

# European Security Union

Dietrich / Pilniok

2025

ISBN 978-3-406-81045-9

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# European Security Union

Law and Policies

edited by

Jan-Hendrik Dietrich

Arne Pilniok

  
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2024



*Published by*

Verlag C.H.Beck oHG, Wilhelmstraße 9, 80801 München, Germany,  
email: [bestellung@beck.de](mailto:bestellung@beck.de)

*Co-published by*

Hart Publishing, Kemp House, Chawley Park, Cumnor Hill, Oxford, OX2 9PH, United Kingdom,  
online at: [www.hartpub.co.uk](http://www.hartpub.co.uk)

and

Nomos Verlagsgesellschaft mbH & Co. KG, Waldseestraße 3–5, 76530 Baden-Baden, Germany,  
email: [nomos@nomos.de](mailto:nomos@nomos.de)

Published in North America by Hart Publishing

An Imprint of Bloomsbury Publishing 1385 Broadway, New York, NY 10018, USA

  
beck.de  
DIE FACHBUCHHANDLUNG

ISBN 978 3 406 81045 9 (C.H.BECK)

ISBN 978 1 5099 6543 4 (HART)

ISBN 978 3 7560 1930 4 (NOMOS)

© 2024 Verlag C.H.Beck oHG,

Wilhelmstr. 9, 80801 München

Printed in Germany by

Beltz Grafische Betriebe GmbH

Am Fliegerhorst 8, 99947 Bad Langensalza

Typeset by

Reemers Publishing Services GmbH, Krefeld

Cover: Druckerei C.H.Beck Nördlingen



[chbeck.de/nachhaltig](http://chbeck.de/nachhaltig)

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## Preface

The Member States of the European Union are moving closer together in ensuring internal and external security. To achieve this goal, the EU Security Union Strategy (COM(2020) 605 final) outlines a comprehensive framework and mission statement. However, a closer examination reveals several areas that require further clarification, particularly regarding the scope and significance of Member State sovereignty. The reservation stated in the third sentence of Art. 4(2) TEU is significantly ambiguous in terms of legal interpretation. Following the recent judgments of the European Court of Justice on data retention, it remains unclear, how far the ‘sole responsibility of the Member States’ for their ‘national security’ extends and which contradictions between Member States and the European Union could arise.

Against this backdrop, an international symposium, sponsored by the European Parliament and funded by the German Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community, was held in Brussels in June 2022. The symposium provided valuable insight into the potential and limitations of European security cooperation, leading to a more substantial discussion and a clearer understanding of the constraints placed on action by both the European Union and its Member States.

The contributions in this book are based on the outcomes of the symposium. We are grateful that we were able to attract so many renowned experts from politics, academia, administrative practice and civil society as authors. The contributions first address political approaches, structures and principles of governance in the European Security Union (Parts 1 and 2). This is contrasted in the following contributions with the role of ‘national security’ as an expression of the sovereignty of the Member States (Part 3). Part 4 is dedicated to the modes and conditions of European security cooperation, whereas Part 5 emphasizes key domains for implementing the European Security Union. Part 6 explores perspectives for developing the European Security Union. In all chapters, political, social, and historical analyses are contextualized with legal discourse. The book is thus aimed at researchers of various disciplines and a broad specialist audience in the fields of national and European administration and justice.

The publication is the work of many helping hands. We would like to thank all the authors for their contribution to this project and their wonderful, patient collaboration. We are also particularly grateful to *Jutta Keller-Herder* and *Dietmar Marscholleck* from the Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community. They played a key role in making both the above-mentioned symposium and this handbook possible. Without their support, neither would have been realised. Further thanks are due to *Thomas Klich* and *Jonathon Watson* of C.H.Beck Publishers for their careful guidance and advice on this project. Finally, we would like to thank *Ute Reusch* for language editing and translations as well as our research assistants *Steffen Zanger* and *Jannik Luhm* for their organizational support of the book.

Berlin and Bielefeld  
April 2024

*Jan-Hendrik Dietrich*  
*Arne Pilniok*

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