



The Evolution of EU Counter-Terrorism: European Security Policy after 9/11

By Raphael Bossong



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This book traces the evolution of the EU's fight against terrorism from the late 1970s until the end of the first decade after 9/11.

This historical analysis covers both EU-internal and international counterterrorism policies and features an in-depth account of the EU's reaction to the terrorist incidents in New York, Madrid and London. In the first few weeks after these incidents, the EU mobilised a complex but also incoherent set of policy measures, which significantly influenced the course of European security over the years.

From a theoretical perspective, this volume argues that context-specific factors dominated over functionalist considerations in the EU's fight against terrorism. Building on frameworks from public policy analysis, the author demonstrates that EU institutions played a critical role as policy entrepreneurs, while the many security measures were chosen on the basis of timing rather than significance. Such short-term political dynamics also explain the implementation deficits and persistent imbalances in the EU's counterterrorism policy; limitations which still hinder its fight against international terrorism.

This book will be of much interest to students of EU policy, counter-terrorism, European security, public administration, foreign policy, and IR in general.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Raphael Bossong is a Researcher at the Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy at the University of Hamburg. His research focuses on international terrorism, EU security, organisation theory and crisis management.

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