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Sommario/riassunto	"The specific concern of this study is 'politicization' or the relationships between contests in national politics and the capacity for international cooperation. Progress towards fiscal harmonization in the European Community is selected as the substantive focus for the study, although the object is to learn from the EC rather than about it. The author argues that common EC policies usually reach fruition as complex compromises, derived from decisions based on the perceived effect on domestic politics and rivalries, rather than transnational neatness. Lack of political will is frequently blamed for delays in the acceptance of common policies, whereas the truth often lies in the fact that national governments believe that domestic political costs would be prohibitive. Politicization is studied in four major areas: 1. Identification, causes and effects 2. The effect on domestic politics and transnational cooperation in the EC 3. Effects on further 'European integration' 4. Deriving lessons from the EC for more general relationships between

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