"Multilingualism and the Meaning of EU Law"

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A theory of meaning and interpretation of EU multilingual legal language

FACT: 24 equally authentic language versions of legislation (many texts, single norm, single meaning) PROBLEM: Unavoidable occasional divergences due to inherent limits of language and translation (intra+inter-linguistic indeterminacy)

SOLUTION: Interpretation by the CJEU, who settles the uniform meaning of EU legislation



How does multilingualism affect the meaning of EU law?

The multilingual nature of EU law originates divergences of linguistic meaning across language versions, which in turn results in the Court overstretching said linguistic meaning of certain language versions through comparison for the sake of uniformity of legal meaning



EU Institutional Analysis	Legal Theory	Interdisciplinary Theoretical Framework	Qualitative Interviews
DISCIPLINES		&METHODS	
Translation Theory	Philosophy of Language	Doctrinal Work	Case-Law Analysis

I. Multilingual Law-Making

- 1. Multilingualism in EU Law
- 2. EU Law-Making: Co-drafting?
- Role of Translation in EU Law-Making

II. Interpretation by the CJEU

- 4. Meaning of EU Legal Texts
 - 5. Multilingual Interpretive Methods at the CJEU
- 6. Quantitative-Based Qualitative Analysis of Case Law





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