Loïc Azoulai (Ed.), *L'entrave dans le droit du marché intérieur*. Brussels: Bruylant, 2011. 362 pages. ISBN: 9782802734789. EUR 80.

In French, the term "*entrave*" originally referred to the ropes that were tied to animals' legs to prevent them from walking. Later, this word also described the object (a chain, for instance) that prisoners (or formerly slaves) had to wear to prevent them from fleeing away. By analogy, the word "*entrave*" finally means an obstacle, a trouble or a constraint (*Le Petit Robert 2012*, Paris, Le Robert, 2011). In short, the "*entrave*" imposes immobility or, in other words, limits movement.

This idea is well-known in European law. On the one hand, EU law proclaims the four freedoms of movement (free movement of goods, persons, services and capital) which make up the internal market's pillars. On the other hand, it admits that some measures may derogate from those freedoms. All of the internal market's case law was born from that dynamic, between freedoms and restrictions.

This notion of "*entrave*" is explored in the work led by Azoulai. It is also used a great deal by the ECJ, but does not appear in any Treaty. The notion is not clearly defined in the case law and is badly translated in other languages – the ECJ translators generally use the words "barriers" or "restriction" in English, "ostacolo" in Italian, "obstáculo" in Spanish and "Beschränkung" in German. Those translations are, however, imperfect because each of them only focuses on one sort of "*entrave*". In French, the word is much more generic as it covers different forms: discriminations, restrictions, barriers, obstacles, hindrances, and so forth.

This book explores the meaning and the limits of the concept of "*entrave*" in EU internal market law. It also considers the different areas in which the concept applies (mainly the four freedoms, EU citizenship and competition law) and reveals the role of political choice in its past and current development. It is directed at specialists in the field of the EU substantive law. Any neophyte will probably have trouble understanding the concepts that are used and grasping the range of jurisprudence quoted by the authors. As a result, it is a work made by experts for experts. Contributors to the book are among the best French speaking professors of EU Law, already for a long time (Dutheil de la Rochère, Idot, Kessedjian, Kovar, Picod, Poiares Maduro and Prieto) or more recently (Azoulai, Bailleux, Dubout, Iliopoulou, Maitrot de la Motte, Michel, Neframi and Ritleng).

There is a strong case to be made that many chapters, written by acknowledged specialists, are of high quality. The majority of those texts systematically boil down to classic case law defining the "*entraves*" (*Dassonville*, *Cassis de Dijon*, *Keck et Mithouard* and so on). By doing so the work swiftly becomes repetitive. It is true that the definition of the "*entraves*" requires this case law to be commented and criticized, but other important aspects of the book are fortunately much more original.

In the first place, many authors revert to the current debate regarding market access. Is this criterion going to replace other forms of "*entraves*" or is it just another extra kind of "*entrave*"? It is not surprising that this question is at the crux of several chapters. Indeed, the conference that is at the root of this book took place in December 2009, that is 10 months after the ruling of the ECJ in the Case C-110/05, *Commission* v. *Italy*. This largely open debate attests to the impossibility of working out a univocal definition of the "*entrave*" as of today.

In the second place, the book offers some interesting comparisons. The book presents a parallel between the different freedoms of movement and other EU law domains such as, in particular, competition law and external relations (mainly the common commercial policy). The book also enables one to compare the approaches in relation to the notion of "*entrave*" of the ECJ and the US Supreme Court. This chapter written by the former Advocate General Poiares Maduro is certainly one of the most intellectually enriching ones. Finally, two chapters go beyond the case law. The first one is about the role of the EU lawmaker who faces "*entraves*" and notably consolidates European case law in regulations and directives (and this occurred, for example, with Directive 2004/38/EC on the right of citizens of the Union and their family members to move and reside freely within the territory of the Member States). As for the second one, it focuses on the (sometimes really virulent) political reactions of Member States when some of their measures are censored by the European Judges. The political aspect also marginally appears in some other chapters. In fact, several authors discuss specificities of ECJ case law regarding touchy topics such as direct tax regime, fundamental rights, integration requirement in order not to become "an unreasonable burden on the social assistance system of the host Member State" and so on.

In short, this work is an interesting global exploration of the internal market through the concept of "*entrave*". On one hand, the book proposes new theoretical classifications regarding the "*entraves*". On the other hand, it offers comparisons with competition law, economic international law and US law, which enable us to get a clearer picture of the classic theory concerning the "*entraves*" in the context of the EU internal market. These elements certainly contribute to feed the readers' reflection concerning the notion of "*entrave*" and its different forms.

Jean-Yves Carlier & Cédric Cheneviere
Louvain