

The two faces of European Citizenship: Towards a justification of a dual personal field of application

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European citizenship is more and more complex. It is used in more and more diverse fields of law, from the right to vote to access to social allowances, from the right to education to an active citizenship involving the participation of the citizen in European decisions. This complexity is coupled with another phenomenon of “depersonalisation”. Whereas European citizenship as a status is limited to nationals of Member States, certain of its associated rights are sometimes now opened to other categories of people. European citizenship appears more and more as if it is universal.

An analysis through the key concepts of Ancient Greek citizenship can shed some light on the material and the personal fields of application of European citizenship. A convincing typology is drawn from the example of Ancient Greece. An *isopolitical* citizenship is limited to European citizens, i.e. nationals of the Member States whereas a *sympolitical* citizenship is universally awarded. Several explanations, institutional, analytical and doctrinal, will be considered and discussed.