Handbook of European Societies

Social Transformations in the 21st Century

European integration is one of the most ambitious and socially far-reaching developments in world politics and in world economics. Against growing opposition and despite increasing social heterogeneity, the European Union continues to expand and to acquire new competences. But to what extent is the self-proclaimed “ever closer union among the peoples of Europe” a social reality? In which ways is the political European project anchored in social developments? How does social change impact upon political integration? Societal trends in multi-cultural, multi-ethnic, multi-lingual and socially diverse Europe have never been studied systematically. Handbook of European Societies: Social Transformations in the 21st Century sets to rectify this neglect of societal developments in Europe, providing a groundwork for the sociology of European integration. The book portrays social life and social relations in the enlarged Europe, and gives a perspective on the European Union as an evolving social entity. Handbook of European Societies is a pioneering source book analyzing the current social patterns on the continent. It covers a representative selection of major topics of social concern and sociological relevance, such as Collective Action, ...

▶ Provides a comprehensive reference to the complexities of European societal transformations ▶ Contains solid and accessible information on a wide variety of social trends and processes within and across European societies ▶ Helps to understand social diversity and its consequences for EU’s political integration

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