

Table of Contents

Preface	8
1 Introduction	10
2 Context of EU's Beginnings and Long-Term Problems	12
2.1 Europe Rises from the Ashes	12
2.2 Franco-German Tandem as an Engine of Integration and Taking Turns in the Front Seat	17
2.3 Catch Up with and Surpass the United States	25
2.4 Crisis of Politics	28
2.5 Identity in European Integration	30
2.6 German Europe or European Germany?	35
2.7 European Integration = Guarantee of Peace?	40
2.8 Does European Integration Really "Integrate"?	42
2.9 Federation as the Ultimate Goal of Integration. And Then What?	46
2.10 EU Population is Ageing and Changing	52
3 Constituting Political Power in the European Union and Role of Citizens	55
3.1 About Political System in General	56
3.2 European Parliament Elections and Europarties	57
3.3 Civic Participation in Creating EU's Representation	66
3.4 Role of Citizens in European Referendums	70
3.5 European Citizens' Initiative	75
3.6 Nature and Form of EU Governance	78
3.6.1 European Commission as Initiator of Legislative Proposals	80
3.6.2 Interest Groups	81
3.6.3 Rivalry of European and National Positions	85

3.6.4	Apologetics and the “Groupthink” Syndrome	86
3.6.5	Legal Hierarchy	90
3.6.6	European Commission and Member States	91
3.6.7	Cohesion Policy – Reducing Differences and Bypassing Nation-States	93
3.6.8	Possibilities of European Commission	95
3.7	European Union and Citizens (Case Study)	98
3.8	Polemics on European Federation	101
4	Motives for European Integration – Past, Present, and Future .	106
4.1	Historical Motives for European Integration Process	106
4.2	Eurozone Crisis and Possible Consequences	112
4.3	Integration Process at the Crossroads	123
4.4	Future Motives and Challenges of European Integration ..	136
5	Final Thoughts	143
	Bibliography	150
	About the Authors	152
	Published Policy Papers	154
	Imprint	156