

Markus D. W. Stoffels

Can the European Union Force its Member States to Introduce the Euro?



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To Anne-Katrin, Tom and Maila

*Gum bi thu, a naoinein bhig, fallain,
ionraic, sona air feadh do bheatha gu léir.*

*May you, wee baby, be healthy, honest
and happy all throughout your life.*

Preface

This work is based on my dissertation in law which concluded my LL.M. programme in European Law at the University of Edinburgh in the academic year 2017/2018. It has been awarded the David Edward Prize for the best dissertation in European Law. The main goal of this piece is to examine the intruding question whether EU Member States are legally obliged to introduce the euro. In my opinion, this question has ever since been receiving far less attention than it deserves. I have tried my best to make this examination as accessible, short and comprehensible as possible.

I would like to thank Professor Dr Tobias Lock for having readily chosen to supervise this dissertation. Thank you for your ongoing support and our constructive and inspiring discussions.

Thank you Coral and Mike for having rented your wee beautiful house to us and for having taken such a big interest in our wellbeing.

In addition, I want to thank my friends who have enriched my year in Scotland, first and foremost Valentin, Alison and Gunnar.

Most importantly, I want to thank my wife Anne-Katrin and my son Tom who came with me to Scotland for a year, despite lots of uncertainties and organisational effort. It was a wonderful and adventurous year which we will always gladly reminisce and which was crowned by the birth of our daughter and sister Maila, aka “the wee one”. This work is dedicated to the three of you.

July 2019

Dr Markus D W Stoffels, LL.M.

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