Policy Experiments, Failures and Innovations

Beyond Accession in Central and Eastern Europe

New Horizons in Public Policy series

Edited by Agnes Batory, Central European University, Andrew Cartwright, Center for Policy Studies, Central European University, Hungary and Diane Stone, University of Canberra, Australia and University of Warwick, UK

Policy Experiments, Failures and Innovations takes a policy studies perspective in considering post-communist EU member states’ experiences since accession. The book analyses policy transfer processes and expands the new and growing sub-field of policy failure by interrogating the binary ideas of ‘failure’ and ‘success’ in the context of the Central Eastern European (CEE) transition, democratic consolidation and European Union membership.

‘Policy Experiments, Failures and Innovation breaks new ground for the understanding of policy diffusion, transfer and change in the face of Europeanisation and globalisation. The volume presents a welcome analysis of policy developments in Central and Eastern Europe since European Union accession, while tracing many reforms in a wide range of policy areas to the pre-accession period. The chapters provide fascinating accounts of experimentation, re-interpretation, indigenisation, hybridisation and policy learning in Central and Eastern Europe a quarter of a century after the end of communism and more than a decade since accession to the European Union. Combining theoretical ambition and empirical depth, this volume is essential reading for scholars, students and practitioners with an interest in public policy in Europe and beyond.’

– Jan Meyer-Sahling, University of Nottingham, UK

‘At last a book that makes sense of processes of policy diffusion and transfer in Central and Eastern European countries as they adapt to Europeanisation. Batory, Cartwright and Stone have written an invaluable contribution to our understanding of the complexities of European integration at the institutional level. Theoretically informed and empirically driven this is mandatory reading for public policy academics and analysts alike.’

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‘Bringing Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) into the EU meant transferring the EU – its laws, norms and institutions – into the CEE. Was it successful? This outstanding collection reveals a tortured tango of EU transfer and CEE response, in which a choreography of compliance is often contested, resisted or adapted to local needs and conditions. Innovative in theory, and rich in detail, the chapters provide a fresh and timely assessment of the Europeanization project, and its differing fortunes across the region.’

– Leslie A. Pal, Carleton University, Canada

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