BETWEEN RATIONALITY AND SOLIDARITY: WHAT INCENTIVES FOR A SUSTAINABLE DUBLIN SYSTEM?

Costanza PIERDONATI
Supervisor: Martin Westlake

Abstract

The present dissertation will try to answer the following research question: *insofar as both the Member States and the asylum seekers behave as rational actors, maximising their respective utilities, what policy changes should be introduced in order to enhance the efficiency and sustainability of the Dublin system?* The European Commission’s reform proposal for Dublin III will be assessed in the light of relevant academic literature and through the advice of expert practitioners that were consulted during interviews. With no presumption of being exhaustive on the matter, it will be argued that a policy change should include market-based mechanisms to a greater extent, and that agency motives of both asylum seekers and Member States *can* and *need* to be taken into account.