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## PREFACE

The topic of this book is discourse analysis as a tool to study and understand European Union (EU) politics. The book is needed for at least two reasons: first, interest in discourse analytical approaches to EU politics has grown considerably since the late 1990s. Yet, the literature has been scattered often in the form of book chapters or journal articles. There is a need to take stock of this important research area in a book-length publication. Second, while much ground has been covered conceptually, empirically, and sometimes in terms of the development of analytical frameworks, there are still significant challenges to discourse analysis as an approach to the study of EU politics. This includes how discourse analytical approaches ‘speak’ to other types of theoretical and analytical frameworks directed at the study of EU politics, how we can further develop our research designs and ultimately improve our understanding of the EU.

This book will be of interest for students of the EU and for students with an interest in discourse analysis for the purpose of political analysis. The book offers its readers an updated and accessible account of discourse analysis as a perspective in the study of EU politics. The general approach of the book is one that appraises “open political science” (Rosamond 2008).<sup>1</sup> The topic is thus approached from a political science perspective, but with a view beyond this discipline, considering especially

<sup>1</sup>Rosamond, B. (2008). Open Political Science, Methodological Nationalism and European Union Studies. *Government and Opposition*, 43(4), 599–612.

public administration, public policy, international organisation and international affairs. The perspective of this book is also one that accentuates discourse analysis as a set of analytical frameworks and strategies with specific research purposes, rather than generic discourse theory. In that sense, the book follows the recent interest in research design in EU studies and offers guidelines for designing research strategies with the purpose of analysing discourses in EU politics. The book accordingly aims to balance conceptual, methodological and empirical analysis.

The book is the product of my interest in and work with discourse analysis as a means to study and understand EU politics. By kind permission, the book contains elaborations of my work published in *Journal of European Public Policy*, *Comparative European Politics*, *New Political Economy*, *Journal of European Integration* and with Palgrave, CABI and Hans Reitzels. I am grateful to the publishers, editors and reviewers. The research, especially as represented in Chapters 6 and 7, is kindly supported by the Danish Council for Independent Research under Collaborative Research Project Grant No. 12-125297.

In writing this book, I hope to contribute to promotion of scholarly dialogue both within discourse analytical approaches and between discourse analysis and other approaches to EU politics. I dedicate the book to Charlotte and Eigil.

Copenhagen, Denmark  
April 2019

Kennet Lynggaard

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## ABBREVIATIONS

CAP	Common Agricultural Policy
CBFSAI	Central Bank and Financial Services Authority of Ireland
CBI	Central Bank of Ireland
CDA	Critical Discourse Analysis
Commission	European Commission
Council	Council of the European Union
DG	Directorate-General
DG Environment	Directorate-General for Environment
DI	Discursive Institutionalism
DNB	Danmarks Nationalbank
EEB	European Environmental Bureau
EMU	European Monetary Union
EP	European Parliament
ETUC	European Trade Union Confederation
EU	European Union
EUP	European Union Politics
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
JCMS	Journal of Common Market Studies
JEPP	Journal of European Public Policy
MEPs	Members of the European Parliament
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
Social Platform	Platform of the European Social NGOs
TTIP	Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership
WEP	West European Politics

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