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## Essays on legislative decision-making in the European Union

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## Propositions:

1. Politicization within the European Union (EU) is reflected in the voting behavior of member states in the Council of the EU (Council).
2. Governments holding extreme policy positions are more likely to contest legislative decisions in the Council.
3. The culture of consensus within the Council leads member states to adjust their positions to consider minority views, even when their votes are not essential for the approval of a legislative act.
4. The culture of consensus in the Council prolongs negotiations on legislative acts.
5. Net contributor member states to the EU budget are more inclined to contest legislative decisions in the Council.
6. Under the Qualified Majority Voting system, voting alignment is positively correlated with differences in voting power among member states.
7. There is no evidence of a cleavage between older and newer member states in voting alignment within the Council.
8. Governments with divergent positions on EU integration demonstrate lower voting alignment in the Council.
9. Domestic public opinion on the EU is correlated with the voting behavior of member states in the Council.
10. Member states with more similar policy positions exhibit higher voting alignment with one another.
11. The sun also rises, even in the Netherlands.