### **COPYRIGHT**

The IMF Library observes U.S. and international copyright laws and is required to comply with its Copyright Clearance Center license agreement; you may not systematically download and store journal articles, reports, or data on your PC or distribute them to others. Additional restrictions on usage may apply.



**LIBRARY**  
Corporate Services and Facilities