

„The present decade has witnessed a turning point in the autonomous sanctions practice of the European Union. One of the most evident features of recent sanctions practice is that measures are gradually becoming less 'targeted'. Targeted sanctions are designed to affect those individuals and elites responsible for the policies condemned by the sender, rather than the population as a whole. The present talk considers the extent to which autonomous sanctions fulfil this objective by scrutinising three established sanctions strands of the EU: Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) sanctions, development aid suspensions and Generalised Scheme of Preferences (GSP) withdrawals. It is argued that the notion of targeted sanctions has been more faithfully implemented in some strands of EU sanctions than in others, and that court challenges have driven the modification of selection criteria in the 'flagship' CFSP sanctions practice that accounts for the increasingly broad nature of the measures.”