

This new Handbook brings together key experts on European security from the academic and policy worlds to examine the European Union (EU) as an international security actor.

In the two decades since the end of the Cold War, the EU has gradually emerged as an autonomous actor in the field of security, aiming to safeguard European security by improving global security. However, the EU's development as a security actor has certainly not remained uncontested, either by academics or by policy-makers, some of whom see the rise of the EU as a threat to their national and/or transatlantic policy outlook.

While the focus of this volume is on the politico-military dimension, security is also put into the context of the holistic approach advocated by the EU. The book is organized into four key sections:

Part I: The EU as an international security actor

Part II: Institutions, instruments and means

Part III: Policies

Part IV: Partners.

This Handbook will be of great interest to students of European security, the EU, European politics, security studies and IR in general.

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