

Abstracts

Morten Kelstrup

The Political System of EEC

The article discusses the use of systems theory in the study of EC's political system. A definition of EC's political system is provided and used as the core of a conceptual framework for analysis of authorities, regime and community in EC's political system and of the systems interaction with its internal and external environment. The article further presents a heuristic model of EC and its environment and discusses four different, simultaneous dynamic relationships which are supposed to decide the overall development of EC's political system. The article points to further perspectives in using systems theory in the study of European integration.

Tim Knudsen

Something will turn up! Danish State-Culture and the Eurocracy

Denmark's participation in EC has always been reluctant. This approach is in accordance with both a general reluctance in Denmark with ceding sovereignty as well as the dominant style of decision-making in the Danish consensual democracy. The Danish participation has also suffered from a happy-go-lucky style to the political and administrative consequences of the integration. However, the dominant administrative culture of EC seems to be very different from the Danish. This divergence stems at least partially from the influence of French state traditions and administrative culture on the institutions of EC.

A danger of future gaps between the Danish state-elite, leading politicians and civil servants, and large groups of the population might be the outcome of a continued neglect of questions related to the Danish deviations from the EC mainstream.

Finn Laursen

EEC as an International Actor

This article gives an overview of the European Community's effort to speak with one voice in relation to third countries. This includes both the economic areas, where the founding treaties have given the EC clear competences, and political areas, where cooperation has remained intergovernmental and based on consensus. The EC has better been able to act as a single unit in economic, especially trade policy areas, than in foreign and security policy areas, but domestic politics can also limit the EC's actor capacity in economic areas, such as the GATT Uruguay Round and in relation to Eastern Europe.

Peter Nedergaard

EEC and Democracy: The Danish Case

It is argued that democratization of EC is about democratic control rather than attempts to build up proper institutional settings in order to eliminate a democratic deficit. EC policy is far from the sphere of traditional foreign policy. However, the democratization needed in order to safeguard and improve the EC's social legitimacy can hardly be reached through the European Parliament. The reason is that the division of power in this case will be far from satisfactory and, basically, that the people is opposed to it. On the contrary, democratization consists of an improved control of the EC decision making process at the national level and at the EC level.

Niels Dalgaard

The Debate on Economic Democracy in Denmark and Sweden

The debate on economic democracy in both Denmark and Sweden had apparently the same content and roughly the same negative result. The two debates, however, show considerable differences in the justifications and contents of the original proposals in the two countries, the Danish being based on a vague argument of justice and not challenging the prerogatives of private property, the Swedish on a strong argumentation for the rights of labour and aiming at a gradual wage-earner take over of larger corporations.