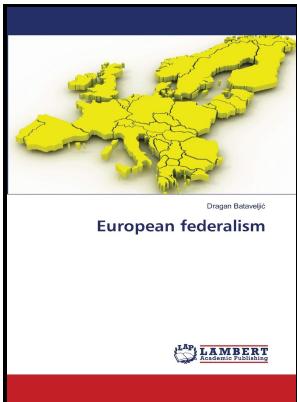


Democracy and federalism in European integration

Verlag Stämpfli+Cie AG - Portugal: 40 Years of Democracy and Integration in the European Union



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Federalism and European Disintegration

Thus, it is foreseeable that austerity will continue for a few years more. More specifically, how do EU theorists innovate or renew theoretical approaches on sovereignty, federalism and democracy? Federalism theory as a theory of regional integration was abandoned too early because, *inter alia*, it had been linked to the development of the European Community, which was in crisis from the mid-1970s till the mid-1980s.

Portugal: 40 Years of Democracy and Integration in the European Union

On April 25th, 1974, the country, led by its mid-officers-corps, tired of a war without a political solution in sight, tired of the lack of political and economic freedom, tired of large scale emigration of its youth, embraced the idea of democracy through a captains-corps military revolution, which was largely peaceful despite heavy movements of troops. It introduced a minimum wage May 1974 , which has never been as high in real terms since then.

Democracy and Federalism in the European Union

On January 1, 1986, Portugal and Spain formally joined the European Union.

Democracy and Federalism in the European Union

A brief analysis of the development of today's European Union, following the realist approach, demonstrates that, broadly speaking, a correspondence exists between threat and the integration process: In times of threat, the process of integration and federalization advances; in periods of peace and no crisis, the integration process stagnates. However, it is not clear what the relative importance of these factors is and how they are interconnected in the dynamic process of disintegration. In fact, despite the damage caused by the European Rate Mechanism ERM in the early 1990s and the growing impact of the of economic integration in specific sectors of the Portuguese economy, the fact is that the first 6 years of integration in the EU were highly favourable for Portugal.

Call for papers : Conference: Political philosophy “classics” and the European integration

The policies of the current generation of European Union leaders will make it far more difficult for future European leaders to develop new solutions for the further integration of the European Union. But little change can realistically be expected. Between 1986 and 1992, real per capita incomes increased enormously, moving from 50% to 65% of the average of 15 OECD developed economies.

Call for papers : Conference: Political philosophy “classics” and the European integration

Also, democracy could be seen as a society Tocqueville , and not only as a political entity. Philosophers very early engaged with the theme of contemporary Europe Husserl 1929, Patočka 1938 , entered the field of European studies very late.

Federalism and European Disintegration

Therefore, does it mean that sovereignty is a simple discursive feature to make politics or does sovereignty keep the footprint of a power deciding in the last resort? This perspective also enables EU scholars to draw on and contribute to a well-established literature in comparative politics, thus connecting their findings about the EU to broader academic debates. These austerity policies were implemented in a country with high levels of poverty and income inequality. At present, they constitute no more than a checklist, indicating the likelihood of European disintegration.

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