

## THE ROLE OF DIPLOMACY IN THE COMMON FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

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**Abstract:** *The aim of this article is to characterise the importance of diplomacy in the Common Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union. In connection with such a defined objective the following research problems have also been formulated: 1) What is the genesis and meaning of the term diplomacy? 2) What is the significance and influence of diplomacy in the European Union? 3) What is the European External Action Service and what significance does it have in in diplomacy? 4) What impact does the Common Foreign and Security Policy have on the European Union's integration service? The answers to the above questions clearly outline the importance of diplomacy in the Common Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union. From the outset, it has influenced the European Union's action on the international stage, particularly at foreign policy level and in the operation of the European External Action Service. The effects of the diplomatic steps taken can be seen, for example, in the cooperation undertaken with the European Union's most important partners in the world. The method of analysis, synthesis and inference has been used to realise this aim and answer the research problems.*

**Keywords:** *diplomacy, European Union, Common Foreign and Security Policy, European External Action Service and Security Policy, European External Action Service.*

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Diplomacy is of great importance in everyday life. We can see it at university, at work, even at home. It is worth asking whether and why diplomacy is so important in the foreign policy of the European Union. In answering this question, it is important to remember the fundamental principles which have guided and continue to guide this international organization. In addition, as has been mentioned above, diplomacy is on everyone's agenda. The techniques and principles used in this field are very helpful in a situation of negotiation or establishment of common priorities in a given interest. For this reason, its value increases even more in the case of politics, defense operations on a national or international level. Thanks to it, states are able to solve a large number of conflicts or "uncomfortable" situations. However, in order to fully understand this thesis, the term diplomacy, foreign policy and the relevant bodies that are responsible for it in the European Union need to be properly explained. Therefore, the aim of this article is to characterise the meaning of diplomacy in the Common Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union. In connection with so defined objective, the following research problems have also been formulated:

- 1) What is the genesis and meaning of the term diplomacy?
- 2) What is the significance and influence of diplomacy in the European in the European Union?

3) What is the European External Action Service and what significance does it have in diplomacy?

4) What impact do the Common Foreign and Security Policy have on the European Union's integration service?

The method of analysis, synthesis and inference was used to realise the aim thus assumed and to provide answers to the research problems.

## 2. DIPLOMACY - ORIGINS AND MEANING OF THE TERM

The official origin of the term can be traced back to 1789, when the politician and philosopher Edmund Burke explained the term "as the body of procedures by which states maintain common political relations". [1]

However, it is worth mentioning that diplomacy already existed in ancient times. The word *diploma* in Greek referred to two tablets, joined together with thongs and covered with wax. According to Richard Frelek, these tablets were the equivalent of a solemn document that granted privileges. By privileges one could understand e.g. a permission to travel [2]. On the plates were placed instructions, powers of attorney for deputies, who were elected as representatives of special missions [3]. It is worth noting, that the institution of diplomacy had its beginnings in ancient times, thanks to which it is considered the oldest in diplomatic relations.

There are many definitions of the word *diplomacy* and they can be found using various sources such as dictionaries, encyclopedias, definitions created by diplomats. It is worth remembering in such a situation that it is reduced to define the foreign policy of the state [4]. One can also find expressions that diplomacy is the process of conducting international relations, which de facto can be considered true. It consists, among other things, of negotiations and other measures which are peaceful in nature.

The world, moving forward all the time, expects from a diplomat the ability to the prevailing situation in a given country or in the world, but also the ability to negotiate, which in practice may prove difficult depending on who is sitting across the table. Delving into the mystery of the definitions of diplomacy, it is worth distinguishing a few of them.

Henry Kissinger is a good example of the initial use of the term, i.e. as a synonym for foreign policy. Treating diplomacy as a general policy (the United States is an example), and then there is the separation of policy from the means of its implementation [5]. In turn, according to Ernest Satow, it is "the application of intelligence and tact to conduct official relations between states". The author also states that threats and the use of force are most often less effective than intelligent conversation using appropriate arguments that have been adapted to the current situation [6].

It is worth remembering that diplomacy is not just the art of argumentation, but also a certain political process. Through it, states maintain direct or indirect relations, and then pursue jointly defined objectives and interests in the international arena. The functions of diplomacy can also include representation, communication, the aforementioned negotiations or the protective function (of citizens beyond the borders of the state) [7].

Diplomacy can also be seen as one of the mechanisms that serves to steer international processes. Raymond Cohen described it as the most important mechanism to solve international problems or disputes. These include crime or various kinds of international crises [7]. Moreover, the word *diplomacy* is used to describe the team of people who are employed in the Foreign Service. This has a great deal to do with the talent or skills that people who want to work as diplomats must have.

### **3. THE IMPORTANCE OF DIPLOMACY IN THE EUROPEAN UNION**

The European Union is one of the communities operating in the world, thus integrating 27 states. According to the Treaty on European Union, *the Union shall offer its citizens an area of freedom, security and justice without internal frontiers, in which the free movement of persons is ensured in conjunction with appropriate measures with respect to external border controls, asylum, immigration and the prevention and combating of crime.* [8]

Despite many years of cooperation and activity, the representatives of the Union must not forget that it must represent itself on the international scene as a coherent actor. The role of the European Union itself in the international environment is of great importance, but its perception by other states depends on the political culture, the level of knowledge present in a given country, on the religion or beliefs prevailing there. The role of the European Union itself is important in the international environment, but its perception by other countries depends on the political culture, the level of knowledge in a given country, on religion or beliefs in a given place, and therefore cooperation is often not easy.

International organisations can have many functions and roles. This was demonstrated by Clive Alert, who distinguished several of them. The first may be a role that is used when dealing with important foreign policy issues for member states. The second might be the forum, which is where representatives of member states hold consultations or negotiations and can establish agreements. A third role is that of an independent entity in international relations. [9]

The European Union is a player in international relations, and one of the pawns it can use is public diplomacy. Brian White, captures this international organisation as an actor that is multilateral as well as unique. The member states come together and the aim is to act diplomatically on the international stage. [10]

However, the European Union's public diplomacy is quite complex and complicated. The dual nature of this type of diplomacy can be seen, for example, in the creation of an internal image and the relations that exist between it and external actors. This has been very interestingly described by Robert Putnam as the theory of the two-level game. The very term was created to explain diplomatic negotiations and their nature, at the same time indicating the relationship between the actions taken "inside" and "outside" of this international organization. [11]

Public diplomacy itself can be associated mainly with action in international relations. However, it should be remembered that all the steps that are taken within an international organization such as the European Union have an impact on external action. After all, nowadays, it is very difficult to separate what is inside and what is outside is very difficult to separate. This is most often caused by the access to the same amount of information, regardless of whether it is inside the EU or abroad. [12]

### **4. THE EUROPEAN EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE AND ITS ROLE IN DIPLOMACY**

The creation of a real diplomatic actor is a long and slow process, but it is worth noting that diplomacy has been present in the European Union basically from the very beginning. A huge influence on the development of this organization was the creation of the European External Action Service. From the day it was established, for the first time in the history of modern diplomacy, a non-state entity has its own foreign service.

Meanwhile, diplomacy within the European Union demonstrates its flexibility and ability to adapt to changes taking place in the world. [7]

The creation of the European External Action Service was intended to streamline all international coordination and to play an independent role in politics. [7] The activities of the European External Action Service are very much related to with foreign policy, but also go beyond its classical areas. One can the activities of the European External Action Service are very much related to foreign policy, but they also go beyond its classical areas. All of this makes the European External Action Service an external factor for the European Union [13].

In addition, they are aimed at preventing the creation and spreading of conflicts, however, in order to achieve this goal, a group of skilled individuals must acquire an appropriate information base that will be helpful in reducing the threat. There are preventive measures that are used in specific situations that pose a danger on a larger or smaller scale. These are divided into long-term, such as trade development, protection of human rights, and short-term, which are mainly related to diplomacy. [13]

## **5. COMMON FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY AT THE SERVICE OF EUROPEAN UNION INTEGRATION**

The Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), is an area that was established on the basis of the Maastricht Treaty, which relates to intergovernmental cooperation. It covers all areas related to the foreign and security policy of the European Union. It is implemented and defined by the European Council and the Council. It is carried out by the representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs, as well as by the Member States. [14]

Already in the early 1970s, the European Political Community (EPC) was established. This structure was dedicated to the full political integration of the European Union. However, after many years, the European Political Community was replaced by the Common Foreign and Security Policy. [14]

The Common Foreign and Security Policy have gone through many transformations, but the most significant occurred after the Lisbon Treaty. The CFSP ceased to be regarded as the second pillar of the European Union and started to operate as one of the policies. The aim of this reform was to increase the role of the European Union on the international scene. [14]

All the activities and objectives of the Common Foreign and Security Policy are enshrined in the Treaty on European Union. The document clearly states that *the Union shall define the objectives and pursue common policies and actions, and shall seek to ensure a high degree of cooperation in all fields of international relations(...)*. [15]

The European Union's foreign policy is primarily aimed at: maintaining peace, strengthening international security, supporting international cooperation of all kinds, consolidating democracy and the rule of law, upholding human rights and fundamental freedoms. [16]

It is a very important fact that the European Union cooperates with many partners in the world. The aim of the Union itself is to strive for partnership among the members of this international organization, and one of the most important principles is to build on common interests and advantages. [16]

Derived from the Common Foreign and Security Policy, is the Common Security and Defence Policy. Its objective is to ensure the operational capability of the CFSP based on civilian and military actions. Additionally, it is related to crisis management, which is implemented by European Union structures. The scope of CSDP activities is limited to missions of a peaceful nature; in addition it prevents any conflict or escalation

of danger in the international arena. Activities undertaken in missions conducted by the European Union can be classified as: disarmament operations, humanitarian and rescue missions, military advice and support missions, conflict prevention and peace-keeping missions, armed crisis management missions, including peacemaking and stabilisation operation missions. In addition, every action taken under the CSDP is consistent with the Charter of the United Nations. The creation of this body has led to the continuous development of the defense policies of the EU Member States. An example of development can be seen in the emphasis on continuous training. The European Defense Agency identifies all requirements on an ongoing basis and supports in their implementation. [15]

## **6. SUMMARY**

From the outset, diplomacy has had a huge impact on the functioning of the European Union, which is a *sui generis* player on the international stage. It can be seen most clearly at foreign policy level or in the operation of the European External Action Service.

It can be seen most clearly at the foreign policy level, or in the operation of the European External Action Service. Many years of cooperation and activity have strongly influenced the development of public diplomacy in the European Union, but representing this international organisation is challenging to represent, because it has to be shown as a coherent player, and the perception of the EU through other states is a very important element in the action taken. Here, it is worth mentioning the division of the European Union into four pillars, thanks to which the steps taken by EU representatives complement each other. The first of these is coherence, which is the ability to express a considered view on policy. The second is power, the legal scope of the European Union in international relations. The third is autonomy - the ability to take steps avoiding the influence of Member States, while bearing in mind their welfare. And finally, the fourth pillar is the view of others of the European Union as a potential player on the international stage.

Thus, the EEAS, as the EU's foreign service, ensures that policies on the international stage are coherent and effective, while raising the profile of the European Union itself in the world. Having an independent role in foreign policy allows it to go beyond its core areas of activity.

Thanks to the diplomatic efforts of the EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy and Security Policy, the EU works with the most important partners in the world, including including regional powers and groups. All this makes it easier to establish contacts with other non-EU countries and fully expands it's horizons.

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