

[Home](#) > [Journal of Housing and the Built Environment](#) > [Article](#)

European policy and national housing systems

Original Paper | Published: 05 October 2006

Volume 21, pages 271–280, (2006) [Cite this article](#)



[Journal of Housing and the Built Environment](#)

[Aims and scope](#) →

[Submit manuscript](#) →

[Hugo Priemus](#) ¹



 262 Accesses  11 Citations  3 Altmetric [Explore all metrics](#) →

Abstract

Housing policy in the European Union is the exclusive domain of national governments. European authorities, however, are using their powers in the area of competition more and more to exert a far-reaching influence on policy areas where the Member States should be autonomous.

In the Netherlands the Housing Act of 1901 forms the public framework for housing associations, which combine public functions with more or less commercial activities. These hybrid organizations fulfil in the Netherlands the public function not only of housing the households with modest incomes, but also of fostering variety in the housing stock and reducing spatial segregation. Apparently the European Commission underestimates the significance and logic of hybrid organizations. It is important that Member States exercise their

autonomous right to shape their own housing policies to the full. European competition policy, in itself a necessary and useful policy domain, must not be misused to thwart national housing aspirations.

 This is a preview of subscription content, [log in via an institution](#)  to check access.

Access this article

[Log in via an institution](#) →

[Buy article PDF 39,95 €](#)

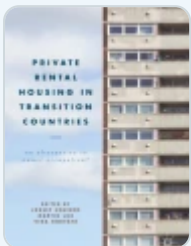
Price includes VAT (Poland)

Instant access to the full article PDF.

Rent this article via [DeepDyve](#) 

[Institutional subscriptions](#) →

Similar content being viewed by others



East Germany: Integration to a Well-Established Environment

Chapter | © 2018



Russia: A Long Road to Institutionalisation

Chapter | © 2018



Gestaltung von Stadt und Gesellschaft durch Bauträgerwettbewerbe?

Chapter | © 2022

References

Algemene Rekenkamer (Netherlands Court of Audit) (2004). *Verbreding van de publieke verantwoording [Broadening the public accountability]*. The Hague: ARK.

[Google Scholar](#)

Algemene Rekenkamer (Netherlands Court of Audit) (2005). *Ondernemerschap in de publieke sector. Verantwoording en toezicht bij publiek-private arrangementen [Entrepreneurship in the public sector: Accountability and supervision in public-private partnerships]*. The Hague: ARK.

[Google Scholar](#)

CDA Wetenschappelijk Instituut (CDA Think Tank) (2005). *Investeren in de samenleving. Een verkenning naar de missie en positie van de maatschappelijke onderneming [Investment in Society: a survey of the mission and position of the social company]*. The Hague: CDA.

[Google Scholar](#)

Cecodhas (2004a). Contribution to the commission's consultation, Helsinki, 26 May.

Cecodhas (2004b). Services Directive, How could the social services sector be impacted—the example of social housing, Draft report of CECODHAS seminar, 30 November.

Conijn, J. (2005). *Woningcorporaties: naar een duidelijke taakafbakening en een heldere sturing [Housing Associations: Towards a clear remit and clear governance]*. Amsterdam: RIGO Research en Advies BV.

[Google Scholar](#)

Dieleman, F. M. (1994). Social rented housing. Valuable asset or unsustainable

burden? *Urban Studies*, 31(3), 447-463.

[Article](#) [Google Scholar](#)

Dieleman, F. M. (1996). The quiet revolution in Dutch housing policy. *TESG*, 87, 275-282.

[Google Scholar](#)

Dieleman, F. (1999). The impact of housing policy changes on housing associations: experiences in the Netherlands. *Housing Studies*, 14, 251-259.

[Article](#) [Google Scholar](#)

van de Donk, W., & Brandsen, T. (2005). Vermenging of verbinding van tegendelen? Betekenis en belang van hybriditeit [Mixing or combining opposites? The meaning and relevance of hybridity]. *Bestuurskunde*, 14(3), 34-42.

[Google Scholar](#)

Dormal Marino, L. (2005), Brief d.d. 14 juli aan de Permanente Vertegenwoordiging van Nederland bij de EU, met een voorlopig standpunt van de EC over de financiering van woningcorporaties in Nederland [Letter containing the EC's provisional judgment on the financing of Dutch housing associations], Brussels (Europese Commissie, Directoraat-Generaal Concurrentie).

Gruis, V., & Priemus H. (forthcoming), Social housing policy: Has the European Commission anything to decide? The Dutch case. *Housing Studies*.

de Jong, R., Kromwijk, M., & Schuijt, J. (2005). How to make Dutch social housing Europe-consistent? *Aedes Magazine* (9-10), 18 May, pp. 20-25.

MDW-werkgroep (Market forces, Deregulation and Quality of Legislation working

group, or Cohen working group) (1997). Eindrapport van de Werkgroep Markt en Overheid [Final report of market and government working group], The Hague (Ministry of Economic Affairs).

MDW-werkgroep (Market forces, Deregulation and Quality of Legislation working group (1999). Corporaties tussen vangnet en vrijhandel [Associations between the safety net and free enterprise]. The Hague: Ministry of Economic Affairs.

van Montfort, C. (2005). Wetgeving en codificatie van toezicht en verantwoording bij hybride organisaties [Legislation and codification of supervision and accountability in hybrid organizations]. *Bestuurskunde*, 14(3), 4-12.

[Google Scholar](#)

Norris, M., & Shields, P. (2004). Regular national report on housing developments in European countries, Synthesis report, Ireland (The Housing Unit).

NTMO (Netwerk Toekomst Maatschappelijke Onderneming; Future of Social Companies Network) (2003). De waarde van de maatschappelijke onderneming geborgd [Safeguarding the value of the social company]. Hilversum: NTMO.

Ouwehand, A., & van Daalen, G. (2002). *Dutch Housing Associations. A model for social housing*. Delft: DUP Satellite.

[Google Scholar](#)

Plasterk, R., 2005, Zorgverzekering mag van Brussel! [Brussels allows healthcare insurance!], *De_Volkskrant*, 4 May.

Priemus, H. (2004). Twee halve baby's [Two half babies]. *Woonbondig*, 11(3), 3.

[Google Scholar](#)

Priemus, H. (2005). Europees beleid en Nederlandse volkshuisvesting [European policy and Dutch housing]. *Tijdschrift voor Volkshuisvesting*, 11(4), 22-27.

[Google Scholar](#)

Priemus, H., Kleinman, M., MacLennan, D., & Turner, B. (1993). European Monetary, Economic and Political Union: Consequences for national housing policies, *Housing and Urban Policy Studies*, no. 6. Delft: Delft University Press.

Priemus, H., & Dieleman, F. M. (1997). Social rented housing: Recent changes in western Europe—Introduction. *Housing Studies*, 12(4), 421-425.

[Google Scholar](#)

Priemus, H., & Dieleman, F. M. (1999). Social housing finance in the European union: Developments and projects. *Urban Studies*, 36(4), 623-631.

[Article](#) [Google Scholar](#)

Priemus, H., & Dieleman, F. M. (Eds.), (2002). Social housing policy in the European union. Past, present and perspectives. *Urban Studies*, 39(2), 91-200 (special issue).

[Google Scholar](#)

Priemus, H., Dieleman F. M., & Clapham, D. (1999). Current developments in social housing management. *Netherlands Journal of Housing and the Built Environment*, 14(3), 211-224.

[Article](#) [Google Scholar](#)

de Ru, H., Burggraaf, J., & Spaans, L. (2005). *De Maatschappelijke Onderneming [The social company]*. The Hague: Boom.

[Google Scholar](#)

SER (Sociaal-Economische Raad; Social and Economic Council) (2005).

Ondernemerschap voor de publieke zaak [Entrepreneurship for the Public Case].

The Hague: SER.

[Google Scholar](#)

Smits, S. J. H. (2005). Brief over de financiering van woningcorporaties van de Permanente Vertegenwoordiging van het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden aan de Europese Commissie [Reply regarding the financing of Dutch housing associations], Brussels (Permanente Vertegenwoordiging van het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden), 2 September.

in 't Veld, R. (1995). Spelen met vuur. Over hybride organisaties [Playing with Fire: about hybrid organizations]. The Hague: VUGA.

in 't Veld, R. (1997). Noorderlicht. Over scheiding en samenballing [Northern Lights: about separation and concentration]. The Hague: VUGA.

Vilder, F. J., & Westerhuis, A. F. (2002). *Meervoudige publieke verantwoording. Een aanzet tot conceptualisering en een verkenning van de praktijk [Multiple public accountability: A move towards conceptualization and a practical survey].* Amsterdam: Max Goote Kenniscentrum.

[Google Scholar](#)

de Waal, S. (2000). *Nieuwe strategieën voor het publiek domein. Maatschappelijk ondernemen in de praktijk [New strategies for the public domain: Social entrepreneurship in practice].* Alphen aan den Rijn: Samsom.

[Google Scholar](#)

WRR (Wetenschappelijke Raad voor het Regeringsbeleid; Advisory Council on Government Policy). (2004). *Bewijzen van goede dienstverlening [Evidence of*

good services]. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press.

[Google Scholar](#)

WRR (Wetenschappelijke Raad voor het Regeringsbeleid; Advisory Council on Government Policy). (2005). *Vertrouwen in de buurt [Confidence in the neighbourhood]*. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press.

[Google Scholar](#)

Author information

Authors and Affiliations

Faculty of Technology, Policy and Management, Delft University of Technology, Jaffalaan 5, 2628 BX, Delft, The Netherlands

Hugo Priemus

Corresponding author

Correspondence to [Hugo Priemus](#).

Rights and permissions

[Reprints and permissions](#)

About this article

Cite this article

Priemus, H. European policy and national housing systems. *J Housing Built Environ* **21**, 271–280 (2006).
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10901-006-9049-2>

Published

Issue Date

05 October 2006

September 2006

DOI

<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10901-006-9049-2>

Keywords

[European Commission](#)

[Competition policy](#)

[Housing policy](#)

[The Netherlands](#)

[Service of general interest](#)

[Service of general economic interest](#)

[Housing association](#)

Search

Search by keyword or author



Navigation

Find a journal

Publish with us

Track your research