

**Analyzing the
Maastricht Treaty: A
Political Science
Perspective**

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NEOFUNCTIONALISM (Haas, 1968)

- belongs to the liberal-idealist tradition
- definition of background conditions for integration
- teleological: creation of a new political entity
- use of nonpolitical means to realise integration
- supranational entrepreneurs and non-state actors are motor behind integration
- task expansion, spillover and engrenage

INTERGOVERNMENTALISM (Hoffmann 1964)

- state as the prime actor in international relations
- state as rational actor and black box
- primacy of politics over economics
- impact of geopolitical factors
- relative power of member states matters

LIBERAL INTERGOVERNMENTALISM (Moravcsik 1998)

- EU decision process in 2 stages: domestic and interstate level
- preferences are formed at the national level; states are unitary
- national preference formation is issue specific depending on interdependence; limited role of ideological and geopolitical factors
- supranational institutions have little impact on final outcomes; (big) national governments matter most

Beyond the grand theories

- Role of other factors ?
- Role of key personalities?
- Differences amongst different policy fields and across time
- Theories as an instrument to deal with complex realities and select facts