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The Road Not Taken: The European Union as a Global Human Rights Actor

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This article challenges the classic narrative of the EU's engagement with human rights by comparing today's system to the long-forgotten European Community human rights framework proposed in the early 1950s. Although the EU's current system is conventionally understood as robust and as the acme of EU progress on human rights protection, it is weaker than the 1950s framework in three respects: its monitoring of human rights in member states, its relationship to the European Convention on Human Rights, and the double standard between internal and external human rights policies.

A New International Law of Citizenship

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State practices relating to nationality and citizenship have historically been insulated from international law. That is beginning to change as citizenship moves into a human rights frame. Citizenship practices relating to naturalization, birth-right citizenship, and dual citizenship are being measured against anti-discrimination and self-governance norms. These developments will expand access to citizenship, though the new international law of citizenship may also contribute to the erosion of state solidarities that are important to liberal governance.

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