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Europe: where, how and with whom

Europe is under pressure to protect its unity for several reasons: the impact of Brexit, the migration crisis, the crisis of the euro, the increasing Russian assertiveness, instability in the Middle East and the Mediterranean. On top of all that, there are signs of a possible radical change of policy by the new American Administration on Europe and NATO. And in the background we have the emergence of disruptive populist and euro-sceptic forces. The 2017 will see an electoral cycle in several key countries. We must therefore find a way to preserve unity, but at the same time not prevent progress when unanimity of all member states cannot be achieved. Multiple speed Europe is back on the drawing board. The article examines the implications in different areas such as the single market, migration, the governance of the euro and security and defense. It is too soon to conclude that this could lead to a new architecture for the EU. What is emerging is rather a pragmatic method to manage progress.