

LAW, LEGAL EXPERTISE AND EU POLICY-MAKING

This edited collection examines the changing role of the legal profession as experts in the context of European Union policy-making. Drawing on theoretical and empirical research and the idea of law as a social and political practice, this sociolegal work brings together a group of legal scholars and political scientists to investigate how lawyers, through the deployment of their expertise and knowledge, act as experts in matters of EU related policy-making at the national, European and international levels. It provides new theoretical viewpoints and untold stories from legal experts themselves, promotes an evolving definition of what constitutes legal expertise and what shapes legal experts in a time when experts are in equal measure both revered and ignored, and introduces new critical voices in the field of EU socio-legal studies.

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Law, Legal Expertise and EU Policy-Making

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Our plan to make this into a collective volume matured during a two-week writing retreat in Paris in April 2018 – the memory of which that has buoyed us up while bringing the project to completion during the pandemic! The contributions and overall plan were further developed through a conference on the subject of 'Legal Experts in Transnational Policy-Making' held at the Erik Castrén Institute of International Law and Human Rights (ECI) later that year. Antoine Buchet, Toni Malminen, Jo Shaw and Immi Tallgren took part in that conference, in addition to ourselves. Panu Minkkinen designed a poster for the event in accordance with our wishes. The conference received support from the Finnish Lawyers' Association and the UEF Law School, as well as from the Academy of Finland. The manuscript was completed in April 2020.

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