



Cannizzaro Enzo (2017). *Il diritto dell'integrazione europea. L'ordinamento dell'Unione* [The Law of the European Integration. The legislation of the Union]. Torino: G. Giappichelli, 420 pp.

This volume intend to contribute to the knowledge of a phenomenon that seems to challenge each of our conceptual categories and which, even in the analysis of its complex technical nodes, transmits an incomparable intellectual charm.

In a political world dominated by the sovereign state, the European integration seems to postulate the existence of new forms of organization, lacking the characters of unity and absoluteness that characterize sovereignty.

In a juridical world dominated by the concept of legal system, the exclusive source of the juridical nature of its norms, European integration challenges the existence of a plurality of systems that contribute to regulate social factors.

The process of European integration seems a sort of experiment of "anticipation" of history, which tends to precede and condition the evolution of social customs. It carries with it the intellectual charm of a living social laboratory, but also the inherent risk of failure.

Alongside this vision – and perhaps in opposition to it – there is however a different, and equally evocative, vision which tends rather to emphasize the aspects of the experience of integration with respect to the usual models. This vision is based not so much on the external aspects that emerge from the European construction, but rather on its actual modes of functioning, which seem to reconstruct the European experience as a sort of prosecution of history "by other means". The concepts of state, sovereignty, national community, legal system, humiliated in the most innovative conceptions of integration, would then re-emerge in the real analysis of the political and juridical processes of European integration.

This vision, which can be indicated as "realist", therefore requires a more accurate analysis of the real mechanisms through which the process of European integration is realized. Ultimately, it tends to look at the process of integration as a complex and sophisticated experience of international cooperation, in which the Member States, the true protagonists of the process of integration, ensure through the Union the government of the own territorial community. The study of European Union law would therefore consist in the analysis of the modalities of "outsourcing" of certain functions, which the Member States exercise through the Union, constantly keeping control of the decision-making process. Through these forms of control, ultimately, the national communities, their forms of political organization, their legal systems, would retain their identity in the process of integration.