

Call for Papers

Titel des Papers:

European Environmental Policy and the Joint-Decision Trap from Rome to Lisbon

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Abstract (300 Wörter)

From starting out as an annex to the single market, EU environmental policy has evolved into one of the EU's success stories. The EU's performance in this area contradicts institutionalist expectations that see environmental policy constrained by the joint-decision trap: the diversity of national policy legacies and economic interests should produce deadlock under quasi-unanimous decision-making. Tracing the historical evolution of the policy-area's institutional setting and its major policy decisions, the paper demonstrates that the joint-decision trap has affected the politics rather than the policies of the environment. It distinguishes three periods of EU environmental policy-making, and shows how, in each period, environmental politics was characterised by different "exit mechanisms" that facilitated change under the constraints of the joint-decision trap.

Keywords

Politikverflechtung, Europäische Integration, Umweltpolitik