

FOREWORD

When the Court of Justice of the European Union decided in more and more cases on EU citizenship, this became a ‘hot topic’ in EU law. Several of these cases, like the famous *Chen* case, were even controversial and seemed to bring cases under EU law which would have been national cases before. This did not only raise questions on what EU citizenship meant but also what the influence of membership of the EU in a Member State has become on traditional ideas of citizenship. In this book, I have tried to discuss developments in ‘traditional’ citizenship within the structure of the European Union. It is therefore not meant to contain complete in-depth descriptions of all elements involved in EU law, like the free movement of persons, but rather a focus on the elements which deviate from or are in congruence with theories on citizenship rights.

While writing this book, the Treaty of Lisbon was signed and eventually ratified by all Member States. The references to Treaty provisions are therefore double: both to the Treaty of Amsterdam and to the Treaty of Lisbon. When applicable the new situation under the Treaty of Lisbon is discussed separately. In all other parts, the relevant case-law and legislation has been developed under the Treaty of Amsterdam and therefore mainly refers to this.

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