

European Union Actorness in Environmental Protection in Asia Taiwan as a Case Study

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Abstract

In the past few years, environmental issues have become much more severe than before. Each nation has devoted themselves in protecting our vulnerable Earth due to the consequences of industrial revolution and the current climate change. Through the developing of the European Union (EU), it is now considered as a powerful global leader in international environmental policies and further disseminate its value toward the whole world. Hence, after the release of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015, environmental protection become one of the key issues that many nations are focusing on. When people mention “role”, “actor” or “actorness”, they will consider whether the EU itself is an efficient actor of global environmental policies, which is recognizing its responsibility and obligation toward this global issue. With the criteria of “Presence”, “Opportunity” and “Capability” that have been proposed by the several scholars, it is possible to understand and study the EU’s involvement in global environmental policies in Asia. The “coherence” consists of the global dimension and then focus on domestic policies of each nation. It is vital to assess whether the policies that the EU has made could actually be implemented in Taiwan or the policies has changed during the way of processing. Testing and analyzing these criteria represents the main objective of this paper and inferring their the meaning reasonably through the events mentioned in the paper. Consequently, testing these criteria needs to assess what kind of policies the EU has done in Asia and how does it disseminate its value in Taiwan. All in all, the criteria of defining actorness in the paper will be separated into “Presence”, “Capability” and “Cohesion” when EU implement its environmental policies.

Keywords: European Union, Actorness, Sustainable Development Goals, Paris Agreement, Climate Change, Environmental Protection, Taiwan