Substance and Symbolism: An Anatomy of Cooperation in the New Europe

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Abstract: How best to understand the responses of the European Community's member states to the new conditions prevailing in Europe at the end of the Cold War? The book claims that the beliefs behind symbolic agreements provide a greater understanding of European integration than a focus on the material motivations of agreements of substance. It breaks new ground by arguing that intergovernmental cooperation amongst EC states in the immediate post-Cold War period was achieved through the agreement of symbolic, yet insubstantial new policy areas. It further suggests that ten years after the end of the Cold War in Europe these symbolic agreements are becoming more substantial, this moving the focus away from material gains and towards subjective beliefs. The book covers five cases of European cooperation in the period 1989-2000: climate change policy, asylum policy, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and defence policy. All five cases indicate the move from largely symbolic to increasingly substantial intergovernmental cooperation amongst European Union member states.

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3. The European Policy Process in Comparative Perspective, Alasdair R. Young. 4. An Institutional Anatomy and Five Policy Modes, Helen Wallace. Part Two: Policies. 5. The Single Market, Alasdair R. Young. Substance and symbolism: an anatomy of cooperation in the new Europe / Ian Manners. Rush to union: understanding the European federal bargain / David McKay. At the heart of the Union: studies of the European Commission / edited by Neill Nugent. European Integration Narratives after the Nobel Peace Prize (JCMS 2016); - ‘Sociology of knowledge and production of normative power in the European Union’s external actions’ (JEI 2015); - ‘European Communion: political theory of European union’ (JEPP 2013); - ‘Symbolism in European Integration’ (CEP 2011); - ‘Global Europa: the Mythology of the European Union in World Politics’ (JCMS 2010); - ‘Another Europe is Possible: Critical Perspectives on EU.’ This collection sets a new agenda for conducting research on the EU and learns from past mistakes. In doing so it provides a state-of-the-art examination of social science research designs in EU studies while providing innovative guidelines for the advancement of more.