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Fundamental Rights in Europe Challenges and Transformations in Comparative Perspective

Federico Fabbrini

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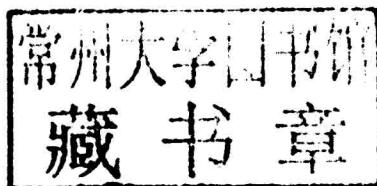
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Fundamental Rights in Europe

*Challenges and Transformations in
Comparative Perspective*

FEDERICO FABBRINI



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Series Editors' Preface

This book is simultaneously an account of the development of European Union human rights law over recent decades, and a work of comparative federalism.

Focusing on the multi-level systems of human rights protection in the EU and in the US, and on the interaction between the federal and the state levels, the author examines the dynamics at play in the emergence over time of standards of human rights protection in Europe. He suggests that problems of ineffectiveness in standards of protection may arise when the 'federal' level sets a ceiling in relation to a particular right, and that problems of inconsistency may arise where the federal level merely sets a floor, leaving individual states to develop their own standards. He suggests that a look at the practice of the United States, particularly in relation to the interaction between the state and federal levels, can be instructive for the EU going forward, particularly as its human rights system grows more complex with the accession of the EU to the European Convention on Human Rights.

Drawing on what the author terms a 'neo-federalist narrative', the substance of the book is built around four interesting comparative case studies, involving civil and political as well as socio-economic rights. The first is a study of due process standards for suspected terrorists, the second the right to vote for non-citizens, the third the right to strike, and the fourth the right to abortion.

This is a lively and readable work which sheds interesting light on the development of human rights standards in the European Union, focusing on the interplay between national, EU, and ECHR standards, and comparing these to relevantly similar developments in the United States. It should be of considerable interest to students and scholars of EU law, European human rights law, and comparative federalism.

Gráinne de Búrca
Paul Craig

Acknowledgments

This book is a revised and updated version of the PhD dissertation I defended at the Law Department of the European University Institute in Florence in June 2012. My interest in comparative law and fundamental rights dates back to my early years of research in Trento, Berkeley, Bologna, and Paris and is part of the luggage I carried with me to Tilburg Law School in the Netherlands. The four years (2008–12) I spent in Villa Schifanoia, however, provided the inspiring surroundings in which to think and write about the constitutional challenges and transformations facing the European system for the protection of fundamental rights from a comparative perspective. I would like to thank my supervisor, Miguel Poiares Maduro, as well as the other members of the jury of my PhD thesis defence, Marta Cartabia, Marise Cremona, and Vicki Jackson, for guiding, stimulating, and engaging me throughout the drafting of this work. In the course of my PhD, I had the privilege to work as the assistant to Martin Scheinin in his capacity as President of the International Association of Constitutional Law and to intern as a clerk in the chamber of Justice Sabino Cassese at the Italian Constitutional Court. Both experiences provided real-life input to my research and I am grateful to Martin and Sabino for their generosity and support. My sincere gratitude also goes to David Cole, for welcoming me to Washington D.C. for a research visit, sharing with me his knowledge on national security and human rights as well as enlisting me as the coordinator of the Research Group on “Constitutional Responses to Terrorism.” I concluded this book while at Tilburg Law School, and I wish to thank my institution and my colleagues Maurice Adams, Pierre Larouche, Randall Lesaffer, Anne Meuwese, and Corien Prins, for giving me new ideas, enthusiasm, and encouragement. This book would not have been possible if it were not for the help and advice of a number of friends and colleagues, who at any time of the day, and the year, were ready to answer my questions, comment on my drafts, or share their thoughts on a variety of issues that I faced during my research. Among many, I wish to thank Giuliano Amato, Miriam Aziz, Loïc Azoulai, Daphne Barak-Erez, Augusto Barbera, Leonard Besselink, Nicolas Cariat, Damian Chalmers, Monica Claes, Stephen Coutts, Deirdre Curtin, Giacinto della Cananea, Bruno de Witte, Akiko Ejima, Tiago Fidalgo Freitas, Michèle Finck, Tommaso Giupponi, Lech Garlicki, Kasia Granat, Daniel Halberstam, Ólaf Hanneson, Claire Kilpatrick, Eva Koundouraki, Mattias Kumm, Konrad Lachmayer, Joris Larik, Luigi Lonardo, Beppe Martinico, François-Xavier Millet, Andrea Morrone, Machteld Nijsten, Tuomas Ojanen, Nicky Owtram, Pasquale Pasquino, Ulli Petersmann, Jim Pope, Max Putzer, Siniša Rodin, Stephen Schulhofer, Robert Schütze, Martin Shapiro, Jo Shaw, Alec Stone Sweet, Diletta Tega, Roberto Toniatti, Aida Torres Pérez, Michel Troper, Maria Tzanou, Mathias Vermeulen, and Joseph H.H. Weiler. Paul Craig and Gráinne de Búrca were kind enough to accept this book into the Oxford Studies

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This book is dedicated to my family—my father Sergio, my mother Manuela, and my brother Sebastiano: for all their love, patience, and unremitting support through this journey.

Federico Fabbrini

Tilburg Law School

August 2013

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List of Abbreviations

ADRM	American Declaration of the Rights of Man
AG	Advocate General
ALI	American Law Institute
AUMF	Authorization for the Use of Military Forces
CCFSRW	Community Charter of Fundamental Social Rights of Workers
CFI	Court of First Instance
CFSP	Common Foreign and Security Policy
CPFPL	Convention on the Participation of Foreigners in Public Life at the Local Level
CSRT	Combatant Status Review Tribunal
EAW	European Arrest Warrant
EC	European Community
ECHR	European Convention on Human Rights
ECI	European Citizens' Initiative
ECJ	European Court of Justice
ECommHR	European Human Rights Commission
ECSR	European Committee of Social Rights
ECtHR	European Court of Human Rights
EEC	European Economic Community
ERA	Employment Relations Act 1999
ESC	European Social Charter
EU	European Union
GC	General Court
HRA	Human Rights Act 1998
IACommHR	Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
ICAcHR	Inter-American Court of Human Rights
ICJ	International Court of Justice
ILO	International Labour Organization
JHA	Justice and Home Affairs
NIRA	National Industrial Recovery Act
NLRA	National Labor Relations Act
NLRB	National Labor Relations Board
OFAC	Office of Foreign Assets Control
TEC	Treaty on the European Community
TEEC	Treaty on the European Economic Community
TEU	Treaty on the European Union
TFEU	Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union
TULCRA	Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992
UK	United Kingdom
UNSC	United Nations Security Council
US	United States
VRA	Voting Rights Act

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