

ABSTRACTS

Hans-Georg Ehrhart

Testing the European Union's Security and Defence Policy: Between Pretension and Reality

This contribution assesses the evolution of CFSP/CSDP after the Lisbon Treaty by looking at the EU as a crisis manager in Somalia, Syria and Mali. The experiences in these crises elucidate that the European Union is still far away from achieving its goal of an effective and convincing foreign and security policy. The much tooted 'comprehensive approach' exists rather on paper than in reality. In Syria this approach has not yet had the chance of being implemented, in Mali it exists only on paper, in Somalia it has been implemented merely additively. In all three cases, Paris and London led from the front by diplomatic and military means and influenced the international agenda. Thus, an approach is emerging where some partners push things forward and the rest follows more or less eagerly. In the end, they clean up together. The only question is: what is the long-term effect?

David Schäfer

The Fiscal Stability Treaty – an Expression of German Hegemony in the European Union?

This article tries to answer the question whether the role of Germany in the debt crisis as a hegemon in the European Union is being described accurately. The conceptual framework of this analysis is based on the definition of hegemony by Heinrich Triepel. According to that Germany is a hegemon if it possesses predominant economic resources – as measured by EU associates –, shows willingness to assume a leading role and is accepted as leading power among the other states. The Fiscal Compact, thereby, serves as a case study. Its formation and content are analysed by the positions of the member states Germany, France, Spain and Ireland. The author concludes that Germany possesses the economic means to be a hegemon. However, doubts on its willingness to lead and its acceptance among several member states remain. The Fiscal Compact reflects almost as many German as French preferences.

Jana Windwehr

The EU and the Arctic: Following up Words with Action?

The Arctic is becoming increasingly important in terms of energy, security and climate issues on a global scale. Following the coastal states of the Arctic Ocean, which have presented Arctic strategies in recent years, the European Union has started developing an Arctic policy. While more or less consistent guiding principles have been established via several papers and communications, these have been backed up with concrete instructions and practical action to a diverging and an overall rather low degree. As a non-coastal state, the European Union will have to rely on its membership in relevant international and regional organisations, instruments such as the Northern Dimension and cooperation with member and partner states, also in the future.

Martin Schulz

European Union Foreign Policy in the 21st Century: Vision, Ambition and Reality

Current and recent foreign policy challenges show that the European Union is far from acting as the global player it is supposed to be. On the contrary: Europe's indecisiveness over Syria, its inability to agree on a common line on the conflict in Libya as well as its slow reaction to the coup in Mali illustrate that EU member states today are still more concerned with their national interests than with the wider European good. However, as the EU is losing in economic, and hence political, leverage on the international scene. Compared to emerging economies such as China, Europe can no longer afford to stand on the sidelines. Europe has to build on its 'soft power' as well as on the wide range of expertise of its member states in order to gain influence on the world stage.



Schweizer Europapolitik am Wendepunkt

Interessen, Konzepte und Entscheidungsprozesse in den Verhandlungen über den Europäischen Wirtschaftsraum

Von Simon Marti

2013, 399 S., brosch., 64,- €

ISBN 978-3-8329-7808-2

(Politik und Demokratie in den kleineren Ländern Europas | Politics and Governance in the Smaller European Democracies, Bd. 5)

Ende 1991 beschloss die Schweizer Regierung den EG-Beitritt anzustreben. Welche Gründe führten 1988 – 1992 zu dieser Neuausrichtung der Schweizer Europapolitik vom Bilateralismus zum Beitrittsziel? Im Zentrum der Analyse neuer Originalquellen stehen Entscheidungsprozesse, Interessen und Konzepte von Regierung, Bundesverwaltung und Spitzenverbänden.

Bestellen Sie jetzt telefonisch unter 07221/2104-37.
Portofreie Buch-Bestellungen unter www.nomos-shop.de/19622



Nomos