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SO WHAT'S NEW IN THE EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD?

So what's new in the European neighbourhood? While an unprecedented agreement could connect the United States and European economies, thus creating the world's largest economic market, revolts and protests multiply, economic crisis and unemployment encourage Europeans to resume the path of migration, retirees fear the years of their retirement, parents have doubts regarding the future of their children threatened by the loss of employment. At the same time, revolutions multiply near the borders of the EU and the international community is struggling to find solutions to end civil wars. The EU is not and has never been a truly protected territory, but rather a transfer zone. It is always difficult to get into the fortress, but everyone understands that internal and external situations are difficult or dramatic.

Values and culture are shared and no policy, whatever happens, will be able to change the inheritance. At first, some countries officially became European "neighbours" with the implementation of the ENP. How this situation, in the actual context of internal crisis and of external revolts, could have some incidences for the identification processes of European Citizens? (Gilles Rouet) It is therefore essential to understand how neighbouring countries evolve, how Slovakia, for example, takes into account the Arab countries at present (Mária Holubová, Mária Rošteková), how in Moldova a new hope is born (Dorin Duscian), how a new approximation strategy is implemented in Georgia (Julien Arnoult), how Russia considers the EU (Tamara Gella) and implements a modernisation (Martin Horemuz), how political developments in Central Asia induce migration phenomena (Leila Delovarova, Fatima Kukeyeva) and how a new multicultural theory is implemented in Kazakhstan (Almira Sagimbayeva). The final text proposed in this special issue returns to the "Other" and to the media's role in changing attitudes in relation to migrants – especially those from the European neighbourhood (Denitza Kamenova).

Gilles Rouet, Jaroslav Ušiak