

Abstracts

Det differentierede Europa. En revolution af integrationsprocessen?

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The Differentiated Europe. A Revolution of the European Integration Process?

Will more differentiation in the form of national opt-outs and enhanced cooperation constitute a negation of European cooperation, as we know it today? Could an extremely differentiated European Union survive at all? The answers to these questions depend on which type of differentiation the EU is heading towards. So far, more differentiation has essentially led to *more* rather than *less* integration. There are, however, good reasons to examine the unintended consequences of a more flexible Europe, not least in relation to the democratic challenges facing the European integration process.

Euroskepsis i Danmark – det handler om suverænitæt

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European Scepticism in Denmark – its all about sovereignty

Today, a majority of parties in the Danish Parliament proposes the soon abolition of one or more of the Danish opt-outs from the European Union. As lifting the opt-outs requires a referendum, the debaters seem to assume that the Danes are in fact willing to give up the opt-outs. This article investigates whether it is reasonable to expect that Danish EU attitudes have developed in a way that makes an abolition of the opt-outs plausible today. It addresses the question through a study of Danish euroscepticism over time as well as in relation to the four opt-outs. Euroscepticism in Denmark is generally decreasing in a number of areas; however, continued support for the opt-outs is likely to the extent that debates are framed around the issue of national sovereignty. The article concludes with a discussion of contemporary euroscepticism in the European Union as a whole.

Folkeafstemninger, vælgeradfærd og EU-forbehold

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Referendums, voting behaviour, and EU opt-outs

What will decide the pending Danish EU opt-out referendums? This article argues that voters are rational, status quo oriented, and evaluate the perceived costs and benefits related to what is actually on the ballot, and especially base their vote on the costs of voting no. Without clear and sizeable costs it might be difficult for the government to win several of the referendums.

Retsforbeholdet: et forbehold ude af kontrol?

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The Justice and Home Affairs Opt-Out: A Derogation Running Out of Control?

Since its introduction in 1992, Justice and Home Affairs has been the fastest growing policy area within the EU. Due to its opt-out in this area, Denmark is thus excluded from a still growing part of EU cooperation. On the one hand, the opt-out ensures Danish freedom to pursue an independent policy, e.g. as regards asylum and immigration. On the other hand, it is equally clear today that developments in JHA cooperation have proven the Danish JHA opt-out unyielding and thus a constraint for Denmark in other regards.

Danmark, forsvarsforbeholdet og danske kerneværdier

– foregangsland eller forbeholdsland?

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Denmark, the Defense Opt-out and Danish Core values – Model Country or Odd Man Out?

The rapid developments in the European Security and Defense Policy and in the global security environment over the last decade has had a number of unexpected and unfortunate consequences on the effects of the Danish defense opt-out. Paradoxically, although the opt-out was meant to protect Danish core values, the opt-out is in effect preventing the Danish government from pursuing a value-based foreign policy.

Euroforbeholdet.

Med bakspejlet som kompas eller en usikker fremtid som pejlemærke?

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The euro opt-out. Looking back-wards or towards an uncertain future?

After fifteen years of experience with the Danish opt-out from the euro it has not become much easier to evaluate its consequences for Denmark. There is a number of unresolved economic as well as political issues to consider in that regard. The future development of the EMU-project as well as Denmark's place in the global and European economy are partly unknown dimensions of the equation as a result of which it is fully understandable if politicians adopt a wait-and-see attitude towards the future of the opt-out.