



CONTRIBUTORS

Attila Ágh, *Corvinus University (Hungary)*  
Angel Angelov, *University of Kent (UK)*  
Elena Baracani, *University of Florence (Italy)*  
Londa Esadze, *Parliament of Georgia (Georgia)*  
Sergii Glebov, *Odessa National University (Ukraine)*  
Silviu Jora, *Ritsumeikan University, Kyoto (Japan)*  
Mindaugas Jurkynas, *Vilnius University (Lithuania)*  
Liborio Mattina, *University of Trieste (Italy)*  
Jorgen Møller, *European University Institute (Italy)*  
Guido Müntel, *Queen's University of Belfast (UK)*  
Anastassia Obydenkova, *European University Institute (Italy)*  
Sharon Pardo, *Ben Gurion University of the Negev (Israel)*  
Geoffrey Pridham, *University of Bristol (UK)*  
John A. Scherpereel, *James Madison University (USA)*  
Nada Švob-Dokic, *University of Zagreb (Croatia)*

EDITOR

Roberto Di Quirico,  
*Italian Institute for Human Sciences (Italy)*

Di Quirico

Europeanisation and Democratisation

# Europeanisation and Democratisation

Institutional Adaptation, Conditionality  
and Democratisation in EU's Neighbour  
Countries

*edited by*  
Roberto Di Quirico

This book collects various essays presented at the conference "Europeanisation and Democratisation: The Southern European Experience and the Perspective for the New Member States" held in Florence, June 16-18, 2005. The editor of this book selected some of the essays discussing the relation between Europeanisation and democratisation in new member states and neighbour countries. He also tried to emphasise the comparative approach and to analyse the interaction between Europeanisation and democratisation, more precisely the role Europeanisation plays in the consolidation and orientation toward the EU model of democracy of newly admitted and neighbour countries. This comparison aims to draft a more coherent explanation for the basic puzzle of this book: why does the EU promote democracy? The starting hypothesis of the editor is that EU's pressures for democratisation aim at enlarging the European free market area and at providing stability and security inside and outside the EU borders. The promotion of democracy and the rule of law, as well as the adoption of the *acquis communautaire* and the respect for human rights, are all functional to EU's aims. The main hypothesis is that external influence does not provide a fuller explanatory model for domestic adaptation to European norms and practices in EU's neighbour countries. In other words, internal factors will shape the impact of EU action and will make it more or less influent. Moreover, the editor of this book infers that institutional adaptation for non-member states could be the equivalent of the Europeanisation impact on member states. Thus, democratisation becomes part of the "external Europeanisation" (in its meaning of institutional adaptation) and is dependent upon it.

*designed by*  
Roberto Di Quirico

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