

# CURRENT HISTORY

March 2011

Vol. 110, No. 734

## CONTENTS

- 91 The Euro's Never-Ending Crisis** . . . . . *Barry Eichengreen*  
European Union leaders need to either let countries like Greece and Ireland write down their debts or relax the rules governing future loans to troubled economies.
- 97 Angela Merkel and the Unfulfilled Promise of Chancellor Democracy** . . . . . *Ludger Helms*  
Weakened political parties and growing public skepticism are constraining the German chancellor's ability to implement domestic and foreign policies.
- 103 Poland's Progress: Where Warsaw Fits in Europe** . . . . . *Janusz Bugajski*  
Economically stronger but socially divided, Poland is cozying up to Moscow and Berlin, but at what cost to its relations with Eastern European neighbors?
- 110 The Famous Dutch (In)Tolerance** . . . . . *Jan Erk*  
Far-right politicians, by calling themselves anti-Islam rather than anti-immigrant, have succeeded in incorporating xenophobia into the political mainstream of the Netherlands.
- 117 Aging Europe's Demographic Destiny: Framing the Challenges Ahead** . . . . . *Sarah Harper*  
As Europe grows older, pension and health care costs are rising, workforces are shrinking, and policy makers confront an urgent need to promote new contracts between generations.  
*Sixth in a series on demographic dilemmas.*

### PERSPECTIVE

- 122 A Tale of Two Polities** . . . . . *Uri Dadush*  
Why have the fiscal paths of the United Kingdom (radical budget cuts) and the United States (extended tax cuts) diverged so dramatically?

### BOOKS

- 125 The Revolution Must Be Televised** . . . . . *William W. Finan Jr.*  
A collection of essays by Timothy Garton Ash argues that Europe's velvet revolutions succeeded by broadcasting images of popular defiance: images now recurring elsewhere in the world.

### THE MONTH IN REVIEW

- 127 January 2011**  
An international chronology of events in January, country by country, day by day.