

The European Court of Justice : the politics of judicial integration

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Title: The European Court of Justice : the politics of judicial integration

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Abstract:

This book provides a broad-ranging assessment of the Court's contribution to the integration process. It shows how the Court has taken advantage of opportunities when they have arisen in the European political process to 'constitutionalize' the founding treaties and to exert a strong influence on policy decisions. It also examines why the Court's active role has not encountered greater opposition and analyses the implications for the Court of current issues, and challenges confronting the European Union.

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The European Court of Justice is widely acknowledged to have played a fundamental role in developing the constitutional law of the EU, having been the first to establish such key doctrines as direct effect, supremacy and parallelism in external relations. Traditionally, EU scholarship has praised the role of the ECJ, with more critical perspectives being given little voice in mainstream EU studies.