

ABSTRACTS

Oliver Geden

European energy and climate policy – between implementation and strategic reorientation

European energy and climate policy is going through a phase in which the ambitious goals, that the European Council has agreed on in the energy action plan, have to be made legally binding. It will not long be possible for the European Union to base its international leading role only on declarations. Especially with regard to climate policy, the EU's credibility will be measured against actually implemented measures and their impacts. The implementation of the energy action plan does not only suffer from huge time pressure and the enormous range of legislative projects to be debated on in the Council and the Parliament, but also from the lack of setting clear priorities in the energy strategy. The coming strategic energy review will provide the EU-institutions with an opportunity to critically evaluate the possibilities and limits of a European energy and climate policy. It remains doubtful whether this opportunity will be taken seriously.

Matthias Dembinski and Jutta Joachim

CFSP as a system of governance: advocating a change of perspective in CFSP-research on the basis of the European Union Code of Conduct on Arms Exports

While state-centric approaches have been dominant in CFSP-research, because of growing institutionalisation and increasing activities of non-governmental actors in the second pillar, there has been a turn to governance approaches recently. To make a case for the viability of governance approaches in second pillar studies, the authors focus on the European Union Code of Conduct on Arms Exports. The authors analyse how far the structural preconditions in the area of CFSP in general allow non-governmental actors to participate in political decision-making – a sign of governance – in the same way as in the first pillar. Then, they explore the activities and the impact of non-governmental actors regarding the Code of Conduct and argue on the basis of the results for a change of perspective in CFSP-research.

Jörg Monar

The reforms of the Lisbon Treaty in the area of justice and home affairs: enhanced capacity, control and differentiation

The Lisbon Treaty offered an excellent opportunity to tackle the current problems of the „area of freedom, security and justice“ by reforming the treaty base. At least quantitatively this challenge seems to have been met, as the number of reforms in this area outnumbers those in any other policy area of the European Union. The Treaty brings also qualitative changes which could enhance both the effectiveness and the legitimacy of EU justice and home affairs policies, but this not without some deficits and questionable compromises. The author focuses in his analysis on the potential implications of the reforms for the Union's decision-making and implementation capacity, the major changes regarding parliamentary and judiciary control and the increased ‚differentiation‘ provided for by the Treaty, which belongs to the major costs of the reforms. He concludes with a look at the further prospects of development in the „area of freedom, security and justice“, with and without the Lisbon Treaty.

Günter Gloser

New drive for concrete results – Barcelona-Process: the Union for the Mediterranean

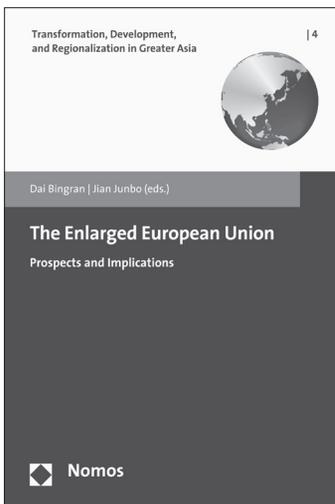
The project-oriented and thus pragmatic further development of the Barcelona-Process might become a significant area for German politics in the next few years. Especially since the „Barcelona-Process: Union for the Mediterranean“ is focused on clear-cut and on principle undisputed projects, it has the potential to bring new impetus for the partnership between the European Union and its Mediterranean partners. The upcoming implementation of sustainable development initiatives can contribute to political progress and peaceful settlements of conflicts in the Mediterranean region.

Manfred Grund and Hans Martin Sieg

Transformation, conflict resolution and integration – the European perspective for Moldova between the Georgian crisis and parliamentary elections

The authors discuss the significance of a European perspective for the transformation process in Moldova and the Transnistrian conflict. Especially with regard to pending fundamental decisions related to the Transnistrian conflict and the parliamentary elections in 2009, the European Union should discuss more openly the question of giving Moldova a EU membership perspective. Even if the European Union is not able to give Moldova a potential membership perspective at present, the European Union cannot leave it at that, not even after the Irish ‚No‘ to the Lisbon Treaty.

Übersetzungen aus dem Deutschen von Tanja Leppik-Bork.

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