

From Listening To Action? NMS in EU, 2010

A new book From Listening to Action? New Member States in the European Union by Darina Malová et.al. is a result of the research project "New member states' strategies in the EU: striking a new balance between intergovernmental and supranational decision-making?".

The project was conducted from January 2007 to June 2010) and supported by the Slovak Research and Development Agency under the contract No.APVV-0660-06.

Content

Chapter 1: Introduction; Chapter 2: Domestic Politics and National Preferences in the European Union; Chapter 3: A Fairy Tale with Happy Ending? The New Member States and the Eurozone Entry; Chapter 4: Security First: Energy Policy in the New Member States of the European Union; Chapter 5: Foreign and Security Policy Preferences; Chapter 6: Can't Have it Both Ways? Administrative Capacity of New Member States in European Affairs; Chapter 7: Conclusion: Political Culture and Style in the New Member States

[The book is available for free download here.](#)

New Member States' Strategies, 2007-2010

The unprecedented enlargement of the European Union to ten new countries on 1 May 2004 and the subsequent rejection of the EU Constitution and difficult ratification of the Lisbon Treaty opened up questions about the future functioning of the European Union. (Some) politicians and scholars argue Eastern enlargement influenced the nature of the EU in fundamental ways and restricted the potential for the deepening of integration. Is that true? Examination of new member states' preferences can help to answer this question.

Research Goals

1. To identify national preferences and strategies of the new member states (NMS) from Central and Eastern Europe. Preferences are defined as the „fundamental motivations underlying support or opposition? to further integration.1 States „develop strategies and bargain with one another? to realize their „preferences more efficiently than do unilateral actions.??
2. To identify policy areas in which the NMS either support further integration and are willing to pool their sovereignty the EU or tend to support intergovernmental modes of decision-making or prefer to keep the full control over their interests.
3. To determine factors those condition the priorities and the behaviour of new EU member states.

Methodology

1. Content analysis of official documents and the media to identify the most important priorities in the context of three formative events: EU accession talks (1998-2002); the Convention on the Future of Europe (Convention); the Intergovernmental Conference (IGC),
2. Semi-structured interviews with representatives of the NMS, EU institutions and „old? member states,
3. An expert survey.,
4. Patterns of voting in the Council.

Publications

[New Member States in the EU: From Listening to Action?, Executive Summary of Results](#)

[Complete list of project's publications and presentations](#)
