

Table of contents

I. Introduction	7
II. The EEC: economic community and political goal - concept of »intégration fonctionnelle«	9
1. Political dimensions	9
2. Economic dimensions	11
3. Constitutional framework	11
III. The ECJ as a Community institution - structure and competences	13
1. Institutional character	13
2. Structure and organization	14
3. Art. 169 - action against Member States for failure to fulfill an obligation under the Treaties	15
4. Art. 173 - action for annulment	17
5. Art. 175 - action for failure to act	19
6. Art. 177 - preliminary references	21
a) Idea of cooperation	21
b) Essentials of cooperation	22
IV. The interpretation of Community law by the ECJ	25
1. The lacunae character of the Treaties	25
2. Lines of interpretation	25
a) Integrative pioneering	25
b) A balancing act	29
c) Community interest and disintegrative elements	30
	5

3. The effects of interpretation	30
a) Binding effect	31
b) Legal effect	32
c) »Radiation« effect	34
4. The interpretation of the Brussels Convention	35
V. Final appraisal	37
Notes	39