

ABSTRACTS

David Allen

The UK Coalition Government's European Policy: Dissociation prior Pragmatism

In May 2010 the British people broke with tradition and voted a coalition government between the Conservatives and the Liberal Democrats for the first time since Winston Churchill's war-time coalition. How will this impact UK's European Policy? The author evaluates the Coalition Government's European Policy by illustrating the pre-election period with Cameron's six 'pledges' concerning his intended policy towards the EU, the outcome of the election itself with the coalition agreement, and the European Union Act, which became law in July 2011. He demonstrates that Cameron, supported by Clegg, is pursuing much the same objectives as his predecessors Blair and Brown with much the same outcome. If one links this with Cameron's determination to keep the United Kingdom out of the Eurozone for the medium and long term, then the short term moderating influence of his Liberal Democrat coalition partners is put in its proper perspective as being of very little significance.

Ansgar Belke and Christian Dreger

The second Bailout Package for Greece and Options for the European Central Bank

On the EU summit at the end of July, the Euro area leaders have agreed on a second bailout package for Greece. Additional credit lines are planned to solve the debt crisis. However, the outcome has not convinced the markets. This article provides a critical review of the rescue package and stresses the main deficits, particularly the insufficient haircut and the non mandatory involvement of the private sector in the solution. Moreover, policy options to overcome the economic recession in Greece are discussed. A larger debt conversion might be more favourable and can lead to lower costs for the taxpayers. It should further be accompanied by an EU investment programme to ensure the success of the reform process. Finally, the role of the European Central Bank is analysed.

Marianne Kneuer

The Driving Force Enlargement and its Limits – Logics of Genesis and Development in the European Human Rights and Democratisation Policy

European human rights and democratisation policy have been widely researched in the last decades. However, only few studies concentrate on the European human rights and democratisation policy before the 1990s. This article aims at filling this gap. Therefore, it draws attention to the genesis and the development of this policy. The development of European human rights and democratisation policy is considered under a historical-genetic approach. The analysis exemplifies the formulation and application of human rights and democratic standards which have been induced due to external challenges that the European Community had to cope with in the context of association and enlargement since the 1960s. Furthermore, the European human rights and democratisation policy focuses on traits that do not only explain its past and its today character but, moreover, allow a prognosis of its future development.

Antonio Missiroli

A little Discourse on Methods and their Application in EU Politics

Particularly after the entry into force and subsequent implementation of the Lisbon Treaty, the traditional distinction (and opposition) between the so-called community and inter-governmental methods in EU policy-making becomes less and less relevant. Most common policies involve a ‘mix’ of these methods in reciprocal influence. Even the “Union method” which has been recently proposed by Chancellor Angela Merkel raises more questions than it solves – although it may trigger a constructive debate on how to address today’s policy challenges best. This article discusses the by now old-fashioned confrontation of different integration methods and reflects possible options for their future.

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