

## The further development of Neofunctionalism until the early 1970s

### I Modified neofunctionalism as response to critique and factual occurrences

#### Contextualisation of Schmitter's article:

- Central differences between neofunctionalism and intergovernmentalism  
Integration as a (continuing, incremental) process as a series of (isolated) events  
Key actors pluralistic national elites nation states as "black boxes"  
Actors' driving forces rational choices, various interests ideology/nationalism, security interests  
Supranational institutions develop their own dynamic play no independent role/ not in focus
- Central aspects of (intergovernmentalist) criticism of (early) neofunctionalism
  - Automatism and determinism of integration process
  - Underestimation of continuing impact of sovereignty consciousness and nationalism
  - Failure to take the broader international context into account
- Stagnation of European integration caused by the Empty Chair crisis (1965/66) and no major treaty revisions until the Single European Act (1986/87)

=> Crisis not predictable by earlier versions of neofunctionalism

#### Modified theory by Schmitter:

- Schmitter's aim: creation of an integration theory valid also in other processes of regional integration
- Integration process as model of decisional cycles
- Differentiation of actors' strategies: integration thus an open-ended process  
(1) spillover, (2) spill-around, (3) buildup, (4) retrench, (5) muddle-about, (6) spill-back, (7) encapsulation
- Encapsulation (= responding to crisis only with marginal modifications) as the most likely strategy

### II Neofunctionalism in its scientific context

#### Schmitter's own quality criteria for an integration theory:

- Comprehensive and parsimonious model of political consequences of integration
- Operationability and intersubjective reliability
- Ability to predict conditions under which certain actors' strategies are chosen

#### Sources:

- Faber, Anne (2005): Europäische Integration und politikwissenschaftliche Theoriebildung. Neofunktionalismus und Intergouvernementalismus in der Analyse. Wiesbaden.
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- Philippe C. Schmitter (1971): A Revised Theory of Regional Integration. In: Lindberg, L.; Scheingold, S. (Eds.): Regional Integration. Theory and Research. Cambridge. p. 232-264.