

Svend Auken

The Political System and the Implementation of the European Single Market

The introduction of the programme for the European Single Market presents Denmark with a range of new demands on the political system. Denmark is ready to meet these demands, but changes in the present political system are still needed. The Danish co-ordination process needs improvement, especially in terms of the political management of the Euro-policy. The integration of trade unions and economic interest organizations to this process needs adaptation to the new conditions. The working procedures of the Danish parliament should be re-organized to meet an increased workload, and the communication with the European Parliament should be extended. Finally, the political parties should relate to an increasing trans-national Euro-policy. The current pattern of co-operation in the EC is characterized by a democratic »deficit«, that cannot be met by formal changes alone. Until the basic human issues such as peace, employment, environment and social equality take a prominent position, the essential democratic and popular interest and support will not be aroused.

Andreas P. Cornett

Regional Policies in Denmark After 1992? – Prospects and Perspectives

The implementation of the White paper plans for the completion of the internal market may have far-reaching consequences for companies and economic life in the more weakly structured areas when the remaining protection of limited markets disappears. The European Regional Development Fund has been expanded and now provides new opportunities for the economic weak EC-countries in the South. However, development also requires changes in regional economic policies of the rich countries with few ERDF-regions to avoid increasing the gap between rich and poor regions in those states. For the economic less well-developed parts of the north-western Continental countries there are some dark perspectives. After a preliminary discussion - based on a Danish case study - of expected and already observed regional consequences in different business sectors the fundamental possibilities of action are discussed for countries which may receive only limited support from the European Community's structural funds in future. The article concludes with a discussion of the regional costs and potential national benefits for these countries. Finally the need for a national regional aid policy is stressed in the light of the growing EC influence on regional development schemes.

Troels Norup Panild

Europe's Domestic Market and Integration Theory

The integration theories – the Federalism, the Functionalism, the Transactionalism, the Neo-Functionalism, the Inter- and Transgovernmentalism – have developed from normative-prescriptive theories into purely descriptive theories and have thereby become a bad means of explaining the sudden jumps in the EC-cooperation in recent years. The renewed dynamic in the EC-cooperation in recent years is described and put into a periodic division of the European integration since World War II. Three strategies seem to have been underlying the dynamic periods: a market expanding, a state interventionistic and a foreign policy strategy, and the causes of the activation of the three strategies are discussed. Finally, it is attempted to apply elements from earlier integration theory to explain the present development in the EC.