



## Ordine internazionale e diritti umani

International Legal Order and Human Rights  
Ordenamiento Jurídico Internacional y Derechos Humanos  
Ordre juridique international et Droits de l'Homme

### EUROPEAN INTEGRATION AND THE UNITED NATIONS

The European Union is nowadays a key actor of the international diplomacy, specially in the multilateral fora. But it is quite a new reality, and during the cold war, with a divided Germany, it was impossible to have any room for a Western organization. The issues came also from inside with the different status and political priorities of Member States - UK and France being permanent members of the Security Council - and with the jockeying between representatives of the European Commission and diplomats of the State keeping the presidency to speak on behalf of « Europe ».

The entry into force of the Lisbon treaty at the end of 2009 gave a new input to the effort of the European Union to get a sui generis status in the UN, with resolution 65/276 adopted in 2011, after two years of difficult debates, in order to avoid any precedent for regional organizations. The European Union with a huge staff is now the coordinator the policies of Member states and speak on behalf of them and the Special representative for external policy gets a semestrial access to the Security Council. Nevertheless, the European Union seems more appreciated for its financial contribution to the international programs and long term commitments than for its reactivity and leadership in order to solve the urgent challenges of international peace and human security.