This timely book addresses urgent questions about the external actions of the EU’s decentralized agencies and their effects, such as how they should be conceptualized and assessed, and how these agencies can and should be governed in the future. Bringing together pioneering interdisciplinary work from European legal and political scholars, the book combines theory with empirical case studies to explore an underdeveloped field and identify a future research agenda.

‘Much of the book provides excellent grist for thought on timely, relevant, and pressing topics. The chapters in parts 1 and 2 shine here for their handling of the activities of EU agencies in critical policy areas, and in the more general theme of normative EU power, which is of interest to scholars working in this area.’
Christopher L Atkinson, International Journal of Public Administration

‘In the first book ever edited about the topic, Herwig C.H. Hofmann, Ellen Vos and Merijn Chamon (eds.) explore the external action of European Union agencies and suggest paths for a future research agenda in that field. This pioneering book brings together the first results from the Academic Research Network on EU Agencies and Institutional Innovation (TARN), an initiative launched in 2015 by senior scholars from different academic institutions in Europe to promote targeted research on EU agencies in the fields of political and legal science.’
– Dolores Utrilla, EU Law Live Blog

‘This book does pioneering work. It is, of course, common knowledge that our polities depend upon ever more finely tuned regulatory support. What this book makes us aware of is the transnational follow-up to this insight. Gaining control of globalization processes will require ever more co-operation. It is high time that we explore this irresistible development, and an important step has now been taken.’
– Christian Joerges, Hertie School of Governance, Germany

‘The chapters in this book provide for a fuller understanding of the EU’s international presence, and of the various venues and fora which contribute to the external diffusion of its acquis communautaire.’
– Sandra Lavenex, University of Geneva, Switzerland