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PRAWNE, POLITYCZNE, GOSPODARCZE I INFRASTRUKTURALNE PERSPEKTYWY ROZWOJU RYNKU LNG W UNII EUROPEJSKIEJ

ABSTRACT Legal, political, economic and infrastructural perspectives of the LNG market development in European Union

The European Union is one of the biggest world gas consumers. At the same time, it is highly dependent on supplies from the Russian Federation. In particular, the countries of the Baltic Region, as well as Finland and Central Eastern Europe states are almost fully dependent on Russian gas. The global decrease in oil prices in recent months has led to similar price reductions on gas market. It also contributed to bigger discount on LNG supplies' price to the European Union. The EU has now a great opportunity to diversify its gas supplies and increase energy security level through wider use of liquefied gas. LNG market creates the opportunity to buy gas on competitive prices and renegotiate on-going long-term contracts. Liquefied gas is widely used not only to produce electricity but also in automotive, petrochemical and medical sector. Full implementation of existing EU legislation, as well as the finalization of an EU strategy on the LNG market will guarantee gas imports at competitive prices to EU countries. However, particular attention should be given to expand gas interconnections and gas storage facilities.

KEYWORDS LNG, liquefied natural gas, energy security, gas supply, European Union

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FACING THE AMERICAN “PIVOT” TO ASIA: EU’S ROLE IN THE POWER-BALANCING GAME IN EAST AND SOUTHEAST ASIA FROM A NEOREALIST PERSPECTIVE

ABSTRACT

The rise of China and the “pivot” to Asia announced by the US pose new geopolitical challenges that should be recognized and properly addressed by the European Union. Adapting elements of the neorealist perspective on international relations, this article intends to briefly analyse current and possible role for the EU in the Asian power-balancing game. It also examines the capabilities, interests and deficiencies of the EU as a security actor in the Asia Pacific, and investigates whether the EU’s capacities are enough to potentially counterbalance other powers in Asia. Even though there are numerous shortages to the EU’s “actorness” and capability to act, it is still the biggest economy in the world, which can be successfully translated into leverage while counterbalancing other powers. Also, developed expertise in non-traditional security matters as well as recent institutional developments provide for the EU’s stronger international presence and growing power capacity. However, this potential needs to be well managed. The EU suffers from leadership deficiency and lacks a strong, coherent strategy towards Asia that could match the one of the United States. Such strategy is essential for the EU’s security and economic prosperity given growing interdependence between Asian Pacific and European economies as well as increasing role of the Asian powers in global affairs. Especially the rapid growth of China brings several implications not only for the general world order, but also for the EU’s position in its hierarchy. Often the power-balancing game in Asia Pacific is depicted as centring around the US-China rivalry for influence. Having in mind that the US is one of the key players in the region, also the EU-US partnership needs a new, Asian dimension which could determine the further role of the transatlantic alliance in a changing security environment. Finally, all comes

down to a question not only about the EU's capacity and willingness to become a global power; but also about if it can afford not to become one.

KEYWORDS *neorealism, EU-Asia relations, EU security and foreign policy, pivot to Asia, balance of power*

INTRODUCTION

The end of the Cold War brought fundamental changes to the international system. The long-established balance between two Great Powers, the United States and the Soviet Union, disappeared, bringing destabilization and uncertainty to world politics. A short moment of unipolarity is passing away giving the stage to the emerging multipolarity. From the realist perspective, a multipolar world carries the biggest potential for conflict. New powers demand their share in global politics; old powers seek to retain their status quo. In the post-bipolar era the growing political and economic significance of Asia turn the region into a subject to the world's geopolitical game. Barack Obama's administration already addressed the challenge and announced the US "pivot" to Asia, strengthening diplomatic and military presence on the Asian continent. On the other hand, the oldest American ally – Europe – represented by the European Union seems to be rather sluggish recognizing the shift in power politics and addressing it properly. Is there a role for the European Union in Asian power balancing? What are the EU's capabilities, interests and deficiencies as a security actor in the Asia Pacific? And, finally, are the EU's capacities enough to potentially counterbalance other powers in Asia?

This article intends to analyse the position of the EU as an actor in the Asian power-balancing game, taking into consideration the EU's unique hybrid character and resulting capabilities and limitations. Adapting elements of the neorealist perspective on international relations, the article looks first into the available literature on the contemporary international system and the EU's position in it. Based on the recent developments, the essay provides some arguments for the EU's security and economic interests in Asia. Secondly, this article examines the EU's ability to engage politically and become a fully-fledged security actor in Asia, given its institutional set up, economic, military and leadership capacity as well as declared foreign policy's priorities. That is to be followed by an insight into a current state of EU-Asia relations. Subsequently, the article's focus is shifted to the present-day role of transatlantic partnership in Asia, the nature of US engagement in the Asia Pacific and their implications for the EU's "actorness" in the region. The final section provides a short summary of presented arguments as well as conclusions which can be drawn from them. In this article, the emphasis is put primarily on international relations in East Asia, consisting of China, Japan, Taiwan, North and South Korea, and in Southeast Asia, comprised of ASEAN members. The author recognizes that for the full picture of

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NARODY NIEROSYJSKIE W ARMII CZERWONEJ PODCZAS II WOJNY ŚWIATOWEJ

ABSTRACT Non-Russian nations in the Red Army during World War II

The subject of this article is the service of non-Russian soldiers in the Red Army during World War II. Each part of the article describes the struggle of people of the USSR: the Ukrainians, Kazakhs, Georgians, Latvians, etc., as well as some nations outside the borders of the Soviet Union. Each part is divided into four sections: general statistics, national units created in the parent republic of a nation, senior commanders and soldiers with special achievements derived from a particular ethnic group and works of mass culture, which reflect the participation of soldiers in combat operations. The aim of this article is to introduce to the Polish scientific community the extremely important issue non-Russian Red Army soldiers and destroying the popular myth in Poland: that the RKKA was allegedly armed force composed exclusively of Russian element.

KEYWORDS *The Red Army, World War II, the Soviet Union, the USSR, history of Eastern Europe*

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PROCES KSZTAŁTOWANIA STATUSU DYSTRYKTU BRCZKO PO ZAKOŃCZENIU KONFLIKTU W BOŚNI I HERCEGOWINIE

ABSTRACT Evolution of the Brčko political status after the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina

The article presents the evolution of the political system of the Brčko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina. This neutral, self-governing administrative unit under the sovereignty of Bosnia and Herzegovina was established after an arbitration process undertaken according to the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, known as the Dayton Agreement. A lot of effort was put in order to arrange the organizational framework of the District. The article describes these efforts and discusses the current structure of the political system and the division of powers within the District, including the specifics of the District's regulations as well as its advantages and disadvantages. In his article the author also presents his views on the efficiency of the implemented organizational solutions as well as the chances for applying the experience gained by the international community and Bosnian politicians in future discussions on the constitutional reform in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

KEYWORDS *Bosnia and Herzegovina, political system, Brčko District, Dayton Peace Agreement, international protectorate*

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KAMPANIA WYBORCZA 1989 ROKU JAKO PRZYKŁAD KAMPANII PREMODERNIZACYJNEJ

ABSTRACT The 1989 parliamentary election campaign in Poland as an example of pre-modern campaigning

The significant change in the characteristics of political campaign communication has been acknowledged and examined by a plethora of scholars from various disciplines. A great deal of a scholarly community members have tried to coin their own theory, which would convincingly interpret this new reality. The aim of this article is to present specific features of pre-modern campaigning. The nature of this phenomenon is shown by analysing the 1989 parliamentary election campaign in Poland, which perfectly fits into the model described by Bogusława Dobek-Ostrowska, Mariusz Kolczyński and Janusz Sztumski. The author focuses primarily on campaign coordination and dominant channels for political campaigning. The campaign's financial resources and role of external professional consultants are also examined.

KEYWORDS *Polish parliamentary election campaign, pre-modern campaigning, evolution of political campaign communication, campaign organization, 1989*