Week 7

• News updates
• French nuclear energy program
• French 2017 election
• Immigration crisis
• German media
• EU response to global warning
News Updates

• G20 Rome Summit
• Glasgow Climate Summit
Why US Elections 1\textsuperscript{st} Tuesday of November?

• 1845 law - Travel in that era by horse and buggy
• Farmers did not travel on Sunday - holy day
• They left on Monday to arrive Tuesday – Wednesday market day
• By early November the crops were harvested but the hazardous weather was yet to arrive
2012 analysis of Eurozone crisis

- Wall Street Journal overview of the crisis
  - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0FxFvQ_NJ3E](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0FxFvQ_NJ3E)
- Foreign policy association analysis
  - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LpwpliU-5n0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LpwpliU-5n0)
- Video on how the euro works and how the crisis was created
  - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GKffc7WboS4&list=TLPQMjIxMDIwMjHap5JZ34Fivg&index=2](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GKffc7WboS4&list=TLPQMjIxMDIwMjHap5JZ34Fivg&index=2)
French nuclear energy program

• France produces very little oil and natural gas
• The 1973 oil shock when OPEC raised prices was a catalyst
• It has the largest share of nuclear power in the world
  • https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4YgmCu7dfS4
• In 2020 France got 2/3 of its electricity from nuclear
• It is gradually phasing out nuclear in response to the Fukushima disaster of 2011 caused by an earthquake which cut off external power to the reactors, crippling the reactor cooling systems.
  • https://www.ucsusa.org/resources/brief-history-nuclear-accidents-worldwide
• Germany gets 12.6% of its electricity from nuclear. Phaseout is planned by late 2022.
Nuclear France v. US

• Nuclear power didn’t work well in the U.S. Here in Cincinnati the Zimmer nuclear power plant was converted to a coal plant
  • [https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/reaction/readings/french.html](https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/reaction/readings/french.html)
  • France had one utility Electricité de France designing all nuclear plants
  • They used a common design improving on it as they built each new one.
  • France had more necessity since it lacked natural resources and the price of Middle Eastern oil shot up in 1973.
Frexit 2017 election

• In 2017 Marine Le Pen running on the National Front party prioritized the French national interest and an exit from the Eurozone


• Marine Le Pen made it to the second round against Emmanuel Macron

Refugee Crisis

• Official policy
• All refugees entering the EU may apply for asylum
• They must do so in the country where they enter the EU
• Asylum seekers who do not require protection must return to their country of origin or to a safe third country
• 2020 – Germany accepted 128,000 refugees, Spain 124,000, France 86,000
• Generally asylum seekers entering by land must enter via the poorer southern European nations such as Greece
2015 refugee crisis

• The images you see in this video may be disturbing
• Human Rights Watch video
  • https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uX-8emlxqqc
  • https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CKjE6hKaLsl
• Since the kids go to school, they often integrate into society faster than their parents
The daily German News Show

- https://live.daserste.de

- After WWII the allies developed public-service broadcasting structures in the territories they controlled
- These were designed not to become mouthpieces of the government
- German public broadcasters enjoy fairly large audiences across the political spectrum and larger investment levels than PBS.
- 1950 Regional radio stations merged under public broadcaster ARD
- The Tagesschau still attracts 12% of the audience every night (3% of Americans watch the most popular news show)
German public media (cont)

• Every day 53% of Germans listen to one of ARD’s 60 radio stations
• Most on the left and right trust it
• German public media receive $135 per capita in public funding and $157 per capita in total funding (compared to $3 per capita in the U.S.)
• Each household pays $20 per month to finance the public TV networks
• Commercial television in Germany didn’t arrive until the 1980’s
• The author feels this reduces polarization in Germany
“My way or the highway!”

• American polarization is largely rooted in history

• In Europe, everyone was crowded together in societies ruled by fairly rigid institutions. Many came to America to escape some of these.

• In the U.S. people set out on their own to conquer the wilderness.

• We conquered the indigenous Americans and imported slaves

• This romanticism of individualism doesn’t encourage people to compromise in order to live together.

• This attitude affects both the political left and the right
EU Response to Global Warming

- European Council calling for 55% fewer greenhouse gases by 2030
- 2017 EU had reduced its emissions by 22% compared to 1990, meeting 2020 goals three years ahead of schedule
- Official document of the EU
- Another official document
  - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fraQyhmbt6U](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fraQyhmbt6U)
- Will this really happen? DW video
  - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SZbl99x_kV8&list=TLPQzMzExMDIwMjEU9v3M_zjPYg&index=2](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SZbl99x_kV8&list=TLPQzMzExMDIwMjEU9v3M_zjPYg&index=2)