The Politics of Crisis in Europe

The Politics of Crisis in Europe explores the resilience of the European Union in the face of repeated crises perceived to threaten its very existence. Although it is often observed after the fact that these crises serve as opportunities for integration, this book is the first critical analysis to suggest that we cannot fully understand the nature and severity of these crises without recognizing the role of societal reaction to events and the nature of social narratives about crisis, especially those advanced by the media. Through a close examination of the 2003 Iraq crisis, the 2005 constitutional crisis, and the 2010–12 Eurozone crisis, this book identifies a pattern across these episodes, demonstrating how narratives about crises provide the means to openly air underlying societal tensions that would otherwise remain below the surface, impeding further integration.

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