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0521803810 - States and Regions in the European Union: Institutional Adaptation in Germany and Spain

Tanja A. Borzel

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## States and Regions in the European Union

### *Institutional Adaptation in Germany and Spain*

Tanja Börzel argues that the effect of Europeanization on the politics and institutions of the EU's member states depends on the degree of conflict between European and domestic norms and rules. If the differences are marked, there will be pressure on a country's institutions to adapt. The extent of this change will then depend upon the domestic framework within which the institutions operate. The book examines the relationship between the central state and regions in Germany and Spain, showing how Europeanization has served to weaken the powers of the regions. In both countries, the regions were forced to cooperate more closely with the centre, but the institutional impact in the two countries has been strikingly different. In Germany the existing cooperative federal system was reinforced, but in Spain the traditional competitive relationship between the levels of government could not continue. Europeanization has led to a significant change in the pattern of Spanish politics, turning rivalry into cooperation. This book thus presents an important analysis of the impact of Europeanization on domestic politics, and of the relationship between states and regions in particular.

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## Acknowledgements

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A colleague once told me that writing a book is like giving birth to a child. Although I do not have this experience, I have always felt that the construction of a house is a more appropriate metaphor to describe the whole process. You design a plan with the help of a series of good construction books. Once the plan is finished, you search for construction material and reliable suppliers. When you finally start building, you realize that some of your ideas are not feasible, and go back to the drawing board. But no matter how often you redesign your plan, there are always some parts that are shaky or do not fit the overall construction. The work goes slowly, and sometimes stalls, because you lack material or you have the wrong equipment. There are moments when you fear that your whole construction will collapse. But when the last brick is set and the construction holds, you realize how much you have accomplished. You can then move in.

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## Abbreviations

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AGBAR	<i>Societat General d'Aigües de Barcelona</i>
AI	Access to Information
ARE	Assembly of the Regions in Europe
Art.	Article
BAT(NEEC)	Best Available Technology (Not Entailing Excessive Costs)
<i>BGBL</i>	<i>Bundesgesetzblatt</i>
<i>BjC</i>	<i>Boletín de Jurisprudencia Constitucional</i>
<i>BOE</i>	<i>Boletín Oficial de España</i>
<i>BR-Drs.</i>	<i>Bundesrat-Drucksache</i>
<i>BT-Drs.</i>	<i>Bundestag-Drucksache</i>
<i>BVerfGE</i>	<i>Bundesverfassungsgerichtsentscheidung</i>
CA	<i>Comunidad Autónoma</i>
CCAA	<i>Comunidades Autónomas</i>
CDU	<i>Christlich Demokratische Union</i>
CE	<i>Constitución Española</i>
CiU	<i>Convergència i Unió</i>
CoR	Committee of the Regions
COREPER	<i>Comité des Représentants Permanents</i>
DG	<i>Dirección General/Directorate General</i>
DM	<i>Deutsche Mark</i> (German marks)
DMA	<i>Departament di Medi Ambient</i>
EC	European Community; also refers to the Treaty establishing the European Community as it stands after May 1, 1999
ECJ	European Court of Justice
ECSC	European Coal and Steel Community
<i>EEA-G</i>	<i>Gesetz vom 19. Dezember 1986 zur Einheitlichen Europäischen Akte vom 28. Februar 1986</i>
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment

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EMAS	Eco-Management and Audit Scheme
EMK	<i>Europaminister-Konferenz (Ständige Konferenz der Europaminister)</i>
EP	European Parliament
EU	European Union; also refers to the Treaty of the European Union
<i>EuGH</i>	<i>Europäischer Gerichtshof</i>
EUZBLG	<i>Gesetz über die Zusammenarbeit von Bund und Ländern in Angelegenheiten der Europäischen Union</i>
FCI	<i>Fondo de Compensación Interterritorial</i> (an interregional compensation fund)
FMC	<i>Federació de Municipis de Catalonia</i>
GG	<i>Grundgesetz</i> (Basic Law)
IDM	Institution Dependency Model
IGC	Intergovernmental Conference
IPPC	Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control
JPPs	Joint Plans and Programs
LOFAGE	<i>Ley de Organización y Funcionamiento de la Administración General del Estado</i>
LPA	<i>Ley del Proceso Autonómico</i>
MAP	<i>Ministerio para las Administraciones Públicas</i>
MAT	<i>Ministerio para las Administraciones Territoriales</i>
MIMA	<i>Ministerio de Medio Ambiente</i>
OJ	Official Journal of the European Communities
PNV	<i>Partido Nacionalista Vasco</i>
PP	<i>Partido Popular</i>
PSOE	<i>Partido Socialista Obrero Español</i>
<i>Rs.</i>	<i>Rechtssache</i>
SEA	Single European Act
<i>STC</i>	<i>Sentencia de Tribunal Constitucional</i>
UCD	<i>Unión del Centro Democrático</i>
<i>UIG</i>	<i>Umweltinformationsgesetz</i>
<i>UMK</i>	<i>Umweltministerkonferenz</i>
<i>UVPG</i>	<i>Umweltverträglichkeitsprüfungsgesetz</i>
UWWT	Urban Waste Water Treatment