
GPF Newsletter

January 24, 2014



[What's new](#)

What's new

Leaked Records Reveal Offshore Holdings of China's Elite



Close relatives of China's top leaders have held secretive offshore companies in tax havens that helped shroud the Communist Party elite's wealth, a leaked cache of documents reveals. The confidential files include details of a real estate company co-owned by current President Xi Jinping's brother-in-law and British Virgin Islands companies set up by former Premier Wen Jiabao's son and also by his son-in-law.

How loans are reported as development aid



A new report by Eurodad's Stéphanie Colin deal with the issue of concessional loans in development finance. In the context of tighter budgets in OECD-DAC countries governments are looking for methods to increase official development assistance (ODA) levels without budgetary implications. One way of doing this is reporting a larger share of loans to developing countries as ODA. Other measures in this directions are ideas to leverage development resources by 'blending' public with private funds. The report discusses the main developments in this debate and presents recommendations on how to optimize the developmental benefits from the reform proposals.

EU restricts food speculation and limits high frequency trading (Mifid)



European Parliament and Council achieved a significant breakthrough on the issue of high-speed trading. Yesterday, the EU reached an agreement over plans to reform the markets in the Financial Instruments Directive (Mifid), a law that sets the for securities markets in Europe. The application of Mifid will curb speculation, through the use of derivatives, in food, energy and other commodity markets.

One Small Step for Privacy, One Giant Leap Against Surveillance



On December 18, 2013 the 193 members of the United Nations General Assembly unanimously approved a UN privacy resolution entitled "The right to privacy in the digital age." The resolution, which was introduced by Brazil and Germany and sponsored by more than 50 member states, is aimed at upholding the right to privacy for everyone at a time when the United States and the United Kingdom have been conducting sweeping mass surveillance on billions of innocent individuals around the world from domestic soil.

FIAN launches international action: TTIP and TPP void



FIAN International launches a letter action addressing the EU, the USA and a number of countries negotiating directly or indirectly the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) and Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). The letter action is open and invites for participation. It raises grave concerns about the TTIP and TPP initiatives both for procedure and content.

Solidarity with the Egyptian Center for Economic and Social Rights





On December 19th, 2013, Egyptian police abusively raided the headquarters of the "Egyptian Center for Economic and Social Rights" (ECESR). The assaulters kidnapped a photographer and two volunteers, tampered with the contents of the center, and seized computers and documents. The kidnapped were taken to an unknown location. Up until the late hours of morning, the Egyptian center's lawyers were still searching for the kidnapped to commence the necessary legal procedures for their release. The Arab NGO Network for Development issued the following statement in solidarity with ECESR.

Global Policy Forum
PO Box 3283
New York, NY 10163
USA

E-Mail: gpf@globalpolicy.org

Global Policy Forum Europe
Königstr. 37a
D-53115 Bonn
Germany

E-Mail: europe@globalpolicy.org

Follow us  

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.