

*The Routledge Handbook of European Security Law and Policy*. By E. Conde (Ed. In chief), Z. Yaneva and M. Scopelliti (co-editors). (Abingdon: Routledge, 2020), 444 pp.

At the crossroad of legal, political and economic studies, *The Routledge Handbook of European Security Law and Policy* approaches EU security from a holistic point of view by covering diverse perspectives: the risks to security of European citizens, states, societies and values. Here relies one of the strongest elements of the book: a comprehensive approach to a complex topic such as that of European Security could only be successfully tackled through a multidisciplinary approach. The book covers all fronts, with studies written by experts with different backgrounds in the fields of law, political sciences and economy.

The book is divided into three main Parts: a general part which sets out the conceptual framework, by focusing on the institutions, policies and mechanisms used in the framework of the security and defense policies (I); a second part which revolves around selected topics with significant impact on the daily lives of European citizens and on the management of the ‘global commons’ (II); and a third part where the authors seek to analyze the EU’s response to security challenges from perspective of its ‘human’ implications and EU fundamental principles and values.

Within Part I, chapter I, by Martinsen, focuses on the European Agenda on Security, offering a critical analysis of the international agendas of Russia, China and the United States (during the peculiar mandate of President Trump). Meško, Kozmelj and Lobnikar examine in Chapter 2 the police and prosecutorial cooperation in the European Union as a response to serious transnational crime, presenting the institutional and procedural efforts of the EU towards ensuring a high level of security through co-ordination and co-operation between police and judicial authorities. Chapter 3, by Newsome and Riddervold, is devoted to the role of EU institutions in the desing of the tools and mechanisms developed by the EU in the framework of the EU Common foreign and security policies (CFSP). The European Security Strategy 2016 is examined in Chapter 4 by García Cantalapiedra from the point of view of the complex process that led to the adoption of that document. The concept of ‘strategic autonomy’ of the European Union is the focus of the contribution of by García Pérez (Chapter 5), exploring the different interpretations and practical implications on this concept. Chapter 6 closes this first part of the book, with the analysis of Serrano Antón focusing on the impact of the budgetary decisions on EU security, examining the current reasons to increase the budged through the multiannual financial framework of 2012 and 2027.

Part II reunites the most diverse topics, starting with the analysis, in Chapter 7, by Sosvilla-Rivero and Gómez Puig, of the EU monetary and economic integration and its

security related implications, focusing in the repercussions of the sovereign debt crisis, and exploring the challenges posed by the dichotomy of competitiveness and sustainability. Morley examines in Chapter 8 the economic consequences of *Brexit* analyzing, discussing the potential impact of *Brexit* on the UK and EU economy and its effects on security. The legal aspect of financing business in the digital economy is addressed by Jiménez in Chapter 9, providing insight in the challenges that enterprises face in the digital economy as well as the risks associated with intangible property. Pérez López examines in Chapter 10 the issue of cryptocurrency and the EU's options for its regulation and Anguita Olmedo delves into the question of organized crime in the European Union in Chapter 11. The challenges of extremism and terrorism are the focus of Chapter 12 by Rodríguez Ortega. In Chapter 13, Pedrazzi examines the EU space security policy, from the point of view of the strategic and military interests in space. Teijo García offers in Chapter 14 an analysis of the EU comprehensive approach to fisheries as global commons, focusing on its related security implications. Chapter 15 then deals, with the analysis of Lázaro Touza and Gómez de Ágreda, with the topic of climate change as an emerging threat to national security, human security and ecological security. Solera Ureña examines the energy security in the EU in Chapter 16. Closing this part of the book, Wessel devotes his chapter 17 to the issue of cybersecurity and the recent developments in EU law in this field.

Turning to the human dimension of security studies, Costas Trascasas offers a critical view on the EU counterterrorism policy and its human rights implications in Chapter 18. The pressing issue of migrant and refugee children and the response of the EU to their need of protection against trafficking and exploitation is analyzed by Pérez González in Chapter 19. Proelß offers in Chapter 20 a legal and political analysis of the issues raised by maritime border control in the EU. The drug policy of the EU and its shortfalls is examined in Chapter 21 by Manjón-Cabeza Olmeda. The focus of Chapter 22, by Pascual Planchuelo, is on the role of EU observation missions in the prevention and resolution of electoral conflicts in third States. The closing chapter of Part III, by Sanahuja Perales, offers a critical evaluation of the 2016 EU Global Strategy for Foreign and Security Policy (already introduced in Chapter 4).

The great variety of topics and perspectives as well as the multidisciplinary approach make of this book a unique collection of expert essays suitable to offer a complete critical view of the multifaceted security challenges that the EU faces nowadays. The complexity of the topic and the different perspectives through which they are analysed shall however not discourage the lay reader. The conception of the book in the format of a handbook makes it all the more accessible for both the newcomer and the well-informed reader, providing insightful analysis into a complex and multifaceted topic. Covering very different fields and thematic problems, the Handbook still manages to offer in-depth analysis and reflection at an advanced academic level. This is indeed a highly recommendable reading for all those wishing to deepen their knowledge in the intricate

field of EU security law and policy, as well as for those experts already knowledgeable in the very various specific matters covered by the handbook.

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