

# *Contents*

<i>Acknowledgements</i> .....	vii
<i>Table of Figures</i> .....	xiii
<i>List of Abbreviations</i> .....	xv
<i>Table of Cases</i> .....	xvii
<i>Table of Legislation</i> .....	xxvii

## **PART I: INTRODUCTION—A TALE OF TWO COURTS.....1**

<b>1. Setting the Scene for Accession .....</b>	<b>3</b>
I. The EU and the European Convention on Human Rights .....	3
II. Accession and Autonomy: The Research Question of this Book.....	7
III. A Caveat on Legal Definitions.....	11
<b>2. Scope of this Book.....</b>	<b>13</b>
I. A Survey of the Status Quo .....	13
II. The Shape of Things to Come.....	14
III. Conclusions and Outlook.....	16

## **PART II: THE AUTONOMY OF EUROPEAN UNION LAW VERSUS INTERNATIONAL LAW AND COURTS .....17**

<b>3. The Notion of Legal Autonomy.....</b>	<b>19</b>
I. The Legal Framework: The CJEU's Exclusive Jurisdiction .....	19
II. Accession and Autonomy: Justified Concerns or Much Ado about Nothing?.....	22
III. The Union's Legal Autonomy and International Law .....	26
<b>4. The EU and International Courts and Tribunals.....</b>	<b>31</b>
I. European Union Law at Risk: The CJEU and the EEA Court .....	32
A. CJEU Opinion 1/91 .....	32
B. Aftermath: A Question of Legal Hierarchy .....	34
II. Competing Jurisdictions: The <i>MOX Plant</i> Case.....	36
A. Factual Background and Procedures.....	37
B. The UNCLOS Arbitral Decision.....	39
C. The Judgment of the Court of Justice of the European Union.....	42
III. Legal Analysis .....	44
A. Elements of the European Union's Legal Autonomy.....	44
B. Protecting Legal Autonomy and Exclusive Jurisdiction .....	45
C. Limiting the Choice and Utilisation of International Courts.....	46
D. Constraining the Jurisdiction of International Courts and Tribunals .....	48

<b>5. A Special Case: The Court of Justice of the European Union and the European Court of Human Rights .....</b>	<b>50</b>
I. The Convention and the EU: A View from Luxembourg .....	51
A. Luxembourg's Case Law: Recourse to the Convention .....	51
B. General Principles Derived from the Convention as Part of EU Law .....	53
C. Consequences for the EU Member States .....	55
D. The Charter of Fundamental Rights: Incorporation of the Convention .....	58
II. Violations of the Convention by EU Law: The Strasbourg Perspective .....	64
A. Inescapable Obligations of the Member States.....	64
B. The <i>Bosphorus</i> Case: Strasbourg's Solange Approach .....	69
III. Opinion 2/94: Obsolete Concerns or Autonomy at Risk? A. The Statements of the Governments.....	76
B. Luxembourg's Opinion .....	79
<b>6. The EU, International Law and International Courts: An Anticipating Assessment for Accession.....</b>	<b>82</b>
I. Lessons of the Past .....	82
II. Questions for the Future .....	85
<b>PART III: THE ROAD FROM LUXEMBOURG TO STRASBOURG: RECONCILING ACCESSION AND AUTONOMY.....</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>7. The Status of the Accession Agreement and the Convention after Accession .....</b>	<b>89</b>
I. The Legal Basis: Article 218 TFEU and the Court of Justice .....	89
II. The Need for an Accession Agreement .....	91
A. Preserving the Convention System.....	91
B. Scope of Accession and Amendments to the Convention.....	93
III. The Status of the Convention and the Agreement in EU Law.....	97
A. The Status of International Agreements within Union Law .....	97
B. The Convention as Part of Primary Law? .....	99
C. Legal Consequences of the Convention's Mezzanine Status .....	102
IV. Interim Conclusions .....	110
<b>8. External Review by Strasbourg: A Hierarchy of Courts?.....</b>	<b>113</b>
I. External Review vs Autonomy: The Legal Issue Situated.....	113
II. A Binding Interpretation of Union Law by Strasbourg?.....	114
A. Assessing Domestic Law under the Convention.....	114
B. European Union Law as 'Domestic Law'.....	118
C. Ramifications for the European Union's Legal Autonomy .....	121
III. European Union Law in Violation of the Convention .....	125
A. The EU's 'Constitutional' Foundation: Primary Law .....	125
B. European Union Legislation: Secondary Law.....	132
IV. Interim Conclusions .....	135

<b>9. Individual Applications after Accession: Introducing the Co-Respondent Mechanism .....</b>	<b>138</b>
I. Individual Applications: Core of the Convention .....	138
II. Identifying the Right Respondent after Accession.....	139
A. The Problem Located: Who is the Appropriate Addressee? .....	139
B. The Applicant: An Average Person without Legal Education .....	142
C. Designating the Right Respondent: Risks to the Union's Autonomy .....	143
D. Solutions Based on the Present Convention System .....	144
E. The Co-Respondent Model .....	148
III. Interim Conclusions.....	171
<b>10. Inter-Party Cases after Accession .....</b>	<b>174</b>
I. Inter-State Cases: A Reminiscence of Westphalia .....	174
II. The Internal Dimension: Luxembourg versus Strasbourg.....	175
A. An Encounter of Exclusive Jurisdiction .....	176
B. Exclusion of Inter-State Cases? .....	182
C. The Legal Framework: Articles 4 and 5 of the Draft Accession Agreement.....	184
D. The Locus Standi of the Parties after Accession .....	189
III. The External Dimension: The European Union as a Human Rights Litigator in Europe? .....	197
A. The European Union's External Human Rights Policy and Accession .....	197
B. A Question of Competence .....	198
C. Conclusion.....	205
IV. Interim Conclusions .....	206
<b>11. The Exhaustion of Domestic Remedies and the Prior Involvement of the Luxembourg Court.....</b>	<b>209</b>
I. The 'Exhaustion Rule' after Accession.....	209
II. Direct and Indirect Actions .....	211
A. Direct Actions against EU Acts: The European Union as Respondent.....	212
B. Indirect Actions against EU Acts: The Member States as Respondents .....	222
III. The Solution of the Draft Accession Agreement .....	234
A. Preliminary Remarks on the Necessity of Internal Union Review .....	234
B. Article 3 (6) of the Draft Accession Agreement and the Autonomy Question .....	235
IV. Interim Conclusions .....	251
<b>PART IV: CONCLUSIONS AND OUTLOOK.....</b>	<b>257</b>
<b>12. The Analytical Point of Departure: Revisiting and Answering the Research Question .....</b>	<b>259</b>

<b>13. The Prerequisites and Consequences of Accession: A Summary of Findings .....</b>	<b>261</b>
I. The Importance of the Autonomy Principle.....	261
A. Luxembourg's Sceptical View on International Law.....	261
B. Luxembourg's Distaste for other International Courts .....	261
C. Luxembourg and Strasbourg: A Cooperative Rivalry.....	263
II. Legal Interfaces between Accession and Autonomy.....	264
A. The Legal Hierarchy of European Union Law, the Convention and the Accession Agreement.....	264
B. Strasbourg's External Review of European Union Law .....	266
C. Individual Applications: The Co-Respondent Mechanism .....	268
D. The Future of Inter-Party Cases.....	270
E. Luxembourg's Prior Involvement: New Procedural Routes .....	272
<b>14. Outlook and Future Perspectives .....</b>	<b>278</b>
<i>Appendix: Draft Accession Agreement and Explanatory Report.....</i>	281
<i>Bibliography and References .....</i>	312
<i>Index .....</i>	330