

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

TO: PROFESSOR CHILDS

FROM: [NAME]

SUBJECT: POLI-180 SIMULATION ASSESSMENT

DATE:

Europe Union Goals

The European Union is trying to come up with a more comprehensive method of controlling the refugee situation in Turkey. To accomplish this, it strives to initiate peace talks and cooperation with Yemen, and it tries to safeguard its economic interests by discouraging terrorism. The European Union has a mission of maintaining peace between the warring nations for the same reason. In this light, it has considered ending the sales of firearms to Saudi Arabia if the country does not stop using them to violate human rights. The goals mentioned above are the short-term objectives of the Union.

One of its long-term goals is to increase economic trade between countries in Europe and the Middle East. It is also “trying to encourage countries in the Middle East to improve on the issues concerning human rights”¹. The EU is currently working on ending the conflict in Syria, and it is doing this by opposing the forces that cause destruction and intolerance, such as ISIS. The EU achieved its short-term goals; however, it failed to achieve long-term goals because the allies of Iran were against those of the US.

Team Dynamics

The EU tried to establish peaceful negotiations and partnerships to oppose the warring nations. The EU started peaceful negotiations with Yemen to discourage terrorism and negotiations between Iran and the USA in an attempt to end the war. It offered partnerships to

¹ Neill Nugent, *The Government and Politics of the European Union*, 7th ed. (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010).

Turkey as a member of the EU. In addition, they united with warring countries like the USA against Iran. They also introduced sanctions to make the warring sides more corporative.

The EU does not have one decision-making body. “It has a triangular commission that makes and implements the laws”². The commission proposes the legislation that is further adopted by the parliament and the council. This institutional triangle provides laws and policies that are applied throughout the EU.

The process of decision-making involved different members of the European Union, which led to the disparities in opinions. For example, “The EU executive made decisions to sanction other outcries while sidelining with others who were in a conflict which created disagreement in whether to sanction the identified countries or not”³. This process arose because some country members established strong trading relations with the countries facing sanctions. In addition, the EU decision of considering stopping the sale of arms to the countries that were using them to abuse human rights underwent debates. On the other hand, there were disagreements regarding the recommended actions because the countries under discussion were relying mostly on weapons to defend themselves.

Negotiations

Negotiations were a primary tool the EU used to establish peaceful relations between the countries that fought each other, since “The EU fought for this peace so that it could attain its economic interests without being destructed by terrorism”⁴. In cases where negotiations failed, the EU sided with one of the countries to fight the other or sanctioned that which was responsible

² Michelle Cini and Nieves Pérez-Solórzano Borragán, *European Union Politics*, 5th ed. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016).

³ Simon Hix and Bjørn Høyland, *The Political System of the European Union*, 3rd ed. (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2011).

⁴ Jeremy Richardson and Sonia Mazey, eds., *European Union: Power and Policy-Making*, 4th ed. (Abington: Routledge, 2015).

for the cause of destruction and intolerance, as in the case of the war between the US and Iran.

The EU tried to employ negotiation efforts, which proved to be futile. The Union was then forced to side with the US and sanction Iran. Through negotiations, the Union initiated cooperation and peace with Yemen to discourage terrorism.

In dealing with these foreign pressures, the EU faced the challenges of the disruption of their economic activity and the spending of more time to try and end the conflict rather than concentrating on their economic strategies. For example, Yemen “triggered war on its boundaries giving the EU a hectic time in its trading activities”⁵. In the case of Saudi Arabia, which participated in the human rights violations, the US had to place an arms embargo on the country until it stopped its violent acts, which meant that the members of the EU had to stop trading arms with Saudi Arabia. Consequently, the countries in the EU that manufactured firearms lost their market in Saudi Arabia.

Lessons Learned

Throughout the simulation, many lessons have been learned, including those related to the protocol of justification the EU had to use to establish peace, the formation of allies between the rivaling countries, and the European Union allowing partnership relations with some of the countries and fully supporting them just for the sake of peacekeeping. In addition, the EU needs to employ other strategies in peacekeeping, since more strict measures other than negotiations would be useful to end wars. The Union needs to form peacemaking strategies that analyze the causes of the wars instead of forcing the wars to end without determining the reasons behind them. The negotiation efforts that involved the EU siding with one country in fighting the other did not work. The country being fought against tried to retaliate by forming trade relations with other nations. Moreover, it is critical for the EU to consider the country’s allies before deciding whether to sanction it or side with other nations to fight it.

⁵ John McCormick, *European Union Politics*, (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2011).

I believe that the concerns identified in this memo will be for the benefit of the EU.

Yours faithfully,

James Bolton,

Foreign Minister of France