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Nota di contenuto	Editorial; Foreword; Contents; Index of abbreviations, figures, and tables; Preamble; 1 Introduction; 1.1 Problem statement; 1.2 Research objectives; 1.3 State of research; 1.4 Research question; 1.5 Method; 1.5.1 Choice of method and implementation; 1.5.2 Restrictions of research design; 1.5.3 Evaluation; 1.6 Structure of the book; 2 Conceptual background; 2.1 Political systems of the EU and the United States; 2.1.1 Political system of the EU; 2.1.2 Decision-making in the EU; 2.1.3 Political system of the United States; 2.1.4 Decision-making in the United States 2.2 Influencing political decision-making2.2.1 Lobbying; 2.2.2 Interest groups; 2.2.3 History of lobbying regulation in the EU; 2.2.4 Lobbying in the EU; 2.2.5 History of lobbying regulation in the United States; 2.2.6 Lobbying in the United States; 2.2.7 Interim conclusion; 2.3 Regulation and registration; 2.4 Transparency; 3 Comparison of lobbying registration in the EU and the United States; 3.1 The European

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3.2 The United States of America 3.2.1 Implementation of the Lobbying Disclosure Act; 3.2.2 Legal basis; 3.2.3 Instruments of control and penalties; 3.2.4 Effectiveness and criticism; 4 Result subsumption, discussion, and perspectives; 4.1 Conclusion on the comparison; 4.2 Discussion; 4.3 Incentives for improvement; 4.4 Incentives for further research; 5 References; 6 Annex; 6.1 Databases; 6.2 Interview manual; 6.3 Interviewee overview

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## Sommario/riassunto

To the public's eye, lobbying is still a highly obscure trade. Lobbyists are generally perceived to work behind closed doors in order to influence legislation—what really happens is unknown to the public. To make interest representatives more visible, both the European Union and the United States have developed mechanisms to register lobbyists. However, while US legislation now forces lobbyists to register and report their influential work by fixed deadlines, the EU's registration remains voluntary due to the lack of a legal basis. This book takes the reader closer to today's concept of lobbying, especially in regard to the EU's registration mechanism. Lisa Moessing compares both the US and the EU registration systems by their technical composition, accessibility, and handling and contrasts their efficiency and effectiveness. Providing a forum for 17 lobbyists, watch dog members, and political representatives to discuss lobbying registration, this book defines starting points for improvement and emphasizes the importance of listening to those who deal with the registers in everyday practice.

"Thanks to its qualitative interview approach as well as an interviewee array of influential actors, decision-makers, and lobby organizations, the book is an important research contribution to the EU's mechanism of lobbying regulation which has been fought for and debated for several years." -Hans-Wolfgang Platzer, Holder of the Jean Monnet Chair of European Integration at the University of Applied Sciences Fulda

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