

# THE CONTEMPORARY EUROPEAN UNION

The EU's role as an international security and humanitarian aid actor  
11 November 2010

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# STRUCTURE

- Military globalisation

- war system,
- global arms,
- governance

- EU's CFSP

- policy areas,
- history,
- limitations,
- future (strategy),
- instruments

# NATION-STATES

- Territorial sovereignty
- State = nation
- Right of self-determination
- Formal equality between states (international law / settled by force)
  - Westphalian model

# WAR SYSTEM

- Current 'trends' in geopolitics / global conflict:
  - US military superpower
  - Declining significance of military strength?
  - Fragmentation of warfare
  - Diffuse threats

# GLOBAL ARMS DYNAMIC

- Cold War
  - Arms race
  - mid-1980s spending was \$190 pp per year
- Military-Industrial-Complex
- Big Western firms (Krupps, Vickers, Armstrong)
- Exaggeration of Soviet threat?

# GLOBAL ARMS DYNAMIC

- Post-Cold War
  - Commercialisation of the arms industry
  - Per-capita spending is much more now (c.4% GDP in US)
  - Dual-use threats are considered greater
  - Today's booming security industry – surveillance equipment, 'riot control' etc
  - Small arms unregulated trade
  - War on terror...

# GLOBAL MILITARY GOVERNANCE

- NATO / UN
- International law becomes more prevalent/prominent
- Arms control agreements

# THE EU'S CFSP

- A political framework for EU external action?
- “It is my belief that in this global age a Union of our size, with our interests, history and values, has an obligation to assume its share of responsibilities...The question, therefore, is not whether we play a global role, but how we play that role.”

Javier Solana, 2002

- Does this mean, e.g., that the EU needs an army?



# CFSP

- The TEU (Title V) stated the objectives of CFSP were:
  - To safeguard common values, fundamental interests, independence and integrity of the Union in conformity with the principles of the UN Charter;
  - To strengthen the security of the Union in all ways;
  - To preserve peace and strengthen international security;
  - To promote international cooperation
  - To develop and consolidate democracy and the rule of law, and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms

# EU AS SECURITY ACTOR

- CFSP is result of efforts to recognise that the EU has an external role to play.
- Stems from 'EPC' (1970 - Luxembourg Report), which originally had no institutional basis.
- 1993 TEU. Secretariat of CFSP was incorporated by Council Secretariat

# EU'S ROLE IN POST-COLD WAR SECURITY ISSUES

- CFSP Policy areas
  - Defence
  - Conflict Prevention
  - Civilian Crisis Management
  - Non-proliferation & disarmament

# SECURITY STRATEGY (2003)

- Global Challenges
  - Terrorism
  - WMD
  - Regional conflicts
  - State Failure
  - Organised crime
- Link to development issues

# INTERNAL IMPACTS

- Repercussions for internal politics
  - Surveillance and civil liberties
  - e.g. protection and privacy of an individual's data

# LIMITATIONS OF A CFSP

- Major disagreements have occurred between EU member states, which have held back convincing, coherent, and unified activity.
- Multiplicity of tasks to carry out: no policy area is an island (internal / external issues).
- Duplicity of roles within EU institutions - what role for the EP??
- Leads to a 'credibility - expectations gap'.

# EUROPEAN SECURITY STRATEGY

- New strategy involves increasing:
  - capability
  - coherence
  - co-ordination

# INSTRUMENTS OF EU EXTERNAL AFFAIRS I

- Diplomatic
  - High Representative (Javier Solana)
  - Troika
  - Political dialogue
  - EU Special Representatives



# INSTRUMENTS II

- Economic
  - European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights (1994)
  - Financial aid stopped or reduced 32 times between 1998 and 2002 for lack of respect for Human Rights

# INSTRUMENTS III

- Military
  - ESDP (St Malo 1998)
  - Crisis Management Capability (60,000 troops, plus the management structures to deal with this)
  - First used in Macedonia (CONCORDIA)
  - 'Conflict' with NATO arises

# DISCUSSION POINTS (POSSIBLE ESSAY TOPICS)

- Does terrorism and the subsequent war on terror impact on globalisation?
- Is there a role for the EU to play in military security?
- What relationships between internal and external security exist in the European context?



# DEVELOPMENT POLICY AND HUMANITARIAN AID

# DEVELOPMENT POLICY

- The EU distributes c. €7 billion in aid to 150 countries.
- EU has a long history: in mid-1990s already the world's fifth-largest donor; in 2002 EU (and EUMS) gave 51% of global total of aid.

# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- 'Development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs'
- In 1987, this emerged as a central term, coined by the Brundtland Commission. Adopted into European policy shortly after, in all aspects (cf. Göteborg Presidency Conclusions, 2001 as follow on from Lisbon Agenda).

# EXPLAINING THE EU'S DEVELOPMENT POLICY

- History (legacy of imperialism)
- Geography
- Strategic Interest
- 'European Values'
- ***NB: THIS IS MINIMAL COVERAGE, YOU SHOULD (HAVE) READ B&V CH5 FOR MORE***



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- EU itself doesn't have a legacy of imperialism, so can afford to try new approaches to development.
- Post-Cold War period saw launch of ECHO (1992).

# GEOGRAPHY

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- These countries have been termed the ACP
  - African
  - Caribbean
  - Pacific

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There is a distinction between Aid and Crisis Management (Aid = EuropeAid; Crisis Management = ECHO)

# LINK SECURITY AND DEVELOPMENT

- “Security is the first condition for development” (ESS)
- Why?
- Rhetoric?

# 'EUROPEAN VALUES'

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'Consensus on Development' (14/02/2006) priorities for development policies from the EU:

Adhering to the UN's Millennium Development Goals  
Broadening of development agenda to include political, social, cultural, human rights, and good governance issues  
Conditionality to the above, and  
Peace and security (reduction in violence)

See [http://ec.europa.eu/development/body/development\\_policy\\_statement/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/development/body/development_policy_statement/index_en.htm)

# HUMANITARIAN AID

- ECHO is a political beast (end-Cold War, Iraq, Yugoslavia).
- ECHO works as Commission DG - mainly using own funds.
- provides around 25% of global humanitarian assistance.

# ECHO - HOW WORKS

- “Global needs assessment”
- Forgotten crises
- Four priority areas:
  - 1. Children
  - 2. Water
  - 3. Disaster preparedness
  - 4. LRRD (relief, rehabilitation, development)

# ECHO - EVALUATION

- Should EU focus on reacting to issues, or should it try to prevent them in the first place?
- Should this be subject to 'conditionality' argument as well? ("gap filler")
- Is ECHO a political body or not?