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NEWGOV

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Universität Bremen. Authors: Susanne K. Schmidt, Michael Blauburger, and Wendelmoet van den Nouland

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Summary

Europeanization is more than the implementation of and compliance with European secondary law. The article develops a broad conceptualization of Europeanization mechanisms, including Member states' responses to negative integration and highlighting the importance of legal uncertainty arising from the application of European Treaty law. Two case studies on the freedom of services and on state aid control after EU Eastern enlargement illustrate the argument. In Germany, a debate on minimum wages has emerged and bilateral talks with new Member states have been held in order to clarify the interpretation of European Treaty rules. Anticipating Commission control, the new Member states have adjusted their state aid policies to the Commission's state aid soft law which has led to a sharp decline in overall state aid levels and to a redirection of the remaining state aid.

Key Words: Europeanization, negative integration, freedom of services, state aid

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