Table of contents

List of abbreviations 13

Chapter 1. Introduction 17

1.1 The increasing significance of European energy policy 20
1.2 The theoretical contribution of this work 26
1.3 The methods applied in the empirical research 29
1.4 Outline of this work 30

Chapter 2. Recent developments in selected areas of European energy policy 33

2.1 The liberalization of the European energy market 35
2.2 The introduction of the Kyoto Protocol and the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (EU ETS) 39
2.3 The promotion of energy efficiency 48
2.4 The promotion of the use of renewable energy sources 55
2.5 Additional measures to ensure energy supply security 62
2.6 Conclusions 66

Chapter 3. The current state of research on interest group politics and related fields 69

3.1 Periods of research on the role of interest groups in the policy process 69
3.2 Literature on multi-level and network governance 72
3.3 Theories on coalition-formation 80
3.4 Approaches to collective action and social movements 87
3.5 The role of institutions in the policy process 91
3.6 Literature on actors' strategies to influence political decision-making 97
3.7 Studies on the determinants of the access and influence of interest groups 100
# Table of contents

Chapter 4. Research design and case studies 107

4.1 Research design 107
4.1.1 The benefits of process-tracing case studies 107
4.1.2 Case selection 110
4.1.3 Variables and hypotheses derived from the theoretical background 115
4.1.4 Data gathering tools: interviews and document analysis 125
4.2 Case studies 131
4.2.1 The policy process leading to the third liberalization package 131
4.2.2 Interests and strategies regarding the inclusion of aviation in the EU ETS 142
4.2.3 Developments related to the directive on the energy performance of buildings 153
4.2.4 Coalition-formation concerning the role of biofuels in EU legislation 165
4.2.5 The influence of coalitions on the receptiveness of the European institutions 174

Chapter 5. Empirical results 177

Chapter 6. Conclusions 185

Literature 189