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Updates of online resources for the volume Cini, M. and Solorzano-Borragan, N. (2021) *European Union Politics* (7th edition). Oxford: Oxford University Press

Current update (below): *Updates to the book*

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The table below summarizes the main political developments of the European Union in the first half of the calendar year 2022 (from January until end of June). As is shown below, the European politics in that time were largely stimulated by the contemporary geopolitical crisis ensuing from Russia’s military aggression against Ukraine. In particular, the European Union adopted several sanction packages in response to Russia’s breach of international law and human rights in Ukraine, as well as it agreed on comprehensive support, including military support, to Ukraine. The then EU politics were also marked by an unprecedented recognition of EU candidate status for Ukraine and Moldova. At the same time, the Union adopted a series of measures that aimed at mitigating the impact of Russia’s war on Europe’s own security, including strategic economic and energy threats. Finally, it should not be forgotten that the European Union were also developing strategic cooperation with its international partners, for example the United States and Japan, as well as it undertook steps leading towards strengthening of European integration alone, for example, on fiscal policy.

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| **Day and month of 2022** | **Main EU actors and EU decisions/actions** |
| 17 January | Eurogroup:   * Draft recommendation on the economic policy of the euro area for 2022 (approved by ECOFIN on 18 January and endorsed by the European Council in March) * Thematic discussion on economic adjustment and resilience in terms of recent performance of the euro area compared to international peers * Thematic discussion on the solvency situation of the corporate sector and the corporate restructuring and economic adjustment in the euro area in the recovery after the COVID-19 pandemic * Economic governance review: discussion on the euro-area fiscal framework * Discussion on the strengthening of the Banking Union * Taking stock of the ratification of the revised European Stability Mechanism (ESM) |
| 24 January | Foreign Affairs Council (including a teleconference with US Secretary of State Antony Blinken):   * Focus on European security situation * Conclusion that Russia’s military build-up around Ukraine, and its attempts to re-establish ‘spheres of influence’, undermine the core foundation and principles of European security |
| 25 January | General Affairs Council:   * French presidency priorities to focus on European sovereignty * Policy debate on the 2021 Commission’s ’reinforcing democracy and integrity of elections’ legislative package   EU-Serbia Stabilisation and Association Council (sixth meeting) |
| 17-18 February | European Union–African Union Summit (sixth summit):   * Agreement on a joint vision for a renewed partnership, with the aims of enhancing solidarity, security, peace, and sustainable and sustained economic development and prosperity * Announcement of 150 billion euros within Africa–Europe Investment Package * EU commitment to provide at least 450 million COVID-19 vaccine doses to Africa |
| 22 February | General Affairs Council:   * Strategic debate on security and defence (‘Strategic Compass’) * Hearing on the rule of law in Poland * Discussion on the Conference on the Future of Europe * Policy debate on strengthening preparedness, response capacity, and resilience to future crises |
| 24 February | Special meeting of the European Council:   * EU to condemn Russia’s military aggression against Ukraine ‘in the strongest possible terms’ and express solidarity with Ukraine and its people * Agreement on further restrictive measures (sanctions) against Russia * Agreement on sanctions against Belarus’ involvement in the Russian war |
| 25 February | Eurogroup:   * Economic Governance Review: reflection on the euro-area dimension of the macroeconomic imbalances procedure * Information from the European Central Bank and the European Commission on a digital euro project * Statement on the early repayments of the Greek Loan Facility (GLF) and International Monetary Fund (IMF)   Extraordinary Foreign Affairs Council (including the participation of Ukraine’s Foreign Ministry Dmytro Kuleba):   * Adoption of a new package of restrictive measures against Russia * Agreement on intensified diplomatic efforts to condemn Russia’s aggression, on strengthened support to Moldova and Georgia, and on deterring provocations in the Western Balkans   EU personal sanctions against Russian leaders Vladimir Putin and Sergey Lavrov  A joint statement of the European Commission, the European Central Bank, and the Economic and Financial Affairs Council on their unity and commitment to consider all possible sanctions, and on their will to strengthen the economic independence of Europe |
| 27 February | Extraordinary Justice and Home Affairs Council:   * Full activation of the EU Integrated Political Crisis Response (IPCR) to monitor the Ukraine crisis, coordinate solidarity measures and involve all relevant actors; focus on five aspects: humanitarian support, reception of refugees, management of the external borders, measures of visas and anticipation of hybrid threats |
| 28 February | New EU sanctions against Russia, for example, on transactions with the Russian Central Bank, the overflight of EU airspace and access to EU airports by Russian aircrafts |
| 9 March | New EU sanctions against Russia, for example, on Russian state-owned outlets Russia Today and Sputnik, a SWIFT ban on selected Russian banks, sanctions on 160 individuals |
| 3-4 March | Justice and Home Affairs Council:   * Establishment of a temporary protection mechanism in response to the influx of displaced persons from Ukraine (Council Directive 2001/55/EC) * First meeting of the ‘Schengen Council’ * Adoption of a general approach on a Council regulation reforming the Schengen evaluation and monitoring mechanism |
| 4 March | Extraordinary Foreign Affairs Council (including teleconferences with Ukraine’s Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, NATO Secretary Liz Truss and Canada’s Foreign Minister Melanie Joly):   * Discussions on the latest developments regarding Russia’s war in Ukraine * Agreement on further reduction of the EU’s energy dependency from Russia. |
| 10-11 March | Informal meeting of heads of state or government:   * The Versailles declaration to condemn Russia’s aggression against Ukraine and outline how the EU can bolster defence capabilities, reduce energy dependencies, and build a more robust economic base |
| 14 March | Eurogroup:   * Discussion on the fiscal policy coordination for 2023, with a focus on safeguarding the economic recovery in the euro area * Taking stock of the economic situation arising from Russia’s military aggression against Ukraine * Discussion on the 13th enhanced surveillance report on Greece * Further discussion on the Banking Union |
| 15 March | Economic and Financial Affairs Council:   * Discussion on the economic and financial consequences of the anti-Russian sanctions * Agreement on the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) as part of the EU’s ‘Fit for 55’ package |
| 24-25 March | The European Council to set up a Ukraine Solidarity Trust Fund |
| 6 April | The Council of the EU:   * Approval of immediate disbursement of 3.5 billion euros under REACT-EU (Recovery Assistance for Cohesion and the Territories of Europe) to EU countries welcoming refugees from Ukraine |
| 8 April | New EU sanctions against Russia, for example, on imports of coal and other solid fossil fuels, on all Russian vessels from accessing EU ports, on Russian and Belarusian road transport operators from entering the EU. |
| 11 April | Foreign Affairs Council:   * Discussion on the accountability for Russia’s gross violation of international law * Agreement on supporting the International Criminal Court’s prosecutor and the Ukrainian prosecutor financially and with staff * Discussions on the efforts to reinforce strategic communication and counter disinformation, including in the context of the Russia-Ukraine War. |
| 12 April | General Affairs Council:   * Discussion on the rule of law in Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, and Austria in the framework of the annual rule of law dialogue * Further preparation for the Conference on the Future of Europe |
| 2 May | Extraordinary Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council (Energy):   * Commitments to work towards the gradual elimination of the EU's dependence on Russian fossil fuels |
| 11 May | The Council of the EU:   * Member states' mandate for negotiations with the European Parliament on the Commission's proposal on gas storage including gas storage capacity sharing in a spirit of solidarity between member states |
| 12 May | EU–Japan summit (28th summit):   * Reaffirmation of a close and comprehensive partnership * A joint statement and launch of the Digital Partnership * Agreement on expanding cooperation in areas such as cybersecurity, disinformation, maritime security, and crisis management |
| 16 May | EU–Canada Joint Ministerial Committee meeting (third meeting):   * Joint declaration on a strategic partnership * Discussion on joint political, financial, military and humanitarian support to Ukraine in the context of Russia's military aggression   Foreign Affairs Council:   * Strategic discussion on how the EU can help mitigate the impact of Russia's aggression against Ukraine on the Western Balkans |
| 17 May | Foreign Affairs Council (Defence) (including the participance of NATO Deputy Secretary-General Mircea Geoană and Ukraine's Minister of Defence Oleksii Reznikov):   * Agreement on additional 500 million euros under the European Peace Facility to increase the EU's total military support for the Ukrainian armed forces since the start of Russia's invasion to 2 billion euros * Discussion on the implementation of the ‘Strategic Compass’ including over 80 actions, 51 of which to be implemented by the end of 2022 |
| 18 May | EU–Armenia Partnership Council (fourth meeting):   * Review of the implementation of the Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement (CEPA) (in force since 1 March 2021)   European Union Military Committee (EUMC), EU chiefs of defence:   * Discussion on the implications of Russia's war in Ukraine, as well as on the CSDP military activities, with a focus on the ‘Strategic Compass’ and the new EU Rapid Deployment Capacity (EU RDC) |
| 20 May | Foreign Affairs Council (Development):   * Discussion on a multilateral response to the global food security crisis generated by Russia's war in Ukraine |
| 27 May | The Council of the EU:   * Adoption of regulations for temporary trade liberalization with Ukraine |
| 30-31 May | Special meeting of the European Council (including a teleconference with Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy):   * Conclusions on the war in Ukraine, food security, security and defence, and energy |
| 2 June | General Affairs Council (Cohesion):   * Discussion on the 8th European Commission report on the economic, social and territorial cohesion, and the impact of the war in Ukraine on cohesion policy   Jordan–EU Association Council (14th meeting):   * Focus on the implementation of the EU-Jordan Association Agreement * Adoption of the new EU-Jordan Partnership Priorities until 2027 |
| 3 June | Foreign Affairs Council (Trade):   * Preparations for the 12th World Trade Organization (WTO) ministerial conference (CM12) in Geneva, held on 12–15 June 2022, against the backdrop of Russia’s aggression against Ukraine and the COVID-19 pandemic * Review of the results of the 12th EU–US Trade and Technology Council (TTC) held on 16 May at Paris-Saclay * Ongoing bilateral trade and investment negotiations with New Zealand, Australia, Indonesia, and India.   New EU sanctions against Russia, for example, on crude oil and petroleum products |
| 9-10 June | Competitiveness Council:   * Approval of a general approach on the 2021 European Commission proposal for a consumer credit directive * Welcome of the Chips Act as to guarantee the EU's future technological sovereignty * Policy debate on the resilience of strategic industrial ecosystems   Justice and Home Affairs Council:   * Discussion on the judicial response to Russia's aggression against Ukraine |
| 14 June | Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council (Health):   * Discussions on the 2022 European Commission proposal for a regulation on the European Health Data Space (EHDS) * Review of the EU global health strategy |
| 16 June | Eurogroup:   * Recommendation that Croatia become the 20th member of the euro area * Discussion on the 14th enhanced surveillance report on Greece |
| 19 June | EU–Egypt Association Council:   * Endorsement of the new EU–Egypt Partnership priorities until 2027 |
| 20 June | EU–Kazakhstan Cooperation Council:   * Review of the implementation of the EU–Kazakhstan Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (EPCA) |
| 23 June | EU-Western Balkans leaders' meeting:   * Discussion on the progress on EU integration with the region and the challenges stemming from Russia’s aggression against Ukraine |
| 23-24 June | European Council:   * Conclusions on the European Commission's 'Wider Europe' including a proposal to launch a European political community * Further increase of military and financial support to Ukraine * Adoption of a EU candidate status to Ukraine and Moldova * Discussion on the global food crisis |
| 24 June | Euro Summit:   * The Eurogroup statement on the future of the Banking Union, strengthening the common framework for bank crisis management and national deposit guarantee schemes |
| 27 June | The Energy Council:   * Adoption of new rules on gas storage including gas storage capacity sharing between member states |