Recent research on the Council, the European Council and the GSC - a primer from the holdings of the Central Library for new members of GSC staff

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What follows is a small selection of recent works that can give a first orientation into the various streams of research on the institutions served by the GSC.

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ARTICLES
(including presentations, papers and book chapters)

Inside the Council


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Abstract

This paper is concerned exclusively with the Multiannual Financial Framework negotiations before and at the February European Council. The February meeting completed a negotiation which Herman Van Rompuy decided to call a halt to at the November European Council. The paper therefore begins with a brief review of the unfinished business. The second section is concerned with developments between November and February and then the negotiations at the February Council itself are covered in detail. The final section of the paper addresses three main issues: the quality of the agreement, winners, losers and leaders and the prospects for the next phase in the process, when the Council will attempt to secure the European Parliament’s assent.
FR
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An institution in the making : the European Council / by Uwe Corsepius.
p. 135-145
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Meeting, summit, institution: the growing significance of the European Council -- In good shape: the renewed European Council -- Towards a new sense of cooperation and responsibility as a Union: the role of the European Council

In:
A man for all Treaties : Liber Amicorum en l'honneur de Jean-Claude Piris / préf. de Herman Van Rompuy.
777 p.
EN, FR
ISBN       9782802735076

Availability    Central Library -- Main Collection -- 096439

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Critical junctures in the evolution of the Council and the GSC / Thomas Christiansen
Conference at the General Secretariat of the Council of Ministers "Critical junctures in the evolution of the Council and the GSC" (10 October 2012: Brussels)
EN
Access may be restricted to Council staff or users at subscribing institutions.
Availability Central Library -- Articles -- 30832/B

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The invention and transformation of a governmental body: the Council Secretariat / Michel Mangenot.
p.46-67

Series: Europe in change
Language(s) English
ISBN 9780719082436
Availability Central Library -- Main Collection -- 095907

Governance and institutions: impact of the escalating crisis / Desmond Dinan
In: Journal of common market studies 2012, v. 50, annual review, p. 85-98
EN
Access may be restricted to Council staff or users at subscribing institutions.
Online version: Full text available at http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1468-5965.2012.02268.x

Special Issue: The JCMS Annual Review of the European Union in 2011
The culture of negotiation in the European Union: reviewing trends and predicting patterns of multilateral decision-making / Alain Guggenbühl.
EN
Access may be restricted to Council staff or users at subscribing institutions.
Online version: Full text available at http://dx.doi.org/10.1163/1871191X-12341243

Abstract
This article looks into the formal and informal facets of inter-state deliberation and negotiation among the 27 member states of the European Union. Its aim is twofold: on one hand to capture and consolidate the view of the "Brussels" inter-state negotiation routine; on the other, to anticipate the evolution of the negotiation modes among member states in their daily collective decision-making. The article reviews some of the essential trends and occurrences that feature the multilateral processes of negotiation in the Council of the EU. With the support of negotiation literature, it derives from these trends a few patterns to help predict whether the culture of negotiation among the 27 member states will be positively impacted or impinged by the latest EU Treaty, which was signed in Lisbon in December 2007. The article frames and qualifies the EU culture of negotiation, while also offering a predictive lens on the future practice of negotiations among member states, which is absent from the traditional theoretical perspectives.

Everyone’s a winner (almost): bargaining success in the Council of Ministers of the European Union / James P. Cross
In: European Union politics 2013, v. 14, n. 1, p. 70-94
EN
Access may be restricted to Council staff or users at subscribing institutions.
Online version: Full text available at http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/1465116512462643

Abstract
This paper examines member state bargaining success in legislative negotiations in the European Union. Bargaining success is thought to be determined by factors attributable to intervention behaviour, relative policy positions and power. Intervention relates to a member state’s efforts to make its position known over the course of negotiations, relative policy positions relate to a member state's position in the policy space under negotiation relative to other actors' positions, and power refers to the size of the member state.

Where informal rules rule: the role of the Council General Secretariat and Presidency in everyday EU decision making / Jeffrey Lewis
EN
Access may be restricted to Council staff or users at subscribing institutions.

Abstract
How are EU negotiations conditioned by the institutional roles of the General Secretariat (CGS) and rotating presidency? As this paper argues, answers to this question spotlight differences between rationalist and constructivist conceptions of institutional environments and their effects on actors. The CGS and presidency offer important examples of the informal institutional authority endowed in EU decision making, but the theories of new institutionalism have different accounts for how this matters. In the rational choice institutionalist (RCI) view, the CGS and presidency save on transaction costs, supply information, and solve coordination problems. In the sociological institutionalist (SI) view, they also, and more importantly, contribute to the informal norms that make consensus-based
collective decision making possible based on insulated deliberation. This paper argues that RCI approaches need to incorporate an SI component to obtain a fuller account of how EU decision making works. The value-added is a perspective that can account for the distinctive appropriateness standards in EU bargaining and show how national officials in this context develop a 'double hatting' identity configuration. EU decision making does not operate solely by instrumentalism and a 'logic of consequences'; to this we must add a 'logic of appropriateness' and a more robust conception of agency.

**The extramural meetings of the Ministers of the Member States of the Community / by K. J. Mortelmans**
In: Common market law review 2011, v. 11, n. 1, p. 62-91
EN
Access may be restricted to Council staff or users at subscribing institutions.

Abstract
In the European Communities, government representatives of the member States not only meet as "the Council" but also "in the Council" (réunis au sein du Conseil) or even outside the Council chambers, in what thus might be called extramural sessions. [...] This article is concerned with specialized extramural meetings of the Ministers of member States. In these sessions, which may not be attended by the Commission, the Ministers discuss problems which concern the Communities or which are within the authority of the Communities. So far commentators have rarely occupied themselves with these meetings. This may be explained for one thing by the fact that these meetings are shrouded in some secrecy, and for another by the fact that such meetings do not fit in with the general scheme of the European institutions.

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**Consistency and diversity? : The EU’s rotating trio Council Presidency after the Lisbon Treaty / Agnes Batory & Uwe Puetter**
In: Journal of European public policy 2013, v. 20, n. 1, p. 95-112
EN
Access may be restricted to Council staff or users at subscribing institutions.
Online version: Full text available at [http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/13501763.2012.693418](http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/13501763.2012.693418)

Abstract
The Lisbon Treaty introduced significant changes to the Presidency of the Council of the European Union (EU). The new Treaty combines a permanent chair with the principle of rotation based on three member states collaborating during an 18-month period, without specifying the responsibilities of trio groups. This left wide scope for the first post-Lisbon trio to establish new working mechanisms. By discussing the joint Presidency of Spain, Belgium and Hungary, this article interprets the trio model and its combination with the permanent chair model as an attempt to re-adjust the balance between consistency and diversity. Rotation remains a key instrument for ensuring the representation of the diversity of member states in an enlarged Union. At the same time, the EU's ever more complex policy agenda and a greater need for collective leadership motivate the search for new forms of co-operation to enhance policy consistency over consecutive Presidency terms.
The influence of the EU Council Presidency on public opinion / Petr Kaniok.
In: Romanian journal of European affairs 2012, v. 12, n. 3, p. 19-32
EN
Access may be restricted to Council staff or users at subscribing institutions.
Online version: Full text available at

Abstract
The Presidency of the EU Council is regarded as an influential and useful instrument for domestic political progress of European integration and the issues it brings along. Many academics as well as politicians assume that the EU Council Presidency, which allows any country to be at the centre of European and world media attention for six months, therefore represents a strong potential for domestic socialization. This article investigates that idea at the level of public, analyzing several EU Council presidencies, and the potential impact of these presidencies on the voters’ attitudes in the Presidency holding countries on key aspects of the EU.
General literature on the Council

**The European Council / by Jan Werts.**
271 p.
EN
ISBN 9780955620218
Availability Central Library -- Main Collection -- 086179, 086184

Abstract
The European Council - the summits of the heads of government of the member states - was founded in the mid-1970s and has steadily consolidated its role as the driving force of the European Union, setting overall strategy and resolving policy conflicts. Under the Treaty of Lisbon it will for the first time become an official Institution of the EU with a permanent, full-time President. In this detailed examination of the work of the European Council, the author explains its historical origins and systematically explores its evolution, how it operates, and its role vis a vis the Commission, the Council of Ministers and the European Parliament. The implications of the changes under the Treaty of Lisbon are explored in detail, including the impact of the intended appointment of a full-time "president of Europe". The text has been framed to be of value both to those studying the EU from an academic perspective and to those working within the institutions who need to understand the emergence and methods of a body whose activities have often take place outside the formal limitations of the EU treaty structure.

**The European Council and European Governance : the Commanding Heights of the EU / edited by François Foret and Yann-Sven Rittelmeyer.**
Abingdon : Routledge, 2014.
190 p.
EN
ISBN 9780415857338
Availability Central Library -- Main Collection -- 100277, 100314, 100315

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Part II: The EU presidency and the European Council - complementary or competitive?: What's left of the rotating presidency? The future of 'national' presidencies/Simone Bunse and Christopher Klein -- The communautarization of the Council presidency: intra-institutional dimensions and inter-institutional effect/Ana Mar Fernández Pasarín -- The Council presidency and the European Council: towards collective leadership in the EU/Steven Van Hecke and Peter Bursens

320 p.  
Series: Palgrave studies in European Union politics  
EN  
ISBN 9780230555044  
Availability Central Library -- Main Collection -- 089218, 090642, 098523

The Council of Ministers / Fiona Hayes-Renshaw and Helen Wallace.  
second edition  
392 p.  
Series: The European Union series  
EN  
ISBN 9780333948651, 9780333948668  
Availability Central Library -- Main Collection -- 080857, 084529

El Consejo de la Unión Europea: poder normativo y dimension organizativa / Josu de Miguel Bárcena ; prólogo, Javier Tajadura.  
300 p.  
Series: The Global law collection Legal studies series  
ES  
ISBN 9788499031842  
Availability Central Library -- Main Collection -- 091572

165 p.  
Series: Völkerrecht, Europarecht, Staatsrecht ; Band 44  
DE  
ISBN 978-3-452-26973-7  
Availability Central Library -- Main Collection -- 089598

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Pt. 5. Stepping back and looking forward
Third edition
624 p.
EN
ISBN 9780199544813
Availability Central Library -- Main Collection -- 095716

Four sections on the theories of integration, the history, institutions, and policies of the European Union, in its third edition with new chapters on the Lisbon Treaty, environmental policy, and freedom, security and justice.

The political system of the European Union / Simon Hix and Bjørn Høyland.
Third edition
490 p.
EN
ISBN 9780230249820
Availability Central Library -- Main Collection -- 095719

For each of the main processes in the EU political system – executive, legislative and judicial politics, public opinion, interest groups and democracy, and regulatory, monetary and foreign policies – the book introduces the key political science tools and reviews the relevant theories.

How the EU institutions work and how to work with the EU institutions / edited by Alan Hardacre ; [pref. by Maroš Šefčovič and Diana Wallis].
389 p.
EN
ISBN 9780956450869
Availability Central Library -- Main Collection -- 096630

Contents

The institutions of the enlarged European Union : continuity and change / edited by Edward Best, Thomas Christiansen, Pierpaolo Settembri.
262 p.
Series: Studies in EU reform and enlargement series
EN
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Availability Central Library -- Main Collection -- 087833
La prise de décision au Conseil de l'Union Européenne : pratiques du vote et du consensus / Stéphanie Novak.
245 p.
FR
ISBN      9782247106769
Availability    Central Library -- Main Collection -- 095677

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Bureaucrats as law-makers : committee decision-making in the EU Council of Ministers / Frank M. Häge.
Abingdon, Oxon : Taylor & Francis, 2013.
224 p.
Series: Routledge/UACES Contemporary European Studies ; 21
EN
ISBN      9780415689670
Availability    Central Library -- Main Collection -- 097581

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Part II: Quantitative analysis -- 5. Sample selection -- 6. Describing the extent of committee decision-making -- 7. Explaining the variation in committee decision-making

113 p.
Series: Reihe Politikwissenschaften ; 83
DE
ISBN      978-3-8316-4079-9
Availability    Central Library -- Main Collection -- 096853
The political economy of collective decision-making: conflicts and coalitions in the Council of the European Union / Tim Veen.
Heidelberg: Springer, 2011.
199 p.
Language(s) English
ISBN 9783642201738
Availability Central Library -- Main Collection -- 096046

Interaction in the Council of the European Union: Presidency and General Secretariat of the Council in the area of EU development cooperation / Ele Raik.
EN
ISBN 9783639312515
Availability Central Library -- Main Collection -- 096287

Abstract
The Council of the EU is a complex negotiation machinery daily managed by two institutional actors - the Council General Secretariat and the rotating Council Presidency. These two pillars, working in close interaction and collaboration, keep the Council coordination system smoothly running. This research raises two main questions - how does the interaction between the Presidency and the Council Secretariat takes place in the EU decision-making process? What drives the different patterns of the interaction between these institutional actors? In order to answer these compelling questions, the author approaches the interaction phenomena from the perspective of comparative institutionalist and general communication studies in the policy framework of development cooperation. This tentative study has a great potential to be further developed by EU researchers, offering also a comprehensive insight of the Council's everyday work for students of European studies and non-specialists interested in the EU decision-making processes.

Présider l'Union européenne: présidence(s) du Conseil et système de gouvernement / sous la direction de Ana Mar Fernández Pasarín et Michel Mangenot.
216 p.
Series: Politique européenne ; n. 35.
FR
ISBN 9782296567948, 2296567940
Availability Central Library -- Main Collection -- 097300

Contents
265 p.
Series: Themes in European governance
EN
Availability    Central Library -- Main Collection -- 085747

European Integration and Lisbon Treaty

Ever closer Union : an introduction to European integration / Desmond Dinan.
4th ed.
619 p.
Series: The European Union series
EN
ISBN       9780230272613
Availability    Central Library -- Main Collection -- 093928

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PART I: HISTORY -- Reconstruction, Reconciliation and Integration, 1945-1957
PART II: INSTITUTIONS -- The Commission -- The European Council and the Council of Ministers -- The European Parliament -- Other Institutions and bodies - - Interinstitutional Dynamics
PART III: POLICIES -- Agriculture and Cohesion -- The Internal Market and Monetary Union Economic Performance: Growth and Jobs The Environment, Energy, and Climate Change -- Beyond the EU's Borders -- Internal and External Security -- EU-US Relations

320 p.
EN
ISBN       9789067042840
Availability    Central Library -- Main Collection -- 089003

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Council p. 170-175
Instruments and procedures available to the EU p. 185-193
Where QMV replaces unanimous voting or applies to new subjects p. 194-212
Common foreign and security policy p. 238-241

Abstract
This timely book examines the Treaty of Lisbon to determine its impact on the division of authority within the European Union. The focus is on the current 'dividing lines' between member state and Union competences, and whether the new Treaty amendment will shift them toward more central power in Brussels. At
stake in the EU today is nothing less than the collective success of the Union versus the national sovereignty of its member states. This significant analysis will be of interest to public officials, judges, lawyers, scholars and students. Stephen C. Sieberson is a member of the Faculty, Creighton University School of Law, Omaha, NE. The book provides an interesting review of the most recent developments in European cooperation. Will the Lisbon Treaty be the last treaty, as certain politicians tell us or at least seem to believe?

**The Lisbon treaty : law, politics, and treaty reform / Paul Craig.**


466 p.

EN

ISBN 9780199595013

Availability Central Library -- Main Collection -- 094591

**Abstract**

This book addresses the main innovations made by the new Treaty, examining its legal and political consequences in a reformed EU. The book is organized thematically around the principal issues that occupied those engaged in the reforms over the last decade. The chapters include analysis of the reform process itself and the political forces that shaped the relevant provisions of the Lisbon Treaty. The book contains detailed analysis of the relevant legal changes made by the Lisbon Treaty on each topic covered. This legal analysis is informed by broader literature from related disciplines, such as political science and international relations, since it is only by doing so that it is possible fully to understand the legal implications of the new provisions dealing with issues such as the inter-institutional division of power within the EU.

**European Union politics**

Cini, Michelle. Pérez-Solórzano Borragán, Nieves.

4th ed.


xxxv, 496 p.

English

European Union Politics provides a comprehensive and authoritative overview of EU theories, institutions, policies, and issues. The fourth edition has been revised and updated in light of recent changes and events, in particular the aftermath of the implementation of the Lisbon Treaty and the economic crisis in the Eurozone.

The accessible and wide-ranging nature of the text makes it the ideal starting point for all those wishing to understand the workings of this forever evolving subject. An expert line-up of contributors bring insight and discussion that cannot be found in other books. This fourth edition includes new chapters on the economic crisis in the EU and multi-level governance, maintaining its contemporary appeal.

**Policy-making in the European Union**

Wallace, Helen. Pollack, Mark A. Young, Alasdair R.

6th edition


xix, 597 p.

English

The policies of the European Union profoundly affect the lives of people in Europe and around the world. The new edition of this highly successful textbook outlines how and why such decisions are made, as well as the key challenges faced by policy-makers in the current political and economic climate.
Policy-Making in the European Union begins by clarifying the institutional framework of the EU and the analytical approaches used to understand it. A wide range of crucial and illustrative policies are then explored in detail by subject experts.

This volume includes new chapters on ways of analyzing the EU's policy process and on energy policy. A central theme to the volume is how the recent expansion to twenty-seven member states has affected policy-making across the different policy sectors. The conclusion reflects on how this challenge and the protracted constitutional stalemate have affected policy-making in the EU. It also explores the impact of the financial and economic crises that have struck Europe over the past several years.

The sixth edition is fully up-to-date, and is the ideal text for all those with an interest in the policy-making of the European Union.

**Democratic control in the Member States of the European Council and the euro zone summits : study**

Wolfgang Wessels ... [et al.]
71 p.
English

The European Council is increasingly central to the governance of the European Union. Even if national parliaments have originally focused their involvement in EU affairs on the ordinary legislative process, most of the chambers have started to develop specific activities, before or after European summits. From ex-ante influence to ex-post accountability, seven different models of control have been identified. Beyond their differences rooted in national democratic systems, they call for twelve recommendations listed in this report.

**Democratic decision-making in the EU : technocracy in disguise?**

Stie, Anne Elizabeth.
xiii, 240 p.
English

This book examines the democratic legitimacy of the European Union (EU) and evaluates the democratic credentials of the EU’s main decision-making procedure. It finds that though there is potential for democratic decision-making in the EU, the actual process is dominated by technocrats and secret meetings. The book assesses and discusses the conditions for democratic input in decision-making with five empirical chapters each addressing the ordinary legislative procedure from different dimensions: democratic deliberative forums, inclusion, openness, power neutralising mechanisms and decision-making capacity. The analytical framework provides for an in-depth assessment of the ordinary legislative procedure’s potential democratic qualities and examines whether it fulfils democratic criteria, how the procedure works in practice and whether it has the necessary democratic clout. The author provides both a theoretical discussion and an empirical assessment of what role the principle of democracy could play in the EU. Filling a gap in EU legislative studies and contributing to the debate on the European democratic deficit, Democratic Decision-making in the EU will be of interest to students and scholars of European Union politics, legislative studies and deliberative democracy.
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