

May 2024

## New podcast **Café Evropa: Domestic and sexualized violence: what will new rules bring? | 20 Years of EU Membership | Prague Castle Conference**

Welcome to the first May newsletter!

Over the past 14 days, experts from EUROPEUM Institute have been expressing their views on a range of European topics in the media. For example, Martin Vokálek commented on the **latest session of the European Parliament** for TN.cz. Furthermore, you can read an article in BalkanInsight about **the attitudes of Czechs towards the EU** with commentary from Žiga Factor, or watch an interview with Jana Juzová on ČT24 about the **presidential elections in Macedonia**. There has also been a heated discussion in Czech Republic about the new **migration pact**. On this topic our researchers Vít Havelka and Viktor Daněk commented in various media, for example in the podcast "Evropa pro Čechy" and the discussion programme "Máte slovo".

**Czechia celebrated the 20th anniversary of its EU membership**, and EUROPEUM was part of it. On Tuesday, April 30th, we co-organized a **conference titled "20 Years of Czechia in the EU"** at Prague Castle with the participation of the Czech president, prime minister, and also the German president. Additionally, we participated in the **exhibition "20 Years in the EU"** which was opened on Tuesday, April 30th, at Mariánské náměstí. On the same day, we also had a stand in Brno at **the Europe Day** event at the Faculty of Social Studies of Masaryk University. The following day, on May 1st, we were part of the **"Zažijte Evropu" celebrations** with our stand at Václav Havel Square in Prague.

The fourteenth episode of our **Café Evropa podcast is out!** Titled **"Domestic and Sexualized Violence: What Will the New Rules Bring?"** the podcast discusses the impact of the redefinition of rape in the Czech law, which passed through the Chamber of Deputies and also the Czech society's attitude towards the Istanbul Convention. Klára Kadár and Daniel Bartoň discussed this topic. On Wednesday, May 1st, there was also a **public recording** of the Café Evropa podcast **on the topic "20 Years in the EU Without Borders"** with Ladislav Zibura, Veronika Capánová, and David Prachař. More information about Café Evropa can be found in the newsletter.

We were also active in organizing events within the RevivEU project, where we co-organized two debates. On Monday, April 22nd, a **debate on regional climate policies** took place in Liberec, and on Wednesday, April 24th, in Brno, a debate was held on the **approach of Czechs to migration after the war in Ukraine**.

Our researchers have also published numerous articles. For example, [Silke Maes](#), in her latest work, examines not only **issues of cyber violence against women** but also explores whether women in Central Europe benefit from digitalization and artificial intelligence. Furthermore, we have published policy papers about anniversary of Czechia in the EU. [Vít Havelka](#) writes about **the transformation of cohesion policy**, [Klára Votavová](#) about the **current industrial policy of the EU** and the related differences between states, and [Silke Maes](#) about the **increase in the standard of living** after joining the EU. [Read more in the newsletter.](#)

Best regards,  
EUROPEUM Team

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## **EUROPEUM and 20 Years of Membership in the European Union**



## EUROPEUM and 20 Years of Membership in the EU

On Tuesday, April 30th, a conference titled "20 Years of Czechia in the EU" was held at Prague Castle, co-organized by EUROPEUM Institute in cooperation with the Office of the President of the Republic, the Association for International Affairs, and the Institute of International Relations. Prime Minister **Petr Fiala**, President **Petr Pavel**, Senate Chairman **Miloš Vystrčil**, and German President **Frank-Walter Steinmeier** spoke at the conference. Video contributions were made by Ukrainian President **Volodymyr Zelenskyy** and Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies **Markéta Pekarová Adamová**. The speakers emphasized the importance of EU membership and cooperation among states, as well as the possibilities for the Union's further direction and enlargement.



As part of the celebrations, a ceremonial opening of the exhibition "20 Years in the EU / 20 Years in the EU" took place on Tuesday, April 30th, at Mariánské náměstí in Prague, with EUROPEUM's participation. The exhibition focuses on significant moments of the Czech Republic's membership in the EU and presents projects co-financed by European funds. The exhibition is there until the end of May.



Our stand was also present during the celebrations on Tuesday, April 30th, at the Faculty of Social Studies of Masaryk University in Brno, as part of the **Europe Day** event organized by the Student Section of the International Political Science Institute.



On Wednesday, May 1st, we moved to Václav Havel Square in Prague as part of the "**Zažijte Evropu**" celebrations. On both days, visitors could learn more about the activities of the EUROPEUM Institute and test their knowledge of the EU and also learn more about our internships.

[More on our instagram](#)

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## Café Evropa podcast



### #14 - Domestic and Sexualized Violence: What Will the New Rules Bring?

In the new episode of our podcast, we focus on the topic of domestic and sexualized violence. Watch or listen to the interview with **Klára Kadár**, Advocacy Manager at the Consent organization, and **Daniel Bartoň**, a lawyer and assistant professor at the Evangelical Theological Faculty of Charles University. **Jolana Humpálová**, a reporter and deputy editor-in-chief of Voxpot, moderated this episode, which discusses the recent verdict in the Dominik Feri case, the redefinition of rape in Czech law that passed through the Chamber of Deputies, and the Czech society's view on the Istanbul Convention. The episode also addressed the role of pop culture in this issue. You can listen to the episode when clicking the button.

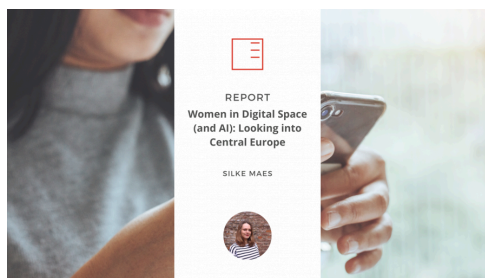
[Listen to podcast](#)



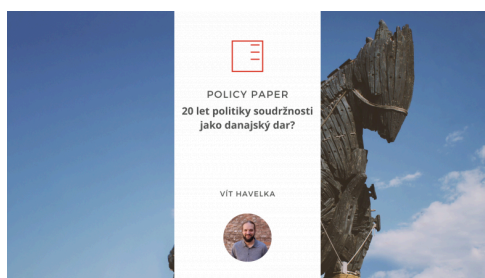
On Wednesday, May 1st, there was also a public recording of the Café Evropa podcast on the **topic "Twenty Years Without Borders: What Did 20 Years of an Open Europe Bring Us?"** Actor **David Prachař**, journalist **Veronika Čapáková**, and traveler and writer **Ladislav Zibura** came to discuss the EU and its positives and negatives. **You can look forward to this episode next week!**

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## New research papers



Several research papers have been published on our website. Our researcher **Silke Maes**, in her latest work, addresses not only **the issues of cyber violence against women** but also investigates whether women in Central Europe benefit from digitalization (and artificial intelligence). The report examines how women utilize the digital space, contribute to it, explores opportunities and challenges, and proposes recommendations for a more inclusive digital space. Read more [here](#).



For the 20th anniversary of the Czech Republic's accession to the EU, we have released a series of policy papers. In his work, **Vít Havelka** writes **about the promise of increased prosperity** and the economic catching-up of the post-communist part of Europe with the help of cohesion policy. How effective has cohesion policy proven to be? Will any funds flow to the Czech Republic if it stops being a net recipient from the European budget? For answers, read [here](#).



Central and Eastern European post-communist states, including the Czech Republic, entered the European Union during the peak of globalization and the dominance of policies known as the Washington Consensus. However, **the global economic crisis of 2008 shortly thereafter showed that these policies have their limits**. You can learn more in **Klára Votavová's** policy paper [here](#).



**Silke Maes** writes about one of the main promises associated with enlargement, which was that **the new member states would catch up with Western Europe in terms of living standards**. Has this been fulfilled? How is the Czech Republic doing? Find out in the policy paper [here](#).

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## In the media

- TN.cz | The migration pact main topic in the Czech lower chamber, with meeting lasting hours ([Viktor Daněk](#))
- The Parliament Magazine | From Pfizer to Pieper: With von der Leyen on the defensive, who stands to gain? ([Žiga Faktor](#))
- CNN Prima News | European migration pact: does the Czech Republic have an exemption or not? ([Viktor Daněk](#))
- ČRo Plus | Visit of Jens Stoltenberg and Rishi Sunak to Poland ([Martin Vokálek](#))
- Novinky.cz | Migration Pact could cost the Czech Republic millions of crowns ([Viktor Daněk](#))
- BalkanInsight | Far from Czexit but Czechs are Still Sceptics ([Žiga Faktor](#))
- ČT24 | Northern Macedonia elects new head of state ([Jana Juzová](#))
- TN.cz | Last session of the European Parliament before the elections ([Martin Vokálek](#))
- Evropa pro Čechy | As long as there are Ukrainians in the Czech Republic, we have an exemption from the migration pact ([Viktor Daněk](#))
- CNN Prima News | Two plenary session locations of the European Parliament ([Martin Vokálek](#))
- Máte slovo | Migration Pact ([Viktor Daněk](#))
- TASR | Establishment of the Slovak Republic in the EU structures ([Vít Havelka](#))
- CNN Prima News | The European Army and the position of the Defense Commissioner ([Vít Havelka](#))

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- ČRo Plus | EU will regulate fast fashion platform Shein ([Rebeka Hengalová](#))
  - TN.cz | 20 years of Czechia in the EU ([Martin Vokálek](#))
  - TASR | EU accession helped Central and Eastern European countries ([Žiga Faktor](#))
  - ČT24 | Visit of the European Commission President to the Czech Republic ([Viktor Daněk](#))
  - RTVS | Slovakia has been in the EU for 20 years ([Žiga Faktor](#))
  - RTVS | Proposal for the position of Commissioner for Defense ([Vít Havelka](#))
  - Televizní noviny | Is it possible to cancel Green Deal? ([Kateřina Davidová](#))
  - Televizní noviny | Do the EU elections have the potential to change the support of Ukraine? ([Vít Havelka](#))
  - Chyba systému | Symbolism during EU accession and our identity in the EU ([Klára Votavová](#))



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