



United States Mission
to the European Union

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Trade, the Precautionary Principle, and Post-Modern Regulatory Process Regulatory Convergence in the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership. Lucas Bergkamp and Lawrence Kogan, *The European Journal of Risk Regulation*, Fall 2013, pp. 493-507. "The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership ("TTIP") has been hailed as an opportunity for the world's two largest consumer markets to expand inter-regional trade, investment and jobs, and to secure greater regulatory convergence that could considerably reduce costly and market-distorting extra-territorial non-tariff regulatory trade barriers. As fears of potential adverse effects on the World Trade Organization's multilateral trading system have abated after the Doha round stalled, the initiation of the TTIP has been welcomed by the business communities on both sides of the Atlantic." [READ MORE](#)

(Mis)leading Indicators. Why Our Economic Numbers Distort Reality. Zachary Karabell, Foreign Affairs, Mar/Apr2014, var. pp. "Economic numbers have come to define our world. Individuals, organizations, and governments assess how they are doing based on what these numbers tell them. Economists and analysts loosely refer to statistics measuring GDP, unemployment, inflation, and trade deficits as "leading indicators" and subscribe to the belief that these figures accurately reflect reality and provide unique insights into the health of an economy. Taken together, leading indicators create a data map that people use to navigate their lives. That map, however, is showing signs of age. Understanding where the map came from should help explain why it has become less reliable than ever before." [READ MORE](#)

Privacy Pragmatism. Focus on Data Use, Not Data Collection. Craig Mundie, Foreign Affairs, Mar/Apr2014, var. pp. "Ever since the Internet became a mass social phenomenon in the 1990s, people have worried about its effects on their privacy. From time to time, a major scandal has erupted, focusing attention on those anxieties; last year's revelations concerning the U.S. National Security Agency's surveillance of electronic communications are only the most recent example. In most cases, the subsequent debate has been about who should be able to collect and store personal data and how they should be able to go about it. When people hear or read about the issue, they tend to worry about who has access to information about their health, their finances, their relationships, and their political activities." [READ MORE](#)

The Mobile-Finance Revolution. How Cell Phones Can Spur Development. Jake Kendall, Jake and Rodhies, Foreign Affairs, Mar/Apr2014, Var. pp. "The roughly 2.5 billion people in the world who live on less than \$2 a day are not destined to remain in a state of chronic poverty. Every few years, somewhere between ten and 30 percent of the world's poorest households manage to escape poverty, typically by finding steady employment or through entrepreneurial activities such as growing a business or improving agricultural harvests. During that same period, however, roughly an equal number of households slip below the poverty line. Health-related emergencies are the most common cause, but there are many more: crop failures, livestock deaths, farming-equipment breakdowns, even wedding expenses." [READ MORE](#)