

Politicization and Decision-Making within the Equality Bodies Across the European Union

Raiu Catalin

*University of Bucharest, Faculty of Public Administration and Business,
Bucharest, Romania*

Mina-Raiu Laura

Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Bucharest, Romania

Abstract: In this paper, we undertake a comparative analysis to evaluate the adherence of European Union member states public administration organizations dealing with combating discrimination (Equality Bodies) to the Wilsonian principle of separation between politics and administration. The research specifically concentrates on the degree of politicization and the national regulations and protocols employed in appointing the leadership within these Equality Bodies. Furthermore, the study delves into the dynamics between the political leadership, typically consisting of state dignitaries with different professional backgrounds, and the bureaucratic level whose expertise is predominantly legal.

Additionally, this research analyzes the interplay of political decision-making and bureaucratic expertise within the Equality Bodies by using the Foucauldian paradigm of knowledge and power as a theoretical framework. This approach allows for an in-depth exploration of the intersection where legal expertise and political authority converge, diverge, and interact within the institutional framework of these non-governmental agencies.