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978-0-521-68985-4 - The Rise of European Security Cooperation

Seth G. Jones

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The Rise of European Security Cooperation

One of the most striking developments in international politics today is the significant increase in security cooperation among European Union states. Seth Jones argues that this increase in cooperation, in areas such as economic sanctions, weapons production and collaboration among military forces, has occurred because of the changing structure of the international and regional systems. Since the end of the Cold War, the international system has shifted from a bipolar to a unipolar structure characterized by US dominance. This has caused EU states to cooperate in the security realm to increase their ability to project power abroad and decrease reliance on the United States. Furthermore, European leaders in the early 1990s adopted a 'binding' strategy to ensure long-term peace on the continent, suggesting that security cooperation is caused by a desire to preserve peace in Europe whilst building power abroad.

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[More information](#)

CONTENTS

<i>List of figures and tables</i>	<i>page</i> vi
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	vii
1 Introduction	1
2 Power and security cooperation	18
3 Security institutions	57
4 Economic sanctions	97
5 Arms production	136
6 Military forces	181
7 The tragedy of US–European relations	220
<i>Appendix A</i>	244
<i>Appendix B</i>	256
<i>Select Bibliography</i>	265
<i>Index</i>	295

Figures and Tables

Figures

2.1 Projecting power abroad	<i>page</i> 25
2.2 Decreasing reliance on a dominant state	29
3.1 US forces, 1950–55	68
3.2 US forces, 1958–63	75
3.3 US forces, 1968–88	80
3.4 US forces, 1989–2000	88
4.1 Number of sanctions by decade	110
5.1 Cold War defense cooperation	151
5.2 European dependence on US arms in the early Cold War	157
5.3 Post-Cold War defense cooperation	160
5.4 A400M scenario for EU military force	165
5.5 Defense sales by region	177
6.1 Options for multilateral forces	188
6.2 NATO ground forces, central Europe	196
6.3 EU political–military structure	201
6.4 Europe’s 4,000 km strategic radius	216
7.1 Support of common security policy	224
7.2 Decline in European views of the US	227
7.3 EU vs. US power	229

Tables

2.1 Summary of main arguments	54
3.1 Summary of institutions, 1945–present	93
4.1 Foreign policy sanctions by European states, 1950–2006	108
4.2 Summary of sanctions by European states, 1950–2006	109
4.3 EU sanctions against Yugoslavia, 1991–1995	124
5.1 Summary of procurement options	141
5.2 Top ten global arms-producing companies	172
7.1 CIA projections about major powers in 2015	222
7.2 Selected European technologies transferred to China	241

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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Cambridge University Press

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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