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Developments in the European Union

Edited by

**Laura Cram
Desmond Dinan
Neill Nugent**

Selection, editorial matter and Chapters 1 and 18 © Laura Cram, Desmond Dinan and Neill Nugent 1999

Individual chapters (in order) © Fiona Hayes-Renshaw, Laura Cram, Karlheinz Neunreither, Daniel Wincott, Sonia Mazey and Jeremy Richardson, Neill Nugent, Michael Calingaert, James Mitchell and Paul McAleavey, John McCormick, Finn Laursen, Martin Holland, Emek Uçarer, Michael Baun, Desmond Dinan, Kevin Featherstone, Brigid Laffan 1999

ISBN 978-0-333-73633-3

ISBN 978-1-349-27572-4 (eBook)

DOI 10.1007/978-1-349-27572-4

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First published 1999 by
MACMILLAN PRESS LTD
Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 6XS
and London
Companies and representatives
throughout the world

ISBN 978-0-333-73632-6 hardcover

ISBN 978-0-333-73633-3 paperback

A catalogue record for this book is available
from the British Library.

This book is printed on paper suitable for recycling and
made from fully managed and sustained forest sources.

10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
08	07	06	05	04	03	02	01	00	99

Copy-edited and typeset by Povey-Edmondson
Tavistock and Rochdale, England

Published in the United States of America by
ST. MARTIN'S PRESS, INC.,
Scholarly and Reference Division
175 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10010

ISBN 978-0-312-22532-2 (cloth)

ISBN 978-0-312-22533-9 (paper)

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Preface

In keeping with the spirit and rationale of the *Developments* series, the focus of this book is on recent developments in the European Union. The background and context of developments are explained as appropriate, but they are not examined in depth.

Since the Treaty on European Union came into effect in 1993, there has been a problem with the use of the terms 'European Community' and 'European Union'. This arises from the fact that the Treaty incorporated what had formerly been called the European Community – which actually consisted of three Communities – into the European Union, and also renamed the European Economic Community, which was the most important of the three Communities, the European Community. To try to minimize confusion, the practice adopted in this book has been to use European Union wherever possible and to use European Community only when it is absolutely necessary for reasons of historical or legal accuracy.

Another, more recent, problem in writing about the EU is how to deal with the numbering of the articles of the Treaties on which the Union is based. The 1997 Treaty of Amsterdam, which came into effect in 1999, provided for a renumbering of the articles of the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty Establishing the European Community, with the consequence that numbers that had over the years become very familiar to EU practitioners and observers no longer have their former applications. For example, the rules for the conduct of external trade negotiations are no longer based on Article 113 of the European Community Treaty but rather on Article 133. Our approach is to use the new article numbers, but also to give the old numbers when it seems important or helpful to do so.

In order to help readers keep up with the constant and rapid evolution of the EU, our publishers are creating a web page for this book and related titles which will provide information on key developments – such as changes in the composition of the European Parliament and of the Commission – and links to selected other internet resources. The address is

<http://www.macmillan-press.co.uk/politics/EU>

We would like to thank all the contributors for producing what we believe to be high-quality work and for meeting deadlines. Our thanks also go to our publisher, Steven Kennedy, for his strong support and good-humoured encouragement.

Laura Cram
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List of Abbreviations

ACP	African, Caribbean and Pacific Countries
ASEAN	Association of South East Asian Nations
ASEM	Asia–Europe Meeting
BEST	Business Environment Simplification Task Force
BSE	Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy
CAP	Common Agricultural Policy
CCP	Common Commercial Policy
CDU	Christian Democratic Union (Germany)
CEECs	Central and Eastern European Countries
CEEP	European Centre of Enterprises with Public Participation
CET	Common External Tariff
CFCs	Chlorofluorocarbons
CFSP	Common Foreign and Security Policy
CIS	Customs Information System
CMEA	Council of Mutual Economic Assistance
COM	Commission Document
CoR	Committee of the Regions
COREPER	Committee of Permanent Representatives
CORINE	Coordinating Information on the Environment
CSU	Christian Social Union (Germany)
DECODE	Designing the Commission of Tomorrow
DG	Directorate General
EAGGF	European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund
EAP	Environmental Action Programme
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
EC	European Community
ECB	European Central Bank
ECJ	European Court of Justice
Ecofin	Economic and Finance Ministers
ECSC	European Coal and Steel Community
ECU	European Currency Unit
EDU	European Drugs Unit
EEA	European Economic Area <i>also</i> European Environmental Agency
EFTA	European Free Trade Association

EIB	European Investment Bank
EMI	European Monetary Institute
EMS	European Monetary System
EMU	Economic and Monetary Union
EP	European Parliament
EPC	European Political Cooperation
EPP	European People's Party
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund
ERM	Exchange Rate Mechanism
ESC	Economic and Social Committee
ESDI	European Security and Defence Identity
ESF	European Social Fund
ETF	European Training Foundation
ETUC	European Trade Union Confederation
EU	European Union
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FTA	Free Trade Agreement
GATS	General Agreement on Trade in Services
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GSP	General System of Preferences
IGC	Intergovernmental Conference
IGS	Inspectorate-General of the Services
IMPEC	EU Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law
JHA	Justice and Home Affairs
MAP	Modernization of Administration and Personnel Policy
MEP	Member of the European Parliament
Mercosur	Southern Core Common Market
MFA	Multi-Fibre Arrangements
MFN	Most Favoured Nation
NAFTA	North Atlantic Free Trade Area
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NGO	Nongovernmental Organization
NIC	Newly Independent Country
NIS	New Transatlantic Agenda
NTA	Non Tariff Barrier
NTB	Non Tariff Barrier
NTM	New Transatlantic Marketplace
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development

OJ	Official Journal of the European Communities
OPEC	Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries
PCA	Partnership and Cooperation Agreement
qmv	qualified majority vote/voting
QR	Quantitative Restriction
RECHAR	Community Initiative Programme for the Conversion of Coal Mining Areas
SEA	Single European Act
SEM	Single European Market <i>also</i> Sound and Effective Management
SLIM	Simplifying Legislation Relating to the Internal Market
TCN	Third Country National
TEC	Treaty Establishing the European Community
TEU	Treaty on European Union
T of A	Treaty of Amsterdam
TRIM	Trade-Related Investment Measure
TRIP	Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
UNICE	Union of Industrial and Employers' Confederations of Europe
US/USA	United States of America
VER	Voluntary Export Restraint
WEU	Western European Union
WTO	World Trade Organization

Map of EU member states and applicant states