**The Effect of Domestic Policies in Cooperating with International Organizations**

Zuan Song*

Department of Translation Studies, University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, UK

*Corresponding author: songzuan001@stu.cpu.edu.cn

**Abstract.** Brexit is still being discussed by people at home and abroad. This article aims to analyze why an international institute like EU fails to keep UK as its member state. As it is known to all, the EU performs as a dominant pole in the world stage. It is reckoned as a leading power in the fields such as promoting the development of the economy, facilitating the living standard and strengthening the unite between member states and other countries. Since it’s establishment, the world witnesses the EU’s progress in supporting poor areas by allocating funds. EU also strives to ensure the social welfare and eliminate inequalities, strengthen the employment policy to create job opportunities. Legislation is also be put forward to promote good governance and sustainability. The influence of EU has reached into other aspects such as environmental protection, public health, transportation, competition, security and education. The EU has a steady connection with more than 150 countries in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as other international organizations. In addition to rendering financial support and participate in dialogues with member states, investigation and evaluation are also being conducted to ensure these aids are used with efficiency. However, EU appears to be losing its effect in dealing with UK’s withdrawal. In 23rd January, 2013, British former prime minister David Cameron put forward Brexit vote for the first time. In 6th 2016, UK vote to leave EU. In 16th March, 2017, the Queen of England approved Brexit withdrawal bill and authorized the then prime minister Theresa May to start the process of Brexit. In 29th March, the process was officially launched, and UK should leave EU formally in 29th March, 2019, according to the agreement between UK and EU. In 12th June, 2018, UK released Brexit White Paper and 27 leaders among EU except UK voted unanimously for the Brexit draft deal. By collecting the relative information regarding EU cooperating with Germany, France and other developing countries, the subject of this article is to examine the importance of domestic policies. This article found that domestic policies plays a vital role for a country to choose whether or not to stay at an international organization. Because of the concern of the immigration, UK government chose to withdraw from EU. By tackling the issue of migration properly, UK could still be a member of EU.

**Keywords:** Brexit, economic assistance, cooperation, institution.

1. **Introduction**

In 2016, the whole world witnessed the chaos in the United Kingdom both politically and economically. UK is known for the operational capability of the government, the inclusive attitudetowards its population, and it unilaterally made the decision to withdraw from the European Union. Because of the reluctant respond of Scotland and Northern Ireland, the referendum consequently brought fluctuation in financial markets as well as the crisis in both areas of political andconstitutional. The banks bear huge loss with markets suffered great financial turmoil. Political consequences can be seen in both of the major UK political parties as well as other political parties abroad where referendums have been demanded. Thevoting structure unveiled differences among districts, regions, and population throughout the United Kingdom. A large majority population of Scotland expressed their unwillingness to leave the EU, and there was a large number of population in Northern Ireland and London also voted to remain in the EU. By contrast, a large number of constituencies in provincial England approve of leaving. England has a strong will for Brexit, by 53.4% to 46.6%, as did Wales, by 52.5% to 47.5%. As stated above, both Scotland and Northern Ireland supported to remain in the EU. Scotland backed remain by 62% to 38%, while the ratio in Northern Ireland is 55.8% to 44.2% [1]. In the first section of this article, the reasons for Brexit will be briefly discussed. And the second part of this article will be discussing EU’s function in the development of
Germany, France and other specific countries. At the last section of this article, a conclusion about EU’s role and what attitude shall international community take towards EU will be discussed.

In the early studies, a large amount of explanation have been focusing on two factors: economic and immigration, which are the main driving forces for the Brexit. Goodwin and Milazzo collected data from the British Election Study (BES) to examine how immigration may promote the Brexit[2]. They found that an increasing rate of immigration and the approval of implementing immigration control were the main power behind Brexit. Likewise, after analyzing the investigation data, Hobolts showed that Brexit was backed by the people with less literate ability, lower social status and older [3]. Goodwin and Heath ultimately attributed Brexit more exclusively to the underprivileged, lack of education and opportunities [4]. Based on these data, next part of article will discuss the main reason for Brexit from the perspective of the hostility towards immigration.

One possible reason is because the average wages of UK citizen fell dramatically between the year of 2008 and 2014, with those who earn the minimum wages suffering the most severe situation. There is no proven evidence that there is a link between EU immigration and a sharp drop in wages, but people conceive that the falling wages is the result of massive immigration. The second reason regards housing problem. The house shortage has long been a problem in the UK even though there is an increasing number of houses being completed in the last two years. In many areas, the average incomes of common people are too tight to afford the houses, not to mention those who struggle to survive. According to many, immigrants are to blame for this situation, but the crucial factor behind this is the failure of public policy. Immigrants are also criticized for putting too much pressure on the National Health Service (NHS) and education system. It is known that EU immigrants contributed a large percent to the economy, thus they are not to blame for deteriorating public services. But for those UK citizens who on waiting list for NHS or have difficulties in getting their children to the local school, this is not a very satisfying situation. The root behind this problem is again lay on public policy: a fierce increasing demand for the public services and comparatively sluggish response from the relevant departments. This can partly contribute to government’s squeeze on public spending. But it also suggests an institutional issue: the taxes from immigration flow to the central government, which barely meets the needs to compensate organizations such as the NHS or local teaching institutions to provide extra public services for immigrants. This article interprets UK’s withdrawal from the perspective of realism theory in international relations. Realists characteristically give primary emphasis to egoistic passions and the “tragic presence of evil in all political action”. It also emphasizes on power and interest is skepticism over moral concerns in international relations[5]. Because the fear of threatening from immigrants and the massive pressure caused by insufficient medical services and education institutions, the citizen in UK are favoring Brexit, which also demonstrated the suspect attitude from UK towards other member states in EU.

2. Background information

French Minister Robert Schuman adopted a proposal put by Jean Monnet, who was an economist and a diplomat, and offered to manage the coal and steal resources among the European countries together. After one year, six countries, including France, Germany, Belgium, Italy, Luxembourg and Netherlands, signed a protocol to make war materials become the tool for reconciliation and peace. This organization was the preexistence of EU. The European integration lasting half a century showed that unity is strength. The impact of economy, society, technology, business and politics in EU is far greater than the sole EU member state. For example, EU has a vital role in international negotiation regarding the issue of global trade. In terms of sensitive issues of ordinary people, the EU’s position is unambiguous. It is committed to protect people’s interest in the field such as environment protection, renewable power, food security, science and technology.

EU made a great effort for achieving integration. There is no other sovereign country like countries in EU to put so much state power into a supervising authority. As a consequence, EU is not an international organization in the ordinary sense, and it is not a federal state. Many say that EU is a
supernational institution. The EU has developed more and more sophisticated and strong, and the members within it are mostly developed with good potentials. Considering from the country’s political and economic interest, politicians in other countries would think about joining the EU. By entering to the EU, the member states will become more influential in specific affairs. Free trade and zero tariffs are implemented in the EU, which bring about a win-win situation for all member states. For those less-developed countries, this can be a major benefit by connecting their own business into the EU’s industrial chain. UK has long been a large trading partner with Germany, but after the Brexit, there is no more privileges between two countries. The trade became more complicated [6].

In the next part of this article, the integration of Germany to EU will be briefly discussed. By following the EU’s political proposition, Germany has maintained enduring relationship with other member states in the EU. That France has stayed fairly good cooperation within EU as well as a case analysis regarding EU’s policy to support renewable electricity in France were also being discussed. At the last section of this part, a few examples about how EU strive to collaborate with developing countries were being discussed.

3. The goals, functions and guiding principle of EU

3.1 German history of development and its integration into EU

Germany is the origin of the early bourgeois revolution where outbreak the Peasant War in Germany, which is the largest peasant movement in Europe. Germany is also the birthplace of the Reformation movement. Back to the Middle ages, Germany is the country with the title of the emperor, which is superior to the United Kingdom and France where monarch can only be called king. Between 1933 to 1945, Nazi established the Third Reich and waged World War II. As a result, Germany entered the darkest period in history. After World War II, Germany's charismatic authority, traditional authority and legal authority have completely lost their foundations, and they have long been burdened with a heavy historical burden. The Federal Republic of Germany after 1945 was at the lowest point in the history of national development that a modern nation-state can experience. The country was in ruins, institutions disintegrated, sovereignty was lost, the country was divided, and the historical continuity of Germany was suddenly interrupted. What's more serious is that the morality of the Germans is also broken, and the German people have deep doubts about the proud German cultural tradition in the past. It can be said that the self-consciousness of the German nation has been destroyed by Nazi history and the defeat of World War II. Since then, the German diplomatic tradition based on the "special German way" has been rejected by other countries. The Federal Republic of Germany also assumed the obligations and historical responsibilities of Germany in the past, such as special responsibility for the Jews, foreign debts of the old Germany, and compensation for the workers of World War II. Being a defeated country and losing national sovereignty also made Germany a second-class "citizen" in the forest of European nations. It was not until the signing of the "German Treaty" in 1955 that the Federal Republic of Germany obtained national sovereignty. It remains a nation-state with restrictions everywhere.

In order to regain national sovereignty and gain space for diplomatic activities, the Federal Republic of Germany has determined the foundation of the country to integrate into the West, which means unconditional conversion to the West in terms of political values and the establishment of a liberal democratic system in the political system[7]. Diplomatically, the way for Germany to integrate into the West is European integration. It was in the process of promoting European union that Germany was very clever and gradually established exchange-type authority in Europe, that is, through economic contributions in exchange for the respect of other European countries.

Germany is deeply and diversely connected in international political networks. There are nearly 200 countries keep diplomatic relations with Germany, and it is a member of many multilateral and informal organizations such as the Group of Seven (G7). The primary goal of Germany’s foreign policy is to bring peace and security to the world, and its full integration into the multilateral cooperation framework is one of its basic policies. Germany aims to build close and concrete
partnerships with EU member states and transatlantic partners, firmly stick to the transatlantic alliance with the United States, stay active participation in the United Nations and the Council of Europe and facilitate the European security architecture within the framework of the OSCE[8]. After the East-West conflict, German foreign policy encountered both opportunities and difficulties. On a multilateral basis, Germany took on the responsibilities that fell on its shoulders after the reunification of the two countries in 1990. Germany is contributing to the stability of crisis areas and the political settlement of conflicts through a multifaceted and ever-increasing effort. In addition, Germany is involved in maintaining peacekeeping agencies and contributes to crisis management by sending personnel to UN-mandated peace missions. Germany provides humanitarian assistance to those who are in severe distress and unable to cope with because of crises and disturbance. From this prospective, Germany depends on the United Nations, the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, as well as German and international humanitarian NGOs. Being a principle-based contributor, priority has been put to the needs of people who are struggling in disasters. Furthermore, Germany is engaging in comply with humanitarian international law and humanitarian principles and protecting humanitarian space. By abiding and adhering the principles of EU, Germany will continue to further its critical role in the global environment.

3.2 EU and France

In the process of building up Europe over the last five decades, French governments have became major component in shaping EU institutions and policy process. French governments was committed to realize national pursuit by guaranteeing the development goal and policy which are in accordance with EU’s framework. However, the aims of what France was trying to achieve are not always be identified clearly. At times, the development plans are remain unclear through misleading public statements. In recent years, there is a prominent tendency in the European Unionof Frenchification in the field of integration. First, there is an indication that redistribution exists in the monetary policy in the Euro Zone and in the fiscal policy of the EU, which coordinates with the requirement of solidarity by France; second, France's deep-rooted ‘economic patriotism’ is being transformed, to a greater extent, into industrial policy and protectionism in the EU; third, the French concepts of“European sovereignty”and“strategic autonomy”are becoming the EU’s geopolitical demand. The tendency of Frenchification of the EU is not only the result of efforts of Macron’s government, but also more closely related to the global situation and changes within the EU, particularly the changes of the American society and political landscape as well as the Brexit. The Frenchification of the EU could lead to a more federalized EU, or lead to separation and retrogression due to increased internal tensions. The EU’s Frenchified development will have a profound geopolitical influence.

Being the second largest energy consumer in Europe, the ongoing development in the French renewable energy sector is a crucial component to realize European energy and climate goals for 2030 and 2050. In recent years, there is a small but fast developed renewable energy sector in France. France has also set clear targets to increase proportion of renewable energy in overall energy consumption to 32% by 2030[9]. However, it put challenges for France to enforce these targets because of the domestic policies and implementation difficulties. By putting forward relative regulations and policies, the possible barriers can be removed to achieve the goals. As the most successful regional international organization in today's international society, the European Union has experienced more than half a century of development. In the entire development process of the European Union, France has always been the leading force in promoting the development of this regional international organization. The development of European integration is mainly to better safeguard France's own interests, and to strengthen France's position in the international community through the establishment of a "strong Europe". When development goal within specific countries is coordinate with that of Europe, these countries are unlikely to withdraw from the EU. By comparison to UK, it can be seen that the irreconcilable contradiction between UK and EU has finally leads to the Brexit.
3.3 EU and other developing countries

EU has long been dedicated to facilitate the communication and cooperation with developing countries. The EU development assistant is to provide finance, personnel and technology aid, which is an important part in strengthening the economic relations with less-developed areas. In consideration of colonial connection in history, economic development and long-term security strategy, since 1957, EU has long been put its priority in promoting connections with developing countries [10]. In 1980s, after Jerry Rawlings took power, the political and economic development in Republic of Ghana is on the right track, when EU started to adjust development assistant policy, put forward human right protection, develop democracy and promote good governance. In the process of economy, politics and society development of Ghana, assistance from EU is a crucial external force, which is really important to Ghana’s development in recent 30 years. According to statistics, the amount of assistance from EU to Ghana was up to 1200 million Euros. In the sense of political development, EU has adjusted the policies regarding development assistance from 1980s to focus on development process of Africa, providing financial support to improve human rights, development democracy. As a consequence, EU can promote African countries’ political transfer and maintain its own interest. With EU’s financial support, Ghana adopted active and flexible development policy and promote its development successfully [11].

In ninth June, 2015, India’s Ministry of Economic Affairs and the French Development Agency signed a donation agreement worth 3.5 million Euros. Funded by the European Union and financed by its Asian Investment Fund, This aid is to carry out finance sustainable development plans for Indian cities. The director of India said that the project is aimed at providing financial support for three cities in India, Kochi Nagpur and Ahmedabad[12]. It aims to improve infrastructure, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, attract foreign investment and prompt sustainable development of cities. The program stems from the International Initiative for Sustainable Urban Development, held in Paris in December 2015.

Overall, EU’s assistant policy impacted countries in Africa profoundly. Though the aid from EU in some specific cases have truly further the development of economy and politics in Africa countries, due to many factors involved, the overall effects of human rights, democracy and good governance was unsatisfactory. There are limited number of countries start their all-around development after getting assistance of human rights, democracy and good governance, a large number of countries in Africa are still in a poor situation. State operations remain heavily dependent on European aid. By adding more political conditions, EU tried to facilitate human right protection, democracy development and good governance implementation, hence strengthen the influence to Africa.

4. Conclusion

By listing the links and coordination between EU and other countries above, it can been seen that in most of the cases, EU plays a positive role in advancing national development. Because of the limited space, in the section of ‘European and other developing countries’, the failed assistance that EU provided to Zimbabwe was not listed. Same as UK, EU could not mediate between Zimbabwe’s long-term lagging economic development situation and its unwillingness to obey EU’s human right perception, which leads to the total collapse of the economy and recession of democracy. The EU’s long-term aid to Zimbabwe has basically been invalidated, and Zimbabwe has become the most representative failure case. This again evokes an inference that domestic policies are the driving force in the international environment. When institutions can meet the need of specific countries, these countries could choose to cooperate with institutions. Whereas conflicts and contradiction will occur when the core political values diverge between state and institutions.

International institutions like EU can be a leading force in the global forum. EU proves its vital role in dealing with international affairs, developing regional economy and facilitating cooperation between countries. However, when EU meet with domestic policies, its role seems limited. How to
address this problem, how to mediate between states, how to coordinate between institutions and domestic complex disputes is still a challenge to EU in the future.

References


[9] Sartor, Oliver. What can EU policy do to support renewable electricity in France?, Working Papers N°06/16, IDDRI, Paris, France, 28 p


