

Contents

Preface	11
CHAPTER 1. Introduction	13
Constitutional Debates	13
Talking Europe, Doing Europe	17
Theoretical and Methodological Approach.....	21
Outline of the Book.....	23
CHAPTER 2. The Convention and the EU's Constitutional Agenda	27
From Institutional Reform to Constitutional Debates	27
Convening a Convention: Set-up, Forums and Actors.....	32
The Draft Constitutional Treaty and its Further Fate.....	42
CHAPTER 3. Researching the European Convention	47
Towards the Ethnographic Approach	47
Conducting Fieldwork at the European Convention.....	50
Ethnographic Observations of the Plenary Sessions of the European Convention	54
(Semi-Structured) Interviews	60
Other Spaces, Genres and Methods of Data-Collection.....	64
CHAPTER 4. From Listening to Consensus: Elements of the Convention Method	67
Introduction.....	67
A Processual and Constructionist Approach.....	68
The Hardware.....	70
The Software	80
The Process	92
Conclusions.....	99

CHAPTER 5. The Meaning(s) of the Convention Experience: Constitutionalism and the Contested Political Imagination	103
Constitutionalism and Political Meaning.....	103
Debating Fundamentals and the Communitarian Imagination	106
Bringing the Union Closer to its Citizens and the Democratic Imagination	109
Consolidating the Treaties and the Technocratic Imagination.....	112
Intergovernmentalism and the Statist Imagination.....	114
Elite Integration and the Post-Statist Imagination	117
Conclusions.....	119
CHAPTER 6. The EU-Convention, Its Discourse and the Recent EU/Europe Conceptual Puzzle	123
Europe = EU or Europe ≠ EU: A Conceptual Puzzle for the New Millennium?	123
The Reconceptualisation of Europe/EU and the European Convention	127
Aims of the Analysis	129
Dimensions of Analysis	132
Categories of Analysis	139
CHAPTER 7. Constructions of Europe and/or EU in the Discourse of Members of the European Convention: Analysis	145
Visions and Conceptions of Convergence between Europe and EU.....	145
Visions and Conceptions of Divergence between Europe and EU.....	168
CHAPTER 8. The Discursive Struggle over Europe/EU in the European Convention	189
Constructing Europe/EU in the Discourse of Members of the European Convention	189
Convention Discourse and the Europe/EU Conceptual Puzzle.....	199

AFTERWORD. “What Now?” – Some Reflections on the European Convention and its Implications	203
<i>Ruth Wodak</i>	
Observing Politics	203
Investigating Political Organisations	204
Discourses on Politics and Political Communication: Discussing the Genre of a Constitution.....	206
The Backstage of Politics – the Habitus of Politicians	210
(Future) Perspectives?.....	212
APPENDIX I. Interview Coding Symbols	217
APPENDIX II. Exemplary Interview Guidelines	219
APPENDIX III. Original Language Versions of Examples from Semi-Structured Interviews.....	225
References	231