



Unity in Diversity?: The European Parliament and Its Elite After the 2004 Enlargement

By Julia Stamm

Nomos Verlagsgesellschaft, Germany, 2008. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 224 x 152 mm. Language: English Brand New Book. Within the context of the newly developing research on European actors, this book provides a micro-sociological, in-depth analysis of a specific political elite within the European institutions - the positional elite in the European Parliament (EP). Moreover, for the first time, the mutual perception of the attitudes and behavioral patterns of MEPs from older and newer member states after the 2004 enlargement is in the spotlight. Departing from a broad reception of classical and recent elite literature and based on a sound qualitative empirical investigation, *Unity in Diversity?* draws a detailed picture of the heterogeneity of this European political elite which may even help to better assess the dynamics of *laboratoire Europe* itself. The rich interview material supports the central theses of the specific figuration of a European positional elite within the EP, as well of an internal heterogeneity of this elite, despite discernable commonalities. Furthermore, the interview extracts provide most interesting insights into today's processes of the Europeanization of political elites.



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