

Chapter 1

A Theoretical Insight Into the Multi-Level Governance

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ABSTRACT

Multi-level governance has been described as an updated form of governance that began in the early 1990s. The traditional distinction between domestic and foreign politics was eliminated in the same period. This study aims at clarifying the concept of multi-level governance in both the Europeanization literature and the European Union studies. The research question is, What are the definitions, dynamics, characteristics of multi-level governance in both the Europeanization literature and the European Union studies? In methodology, it is a theoretical study that remains on literature review.

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INTRODUCTION

The concept of governance and its theoretical definition method has inspired the European Union about the assessment of this concept. The European interpretation of governance has caused the emerging a new political form in the process of the policy-making in both decision making and conducting decisions dimensions in the European Union. This political form has existed in the blurred period on the domestic and the foreign political frontiers and this new form of governance is called Multi-level Governance.

In literature, Gary Marks has first articulated the phrase multi-level governance to capture developments in European Union structural policy following Maastricht Treaty in 1992 (Bache & Flinders, 2004, p. 2). Multi-level governance is, on the one hand, pluralist structure consisted of public, private, NGO partnership, on the other hand, dispersion of hierarchy between supranational, national and sub-national levels in the decision-making process of public policy. Description of multi-level governance is an “ad-hoc” network (Marks & Hooghe, 2004, pp. 22-23) which implements decision makers as a permanent negotiation process. After constitution of the multi-level governance in European Union institutions, some functional and technical notes have been committed to paper by the official committees.

This study aims at clarifying and understanding the concept of multi-level governance in both the Europeanization literature and the European Union studies. The research question has consisted of the following question: What are the definitions, dynamics, characteristics of Multi-level Governance in both Europeanization literature and European Union studies?

In methodology, it is a theoretical study that remains on literature review. This study consist of two section. Firstly, having presented the notion of the Multi-level Governance by definition in literature and Whitepapers. Then, the author performed a conceptual analysis of Multi-level Governance in order to assess its dynamics and characteristics in Europeanisation literature.

PORTRAYAL OF THE MULTI-LEVEL GOVERNANCE

Multi-level Governance is a new conceptualizing in domestic and the European Union agenda to clarify the methods of the distribution the structural funds within the member states of European Union after the 1988 Regional Policy Reform.

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