

ABSTRACTS

The process of institutionalising cooperation in the operative management of the EU's external borders: The creation of Frontex

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This article examines the configuration and progress made that has led – through the different treaties and programmes introduced in the European Union – to the creation of the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (AFSJ). Specifically, this examination pays particular attention to AFSJ issues linked with surveillance and control of the EU's external frontiers, which represents one of the key areas in the progress that has been made over the past two decades. Using a neo-institutional analytical perspective, the institutions are configured at the heart of this evolution from intergovernmental co-operation to the creation of a policy area or sphere of governance and even to the supranationalisation and institutionalisation of the initial activity. These processes have given rise to new institutions such as the European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union (Frontex). Thus, the final part of the article focuses on the creation of Frontex and on the debates regarding its future; the regulating of this body was in a phase of revision during Spain's Presidency of the European Union in the first half of 2010.

Key words: European Union; Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (AFSJ); Frontex

External action as innovation in Spain's immigration policy

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The design of Spain's immigration policy has been transformed since the year 2000; the concepts of change and innovation in policy are applied to examine the transformations that have happened. These transformations are explained and systematised as a reinforcing of the function of immigration prevention in parallel with an increase in dependency between functions, instruments and actors; some of the factors that define the context of innovation are identified; and the innovation is illustrated with an analysis, firstly, of the "Africa Plan", which was conceived as an immigration prevention plan, and secondly, of the improvements that have been introduced into the Spanish system of repatriation.

Key words: Spain, immigration policy, change and innovation in policy, foreign policy.

The external dimension of the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice: The case of local consular cooperation

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Since the beginning of the new millennium, local consular cooperation has become a priority on the European agenda. The new challenges (expressed in terms of security and public order through phenomena such as the increase in migration flows and international terrorism) have emphasised the strategic role played by local consular cooperation as a means to improve the integrated management of the EU's external borders. This article analyses the development and the institutional modalities of this type of cooperation that has been developed outside the borders of the EU, and questions the contribution of same to the construction of an Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (AFSJ) within the Union.

*Key words: Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (AFSJ); European Union, security,
consular cooperation, visa policy*

Evolving towards a European administration of the issues of Freedom, Security and Justice

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Building Europe is a process that, for 50 years, has been characterised by a high degree of uncertainty, guided more by pragmatism than by ideological or dogmatic factors. However, the impact of the decisions adopted at the EU level on the social and legal sphere of EU citizens is one that is unquestionable and, furthermore, increasing. Among the most important aspects of EU law that have had the greatest individual impact are the measures that comprise the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice. True citizenship of the EU necessarily involves sufficient guarantees in these three areas, and the powers of the Union have committed themselves to constituting and strengthening these guarantees. Nevertheless, the successive EU enlargements have highlighted the shortcomings in this field. The entry of new countries into the EU provides economic capacity and social and cultural wealth, but it also adds new dimensions in the area of border control and of crime prevention and limitation, thereby increasing the need for greater capacity in the areas of policing and the law. Policies require institutions in order for them to be introduced. In the field of justice, Eurojust can be considered the embryo of an EU administration in this area. This is where the tension between the national and the EU is manifested.

*Key words: European Union; Area of Freedom, Security and Justice; enlargement,
border control, immigration, Eurojust*

The process of institutionalising the EU's anti-terrorist policy

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This article applies the perspective of historical institutionalism to the empirical analysis of the motors and characteristics of the institutionalisation process of the European Union's anti-terrorist policies. Based on a theoretical model developed by Stone Sweet, Sandholtz and Fligstein, this contribution critically analyses the impact of external crises in the form of a series

of terrorist attacks on the emergence of antiterrorism as an sphere of European governance. The article also examines political developments and key institutions, studies the role of policy entrepreneurs during this period and compares the importance of “revolutionary” and “evolutionist” perspectives to our understanding of the process of institutional change in this field.

Key words: European Union, justice and home affairs, antiterrorism, institutionalisation

Building intelligence capacity during Spain's presidencies of the European Union (2002-2010)

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The development of an independent intelligence capacity within the European Union has been in progress ever since the EU was created. However, this development was slowed down for a long time by the reluctance of states to share intelligence in a scenario in which the problems appeared to be patently local; this way of thinking began to disappear following the Balkans crisis and, later on, with the September 11 attacks. This article analyses the role played by Spain in the aforementioned development during its presidencies, bearing in mind that the three deadliest terrorist attacks (New York-Madrid-London) all took place within this timeframe. The rise of the European agenda, the end of the climate of the Cold War and the realisation of the need to cooperate have all given a legal, structural and political boost to increasing cooperation in the intelligence field. This article analyses the main political changes and the legal and structural instruments developed to carry out this cooperation.

Key words: EU, Spain, intelligence, cooperation

Organised crime in the European Union: The state of the matter and institutional responses

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During the past few decades, organised crime has grown considerably as a consequence of political transformations and global economics. The countries of the European Union are very much aware of this situation, and are taking steps to coordinate strategies and boost cooperation in the fight against the problem. This article attempts, firstly, to explain the phenomenon in its present dimensions and in those facets that most affect the EU Member States. The author then goes on to tackle the aspects concerning cooperation, in all its different areas, within the sphere of the EU, before finally carrying out a prospective and proactive examination of the foreseeable evolution of the phenomenon, and the measures necessary to tackle it in all its magnitude.

Key words: European Union, organised crime, cooperation

Neoconservative foreign policy in USA: Changes, continuities and prospects

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When Barack Obama took office as president of the United States, there was a general feeling that substantial changes might take place in US foreign policy. Nevertheless, by carrying out a precise study of US power, in its position of dominance, we will end up replacing the analytical options that explain George W. Bush's foreign policy from the standpoint of its historical exceptional nature (as an immediate antecedent to be modified) through a foundation based on the underlying factors that determine it. An analysis of Bush's foreign policy, its foundations, as well as an observation of the foreign policy implemented by Obama, will enable us to draw

conclusions as to the presence of determining factors, continuities, changes and, at the same time, possible prospects.

Key words: United States, Barack Obama, foreign policy, change, continuity

Km² vs km of sovereignty in the Lebanese public space: The Shi'ite community, Hezbollah and forms of dissidence within the community territory

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An analysis of the Lebanese public space must be linked to the very configuration of its political system, either in terms of geographical space or in political or social terms. The aim of this article –which considers the case of the Shi'ite community– is to highlight, on one hand, the informal character of community public space in Lebanon, and on the other, to shed light on the role of the individual within it. The community and the public space is analysed here from a perspective that takes into consideration the cases of dissent and freedom of expression within a space which is normally excluded from public debate. The case of the Shi'ite community (and in particular of Hezbollah's space) exemplifies a specific anomaly that at the same time represents a general tendency among all Lebanese communities. Such an anomaly, especially in times of severe internal political tension, leads to an informal division of the national territory between the different Lebanese communities, which are influenced by informal communal leaders, and this makes it difficult for individuals to freely express their ideas within such a space.

Key words: Lebanon, social participation, public space, Hezbollah, Shi'ite community