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The resolution of cross-border banking crises in the European Union: a legal study from the perspective of burden sharing

"Any policy aimed at resolution of a banking crisis determines which constituents--depositors, creditors, shareholders, the banking industry, and society as a whole--eventually bear the costs associated with a banking crisis, thus giving rise to legitimacy and accountability concerns. Rather than what the recent financial crisis has engendered--mostly ad hoc reactions that socialize losses but not profits--what is required, this incisive analysis shows, is an equitable and viable resolution framework, based on burden sharing, enshrined in law, and designed to deal with bank failures in a way that balances private and public interests. The author explores the design, institutional framework, and practical functioning of such a legal regime under EU law."-- Editor

Casser l’euro... : pour sauver l’Europe / Franck Dedieu ... [et al.].

"Casser l’euro ? Nombreux sont ceux qui refusent que ce débat soit ouvert. Les politiques, bien sûr, les experts, économistes, mais aussi la plupart des médias. Au-delà, toute une génération s’est reconnue dans le choix d’une monnaie forte, à même de préserver l’épargne accumulée durant les Trente Glorieuses — et qu’importe que ce soit au détriment de millions de jeunes chômeurs. C’est pourtant ce tabou de la sortie de l’euro qu’un collectif de jeunes journalistes, exerçant dans des médias aux lignes politiques différentes, a voulu lever, pour la première fois. Sans trembler. Car, après cinq ans d’une crise sans précédent, le constat d’échec est flagrant : l’euro n’est parvenu ni à endiguer les crises financières, ni à protéger des grands vents de la mondialisation, encore moins à provoquer une unification sociale et politique du Vieux Continent. Plongée dans la déflation par la généralisation des politiques d’austérité, elle semble aujourd’hui perdue. Face à ce paysage désolé, les auteurs osent affirmer : oui, il faut sortir de l’euro pour sauver l’Europe... “ --Éditeur

La lunga notte dell’euro / Alessandro Barbera, Stefano Feltri.

“Dal 2007 a oggi la crisi dell’euro ha fatto cadere governi, fallire banche, capitolare intere economie. Milioni di cittadini europei stanno pagando il conto di scelte che non hanno compreso né condiviso. Le previsioni catastrofiste sulla tenuta dell’euro sono (per ora) andate a vuoto, ma in Italia il prezzo è stato altissimo: molto rigore, troppe tasse, un aumento vertiginoso della disoccupazione e del debito pubblico. Così all’improvviso la politica è stata costretta a discutere, difendere, proporre: bisogna uscire dall’euro; solo la lira può salvare le imprese; la Germania di Angela Merkel sta combattendo una guerra senza carri armati. Oppure no: dobbiamo rimanere nella moneta unica ma “battere i pugni sul tavolo”, rompere i vincoli del rigore, accettare il fallimento delle istituzioni comunitarie e tornare a una “Europa dei popoli”, qualunque cosa questo voglia dire...”
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"The article argues that many of the issues that are causing trouble in the eurozone today had long been debated, but not solved, prior to the beginning of the so-called euro crisis. Three thematic examples are used to show this: the decade-long discussion surrounding economic convergence and the question of a transfer union; the dispute over the alleged use of financial mechanisms as a substitute for addressing structural economic weaknesses; and the development of European banking regulation and supervision before the creation of the single currency. Finally, the article argues that even though some of the features of todays crises in particular the debt and deficit issues were outlined at the time of the euros introduction, some important recent developments such as the various new operations undertaken by the European Central Bank were not. This should command modesty and cautiousness in the analysis of the evolution of the euro crisis."

"This study examines the frames used in reporting on the euro crisis. As far as the debt crisis is concerned, the media are the main source of information for European citizens. It is therefore interesting to carry out an in-depth content analysis of news coverage. The study looks into five dominant frames in Flemish (i.e. Dutch-speaking Belgium) and Dutch newspapers. War proved to be the most frequently used frame, followed by disease, natural disaster, construction and game. The prevalence of these frames was stable in both countries and from one type of newspaper to another."

"This article analyses preferences for European economic governance in the European sovereign debt crisis. We assess citizens’ opinions on increased intergovernmental co-operation and supranational governance in the economic sphere. We argue that current efforts to tackle the euro crisis do not benefit the typical winners of European integration. Moreover, European economic governance constitutes an even greater perceived threat to national identity, especially in the member states that fare well economically. Hypotheses are tested using multilevel analysis of Eurobarometer survey wave EB 75.3 (2011)."

"In the pre-crisis period, substantial current account imbalances built up in the euro area. Despite recent progress in economic rebalancing, especially in the countries mostly affected by the euro debt crisis, a controversial debate is still raging about past causes, current interpretations and future outlooks for the current account positions of euro area countries. This article examines ten common claims often heard in the public debate and critically discusses their economic foundation."
From Europeanisation to Diffusion / edited by Tanja A. Börzel and Thomas Risse
441 CES 14/285

“This book provides a comprehensive account of the extent to which policies and institutions of the European Union (EU) spread across different contexts. Are the EU's attempts to transfer its policies and institutions to accession and neighbourhood countries sustainable and effective? To what degree do other regions of the world emulate the EU's institutional features, what are the mechanisms of, and conditions for, their diffusion? Chapters deal with Europeanization in the new EU member states, particularly in Romania and Bulgaria, in current accession candidates, i.e. the Western Balkans and Turkey, as well the Eastern (Southern Caucasus) and Southern Neighbourhood (Israel and the Maghreb). In addition, authors investigate the diffusion of EU policies and institutions in Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia, and Latin America…" Editor.

Inside the Arab revolution : three years on the front line of the Arab Spring / Koert Debeuf ; foreword by Guy Verhofstadt.
441 CES 14/314

“Historian, political observer and opinion-maker Koert Debeuf draws this conclusion from three years of living and working in the heart of the Arab world. Having travelled extensively in Egypt, Syria, Libya, Tunisia, Jordan, Palestine and Turkey, he saw from the first row history unfolding. From Tahrir Square to Taksim Square, between teargas, bullets and bombs. This book gives unique insight into the real fights and frustrations of the Arab Revolution. In this compilation of blogs, articles and essays the reader begins to understand the complex realities and ideas behind the revolutions from Tunisia to Turkey. Some of the pieces even influenced Arab and international politics. In a foreword, Guy Verhofstadt, president of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe and former prime minister of Belgium (1999-2008), sets out a new vision of European cooperation with the Arab world" Editor.

External Relations

Europäische Aussenbeziehungen / Andreas von Arnauld (Hrsg.).
441 CES 14/249


From Europeanisation to Diffusion / edited by Tanja A. Börzel and Thomas Risse
441 CES 14/285

“Historian, political observer and opinion-maker Koert Debeuf draws this conclusion from three years of living and working in the heart of the Arab world. Having travelled extensively in Egypt, Syria, Libya, Tunisia, Jordan, Palestine and Turkey, he saw from the first row history unfolding. From Tahrir Square to Taksim Square, between teargas, bullets and bombs. This book gives unique insight into the real fights and frustrations of the Arab Revolution. In this compilation of blogs, articles and essays the reader begins to understand the complex realities and ideas behind the revolutions from Tunisia to Turkey. Some of the pieces even influenced Arab and international politics. In a foreword, Guy Verhofstadt, president of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe and former prime minister of Belgium (1999-2008), sets out a new vision of European cooperation with the Arab world” Editor.
Information exchanges, diplomatic networks and the construction of European knowledge in European Union foreign policy / Federica Bicchi.

"This article analyses how, within the European Union foreign policy system, information is gathered and knowledge is constructed. The analysis is based on the evidence provided by a unique dataset, comprising the Heads of Mission reports between 1998 and 2010 and the EU Member States’ diplomatic networks. After distinguishing between information and knowledge, the article tackles three related aspects. First, it shows that the EU is able not only to favour information exchanges, but also to gather information and construct knowledge. Second, it argues that, while Member States have an interest in contributing their own information and knowledge, European knowledge is also possible. This is demonstrated by means of an in-depth analysis of the preparation of the Heads of Mission report on East Jerusalem. Third, the article suggests that, depending on the reach of their diplomatic network, some Member States are interested more than others in European information, but all Member States are interested in European knowledge and in each other’s interpretation of current affairs."--

The European Union - a "sui generis" international diplomatic actor : challenges posed to the international diplomatic law / Ruxandra Laura Boșilcă.

"It has often been argued that the European Union has a sui generis status by being less than a nation-state, but more than an international organization, which is also reflected in its conduct of diplomatic relations with third states and international organizations. Since its inception, the European Union has managed to set a wide bi- and multilateral diplomatic network - which is subject to the provisions of the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations (VCDR). This paper’s purpose is to analyze some of the main challenges posed to the international diplomatic law by the EU’s emergence on the diplomatic scene, in the light of the significant transformations brought by the Lisbon Treaty.”

EU-MENA relations from the Barcelona process to the Arab uprisings : a new research agenda / Francesco Cavatorta & Paola Rivetti.

"Irrespective of their final outcome, the Arab uprisings have changed the region profoundly with important consequences for external actors as well. Since 1995, the European Union has been extremely active in the Middle East and North Africa with a number of policies put in place to achieve often contrasting objectives. The uprisings have exposed the problems affecting these policies and have led the EU to rethink regional relations. The scholarship on EU-MENA relations has provided over time numerous and powerful insights into the workings, shortcomings and success of the EU in the region, but the uprisings demand a radical change in the way in which the MENA is approached. This review article looks at the contribution that the scholarship has made in this field and suggests a new research agenda, which could lead to better informed and more effective policy-making.”

The evolving and multilayered EU-India investment relations : regulatory issues and policy conjectures / Julien Chaisse, Debashis Chakraborty.

India and several EU member countries share a rich history of investment collaborations. The collaboration has been cemented with several formal agreements with individual EU members, and the recent negotiations with the trade bloc since June 2007 on a broad-based Bilateral Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) can be considered as a culmination of this process while ongoing WTO negotiations on Mode 3 commitments remain essential in terms of market opening. The present article analyzes the multi-layered regulation of foreign investment against the backdrop of the evolving EU-India economic relations. The 2009 Treaty of Lisbon gave a new competence to the EU which will impact ongoing negotiations with India whose global standing has been significantly changing in recent years. The economic vibrancy, coupled with large market size, has earned India greater relevance in several international forums, thereby making the future EU—India investment treaty one of the most promising investment agreements."
Critique, social media and the information society / Edited by Christian Fuchs and Marisol Sandoval

“In times of global capitalist crisis we are witnessing a return of critique in the form of a surging interest in critical theories (such as the critical political economy of Karl Marx) and social rebellions as a reaction to the commodification and instrumentalization of everything. On one hand, there are overdrawn claims that social media (Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, etc.) have caused uproars in countries like Tunisia and Egypt. On the other hand, the question arises as to what actual role social media play in contemporary capitalism, crisis, rebellions, the strengthening of the commons, and the potential creation of participatory democracy. The commodification of everything has resulted also in a commodification of the communication commons, including Internet communication that is today largely commercial in character.” Editor,

La souveraineté numérique / Pierre Bellanger.

“La mondialisation a dévasté nos classes populaires. L’Internet va dévorer nos classes moyennes. La grande dépression que nous connaissons depuis cinq ans n’est qu’un modeste épisode en comparaison du cataclysme qui s’annonce. La France et l’Europe n’ont aucune maîtrise sur cette révolution. L’Internet et ses services sont contrôlés par les Américains. L’Internet siphonne nos emplois, nos données, nos vies privées, notre propriété intellectuelle, notre prospérité, notre fiscalité, notre souveraineté. Nous allons donc subir ce bouleversement qui mettra un terme à notre modèle social et économique. Y a-t-il pour nous une alternative ? Oui. L’ambition de ce travail est de nous en donner la chance.”-- Éditeur

Socio-economic impacts of bioenergy production / Dominik Rutz, Rainer Janssen, editors

“Around the world, many countries are increasing efforts to promote biomass production for industrial uses including biofuels and bio-products such as chemicals and bio-plastic. Against a backdrop of lively public debate on sustainability, bioenergy wields both positive and negative impacts upon a variety of environmental and socio-economic issues. These include property rights, labor conditions, social welfare, economic wealth, poverty reduction and more. This book discusses the issues and impacts of bioenergy, taking into account the local and regional framework under which bioenergy is produced, touching upon educational level, cultural aspects, the history and economies of the producing countries and an array of policies including environmental and social targets. The book surveys and analyzes global bioenergy production from a number of perspectives. The authors illustrate the complexity of interrelated topics in the bioenergy value chain, ranging from agriculture to conversion processes, as well as from social implications to environmental effects. It goes on to offer insight on future challenges associated with the expected boom of a global bio-based economy, which contributes to the paradigm shift from a fossil-based to a biomass and renewable energy-based economy.”-- Editor.

“This article analyses two recent judgments of the European Court of Justice concerning the applicability of the ‘general rules’ of the EU Treaties, in particular the principle of non-discrimination, on air transport, and focuses on the relationship between those general rules on the one hand and the special status of air transport under the transport policy provisions on the other hand. The latter one being increasingly questionable, the European Court at least clarified this relationship as meaning different legislative instruments, but the same guiding principles within the scope of the EU Treaties.”


“Maritime transport has been a catalyst of economic development and prosperity for Europe throughout its history. Maritime transport enables trade and contacts between Member States of the European Union, ensures the security of supply of energy, food and commodities and provides the main vehicle for European imports and exports to the rest of the world. Almost 90% of the EU external freight trade is seaborne. Short sea-shipping represents 40% of intra-EU exchanges in terms of ton-kilometres. The quality of life on islands and in peripheral maritime regions also depends on good maritime transport services. Each year, more than 400 million passengers embark and disembark at one of the many European ports. In sum, sea transport is an vital source of employment and income for EU economy, as well as a key instrument for assuring the effectiveness of the provisions on the right of free movement enshrined in the EU Treaties.”


“This article explores energy security and integration within the European Union (EU) in the case of natural gas. It theorizes the underlying institutional dynamics of integration by drawing upon the English School as to how more deep-seated informal institutions condition policy-making by EU institutions and Member States as well as the operations of transnational actors such as energy companies. The informal institution of sovereignty constrains the push of the market institution towards a convergent type of integration. Together with the bilateral energy diplomacy and great power management institutions, sovereignty also limits integration in the external gas trade. Internal integration overall remains dependent on the wider European context as is also seen in the functioning of the environmental stewardship institution. The ambiguities among actors occasioned by the implementation of the Third Energy Package suggest a further integration need, but that is constrained by several further driving forces.”
Trabajo y ciudadanía en la Europa contemporánea : el sindicalismo y la construcción de derechos
/ José Babiano (ed.) ; José Pablo Calleja Jiménez ... [et al.]
331 CES 14/274

“Durante los últimos ciento cincuenta años los principales avances democráticos y la ampliación de los derechos en Europa han venido de la mano del movimiento obrero en general y del sindicalismo en particular. Esta es una de las principales conclusiones que pueden extraerse de la lectura del nuevo libro editado por la Fundación 1º de Mayo, centro sindical de estudios de CCOO, en el que se recogen trabajos con estudios de España, Alemania, Francia, Italia, Reino Unido y Portugal.”

La Europa siniestra : racismo, xenofobia, antisemitismo, islamofobia, antigitanismo, homofobia, neofascismo e intolerancia / Esteban Ibarra
30 CES 14/274

“Existe una Europa que defiende la dignidad, la libertad, la igualdad y la justicia: ideales que constituyen la piedra angular sobre la que se construye un modelo político en el que todas las personas en cada uno de los Estados miembros convivan en armonía. Pero también existe una Europa en la que se niega el Holocausto o se grita “que se vayan a su país”, se rechaza dar atención sanitaria a una mujer andina, no se contrata a un hombre por ser negro o se agreda a una joven de determinada ideología política e incluso se mata y se cometen crímenes de odio. Este libro muestra el encuentro entre la Europa de los ideales y la siniestra; un encuentro que no se produce solo a pie de calle, sino que incluso alcanza las instituciones europeas, en las que ha aumentado la presencia de partidos de ultraderecha. Las diferentes formas de intolerancia aparecen caracterizadas con detalle, recogiendo tanto su evolución histórica como los estudios y datos más actuales; tanto la situación internacional como la de las personas que han vivido la intolerancia y los discursos del odio. El objetivo de este libro es que sea, en palabras del autor, “una modesta contribución que alimente la conciencia colectiva, un aviso de lo que acecha a nuestro continente desmemoriado”.

Hold-up à Bruxelles : les lobbies au cœur de l'Europe / José Bové ; avec la collaboration de Gilles Luneau ; préface de Daniel Cohn-Bendit.
30 CES 14/301

“Député européen, un sport de combat ? Dans ce livre, à travers des cas concrets vécus au quotidien, José Bové livre la réalité des couloirs de Bruxelles : batailleur pour l’indépendance des agences de contrôle infiltrées par les multinationales, révéler un complot de l’industrie du tabac contre la directive sanitaire en préparation, défendre les paysans face à la politique agricole commune instrumentalisée par les firmes agroalimentaires et agrochimiques, fédérer la lutte contre l’exploitation des gaz de schiste en Europe, dénoncer les accords de libre-échange… Le livre braque aussi le projecteur sur les connivences dont bénéficient, au plus haut niveau de l’organigramme administratif, les lobbyistes de l’industrie : nichés aux postes clés des directions générales de la Commission, nombre de fonctionnaires européens sont là pour influencer les députés et les convaincre de satisfaire les exigences des multinationales. »
Labour mobility in the EU: dynamics, patterns and policies / Mikkel Barslund, ... [et al.]

"The continued economic crisis has become a major test for the labour markets of individual member states. Labour mobility within the European Union has the potential to help to reduce labour market pressures and ease economic imbalances. However, a long-term loss of working age population can be detrimental to sending countries. This Forum explores mobility patterns within the European Union and analyses the labour market and welfare effects of labour mobility via case studies of the UK, Poland, Germany and Spain. It also examines a number of its aspects that have important political and institutional relevance for the European Union and its future."--Editor.

Human rights at work: the need for definitional coherence in the global governance system / Janice R. Bellace.

"In describing the rights companies should respect, the UN Global Compact and the UN Principles on Business and Human Rights refer to the ILO’s 1998 Declaration of Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work. Company codes of conduct, and various certification, audit and reporting entities use language that is identical or similar to that found in the ILO Declaration. For years the International Labour Organization (ILO) was viewed as the authority on what certain human rights mean in the work context. This certainty was challenged in June 2012 when the Employers Group at the International Labour Conference (ILC) attacked the ILO’s Committee of Experts (CEACR) for discussing the right to strike as part of its commentary on Convention No. 87, Freedom of Association and the Right to Organise. Underlying this criticism was the Employers’ awareness that others were using the General Survey of the CEACR to comprehend the scope of certain human rights found in statements such as the UN Global Compact. The Employers identified "the critical issue" as the fact that the CEACR’s "observations were being viewed by the outside world as a form of soft law labour standards jurisprudence." This article will set out the 1998 ILO Declaration and will then discuss the two major UN pronouncements on human rights at work. It will review the standards used by other entities active in this space."

In: Cahiers de droit européen 2014, v. 50, n. 1, p. [161]-[200].

"Social citizenship is about equality. The obvious problem for European social citizenship in a very diverse Union is that Member States will not be able or willing to bear the cost of establishing equal rights to health care and similar aspects of social citizenship. Health care is a particularly good case of this tension between EU citizenship and Member State diversity. The European Court of Justice (ECJ) strengthened the right to health care in other Member States, but this cannot create an equal right to health care when Member States are so different. In its efforts to balance a European right, the Court has formulated “rules for rights”—not so much European social citizenship rights, as a set of legal principles by which it judges the decisions of the Member States."—
De-mystification of participatory democracy: EU governance and civil society / Beate Kohler-Koch and Christine Quittkat; with Vanessa Buth and Christina Altides

304.2 CES 14/241

“The democratic legitimacy of the European Union has become an increasingly urgent issue. In searching for a way out, academics, EU institutions, and political forces advocate the involvement of civil society. The Commission’s new governance approach and the Lisbon Treaty introduced elements of participatory democracy and elevated civil society to a key actor in democratizing the EU. Does this hold upon closer scrutiny? This is the main question of the book. It investigates how the promise of civil society participation is put into practice and, based on an elaborate theoretical framework, evaluates whether the political practice deserves the quality attribute ‘participatory democracy’. The book presents the results of a large research project composed of several highly original empirical studies. The research team used various methodological approaches and generated a rich data set. The wealth of empirical insight is evaluated against clear criteria deduced from normative democratic theory.” -- Editor

Turkish-Greek relations: rapprochement, civil society and the politics of friendship / Leonidas Karakatsanis

302.4 CES 14/260

“Turkish-Greek relations are marked by a long trajectory of enmity and tension. This book sets out to explore the ‘other side’ of that history, focusing on initiatives that have promoted contact between the two societies and encouraged rapprochement. Presenting a new critical re-description of Turkish-Greek rapprochement processes over a lengthy time span (1974-2013), Turkish-Greek Relations offers innovative explanations for the emergence of the reconciliation movement. Instead of lineal continuities, the book explores different routes that these efforts for rapprochement have followed, reflected in the divergent visions for a ‘Turkish-Greek friendship’ pursued by actors as distinct as radical leftists, civil society activists, local government representatives, artists and liberal intellectuals, as well as journalists, politicians and businessmen. Drawing on political discourse theory and social anthropology, this book employs extensive archival research into Turkish and Greek sources, significant numbers of interviews with pioneers of the rapprochement movement, and an original ethnographic study, to examine the competing claims for ‘Greek-Turkish friendship’. In doing so, it is possible to assess their successes and failures, prospects and predicaments.” -- Editor

The attitudinal dimension of civility: voluntary associations and their role in France, Germany and the United States / Anaël Labigne.

304.2 CES 14/282

“The investigation at hand puts a sociological civility concept on the landscape of third sector and civil society research to address a crucial question. In its most simplified wording: does voluntary engagement actually indicate civil attitudes? In theoretical terms the attitudinal dimension of civility is grasped as a belief in the possibility of a common good. Empirically, a broad set of survey questions related to law and rights, tolerance, helping and respecting others, and questions on how decisions should be taken, are analyzed. The author has found – across France, Germany and the United States – that the response pattern towards these questions is better explained by educational effects than by the question whether or not someone is engaged in voluntary associations.” -- Editor
Civil society and policy actors in post-communist Hungary: linkages and contexts / Terry Cox & Sandor Gallai.
In: Perspectives on European politics and society 2014 v. 15, n. 1, April, p. [51]-67

“The paper seeks to contribute to the debate on the political strength or weakness of civil society in Eastern Europe by focusing directly on relations between social actors and policy-makers in the broader context of the post-communist political settlement in Hungary. Drawing on concepts from the literature on polity and governance, the paper takes the example on social policy-making in Hungary in the late 1990s and early 2000s to explore the complex relations between civil society organisations and policy-makers in successive governments’ attempts to legislate on hospital privatisation.”

Civic and Political Participation of Women and Youth in Turkey: An Examination of Perspectives of Public Authorities and NGOs / Tulin Sener

“The aim of this article is to present a review of the discourses of public authorities and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) on civic and political participation of youth and women in Turkey. Drawing on policy documents and elite interviews, this article explores the role of civil society organizations in promoting civic and political organizations in traditionally marginal groups. The article is primarily concerned with unpacking dominant discourses, as produced by public documents and official statements by both civil society organizations and policy-makers. The analysis will produce an overview of their general discursive orientations and the related legal changes and policy implementations. The article then looks at the impact of these discursive formulations to the issue of participation. What is important to note is that action plans and strategies are not always implemented in a manner that is in keeping with the original intentions of policy-makers. The review of public and civil society documents highlights serious differences in focus and coverage between the groups. It also highlights limited engagement with the actual issues of civic and political participation. While youth participation is paid limited attention, women participation is mostly associated with political representation in national and local political bodies.”

Active Citizenship in the UK: Assessing Institutional Political Strategies and Mechanisms of Civic Engagement / Cristiano Bee, Dimitra Pachi
In: Journal of Civil Society, 2014, Vol. 10, Issue 1, p. 100-117

“Shaping active citizenship, motivating civic engagement, and increasing political participation of minority groups have become some of the key political priorities in the UK since at least the end of the 1980s. Academic research shows that this shift goes hand-in-hand with a review of the integration policies in the country. The politics of integration correspond in fact to a policy response to various social problems (such as discrimination, racism, intolerance) that emerged in various areas, and represent a new political discourse regarding active citizenship. This reflects an overall strategy meant to reframe the basis for civic and political engagement and participation in Britain. Our article is thus meant to highlight the dynamics underlying the development of the concept of active citizenship in the UK by looking at the factors that intervene in its shaping and enhancement. We identify political priorities and key mechanisms of participation that enable engagement in the public sphere. This article first considers the development of the specific British discourse regarding active citizenship by taking into consideration the political priorities that emerged as part of the New Right discourse in the 1980s and then New Labour after 1997. We then refer to a set of data collected during our field work conducted in the UK between 2010 and 2011 with civil society activists and policy-makers in order to underline the meaning, practices, and feasibility of active citizenship.”
The global land grab : beyond the hype / edited by Mayke Kaag and Annelies Zoomers
63 CES 14/271

“The last two years have seen a huge amount of academic, policy-making and media interest in the increasingly contentious issue of land grabbing - the large-scale acquisition of land in the global South. It is a phenomenon against which locals seem defenceless, and one about which multilateral organizations, such as the World Bank, as well as civil-society organizations and action NGOs have become increasingly vocal. This in-depth and empirically diverse volume - taking in case studies from across Africa, Asia and Latin America - takes a step back from the hype to explore a number of key questions: Does the ‘global land grab’ actually exist? If so, what is new about it? And what, beyond the immediately visible dynamics and practices, are the real problems? A comprehensive and much-needed intervention on one of the most hotly contested but little-understood issues facing countries of the South today.” -- Editor
Willingness to pay for pesticide reduction in the EU: nothing but organic? / Pascale Bazoche

"Using experimental auctions carried out on apples in different European countries, this paper contributes to the assessment of consumer willingness to pay for the reduction of pesticides. We study several systems of good agricultural practices, possibly signalled to consumers, ranging from integrated pest management certifications to organic production methods. The results show a relatively homogeneous behaviour of European consumers and reveal that improving the information on pesticide reduction may have unintended consequences. Results also suggest that taste characteristics and reference to a protected denomination of origin should not be overlooked."

Agriculture, food and competition law: moving the borders / Philippe Chauve, Antonia Parera, An Renckens.

"The food supply chain accounts for 5 per cent of EU value added and 7 per cent of employment, bringing together the agricultural sector, the food processing and manufacturing industry, wholesale trade, and the distribution sector. Food spending represents about 15 per cent of the average EU household budget. There is no single, homogeneous, and common food supply chain at European level. The length and the degree of complexity of the food supply chains depends on the product and market characteristics."

Energies renouvelables et droit de l'Union européenne: entre marché (intérieur) et intérêt général / Carlos Manuel Alves.

"Les différents instruments législatifs de l'Union européenne relatifs aux énergies renouvelables illustrent la complexité des relations entre marché et intérêt général au sein de l'UE. Comment la puissance publique européenne articule-t-elle intérêt général et marché ? Une démarche commune unit ces différents textes européens; une démarche dialectique à vrai dire. Il s'agit tout d'abord de se servir du marché pour réaliser l'intérêt général, en l'occurrence la protection de l'environnement. Dès lors, la promotion des énergies renouvelables déclarée d'intérêt général repose en grande partie sur le marché. Néanmoins, le marché peut mal faire. Dès lors que le marché s'avère insuffisant, faillible, l'Union européenne ne va pas hésiter à intervenir pour infléchir le marché au nom de l'intérêt général."

Transnational networks and paths to EU environmental compliance: evidence from new Member States / Liliana B. Andonova and Ioana A. Tuta.

“This article examines transnational environmental networks as an important and thus far under-studied mechanism that can influence the pathways toward compliance with European Union (EU) legislation in new Member States. The argument stipulates that transnational networks, on balance, increase the capacity and political leverage of Central and Eastern European states and societal actors to activate management and enforcement paths to compliance with EU environmental norms. The theoretical framework specifies the network assets and the mechanisms through which they can support the two paths to compliance. In the empirical section, this framework is used to examine the impact of transnational environmental networks on the compliance with EU biodiversity directives in two of the most recent Member States: Bulgaria and Romania.”
Como Austria o Dinamarca: la Cataluña posible / Modest Guinjoan, Xavier Cuadras Morató, Miquel Puig

En este momento, Cataluña es un país poco competitivo, muy endeudado y con un altísimo nivel de paro. La independencia no resolvería estos problemas de forma automática, pero permitiría disponer de los recursos y los instrumentos de política económica necesarios para alcanzar el objetivo al que debe aspirar todo país: una sociedad cohesionada y próspera. Como Austria o Dinamarca, un libro que difícilmente dejará indiferentes a los interesados en el futuro de nuestra sociedad, sean o no favorables a la independencia. Su planteamiento incluye propuestas concretas sobre las que todos los dirigentes y todos los ciudadanos de Cataluña tendremos que pronunciarnos.

Partidos y élites políticas en España / Juan J. Linz

Este sexto volumen reúne una amplia selección de los numerosos trabajos de Linz sobre los partidos, las elecciones y las élites políticas españolas. Sus capítulos examinan el rendimiento de los actores e instituciones políticas bajo distintos regímenes y a lo largo de distintas épocas. En ellos se analizan los problemas planteados por la discontinuidad de la élite política y de los sistemas de partidos desde la Restauración hasta la actualidad. También se lleva a cabo, a través de una exhaustiva recopilación de datos biográficos, un riguroso retrato colectivo de la élite política, desde los diputados de la Restauración y de la Segunda República hasta los ministros, diputados y senadores de la nueva democracia. Este volumen recoge finalmente una parte significativa del Informe FOESSA de 1981, una fuente excepcional para la comprensión de los procesos políticos y electorales que contribuyeron al éxito de la transición política española.
"Unlike the large literature on "democracy and trade", there is a much smaller literature on the effect of the level of democracy in a nation on the level of its foreign direct investment (FDI) inflow. These few studies reveal mixed empirical results, and surprisingly only one study has examined bilateral FDI flows. Moreover, few of these studies use multiple governance indicators separating the "pluralism" effect of democratic institutions from the "good governance" effect, there are no studies on democratic institutions' various effects on the level of FDI relative to trade, and there are no studies of democratic institutions' various effects on the selection of countries into FDI. We focus on three contributions. First, we examine the simultaneous effects of the World Bank's (six) Worldwide Governance Indicators (WGI) - which allow separating the effects of pluralism from those of five other good governance measures - on bilateral trade, FDI and FDI relative to trade using state-of-the-art gravity specifications. Second, we find strong evidence that - after accounting for host governments' effectiveness in various roles of good governance - a higher level of pluralism as measured by the WGI's 'Voice and Accountability Index' reduces trade levels, likely by increasing the 'voice' of more protectionist less-skilled workers, but not FDI levels. Moreover, we find qualitatively different effects of other WGI - such as political stability - on trade versus FDI flows. Third, we account for firm heterogeneity alongside a large number of zeros in bilateral FDI flows using recent advances in gravity modelling. We distinguish between the (country) intensive and extensive margins and show that pluralism affects FDI inflows negatively at the intensive margin, but positively at the extensive margin."
Klassiker des europäischen Denkens : Friedens- und Europavorstellungen aus 700 Jahren europäischer Kulturgeschichte / Winfried Böttcher (Hrsg)
93 CES 14/302


Statactivisme : comment lutter avec des nombres / sous la direction de Isabelle Bruno, Emmanuel Didier, Julien Prévieux.
33 CES 14/259

« Les statistiques nous gouvernent. Argument d'autorité au service des managers, elles mettent en nombres le réel et maquillent des choix qui sont, en fait, politiques. Le parti pris de ce livre, qui rassemble les contributions de sociologues, d'artistes et de militants, procède du judo : prolonger le mouvement de l'adversaire afin de détourner sa force et la lui renvoyer en pleine face, faire de la statistique une arme critique. L'histoire de cette forme de contestation dont Luc Boltanski indique qu'elle permet de formuler des « critiques réformistes » passe d'abord par un retour sur la longue controverse sur l'indice des prix en France, présentée par Alain Desrosières. La deuxième partie du livre s'intéresse à la façon dont on rusé, individuellement et souvent secrètement, avec les règles. L'association Pénombre, composée de statisticiens critiques, y présente une fausse interview du brigadier Yvon Dérouillé, qui explique, face caméra, comment tripatouiller les statistiques de la délinquance. Mais les statistiques peuvent aussi servir à faire exister politiquement, en les rendant visibles, des catégories sociales discriminées... » -- Éditeur

Derrière les grilles : sortons du tout-évaluation / sous la direction de Barbara Cassin
65 CES 14/309

“Instrument indispensable à toute gouvernance, forgé sur le modèle des pratiques des agences de notation financière, l’évaluation a étendu son empire à tous les domaines, tous les métiers, tous les instants, tout, vraiment tout, de la naissance à la mort. Et elle n’a cessé de prouver, de toutes les manières possibles, son inopérante bêtise et sa dangerosité. Pourtant, elle n’est jamais démentie : elle promet encore plus, si l’on évalue encore… Pour comprendre ce qui ne va plus, ce qui ne doit pas continuer, il faut s’intéresser à l’outil universel de l’évaluation : les grilles. Nous, citoyens, administrés, professionnels, étouffons derrière les grilles. Il faut coute que coute entrer dans les cases. Il faut réduire chacun de nos actes à une série d’items pour qu’ils soient quantifiables, performants. Ce que nous faisons les uns et les autres n’a plus de sens : nous ne reconnaissions plus nos vies dans la représentation du monde ainsi formaté. Les grilles produisent un monde surveillé qui élimine toute inventivité, toute nouveauté, tout espace de liberté. Un monde mort… Ne restons pas plus longtemps enfermés derrière les grilles d’évaluation.” -- Éditeur
Implementation of EU policies for youth employment: a civil society perspective - Reports on missions to Greece, Croatia, Italy, Austria, Slovakia and Finland

The Observatory is carrying out a study on the implementation of EU policies for youth employment in a selection of six Member States: Austria, Croatia, Finland, Greece, Italy and Slovakia, seen from a civil society perspective.

Your Europe Your Say! - Final Report and Evaluation

The 2014 edition of the Your Europe, Your Say event by the European Economic and Social Committee brought groups of 16 and 17 year-olds from all 28 Member States to Brussels. Their main objective was to set five priorities for what Europe should do to become a better place and be more relevant to its citizens.

Access to EU finance for SMEs - what can we learn from Greece?

Although the role of SMEs in the EU economy is crucial and their well-being should be a priority for European policy-makers, they struggle with access to finance especially in the countries severely hit by the crisis. The Greek experience might and should be taken as a case study and lead to conclusions on how to improve the system for the future.
Focus: Integration of Migrants

The Children of Immigrants at School: A Comparative Look at Integration in the United States and Western Europe / edited by Richard Alba and Jennifer Holdaway.
30 CES 14/167

"The Children of Immigrants at School explores the 21st-century consequences of immigration through an examination of how the so-called second generation is faring educationally in six countries: France, Great Britain, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and the United States. In this insightful volume, Richard Alba and Jennifer Holdaway bring together a team of renowned social science researchers from around the globe to compare the educational achievements of children from low-status immigrant groups to those of mainstream populations in these countries, asking what we can learn from one system that can be usefully applied in another. Working from the results of a five-year, multi-national study, the contributors to The Children of Immigrants at School ultimately conclude that educational processes do, in fact, play a part in creating unequal status for immigrant groups in these societies. In most countries, the youth coming from the most numerous immigrant populations lag substantially behind their mainstream peers, implying that they will not be able to integrate economically and civically as traditional mainstream populations shrink. Despite this fact, the comparisons highlight features of each system that hinder the educational advance of immigrant-origin children, allowing the contributors to identify a number of policy solutions to help fix the problem. A comprehensive look at a growing global issue, The Children of Immigrants at School represents a major achievement in the fields of education and immigration studies."

Shaping Immigration News: A French-American Comparison / Rodney Benson
32 CES 14/90

"This book offers a comprehensive portrait of French and American journalists in action as they grapple with how to report and comment on one of the most important issues of our era. Drawing on interviews with leading journalists and analyses of an extensive sample of newspaper and television coverage since the early 1970s, Rodney Benson shows how the immigration debate has become increasingly focused on the dramatic, emotion-laden frames of humanitarianism and public order. In both countries, less commercialized media tend to offer the most in-depth, multi-perspective and critical news. Benson challenges classic liberalism’s assumptions about state intervention’s chilling effects on the press, suggests costs as well as benefits to the current vogue in personalized narrative news, and calls attention to journalistic practices that can help empower civil society. This book offers new theories and methods for sociologists and media scholars and fresh insights for journalists, policy makers and concerned citizens."

Immigration, Integration and the Law: The Intersection of Domestic, EU and International Legal Regimes / Cliodhna Murphy
34 CES 14/36

"The book explores the relationship between diversity, integration and law and examines the impact of EU, international human rights law and international refugee law on national laws and policies for the integration of migrants. It makes specific recommendations for the development of holistic, human-rights based approaches to integration in EU Member States."
Trapped in the lobby: Europe’s revolving doors and the Other as Xenos / Diego Acosta Arcarazo and Jacopo Martire.

"The figure of the Other stands prominently at the centre of debates concerning European social and political identity. Notwithstanding the centrality of such a notion, the figure of the Other appears as underdeveloped. Who is, theoretically speaking, the Other? And what does the proposition tell us about the way in which Europe understands itself? This article explores these questions by analysing problems in the legal framework of EU citizenship and immigration law as well as in its national implementation. This legal framework is symptomatic of a profound malaise affecting Europe. Increasingly adopting a strategy based on the principle of "revolving doors" as a means of dealing with outsiders, Europe treats the Other as a "Xenos", an alien form of life which is included yet distrusted, welcomed yet under threat of expulsion. This conception of the Other as Xenos reflects a solipsistic, static and auto-referential idea of Europe, one that ultimately prevents the formation of a pluralistic and multifaceted European identity, and endangers the European ethical and political project as a whole."--Editor.

Protection of families composed by EU citizens and third-country nationals: some suggestions to tackle reverse discrimination / Chiara Berneri.

The CJEU, both in cases concerning EU moving and EU static citizens, is now recurring to the concept of EU citizenship in order to grant or denying the right of residence of third-country national family members of EU nationals. The aim of this article is to determine whether the EU citizenship method adopted by the Court in order to grant third-country nationals' residence rights is capable of providing fair protection to family units composed of EU citizens and third-country nationals. In this article it will be shown that solving family reunification cases involving EU citizens and third-country nationals through the concept of EU citizenship can be positive and negative at the same time, being the negative side the issue of reverse discrimination. I will suggest that the best solution in order to grant better protection for families composed by EU citizens and third-country nationals would be to continue endorsing the EU citizenship approach but, at the same time, to try to solve the issue of reverse discrimination. Out of the several proposed options that could potentially solve this issue, I argue that the intervention of the European legislator over Article 20 TFEU and Directive 2004/38/EC seems to be the most desirable.

Migration and imperfect labor markets: theory and cross-country evidence from Denmark, Germany and the UK / Herbert Brücker ... [et al.].

"We investigate the labor market effects of immigration in Denmark, Germany and the UK, three countries which are characterized by considerable differences in labor market institutions and welfare states. Institutions such as collective bargaining, minimum wages, employment protection and unemployment benefits affect the way in which wages respond to labor supply shocks, and, hence, the labor market effects of immigration. We employ a wage-setting approach which assumes that wages decline with the unemployment rate, albeit imperfectly. We find that the wage and employment effects of immigration depend on wage flexibility and the composition of the labor supply shock. In Germany immigration involves only moderate wage, but large unemployment effects, since immigrants are concentrated in labor market segments with low wage flexibility. The reverse is true for the UK and Denmark."
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