

## **An Ordinary Player or a Hidden Hegemon? International Leadership and the German Power in the UE**

### **Abstract:**

Is the Federal Republic of Germany the modern Hegemon of Europe? Does it rather play the role of the Stabilizer, the Conservative or the European Revisionist? This question is frequently asked not only by the Members States of the European Union, but also the Germans themselves, who often claim to be the “semi-Hegemon” – too strong not to dominate and too weak to dominate at the same time. This article presents an overview on the position and the role Germany is currently playing in the construction of the UE. The assumptions are based on the theory of realism, which can be used not only for research on international leadership, but also outlines and presents it in an explicit way.

**Keywords:** EU, Germany, power, hegemony, national interests, identity.