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The New Totalitarian Temptation: Global Governance And The Crisis Of Democracy In Europe



Synopsis

What caused the eurozone debacle and the chaos in Greece? Why has Europe's migrant crisis spun out of control, over the heads of national governments? Why is Great Britain calling a vote on whether to leave the European Union? Why are established political parties declining across the continent while protest parties rise? All this is part of the whirlwind that EU elites are reaping from their efforts to create a unified Europe without meaningful accountability to average voters. *The New Totalitarian Temptation: Global Governance and the Crisis of Democracy in Europe* is a must-read if you want to understand how the European Union got to this point and what the European project fundamentally is. This is the first book to identify the essence of the EU in a utopian vision of a supranationally governed world, an aspiration to achieve universal peace through a global legal order. The ambitions of the global governancers are unlimited. They seek to transform not just the world's political order, but the social order as well; discarding basic truths about human nature and the social importance of tradition in favor of a human rights policy defined by radical autonomy and unfettered individual choice. And the global governance ideology at the heart of the EU is inherently antidemocratic. EU true believers are not swayed by the common sense of voters, nor by reality itself. Because the global governancers aim to transfer core powers of all nations to supranational organizations, the EU is on a collision course with the United States. But the utopian ideas of global governance are taking root here too, even as the European project flames into rancor and turmoil. America and Europe are still cultural cousins; we stand or fall together. The EU can yet be reformed, and a commitment to democratic sovereignty can be renewed on both sides of the Atlantic.

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Customer Reviews

Ambassador John Bolton hailed the watershed Brexit vote as the most historic event since the fall of the Berlin Wall. It was a shot across the EU's bow and heard around the world. To understand the EU and why Britain is divorcing it there's no better book than former U.S. diplomat Todd Huizinga's eminently readable "The New Totalitarian Temptation: Global Governance and the Crisis of Democracy in Europe." It's a clarion warning about one of the most consequential political movements since World War Two. The U.S., China and Brazil are nation-states. The Organization of American States is an association of sovereign nation-states. The EU lies in between. It's a supranational movement, ratchet by ratchet subsuming its member states' sovereignty. Countries joining sign up for 170 thousand pages of EU legislation supreme over national law. Huizinga describes it as a "soft utopia," contrasting it with hard-utopian antihuman ideologies of the last century such as communism and fascism. He could also have drawn a contrast with hard-utopian, supranational Islamism. Once there were notable EU nationalists like Charles DeGaulle and Maggie Thatcher. However, with each new EU treaty, law, regulation and judicial decision the integrationists gain ground. None of the EU's four presidents are popularly elected. The elected European Parliament unlike the UK Parliament or US Congress doesn't legislate and in practice is a rubber stamp for laws proposed by the executive branch, the unelected and democratically-unaccountable European Commission. When liberal-democratic national governments don't deliver what people want, they're replaced. When the EU doesn't deliver the answer is always more EU.

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