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Abstract

Few systematic comparative studies of European university organisations have been done so far. The chapter seeks to shed light on three questions: (1) Through what forms of organisational structures do universities make decisions? (2) To what extent do such forms vary across European universities? (3) How can the observed variation (or lack thereof) be explained? It develops a comparative organisational perspective and applies it in an analysis of decision-making structures in 26 European universities in eight countries focusing on two dimensions of decision-making in universities—engagement and decentralisation. The chapter investigates how pressures for reform in university governance are mediated by path dependencies created by political-administrative regimes and traditions which open up for and constrain internal governance and engagement processes. (HRK

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