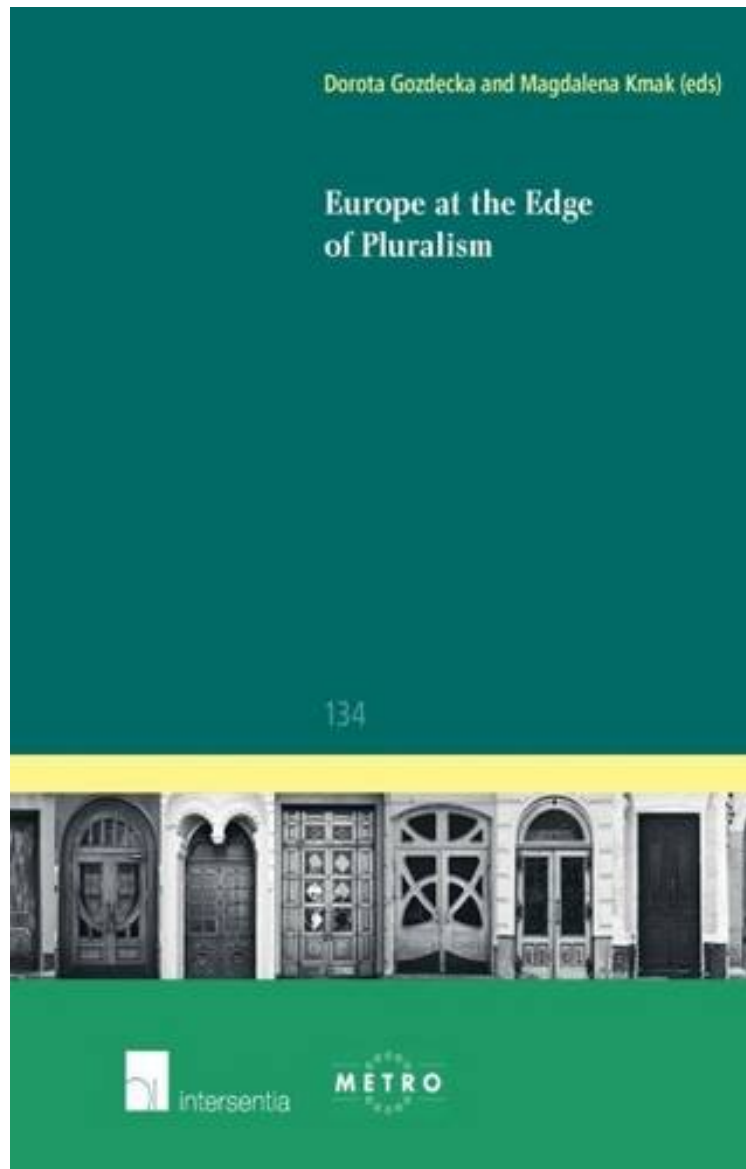


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Europe at the Edge of Pluralism (Ius Commune Europaeum)

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Taylor of Richmond Green Chambers This volume is part of a series of works on European Union legal systems which tackles contemporary problems of legal accommodation of this most important issue of diversity in Europe and recent developments in the area of such diverse European legal regimes. Despite adhering to the motto 'Unity in Diversity,' Europe appears to be struggling with discord rather than unity! Legal discussions reflect a crisis when it comes to matters of migration, accommodation of minorities, and dealing with the growing heterogeneity of European societies. The book illustrates that the current legal conundrums stem from European oscillation between, on the one hand, acknowledging the need of accommodation, and, on the other, the tendencies to preserve existing legal traditions. There are claims that these opposite tendencies have led Europe to the edge of pluralism. This 'edge' - just as with the linguistic interpretation of the word 'edge' - carries multiple meanings, conveying a plethora of problems encountered by law when dealing with diversity. The book explores and illustrates these multiple 'edges of pluralism,' tracing back their origins and examining the contemporary legal conundrums they have led to. Europe at the Edge of Pluralism encourages readers to explore whether there are fundamental problems with approaches to diversity. And, if so, can they be rescued from their current precarious position? It asks whether Europe at the edge is truly capable of uniting in diversity and developing a constructive approach to its growing pluralism. This is another successful title in a series of books from Intersentia which is devoted to the common foundations of the European legal system. The publishers have brought together this *Ius Commune Europaeum* series to include comparative legal studies as well as studies on the effect of treaties within member states legal systems. Readers will be pleased to know that the books are published in various European languages under the auspices of METRO, the Institute for Transnational Legal Research at Maastricht University. We feel that they have been very well translated and we found them both easy to read and a great contribution to the continuing debate on where we are going at this particular crossroads as the 21st century unfolds and develops. Thank you.

This volume tackles contemporary problems of legal accommodation of diversity in Europe and recent developments in the area in diverse European legal regimes. Despite professing the motto 'Unity in Diversity,' Europe appears to be struggling with discord rather than unity. Legal discussions reflect a crisis when it comes to matters of migration, accommodation of minorities, and dealing with the growing heterogeneity of European societies. The book illustrates that the current legal conundrums stem from European oscillation between, on the one hand, acknowledging the need of accommodation, and, on the other, the tendencies to preserve existing legal traditions. It claims that these opposite tendencies have led Europe to the edge of pluralism. This 'edge' - just as with the linguistic interpretation of the word 'edge' - carries multiple meanings, conveying a plethora of problems encountered by law when dealing with diversity. The book explores and illustrates these multiple 'edges of pluralism,' tracing back their origins and examining the contemporary legal conundrums they have led to. Europe at the Edge of Pluralism encourages readers to explore whether there are fundamental problems with approaches to diversity. And, if so, can they be rescued from their current precarious position? It asks whether Europe at the edge is truly capable of uniting in diversity and developing a constructive approach to its growing pluralism. (Series: *Ius Commune: European and Comparative Law* - Vol. 134) [Subject: Socio-Legal Studies, European Law, Human Rights Law]