



European Stories

Intellectual Debates on Europe in National Contexts

Justine Lacroix and Kalypso Nicolaidis

Oxford University Press

432 pages | 234x156mm

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About this book

European Stories is the first book of its kind in any European language. Its authors explore the many different ways 'public intellectuals' have debated Europe - the EU and its periphery - within distinct epistemological, disciplinary, ideological and above all national traditions. The chapters focus on the post-1989 era but with a view to the long history of the 'European idea' and its variants across the continent. To what extent such ideas frame the attitude of European publics is left open. But the authors assume that they matter to the European project as a whole.

While the twelve national cases have been selected for the broad range they offer, from founding to non-EU member states, they are not exhaustive as the book is meant to encourage further research. The authors of these chapters are all themselves fully immersed in their respective public spheres although generally not strongly identified with one 'camp' or another.

The expected readership is broad and interdisciplinary, ranging from political philosophy, to political science, international relations, history, sociology and the history of ideas. Beyond academia, *European Stories* is meant for all readers interested in the intellectual debates of our time.

Reviews

"This is a brilliant book. Its highly instructive chapters on how issues of European unification have been discussed from different aspects in different countries reveal in each case the strong dependence on national contexts -and the lack of mutual concern and coordination we observe in Europe even among intellectuals." - **Jürgen Habermas**

"Europe has completed the circle of its 'historical project', gradually healing the wounds and making amends for the errors of its past: Nazism and the Second World War, dictatorships in its Southern countries, Communist control of the East. Europe's great challenge now is to piece together a new identity, to arrive at a shared idea of Europe that is still missing. The volume edited by Justine Lacroix and Kalypso Nicolaidis is an invaluable contribution to moving this process forward. I urge Europeans across the continent to read and debate it." - **Pierre Rosanvallon, Collège de France**

"The European Union is one of the most mind-boggling political phenomena of our times. All over Europe, public intellectuals have slowly been rising to the challenge of assessing its significance and arguing about its future. But most of the time in their own impenetrable national bubbles. Thanks to an impressive pan-European team, this unusual volume enables us to peep through the opaque walls that separate national debates. Whether you are looking for similarities or for differences, be prepared for many surprises" - **Philippe Van Parijs, Université Catholique de Louvain and Harvard University**

"This is a remarkable attempt to capture the full polyphony, not to say cacophony, of different national, sub-national and supra-national versions of the European story, and then to find some underlying tune. It should be essential reading for anyone interested in the intellectual and political

future of the European project." - **Timothy Garton Ash, Professor of European Studies, University of Oxford**

"The trajectory of European integration is being decided not in Brussels but in 27 diverse nation-states. Their citizens view Europe in strikingly different ways. Brilliantly combining story-telling and social science, *European Stories* offers a path-breaking analysis of these disparate national visions. Indispensable for anyone who cares about Europe's future." - **Prof. Andrew Moravcsik, Director, EU Program, Princeton University**

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European Stories Intellectual Debates on Europe in National Contexts Last week there was a very interesting debate organized by the Spinelli Group in the European Parliament, which I attended together with Thomas. The debate was about the new book called "European Stories" which was edited by Justine Lacroix (Professor at Universit  Libre de Bruxelles) and Kalypso Nicolaidis (Professor of. AEGEE / European Students' Forum. 7 June 2011  . Beyond academia, European Stories is meant for all readers interested in the intellectual debates of our time. Show more. European Stories. Intellectual Debates on Europe in National Contexts. Edited by Justine Lacroix and Kalypso Nicola dis. Table of Contents. Contents Acknowledgments List of contributors European Stories: An Introduction, Justine Lacroix and Kalypso Nicola dis Part I: Themes 1: Lost in Universalization? On the Difficulty of Localizing the European

In This Review. *European Stories: Intellectual Debates on Europe in National Contexts*. By. 432 pp, Oxford University Press, USA, 2011. Purchase.Â Few Europeans are true believers in a federal ideal, and their national political identities are not converging. Each of the 27 national debates among intellectuals and commentators about the meaning of Europe remains insular and idiosyncratic. This creative volume brings together a pan-European team to present these diverse discussions and reflect on the differences and similarities among them. Unlike traditional federalist supporters of Europe (and their nationalist critics), the authors assembled here do not view the continent's ideological diversity as evidence of the EU's failur This paper about "European Public Intellectuals and Social Movements" tries to understand " throughout a comparative social, historical and political analysis " if there is any continuity in the modus operandi of intellectuals in contemporary public arena. Thus, the main purpose of this paper is to identify, if the European public intellectual of the 21st century has recovered his/her active role and legitimacy in the public domain such as the one he/she already experienced in the mid-sixties and seventies.Â *European Stories: Intellectual Debates on Europe in National Contexts*. Oxford: Oxford UP. Misztal, b. a. (2007). *European Stories* takes a new look at debates about European Integration by examining the role of "public intellectuals"--political philosophers, scholars, editorialists or writers--who contribute to framing the attitude of European publics to Europe and the EU. While there is an enormous literature on the role of intellectuals considered generally or in their distinct national contexts, there is precious little on their take on European integration in the post-war period. This book is ambitious: it aims to provide an overview of how thinking about Europe is expressed within distinct It is a Europe officially "possessed" in national fear of being "othered", politically revered for fear of being culturally relinquished. The prevalent European story among Greek public intellectuals has equated Europe with progress, identifying the country's modernization challenge with catching up with Europe. Pro-European reformist political and intellectual elites, of the centre-right and the centre-left or even the non-communist left, have thus repeatedly enlisted the EU in the service of promoting Greece's modernization.Â Public intellectuals have had a significant influence in the Greek debate on Europe, but most crucial has been the impact of political leaders.