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# Judicial Accountabilities in New Europe

From Rule of Law to Quality of Justice

Daniela Piana, University of Bologna, Italy

*'This path breaking book points to the salience of accountability in assessing the role of actors in judicial reforms and the impact of rule of law promotion on the quality of justice. In doing so the author effectively casts a new light on EU, and other IOs, in contributing to the quality of a democracy.'*

– Leonardo Morlino, Istituto Italiano di Scienze Umane, Italy

*'Daniela Piana has provided a wide ranging but integrative treatment of judicial "accountability" of immense value to comparative legal studies and then related it to developments in the newer member states of the EU. The volume will be welcomed by anyone interested in the "constitutional" development of the EU or political development more generally.'* – Martin M. Shapiro, University of California, USA

This volume focuses on a highly challenging aspect of all European democracies, namely the issue of combining guarantees of judicial independence and mechanisms of judicial accountability. It does so by filling the gap in European scholarship between the two policy sectors of enlargement and judicial cooperation and by taking full stock of an interdisciplinary literature, spanning from comparative politics, socio-legal studies and European studies. Providing an evidence-based grid to assess the potential impacts of the socialization and standards setting processes in the promotion of the rule of law, a domain that commands a substantial engagement and investment of resources on behalf of the Western governments, empirical evidence provided within this volume relies on a comprehensive dataset and a number of interviews to key political

and judicial actors. Judicial Accountabilities in New Europe presents an insightful account of the judicial reforms adopted by new member States to embed the principle of the rule of law in their democratic institutions and of the guidelines of quality of justice promoted by European institutions in all member States.

**Contents:** Introduction; Logics of action, hypotheses and impact; European standards of judicial governance; Beyond legal accountabilities: Poland, Hungary and Czech Republic; Highlights and shadows in Bulgaria and Romania; Judicial governance as a mirror of European constitutionalism; Conclusions; Bibliography; Index

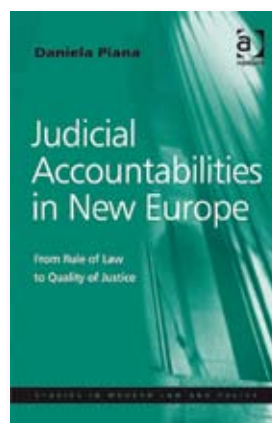
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