

BOOKS RECEIVED / LIVRES REÇUS

R. ADLER-NISSEN, *Opting Out of the European Union: Diplomacy, Sovereignty and European Integration*, Cambridge University Press, 2014, 189 pp., ISBN: 978-1-107-04321-3

The objective of the European Union, “an ever-closer union among the peoples of Europe,” is increasingly at risk. In recent years, conflicting national and EU policies on immigration, the Eurozone debt crisis, and the looming possibility of the UK’s withdrawal have contributed to growing euroscepticism and swelling sentiment that the ambition of “an ever-closer union” needs to be revisited. There is one institutional factor that is often cited as being contributory to disunity that has actually helped, somewhat counter-intuitively, according to Adler-Nissen, to further the EU’s march toward solidarity: the opt-out clauses maintained by Denmark and the UK.

Adler-Nissen argues that the push for opt-outs by Denmark and the UK with respect to monetary and border policies reflect that Europe is indeed becoming increasingly integrated, and while they represent an uneasy and often contentious aspect of Danish and British membership in the EU, in fact the effects of the opt-outs on diplomatic relations are not overwhelmingly negative. Through her sociological study of diplomacy in Brussels, Adler-Nissen presents a fresh perspective on opt-outs and their effect on European integration.

*M. Read*

J. BELL / M. ELLIOTT / J.N.E. VARUHAS / P. MURRAY, *Public Law Adjudication in Common Law Systems*, Hart Publishing, United Kingdom, 2015, 390 pp., ISBN: 978-1-84946-991-3

The basis of this work is an international Public Law Conference that took place at the University of Cambridge in September 2014. The propose of the Conference and the book was to approach Public Law not from different points of view, such as EU law versus