

Sovereignty

- It is the **right** in a (political legitimacy) to be the **ultimate authority** with a defined **territorial space** (de jure sovereignty).
- It is the ability to actually control what happens within that defined territory
- Requires the recognition of a government's right to be the ultimate authority within a given space by other states (**external recognition**).

Pooling Sovereignty

- States have to give permission to the EU to do this in the first place (via treaties)
- States in the EU have “pooled sovereignty”, meaning that they have decided to collectively make decisions with each one agreeing that the EU can make certain decisions in certain policy areas.

Intergovernmentalism

- Arrangements “whereby nation states, in situations and conditions they can control, cooperate with one another on matters of common interest”. (Nugent, 2003)
- States are free to “cooperate” or “not”, they set the level of cooperation.

Intergovernmentalism

- Neofunctionalism suggests that “integration in low politics such as economic will lead to integration in areas of high politics”
- High politics are integral to the national interest. Unless national interests coincide, integration would unlikely occurs (Nolan, 2006).
- Hoffmann, proponent of intergovernmentalism
- European integration is driven by the interests and actions of European nation states.
- National interests, defense, security matter.

Supranationalism

- Failure of the nation state at the end of WW II.
- Obsolete?
- European integration: "the process whereby political actors in several distinct nation setting are persuaded to shift their loyalties and expectations towards a new centre, whose institutions process or demand jurisdiction over the pre-existing nation states" (O'Neill, 1996).

Supranationalism

- Governance arrangements where states decide to delegate some responsibility for decision making to a body that stands above the nation state.
- “Supranationalism takes inter-state relations beyond cooperation into integration, and involves some loss of national sovereignty” (Nugent, 2003).
- Decision-making power at EU level

- EU combines both
- Decision-making: unanimity or majority voting
- Areas (intergovernmentalism): taxation, the accession of new states, and the common foreign and security policy

Principle of subsidiarity

- Maastricht Treat (1992)
- the EU can only take actions when it is most relevant for it to do so.
-this decision would be more effective if taken at the EU-level than at a national level...

- EU....a new international legal order
- Law making features of the EU!

References and Further Reading

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