

Contents

<i>List of illustrations</i>	xii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xiv
<i>List of abbreviations</i>	xv
PART I	
Introduction and background	1
1 Bureaucratic decision-making in the Council	3
<i>Contributions of the study</i>	4
<i>Research approach and methods</i>	6
<i>Plan of the book</i>	10
2 The Council's committee system	12
<i>Council committees in EU legislative decision-making</i>	13
<i>The organisational structure</i>	18
<i>Long-term trends in Council committee activity</i>	24
<i>The role, organisation and activities of Council committees</i>	29
3 Existing research on Council decision-making	31
<i>The extent of committee decision-making</i>	32
<i>Committee communication and co-operation patterns</i>	35
<i>Committee member socialisation</i>	36
<i>Committee interaction styles</i>	38
<i>Policy outcomes of Council decision-making</i>	39
<i>Process characteristics of Council decision-making</i>	40
<i>Summary of the literature review</i>	41

4	Theoretical perspectives on committee decision-making	43
	<i>Preferences, institutions and policy stability</i>	44
	<i>Committee socialisation</i>	49
	<i>Policy uncertainty, salience and delegation</i>	54
	<i>The theoretical arguments in brief</i>	59
 PART II		
	Quantitative analysis	63
5	Sample selection	65
	<i>Selection criteria</i>	65
	<i>Selection procedure</i>	67
6	Describing the extent of committee decision-making	70
	<i>Measuring committee decision-making</i>	70
	<i>Results of the descriptive analysis</i>	72
7	Explaining the variation in committee decision-making	75
	<i>Operationalisation of variables</i>	75
	<i>Results of the statistical analysis</i>	80
	<i>Summary and discussion</i>	86
 PART III		
	Qualitative analysis	89
8	Methodological issues	91
	<i>The complementarity of quantitative and qualitative research</i>	91
	<i>Advantages and disadvantages of a nested design</i>	92
	<i>Case selection criteria</i>	94
	<i>Data sources and collection</i>	98
9	Agriculture	103
	<i>Geographical Indications Regulation</i>	104
	<i>Leaf Tobacco Regulation</i>	113
	<i>Comparative analysis</i>	121
	<i>Appendix: development of individual negotiation issues</i>	127

10 Environment	130
<i>Ambient Air Directive</i>	131
<i>Batteries Directive</i>	138
<i>Comparative analysis</i>	150
<i>Appendix: development of individual negotiation issues</i>	157
11 Economic and Financial Affairs	162
<i>Parent-Subsidiary Directive</i>	164
<i>Mergers Directive</i>	172
<i>Comparative analysis</i>	180
<i>Appendix: development of individual negotiation issues</i>	187
12 Summary and between-sector comparison	189
<i>Summary of the within-sector comparisons</i>	189
<i>Between-sector comparison</i>	192
PART IV	
Synthesis and conclusion	197
13 Discussion of research results and theory building	199
<i>Synthesis of the quantitative and qualitative research findings</i>	200
<i>Towards a procedural theory of Council decision-making</i>	206
14 Conclusion	208
<i>The legitimacy of Council decision-making</i>	208
<i>Challenges for future research</i>	209
<i>References</i>	213
<i>Index</i>	220