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978-1-107-04321-3 - Opting Out of the European Union: Diplomacy, Sovereignty
and European Integration

Rebecca Adler-Nissen

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Opting Out of the European Union

European integration continues to deepen despite major crises and attempts to take back sovereignty. A growing number of member states are reacting to a more constraining European Union by negotiating opt-outs. This book provides the first in-depth account of how opt-outs work in practice. It examines the most controversial cases of differentiated integration: the British and Danish opt-outs from Economic and Monetary Union and European policies on borders, asylum, migration, internal security and justice. Drawing on over 100 interviews with national representatives and EU officials, the author demonstrates how representatives manage the stigma of opting out, allowing them to influence even politically sensitive areas covered by their opt-outs. Developing a political sociological approach to European integration, the book shows how everyday negotiations transform national interests into European ideals. It is usually assumed that states opt out to preserve sovereignty, but Adler-Nissen argues that national opt-outs may actually reinforce the integration process.

REBECCA ADLER-NISSEN is Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of Copenhagen. Her research focuses on international relations theory, diplomacy, sovereignty, security and European integration. She is editor of *Bourdieu in International Relations: Rethinking Key Concepts in IR* (Routledge, 2012) and co-editor of *European Integration and Postcolonial Sovereignty Games: The EU Overseas Countries and Territories* (Routledge, 2012) and *Sovereignty Games: Instrumentalizing State Sovereignty in Europe and Beyond* (Palgrave, 2008).

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Abbreviations

AFSJ	Area of Freedom, Security and Justice
ASEAN	Association of South-East Asian Nations
BEPGs	Broad Economic Policy Guidelines
COREPER	Committee of Permanent Representatives (Comité des représentants permanents)
DG ECFIN	Directorate General for Economic and Financial Affairs, European Commission
DG JLS	Directorate General for Justice, Freedom and Security, European Commission
DIIS	Danish Institute for International Studies
DKRep	Danish Permanent Representation to the European Union
DUPI	Danish Foreign Policy Institute
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
EC	European Communities
ECB	European Central Bank
ECJ	European Court of Justice
ECOFIN	Economic and Financial Affairs Council
EEA	European Economic Area
EFC	Economic and Financial Committee
EFTA	European Free Trade Association
EGW	Eurogroup Working Group
EMS	European Monetary System
EMU	Economic and Monetary Union
EP	European Parliament
EPC	Economic Policy Committee
ERM II	Exchange Rate Mechanism II
ESCB	European System of Central Banks
EU	European Union
FCO	Foreign and Commonwealth Office
FOCJ	functional, overlapping, competing jurisdictions
IGC	Intergovernmental Conference

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IR	International Relations
JHA	Justice and Home Affairs
MEP	Member of the European Parliament
Mercosur	from the Spanish <i>Mercado Común del Sur</i>
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
QMV	qualified majority voting
SGP	Stability and Growth Pact
TEC	Treaty Establishing the European Community
TEU	Treaty on European Union
UK	United Kingdom
UKRep	UK Permanent Representation to the European Union
US/USA	United States/United States of America
VAT	value-added taxation
WTO	World Trade Organization