



The Politics of Insecurity: Fear, Migration and Asylum in the EU (New International Relations)

By Jef Huysmans

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The act of violence of 9/11 changed the global security agenda, catapulting terrorism to the top of the agenda. Weapons of mass destruction grabbed public interest and controlling the free movement of people became a national security priority.

In this volume, Jef Huysmans critically engages with theoretical developments in international relations and security studies to develop a conceptual framework for studying security. He argues that security policies and responses do not appear out of the blue, but are part of a continuous and gradual process, pre-structured by previous developments. He examines this process of securitization and explores how an issue, on the basis of the distribution and administration of fear, becomes a security policy. Huysmans then applies this theory to provide a detailed analysis of migration, asylum and refuge in the European Union.

This theoretically sophisticated, yet accessible volume, makes an important contribution to the study of security, migration and European politics.

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About the Author

Jef Huysmans is Lecturer in Government and Politics, The Open University. His research focuses on My research centres on post-structural international political theory, the political significance of security practice in Western societies, and the securitization of immigration, asylum and refugees.

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