Contents

List of figures and tables x
Series editor's preface xi
Acknowledgements xii
List of abbreviations xiii
List of interviews xvii
Summary xix

Introduction **1**
1 Rationale for the study 1
2 The selection of policy areas: social policy and ICT policy 3
3 Methods and sources 4
4 Definition of key terms 4
5 The research agenda 5

1 Integration theory and the study of the European policy process **7**
1 Introduction 7
2 The evolution of European integration theory: the theoretical roots 7
3 Developing integration theory in the 1970s 20
4 Understanding recent constitutional developments 22
5 Understanding the European Union as a polity 25
6 Institutions, purposeful opportunism and the EU policy process 27

2 The development of European Union social policy **28**
1 Introduction 28
2 EU social policy: historical development 31
3 Learning and adaptation in the EU social policy process: the lessons of history 57
4 Conclusion: the paradoxical nature of EU social policy development 58

3 The development of European Union information and communication technology policy **61**
1 Introduction 61
2 Different conceptual lenses 63
3 The 1960s and 1970s: problems with the policy mix 69
4 Developing an institutional identity: from task force to DG 77
5 ESPRIT and RACE: towards a European technology community 79
6 Revitalising EU ICT policy in the 1980s 85
7 Maastricht and the information society 93
8 Conclusion 95

4 Policy types and policy instruments in the European Union policy process **98**
1 Introduction 98
2 EU legislation: categories and problems of definition 99
3 EU social policy: the legislative pattern 100
4 EU ICT policy: the legislative pattern 111
5 Conclusion: regulatory policy in the EU 120

5 Collective action at the EU level: implications for the integration process **123**
1 Introduction 123
2 EU social policy: the commission as catalyst to collective action 125
3 Collective action and the policy environment 132
4 Collective action in EU social policy: towards a sense of Europeanness 137
5 Business alliances in the EU ICT sector 139
6 The rationality of collective action in the ICT sector: horses for courses 148
7 Conclusion 152

6 The institutional dimension of EU policy-making: breaking down the monolith **154**
1 Introduction 154
2 'Purposeful opportunism' and policy entrepreneurship in the European Commission 155
3 Breaking down the monolith 157
4 ICT policy: dangling the carrot 158
5 EU social policy: undermining the opposition 160
6 The Commission as a 'multi-organisation' 162
7 Conclusion 166

Conclusion: institutions, purposeful opportunism and the integration process **168**
1 Introduction 168
2 Integration theory and the insights of the policy process 169
3 Institutions, agency slack and purposeful opportunism 170
4 Conclusion 176

Notes 177
Bibliography 188
Index 201