Accountability, Parliamentarism and Transparency in the EU

The Role of National Parliaments

Adam Cygan, University of Leicester, UK

Adam Cygan analyses the impact of subsidiarity monitoring upon national parliaments and to what extent this provides new opportunities for national parliaments to be engaged in, and exert influence over, the EU legislative process. While the post-Lisbon position of national parliaments may have improved, this book questions whether national parliaments can really be considered as central actors in EU affairs. The author also queries whether subsidiarity monitoring has the capacity to create a collective bloc of horizontal actors which exert effective accountability over the EU legislative process.

‘It was a great pleasure to find such a rich analysis of the role of national parliaments in the EU. What I particularly like – and what proves to be particularly fruitful – is the combination of perspectives; the EU law and national constitutional perspective – including a comparative dimension, the perspective that explains the role of national parliaments in the EU from past to present (and even near future) and last but not least, the perspective of the interaction between the legal frameworks and the political reality. There is every reason to congratulate Adam Cygan wholeheartedly on this book.’

– Ton Van Den Brink, Europa Instituut Utrecht, The Netherlands

‘One of the most outstanding specialists on the role of national parliaments in the EU has produced another impressive book about this dynamic topic. It provides an illuminating overview of current practices, it sharply analyses the legal status quo, and it brings theoretical depth to the topic in multiple perspectives.’

– Olaf Tans, Amsterdam University College, The Netherlands