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Poster Presentation P73

AN ANALYTICAL STUDY OF THE JHA DECISION-MAKING PROCESS: THE ORGANIC STRUCTURE CURRENTLY UTILIZED IN THE POLICY AREA

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The European Union (EU) is a live organism. It constantly evolves, adapting to the changing national and global environments. For that reason, its decision-making processes are often so dynamic, contradictory, and competitive as to be difficult to comprehend. This is especially true for the Union's newest policy area: Justice and Home Affairs. The authors believe, however, that due to the insecurity prevailing in the contemporary world, this area of the Union will become increasingly more important. It will become a cornerstone of its workings.

Due to the dynamism of the system, the authors of this paper felt it appropriate to illustrate the decision-making process within the JHA area through a diagram. Using this model, the paper will discuss the history and development of the JHA area; the role EU institutions and Member States play within this field and how they interact with each other; and the theories through which one can begin to unravel these complicated webs of relations.