Liberté, Egalité, Sororité: How Should France Achieve Boardroom Parité?

Widening
- Definition
- Theoretical perspectives
- Case studies
- Conclusion

Deepening
- Definition
- Theoretical perspectives
- Case studies
- Conclusion

Conclusion
- The EU's capacity for change is limited by its diversity of its membership
- Liberal integration vs. solidarity
- National interests and at the functional/cultural level
- Recommendations
- Common Political Culture — is it possible?

Does widening prevent deepening?
- Definition
- Case studies
- Conclusion

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Widening

- Definition and theoretical framework
- Widening
- Deepening
- Does widening prevent deepening?

Deepening

- Definition and theoretical framework
- Widening
- Deepening
- Does widening prevent deepening?

Conclusion

- The EU's capacity for change is limited by the diversity of its membership
- Does widening prevent deepening?
  - Liberal integration in practice: National interests are not at the forefront of decision-making
  - Growth and cohesion of EU member states (e.g., France)
  - Common Federal Culture — is this possible?

Structure

1. Definitions and theoretical framework
2. Widening
3. Deepening
4. Does widening prevent deepening?
5. Conclusion: Looking to the Future

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Structure

1) Definitions and theoretical framework
2) Widening
3) Deepening
4) Does widening constrain deepening?
5) Conclusion: Looking to the future
Questions

1) How do you see the EU moving forward from its current 'crossroads' position?

2) Do you agree with Sarkozy? Should Turkey join the EU?

3) Is further deepening possible whilst so many countries continue to join the EU?
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Widening & deepening

Widening
A “process of gradual and formal horizontal institutionalization”
- In neo-functionalism terms: ‘geographical spill-over’
- EU’s enlargement policy
  - concerns applications for EU membership

Deepening
A “process of gradual and formal vertical institutionalization”
- Striving to strengthen the links which bind member states together, increasing interconnection
  - Pursuing: deepening may encompass:
    - institution building
    - increased democratic legitimacy
    - extending EU competency areas

Theoretical perspectives

Federalism
- ‘Ever closer union among the peoples of Europe’
- must be balanced with a balanced member state and supranational power
- It is possible to balance self-rule and shared rule successfully
- It is possible to integrate all member states without assimilating their identities
- Suggests CFSP is possible?

Neo-functionalism
- Increasing interdependence may lead to a new social decision making process
- Supranational institutions facilitate a bargaining process that aggregates member states’ interests

Intergovernmentalism
- Integration between states will inevitably create pressure for further integration in accord with interests

Liberal Intergovernmentalism
- States remain the key actors within Europe
- States are able to withhold information from the EU if their national interests are served
  - states’ interests are served by ecosystem and regional groupings
- Lowest common denominator bargaining
- Distinction between high and low politics – states may allow for further integration in some areas but will always remain resistant in others

Constructivism
- Interests are socially constructed
- Is it ideas or material resources that foil further integration decisions?
- Reconstruction of identity - European citizenship
- The European Union illustrates an ongoing process of social construction
- norms, institutions, structures.
A “process of gradual and formal vertical institutionalization”

- Striving to strengthen the links which bind member states together; increasing interconnectedness

- Pursuing ‘deepening’ may encompass;
  - institution building
  - increased democratic legitimacy
  - extending EU competency areas

Widening

A “process of gradual and formal horizontal institutionalisation”

- In neo-functionalist terms; ‘geographical spillover’
- EU’s enlargement policy
  - concerns applications for EU membership

Federalism

- ‘Ever closer union among the peoples of Europe’ (Wiener et al, 2004, p 25)
- It is possible to balance self-rule and shared rule successfully
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Neo-functionalism

- Increasingly, states are no longer the only important political actors

- Supranational institutions facilitate a bargaining process that upgrades common interests
  
  (Contrast: lowest-common-denominator-bargaining under liberal intergovernmentalism)

**Spillover hypothesis:** Integration in one sector will inevitably create pressure for further integration in related sectors

**Elite socialization hypothesis:** Increasingly, elites working at the European level will begin to prioritise European interests over national interests

**International Interest Group hypothesis:** Increasingly, interest groups will recognise allies in other member states... · pan-European interest groups