

GLOBAL STATUS OF THE WORLD ORGANIZATION

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Abstract: Nowadays, international organizations have become a frequently discussed issue, in both the economic and political spheres of human activity. During their development, they helped states to overcome crises and wars, encouraged the development of international trade, and, through either cooperation or integration, they helped solve the economic and social problems of many countries and regions of the world. In an increasingly globalized world, international organizations play an important role. They are active in economic, social, educational, cultural, environmental, and scientific fields, among others. International intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations influence not only international relations but they have been affecting the lives and behaviour of all generations on and out of our planet for many years. Today there are more than 75,000 international organizations around the world scaling from the small organizations established between neighbouring states.

Keywords: economic and political spheres, international relations, economic and social problems.

1. INTRODUCTION

First of all, to make clear this paper and better understand international organizations, there is a need to define them from the different perspectives. It is a very difficult task to define them exactly so that I have decided to use definitions of well-known authors in the field of international law and then to summarize them. International organizations could be described as a formal, continuous structure established by agreement between members, whether governmental representatives or not, from at least two sovereign states with the aim of pursuing the common interest of the membership, covers a wide range of institutions even if profit-making associations are excluded. This does not mean that an international organization is an entity independent of its member states, but that any power that international organization has is delegated by its members.

In order to be considered an international organization, the minimum number of members must be at least two countries but some resource, three members as a minimum. However, international organizations may involve actors other than states. There are many international organizations which are they members of other international organizations, for instance the EU is member of FAO, and founding member of the WTO. Generally speaking there is no rule that international organizations have to be made of states. The division from the legal point of view depends on nature of the body of law governing the activities of the organization as well. We speak of intergovernmental organization if the international law is used. On the other hand if the activities of organization are governed by domestic law, organization is considered as non-governmental even though activities of such entities may have international character. Furthermore, international organizations are established as a result of a juristic act, to be more precise, by a treaty concluded between the founding members. The organization is not party to the treaty under which it has been established but such treaty is the basic instrument of the organization. It is like a constitution for the organization. Despite this fact, not all organizations are based on treaty. Instead, it is possible to create them by the legal act of an already existing organization (e.g. the United Nations has created several agencies like United Nations Children's Fund UNICEF and many others). Another key to remember is that international organizations are established between their members in order to serve specific tasks. They are based on functionalism - to fulfil certain functions so that they are specialised. For instance

international organization can be established in order to design and coordinate the rules relating to civil aviation or like International Criminal Court to prosecute and to judge individuals accused of having committed international crime. Last but not least, a relevant feature of international organizations is that they are equipped with permanent organs. Those organs are usually a secretariat made of international civil servants and some governing body where the members of the organization are represented. And those organs will make the organization an institution with its habits its character and its internal culture.

2. GLOBAL STATUS

In today's increasingly globalizing world, international organizations are of crucial importance. The realist state-centric view does not make so much sense any more as major problems go far beyond the state borders, and thus cannot be resolved only by a specific state. In this chapter, I shall bring out some of the main aspects which make up the necessity for international organizations in my opinion. Although the physical borders of states are obviously not completely obsolete by today, then the unification of the world through globalization gives less importance to the state as a unit. The number of issues which do not affect only one or a few states, but more or less the whole world, or at least huge parts of it, has seemingly increased. Therefore it is not fair, or even realistic, to rely on the hope for having a single state independently deal with the problems. For an effective and efficient attempt to collectively work on global issues, international cooperation are a must. In order to successfully tackle the problems collectively, the creation of international organizations is a convenient step in reaching the goals, as it would definitely put several obligations on the members, which would eventually improve the chances of resolving the issues.

One of the examples for current global problems would be the deterioration of the environment, and climate change. In both of these contexts, there definitely is a possibility to point out some states which contribute to the worsening of the conditions more, and which contribute less. However, in the end it does not have so much importance, as the results greatly affect areas which can be very far from the main 'culprits', especially when it comes to climate change. It does, thus, not even seem reasonable to assume that a state would take immediate action to change its behaviour if it does negatively affect another state's natural environment, but not so much that of itself or the states in its close vicinity. Therefore it is useful to have international organizations take the lead in encouraging or even forcing states to take necessary actions in directions which would eventually bring about positive results in resolving or at least relieving the problems.

Another example would be the migration of peoples. Especially in the recent years, the intense migration into Europe has increased to a level of crisis. Although some would argue that this should not be something for everyone to deal with but rather for the states which are directly influenced by this cannot be denied that as it has developed into a large scale problem, then in order to find any plausible solution, it would be most sensible for states to collaborate on the issue. Therefore the creation of an international organization for helping to secure the borders for illegal immigration would be a good idea in starting to solve the problem. Indeed, the states which are not directly impacted by the migration would probably not be too eager to contribute because it is easier to dismiss the issue and its relevancy by deeming it a responsibility for some other states. However, it is clear that it should be taken as a general problem which affects directly or indirectly all of Europe, so the action should be taken collectively.

The reason for creating international organizations in the first place has historically been the establishment and maintenance of peace. It is important that the states have the institutions for negotiating and trying to resolve their disputes peacefully, and not having to immediately resort to aggression. Although the quality and effectiveness of the war and aggression prevention through international organizations can be rather questionable on many occasions, then at least there is a possibility for working out the solutions in a peaceful manner. In conclusion international organizations are in general of significant importance in the world of today. The main reason for that is the globalization which has brought along a myriad of problems which could not be solved at the state level, as they in their essence ignore the traditionally agreed on borders of the states. Therefore, in order to successfully tackle these global problems, which include inter alia environment contamination, climate change, or migration crisis, the states should work closely together. The creation and utilization of international organizations is a useful tool to encourage that kind of cooperation between states, as well as giving a possibility to resolve disputes peacefully.

3. INSTITUTIONAL EVOLUTION

Pressing challenges that the world has to face in the 20th and 21st centuries gave rise to a discussion highlighting the transition from the classical interdependence relations to globalization in the international affairs, or the next step towards more integrated societal, economic and political relations where the importance of national features and national borders goes down in the era of societal denationalization. The social understanding of cultural differences and values changed and transformed into a homogenous cultural amalgam as revolution of the infrastructure facilitated to a large extent transnational contacts in trade, social interaction and politics. Combined with proliferation of contacts between states with the help of advancing telecommunication technologies, the 20th century made it impossible for traditional bilateral and multilateral agreements to work at a global scale.

From the other perspective, globalization went hand in hand with a process of regionalization under the umbrella of the American imperium. Nation states are no longer interested in their independence and sovereignty as well as conventional alliances with their neighbours. Rather, globalization resulted in a system of open and porous regions crossing the borders and oceans. The alliance of the NATO members' encompasses the unity of the North Atlantic region, the former Soviet Union countries eschewed federal or confederal unions but arranged into the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

Thus, scholars argue that cooperation and integration are two guiding principles under which the international organizations formed in the past two centuries. When giving up a part of its sovereignty and autonomy, states pooling their resources seeking either cooperation based on common interests and norms. In this case, states are willing to achieve a uniform interpretation of norms, guidelines and accepted agreements among all member states. It is employed to maintain and raise effectiveness of both local and supranational institutions through joint management as self-interest of an individual entity does not bring efficient results. The institutionalism scholarship emphasizes the mechanism of cooperation as the basic instrument to ensure that common interests of states are met. It emerged in the aftermath of the First World War and was further strengthened after the Second World War as countries finally came to a decision that to survive they would need a common understanding of the world order. This required not a traditional state authority but sharing it with other actors in a system of multilevel governance. Secondly, the problem of failed and ineffective states made it clear for many countries that they could implement effective policies only within a framework of more advanced and capable states.

For liberals, international organizations serve as the best instrument to solve collective action problem and implement relevant solutions at a global scale. The United Nations and its specialized agencies were created with an aim to seek an informed solution for a particular area of content between the states. According to the first article of the UN Charter, its main goal is to maintain peace and security in the international community. Therefore, it respects the sovereignty of the state and like any cooperation-based institution, requires the state consent for any action to get implemented.

Regionalist international institutions such as BRICS and ASEAN, went far beyond mere security alliances and established mechanisms based on their regional identity and the size of the economy. ASEAN has special national committees on the central banks, industries, monetary bodies, air and socio-cultural activities and it proved to be efficient in regional cooperation without applying the EU model as the ASEAN members overcome a security dilemma and restrained their behaviour on a reciprocal basis. Next, BRICS and MERCOSUR make an attempt to create their own regional banks to reduce their dependence on more developed countries and strengthen cooperation with like-minded states with a similar economy size. Moreover, as international organizations, BRICS actively engage in global crisis management – the skill highly sought after the 2008 Financial Crisis. The initiative to launch a New Development Bank was set up in the aftermath of the IMF pointless efforts impose strict rules on infrastructure loans. From this perspective, regional cooperation institutions allow to establish alliances bypassing other international.

The integration agenda became prominent in the European Union where countries affected by two bloody wars and ethnic cleansing in the first half of the 20th century were faced with an issue of no longer being competitive in the market. Apart from the need to cooperate with each other in order to survive, European states felt the need to create a free trade area or economic union to facilitate further expansion of the market and develop the region and production through liberalisation of their economies. The idea that a liberal approach to the market functioning brings about development promoted further integration of economies at a global scale. Worldwide market, from this point of view, is analysed as a chance for the state to manifest its readiness to develop closer relations with other countries that in turn results in exchange of best practices and ideas to inform the state's development agenda.

Since globalization brought about a higher level of interconnectedness in terms of travel of goods, time and space, the distinction between the local and the global annihilated, hence giving rise to a global marketplace of goods and services. As such, a new global financial system emerged allowing a rapid and invisible transfer of large amounts of money between developed cities and even remote areas. The challenges of globalizing gave rise to a new type of international organizations based on the principle of the integration where certain sovereign rights of the participants get alienated in pursuit of a larger unit to achieve larger common goals, usually economic or political ones. To describe this type of international organizations, scholars coined a term of supranational institutions, or organizations where member states give up their sovereignty and autonomy to a certain extent in order to achieve higher economic or political status.

The European Commission works as the main legislative body of the European Union and has a sole right of legal initiative. It is a supranational body because its decisions in a form of directives and regulations are legally binding upon the member states which limit their capacity in the sphere of law making greatly. This international body enjoys large powers when it comes to trade issues, monetary policy, fisheries policy and some others as Brussels has an exclusive competence in this area, leaving no room for the member states to bypass the decision and normally pre-empt national policies. This formula of competence was introduced to ensure that drastic regional, economic and political differences of member states do not come in the way. With each enlargement and integration of countries belonging to the European region geographically, albeit not economically, the international organization played a role of the only body able to solve and pre-empt issues stemming from the very fact that the state was small or in the process of active developing. Should there be no exclusive competence of the European Commission in the area of establishing the competition rules in the internal market, the dominating and leading companies of Germany and France could quickly take over the whole business in the Southern region leaving them with no option but to join monopolistic conglomerates. As neo-functionalists explain, states become members of integration-based organization being motivated economically as it helps overcome high transaction costs and informational deficits. Hence, supranational nature of the integration-based organizations provides for achieving common goals on equal regardless of the size of the states' economy.

Similarly, the WTO mechanism is rooted in roughly the same principle as it is aimed at combatting the issues of dumping, unregulated prices, unequal competition and so on. A diverse alliance of countries joining the WTO and willing to find global markets to absorb their production accentuated the need to harmonize the sizes of the economies and apply uniformity of laws to trade relations. The People's Republic of China which offers one of the lowest prices on its goods, India that manufactures 60% of the world gems and gold market, after having joined GATT contributed immensely to the misbalance of economic powers within the system. Substantial differences in national laws stalled international trade as long as predatory pricing eliminating competitors created an unhealthy competition. Therefore, the international organizations developed elaborated and implemented mechanisms to determine norms in the interests of the common good.

Finally, the pressing challenge of environmental changes proved only cooperative measures not useful enough. The United National Environmental Programme established in 1970s was not efficient enough to translate the need of environmental protection to other member states. Only with the creation of a comprehensive supranational policy for climate change of the EU, it allowed for a collection of enough data to describe the scale of environmental hazards and danger as it aggregated the environmental matters across all economic fields, for example, in a steel industry. By offering a cohesive overview and ample evidence of how the animal diseases, for instance, affect the global trade international organization contributed to a policy making and politicized the issue of the environment.

4. CONCLUSION

Scholars and currents of thought disagree not just about the reason why we need them but even if they are necessary in today world. What we can witness is that many IOs have been fundamental through the history, as the NATO for the security of Europe during the Cold War and still in the present day. However, it also to be admitted that, also for the amount of the actors involve and the complexity of the issues faced, some mistakes have occurred, as the plan created by EU to help Greece to come out of the crisis. Then it is inevitable to ask why we need OIs if they are not able to achieve their goals. However, without IOs a situation in which for the same issue countries could take initiatives that are opposing and could have deleterious results. The current events make the presence of international organizations vital. With global and transnational issues it seems obvious that to reach coordination and collaborations among nations and to develop common policies in various fields the IOs have a primary role.

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