

BOOK REVIEW

PAUL VERBRUGGEN AND TETTY HAVINGA, *HYBRIDIZATION OF FOOD GOVERNANCE. TRENDS, TYPES AND RESULTS.* (EDWARD ELGAR, 2017)

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This collection looks at governance issues in relation to food safety. It is theoretically underpinned by David Levi-Faur's notion of "hybridization" within the context of regulatory capitalism.¹ He explained that "We need to conceptualize a world order where governance is increasingly a hybrid of different systems of regulatory control".² For Levi-Faur, the hybrid form consists of state and non-state actors. As the editors, Tetty Havinga and Paul Verbruggen, point out in their introductory chapter, other hybrid models combine command and control, market-based and voluntary approaches involving a variety of actors and institutions. These models focus on the actors in governance. The editors also refer to Halpern's perspective, which focuses on multi-stakeholder governance in which regulation combines public and private components, including representatives of professionals, divisions of government, public interest advocates and representatives of groups being regulated.³

The editors refer to international and national food standard setting along the lines of Abbott and Snidal's Governance Triangle.⁴ The editors adapt this model breaking governance into five different phases or functions: agenda-setting and rule-making, adoption and implementation, monitoring, enforcement, and evaluation and review. Aspects of this structure are picked up in the subsequent chapters.

The book is then divided into three parts.

¹ David Levi-Faur, 'The global Diffusion of regulatory Capitalism' (2005) 598 *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Sciences* 12

² David Levi-Faur. 'From "Big Government" to "Big Governance"' in David Levi-Faur (ed) *Oxford Handbook on Governance*, Oxford University Press, 2012, 3.

³ Sydney Halpern, 'Hybrid Design, Systemic Rigidity: Institutional Dynamics in Human Subjects Oversight' (2008) 2 *Regulation & Governance* 85.

⁴ Kenneth W. Abbott & Duncan Snidal, 'The Governance Triangle: Regulatory Standards Institutions in the Shadow of the State' in Walter Mattli & Ngaire Woods (eds) *The Politics of Global Regulation*, Princeton University Press, 2009.

Part I contains four chapters dealing with the contested legitimacy and integrity of private food governance, questioning the extent to which hybridization might be a cause or a solution. As the editors point out, the rise of private food standards and their impact upon food supply chains have raised questions among other things about stake-holder participation and effectiveness in standard setting. In chapter 2 Donal Casey looks at GLOBALGAP's implementation of its widely implemented private food certification scheme. He documents GLOBALGAP's search for legitimacy by engaging with public and private sector stake holders. In chapter 3 Elena Fagotto looks at the conflict of interests of third parties involved in food safety certification. In the following chapter Timothy D. Lytton and Lesley K. McAllister focus on the problems raised by Elena Fagotto, but in the US context. The final chapter in this section by Eva Thomann and Fritz Sager look at hybridity in action, the accountability dilemmas of public and for-profit food safety inspectors in Switzerland.

Part II of the book looks at the hybridisation of EU food law. Bernd M.J. van der Meulen in chapter 6 looks at how EU food law has contributed to the rise of hybrid food governance. Mohamud Hussein, Marian Garcia Martinez and Andrew Fearne analyse the operation of "management-based regulation" in the UK poultry sector. In the final chapter in this Part Klementina Kirezieva and Pieter Luning look at the impact of private standards in the fresh produce sector.

Part III of the book is concerned with hybridisation in transnational food governance. In chapter 9 the editors describe the interaction between the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI), the leading global private food safety initiative and its interaction with government actors in Canada, China and the USA. The Global Food Safety Initiative and state actors in the Netherlands and the USA. transnational private food standards in China is taken further in the next chapter by Kai Kottenstede. The global private certification scheme for sustainable wild-captured fish implemented by the Marine Stewardship Council in Alaska, Australia and Ecuador is discussed in the chapter by Agni Kalfagianni and Tiffany Andrade Roche.

The final chapter by Kévine Kindji and Michael Faure look at the role of transnational private standards in harnessing the capacity of the public and private sectors in the Francophone West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA).

The editors have sought to highlight the diversity in the hybridization of contemporary food safety governance. The editors and the majority of the contributing authors are associated with Dutch universities, reflecting the

significance of Dutch scholarship in the area of food safety. A dimension of this subject which bears closer examination is the impact of the World Trade Organization's Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) and its Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) as the implementation of food safety certification standards can be construed as a barrier to trade. This book makes a valuable contribution to the burgeoning field of food law.