

Dyplomacja w Unii Europejskiej



INSTYTUT
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ABOUT THE PROJECT



The "Young Diplomats" project was aimed at young people (high school and University of Silesia students) who were interested in the broad issue of diplomacy. Thanks to it, they were able to learn the basic issues of of bilateral and multilateral diplomacy, learn about the mechanisms of the formation of diplomatic and consular relations and consular relations between countries, learn about the peculiarities of diplomatic missions to various international organizations, and learn the basic issues of public international law (history of diplomacy and international relations, internal and external bodies in international relations; immunities and diplomatic privileges; peaceful settlement of disputes between state actors).

Through the project, participants were able to increase their awareness of diplomacy and awareness related to European values and fundamental rights in the context of their implementation during the diplomatic missions of member states and diplomatic missions of the entire community. During the course of the project, participants also gained competence in digital competencies, particularly related to critical thinking. As a result, they increased their resilience to fake news, particularly that related to international relations. An important aspect of the project was active participation in meetings with people actively involved in diplomacy. These included honorary consuls, consuls general, ambassadors or foreign ministry staff. In addition, some activity blocks were conducted by scholars, specialists in international relations and public international law. These were mainly lecturers from the University of Silesia. Thanks to the combination of theoretical and practical aspects, the participants of the project had the opportunity to take a broader look at diplomacy and learn about its specifics from the official side and that which concerns the ordinary, everyday life of diplomats of various levels.

WHAT IS THE EUROPEAN UNION?

The European Union is a community of 27 countries located in Europe. The idea of creating the European Union came about after two major wars in Europe. Countries in Europe then realized that it was more profitable to cooperate than to fight each other. Initially, 6 countries started cooperation: France, Italy, West Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg. These countries formed separate international organizations under two treaties (the Paris and Rome Treaties). These were the European Coal and Steel Community, the European Economic Community and the European Atomic Energy Community.

In the near future, the constituent states of the communities began to reform them by implementing successive treaties, which finally led to the formation of the European Union in 1993, when the Maastricht Treaty came into force.



From then on we can talk about the European Union, but not in the sense of subjectivity - this was only created in 2009, when the Lisbon Treaty came into force. At present, the European Union is a relatively unified structure, consisting of the following countries: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden. It is worth noting that previously the European Union had 28 countries. In June 2016, Britain decided to leave the Community. As of January 31, 2020, Britain is no longer a member of the European Union.

In its activities, the European Union is guided by the objectives set out in the treaties. The goals are divided into those pursued within the EU territory and on a global scale. The first category includes promoting peace and prosperity for EU citizens, as well as scientific and technological progress. The EU's missions also include combating social exclusion and discrimination, promoting social justice and social protection, equality between women and men, and the protection of children's rights. The global goals, on the other hand, include working for peace and sustainable development in the world and promoting solidarity and mutual respect among nations. All the goals are enshrined in Article 3 of the Lisbon Treaty.

An important aspect of the EU is its values, which are enshrined in Article 2 of the Lisbon Treaty and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. The fundamental values of the European Union include human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and human rights.

The European Union is a unique community in the world. On the one hand, it is similar to an international organization, but on the other hand, it is something more. It has its own parliament, anthem, its own currency and and a judiciary, which makes it similar to a state, although it does not have its own army, for example. It is worth noting that its most important organs, namely the European Commission, the European Council and the European Parliament, in their activities resemble the cooperation of the President, the Council of Ministers and the Parliament.

DIPLOMACY OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Every entity of international relations, in order to participate in international trade, creates institutions. The same is the case with the European Union. As Zygmunt Janiec writes, according to the decision of the Council of the European Union, EU diplomacy is to function in a manner similar to the model of typical diplomacy of modern states. The organizational structure of EU diplomacy is based on two pillars. First is the central administration, and second is the network of foreign missions. The central cell is based in Brussels and consists of:

- 1) the High Representative, who serves as head of the service;
- 2) the Secretary General, whose job is to manage the budget and administrative affairs;
- 3) a deputy secretary-general;
- 4) a directorate-general consisting of a number of smaller organizational units, which are formed according to both territorial and substantive criteria.

According to the decision of the Council of the European Union on July 26, 2010, EU diplomacy is to operate in accordance with the traditional model of the diplomatic service. In the same decision, the Council also defined the tasks of EU diplomacy, in which it listed: representing the interests of the Union as a whole; assisting the High Representative in fulfilling his dual set of responsibilities, i.e. as the person responsible for the implementation of the Common Foreign and Security Policy and as Vice President of the Commission coordinating the external activities of this Union body; ensuring the coherence of the external action of all Union bodies (mainly the Commission); providing support to all military agencies of the Union (including the European Defense Agency, the EU Satellite Center, the European Security and Defense College and Defense); representing Euratom's specific interests in international forums; interacting in countries of office and in international organizations with the missions of the Union's member states (including the ongoing transmission of important information to each other); supporting, at the request of the Union state concerned, the protection of the interests of its citizens in the country of office.



These are de facto consular activities that EU delegations can perform, provided that this does not entail additional expenses. In addition, EU diplomacy is tasked with carrying out all the routine tasks of the diplomatic service. We are talking here about representation of interests, gathering and analyzing information about the countries of residence, brokering contacts or handling visits by EU officials.

The above is an overview of the diplomacy carried out by the European Union. It is worth noting that diplomatic activities can be divided, if only by the subject matter they deal with. Thus, we can talk about cultural, scientific or climate diplomacy, among others.



CULTURAL DEMOCRACY OF EUROPEAN UNION

One of the important segments of EU diplomacy is cultural diplomacy. It is a strategy for promoting European cultural values, its heritage, languages, arts and, most importantly, intercultural dialogue on the international stage. It is an integral part of the broader issue of the European Union's foreign policy. Its main goal is to strengthen relations between the EU and other countries through cultural exchange, education, dialogue and cooperation. Cultural diplomacy is an important segment of diplomacy in general. As Marta Ryniejska-Kiełdanowicz and Magdalena Ratajczak note, currently an undeniable challenge for Europe is the rise of various types of nationalism, the increase in cases of discrimination, the rise of racism, the spread of populism and the fact that the idea of diversity in the European Union is no longer understood solely as a value. It is worth noting trends such as migration, which are triggering discussions on "foreignness in Europe." The EU's programs in this regard have always emphasized the need for intercultural dialogue, combating expressions of xenophobia or racism, and building relations between the societies of European, North African and Middle Eastern countries. Cultural diplomacy conducted by the European Union can be defined by the following five points:

1 Promoting Cultural Values: the EU's cultural diplomacy aims to highlight common European values such as democracy, the rule of law, respect for human rights, gender equality and sustainable development. Through cultural cooperation and exchange, the EU seeks to strengthen relations with third countries based on these values.

2.Promoting Intercultural Dialogue: The EU aims to promote dialogue and understanding between different cultures and religions. By supporting educational projects, artistic exchanges and cultural events, the EU aims to build intercultural bridges and counter prejudice and conflict.

3. Multilingualism: The European Union is a multilingual area, which is a unique feature of its culture. Promoting linguistic diversity and translating literature and cultural content is an important aspect of EU cultural diplomacy.

4. Strengthening Soft Power: Cultural diplomacy is a tool to increase the influence of the EU's soft power in international relations. By promoting culture, arts, education and science, the EU can build a positive image

and gain sympathy among the societies of other countries.

5. Fostering the Development of Creativity and Innovation: cultural diplomacy can also help promote creativity, innovation and the transfer of experience in the areas of culture, arts and heritage.



SCIENCE DIPLOMACY OF EUROPEAN UNION

European Union science diplomacy is a strategy for promoting scientific cooperation, research and innovation between the EU and other countries and intercultural scientific dialogue on the international stage. It aims to strengthen relations, exchange knowledge and experiences, and support the development of science and technology on a global level. Its most important goals can be considered to be:

1. science and technology cooperation: the EU's science diplomacy seeks to build scientific partnerships and technology with other countries. Through the exchange of researchers, scientists and engineers and joint research projects, the EU seeks to contribute to the development of science in the world.
2. exchange of knowledge and good practices: The EU promotes the exchange of knowledge, experience and good practices in the areas of science, research and innovation. This allows countries to benefit from the achievements of other countries and adapt them to their needs.
3. Solving common global challenges: through scientific cooperation, the EU seeks to contribute to solving global problems such as climate change, public health, cyber security or food safety.

4. Supporting the mobility of researchers: The EU promotes the free movement of scientists, researchers and students between countries. Programs such as Horizon Europe (Horizon Europe) are important tools for supporting the mobility of scientists and funding international research projects.

5. networking: science diplomacy helps in creating networks of cooperation between scientific institutions, universities, research centers and innovative companies at the international level.

6. Strengthening the EU's position in global science: through active science diplomacy, the EU can strengthen its position as a global leader in science, technology and innovation.



CLIMATE DIPLOMACY

Climate diplomacy is an equally important aspect in EU diplomacy. Climate diplomacy is a type of classical diplomacy that promotes international cooperation, focusing on environmental and climate change issues. The activities undertaken within the framework of climate diplomacy fall under the third generation of human rights. These include the human right to live in a healthy environment.

The European Union's climate diplomacy refers to efforts and strategies to combat climate change through international negotiations and cooperation. This includes the EU's commitment to promote climate action with stakeholders, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, adapting to the impacts of climate change and meeting the goals set out in international agreements such as the Paris Agreement. EU climate diplomacy promotes cooperation and influences global climate policies and agreements. This includes diplomatic activities such as bilateral and multilateral negotiations, participation in international climate conferences, and building alliances and partnerships with other countries and regions.

For example, the EU cooperates bilaterally with EFTA countries. Climate dialogues are held with Andorra, Monaco and San Marino, Indonesia, South Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean. The political dialogue with India has been ongoing since 2016, focusing on climate issues.

Introducing the so-called climate assumptions in EU climate diplomacy. Climate issues are presented, including participating in public and cultural diplomacy in activities related to humanitarian aid; an example is the New European Bauhaus. As Karolina Derynska points out, the EU itself describes itself as a pioneer in the international arena in matters related to issues and actions aimed at achieving climate neutrality. The European Union has set itself the goal of achieving climate neutrality by 2050. It has decided to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55 percent by 2030. In 2022, \$180 billion was spent on climate change.

