

5 Ideas from French President Macron for Fixing Europe

PARIS — Mending Europe's frayed unity is such a high priority for new French President Emmanuel Macron that he's visiting neighboring Germany and its Chancellor Angela Merkel on his first day in office.

That should give a welcome burst of energy to the much-maligned European Union and efforts to fix it, even if Macron and Merkel won't necessarily agree on how. Here's a look at five key Macron ideas for Europe:

JOINT DEFENSE

The EU's precursor was created to bolster trade among European countries and help ensure they never go to war with each other again. Macron wants to go a step further and create new joint European military structures. European countries already co-



operate in some foreign operations and through NATO. But Macron notably wants more support from other EU countries for French military operations against Islamic extremists in Syria, Iraq and Africa's Sahel region.

NO MORE BREXITS

Macron will push a firm EU line with Britain in its negotiations to leave the bloc, in part to deter other members from trying to leave. Germany is likely to support that stance, having made clear that London can't expect a better deal outside the EU than it had as a member of the bloc.

The new French leader recognizes that many Europeans see the EU as a distant, uncaring bureaucracy and wants to remedy that...*(More on P4)...(22)*

France's Macron Picks PM from the Right, Blowing Apart Old Boundaries

PARIS - Newly-inaugurated French President Emmanuel Macron appointed a conservative prime minister on Monday in a move to broaden his political appeal and weaken his opponents before legislative elections in June.

Edouard Philippe, 46, a lawmaker and mayor of port city Le Havre, is from the moderate wing of the main center-right The Republicans party and will be a counterweight to former Socialist MPs who have joined Macron's cause.

Yvesse secretary-general

Alexis Kohler made the announcement on the steps of the presidential Elysee palace.

Macron has vowed to end the left-right politics which have dominated France for decades, and his start-up centrist Republic on the Move (REM) party, which is just a year old, needs to find a wide base of support for the parliamentary elections. Philippe is a close associate of former prime minister Alain Juppe, who leads the moderate wing of The Republicans and ...*(More on P4)...(23)*

North Korea Vows Missile Tests 'Any Time, Any Place', Defying U.S. Warnings

SEOUL - North Korea said on Monday it had successfully conducted a mid-to-long-range missile test and would continue such launches "any time, any place", defying UN Security Council resolutions and warnings from the United States. North Korea, which regularly threatens to destroy the United States in a sea of flames, has accused Washington of pushing the Korean peninsula to the brink of nuclear war with recent military drills with South Korea and Japan.

The North's KCNA news agency said Sunday's test

launch verified the homing feature of the warhead that allowed it to survive "under the worst re-entry situation" and accurately detonate.

It also tested the North's capability to carry a "large-size heavy nuclear warhead", KCNA said.

"The test-fire proved to the full all the technical specifications of the rocket ... like guidance and stabilization systems ... and reconfirmed the reliability of new rocket engine under the practical flight circumstances," KCNA said. (Reuters)

World Leaders Reach Consensus on B&R Development

BEIJING - Leaders from 30 countries and key international organizations reached broad consensus on the Belt and Road cooperation as they wrapped up a summit Monday in Beijing.

Chinese President Xi Jinping said the leaders agreed that they would promote international cooperation on the Belt and Road development and jointly tackle challenges facing the global economy.

Xi on Monday chaired the

Leaders Roundtable of the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation.

In a speech to close the summit, he said the leaders supported closer economic policy coordination and stronger synergy of their development strategies in an effort to achieve coordinated and interconnected development.

"We hope to translate consensus into action and achieve fresh outcomes in practical cooperation," he said. In addition, they



hoped to build bridges of people-to-people exchange and deliver better lives to the people, according to Xi. "We believe that the Belt and Road Initiative presents an open and inclusive platform for development where all countries can participate, contribute and benefit as equals," he said. (Xinhua)

IAEA Nuclear Fuel Bank to Open in Kazakhstan in Mid-August

ASTANA - A Low-Enriched Uranium Bank (LEU) authorized by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) will open in Kazakhstan on Aug. 17, under the witness of IAEA chief Yukiya Amano, the country's energy minister said Monday. More than 70 percent of the construction work of the IAEA-sponsored nuclear fuel bank has been finished, and it is expected to be completed and put into operation in July, Kanat Bozumbaev said in the Majilis, the lower house of the parliament.

The reserve of uranium in the bank will be "inviolable," which will be used only in case of a crisis situation, he said. In 2009, Kazakhstan initiated the establishment of an international nuclear fuel bank in its territory under the auspices of the IAEA. It signed an agreement with the IAEA on the matter on Aug. 27, 2015.

The bank will host up to 90 tons of low-enriched uranium, sufficient to run a 1,000 MW light water reactor. The bank is fully funded by voluntary contributions and has no impact on the IAEA budget. The amount of donor con-

tributions is about 150 million U.S. dollars to operate the bank for at least 10 years. The donors are the Nuclear Threat Initiative (50 million U.S. dollars), the United States, (49.54 million dollars), the United Arab Emirates (10 million



dollars), Kuwait (10 million dollars), Norway (5 million dollars) and the EU (up to 27.4 million dollars). Kazakhstan is a leading producer of uranium, boasting more than 15 percent of global uranium reserves. (Xinhua)

Russia Moves to Ensure Economic Security

MOSCOW - Russian President Vladimir Putin has signed a decree to approve the country's economic security strategy for the period until 2030, the Russian government said Monday.

"The implementation of the strategy should result in ensuring Russia's economic sovereignty and stability against external and internal challenges and threats," said a document published on the government's legal information website. The strategy should also "strengthen social and political stability, guarantee dynamic so-



cioeconomic development and improve the people's life quality," it said. According to the document, the main challenges and threats to Russia's economic security include attempts of developed countries to

use their advantages in economic development and high technology as a tool for global competition. Russia also faces the threat of the use of discriminatory measures against key ...*(More on P4)...(24)*

Germany Says Software Firms Need Help Security

LONDON - Germany's interior ministry says software companies need to do their own homework, rather than blame governments for security breaches.

Microsoft's top lawyer, Brad Smith, had criticized governments Sunday for "hoarding" vulnerabilities and urged authorities to report security problems to IT firms "rather than stockpile, sell, or exploit them." Interior ministry spokesman Tobias Plate said "someone who doesn't do their homework trying to make others responsible for not pointing out this homework needs to be done seems to me to mix up cause and effect."

Plate told reporters in Berlin on Monday that the German government had published a new cybersecurity strategy last year that includes a proposal to hold IT companies liable ...*(More on P4)...(25)*

S. Korea to Dispatch Special Envoys to China, U.S., Russia, Japan, Europe

SEOUL - South Korean President Moon Jae-in on Monday picked special envoys to be dispatched to China, the United States, Russia, Japan and the European Union.

Senior presidential press secretary Yoon Young-chan made an official announcement of the special envoys in the presidential Blue House.

Moon's office said in a press release that Moon picked figures who can best understand his diplomatic vision and foreign policy.

They are set to leave as soon as schedules are tuned up with counterparts.

Moon won a landslide victory in the May 9 presidential by-election. Since his inauguration soon after the victory, the new leader had a series of phone conversations with his counterparts of the world powers and promised to send special envoys for discussions on current situation on the Korean Peninsula.

Moon decided to send Lee Hae-chan, who served as prime minister under the Roh Moo-hyun government, to China as special envoy on the U.S. Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) missile defense system and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK).

Lee is an influential figure in Moon's ruling Democratic Party as he is a lawmaker and one of co-chiefs who led the party's presidential campaign.

He was dispatched to China as a special envoy when late President Roh, for whom Moon served as chief of staff, was inaugurated in February 2003. (Xinhua)

Austrian FM Elected as New Leader of Austrian People's Party

VIENNA - Austria's Foreign Minister Sebastian Kurz was elected on Sunday as the chief of Austrian people's party (OVP). Kurz, 30, will replace Reinhold Mitterlehner, the former party leader and also Austria's Vice Chancellor, who announced to resign on Wednesday under the pressure.

Before Kurz was elected as the conservative party chief, he openly called for an early parliamentary election.

Christian Kern, the chancellor of Austria, said this week that there will be an election, which he assumed would be in the coming autumn. (Xinhua)

Forgiven for Migrant Crisis, Merkel in Pole Position for fourth Term

BERLIN - A stunning election win for Angela Merkel's conservatives in Germany's most populous state is the strongest sign yet that voters have forgiven the chancellor for her open-door migrant policy and are set to hand her four more years in power. Sunday's triumph in North Rhine-Westphalia marked the third regional election win this year for Merkel's Christian Democrats (CDU), providing them with powerful momentum as they head into a federal election on Sept. 24.

The win reflected directly on the chancellor, who had placed herself at the center of campaigning in a state that has traditionally been a stronghold of her Social Demo-

crat (SPD) rivals.

It dealt a huge blow to new SPD leader Martin Schulz, who in February and March had boosted the party's poll ratings and raised its hopes of ending Merkel's 12 years in power.

Images of smiling senior conservatives piling into CDU headquarters are a far cry from last year's headshaking, when poll ratings sagged and some allies even spoke of the end of the Merkel era.

"Merkel has risen from the ashes of 2016 when she was widely criticized for her open-arms policy on the refugees," said Josef Joffe, publisher of Die Zeit weekly. (Reuters)

Nieghbor News

China Hit by Cyber Virus, Europe Warns of more Attacks

BEIJING/LONDON

- The WannaCry "ransomware" cyber attack hobbled Chinese traffic police and schools on Monday as it rolled into Asia for the new work week, while authorities in Europe said they were trying to prevent hackers from spreading new versions of the virus.

In Britain, where the virus first raised global alarm when it caused hospitals to divert ambulances on Friday, it gained traction as a political issue just weeks before a general election. The opposition Labour Party accused the Conservative government of leaving the National Health Service vulnerable.

Shares in firms that provide cyber security services rose with the prospect that companies and governments would have to spend more money on

defenses.

Some victims were ignoring official advice and paying the \$300 ransom demanded by the cyber criminals to unlock their computers, which was due to double to \$600 on Monday for computers hit by Friday's first wave. Brian Lord, managing director of cyber and technology at cyber security firm PGI, said victims had told him "the customer service provided by the criminals is second to none", with helpful advice on how to pay: "One customer said they actually forgot they were being robbed."

Although the virus's spread was curbed over the weekend in most of the world, France, where carmaker Renault was among the world's highest profile victims, said more attacks were likely. (Reuters)

Iranian Opposition Figure Karroubi to Vote for Rouhani in Election

LONDON - Iranian opposition figure Mehdi Karroubi, under house arrest since 2011, will back President Hassan Rouhani's bid for a second term in Friday's election, his family told Reuters.

Rouhani, a pragmatist who has eased Iran's international isolation and now faces mostly hardline conservative challengers for the presidency, told supporters he needed a stronger mandate to liberalize Iranian society and get opposition leaders freed.

Karroubi, 80, and fellow reformist Mirhossein Mousavi ran for election in June 2009 and became figureheads for Iranians who staged mass protests after the vote they believed was rigged to bring back hardline President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

"My father believes in reform through the ballot box," Karroubi's son, Mohammad Taghi Karroubi, said in a telephone interview. "He believes people should take part in elections to fight against those who want to turn the Islamic Republic into an Islamic state."

Karroubi, Mousavi and Mousavi's wife Zahra Rahnavard were confined to their homes in February 2011 after the opposition leaders called supporters to rally in solidarity with pro-democracy uprisings in Arab countries. "This election is a sharp confrontation between a real Islamic Republic and a ceremonial one," Karroubi was quoted as saying on Monday by Saham News, the official website of his political party. (Reuters)

Pakistan Closely Coordinating with China for Planning, Implementation of CPEC: Nawaz

ISLAMABAD - Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif said Pakistan strongly favours cooperation and synergistic partnerships across regions to ensure socio-economic development and prosperity.

He was speaking at the leaders' roundtable on policy synergy in Beijing on Monday, Radio Pakistan reported.

"It is imperative that we appreciate the 'Belt and Road' initiative in its proper perspective of interconnected development. It is now turning into the centre of gravity for half of the world's economies in Asia, Africa and Europe," the prime minister was quoted as saying.

The premier said as part of the same initiative under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)

banner, "we have made phenomenal progress in a short span of time through active participation in the areas of infrastructure, energy, industrial zones, and telecommunications".

He, however, said four areas require more focus. "First, overall progress should be reviewed as we all stand to benefit from early harvest projects. Second, we need more synergy in our development strategies both at the regional and international levels.

Third, this initiative must continue to deliver "win-win" outcomes.

Four, we should build on the solid foundations of One Belt One Road to make it a living, growing and organic partnership," the premier was quoted as saying. (Monitoring Desk)

Russia to Take Part in Anti-Terror Drills in Tajikistan

DUSHANBEH - The active phase of the Dushanbe-Anti-Terror-2017 international exercises will begin in Tajikistan on May 30. An additional contingent of Russian personnel and aircraft will be transported there to take part in them. Colonel Yaroslav Roshchupkin, an aide to the Russian Central Military District commander, said on Monday.

"The Russian military contingent will take part

in the Dushanbe-Anti-Terror-2017 international exercises.

Practical actions during these exercises will begin in Tajikistan on May 30. During the maneuvers, a combined force of ground forces supported by aircraft will hone their skills in combating terrorist groups, countering illegal armed units in mountainous areas along with peacekeeping operation elements," he said. (TASS)