

Abstract

This thesis examined the regulation of 'revolving doors' at European Union institutions, i.e. the fluctuation of personnel between public and private sectors, which threatens the independence of public administration. It adopts the research design of exploratory case study and the methods of doctrinal legal research and qualitative document analysis to build an overview of post-employment rules imposed on public officials of the European Commission, European Parliament, Council and European Central Bank. Contrary to common conceptions, the rules are based on 'hard law' norms. Further, the types of revolving door moves which are prohibited vary among the institutions. Majority of the institutions enjoy a wide discretion in the implementation of the rules but seem to consider them as an internal matter, leaving a lot to be desired from a transparency standpoint. Lastly, a hypothesis of prioritization of revolving door risks by institutions is derived for further inquiry.