

ABSTRACTS

Peter-Christian Müller-Graff

The Treaty of Lisbon on the Systemic Path of European Primary Law

The Treaty of Lisbon in its basic substance of amendments to the European primary law does not fall behind the endeavour of the Constitutional Treaty. It is true that the new Reform Treaty does not achieve the coherent codification of European primary law as offered by the Constitutional Treaty. It contains some unclear conceptual elements. However, in its overall content it considerably enhances the basic normative characteristics of the specific European transnational polity as different from classical international organisations both in its transnational and in its converging features. This is mainly achieved by developing the current normative characteristics of the transnational polity in primary law on a systemic path, but also by adding several innovative devices to the inner structure of primary law. The reform offers a good chance for strengthening the continuation of the long success-story of European integration in the future.

Hans-Georg Ehrhart

EU Crisis Management in Africa: the Operation EUFOR Tchad/RCA

Why is the EU active in Africa and the Sub-Saharan crisis area within its foreign and security policy? This article discusses concepts and aims of EU crisis management in Africa and their underlying values. The author presents the most recent ESDP-mission EUFOR Tchad/RCA, analyses the intentions of the actors involved, and discusses open questions and challenges of this crisis management operation. He argues that it should be clarified prior to such operations, whether norms and interests as well as aims and means are appropriate. In the case of EUFOR Tchad/RCA, the author has strong doubts about this.

Heinz Timmermann

EU-Russia: Background and Perspectives of a Difficult Relationship

The relations between the European Union and Russia have become significantly more difficult over the past few years. This has been due to various disagreements, for example about a future Partnership and Cooperation Agreement, the relations to countries of the 'common neighbourhood' of Russia and the European Union, the future of Kosovo, or the relocation of a Soviet war monument in Tallinn. Despite a number of common interests and productive interdependencies, Russia and the European Union perceive their partnership to be in a crisis. The author describes the respective interests and perceptions, and discusses the background, current developments, and perspectives of this complex relationship.

Wilfried Loth

60 Years ago: the Hague Congress of Europe

Is the Hague Congress a symbol of past times, when the idea of a united Europe aroused enthusiasm or is it a marginal event in a history of European integration that is determined mainly by governments? The author portrays the evolution and results of the Hague Congress, and argues that neither the former nor the latter notion is right. Instead, the Hague Congress shows that governments always need networks of social actors active at European level to succeed.

Übersetzungen aus dem Deutschen von Julian Plottka und Matti Roscher.