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# Van Gend en Loos: *The Individual as Subject and Object and the Dilemma of European Legitimacy (Abstract only)*

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*This essay examines, first, the reasons for the extraordinary impact and iconic status which are attached to Van Gend en Loos. It argues that the explanation lies in a confluence of structural factors and not in the ‘direct effect’ doctrine simpliciter. It then looks at the ‘darker’ side of the case – a proxy for governance – its contribution to a European narrative of efficiency which disregards the traditional mechanism of democratic legitimacy.*

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