

International Relations: A European Perspective

Mario Telò, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium

International Relations: A European Perspective presents the main schools of International Relations (IR), while underlining the added value of the European approach. Contrary to US or to East Asian points of views, a European point of view enables fostering of a critical approach to traditional cleavages. International relations theories were born in Europe (UK) one hundred years ago and were firstly developed in Europe. Even multilateral cooperation was born within the European Concert of the 19th Century. The added value of a European approach to IR is provided by the author who takes into account both shortcomings/tragedies, achievements/success stories of European history and of European current unity. Key themes include: the evolution of state sovereignty, regional cooperation between previous enemies, political impact of economic integration, regimes building, international rule setting, institutionalization of international relations, the weight of ideas and perceptions by transnational cooperation. This comprehensive assessment takes into consideration every school of international relations critically presented from this original perspective and as such makes this book an ideal textbook for courses.

Theoretical debates in IR have increasingly been dominated by American perspectives and concerns. This book is refreshing because it offers a European perspective on these debates. Mario Telò argues persuasively that the development and persistence of the European Union requires adjustments in all the leading theories of IR. His book will be required reading for all students of international politics.

Andrew Gamble, University of Cambridge, UK

Mario Telò offers quite simply the best articulation to-date of the impact of the European project on international relations theory. Not all scholars will agree with his thesis that the project really is paradigm changing. But no scholar keen to present a comprehensive theory of contemporary international politics should think they can do so without engaging with him.

Richard Higgott, University of Warwick, UK



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