Recent international events sparked renewed academic interest for the European Union’s Common Foreign and Security Policy, particularly towards the Arab world. Usually, much is made of the normative power of the Union and of its role in exporting the values of democratic governance and human rights. It follows that the policies of the Union in specific regions are judged according to the parameters of liberal idealism. This paper challenges such an assumption and argues that a structural realist interpretation of the Union’s tentative foreign policy makes a decisive contribution to better understand and evaluate what the Union does abroad. The paper is specifically concerned with the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership and how, contrary to the liberal idealist values of CFSP, it helps securitising the Mediterranean through the promotion and support of political authoritarianism in the partner countries. The case of Morocco is discussed in detail.
Recent international events sparked renewed academic interest for the European Union’s Common Foreign and Security Policy, particularly towards the Arab world. Usually, much is made of the normative power of the Union and of its role in exporting the values of democratic governance and human rights. The paper is specifically concerned with the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership and how, contrary to the liberal idealist values of CFSP, it helps securitising the Mediterranean through the promotion and support of political authoritarianism in the partner countries. The case of Morocco is discussed in detail. Source Link. Primary Source. The EU’s joint foreign and security policy, designed to resolve conflicts and foster international understanding, is based on diplomacy and respect for international rules. Trade, humanitarian aid, and development cooperation also play an important role in the EU’s international role. EU foreign and security policy seeks to preserve peace, strengthen international security. Moreover, supporting the political construction of migration as a security issue impinges on and is embedded in the politics of belonging in Western Europe. It is an integral part of the wider technocratic and political process in which professional agencies are such as the police and customs and political agents such as social movements and political parties debate and decide the criteria for legitimate membership of Western European societies. Suggested Citation. Jef Huysmans, 2000. “The European Union and the Securitization of Migration,” Journal of Common Market Studies, Wiley. European Union (EU), international organization comprising 27 European countries and governing common economic, social, and security policies. Originally confined to Western Europe, the EU undertook a robust expansion into Central and Eastern Europe in the early 21st century. Political science has struggled to adequately understand and conceptualize the rise of authoritarianism in global politics in the first decades of the 21st century. Academic research continues to focus primarily on regime type, perceived primarily through the lens of the nation-state. No reader of political commentary in recent years could fail to notice a concern, perhaps even a panic, about a global tide of illiberalism that may now be affecting even established democracies. The commitments of democratically elected leaders such as Filipino President Duterte, Hungarian Prime Minister Orbán, Indian Prime Minister Modi and of course US president Trump to liberal rules is clearly problematic.