

**Regional Integration and the Role of International Court  
- Experience of the European Court of Justice -**

**Abstract**

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In East Asia, discussion about regional economic integration called as the East Asian Community has already started. In this context, it will be examined what type of judicial organ is appropriate for dispute settlement in the regional integration. In order to find hints to approach those subjects, this paper will try to analyze experience of the European integration and to clarify issues around the establishment of a judicial organ in the regional integration. The EC is considered as a supranational organization which is based on the transfer of sovereignty from the Member States to the EC and the European Court of Justice has greatly contributed to development of the European integration. As far as we look at the EC, a permanent court is an attractive choice for regional integration. However, the East Asian countries are likely to be opposed to any form of integration which leads to transfer of their sovereignty. Therefore, it seems that the ECJ cannot be a model for regional integration in East Asia. On the other hand, there is an example that an international organization without transfer of sovereignty has a permanent court. It is probable that the type of judicial organ has to be politically decided. This paper will limit itself to presenting a few conditions which are favorable to the adoption of a permanent court mechanism.