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Justice and Home Affairs in the European Union

The Development of the Third Pillar

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Book synopsis

This book attempts to provide a first comprehensive assessment of cooperation in the fields of justice and home affairs since the entry into force of the Union Treaty in November 1993. It looks at the different experiences made with intergovernmental cooperation inside and outside the «Third Pillar» of the European Union, highlights progress and deficits in central policy areas of justice and home affairs and covers key issues of the political and legal development of the institutional framework under Title VI TEU. Special parts are devoted to the present positions and possible future roles of neighbouring non-member countries and to the question of how to reform the «Third Pillar» at the Intergovernmental Conference of 1996.

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Around the same time, the European Union (EU) unveiled plans in its Tampere Programme for a more extensive legal and institutional infrastructure for internal security policies. Since then, as evidenced by the chapters presented in this book, numerous policy developments have taken place. Indeed, the agencies now operating in the EU's Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (AFSJ) are remarkable in the burgeoning scope of their activities, as well as their gradually increasing autonomy vis-à-vis the EU member states and the institutions that brought them to life. This book was published as a special report of the Justice and Home Affairs Council (JHA) is one of the configurations of the Council of the European Union and is composed of the justice and home affairs ministers of the 28 European Union member states. JHA is composed of the justice and home affairs ministers of the 28 European Union member states. While most member states send one minister for both sectors, others send one minister for justice and another for home affairs.