The European Union plays an increasingly central role in global relations from migration to trade to institutional financial solvency. The formation and continuation of these relations – their narratives and discourses - are rooted in social, political, and economic historical relations emerging at the founding of European states and then substantially augmented in the Post-WWII era. Any rethinking of our European narratives requires a
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...contextualized analysis of the formation of hegemonic discourses. The book contributes to the ongoing process of "rethinking" the European project, identity, and institutions, brought about by the end of the Cold war and the current economic and political crisis. Starting from the principle that the present European crisis goes hand in hand with the crisis of its hegemonic discourse, the aim of the volume is to rescue the complexity, the richness, the ambiguity of the discourses on Europe as opposed to the present simplification. The multidisciplinary approach and the long-term perspective permits illuminating scope over multiple discourses, historical periods, and different "languages", including that of the European institutions. This text will be of key interest to scholars and students of European Union politics, European integration, European History, and more broadly international relations.

This book provides a hitherto unprecedented inside view on the European Commission - the institution, which substantially influences the legislative agenda of the European Union. The public usually views the Commission as a technocratic monolith. However, based on the testimony of 150 insiders, our systematic analyses show that the institution is internally ridden with political power struggles that affect the rules that govern Europe. It also provides new first-hand insights on some of the most contested policies of the EU's recent history, such as the European Research Council, Food labelling regulation or the Services Directive.

What does the European Union mean for health? What can it mean for health? This comprehensively revised second edition answers these questions. It provides a broad review and analysis of European Union public health policies to mid-2019. It begins by explaining the basic politics of European integration and European policy-making in health, including the basic question of how the European Union (EU) came to have a health policy and what that policy does. Thereafter, it moves on to the three faces of European Union health policy. The first face is explicit health policy, both public health policy and policies to strengthen health services and systems in areas such as cancer, and communicable diseases. The second face is internal market building policies, which are often more consequential for health services, but are not made with health as a core objective. These include professional and patient mobility, regulation of insurers and health care providers, and competition in health care. They also include some of the policies...
through which the EU has had dramatic and positive health effects, namely environmental regulation, consumer protection and labour law. The third face is fiscal governance, in which the EU institutions police member state decisions, including relating to health. Each face has different politics, law, policy, and health effects. The book provides a synthesis of the different faces and the different ways in which they have been used to strengthen or weaken public health and health systems in Europe. It shows the many, often unappreciated, ways that the EU has worked for health, as well as the opportunities to further strengthen the EU's positive impact on health. This book is aimed at policy-makers and students of health systems in the EU who seek to understand how the influence of the EU on health policy affects those systems and their patients. To ensure that the EU's impact on health is wholly positive, the wider health community must understand and engage with the EU in the future - something this book aims to encourage.

In spite of the growing empirical significance of the European Union (EU) as a 'soft power', scholars of International Relations (IR) have found it difficult to identify a single theoretical framework to explain the making of European Foreign Policy (EFP). The reasons for this apparent failure of rigorous theory-building may be twofold. On the one hand, there is still much debate about what the EU - the ontological object of inquiry - actually is. On the other hand, many authors have taken a self-critical attitude towards their own discipline, emphasising that there is still a multiplicity of convictions as to how we can best theorise EFP. Though detailed analyses of the specific pattern of the EU's external relations have indeed been marginalised for a long time, it seems plausible to trace this lack of theoretical coherence back to the nature of EFP itself. It is often argued that the EU is a political system 'sui generis', a complex structure that is neither a state nor a non-state actor, and neither a conventional international organization nor an international regime. In a similar vein, some observers assert that the EU might most suitably be characterised as a hybrid political sphere that does not easily lend itself to classical Foreign Policy Analysis (FPA). In fact, the major IR perspectives on EU foreign policy-making - neorealist, neoliberal and constructivist - appear to be largely incompatible in this respect. Within
certain claims are made which effectively rule out or downgrade the validity and reliability of key premises in rival approaches. Therefore, the central question posed in this essay is: Which theory best explains the making of EU foreign policy? And if there is no single theoretical paradigm, might there be any potential...

This book focuses on the historical configuration of the territorial borders and functional boundaries of the European nation state. It presents integration as a process of boundary transcendence, redefinition, shift, and change that fundamentally alters the nature of the European states. Its core concern lies in the relationship between the specific institutional design of the new Brussels centre, the boundary redefinitions that result from its political production, and, finally, the consequences of these two elements on established and developing national European political structures. Integration is examined as a new historical phase in the development of Europe, characterized by a powerful trend toward legal, economic, and cultural de-differentiation after the five-century process of differentiation that led to the European system of nation states. Considering the EU as the formation of an enlarged territorial system, this work recovers some of the classic issues of political modernization theory: Is the EU an attempt at state formation? Is it an attempt at centre formation without nation building? Is it a process of centre formation without democratization? This work also seeks to sharpen the conceptual tools currently available to deal with processes of territorial enlargement and unification. It develops a theoretical framework for political structuring beyond the nation state, capable of linking all aspects of EU integration (inter-governmentalism, definition of rights, the 'constitutionalization' of treaties, the tensions between the new territorial hierarchy and the nation states, etc.). The book adopts an 'holistic' approach to integration, in the form of a theory from which hypotheses can be generated (even if it is not possible to test all of its components). This theoretical framework has three principal aims: to overcome a rigid distinction between domestic politics and international relations; to link actors' orientations, interests, and motivations with macro outcomes; and to relate structural profiles with dynamic processes of change.

This edited collection addresses a paradox at the heart of the European Union: if it is a constantly enlarging empire of governance, how can almost thirty member states design policies as an administrative whole,
The European Union is the result of a group of leaders who looked forward to a peaceable, united and thriving Europe. Besides its founding fathers there are several who have strived hard to uphold the peace and prosperity of the nations who are a part of the European Union. There were just six countries who agreed to partake in the treaty in the beginning but now it is a powerful Union of with 28 member countries in it. There is a long history behind the formation of the European Union. The Union is an emerging power bloc. The decisions and changes in rules and regulations of the European Union largely affect the other countries of the world too.

Provides the untold story of the crises and compromises that lead to the formation of the European Union.

This study explores the formation of the European Union's tax policy and asks why member states did not raise objections to it. The author's analysis is enriched by two further levels of inquiry. Firstly, he examines the 'Europeanization' of domestic tax policy in Italy and the UK, asking how domestic policy has changed and what is meant by 'Europeanization'. Secondly, he puts the European Union tax policy in the wider context of tax globalization. Will the liberalization of capital movement, tax havens and the flexibility of multinationals in managing their taxable incomes wreck the European Union's fragile tax policies?
The European Union is often attacked for its ‘democratic deficit’, namely its deficiencies in representation, transparency and accountability, as well as its lack of popular support. Can these shortcomings be counteracted by the development of a viable European public sphere? This book assesses the possible formation of a communicative space that might enable and engender the creation of a transnational or a supranational public. The contributors consider the EU’s democratic credentials and how well it communicates, and they also evaluate the major institutions and their links to general publics. The European Union and the Public Sphere emphasizes a ‘deliberative democratic’ perspective on the public sphere, addressing some key questions: • What are the prospects for a European public sphere? • Should we think in terms of the EU having a single public sphere, or are overlapping public spheres a more viable option? • What do this book’s findings on the question of the public sphere tell us about the EU as a political entity? Students and scholars of European democracy, political communication, and the politics of institutions will all be greatly interested by this book.
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This book examines the impact of Europeanization on the domestic politics of EU member states, focusing on agricultural policy, cohesion policy and employment policy with a detailed comparative case study on Italy. Though a founding member, Italy has often had an uneasy relationship with the EU and found it difficult to be influential in EU politics and to comply effectively with EU policies and institutional pressures. The main focus of this book is the analysis of Italy-EU relationship from a policy-based perspective, adopting the conceptual lenses developed by Europeanization research. By looking at the evolution of agricultural, regional cohesion and employment policy the book shows how the politics of adaptation have brought Italy closer to Europe in the past twenty years and further highlights the impact of the EU-Italy relationship on domestic institutions and politics. The author explains that even though Italy has increasingly learned to respect EU membership requirements, its influence over agenda setting within the EU remains limited. Europeanization and Domestic Policy Change will be of interest to students and scholars of European Politics, Europeanization, comparative politics and Italian politics.

Today, the European Union is facing a crisis as serious as anything it has experienced since its origins more than half a century ago. What makes this so serious is that it is not a single crisis but rather multiple crises – the euro crisis, the migration/refugee crisis, Brexit, etc. – that overlap and reinforce one another, creating a cumulative array of challenges that threatens the very survival of the EU. For the first time in its history, there is a real risk that the EU could break up. This volume brings together sociologists, economists and political scientists from around Europe to shed light on how the EU got into this predicament. It argues that the multiple crises that have plagued the European Union in the last decade stem to a large extent from flaws in its construction and that these flaws are consequences of the political processes that led to the formation of the EU – in other words, the decisions that made possible the development of the EU created the conditions for the multiple crises it experiences today. This timely and wide-ranging book on one of the most important issues of our time will be of great interest to students and scholars in the social sciences, to politicians and policy-makers and to anyone concerned with Europe and its future.

Fabricating Europe has within it a core idea, a crucial but imprecise idea, that of a European educational space, which transnational governance,
Fabricating Europe is concerned with the new possibilities to be discerned and imagined in the European public and institutional spaces and discourses in education and the lack of impetus within the broad area of educational studies to meet the task of creating analyses and responses.

Europe has always been a region of immense historical importance and uproar. Comprising numerous different, sometimes even competing and fighting nations, Europe forms an ethnically, culturally and socially diversified continent. For centuries, it has therefore been a place of wars, revolutions and migration, as well as a well-spring of cultural imprint, Christianity and philosophy. The last century, shaped by two world wars and the Cold War, entailed a devastated and separated Europe. However, with Germany and France - two traditional arch-enemies - realizing that cooperation is better than warfare, the first milestone towards what was to become the European Union was laid. Today the Union consists of 27 member states, implying almost 500 million inhabitants. As a matter of fact, the creation of the EU itself has been a revolutionary act never encountered before in history, as several sovereign countries agreed on the long-term target of the generation of a common region of unitary legislation. Enumerating the advantages and opportunities resulting for economy, societies and individuals in the EU, one always has to take into consideration the serious challenges the formation of the Union poses to the particular member states and to their inhabitants.
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Part I: Investigates Key Elements
- The relationship between "Europeanization" of the EU member states and its effect on the political identity of their citizens.
- The relationship between the politicization of the EU and processes of identity and legitimacy formation.
- The indispensability of European identity for legitimizing the EU.

Part II: Paths to Identity Formation
- Alternative types of constitutional legitimacy.
- Political symbolism.
- Europeanization and politicization of the debate on EU focusing on the foreign policy domain.

The book addresses the following key questions:
- What can space policy contribute to European identity formation and the integration process?
- What are the interests of member states/EU institutions in space?
- How is space policy perceived by European institutions, and how have they been engaged in the policy process to promote activity in space?
- In which ways is the EU engaged in space, in terms of policy areas, e.g. foreign policy, industrial policy, security and defence policies?
- What is the impact of institutions on the policy-making process in European space policy?

This book will be of interest to students of EU policy, space policy, discourse studies and International Relations in general.
modernization and consolidation through the processes of European integration, and the uncertainty of how to secure Spain's interests in Europe.

The main objective of this book is to present the on-going process of European integration via a comprehensive analysis of the institutional dynamics of, and politics linked with, the emerging migration law and policy of the European Union. More specifically, it presents the historical evolution, the main institutional legislative and policy steps, the position of, and interactions among, the different actors, and the factors impeding the formation of a common policy at EU level. On this basis a critical analysis is provided of the main institutional problems, the current policy framework, the overarching rationale as well as of the content and quality of the nascent EU migration law. The book is divided into three parts. The first two parts provide a comprehensive study of the institutional framework and the substantive EC/EU law respectively. The third and final part provides a more general analysis of the policy-making process. Since the major achievements in the field of migration are recent, the book focuses to a great extent on the post-Amsterdam era. However, for reasons of coherence and in order to better evaluate recent developments, a concise overview of the origins of this policy is provided. Moreover, special emphasis is placed on the Schengen acquis, since its mark on European affairs has been and remains pronounced.

Overall the attempt has been to provide an account, which is up to date with extensive historical references and combines both an academic and practical perspective to the legal and political issues involved. The approach based on the above elements will contribute to a new understanding of the main aspects of EU migration law and its policy ramifications and will be of use to both academics and practitioners alike.

This book investigates why European associations form interest coalitions, which strategies these coalitions pursue to influence the EU institutions, and how persistent they are over time. In this context, questions concerning the transparency of European decision-making are approached. The field of European energy policy serves as empirical background, providing a valuable insight into a little researched area of European politics.
The European Union (EU) is considered as a unique institutional structure not only because of the transfer of the national sovereignty in a supranational level but mostly because of its long term existence and expansion. Although the institutional structure of the EU is much different and undoubtedly improved from the one of the European Economic Community (EEC) the study of the initiating process, namely the EEC, is essential in order to understand what the basis of the recent EU is. Hence, the research for the initiating process of the EEC and sequentially the international context in which the EEC was formed are of great importance not only for the academic scholars but mostly for the European citizens. The concern of this study is the formation of the EEC under the International Political Economy theory (IPE), which emerged mainly after the Second World War and expanded in the decade of 70s. The cooperation of the leader European states in the formation of this institutional structure and its main task of European cooperation and adoption of common policies in order to achieve the demanded goal of economic development and prosperity is mainly based on the International Political Economy theory, since the first addresses the interaction of international relation and political economy. The first part of this study is devoted to the analysis of the International Political Economy and forms the theoretical framework of the study. Moreover, it presents the variety of the IPE and stresses its main aspects. Following, there is an introduction of the formation of the EEC and a short analysis of the political economies of the member states, which is helpful in order to have an overview of the different economies and the possible implications for the formation of the EEC. Finally, the conclusion consists of a detailed examination of the complex negotiation processes surrounding intergovernmental conferences in the European Union. Since the Treaty of Amsterdam (1997) and its 'appendix', the Treaty of Nice in 2002, any reform of the treaty framework of the European Union seems to be doomed to fail, evidenced by the decline of the Constitutional Treaty and by the current fate of the Lisbon treaty. By presenting an extensive quantitative study of the Intergovernmental Conference of 1996/7 prior to the Treaty of Amsterdam, the authors argue that these negotiations reveal the major challenges of European integration. Drawing on advanced statistical methods, they contend that multi-level negotiations require an appropriate coordination of the involved states.
informal administrative networks and the empowerment of administrative leadership, with these factors significantly shaping the dynamics and outcomes of negotiations. Through these findings, this book lays down the foundation for future evidence-based evaluations of negotiations and implementation studies, and delivers new insights on decision-making within the European Union. European Union Intergovernmental Conferences will be of interest to students and researchers of political science, sociology, administrative science, business and management studies, international law and European law. This book offers a good study of the development of telecommunications policy by the EU. . . Great value to those interested in understanding both European telecommunications policy and more generally in how policy-making operates in the EU. Mark Thatcher, West European Politics . . . the book provides an interesting perspective on the evolution of nature of telecommunications policy-making within the EU. As a consequence, the book should be of interest to telecommunications and politics/government researchers alike, Jason Whalley, Communications Booknotes Quarterly This well-written book deals with the emergence and shaping of telecommunications policy in Europe, with a particular focus on the time period of 1987-1998. . . This book fills an important gap reviewing the initial formative years of European telecommunications policy development and liberalization in detail. The book captures the complicated and interdependent policy formation process in Europe in a credible and thoughtful way, without falling into the trap of admiring critical personalities and key actors. . . The author has written an important and useful book, which invites the research community to further explore the evolution of European telecommunications policy. Erik Bohlin, Communications & Strategies Examining the emergence of a European Union telecommunications policy, Joseph Goodman explains how and why the policy developed as it did and why certain reforms in the sector were easier to achieve than others. He provides a history of the key actors in the policy-making process from the first attempts by the national postal, telegraph, and telecommunication administrations to coordinate their telecommunications policies in the 1950s, to the implementation of a comprehensive EU telecommunications regulatory structure in 1998 and the development of a new regulatory structure in 2003. The analytical framework employed by the author draws upon new institutionalism and actor-based approaches, providing an opportunity to evaluate the
The utility of a synthetic approach for examining and explaining EU policy-making. The focus of this analysis is on the European Commission's two-pronged strategy of liberalisation and harmonisation, which began in the late 1980s and culminated in an important milestone on January 1st, 1998, when the EU Member States fully opened their telecommunications markets to competition. The conclusion is that a synthetic approach, which enables the researcher to apply a number of approaches to multiple settings and various levels of analysis, is useful even necessary in understanding and explaining the many dimensions of EU policy-making. This authoritative study will be of interest to all those in the telecommunications industry, including attorneys, consultants, and lobbyists who would like to know how the EU's policy developed. It will appeal, more generally, to political scientists and scholars of European history and politics.

This essay seeks to discuss the impact Brexit is likely to have on both the UK and Europe. The essay will be divided into three sections. Section one will discuss briefly the journey to the formation of the EU, then continue with the UK's membership in 1973 and discuss events that occurred after gaining membership. The second section will discuss five probable impacts the UK is likely to face in the post-Brexit era. It will discuss the change of trade within Europe, the new posture trade is likely to take as a result of new trade policy, the effect Brexit is likely to impact on financial services, the tightening of immigration, and the UK's loss of influence in the international world. The third section will discuss the effect of Brexit on Europe. It will discuss businesses finding it costly to relocate investment from the UK, how Brexit will affect remittance migration to the extent of political contagion, how Brexit is likely to create a gap in the budgetary influence of the EU, the effect Brexit is likely to take on the EU's influence in the international world and how Brexit breeds uncertainty which is bad for business in the EU and risks political contagion.

The University of Notre Dame Press is pleased to bring Ernst Haas's classic work on European integration, The Uniting of Europe, back into print. First published in 1958 and last printed in 1968, this seminal volume is the starting point for anyone interested in the pre-history of the European Union. Haas uses the European Coal and Steel Community...
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Haas points to the ECSC as an example of an organization with the “power to redirect the loyalties and expectations of political actors.” In this pathbreaking book, Haas contends that, based on his observations of the actual integration process, the idea of a “united Europe” took root in the years immediately following World War II. His careful and rigorous analysis tracks the development of the ECSC, including, in his 1968 preface, a discussion of the eventual loss of the individual identity of the ECSC through its absorption into the new European Community. Featuring a new introduction by Haas analyzing the impact of his book over time, as well as an updated bibliography, The Uniting of Europe is a must-have for political scientists and historians of modern and contemporary Europe. This book is the inaugural volume of Notre Dame’s new Contemporary European Politics and Society Series.

This book looks at the way in which the Committee of the Regions (CoR) can influence EU policy making from below, despite its relatively weak position in the decision-making process. Bringing together theoretical arguments about the central role of the formation of judgment in addition to the more conventionally emphasized expression of will, with an up-to-date account of the CoR’s institutional development and activities, Simona Piattoni and Justus Schönlau make a strong case not to overlook the significance of the Committee’s contribution to EU-level democracy.

The history of the European Community/European Union’s (EC/EU) development is a narrative of crises generated and resolved. To date, the resolution of crises in community affairs has furthered European integration. The characteristic pattern of integration is dialectical—two steps forward and one step back—with crises both accounting for the steps backward and forward. This book examines why the crises were constructively resolved, rather than the often explored how of the resolutions. This work contends that European myths, which emerged from Europe’s cataclysmic experiences in World War I and II, cement the member states within the EC/EU, and lead to greater social, economic, and political integration with the EC/EU. During the periodic crises, the European myths have eliminated every choice except the choice to move European integration forward. Professor Sam-Sang Jo’s analysis argues that once the European myths weaken, the tensions among EU
A Dictionary of the European Union, now in its fourth edition, offers a wide range of information about the EU, from acronyms and treaties to member states and people who have played an important role in the formation and development of the EU. Compiled by acknowledged authorities in the field of EU affairs, David Phinnemore and Lee McGowan of the School of Politics, International Studies and Philosophy, Queen's University Belfast, A Dictionary of the European Union provides a unique collection of invaluable data: explains the complex terminology surrounding the EU; identifies the role of EU institutions; profiles member states, applicant countries and the people who have played an important role in the formation and development of the EU; highlights countries and organizations of relevance to the EU; provides an account of both historical and current issues; outlines the significance of the treaties, programmes and policies; and spells out acronyms and abbreviations. In one accessible volume A Dictionary of the European Union presents some 475 pages of up-to-date information and includes over 1,000 entries, providing a complete and invaluable guide to the EU.

This book examines the link between political identity and legitimacy in the European Union. Stimulated by the crisis of legitimacy and identity suffered by the EU after the referenda on the Constitutional Treaty, the editors have developed a theoretical framework to examine the interplay between these two items in the problematic development of the EU into a fully-fledged political actor. The contributors to the volume seek to: redefining the key notions in the rigorous way of political philosophy, thus avoiding the generic or imprecise language usage found in a large part of political science literature on identity; test these concepts in the analysis of EU policies that may reveal the world views and the principles upon which EU legislation is based, and whose degree of acceptance on the side of the citizens is an indicator of how far a shared political identity has developed. Featuring case studies on foreign and environmental policy, biosafety policy, biotechnology regulation, civil society, human rights promotion, as well as studies on the role of memory, space and external views on the process of European identity-building, this book will be of interest to students and researchers of political science, political philosophy, European politics and European Studies.
What kind of Europe do social democratic parties prefer? What is the origin of their preferences? Are they shaped by interests, institutions or ideas? If so, how? Why do social democratic political parties respond differently to the crucial question of the future of the European Union?

While many social democratic parties initially opposed European integration either in principle or because of the form it took, gradually they came to lend their full, though often critical, support to it. Despite this evolution, important differences between them have remained. This book examines the preferences of social democratic parties in Germany, France, the UK, Sweden and Greece towards European integration, in comparative perspective. Using a variety of sources, including interviews with key party officials, the contributors explore what kind of Europe these parties want, and seek to explain the formation and evolution of these preferences over time. They examine the interplay of national peculiarities and cross-national factors and their impact on preferences on European integration. In addition to highlighting the role of party leaders, they reveal that, far from being united on European integration, these parties disagree with each other in part because they have retreated – to varying degrees – from key social democratic principles. Making an important contribution to the scholarship on preference formation and the research that links the European Union with the nation state, it will be of interest to students and scholars of the EU, comparative politics and political parties.

Does the European Union change the domestic politics and institutions of its member states? Many studies of EU decisionmaking in Brussels pay little attention to the potential domestic impact of European integration. Transforming Europe traces the effects of Europeanization on the EU member states. The various chapters, based on cutting-edge research, examine the impact of the EU on national court systems, territorial politics, societal networks, public discourse, identity, and citizenship norms. The European Union, the authors find, does indeed make a difference—even in Germany, France, and the United Kingdom. In many cases EU rules and regulations incompatible with domestic institutions have created pressure for national governments to adapt. This volume examines the conditions under which this “adaptational pressure” has led to institutional change in the member states.
This book addresses a timely, yet largely overlooked, issue in political science: the integration of migrants in a multilevel polity. In a context characterised by the increasing salience of migration-related questions, and despite the gradual construction of a European Union immigration policy over the past two decades, no competence was ever created on integration matters. The emergence of a consistent ensemble of soft instruments in this policy realm in the 2000s unveiled an original pattern of EU policy formation. Can there be Europeanization without an EU competence? That is the question this original piece of research tackles.

It shows how the way in which the policy emerged at EU level affected policy outputs adopted thereafter throughout the policy cycle. Mixing qualitative and quantitative methods, it explains the development of the EU integration policy and examines its main policy device, the European Integration Fund, from negotiation to implementation.
In the last decades, debates about the existence and the meaning of an European identity raised all the time more. Some scholars approached the theme, focussing on a "common historical heritage", which points to a basis for a collective identity (Habermas 2001; Giesen 2003), others based their arguments on political and institutional similarities among European countries like human rights protection, democracy and rule of law (Risse 2001). In other cases, the studies on the topic focussed on the ambivalent employ of the term "identity", arguing its (ab)-use, above all in EU-Treaties, instead of more obviously expressions as "legitimacy" or "sovereignty" (Bruha/ Rau 2000). The aim of this paper is to examine the topic from two distinctive perspectives: a post-national and a postmodern. The paper suggests a sort of "back to the roots" of the enquiry, approaching the subject neither with pre-existent assumptions nor with the goal to order puzzled arguments. The study will not pursue the question about the existence of a collective European identity, but will search for possible ways and circumstances, in which "identity" in Europe (restricting the focus on the European Union) may emerge. The central question of the paper will be if the development of an European identity is plausible and if a widespread process of socialisation may prevail on the national structures of the member states (hereafter MSs) and lead to the growth of common "procedures" and "functions" among European populations. In order to answer the question the more satisfactory as possible, the dissertation proposes two differing angles for the analysis with the intend to compare the findings resulting from dissimilar criteria of examination. In a first part the EU will be considered as a post-national political order, deriving from the dissolution of its MSs. After a short explanation on the political nature of the Union from this standpoint, the dissertation will explore the option of an emerging post-national identity in the European Union, adopting the criteria proposed by Anthony Smith in his study of national identities (Smith 1991). The analysis will evaluate if the EU attends the proposed criteria in order to assess the coming out of a post-national form of social identification. [ ]

The European Union (EU) is a political and economic partnership that...
represents a unique form of cooperation among sovereign countries. The EU is the latest stage in a process of integration begun after World War II, initially by six Western European countries, to foster interdependence and make another war in Europe unthinkable. The EU currently consists of 27 member states, including most of the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, and has helped to promote peace, stability, and economic prosperity throughout the European continent.

This report serves as a primer on the EU. It also discusses U.S.-EU relations. Employment is clearly one of those fields of political activity that reveal the manifold problems and difficulties accompanying the process of European integration and supranational institutionalization. In particular the conflict between supranationalists and intergovernmentalists and the degree to which member states show willingness to cooperate with each other become manifest. The Union is struggling for new employment policies that should, on the one hand, be compatible with the European model of the welfare state, and, on the other, adopt to new economic constraints. These debates are accompanied by many conflicts between different interest groups and lobbies. This study succeeded in looking behind closed doors within the EU organizational system. Committee meetings were tape-recorded and analysed, drafts of policy papers were examined for recontextualizations and the impact of interest groups and different economic and ideological concepts on policy-making made explicit. A comparison of decision-making processes in the European Parliament and in small networks of the Commission illustrates the different argumentation patterns and discursive practices that are involved in the formation of new employment policies. The ethnographic research is accompanied by a systemic linguistic and sociological analysis of various institutional genres and political spaces.