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**Master's degree in
Human Rights and Multi-level Governance**

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS FOR A STRUCTURAL CHANGE IN A GLOBALISING WORLD

EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

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Acronyms

- ACP : African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States
- AIDS : Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
- ACAI : Asociación de Consultores y Asesores Internacionales (International Association of Consultants and Advisors)
- BONGOs : Business Organized Non-Governmental Organisations
- BRICS : association of five major emerging national economies: Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa
- CEV: European Volunteer Centre
- CFSP : Common Foreign and Security Policy
- CIA : Central Intelligence Agency
- CIVICUS : "of the community", Latin word, NGO name
- CONCORD: European NGOs Confederation for Relief and Development
- CoR : Committee of the Regions
- CS: Civil Society
- CSO: Civil Society Organisation
- CSOs : Civil Society Organisations
- DAC : OECD's Development Assistance Committee
- DARE : Development Awareness Raising and Education Forum
- DE : Development Education
- DEAR : Development Education/Awareness Raising
- DEEEP: Development Education Exchange in Europe Project
- DevReporter Network : interregional network (Catalonia, Rhône-Alps and Piemonte) of journalists, university graduates and communication professionals of the area of International Solidarity (IS)
- DFID : Department of International Development
- DG : Directorates General
- DPI : UN Department of Public Information

- DWB/MSF : Doctors Without Borders / Médecines Sans Frontière
- EbolaMoDRAD : Ebola Virus: Modern Approaches for developing bedside Rapid Diagnostics
- EC : European Commission
- ECA : Economic Cooperation Administration
- ECSC : European Coal and Steal Community
- ECOSOC : Economic and Social Council
- ED : Executive Director
- EDY2015 : European Development Year 2015
- EEAS : European External Action Service
- EEC : European Economic Community
- EIDHR : European Instrument for Democracy and Human rights
- EP : European Parliament
- EU : European Union
- EURATOM : European Atomic Energy Community
- Eurostat : Statistical Office of the European Communities
- EYCA : European Year of Citizens 2013 Alliance
- FAO : Food and Agriculture Organisation
- FILODIAG : Ultra-Fast Molecular Filovirus Diagnostics
- FRAP : Frente de Accion Popular
- G10 : Group of Ten
- GCAP : Global Call to Action against Poverty
- GCE : Global Citizenship Education
- GDP : Gross Domestic Product
- GONGOs : Government Organized Non-Governmental Organisations
- GPG : Global Public Good
- GPGs : Global Public Goods
- HIV : human Immunodeficiency Virus
- i.a. : inter alia

- ICFO : International Association of Charity Monitoring Organisations

- iCSO : Integrated Civil Society Organisations System

- ID : Istituto Italiano Donazione

- IDEA : Irish Development Education Association

- IGOs : Inter-Governmental Organisations

- ILO : International Labour Office

- IMF : International Monetary Funds

- IPD : Institut Poly-technique Pasteur de Dakar

- IRC : International Rescue Committee

- ITC : Information and Communication Technology

- MDGs : Millennium Development Goals

- MEPs : Members of the European Parliament

- MFF: Multi-annual Financial Framework

- MLG : Multi-Level Governance

- MNEs : Multi-National Enterprises

- MS : Member State/s

- NAM : Non-Aligned Movement

- NATO : North Atlantic Treaty Organisation

- NGO : Non-Governmental Organisation

- NGOs : Non-Governmental Organisations

- NPO : Non-Profit Organisation

- NSA-LA : Non-State Actors and Local Authorities in Development

- ODA : Official Development Assistance

- OECD : Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

- OEEC : Organisation of the European Economic Cooperation

- OPEC : Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries

- OXFAM : Oxford Committee for Famine Relief

- PCSDG : Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development

- QUANGOs : Quasi Non-governmental Organisations

- R&D : Research and Development

- SDG : Sustainable Development Goal

- SDGs : Sustainable Development Goals

- SMART : Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant (for all countries), and time-bound

- TTIP : Transatlantic Trade Investment Partnership

- UN : United Nations

- UNDEF : United Nation Democracy Fund

- UNDP : United Nations Development Programme

- UNEP : United Nations Environment Programme

- UN-NGLS : United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service

- UNESCO : United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation

- UNHCR : United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

- UNICEF : United Nations Children's Fund

- UNTSO : United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation

- USSR : Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

- US : United States

- UK : United Kingdom

- VAT : Value-Added Tax

- WEF : World Economic Forum

- WFTO : World Fair Trade Organisation

- WHO : World Health Organisation

- WSF : World Social Forum

- WWII: World War Second

Introduction

In a continuous changing world, where the globalisation process connects everyone, the present governmental structures start to perceive their limits and cracks, due to the emerging of new issues and obstacles that cannot be overcome following the usual procedures. New issues and obstacles are now transnational, affecting the whole world, and for this reason new structures are necessaries in order to propose effective and modern policies capable of dealing within an evolving world. Crisis and emerging problems have led to the born of new issues and the necessary need of actors able to deal with them. The state is no more capable to answer alone to issues that go over its geographical and governmental boundaries, it needs the cooperation of all actors that are engaged with that issues, or at least touched by them. The society has increasingly perceived this incapability of state in fully guaranteeing the well-being of its citizens and has started to ask support also to Civil Society Organisations (CSOs).

CSOs today are strongly engaged with modern issues, more than it is possible to imagine. Due to their duality in being mediators within and between the global and local levels, CSOs are today gaining relevance and responsibilities and can give effective and positive contributions in the decision-making processes at all levels of governance.

This thesis has the aim to analyse the role of CSOs in our modern world, in order to assess if the contribution of CSOs is truly positive and what are the actual progresses done or in action that guarantee the cooperation between all the actors. In addition, it wants to respond to the question if this cooperation can bring practical and operative results, more effective that the ones achieved with the old structure where the state maintained the control.

The field where this contribution is more visible and where the need of a change is more urgent is the field of development and cooperation. In particular, the EU, due to its multi-governmental structure, is the actor that has more chances of building up and applying those changes. Indeed, MLG is the perfect path for enabling actors in cooperating and solving issues together, and the subsidiarity principle gives, to those

involved within the process, the possibility of giving their contribution, of being heard and being practically involved.

Thanks to my internship in Brussels done among the European Volunteer Centre, I had the opportunity of knowing closer the reality of CSOs at European level, of collecting materials and participating to numerous meetings and conferences, experiencing at practical level my thesis.

In addition, my multi-year experience at local level among different CSOs and NGOs has given me a strong background and the possibility to follow the practicality of my thesis and to reinforce my interests towards the topic.

The thesis will be divided into two main parts, each of them composed by two chapters.

The first part presents the general conceptual framework, with the main aim of giving to the reader the background and modern perspective about CSOs.

In the specific, the first chapter will deal with establishing the context, analysing the historical basis for the emerging of CSOs, from the end of the Second World War to the present. There will be considered the main international and regional organisational structures and their need for a change for being representative of the present world, following their first attempts done on the basis of neoliberalism and those done subsequently, like the creation of new goals (as the MDGs) and with the born of new networks for guaranteeing the representativeness of all actors acting worldwide (like the World Economic Forum and the World Social Forum).

The second chapter will contextualise CSOs as actors within a multi-actors governance, following their work among the different international and regional organisations and their crucial role in guaranteeing the fully implementation of Global Public Goods (GPGs).

The second part of the thesis will analyse the role of CSOs in the area of cooperation and development within the European Union framework. This area was chosen for its recent developments and so its need to reform the old structures for being fully committed to new emerging goals. Indeed, the SDGs support the principle of working

together, starting from their motto "No one left behind", talking about peoples and actors involved in the decision-making processes. The EU is making a lot of efforts for applying this principle. It feels itself directly responsible in doing that, due to its multi-governmental structure and its strong efforts and contributions done within the development cooperation area.

The third chapter will focus its attention over the CSOs presence at European level, dealing with the relationships between EU institutions and CSOs, showing the structure of CSOs and networks at European level.

The fourth chapter will deal with the case studies analysis. Starting with creating the background of development and cooperation, with the emerging of the knotty issue of the definition of it and the several efforts done for covering interests under the main myth of development, there will be analysed two case studies: the DEEEP project and the SDG Watch Europe partnership. These two cases are been chosen for their actuality; because they show different ways on how cooperation between actors could be developed; because they use different approaches; and finally because the DEEEP project is already concluded so it is possible to analyse the final results, while the SDG Watch Europe has just started to operate and so it is possible to make predictions.

PART 1: General Conceptual Framework

Chapter I: Context

Introduction

The way how human beings interact, share their knowledges and cooperate is changing over the time.

From the end of the Second World War, the majority of states had tried to create the so called "universalism", bringing together same hopes and aims for the creation of sustainable, effective and solid institutions, capable to govern over interconnected societies and to support states in the implementation of international norms, rights and goals. Their main critical point was the absence and involvement of other actors, creating a sort of exclusive international relation, able to influence, sometimes negatively, future steps of the world.

The globalisation process emerged stronger and faster than before, producing uncontrollable and unstoppable effects with permanent changes. The most affected by that was the role of the state: due to economic crises, increased awareness of their citizens and emerging of new actors in the international relations, states are suffering the effects of a drastic change in their structure, role and actions.

1. The Historical Facts

1.1 Globalisation Process after WWII

The WWII left the world astonished and disoriented. Civilians had been seriously damaged in their societal structures and believes, with soldiers coming back from the frontiers, misunderstood and alone. New weapons, such as the the nuclear bombs, and the threat of their use left space to a new feeling that emerged as response to this confusion and hopeless state of mind. It was the belief in a new world order, no more founded on conflicts and predominances, but based on cooperation, mutual respect and support[1].

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1 Keilor, W., R., *A world of Nations*, Angelo Guerini e Associati, Milano, Italy, 2007, p.11

1.2 A world in States' hands: The United Nations

The United Nations (UN), founded in 1945 in San Francisco, were considered the changing actor capable to apply this new world order. Born from the died League of Nations (created in 1919 and definitely substituted in 1946 by the UN) and from the wisdom of the necessary cooperation between states, the UN started a new period in the International Relations. Unlike the League of Nations, the UN structure gave the opportunity to each country to express their vote in the General Assembly and to make the decision making process more effective, thanks to a specific body, the Secretary General, despite some restrictions, such as the right to veto of some countries, in particular US and USSR. The UN were recognised as an international intergovernmental organisation playing a leading role in political, diplomatic, economic and social decisions.

It was something completely new for that period, standing on the fact that the international structure since 1945 was based on the Westphalia Peace, declared in 1648, where states were the only exclusive actors of the international law, totally autonomous and where the only end of the international law was the guarantee of states' coexistence[2]. The main role of the UN is restoring and safeguarding peace[3].

With the UN Charter relevant changes were put in action:
– subjects of international law are not only states, but also the single individuals, peoples and groups, non governmental organisations;
– international law is designated to accomplish goals, interests and values of the international community;
– the relations between states are based on principles of cooperation and friendly relations between peoples;
– new principles: the respect of human rights and the duty to solve peacefully controversies, with the prohibition of the use or threat on the use of force and the principle of auto-determination of peoples[4].

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2   Pariotti, E., *I diritti umani: concetto, teoria, evoluzione,* CEDAM, Italy, 2013, p. 47
3   *Charter of United Nations*, art.1, Chapter I, New York, United States, 1945
4   Pariotti, E., *I diritti umani: concetto, teoria, evoluzione,* CEDAM, Italy, 2013, p. 48

A "new international law" was created and so a new international order. What the UN establishes is an international structure where all actors can have a role, but where states maintain the last word in the decision making process.

Since the beginning of its life, the UN had to deal with huge issues on geopolitical matter, like the division of Germany. This country at the end of the war was divided into four parts between US, United Kingdom, France and USSR due to the decision taken during the Yalta Conference in 1945. However, the division was declared between the West and East Germany controlled respectively by US and USSR: two different approaches of government and two different political thoughts. This separation gave the rise to a silent and threatening fight, the so called "Cold War". The crucial point was the influence on Europe and so on the world.

The re-birth of a "clean" Germany was considered a great opportunity for the creation of a prosperous Europe, standing on the fact that, since the beginning of the war, Germany was the economic heart of Europe[5]. This initial virtual fight had its first break out among the UN: USSR and US have the veto right among the UN and so started what is known as "veto fight". These two countries started to impose this right when their opponent made a proposal and vice versa. The first episode concerned the admission of new states as Member States of the UN (Spain, Italy, the two Korean Republics). Another crucial knot was the disarmament question: the US supported the idea of an international agency for controlling the operation, while the USSR was against, believing that the majority of UN Member States were Western Countries, conspiring against USSR interests. This contrast increased the international instability and the world security failed between local conflicts without solutions and continuous postponements to peace agreements. During that years, several Members of the UN decided to solve their local problems using the article 51[6] of the UN Charter and stipulating regional agreements.

It was for example the case of the Arabic-Israeli war. In 1947, the United Nations

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5   Keilor, W., R., *A world of Nations*, Angelo Guerini e Associati, Milano, Italy, 2007, p.15
6   *Charter of United Nations*, art.51, Chapter VII, New York, United States, 1945

General Assembly promoted a plan for the partition of Palestine, for the following creation of two states: the Arab one and the Israeli one. This plan was opposed by Palestinian Arabs and Arabs States and, when in 1948 the State of Israel was proclaimed, they opened hostilities against it. Few months later, the Security Council put in place a mediation operation leaded by a UN Mediator supported by military observers known as the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO)[7], arrived in the region in June 1948. This operation failed with the attack in Jerusalem, where the UN Mediator Folke Bernadotte died. In 1949, the Peace of Rodi enlarged the Israeli area (more than the UN had assigned before) and later, in 1950, a tripartite declaration, between US, France and United Kingdom, declared the commitment of these three states in controlling the boundaries and guaranteeing continuous provisions to Arabic States and Israel.

Another case was the Korean war (1950-1953). When North Korea invaded the South Korea the war started and, thanks to the absence of USSR in a meeting of the Security Council as a sign of protest, the UN approved and organized a military intervention (with troupes of US, South Korea, United Kingdom, Italy and Turkey).

In 1946 the permanent Commission on Human Rights was created and officially established by the Resolution Adopted on June 21st 1946 made by the ECOSOC[8]. The USSR proposed to include under the denomination of "human rights" the right of self-determination of peoples and minorities rights. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was voted and adopted by the General Assembly on December 10th 1948, with the abstention of socialist states, South Africa and Saudi Arabia, despite this Declaration does not have legal force. The Commission is composed by one representative per each State Member of the UN, but art.3 of the Resolution of 1946 on "Working Groups of Experts" says that "The Commission is authorized to call in *ad hoc* working groups of non-governmental experts in specialized fields or individual experts".

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7 UNTSO, available from: http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/missions/untso/background.shtml
8 Economic and Social Council, *E/56/Rev.2*, 1 July 1946, available from: http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=E/56/REV.2

Despite the achievement of some goals, among the Security Council it was impossible to take any common decision: the majority of the UN was composed by Western Countries and this left room to suspicious thoughts from USSR towards the transparency in the decision-making process.

In 1955, after Stalin's death, the situation changed radically, especially for the admissions of new countries as Members of the UN. All the countries that were in line for becoming members, had the chance to formally enter and this spread the awareness that all the countries of the world, if were fitting with UN principles, could be Members of the UN.

After this previous peaceful approach towards a new change in the asset of the International Relations, a new problem arose: the development question. The Cold War until that moment had wasted money and the new countries entering in the UN understood the huge gap between the "Western world" and the "South".

In 1955 was announced the Badung Conference, the first large Asian-Africa Conference for the promotion of Afro-Asian cooperation against colonialism and neocolonialism. The 28 states that took part to this conference defined themselves as part of the Non-aligned Movement (NAM). This conference introduced new voices and new actors in the stage of international relations. In addition, it was crucial for accelerating the decolonization.

During the 1960s the historical distinction between "rich countries" and "poor countries", that was always existed, changed. Before the decolonization process, the "poor countries" were under the "rich countries" domination, while now this relationship did not exist any more. This change led towards a new goal for the emerging countries: the achievement of a medium-high level of development like US and USSR. But US and USSR had two different approaches towards development, despite this fact, they were both two industrial, economic and political big nations and they were seen as examples for achieving this new goal. The development challenge was a crucial element during those years, in particular for the Congo crisis and in the

decolonization process of South Africa and Rhodesia.

The 1980s were marked by the silence of the UN due to the opposition of US to any decision (election of the Secretary General, Convention on the Law of the Sea, military position) and increased with the retreat of US delegates from UN agencies and bodies (such as ILO and UNESCO). During these years the UN underwent to several reforms in its apparatus and structure, in particular the economic one. Thanks to this, the IMF and World Bank gained a rising role into the educational, sanitary and food policies, collaborating with UNESCO, WHO and FAO.
In 1988 the Geneva Accords redefined the peacekeeper role to the UN and in the same year the UN received the Nobel Peace Prize.

The fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, the political and logistical implosion of the USSR, the new relationships between Russia and US, strengthen the UN that regained its leading role in the world. The Cold War was declared finished and the UN could finally start to work for applying the original goals. However, with the NATO intervention in Kosovo after the failure of UN action in 1999, the Somalia and Rwanda crises (1992) the international terrorism, the proliferation of weapons of mass destructions and bankrupt in several states, this hopeful spirit came to end. In very few years the balance at the Security Council changed again and Permanent Members came back to have a leading role with some serious changes:

– conflicts were based on traditional power politics and defence of international interests;
– military instrument was considered the only one able to solve crises and diplomacy became less important;
– US were considered the main super power state in the entire world.

After September 11th 2001, the international system changed. A new "danger" needed to be defined: the transnational conflict, a conflict without a clear basis and clear responsible. For challenging this new kind of conflict, renamed by US as "terrorism", two wars were started under the principle of self-defence: the Iraqi war and the

Afghanistan war, the first one for the possibility that Iran had nuclear weapons and the second because Afghanistan was considered at the head of the attacks against US. When the US, supported by United Kingdom, decided to send troupes to Iraq, the Security Council had a negative reaction and also the public opinion. The British and American troupes occupied Iraq in 2003 without the consent of the Security Council.

The UN is a Intergovernmental Organisation (IGO) and this is the reason why states are the predominant and only actors that are recognized as Members of the UN. All the bodies and agencies of the UN are composed by representatives of the states parties.

The main organs of the UN are the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council and the Secretariat[9]. Their roles are established in the UN Charter. Then there are several agencies and bodies covering different fields, such as health (WHO), economy (World Bank, IMF), children (UNICEF), culture and education (UNESCO), refugees (UNHCR), women (UN Women), labour (ILO), trades (WTO).

Despite the different structures and roles, states compose both the General Assembly and the Security Council.

The General Assembly is composed by all Members of the UN, where Members are divided between the original ones, "[...] the states which […] sign the present Charter and ratify it in accordance with Article 110"[10], and other additional Members "Membership in the UN is open to all other peace-loving states which accept the obligations contained in the present Charter and […] are able and willing to carry out these obligations"[11].

The Security Council is composed by fifteen Members of the United Nations (listed in art.23.1, Chapter V of the UN Charter), that shall be permanent members of the Security Council, and ten other Members, elected by the General Assembly, as non-permanent Members of the Security Council[12].

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9   *Charter of United Nations,* Art. 7.1, Chapter III, New York, United States, 1945
10 Ivi, art.3, Chapter I, New York, United States, 1945
11 Ivi, art.4.1, Chapter I
12 *Charter of United Nations*, The Security Council, Chapter V, New York, United States, 1945

Officially and standing on this rapid historical excursus over the UN Structure, other kinds of Membership different from states are not included in the UN Charter, but the General Assembly every year publishes an updated "List of non-Member States, entities and organisations having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly[13]". This actors can participate to sessions of the General assembly without taking active part into processes. The only reference to a possible consultation of other actors, such as non-governmental organisations, is made in art.71, Chapter X of the UN Charter.

1.3 The European Union: the new supranational structure

At the end of the WWII, Europe was completely disoriented: no more enemies, no more wars, but a huge amount of civilians losses, cities destroyed and Germany, the heart of European economy, completely destructed and divided. However, Germany continued to be seen as the cornerstone for surviving from the economic crisis. In 1948, the US purposed themselves for helping Europe putting in place the European Recovery Program, also called "Marshall Plan". The main goals of this support were:

– the economic recovery for the European countries;

– policy of containment against the USSR expansion for the US.

What emerged from this solution was that economic problems could be solved only with cooperation and multi-lateral agreements.

Despite the rejection of the Marshall Plan by the USSR, it continued to be structured with the creation of: the Organisation of the European Economic Cooperation (OEEC), which main goal was to find out a general agreement on the allocation of American resources among the countries that joined the Marshall Plan; the Economic Cooperation Administration (ECA), which main goal was to supervise the European actions financed by American aid.

This economic cooperation stimulated European countries in strengthening their relations into something more structured, not only from the economic point of view. In 1949 the London Treaty created the Council of Europe, a supranational body with only

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13 General Assembly, *List of non-Member States, entities and organisations having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly*, available from: http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/INF/70/5

consultative role. The firsts states joining it were Belgium, Denmark, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Norway, Holland, United Kingdom and Sweden. This Council signed the first collaboration between Germany and France after the WWII.

Unfortunately, the Council of Europe started to be considered useless by some countries for its only consultative role and unable to take influential decisions. For this reason, in 1950, the French foreign minister Robert Shuman made the so called "Shuman Declaration", inspired by the diplomat and political economist Jean Monnet. This Declaration had the goal to put under the control of a common authority, open to all European countries, the Franco-German production of coal and steal. Starting from an economic collaboration, the main objective was to achieve a political integration between European countries.

The Shuman Declaration gave birth to the European Coal and Steal Community (ECSC), signed with the Treaty of Paris in 1951, an intergovernmental organisation based on a triangle of organs: the Common Assembly, a consultative body composed by members from Parliaments of countries; the High Authority, an independent and supranational body; the Council of Ministers, an intergovernmental body with the role to transform the decisions of the High Authority into rules in the single states All this structure was supported by a top-down process, where the public opinion was not considered directly. This structure survived alone until 1957, when the Treaty of Rome established the European Community composed by the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC), the European Economic Community (EEC) and the European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM). The political cooperation was one of the main ambitions of these countries, but what this agreement achieved at the end was only a strong, supportive and effective economic cooperation. At the beginning, the economic trade was closed to European countries, but a serious inflation forced to open it to a transatlantic partnership during the 1960s and 1970s.

With the goal of opening the path to a political cooperation, in 1975 human rights became a new goal for the European Community, thanks to the Lomé Convention, a trade and aid agreement signed between the EEC and ACP Countries. With the

collaboration of extra-European countries, the wish of a political cooperation re-emerged strongest than ever.

In 1992 the European countries assisted to the most important change of the European Community. The Treaty of Maastricht created the European Union and the path for the Euro. This radical development, influenced by the end of the Cold War and the burst of the globalisation process, made the EU a possible actor of change in the international field. In addition, the Treaty of Maastricht introduced the concept of European Citizenship and common foreign and internal affairs policy:

The Union shall be founded on the European Communities, supplemented by the policies and forms of cooperation established by this Treaty. Its task shall be to organize, in a manner demonstrating consistency and solidarity, relations between the Member States and between their peoples[14].

After the Treaty of Amsterdam (1997) and the Treaty of Nice (2001), that reinforced the structure of EU institutions, the Treaty of Lisbon declared the essentials basis of the European Union in 2007. The main goal of this Treaty is to develop democracy among EU and linked to global problems as a resolved actor. In addition the Treaty gives more power to the European Parliament, support the initiative of citizens, create a permanent president of the European Council and a new diplomatic service and establishes the division of powers between actors, agencies and bodies of the EU[15]. The EU bore as a supranational body based on five main mainstays: the European Commission, the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union, the Committee of the Regions and the European Council.

The European Commission (EC) has a supranational structure composed by one member per each Member State: "The members of the Commission shall be chosen on the ground of their general competence and European commitment from persons whose

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14 *Treaty on European Union*, Council of the European Communities, Commission of the European Communities, Maastricht, The Netherlands, February 7th , 1992
15 *European Treaties*, European Union, available from: http://europa.eu/eu-law/decision-making/treaties/index_en.htm

independence is beyond doubt"[16].

The European Parliament (EP) is a supranational institution per ascription and it is considered the most high and tested level of representative democracy in the international politic system. It is part of the decisional process and, depending on the field, has consultative, cooperative or co-decisional functions with the European Commission. It "shall be composed of representatives of the Union's citizens"[17].

In 1974 it was decided to organize regular meetings between heads of states and governments and calling them "European Councils". Today the European Council is a standing body in the European Union structure. It meets up twice per year and it is composed by all the heads of states or governments of Member States, the vote procedure stands on unanimity. It has competences over the CFSP and the defence politic.

2. The Effects of Globalisation Development

2.1 Emerging of Different Actors

What is largely supported by several scholars is that the figure of sovereign state is declining[18]. The Westphalia system, built in 1648, where the sovereignty of states was untouchable and unique, found its collapse with the Charter of the United Nations. Despite states maintain a primary role in the international relations, the existence of supranational bodies, the recognition of human rights, new duties and tasks, oppressed them inside and outside. From inside by local powers and independent actors, such as Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), Multi-National Corporations (MNEs), municipalities and districts, from outside by supranational powers and external rules of laws[19].

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16 *Treaty on European Union*, art. 9D.3, Council of the European Communities, Commission of the European Communities, Maastricht, The Netherlands, February 7th , 1992
17 *Treaty on European Union*, art. 9A, Council of the European Communities, Commission of the European Communities, Maastricht, The Netherlands, February 7th , 1992
18 Zolo, D., *Globalizzazione: una mappa dei problemi*, chapter 5 *Una Cosmopolis imperiale?,* Laterza, Bari, Italy, 2004, p. 13
19 Ivi, p.14

After the WWII, new actors emerged from the decolonization process, peace agreements, from the recognition that states were no more able to handle alone with new issues that the globalisation process was increasing, the so called "global problems":

guaranteeing peace through the prevention of local conflicts, the equal distribution of economic development, the supervision over financial turbulences, rational use of resources, ecological equilibrium, [...] , the repression of organized crime, protection of fundamental rights of human beings and in particular of women[20].

People started to be interconnected, entire populations recognized their needs and the failures of their states to answer them. Globalisation process forces states to act as transnational actors, despite boundaries still exist. The pressure coming from the globalisation process and so from all the actors involved, pushes towards something different than the unique voice of the state, pushes towards a sovereignty by all for all, the involvement of all actors in the decision making process. This imply a change, not the disappearance of the state, but its different collocation in a changing world, as Mark Malloch Brown said in 1999:

My own view is that we are seeing the emergence of a new, much less formal structure of global governance, where governments and partners in civil society, the private sector and others are forming functional coalitions across geographic borders and traditional political lines to move public policy in ways that meet the aspirations of a global citizenry[21].

Before the WWII the international equilibrium was fixed in the division of the world between specific countries. At the end of the war, with new emerging principles and the recognition of human rights this equilibrium started to disappear[22]. The Cold War tried to fix this phase, tried to stop the inevitable growth of the globalisation process, without

20 Zolo, D., *Globalizzazione: una mappa dei problemi*, chapter 5 *Una Cosmopolis imperiale?*, Laterza, Bari, Italy, 2004, p. 14

21 Human Development Report 1999, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Oxford University Press, New York Oxford, United States, 1999, p. V

22 Bauman, Z., *Globalization. The Human Consequences*, chapter 3, Polity Press-Blackwell Publishers Ltd., Cambridge-Oxford, United Kingdom, 1998

results: no more fixed and named forces, but several and spread actors, giving voice to all the people, fields, situations and issues of the modern world.

There is not an unanimous definition of the globalisation process, but it has three main characteristics:

1. contraction of the world, with the demolition of all the barriers;
2. intensifying of interdependence;
3. global sharing of cultural models[23].

The globalisation is often correlated to economic field of operation in particular with the increasing relevance of the multinational corporations that gained relevance and were able to establish trades and building a structure more "transnational" than "international", passing through countries and boundaries, without limitations and contracting directly with governments and de-localising their production. However, the economic part will be analysed in the following paragraph.

These steps were crucial in the identification of the central role of the individual in the international structure. The individual substitutes the state, is now the origin and the goal of the decision-making process, where problems arises and solutions are put in practice. The individuals are the subject of the international law and for this reason their voice must be heard. A new world structure was going to be built, new actors were intervening, but with the continuous attempts of states to prevail over other actors created critical situations and several dangerous efforts for maintaining their role.

2.2 Crisis of State's role and action

"For all our sakes we need to work together to build the frameworks of a new global society and economy that respect differences, protect the weak and regulate the strong. We must do so, however, in ways that are innovative and reflective of the new forces in our societies—and that keep markets free but fair"[24].

The main area of interest of globalisation is the economy, mainly for the drastic change

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23 Pariotti, E., *I diritti umani: concetto, teoria, evoluzione,* chapter 4, CEDAM, Italy, 2013, p. 130-139
24 Human Development Report 1999, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Oxford University Press, New York Oxford, United States, 1999, p. VI

from an international trade between states, to a global trade, where markets have a global dimension and their expansion does not have territorial limitations. This carries to positive effects such as a more efficient division of work, the destruction of production costs, the increase of productivity and so the reduction of poverty[25]. However, these changes need regulations, in particular political and international law regulations, in order to avoid the violation of human rights for the main interest of market trades. These regulations did not exist when the change from capitalism to neoliberalism occurred.

2.2.1 From Capitalism to Neoliberalism: between economic crises and wars

Within neoliberalism the state should act in order to guarantee that private property rights are respected without interferences in order to develop individual entrepreneurial freedoms and so assure the economic development needed for human development. Despite this guarantor role, the state cannot interfere with the private action, otherwise it will limit the freedom of the entrepreneur. It can act, it can unlock some situations, but it cannot control strictly the economic affairs.

Neo-liberalism is [...] a theory of political economic practices that proposes that human well-being can best be advanced by liberating individual entrepreneurial freedoms and skills within an institutional framework characterized by strong private property rights, free markets, and free trade. The role of the state is to create and preserve an institutional framework appropriate to such practices[26].

Since 1970s there was "an emphatic turn towards neoliberalism"[27] in order to safeguard their economic stability and collaborate with emerging financial powerful actors such as Multinational Enterprises (MNEs). This new actor can carry on several activities at the same moment in all over the world and plays a central role in the economic growth deriving from global production. In order to increase its profit, the MNE should work with minimum restrictions, guaranteeing its natural transnational structure: the

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25 Sen, A., *Rationality and Freedom*, Belknap Press, Cambridge, United Kingodm, 2002
26 Harvey, D., *A brief History of Neoliberalism*, Oxford University Press Inc., New York, United States, 2005, p. 2
27 Ibidem.

production is divided between different countries in order to reduce the complexity of international trade. MNEs are more productive than national firms because operate in scale and capital-intensive industries, giving large space of manoeuvre to R&D, they earn higher profits[28]. In sum, MNEs were considered the hearth of the globalisation process, standing on the economic point of view, because they were the first actor which field could used the firsts technological developments, while the US was the first state in establishing a strong relationship with them.

Between 1970s and 1980s there was the so called "Third Industrial Revolution", bore from the development of technology. But this technological advancement was accompanied by a serious economic default. In 1973 the involvement of US in the Yom Kippur war supporting Israel against Egypt and Syria was the crucial step. The only strongest weapon of the Arab coalition was the embargo of their main source: the oil. The OPEC (Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries) declared the embargo against Japan, Canada, the Netherlands, the UK and obviously the US, increasing the oil price by the 70%. This restriction caused a strong inflation and arises the unemployment level in the US. In 1975 the failure and scandals of the Vietnam war came into light creating a general mistrust of US population towards its representatives. The Bretton Woods Agreements (1944) fell. These Agreements established some rules for monitoring the international monetary politic, with the aim of governing the future economic relationships and to avoid the economic causes of the Second World War (protectionism). The dollar was elected as main currency and the IMF was created in order to eliminate the international imbalances, while the World Bank had to monitor the development. "Free trade in goods was encouraged under a system of fixed exchange rates anchored by the US dollar's convertibility into gold at a fixed price"[29].

In 1971 Nixon declared the suspension of dollar convertibility and the G10 (composed by Belgium, Canada, Germany, US, France, the Netherlands, UK, Sweden, Japan and

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28 Antonietti R., *Lecture 3: History of globalization and MNEs; downloaded from:* https://elearning.unipd.it/spgi/pluginfile.php/16874/mod_resource/content/1/Lecture3_history_MNE.pdf

29 Harvey, D., *A brief History of Neoliberalism*, Oxford University Press Inc., New York, United States, 2005, p. 10

Italy) abandoned the Bretton Woods Agreements[30]. Its institutions had to convert their aims and the IMF focused its attention on financing the developing countries with long-term loans instead of short term loans, increasing their dependence on them. The IMF became a long-term loaner, role that still covers today.

In 1978 the US crisis pervaded the world and the "Third World" countries started to protest against their financial gap between them and the members of G10 that also was causing an asymmetry in mass communication and information.

Since the end of the WWII, the state, that from the political and social point of view started to see its sovereignty decreasing, "became a force field that internalized class relations"[31] and "the coup in Chile and the military takeover in Argentina, promoted internally by the upper classes with US support, provided one kind of solution"[32].

2.2.1.1 The United Kingdom and the "Thatcherism"

The oil shock of the 1973 affected also the Western Europe with economic obstacles and political difficulties. All the Members State of the EEC had to deal with the increased price of oil.

The Labours in UK gained the power in 1974 but they lost it in 1979 giving the victory to the conservatories, with Margaret Thatcher as Prime Minister. She put in place a serious neoliberal plan, privatising important sectors of public industry and for this she was elected other two times, in 1983 and in 1987[33]. She started a fight against the power of Trade Unions, setting up a limit over the public sector pay and the inflation rates. In order to recover the economy, she increased the direct taxes, the interest rate and the VAT. Between the 1978 and the 1979 there was the so called "Winter of Discontent" during which numerous strikes took place against the effects of inflation.

Margaret Thatcher, called also "the Iron Lady", with her policies and neoliberal reforms

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30 Rostagni Meneguzzi, C., *Politica di Potenza e Cooperazione. L'organizzazione internazionale dal Congresso di Vienna alla Globalizzazione*, CEDAM, Italy, 2013, p. 313
31 Harvey, D., *A brief History of Neoliberalism*, Oxford University Press Inc., New York, United States, 2005, p. 11
32 Ivi, p. 15
33 Sabbaducci, G., Vidotto, V., *Il mondo contemporaneo. Dal 1848 ad oggi*, Chapter 29, Laterza, Roma Italy, 2011, p. 567

was able to apply the economic recovery, despite the unemployment rate started to decrease only from the 1990s[34].

2.2.1.2 The Chilean Crisis

In 1964 the Chilean population elected as president Eduardo Frei, from the Christian Democratic Party, supported by the US for his goal to put in place reforms for the alleviation of alimentary, residential and educative low conditions of population without undermining the power relations in the Chilean society. His adversary was Salvador Allende Gossens, from the left party (Frente de Accion Popular, FRAP) that wanted to put in place several social-economic reforms, like the division of small plots between peasant farmers and the nationalisation of copper companies that were under the US property[35].

The CIA financed tacitly the elections, and Frei remained at power until the subsequent elections in 1970. Allende presented himself again as a candidate with the same plan of the previous time and won. This was a signal for the US and for their commercial interests over Chile. The CIA put in place a plan for the destabilization of the Chilean economy and tried to establish a collaboration with the Chilean army against Allende, without success. Allende was put in safe and started his work as President democratically elected with the nationalisation of all the Chilean production, without compensations to US. This action leaded the US to impose reprisal sanctions against Chile like the informal embargo on loans by the World Bank and the suspension of all direct investments by US privates towards Chile[36]. As a result of US action, the inflation arose at 150% in 1973, followed by manifestations and strikes. The same year a coup d'etat took place, with the support of the MNEs that had interests there, and Allende died during the fights. The US recognized immediately the power to the general Augusto Pinochet Ugarte at the head of a military junta. He governed with an iron hand until 1988.

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34 Sabbaducci, G., Vidotto, V., *Il mondo contemporaneo. Dal 1848 ad oggi*, Chapter 29, Laterza, Roma Italy, 2011, p. 567
35 Keilor, W., R., *A world of Nations*, chapter VIII, Angelo Guerini e Associati, Milano, Italy 2007, p.289
36 Ivi, p. 291

With the support of the "Chicago Boys", a group of Chilean economists, founded by US, at the University of Chicago, started working in 1950s on a Cold War programme to

counteract left-wing tendencies in Latin America [...] their first job was to negotiate loans with the International Monetary Fund. Working alongside the IMF, they restructured the economy according to their theories. They reversed the nationalizations and privatized public assets, opened up natural resources (fisheries, timber, etc.) to private and unregulated exploitation (in many cases riding roughshod over the claims of indigenous inhabitants), privatized social security, and facilitated foreign direct investment and freer trade[37].

Foreign companies had guaranteed the right to repatriate profits, export-led growth was higher than import-led growth, while the state had the control over copper exploitation and production in order to stop inflation and to restart the economic growth[38].

However, all this proliferation ended in 1982 with an economic crisis and, in order to prevent the same effects happened during Allende mandate, "wealth was redistributed to the upper classes in the midst of a fiscal crisis"[39], the same practice that happened in Taiwan and South Korea. In 1989 after the referendum results, Pinochet dropped out and was substituted with democratic elections by Patricio Aylwin that maintained the same neo-liberal politics and Chile knew a relevant economic growth.

2.2.1.3 The Argentinian Crisis

The Argentina economic crisis started in the 1980s at the end of the dictatorship of the general Jorge Rafael Videla in 1983. Before Videla, during the 1970s, Juan Domingo Peròn was succeeded by his wife Isabel Martinez de Peròn in 1974, but in 1976, with a coup d'etat, Rafael Videla gained the role of president of Argentina. His mandate was characterized by fear and several violations of human rights (the most important fact was the disappearances of an high number of suspected anti-government, the so called "desaparecidos"). The economic approach of Videla was a neoliberalist one, with the support of US.

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37 Harvey, D., *A brief History of Neoliberalism*, Oxford University Press Inc., New York, United States, 2005, p. 8
38 Keilor, W., R., *A world of Nations*, chapter VIII, Angelo Guerini e Associati, Milano, Italy, 2007, p.289
39 Harvey, D., *A brief History of Neoliberalism*, Oxford University Press Inc., New York, United States, 2005, p. 45

One year after his election, Videla lost the support of the US, due to the scandals correlated to human rights violations: Argentina lost its main commercial partner[40]. Videla was deposed in 1981 and for Argentina started a period of political instability: many generals succeeded at the government and, in 1982, the Falkland isles war enlivened the situation in the country, but Argentina lost the war in favour of the UK. After the war, the economy of the country was weak for the high number of debts accrued with industries and private for financing the war.

After this period of instability, in 1983 new elections carried on victory Raùl Ricardo Alfonsìn, the socialist leader of the Union Civica Radical party. When he started his work, the economic situation of Argentina was weak, characterised by an high public debt and by an unemployment rate around 18%. The government decided to adopt a new policy in order to increase the economic level of the country: it changed the currency from peso to austral and established a new economic order but, in order to take off this new system, the government asked loans to other states, such as the US.

In 1989, the peronist candidate Carlos Menem was elected President of Argentina and transformed Argentina economy according to the rulebook of the IMF, accepting loans from it and trying to establishing a neo-liberal approach. However, Argentina was not able to pay the interests of these loans and collapsed into inflation: from the 20% of the GDP level in early 1989 to the 200% per month and 5000% per year[41]. Menem put in action a structural adjustment program, the so called "El modelo" (The Model)[42], with privatization, trade liberalization and tax reform: they "moved Argentina from an internationally isolated and state-dominated economy to one that encouraged foreign trade and investments and privatized state-owned industries"[43]. There still was a chronic unemployment rate and low wages.

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40 Stefanini, M., *Videla e quel pranzo con Borges e Sabato*, Limes, May 20th, 2013, http://temi.repubblica.it/limes/videla-e-quel-pranzo-con-borges-e-sabato/47020
41 Hombeck, J., F., *The Argentine financial crisis: a chronology of events*, CRS Report for Congress, January 31th, 2002
42 Klein, N., *The Take*, Klein, N., Lewis, A., Canada, 2004
43 Feldstein, M., *Argentina's Fall. Lessons from the Latest Financial Crisis*, Foreing Affairs, Vol. 81, N. 2, March/April 2002, available at: https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/argentina/2002-03-01/argentinas-fall-lessons-latest-financial-crisis

In 1991 Menem fixed the change of rate from dollar to austral in 10000 austral = 1 dollar. It was possible to convert dollar into austral and vice versa and the reserves in the Argentinian banks were levelled into this new convertibility. With this system the dependence from the US became stronger than before.

2.3 The radical change

With the oil shock and the attempts that several countries tried to apply in order to reduce crisis effects, the subject that was most affected was the Welfare State, the structure where the state has the role to promote, protect and assure the well-being of its citizens. The growing public expenditure and the absence of a continuous development, pushed states to increase the fiscal pressure creating doubts over the effective role of the Welfare State and watching as more effective a different economic structure, liberal and where privatization could be helpful[44].

The answer in countries such as Chile and Argentina in the 1970s was as simple as it was swift, brutal, and sure: a military coup backed by the traditional upper classes (as well as by the US government), followed by the fierce repression of all solidarities created within the labour and urban social movements which had so threatened their power[45].

In addition to a crisis of the Welfare State as crucial actor for human well-being, the oil shock increased the perception on the limitation of natural resources that was totally against the idea of neoliberalism of an unlimited economic growth based only on an efficient economic structure, without taking into account the basis of production, such as the product itself. This gave voice to environmentalist groups against the "society of consumption"[46].

During the 1980s, the crisis caused by the oil shock was seen by heads of governments and economists as a real and huge crisis, but from political scientists, local

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44 Sabbaducci, G., Vidotto, V., *Il mondo contemporaneo. Dal 1848 ad oggi*, Chapter 29, Laterza, Roma, Italy, 2011, p. 558-576

45 Harvey, D., *A brief History of Neoliberalism*, Oxford University Press Inc., New York, United States, 2005, p. 39

46 Sabbaducci, G., Vidotto, V., *Il mondo contemporaneo. Dal 1848 ad oggi*, Chapter 30, Laterza, Roma, Italy, 2011, p. 558-576

communities, populations and CS groups as an opportunity, the opportunity for changing the production mechanism, the relationships between different sectors and of hierarchies of worldwide economy[47]. The development was no more seen as bound to quantitative economic parameters, such as the productivity, income per capita, but as a "sustainable development", namely the growth correlated to the relationship between the environmental integrity and the sources needed for creating a development capable to put at the core the human being and the quality of life. This new spirit, perception and goal was stated in 1987 by the Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development titled "Our Common Future":

Environmental degradation, first seen as mainly a problem of the rich nations and a side effect of industrial wealth, has become a survival issue for developing nations. [...] Despite official hope expressed on all sides, no trends identifiable today, no programmes or policies, offer any real hope of narrowing the growing gap between rich and poor nations. And as part of our "development", we have amassed weapons arsenals capable of diverting the paths that evolution has followed for millions of years and of creating a planet our ancestors would not recognize [...] We see instead the possibility for a new era of economic growth, one that must be based on policies that sustain and expand the environmental resource base. And we believe such growth to be absolutely essential to relieve the great poverty that is deepening in much of the developing world [48].

Following this path, in 1992, the UN organized a conference in Rio de Janeiro where over 140 countries undertook the objective on limiting pollution and implementing policies respectful towards the environment. However, in 1997 the situation was not changed and the Member States of the UN decided to create a new and more pressing document, the so called "Kyoto protocol". US, China and India, which involvement was determinant for climate change, decided to not take part into this and caused a general mistrust and unwillingness either from ratifying states.

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47 Sabbaducci, G., Vidotto, V., *Il mondo contemporaneo. Dal 1848 ad oggi*, Chapter 29, Laterza, Roma Italy, 2011, p. 558-576
48 Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, *Our Common Future*, 1987, available from: http://www.un-documents.net/our-common-future.pdf

Another time states declared the future of their population without involving them into the decisions, without proper consultations and representations.

3. Possible answers to Globalisation Issues

3.1 Millennium Development Goals: the answer to historical and new world's needs

In 2000, 189 countries met at the UN in order to adopt the Millennium Declaration, "a collective responsibility to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality and equity at the global level. As leaders we have a duty therefore to all the world's people, especially the most vulnerable"[49].

This Declaration was summarized in eight goals, the so called "Millennium Development Goals" (MDGs) with the aim to reach them by 2015:

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger: reduction by half the proportion of people suffering from hunger and achievement of a productive employment for everyone, without discriminations and/or distinctions[50];

2. Achieve universal primary education;

3. Promote gender equality and empower women: gradual elimination of gender disparity, starting from primary and secondary education and then in all levels of education[51];

4. Reduce child mortality;

5. Improve maternal health: achievement of universal access to reproductive health[52];

6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases: "achieve, by 2010, universal access to treatment for HIV/AIDS for all those who need it"[53];

7. Ensure environmental sustainability;

8. Develop a global partnership for development[54].

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49 Resolution adopted by the General Assembly 55/2, *United Nations Millennium Declaration*, General Assembly, New York, United States, September 18th, 2000
50 *Goals, targets and indicators*, Millennium Project, UNDP, available from: http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/goals/gti.htm#goal
51 Ibidem.
52 Ibidem.
53 Ibidem.
54 Ibidem.

The MDGs aspired to decrease by half the people living with less than one dollar a day until 2015. In order to monitor the progress of this cooperation, the United Nations Secretariat, representatives of IMF, the World Bank, the OECD and specialized agencies of the UN set measurable goals and targets for combating hunger, poverty, disease, environmental degradation, illiteracy and discrimination against women and, in addition, they collected data and made analysis[55].

States understood the relevance of working together in order to face effectively the huge problems affecting the worldwide population and to assess a development based on the respect for human rights in all the countries, without distinction.

3.2 The World Economic Forum

In 1974 in Davos took place the first meeting between political leaders for the European Management Symposium where Klaus Schwab, its founder, desired to start a new collaboration where the management of a modern enterprise must serve "not only shareholders but all stakeholders, to achieve long-term growth and prosperity"[56].

The main goal of this collaboration and international initiatives between government, business and CS figures, was to create a stable a cooperative organisation able to achieve a competitive and developed market place. Since that first official meeting, it was established a calendar with annual meetings in order to follow deadlines and growths without falling out of terms.

In 1976 the organisation introduced a system of membership composed by one thousand leading companies of the world: it was the first non-governmental institution that initiate a partnership with China's economic development commissions[57].

In 1987, with the opening to the USSR, the European Management Symposium changed its name into World Economic Forum (WEF), in order to underline the new international core of the organisation. In 1988 the WEF had a crucial role on the

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55 *Monitoring progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals,* UNDP, available from: http://millenniumindicators.un.org/unsd/mi/mi_highlights.asp

56 World Economic Forum, *Klaus Schwab*, available from: https://www.weforum.org/about/klaus-ivischwab/

57 Ibidem.

peaceful process between Greece and Turkey, supporting the view of a needed crucial economic relationship between these two countries in order to achieve a stable development growth, "Klaus Schwab succeeded in bringing both sides back to Switzerland, where they negotiated and signed the Davos Declaration aimed at normalizing relations"[58].

After the attack happened September 11th 2001 in New York, the WEF decided to move the location for its annual meetings from Davos to New York, in order to show solidarity towards the US and to show that fear was not dividing the members of the WEF.

In 2005 several new developments took place: "The Forum also launched its milestone study *Woman's Empowerment: Measuring the Global Gender Gap*. This landmark effort to assess gender equality led to the Global Gender Gap Report,which the Forum introduced in 2006"[59].

In 2009 the economic crisis started its course involving more, directly or indirectly, all the countries of the world. A huge number of government representatives took part to the WEF annual meeting in Davos that started with the words of its founder Schwab:

What we are experiencing is the birth of a new era, a wake-up call to overhaul our institutions, our systems and, above all, our thinking, and to adjust our attitudes and values to the needs of a world which rightly expects a much higher degree of responsibility and accountability [...] If we recognize this crisis as being really transformational, we can lay the fundaments for a more stable, more sustainable and even more prosperous world[60].

And subsequently he launched the Global Redesign Initiative, for discovering new ways for the reconstruction and invigoration of the systems and institutions of global governance. The initial sponsors of the project were the governments of Qatar,

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58 World Economic Forum, *History*, available from: https://www.weforum.org/about/history/
59 Ibidem.
60 Ibidem.

Switzerland and Singapore[61].

During the subsequent years the WEF increased its capacity and enlarged its relationship organizing annual symposiums in Latin America, Africa, Asia and in the Middle-East. It increased its relevance in the world's growth, both economically and diplomatically, creating a strong connection between the economic development and the political one. This progressive evolution of WEF has led it to be a crucial actor for the modern world and this is evident reading the essay written by Schwab "Global Corporate Citizenship: Working with Governments and Civil Society":

A new imperative for business, best described as 'global corporate citizenship', must be recognized. It expresses the conviction that companies [...] are themselves stakeholders alongside governments and civil society. [...] Addressing global issues can be good both for the corporation and for society at a time of increasing globalization and diminishing state influence. [...] Many governments recognize their limitations and are eagerly promoting public-private partnerships. Corporations should put aside any reservations they may have about partnering with governments and civil society [...] global corporate citizenship integrates both the rights and the responsibilities that corporations have as global citizens [62].

Since 2015 the WEF is recognized as an International Organisation for Public-Private cooperation. Its board is composed by representatives of international organisations, business, academia and CS, while the managing board is composed by chief executives of multinational companies and former government leaders. Its headquarters are in Geneva and it has some offices in New York, Beijing and Tokyo[63].

3.3 The World Social Forum
In 2001 in Porto Alegre took place the first meeting of the World Social Forum (WSF) composed by a committee of Brazilians organisations that established the Charter of the WSF and defined the aim and goal of this forum:

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61 World Economic Forum, *History*, available from: https://www.weforum.org/about/history/
62 Schwab, K., *Global Corporate Citizenship: Working with Governments and Civil Society*, Volume 87 No.1, Foreign Affairs, January/February 2008, available from: http://www.paricenter.com/library/papers/future03.pdf
63 World Economic Forum, *History*, available from: https://www.weforum.org/about/history/

an open meeting place [...] by groups and movements of civil society that are opposed to neoliberalism and to domination of the world by capital and any form of imperialism, and are committed to building a planetary society directed towards fruitful relationships among Humankind and between it and the Earth[64].

Under the slogan "Another World is Possible!" the WSF purposed itself as an agent for change, able to increase a vision of the world opposite to the one of the Neoliberalism, where solidarity is its pillar, achieving a full respect and implementation of the universal human rights.

What it is crucial is that the WSF includes members of the CS, it is considered as their meeting place in order to asses possible solutions and counterproposal on the world's issues, but declare itself to not be a representative body of CS which "interrelates organizations and movements engaged in concrete action at levels from the local to the international to build another world"[65]. Standing from these bases, in order to establish a crucial opposition to the Neo-liberal approach, the Forum takes place in the so called "Global South" and "that it would be characterized by an open-space methodology which gave no political or epistemological privilege to any one movement"[66].

The WSF is a framework for the exchange of experiences, a context for interrelations, a forum for debate, but most of all

a process that encourages its participant organizations and movements to situate their actions, from the local level to the national level and seeking active participation in international contexts, as issues of planetary citizenship, and to introduce onto the global agenda the change-inducing practices that they are experimenting in building a new world in solidarity[67].

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64 World Social Forum, *History*, available from: https://fsm2016.org/en/sinformer/a-propos-du-forum-social-mondial/
65 Ibidem.
66 Ponniah, T., *World Social Forum (WSF). Another World is Necessary*, Alliance for democracy, 2003, available from: http://www.thealliancefordemocracy.org
67 *Charter of World Social Forum*, World Social Forum Organizing Committee, Sao Paulo, Brazil, April 9th, 2001

Every year, since 2001, the WSF organized an annual meeting, open to all the CSOs, creating a Constitutive Charter of the WSF. In each Constitutive Charter of the World Social Forum are described quantitative and qualitative objectives, correlated to the crucial role that CS can cover in the decision-making process. Then the assembly is divided into working groups with the role to establish crucial and effective strategies for achieving their respective goals:

All people interested in discovering the WSF 2016 process are equally welcome. All members and participants of the Open Assembly have an equal right to speak and listen. [...] The Open Assembly is a moment of deliberation and dialogue allowing those present to discuss issues, make reports, and find collective solutions to certain problems linked to the organizational process. It constitutes a key element of the process' transparency and allows reports on the progress of work and the financial aspect as well as the presentation of scheduling to those present[68].

The general objectives of the WSF 2016 are devoted to the promotion of an inclusive societal conversation, to the inspiration the participation of citizens and organisations, the share of initiatives and projects, and to the promotion of a sustainable and harmonious social development[69].

Several times, the WSF had made heard its voice in the world, as it did in 2003 leading and organising the "largest protest event in human history, against the US led war on Iraq"[70].

The most recent forum has taken place in Montreal, Canada, August 2016, dealing with achieving the goal of hosting "5,000 representatives of local organisations and global civil society to propose and participate in more than 1,500 self-managed activities"[71]. This was the first WSF taking place in the North of the world, with the main goal of

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68 Constitutive Charter of the World Social Forum 2016 in Montreal, adopted by the Open Assembly of the World Social Forum in 2016, Montreal, France, March 14th, 2015, available from: https://fsm2016.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/WSF-2016-Charte-English.pdf
69 Ibidem.
70 Ponniah, T., *World Social Forum (WSF). Another World is Necessary*, Alliance for democracy, 2003, available from: http://www.thealliancefordemocracy.org
71 2016 WSF, World Social Forum 2016, available from: https://fsm2016.org/en/sinformer/fsm-2016/

diminishing the gap between North-South that exist in our world, in order to promote a movement for change under the motto "Think global, act local"[72]. The topics discussed during the WSF 2016 where modern and forward-looking such as Economic, Social and Solidarity Alternatives facing the Capitalist Crisis; Democratization of Knowledge and Right to Communication; Culture of Peace and Struggle for Justice and Demilitarization; Rights of Nature and Environmental Justice; Global Struggles and International Solidarity; Human and Social Rights, Dignity and Fight against Inequalities; Struggles against Racism, Xenophobia, Patriarchy and Fundamentalism; Migration, Refugees and Citizenship Without Borders; Democracy, Social and Citizen Movements[73].

Conclusions

At the end of the Cold War there was an attempt made by political scientists, historians and social scientists to define a new historical period. New flows started to emerge what was recognized as "globalisation" and officially considered the definition of that new era. The characteristics are the power and the increasing relevance of several non-governmental organisations, that goes over the national boundaries and the control of political entities that had domain the history of international relation since that moment, such as states[74].

Economic restraints, coup d'etat, veto fights, management of the destiny of the world, started to shift from the hands of states. States have detained the control over IR without being strongly restrained by supranational actors for many centuries. They have had the power of defining boundaries, of declaring war and truce, to conquer and define freedoms, trying to achieve results and developments, but falling often into crises and dead-end streets, as Argentina and Chile have demonstrated.

The thirst of power and success has decided for years over the definition of the world,

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72 2016 WSF, World Social Forum 2016, available from: https://fsm2016.org/en/sinformer/fsm-2016/
73 Thematic axes, World Social Forum 2016, available from: https://fsm2016.org/en/sinformer/axes-thematiques-2016/
74 Keilor, W., R., *A world of Nations*, Epilogue, Angelo Guerini e Associati, Milano, Italy, 2007, p. 447

leaving peoples, groups and single human beings without the strength of positively influencing the decisions. But this chapter has demonstrated that during years of top-down decisions, a connected and virtuous power has started to act, with bottom-up initiatives, achieving the UN level. Other actors started gaining path and responsibilities, which were detained under exclusive control by states. Human beings started to perceive themselves not only as citizens of a national reality, but also as part of something bigger, transnational and even global. New technologies have debilitated the capacity of states to control communications towards their populations and at the same time to the members of that population to be heard by the world. Then the liberalization of trade had contributed to develop the globalisation, involving all the areas of the world, a field where MNEs gained a crucial role for the worldwide development. The integration of capital, technology, information and culture over the national boundaries had caused concerns not only to states, but also to NGOs, scared by the threat of possible violations of workers' rights and environmental standards caused by MNEs and their delocalization processes, and they organised huge manifestations during meetings of the World Bank and the IMF.

At the same time another transnational actor emerged, terrorism that, as a transnational conflict, put in place the necessity of a new way of conflict and of new responses[75]. Technological advancement has developed new weapons, from nuclear bombs to drone strikes, but has also promoted wars without boundaries, where states fix themselves without having law permissions or the consent by the UN. This way of conceiving war, of conducting attacks, where civilians are the most afflicted, has raised the awareness of people for a change, not only concerning wars, but on a more wide framework. In a world where human beings are interconnected, where consequences of actions have effects worldwide, also the claim of peace becomes transnational.

A new era is growing and is developing, states do not have any more the same monopoly that they had before. Now they have to deal with new situations, with a development that cannot be controlled or stopped, where several actors emerge,

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75 Keilor, W., R., *A world of Nations*, Epilogue, Angelo Guerini e Associati, Milano, Italy, 2007, p. 448

covering different roles. Globalisation has left the space for a subsequent step of the history of humanity and asks new structures, new involvement, new cooperation and new actions. All the actors are necessary for building and supporting a world where everyone can freely express himself with the realistic hope to be heard. A world were solidarity operate as glue.

Chapter II: Multi-actors Governance: Contextualizing the actors

Introduction

Since the 1990s the world is assisting a crucial change on governing rules and actors that can influence them. The globalisation process at the beginning of the 1990s arose rapidly, changing the society and the perception of the world. Everyone started to be connected to each other, territorial boundaries were overwhelmed by new developments in communications and transports. The world started be interconnected and every area mutual affected by the other, despite they were territorially distant. New needs were discovered, ordinary needs were re-discovered, peoples started claiming what they were felt entitled to have. Wars, genocides, the UN failures and the difficulties of state to manage alone all the issues in granting protection, rights implementation, emerging issues and, at the same time, losing its monopolistic role in front of a interconnected world, where the nation-state started to be perceived too narrow.

The globalisation process brought a strong and unstoppable change, where the international relations were no more organised between states and UN actions, but where new actors started claiming their role.

1. Civil Society: strengthening CS with NGOs and CSOs development

With the 1990s and the failures of UN in peacekeeping missions and political and economic crises within states, new claims and actors emerged, creating a more patterned field in international relations and in the general global structure.

The incapability of the state to assure the achievement of social welfare for all and of environmental and development goals[76], created a situation where this actor was under the checkmate control. The society started to perceive this lack of action and resources, and at the same time started gaining awareness of its relevance on state's action and decision-making process.

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76 Salamon, L., M., Sokolowski, W., S., Anheier, H., *Social origins of civil society: An overview*, Working Papers of the Johns Hopkins Comparative Nonprofit Sector Project, no. 38. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies, 2000, available from: http://ccss.jhu.edu/wp-content/uploads/downloads/2011/09/CNP_WP38_2000.pdf

The CS awareness is something always active since the beginning of democracy and the δῆμος (démos) in the ancient Greece. What was different in the 1990s was the scale of this awareness: the globalisation helped to strengthen the interconnection in the world between human beings living in different areas, thanks to the development of ITC and economy, of their instrument and their boundaries.

Globalisation cancels any boundary. This does not mean that the official territorial boundaries do not have relevance, but that they are mixed within a social absence of them. This dichotomy creates a society that perceives its differences, that understands there are various peoples, traditions, roots and approaches, but that recognize the universality of humanity and the necessary moral and physical duty of trying to find ways and solutions for a sustainable living. For this reason the connection done until the 1980s by small, local and national Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) were subjected to a change following the spread of globalisation. Their role changed, gaining more relevance than before as actors able to deal with the state, able to connect different peoples and human beings aimed by the same principles and goals, able to contribute in solving emergency situations despite the low amount of resources, able to support the state information for a better policy and approach for an effective solution to emerging and constant issues (climate change, poverty, famine, inequality, discriminations, human rights violations, etc). In a global and interconnected society, the state seems limited and requires support: for this reason the CS started to organize itself in order to manage this change with less drastic solution as possible.

1.1 Solidarity and Human Rights: basis for an inclusive society
The main aims of CS action are the achievement worldwide of human rights implementation and a peaceful world based on solidarity. All the actions, planned or sunned, based on new or old issues, successes or failures, are moved by these goals that are perceived worldwide.
Several authors support the idea that CS movements started emerging mainly in the Western area of the world, due to the first negative results created during the 1970s in

order to enhance an economic development[77]. This fact refers particularly to the initial period of this process (during the 1980s) as an answer to failing policies and economical-oriented actions that Western States took.

Later, especially in the twentieth century, the issues, despite some differences correlated to basic different areas of the world and so different origins, started being perceived worldwide and CS was able to adapt itself to a global intervention, differentiating its approaches for a global solution. All these approaches created a mutual understanding and mutual support between the different areas of the world in order to:

- secure material welfare: by supplying welfare in a more efficient and equitable way than state, with the involvement of volunteers. *"For example, […] several development cooperation groups have promoted alternative marketing schemes that provide producers […] in the South with higher returns than commercial dealers offer"*[78]. As it works the Fair Trade that, following the ten Fair Trade principles proposed by the World Fair Trade Organisation (WFTO), born in 1987 during the Berlin Conference of the Alternative Trade Organisations, support the work of producers, working in particular in the South of the world, guaranteeing an equal payment on the respect of human rights and a work based on fair work conditions[79];

- Give voice and fuel the debate in order to assess equity in the representation, and democracy. The democracy can develop and being healthier, more open and creative;

- Enhance the civic education developing a world more aware of global issues and supportive of transparency: "Citizens can make more informed judgements about world politics"[80] and so "actors in position of power and responsibility

77 Padis, M., Pech, T., *Les Multinationales du coeur. Les ONG, La Politique et le Marchè*, Seuil et la Rèpublique des Idées, Paris, France, 2004, p. 29
78 Scholte, J., *Global Civil Society: Changing the World?*, CSGR Working Paper No. 31/99, Department of Politics and International Studies, University of Warwick, United Kingdom, 1999
79 The ten Fair Trade Principles are: 1.Creating Opportunities for Economically Disadvantaged Producers ; 2. Transparency and Accountability; 3. Fair Trading Practices; 4. Payment of a Fair Price; 5. Ensuring no child Labour and Forced Labour; 6. Commitment to Non Discrimination, Gender Equity and Women's Economic Empowerment, and Freedom of Association; 7. Ensuring Good Working Conditions; 8. Providing Capacity Building; 9. Promoting Fair Trade; 10. Respect for the Environment. More details are available from the WFTO website: http://wfto.com/fair-trade/10-principles-fair-trade
80 Scholte, J., *Global Civil Society: Changing the World?*, CSGR Working Paper No. 31/99, Department

must do more account for their behaviour and policy choices"[81]. One example could be done concerning the increasing transparency of action-oriented practices of the WTO and the IMF since the 1990s[82];

All these results together, help to increase the social integration and to positively affect the application of policies created for developing the material welfare, the transparency of the public discussion and legitimate governance, the civic education and equality[83].

1.2 Global Public Goods

The globalisation process is developing a dichotomy: it increases the privateness promoting a liberal economy and the movement of money and goods, and it increases the publicity because people become more independent and able to connect each other without a middleman[84]. What this dichotomy makes difficult to govern and develop is the provision of Global Public Goods (GPGs).

Global public goods are goods available for all "with benefits […] that extend across countries and regions, across rich and poor population groups, and even across generations"[85], they are nonrivarly in consumption and nonexcludably and their benefits are considered "quasi-universal"[86], because the whole humanity have benefits from their provision. They are considered often as pure public goods, because they cannot be scratch by anyone, such as peace, high seas, the ozone layer[87], but in addition Global Public Goods are composed by impure public goods, such goods that are universal in their will, but they are unable to reach the universality.

For defining a public good as global it has to own the capacity to reach what is the global public, composed by: countries, able to reach more than a group of countries,

of Politics and International Studies, University of Warwick, United Kingdom, 1999

81 Ibidem.

82 Scholte, J., *In the Foothills: Relations between the IMF and Civil Society*, in Higgott, R., and Bieler, A., *Non-State Actors and Authority in the Global System*, London, United Kingdom, 1999

83 Scholte, J., *Global Civil Society: Changing the World?*, CSGR Working Paper No. 31/99, Department of Politics and International Studies, University of Warwick, United Kingdom, 1999

84 Kaul, I., Conceicao, P., Le Goulven, K, Mendoza, R.U., (edited by), *Providing Global Public Goods: managing globalization, United Nations Development Programme*, Oxford University Press, New York, United States, 2003, XVI

85 Ivi, XV

86 Kaul, I., Grunberg, I., Stern, M., *Defining Global Public Goods,* in Kaul, I., Grunberg, I., Stern, M., (edited by) *Global Public Goods. International Cooperation in the 21st Century*, Oxford University Press, New York, United States, 1999, p. 4

87 Ivi, p. 13

otherwise will be excludable and considered a regional public good; socio-economic groups: the globalisation process has increased the disparity between poor and rich, creating a gap where the rich became everyday richer and the poor poorer, without the existence of a middle social-economic group; generations, talking about humanity, future generations are included; the CS in wider terms.

1.2.1 Provision of Global Public Goods and CS

Since the establishment of the system of Westphalia in 1648, the role of governments was devoted more to control than to serve the public: despite the relationship with the public was perceived mutual supportive, the reality told about human rights violations and repressed private initiative[88]. With the development of the globalisation process, the monopoly that governments were able to exercise over the public started to be threaten by the presence and development of organized public sphere. All these actors are able to contribute to the provision of public goods, of such goods no more limited to the national boundaries, but becoming global. Important parts of the public are the CS from the social perspective and firms from the business perspective. They cannot cover the whole individuals of the world, but together represent a huge part of them. Today the picture is messed up because

the state continues to hold the main coercive and legislative powers. And through its regulatory, fiscal, [...] functions, it complements and encourages private activities. [...] plays a crucial role in the provision of public goods [...] but the state is also expected to be [...] the public's visible hand. The state is a public good[89].

The state is living a crisis concerning its role as provider, creator and developer of public goods, for a public that goes beyond its capacity, due to its vastness, transnationality and interconnectivity, with overlapping networks, goals and powers. Nation-states are unable to think and act globally alone, they are limited by their

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88 Kaul, I., Conceicao, P., Le Goulven, K, Mendoza, R.U., *Why do Global Public Goods matter today?*, in Kaul, I., Conceicao, P., Le Goulven, K, Mendoza, R.U., (edited by), *Providing Global Public Goods: managing globalization,* United Nations Development Programme, Oxford University Press, New York, United States, 2003, p. 2-17

89 Ivi, p. 9

geographical, political and economic boundaries, while transnational actors, such as CSOs and MNEs, can freely move, connect and operate within a global perspective. For this reason a cooperation between these actors is recommended in order to assure an effective and long-term provision of Global Public Goods. A crucial point is also the limitation of the competition within states, a competition based on the achievement of their interests with losses for others.

What is essential for developing such cooperation is the elimination of walls and obstacles to information in order to avoid negative effects on a fluent and cooperative dialogue due to lack of information and general mistrust of others. International organisations are fundamental for resolving these coordination problems. Focal points and standard-setting information provided by international organisations can give information useful to states for overcoming bargaining problems[90]. The equilibrium between all the states' interests could be reached with a combination of beliefs and strategies. Indeed international organisations use the support of expert analyses in order to solve equity and distributive justice dilemmas.

2. Civil Society Organisations (CSOs)

2.1 Defining the actor

The term CSO is broad and includes a huge and deep world, composed by several actors and roles, but with one unique broad scope: enhancing the voice of people in need and promoting a global respect for human rights. The initial action was devoted to being a connector between the CS and the Nation-State, trying to develop a dialogue and to support an inclusive creation of policies, where everyone could find solutions to human rights restrictions and/or violations.

Recalling the previous paragraph, the role of CSO is changed from a "middleman" role to a more responsible and powerful one. Today CSOs are involved in the International Relations and they are considered a crucial actor for the achievement of glocal goals.

It is possible to identify the existence of primordial CSOs since the 19th centuries, with movements that were able to influence with their votes the final results of referendum

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90 Martin, L., *The Political Economy of International Cooperation*, in Kaul, I., Grunberg, I., Stern, M., (edited by),*Global Public Goods. International Cooperation in the 21st Century*, Oxford University Press, New York, United States, 1999, p. 51-63

and developing manifestations against states regulations. For example the Temperance Movements in the US and UK, was capable of influencing the public opinion in a large scale, achieving goals like new rules and enforcements.

CSO is an umbrella term that includes "NGOs, charities, trusts, foundations, advocacy groups, national and international non-state associations"[91].

There is not a single and universal accepted definition of CSO and of CS itself. There are three main schools of though that define CS and CSOs starting from different aspects, but, in order to define CS and CSOs, it is important to consider all of them with the same relevance and merged them together in order to have a broad and comprehensive definition.

One school defines civil society as an actor whose democratic role is understood as a counterpart and in opposition to formal governmental power. In the second conception, civil society acts as a collaborator, constituent element and integrated player in political processes. A third school defines civil society differently as constituted by a communitarian conception of civility in contrast to uncivil social order, or in a procedural understanding of organized interests that are woven into the lifeworld of social entities[92].

It is important to underline the main characteristic of CS and so of CSOs: their non-profit nature[93]. Their action is based on the primary well-being for all and not for a maximization of profit, putting as goal the human being and reversing the Westphalia state-centric system.

Civil Society includes all organizations, networks, and associations between the level of the family and the level of the state, except firms [...] firms are excluded because they are assumed to exist to make and distribute a private profit, while civil society groups are organized to

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91 Hutter, B., O'mahony, J., *The Role of Civil Society Organisations in Regulating Business*, Discussion paper No.26, The London School of Economics and Political Science, London, United Kingdom, September 2004

92 Heidbreder, G., *Civil society participation in EU governance*, Living Reviews in European Governance, Vol. 7, (2012), No. 2, available from: http://www.livingreviews.org/lreg-2012-2

93 Hutter, B., O'mahony, J., *The Role of Civil Society Organisations in Regulating Business*, Discussion paper No.26, The London School of Economics and Political Science, London, United Kingdom, September 2004

defend or advance the interests they hold in common[94].

Since the 1960s, and in particular the 1970s, with the oil shock, the influence of CSOs has increased constantly, thanks in particular to the first demonstrations against capitalism and a general economic maximization way of living, influenced and developed in particular by university students worldwide, and still survive today. For example more than 49 million people in 2001 have joined the Hemispheric Social Alliance against the Free Trade Agreement of the America's and around the same years the US anti-sweatshop movement has branches in 140 colleges and universities[95].

The firsts aggregations started as manifestations groups, that wanted to be heard by governments for applying changes on policies and political actions. In addition, they developed a general discontent towards the increasing power of MNEs and their capacity on surpassing legislative limitations for their profit maximization. Then, gaining more relevance at international level, CSOs started to organize themselves in a more formal way, in order to be taken in consideration not only as a critical voice, but also as a crucial actor, able to give suggestions, to influence the peoples and to support the state action.

Today it is possible to distinguish between local, *Fig. 1*

national and international membership, with different internal structures (see Figure 1), such as the hierarchical structures (for example trade unions), centralised associations (for example Greenpeace), federations (for example Amnesty International),

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94 Edwards, M., Zadek, S., *Governing the provision of Global Public Goods: the Role and Legitimacy of Nonstate Actors,* in Kaul, I., Conceicao, P., Le Goulven, K, Mendoza, R.U., (edited by), *Providing Global Public Goods: managing globalization, United Nations Development Programme*, Oxford University Press, New York, United States, 2003, p. 201
95 Ivi, p. 202

confederations (like the World Council of Churches), and informal networks (such as women's movement)[96].

Another distinction could be based on the aims of these CSOs:

– religious CSOs, linked to a religion, they do not always promote the worship of their specific religion, but they intervene in different fields such as education, health, basic assistance[97]. For example World Vision that, inspired by Christian values, is "dedicated to working with the world's most vulnerable people"[98];

– community based CSOs, mainly local with a strong affiliation with resource sharing, solidarity acting on development and social service[99];

– philanthropic CSOs, acting without religious affiliation, their actions are based on humanism such as Doctors Without Borders (DWB): "MSF observes neutrality and impartiality in the name of universal medical ethics and the right to humanitarian assistance and claims full and unhindered freedom in the exercise of its functions"[100];

– expert CSOs, composed also by scientists, experts, like Greenpeace International. "These CSOs are not exclusively composed of experts and scientists but they have – or at least they claim to have – an expertise unit and publish some technical reports"[101];
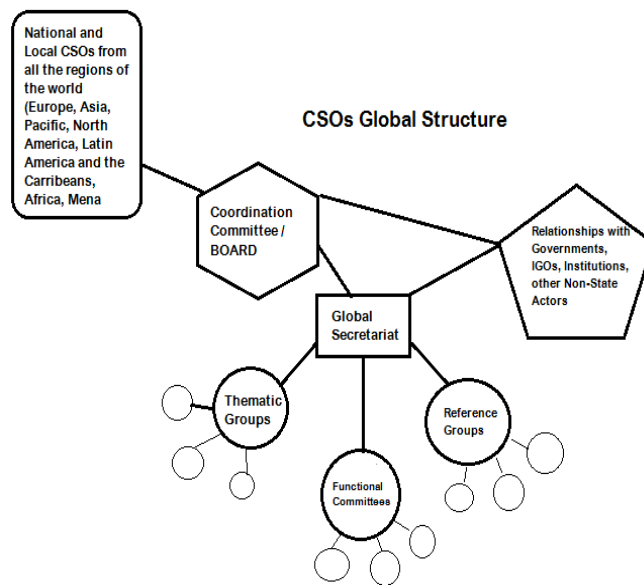
– trade unions.

96 Hutter, B., O'mahony, J., *The Role of Civil Society Organisations in Regulating Business*, Discussion paper No.26, The London School of Economics and Political Science, London, United Kingdom, September 2004

97 AUGUR Challenges for Europe in the world in 2030 , *The Role and Structure of Civil Society Organizations in National and Global Governance Evolution and outlook between now and 2030,* Project co-funded by the European Commission within the Seventh Framework Programme (2007-2013), Fifth Draft, 2012, available from: http://www.augurproject.eu/IMG/pdf/cso_note_provisional_draft5_june_2012.pdf

98 Who we are, World Vision, available from: http://www.wvi.org/video/world-vision-who-we-are

99 AUGUR Challenges for Europe in the world in 2030 , *The Role and Structure of Civil Society Organizations in National and Global Governance Evolution and outlook between now and 2030,* Project co-funded by the European Commission within the Seventh Framework Programme (2007-2013), Fifth Draft, 2012, available from: http://www.augurproject.eu/IMG/pdf/cso_note_provisional_draft5_june_2012.pdf

100 MSF Charter, available from: http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/about-us/history-principles/charter

101 AUGUR Challenges for Europe in the world in 2030 , *The Role and Structure of Civil Society Organizations in National and Global Governance Evolution and outlook between now and 2030,* Project co-funded by the European Commission within the Seventh Framework Programme (2007-2013), Fifth Draft, 2012, available from: http://www.augurproject.eu/IMG/pdf/cso_note_provisional_draft5_june_2012.pdf

Usually a CSO is composed by paid staff and volunteers. Local organisations could be composed mainly by volunteers, but with the broadness of the structure, they become rare. However, volunteering is the key factor of CSOs, it distinguish them from other non-state actors, such as MNEs. The voluntary composition is essential due to the fact that all the funds raised are designated to projects and actions and could not be used in a different way. For this reason CSOs support the involvement of volunteering and enhance their crucial relevance for the sustainability of the organisations. CSOs are born as answer to state's failures, to its inability to cover all aspects of citizen's life. They born under the voluntary association of group of people desirous to change crisis situations, to give their support to someone in need, to enhance the respect of their rights in order to build action-oriented policies. Active citizens are always considered crucial for the development of CSOs, active human beings aimed by the wish of a world based on solidarity where human rights are respected.

Article 1. A volunteer is a person who carries out activities benefiting society, by free will. These activities are undertaken for a non-profit cause, benefiting the personal development of the volunteer, who commits their time and energy for the general good without financial reward. Article 2. Volunteering providers are non–profit organizations and groups that are independent and self- governing as well as other non–profit entities, such as public authorities. They are active in the public arena and their activity must be aimed, at least in part, at contributing to the public good. Article 3. Volunteering activities are undertaken by volunteers. The activity is undertaken for a non-profit cause and does not replace paid staff. The activity can be done within the framework of a volunteering provider or through a volunteer's own initiative[102].

In 2000 more than 60'000 CSOs (between international NGOs and transnational networks)[103] were active and this growing quantity has also influenced their quality. Today they absolve advocacy, service provision, monitoring and supporting the implementation of treaties and laws. They promote active participation and the political

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102 *Volunteering Charter on the rights and responsibilities of volunteers*, European Youth Forum, Brussels, Belgium, 2012

103 Edwards, M., Zadek, S., *Governing the provision of Global Public Goods: the Role and Legitimacy of Nonstate Actors,* in Kaul, I., Conceicao, P., Le Goulven, K, Mendoza, R.U., (edited by), *Providing Global Public Goods: managing globalization, United Nations Development Programme*, Oxford University Press, New York, United States, 2003, p. 201

space as a field for discussion and for intervention. What CSOs support with their action is a different view of the governance, aligned with the globalisation progress. A governance where the state is no more the unique actor, as it was with the Westphalia system, but a governance where all the actors acting at international and transnational level, state and non-state actors, have voice, suggestions and interests.

CSOs cannot represent the whole humanity, they cannot be the voice of all human beings around the world, but they express of course a strong segment of the humanity that claims for a more cooperative and interconnected way of acting, in line with the new perception of the world and of transnational relations. Indeed non-state actors, in particular CSOs, are able to act in a transnational way, grouping peoples in an globally horizontal manner.

CSOs gained a strong attention concerning their relevance during the UN Conference on Environment and Development, that took place in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil), in 1992. In that occasion, CS, mainly represented by NGOs with a consultative status within the ECOSOC, was actively involved into the conference, with an official invitation made by the UN. The final results, the Agenda 21 and other agreements "emphasized the multi-stakeholder approach and importance of local and grassroots action, as well as the participation of CS in every stage of decision-making and implementation, which had an impact on the CS participation throughout the process"[104].

3. Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)

NGOs are part of the umbrella body of CSOs and they characterize the majority of them. As CSOs they could be of different structures and origin, but all of them are associated by some characteristics (grouped by The Commonwealth Foundation[105]):

- – Independent: NGOs are independent from any form of government, they act autonomously, independently from the location of their headquarters. They

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104 *Reference document on the participation of civil society in United Nations conferences and special sessions of the General Assembly during the 1990s*, Version 1, Prepared by Office of the President of the Millennium Assembly, 55th session of the United Nations General Assembly, August 2001, available from: http://www.un.org/ga/president/55/speech/civilsociety1.htm

105 Ball, C., Dunn, L., *Non-Governmental Organizations: Guidelines for Good Policy and Practice*, The Commonwealth Foundation, London, United Kingdom, 1995

should cooperate with governments and conform to the international and national rules where they are acting, but their voice and action is independent from any reconnection to intergovernmental institutions and governments. Their right to free and independent assembly is established by the article 21 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966)[106].

There are particular Non-Governmental Organisation that act supported by or supporting governments or business activities and these are the BONGOs (Business Organized NGOs), the QUANGOs (Quasi NGOs), the GONGOs (Government organized NGOs). These "exceptional" NGOs are different from the NGOs concerning their independence, indeed for surviving, they depend from governments or from International Organisations. The dependence from the public funds, the low autonomy during armed conflict situations of humanitarian NGOs[107], give raise to the necessity of a solid entrance, support and credibility. For these reasons, some NGOs are not independent and cannot be classified as "pure" NGOs. The distinction is fundamental for the credibility of the independence of NGOs from any influence that could be made by governments or intergovernmental institutions over their actions. Since the late 1990s this aim through more credibility has developed into the creation of non-profit and independent association with the goal to monitor, give suggestions, create reports over NGOs that operate in the different countries of the world (mainly in Europe). Examples are the Comité de la Charte[108] in France, the Istituto Italiano Donazione(ID)[109] in Italy, or the Taiwan NPO Self-Regulation Alliance[110] in Taiwan. All of them and others are members of the International Association of Charity Monitoring Organisations (ICFO)[111].

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106 The Article 21 says: *The right of peaceful assembly shall be recognized. No restrictions may be placed on the exercise of this right other than those imposed in conformity with the law and which are necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security or public safety, public order (order public), the protection of public health or morals or the protection of the rights and freedoms of others*, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, General Assembly, 1966

107 Padis, M., Pech, T., *Les Multinationales du coeur. Les ONG, La Politique et le Marchè*, Seuil et la Rèpublique des Idées, Paris, France, 2004, p. 79

108 Comité de la Charte, available from: http://www.donenconfiance.org/

109 Istituto Italiano Donazione (ID), available from: http://www.istitutoitalianodonazione.it/it/

110 Taiwan NPO Self-Regulation Alliance, available from: http://www.twnpos.org.tw/eng/

111 International Association of Charity Monitoring Organizations, available from: https://www.icfo.org/welcome-to-icfo/about-us

– Voluntary: NGOs are basically formed voluntary by citizens that decide to support or defend a cause. Volunteers are always welcome and take part into the surviving of the organisation. A paid staff is always considered, moreover if the NGO achieves an international dimension and relevance, or if it works with transnational projects.

– Not-for-profit: all incoming funds are used for developing projects, actions, campaigns for the NGO's cause. Only the staff necessary for the existence of the NGOs is hired, the other members of the NGO are voluntary involved and do not receive any compensation. At least for the members of boards there could be a reimbursement for the expenditures.

– Not self-serving in aims and related values: "The aims of NGOs are to improve the circumstances and prospects of people and to act on concerns and issues detrimental to the well-being, circumstances, or prospects of people or society as a whole"[112].

3.1 NGOs internal Structure at international level

As part of the big group of CSOs, NGOs cover roles such as advocacy, provision of services and they are also called "facilitators of citizens' participation"[113] in their societies. They increase the social capital promoting pluralism, solidarity, diversity. They motivate citizens and, thanks to their independence, the services that they offered are seen motivated by the voluntary support to others in need, without political returns. In order to achieve all these goals and being able to cover all the aspects of their mandate, NGOs should have a specific structure, that could change between one NGO and another for infinitesimal differences.

The structure should cover any part involved into the NGO, from the local level with the local voluntary group, to the main director and board. For this reason several NGOs are grouped into an umbrella network (recognised as well as a NGO) that could operate as a glue between all the actors at local and national levels. As it is possible to see from

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112 Ball, C., Dunn, L., *Non-Governmental Organizations: Guidelines for Good Policy and Practice*, The Commonwealth Foundation, London, United Kingdom, 1995

113 Peace Corps Volunteers, *An NGO Training Guide for Peace Corps Volunteers*, Information Collection and Exchange Publication No. M0070, Washington D.C., United States, 2013, available from: http://files.peacecorps.gov/multimedia/pdf/library/M0070_all.pdf

the Figure 2[114], the General Assembly of the Network is composed by local and national NGOs, that meet together usually once per year in order to evaluate the situation, actions, programmes, projects (past, present and future) and the balance sheet of the NGO.

Standing from the evaluation, possible critiques, recommendation, notes, positive remarks are taken into account by the board, usually composed by representatives of the local and national level groups, democratically elected during the annual meetings every five years. The decisions made by the board are then explicated to the executive director
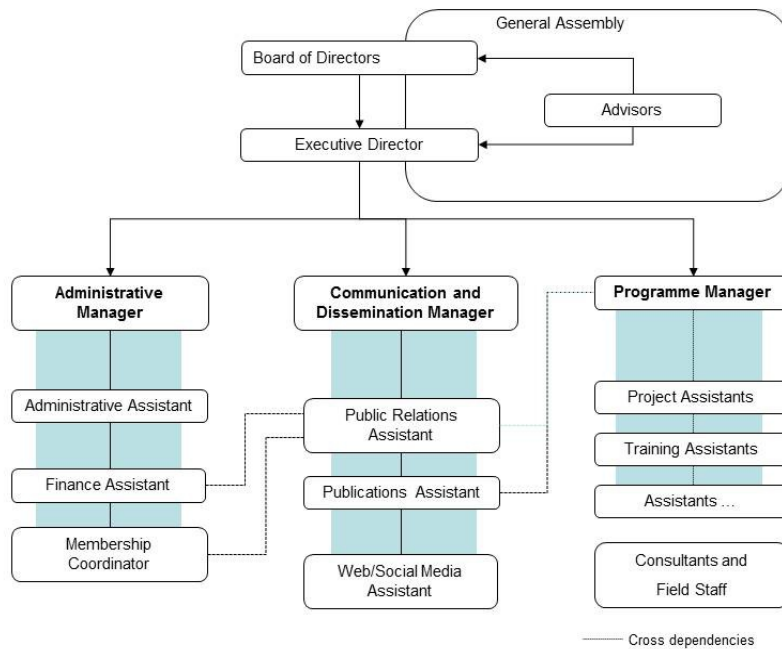
Fig.2

that, with the support of a secretariat, put in action all the decisions and proposals.

The secretariat is composed by paid staff, with advocacy, communication, administrative, project analysis capacities. Depending on the different area of interest of the NGO, the projects are put in place by a mixed staff composed by paid members and volunteers. Considering as example an NGO that deals with health assistance in conflict areas, such as Emergency NGO[115], the team operating on the field is composed by paid staff, such as international and resident doctors (with a specialisation on the health issue that the NGO want to solve), resident and international physicians, nurses, administrator country projects, logicians and mechanical technician, and by unpaid staff, such as international and resident volunteers.

114 FundsforNGOs, available from: https://www2.fundsforngos.org/
115 Emergency NGO, available from: http://www.emergency.it/en-index.html

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Before starting a project which has to develop a specific structure that will create a change in the society way of living (construction of a school, an hospital, not only as a material building, but also as an institution, composed by prepared teachers or doctors), the NGO needs a specific amount of funds and the establishment of a strong cooperation with the government of the state of operation. The main reason is the will to conduct the project until its end. The end of a project usually means that the support given by the NGOs is no more necessary because the population is able to support the school, the hospital or other projects, alone. This is the reason why the residents of the municipality, city or village are always involved since the beginning (that could be the construction of the building for example). One example could be done with the Fundación Uniendo Caminos[116], an NGO based in Argentina, that cooperate with the government in order to accompanying young and adults during the scholastic period, supporting them socially, culturally and economically.

Sometimes the state itself, when it has to deal with an emergency that cannot face alone, due to lack of economic funds and expertise, call the NGO, as it happened for the emergency caused by the virus Ebola, when, thanks to its presence with two hospitals in the country, Emergency NGO has cooperated with the Department of International Development (DFID) of the British Government in opening a Centre, built by the British army and financed by DFID in order to stop Ebola. "The Sierraleonese Government has participated to the project by offering the plot of land where the new Centre has been built"[117].

In addition to this actions, Emergency NGO and other NGOs and Scientific Institutions, such as Mendel University in Brno from Czech Republic, Instituto Nazionale per le Malattie Infettive "Lazzaro Spallanzani" from Italy, Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale from France, IPD Institut Pasteur de Dakar from Senegal and others, cooperate in two projects promoted by the European Union the

116 Fundación Uniendo Caminos, available from: http://www.buenosaires.gob.ar/basolidaria/conoce-las-ong/uniendo-caminos

117 *Ebola Treatment Unit in Goderich*, Emergency NGO, available from: http://www.emergency.it/sierraleone/ebola-treatment-unit-goderich.html

EbolaMoDRAD[118] and the FILODIAG (Ultra-Faster Molecular Filovirus Diagnostic)[119], in order to study, limit and prevent the virus.

NGOs operate in long-term situations with the promotion and support of projects with the aim to develop a specific field, that could be education, healthcare services, ageing services, workers supports, etc. But they also operate in the immediate situations, such as humanitarian crisis, conflicts, cooperation and diplomacy during controversies. Between all the NGOs that worldwide operate in emergency, examples are INTERSOS in the Philippines after the typhoon of 2013[120], the International Rescue Committee (IRC)[121] with their main goal of intervening in emergency situations with an immediate intervention (at maximum 72 hours after the event).

Others NGOs cooperate with the UN and their agencies in the field, such as ACAI (Asociación de Consultores y Asesores Internacionales)[122] based in Costa Rica that was created for the implementation of the UNHCR concerning the support and regulation of refugees coming from Nicaragua, El Salvador and Guatemala. They develop the protection and integration of such people in the society of Costa Rica.

4. CSOs and United Nations

The relationship between CS and the UN started since the born of the inter-governmental institution, in 1945, when at article 71 of the UN Charter it was formally recognized a consultative status to NGOs at the ECOSOC:

The Economic and Social Council may make suitable arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations which are concerned with matters within its

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118 The EbolaMoDRAD is a two year European project (Collaborative Research Project) started in February 2015, coordinated by Folkhälsomyndigheten (FoHM, the Public Institute of Sweden, Professor Ali Mirazimi) in Sweden. The consortium is composed by 18 organizations and 8 European Union Member States, available from: http://www.ebolamodrad.eu/

119 "The FILODIAG project aims to deliver an ultra-fast, accurate diagnostic instrument that will test for Ebola in under 15 minutes. This project brings together an SME (GNA), an academic research group (at Mendel University), a medical center with biosafety laboratories (INMI), and an NGO with field expertise concerning Ebola (EMERGENCY)", available from http://www.ebolamodrad.eu/

120 INTERSOS in the Philippines, available from: https://www.intersos.org/en/philippines/

121 International Rescue Committee (IRC), available from: http://www.rescue.org/

122 Asociación de Consultores y Asesores Internacionales (ACAI), available from: http://www.acai.cr/sitioweb/?q=rese%C3%B1aHistorica

competence. Such arrangements may be made with international organizations and, where appropriate, with national organizations after consultation with the Member of the United Nations concerned[123].

The ECOSOC cooperates with NGOs and broadly with CS in order to assess focused and effective action-orienting decisions. Thanks to the consultative status, NGOs can access not only to ECOSOC, but also to its many subsidiary bodies, to the human rights mechanisms of the United Nations, *ad hoc* processes on small arms, as well as special events organized by the President of the General Assembly[124]. There are currently over than 4000 NGOs in active consultative status with ECOSOC[125].

This consultative relationship between NGOs and ECOSOC is outlined by the ECOSOC Resolution 1996/31[126] where the UN Secretariat has responsibilities in supporting this consultative relationship. There are three different kind of consultative status:

- General: large international NGOs that are able to cover most of the topics on the agenda of the ECOSOC and its subsidiary bodies;

- Special: small and recent NGOs whose field of operation is restricted on specific arguments on the agenda of the ECOSOC;

- Roster: those NGOs that do not satisfied the previous characteristics received this status. Usually they do not have a specific mandate or area of interest, but they are listed by the UN and included in particular huge works of the ECOSOC.

The UN consider eligible for consultative status an NGO that:

must have been in existence (officially recognized by a government) for at least two years, must have an established headquarters, a democratically-adopted constitution, authority to speak for its members, a representative structure, appropriate mechanisms of accountability and democratic and transparent decision-making processes. The basic resources of the organization

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123 *Charter of United Nations*, The Security Council, Art. 71, Chapter X, New York, United States, 1945
124 NGO Branch, CSO Network, available from: http://csonet.org/
125 Ibidem.
126 *ECOSOC Resolution 1996/31*, available from:
    https://esango.un.org/civilsociety/documents/E_1996_31.pdf

must be derived mainly from contributions of the national affiliates or other components or from individual members. Organizations established by governments or intergovernmental agreements are not considered NGOs[127].

In addition to the consultative status, CS can cooperate and collaborate with the UN in different ways, through:

- the Non-Governmental Liaison Service (UN-NGLS): an inter-agency with the role of sustaining and strengthening the relationships between the UN and CSOs.: "information and communication outreach to the international community and to global CS; supporting the UN system in developing productive relationships and partnerships with NGOs and CS; and supporting the work of NGOs/CS that seek to constructively engage with the UN system"[128];

- the United Nation Democracy Fund (UNDEF): a fund open to activities, project, purposes of CSOs;

- the association with the UN Department of Public Information (DPI);

- the Integrated Civil Society Organisations System (iCSO): gives the possibility to CSOs to register among UN; facilitates the recognition of the consultative status for the eligible NGOs; supports the NGOs in submitting the quadrennial reports;

- cooperation with UNHCR: the collaboration between NGOs and UNHCR was recognized since the first operations of the UNHCR, in fact Van Heuven Goedhart, the First High Commissioner for the Refugees, in 1954 said: "the UNHCR has had the most excellent relations with the voluntary agencies. Their work is in a true sense of the term indispensable and invaluable for refugees"[129]. NGOs are helpful to the work of the UNHCR for the aid distribution, protection, logistics, shelter, health, water, sanitation, nutrition and education projects[130].

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127 NGO Branch, CSO Network, available from: http://csonet.org/
128 About us, UN-NGLS, available from: http://www.unngls.org/index.php/about-ngls
129 Non-governmental Organizations, UNHCR, available from: http://www.unhcr.org/non-governmental-organizations.html
130 Ibidem.

With the emerging and increasing of humanitarian crises (since the 1960s to the 1990s), this collaboration improved and in the 2007 the UNHCR adopted the Global Humanitarian Platform's Principles of Partnership. The Global Humanitarian Platform set a cooperation between UN and non-UN humanitarian organisation working on the basis of these Principles of Partnership: "Equality; Transparency; Result-oriented approach; Responsibility; Complementarity[131].

In addition, the UNHCR does an annual consultation with NGOs as a forum debate for developing and strengthening the operation strategies of UNHCR.

– Participating as Observers at the meetings of the Human Rights Council and submitting written statements to the Council.

5. CSOs: crucial for the provision of Global Public Goods

Thanks to their structure, the involvement of CSOs in the cooperation is considered essential now, considering the evolution of the globalisation process and its transnational characteristic. They establish networks, raise awareness and cooperate between each other and with all the major actors in order to find solutions to global issues: "because NGOs are typically built on a foundation of strongly held principles and have networks at the grass roots and throughout many countries, they acquire legitimacy and persuasiveness in their approach to global problems"[132]. The public trusts them for their promotion of universal and global interests, that are the interests of all. They provide information that international organisations can use and filter in order to establish the cooperation between the different actors involved in the provision of Global Public Goods. Non-state actors can produce Global Public Goods supporting human rights for example, and contributing to the global equity.

With the involvement of non-state actors, international organisations should set some crucial rules, transparent and applicable to all and apply them impartially; they should assure the "right to know"[133] to them; support a dialogue with all the actors; provide

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131 Principles of Partnership A Statement of Commitment Endorsed by the Global Humanitarian Platform, 12 July 2007, available from: http://www.unhcr.org/5735bd464.html

132 Martin, L., *The Political Economy of International Cooperation*, in Kaul, I., Grunberg, I., Stern, M., (edited by), *Global Public Goods. International Cooperation in the 21st Century*, Oxford University Press, New York, United States, 1999, p. 60

133 Zadek, S., Edwards, M., *Governing the provision of Global Public Goods: The Role and Legitimacy of Nonstate Actors*, in Kaul, I., Conceicao, P., Le Goulven, K, Mendoza, R.U., (edited by), *Providing*

financial support. Despite the universal rules, it is important to maintain a management open to different areas and issues and to different interests, in order to afford different contexts without falling.

6. Weakness of CSOs

Despite the positive aspects of CSOs, there are some weakness that still today are unresolved, due mostly to their fast increase at transnational level and their need to be heard by states for establishing agendas able to deal with global and universal issues. These weaknesses are:

- quantity and diversity: CSOs are many and spread around the world, covering different issues and operating in different areas. For this reasons they cannot take part equally to the decision-making processes in setting up agendas and developing projects. They create an unique body with different voices that give chance to cover several aspects and dilemmas of CS, but at the same time it risks to be disordered and unheard;

- despite the same goal of creating a society based on solidarity, CSOs lack of a common agenda, and causes can be found on the first weakness;

- accountability: CSOs do not have a supra-body that coordinates their action, they work in autonomy and cooperate with each other without a supervision. If from the value-oriented point of view could be seen a favourable point, from the accountability no. Without a catalyst body, they seems messy and without a real unique voice, not only from the CS point of view, but also from the other actors perception;

- "we are the world"[134]: CSOs perceive themselves as directly designated by the whole CS, while they represent a part of it, despite huge. CSOs are always attacked for their legitimacy, because formally they do not represent a specific cut of the population, they do not receive an official legitimation by the majority of people that they represent, because since today does not exist a global demos.

Global Public Goods: managing globalization, United Nations Development Programme, Oxford University Press, New York, United States, 2003, p. 200-220

134 Padis, M., Pech, T., *Les Multinationales du coeur. Les ONG, La Politique et le Marchè*, Seuil et la Rèpublique des Idées, Paris, France, 2004, p. 14

Despite that, they are informally recognized by that slice that support their work;

- Northern and Southern CSOs: the two third of NGOs secretariats are placed in the OECD countries. The first five countries for number of NGOs secretariats are Belgium, US, UK, France and Switzerland[135]. The main reason is because in that countries they could achieve a major influence, doing lobbying action among European Union and the UN, but also because they have particular status (such as the consultative status among the ECOSOC). Despite the crucial position, this decision could lack of representativeness, because many CSOs born in the South of the world, could not have the resources to place themselves close to the international institution or in strategic cities.

Conclusions: the future development of CSOs at international level

CSOs are composed by several actors and, due to the globalisation process, they are passing through a rapid and without arrest evolution. Their structure is rapidly changing and their presence is perceived as a support, but at the same time as a threat.

What this evolution expresses is a need for change, a need for a new cooperation, where the transnational dimension is taken into consideration as the present asset of our world, developing the old structures and including the new actors. Only a cooperation between them could be able to afford the present global issues and violations of a global society.

Some are the efforts done until today by all the actors involved, such as:

- the Istanbul principles for CSOs Development Effectiveness created by the Open Forum based on the fact the CSOs are distinct and equal development actors and should be guided by appropriate principles, conceived for their role[136] or

- the Sphere Project "a voluntary initiative that brings a wide range of humanitarian agencies together around a common aim - to improve the quality of humanitarian assistance and the accountability of humanitarian actors to their constituents, donors and affected populations"[137]. It is composed by networks of

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135 Padis, M., Pech, T., *Les Multinationales du coeur. Les ONG, La Politique et le Marchè*, Seuil et la Règublique des Idées, Paris, France, 2004, p. 46

136 *The International Framework for CSO development effectiveness*, agreed by the Second Global Assembly, Open Forum for CSO Development Effectiveness, Siem Reap, Cambodia, 2011, available from: http://cso-effectiveness.org/IMG/pdf/international_framework_open_forum.pdf

137 *The Sphere Project in Brief*, The Sphere Project, available from: http://www.sphereproject.org/about/

humanitarian agencies, UN agencies, donors, CSOs academic institutions and affected governments.

PART 2: CSO in EU Cooperation and Development. Case Study analysis

Chapter III: EU Policy analysis and Assessment

Introduction

Among the EU, thanks to the implementation of the principle of subsidiarity and Multi-level Governance, the role of European CSOs has seen an increasing relevance and responsibility. In particular, the action of lobbying offers the possibility to CSOs to develop strategies, structures and projects in order to enhance the collaboration among the actors involved at EU level and to be seen as "actors for change", able to inspire and propose new perspectives and actions.

CSOs are crucial for underling the issues and deficiencies of EU policies and practices, having a strong connection with European citizens and local institutions. They bring the doubts and the critiques into the debate, but also purposes and cooperation for a better policy-making process.

Sometimes the action and initiative of CSOs are restrained by the mistrust and scepticism of Member States towards a possible stable cooperation and role of CSOs. In addition, CSOs actions are often frozen by the continuous need of funds in order to develop, maintain and study new projects and purposes. These funds usually are strictly connected with the EU (EU funds), but for receiving that, European CSOs should develop mechanisms and projects capable of attracting the attention and answering to the needs of the EU.

1. Multi-Level Governance: between identity building process and changing world

The Multi-level Governance has emerged in the European Union as the answer to governance issues due to the existence of many actors and their need of working together. It distributes the political processes and governmental functions among different levels: subnational, national and supranational[138] and, recently, transnational. All these levels should work together because they share decisional competencies, with the main goal of creating a collective decisional process, able to achieve objectives

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138 Mascia, M., *Il sistema dell'Unione Europea. Appunti su teorie, attori, processi nella prospettiva di una Costituzione per l'Europa*, CEDAM, Padova, Italy, 2005, p. 45

shared by all actors.

Within the MLG what is put under crisis is the traditional way of thinking the relations. IR are overlapped by different kinds of relations such as internal, local and transnational, constituting a situation of overlap of competencies and fields of operations: actors at different levels should interact for surviving together, without damaging the effective achievement of policies and practices. Without a system able to structure these confused relations, actors are not able to convene into joined actions and solutions: states in particular perceive possible changes as a threat to their autonomy and power. Indeed, for some authors, such as Marks, MLG is seen as a strong opposition to state-centric approaches[139]. This is the reason why MLG is not always well applied by states, while the supranational and the local dimensions make large use of it.

Standing on the overlap of competencies and the need of a structured and effective system, we can see a strong dichotomy happening within and outside the EU relationships: an external order created by the institution of the system, as the MLG is, able to set a structure between different levels of governance and overlapping competencies, and an internal disorder where original roles of different actors involved are questioned and seen from a different perspective[140].

The national, sovereign and armed entity of the State[141] is not more able to manage and assure an effective democracy in a globalised world, where subnational and transnational entities are gaining more relevance thanks to their ability in interacting and following the new challenges given by the Europeanization.

European integration is a necessary process, that has evolved and became compulsory with the development of the globalisation. As a process cannot be stopped or arrested, the only thing to do is to develop ways for living within it, adapting the old structures to

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139 Marks, G., Scharpf, F., W., et al., *Governance in the European Union*, Sage, London, United Kingdom, 1996

140 Marks, G., Hooghe, L., *Contrasting Visions of Multi-level Governance*, in Bache, I., Flinders, M., *Multi-level Governance*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, United Kingdom, 2004, p. 16

141 Mascia, M., *Il sistema dell'Unione Europea. Appunti su teorie, attori, processi nella prospettiva di una Costituzione per l'Europa*, CEDAM, Padova, Italy, 2005, p. 50

new fields and building new systems where old and new can converge and operate together.

What recent changes have demonstrated is that "the dispersion of governance across multiple jurisdictions is both more efficient than, and normatively superior to, central state monopoly"[142]. Governance for being effective today should work on a multi-scale approach "in order to capture variations in the territorial reach of policy externalities"[143]. Taking into considerations Global Public Goods, already explained in the second chapter, their externalities, that emerge in their provision, are very different and numerous. For this reason the governance should be able to answer to all these externalities and for doing so, it should be varying as them, it should be a Multi-level Governance. In addition, MLG can reflect better the "heterogeneity of preferences among citizens"[144], could better answer to their needs and fit their aspirations.

Despite all the steps done by the European Union in developing the engagement of all actors within the MLG, some obstacles remain, such as its organisation. Marks and Hooghe have distinguished between two kinds of organisation of MLG, called respectively Type I and Type II.

- Type I: it is based on federalism that consists in the relationship between the central government and its "non-overlapping sub-national governments[145]". It has a State-centric concept of politics and non-intersecting membership[146]. The jurisdiction is restricted to a limited number of levels in order to avoid thedispersion of authority. Regional and local governments would act as a third territorial layer in EU policy-making[147].

  According to this approach, the EU should be compared to other federal systems[148]. One of its main issues is that there is not agreement between Member

142 Marks, G., Hooghe, L., *Contrasting Visions of Multi-level Governance*, in Bache, I., Flinders, M., (edited by), *Multi-Level Governance*, Oxford University Press, New York, United States, 2004, p. 16
143 Ibidem.
144 Ivi, p. 17
145 Ivi, p. 18
146 Ivi, p. 19
147 Conzelmann, T., *Towards a new concept of Multi-level Governance?*, University of Maastricht, Maastricht, The Netherlands, 2008, available from:
http://cor.europa.eu/en/activities/governance/Documents/Conzelmann.pdf , p. 7
148 Ivi, p. 3

States about the role that regional and local levels of governance should play;

- Type II: It is characterized by a vast number of jurisdictions that operates in different territorial scales. The jurisdictions are functionally specific and flexible[149]. It has a more "hands on"[150] approach, in line with the preferences of the citizens and with the use of soft law.

Standing on this second kind of organisation, MLG could have a definition sounding like: "an arrangement for making binding decisions that engages a multiplicity of politically independent but otherwise interdependent actors -private and public- at different levels of territorial aggregation […] without assigning exclusive competence […] or assert a stable hierarchy"[151].

However, the EU supports MLG as a mechanism for dealing and developing an interpenetration between CS and state, without substituting one actor to another one, but promoting a cooperation between them. It operates with decision-making competencies shared by actors at different levels; a significant loss of control for individual national governments; interconnected political arenas, instead of being nested[152]. There are three dimensions of mobilization within MLG system: the political mobilization, with local, regional, transnational identities claiming autonomy and city networks; policy making mobilization, depending on MS policies; the polity restructuring, motivated by a weak institution representation at EU policies[153]. Indeed, with the Treaty of Maastricht, national governments do not have full control over EU, they have to cooperate and share part of their sovereignty with many kinds of domestic and transnational actors[154].

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149 Marks, G., Hooghe, L., *Contrasting Visions of Multi-level Governance*, in Bache, I., Flinders, M., (edited by), *Multi-Level Governance*, Oxford University Press, New York, United States, 2004, p. 21
150 Conzelmann, T., *Towards a new concept of Multi-level Governance?*, University of Maastricht, Maastricht, The Netherlands, 2008, available from:
http://cor.europa.eu/en/activities/governance/Documents/Conzelmann.pdf , p. 3
151 Ivi, p. 7
152 Hooghe, L, Marks, G., *Multi-level Governance and European Integration*, Rowman&Littlefield Publishers, Oxford, United Kingdom, 2001
153 CoR, *Multilevel Governance system and their role in policies for balanced urban development*, Conference during Opend days, 13th European week of Regions and Cities, Brussels, Belgium, 15 October, 2015
154 Hooghe, L, Marks, G., *Multi-level Governance and European Integration*, Rowman&Littlefield Publishers, Oxford, United Kingdom, 2001

The passage from state-centric to MLG has brought the multiplication of channels for subnational mobilization. Subnational governments and so CSOs have direct access to European institutions, they mobilize directly in Brussels, represented formally in European assemblies, and they interact across national borders[155].

In 2004 the CoR adopted the Charter of MLG for making effective the cooperation between actors in the political discussion. It is not a binding legal instrument, but puts in a formal way common values and principles for a common governance. An effective MLG enhances the EU integration: "multilevel governance helps us to learn from each other, experiment with innovative policy solutions, share best practices and further develop of participatory democracy, bringing the EU closer to the citizens[156]". It establishes in a formal way the common values and the processes for a good European governance under the motto "making rights real[157]". The key elements of the Charter are: legitimacy, stability, coherence, with a strong aim in strengthening policy transparency.

1.1 Subsidiarity: one of the principles of the European Multi-level governance
With the shift from a traditional statehood, with monopolistic properties like the security in protections of national borders, national citizenship and cultural identity, to a sustainable statehood where the legal recognition of human rights, the development of IGOs and NGOs, the existence of a planetary interdependence and a plural citizenship[158], the MLG was considered a necessary step, already in act, but needy of a formal recognition. The MLG is based on important pillars like the human rights paradigm, the global public goods approach, but moreover on the principle of subsidiarity.

The principle of subsidiarity, with the principle of proportionality, is at the basis of the

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155 Hooghe, L, Marks, G., *Multi-level Governance and European Integration*, Rowman&Littlefield Publishers, Oxford, United Kingdom, 2001
156 *Charter for Multilevel governance in Europe*, Committee of the Regions, 2014
157 Ibidem.
158 Bekemans, L., *Module 1: Multi-level Governance in perspective: a theoretical/conceptual framework*, Lectures of A.A. 2014/2015

European Union. It has the aim to guarantee a certain independence to lower and local authorities from higher bodies and central governments. It supposes the "sharing of powers between several levels of authority[159]" and it applies only in the areas where EU and Member States share their competencies. The Treaty of Maastricht had formally included in article 3b the principle of Subsidiarity in the European Union context and the Treaty of Lisbon in article 5.3 determines its area of work:

Under the principle of subsidiarity, in areas which do not fall within its exclusive competence, the Union shall act only if and in so far as the objectives of the proposed action cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States, either at central level or at regional and local level, but can rather, by reason of the scale or effects of the proposed action, be better achieved at Union level[160].

From this article it is possible to distinguish three preconditions for a possible intervention of the EU institutions under the principle of Subsidiarity:

1. when the area concerned is not included in the European Union's exclusive competence;
2. when the Member State cannot achieve alone the objectives of an action;
3. when the Union can implement the action more successfully.

Indeed, the principle of subsidiarity protects the capacity of Member States to take action, but also enables the European Union to intervene when the Member State is not able to achieve the goal alone. The powers must be exercised "as close to the citizen as possible"[161], in order to achieve the objective in the best manner, taking into account all the perspectives and visions.

This principle applies to all European Institutions and in particular during the legislative procedures. MS have to monitor and implement the principle of Subsidiarity and be cooperative towards the other levels of governance. With the Resolution of May 13th

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159 Chateau, C., *The principle of Subsidiarity*, Fact Sheets on the European Union, European Parliament, 2015, p. 1
160 *Treaty of Lisbon, amending the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty Establishing the European Community (2007/C 306/01),* signed at Lisbon, Portugal, December 13th, 2007
161 Chateau, C., *The principle of Subsidiarity*, Fact Sheets on the European Union, European Parliament, 2015, p.1

1997, the European Parliament underlines that the subsidiarity constitutes a binding legal principle, but this cannot be used as pretext to overtake the exclusive competence of the European Union on certain tasks.

What the Lisbon Treaty expresses at art.5 is a more inclusive approach towards the regional and local dimensions in order to develop a real union between all levels of governance and all actors involved for achieving the European policies. However, at the same time it limits the exclusive power and competence over situations taking place within the EU framework. With the principle of subsidiarity the problem of one level of governance is the problem for all the levels, that should cooperate and interact within the EU jurisdictional and political fields. Cooperation is necessary and so the recognition and respect between the different levels of governance, in order to guarantee the creation of a fluent and coordinated operative mechanism, where everyone, based on its capacities, gives his contribution and where no one is left alone. The EU has goals shared between all participants to the Union, they share values and ideas, for this reason the principle of subsidiarity supports the idea that cooperation is the unique way for making a democratic progress with a truly implementation of MLG.

The diversity within the EU should be preserved and enhanced, and this is what the principle of subsidiarity transmits: the reason of EU actions identifies its results and its effects. The aim of cooperating, of recognizing the relevance and the need of everyone are the key factors for an effective application of this principle.

Even if the principle of subsidiarity is crucial for strengthening the cohesion within the EU, there are few cases where it was used for assessing the solution of some problems and law debates, such as:

– the Case C-518/07 dealing with the protection of personal data, where Germany claimed the application of the principle of subsidiarity for justify its failure in fulfilling the obligations made by the EU;

– the Case C-377/98 over the legal protection of bio-technical inventions which directive was considered by The Netherlands as violating the subsidiarity principles.

In both cases the ECJ did not accepted the request of judging over a violation of the

principle of subsidiarity.

The Protocol (No 2) on the application of the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality[162] of 2007 declares some practical passages for guaranteeing the respect of the principle. At article 2 underlines the necessity of conducting consultations before proposing a legislative act, consulting also the regional and local dimensions. The whole process is open and could be analysed by all the representatives at different levels of governance. The draft could be modified standing on the different views of those involved and it is finalized once that all the participants agree.

1.2 Local dimension

With the principle of subsidiarity and the MLG, the local dimension has gained a crucial role mainly for its proximity to the territory and the individuals. The local dimension is close to territorial problems and to the claims of the population. Indeed, the globalisation process pours its problems into the local dimension such as the migration flows or the economic crisis: international problems that find their vent into the territory. The local dimension is the nearest level to the territory in the MLG process and it has to deal with international problems, for this reason has the legitimacy to get involved in the international and the global dimensions. It participates with an active role because all the decisions must be taken close to the citizens and to their vital needs, such as their fundamental rights[163].

In the local dimension it is possible to gather the local entities, the civil society organisations and the NGOs.

The local entity develops its "inclusive identity[164]" in order to offer the political participation to all. It creates the field for the building of specific structures for the

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162 *Protocol (No 2) on the application of the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality*, annexed to the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union by the Treaty of Lisbon of 13 December 2007, Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU), publication date 28/01/2013, available from: http://www.cvce.eu/content/publication/2010/5/18/ce113c75-4521-47f6-a471-cc2467007197/publishable_en.pdf
163 Papisca, A., *Sussidiarietà, orizzonte mondiale. La "diplomazia delle città"*, Pace diritti umani No. 2, May-August, 2006, p. 127-132
164 Ibidem.

creation of good practices and intercultural dialogue. Having a different structure than states, the local government can use only the soft-power, such as the persuasion, the dialogue, a pacific lobbying. States have borders that create a situation of exclusive and territorial sovereignty and domestic jurisdiction, while local governments cover areas not surrounded by clear borders and they "are closer to the source of sovereignty – people - than the State. Sovereignty belongs to the people because each of its members has inherent rights, and fundamental rights should be respected and protected where people live"[165].

The CSOs "play a vital role in enabling people to claim their rights, in promoting rights-based approaches, in shaping development policies and partnerships, and in overseeing their implementation"[166]. They are relevant for submitting to the supranational bodies the territorial problems, in particular when they affect all the level of governance and it is fundamental a multi-agency response.

For its relevance in the MLG, the local dimension is fully included in the European Union where the sub-national dimension has the possibility to present its interests among several committees and bodies.

In the Territorial Agenda 2020 (2011)[167] it is underlined how much the place-based approach is relevant for the Cohesion between different levels of government. European integration could be strengthened and achieved by the development of a network between urban areas[168].

The most important body among the European Union concerning local dimension is the CoR, composed by representatives of regions and local governments of the EU and created in 1994. These representatives can express their opinion on development of EU law that have effects on local dimension and they have a consultative formal power.

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165 Papisca, A., *Relevance of human rights in the glocal space of politics: how to enlarge democratic practice beyond state boundaries and build up a peaceful world order*, in K. De Feyter, S. Parmentier, Ch. Timmerman, G. Ulrich (eds), The local relevance of human rights, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2011, pp. 82-108
166 *Working for civil society in foreign aid*, UNDP China Publications,
167 *The territorial Agenda 2020 put in practice*, Regional Policy, European Commission, 2015
168 Papisca, A., *Relevance of human rights in the glocal space of politics: how to enlarge democratic practice beyond state boundaries and build up a peaceful world order*, in K. De Feyter, S. Parmentier, Ch. Timmerman, G. Ulrich (eds), The local relevance of human rights, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2011, pp. 82-108

With the Lisbon Treaty (2009), the principle of Subsidiarity was strengthened and also, as a consequence, the role of the CoR. It recognises formally the principle of regional and local self-government within the European Member States. The CoR has also the power to follow the draft bill during legislative process. "Authorities at all levels throughout Europe will have to work together to a much greater extent than previously"[169].

The White Paper on Multi-level Governance (2009) says that MLG is a "coordinated action by the European Union, the Member States and local and regional authorities, based on partnership and aimed at drawing up and implementing EU policies"[170]. According to the White Paper of 2009, it is important to:

- increase the global awareness of the importance of the local dimension;

- support an Europe with the regions (a closed partnership between different levels of Multi-level Governance);

- strengthen the quality of people lives and the well-being of citizens.

Another relevant step made by the CoR is the Regulation No. 1028/2006 that creates the European Groupings of Territorial Cooperation (EGTC), purposing three forms of cooperation:

1) Cross-border cooperation : between local and regional authorities in contiguous areas;

2) Inter-territorial cooperation : between non-contiguous areas;

3) Transnational cooperation: between larger contiguous areas and involves at least two EU member States and/or non-EU States[171].

169 *A new treaty. A new role for regions and authorities*, Committee of the Regions, European Union, available from:http://cor.europa.eu/en/documentation/brochures/documents/84fa6e84-0373-42a2-a801-c8ea83a24a72.pdf
170 *Committee of the Regions' White Paper on Multi-level Governance*, CoR 89/2009, Committee of the Regions, European Union, available from: http://web.cor.europa.eu/epp/Ourviews/Documents/White%20Paper%20on%20MLG.pdf
171 *European Grouping for Territorial Cooperation*, Regulation (EC) No.1082/2006 of the European Parliament and the Council, available from: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32013R1302

2. Legal context of citizens dialogue (Art.11 Lisbon Treaty)

Article 11 of the Treaty of Lisbon enunciates:

1.The institutions shall, by appropriate means, give citizens and representative associations the opportunity to make known and publicly exchange their views in all areas of Union action.

2.The institutions shall maintain an open, transparent and regular dialogue with representative associations and civil society.

3.The European Commission shall carry out broad consultations with parties concerned in order to ensure that the Union's actions are coherent and transparent.

4.Not less than one million citizens who are nationals of a significant number of Member States may take the initiative of inviting the European Commission, within the framework of its powers, to submit any appropriate proposal on matters where citizens consider that a legal act of the Union is required for the purpose of implementing the Treaties.

This article provides the legal basis for the implementation of a strengthen civil dialogue and the involvement of citizens in EU. Member States, EU institutions and CS should work together, should cooperate in order to put in effective action this article. Civil dialogue is considered the key for achieving this. For being a real civil one, the dialogue must possess some characteristics:

- being multi-level: should involve representatives of CS at all levels;
- being open, transparent and inclusive: achieved with the direct participation and so with representatives that are real spokespeople of citizens;
- being building on existing dialogues, developed in particular between EU institutions and CS;
- promoter of a better policy-making: it should be able to create new ideas, to stimulate cooperation for new projects, or in the drafting of legislation;
- creator of the European integration through CS[172].

What this article promotes is a more efficient dialogue between actors of MLG in order

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172 Third Sector Impact, *Roadmap for the implementation of Article 11 of the Lisbon Treaty. Towards better EU civil dialogue and involvement of citizens for better policymaking*, NGO Forum *Create Europe*, Riga, Latvia, 2015, available from: http://thirdsectorimpact.eu/site/assets/uploads/post/tsi-researcher-sivesind-ngo-forum-riga/TSI_News_RoadmapForTheImplementationOfArticle11TEU.pdf

to absolve the main goal of the EU: achieving the well-being of its citizens and diminish all possible obstacles and issues.

On the practical level, civil dialogue has a series of practices like:

- Open electronic consultations organised through the "Your voice in Europe" website on most major policy initiatives;

- Biannual meetings with the Commission, organised by the Platform of European Social NGOs since 1995, but also by CONCORD, the European NGO Confederation for Relief and Development;

- Informal cross-party groupings, parliamentary intergroups provide a space for MEPs to discuss shared interests which are not represented in standing committees. Their secretariat is often provided by NGOs: for instance, the disability intergroup, created in 1980, is coordinated by the European Disability Forum.

- The European Commission DG Trade has set up a structured and regular "Civil Society dialogue" with interested parties of civil society that facilitates regular meetings on trade issues with European Commissioners, senior officials and negotiators.

- Hearings are organised by the European Parliament on a number of major developments or issues that affect more specifically civil society organisations (e.g. Constitutional Treaty, Financial Regulation, Gender Institute)[173].

Since 2011 several are the purposes, actions and reactions towards the real and effective implementation of this article. One crucial step was made with the creation of the European Year of Citizens 2013 Alliance (EYCA), composed by European networks and platforms, following the purpose of the European Commission made on 11 August 2011, to create an "European Year of Citizens", in 2013. Since 2013, the EYCA is working in order to improve European citizenship policy agenda and to institutionalise the citizens participation along with the provision of the Articles 11.1 and 11.2 of the Lisbon Treaty. This Alliance is strengthening the value that European citizens have

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173 CEDAG, *Civil dialogue: an opportunity for NGOs to make their voice heard in the EU*, available from: http://www.cedag.eu/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=129:civil-dialogue-an-opportunity-for-ngos-to-make-their-voice-heard-in-the-eu&catid=9:jargon-busterglossary&Itemid=22

among EU and the crucial importance of improving their awareness of that.

What article 11 supports is an involvement of CS, no more seen only as acting within the state and with the state as its only representative. Here CS is seen as an active actor, able to organize itself and to find several solutions for being heard by European institutions and for solving its issues.

Nowadays among the EU, there are CSOs able to act transnationally and to bring to light issues that are shared between individuals living in different Member States. Despite different nationalities and national structures, issues and emergencies are perceived by people in the same way, non-state actors are able to interact at transnational level and to gather all these voices, needs and ideas, in one unique representative network or alliance. The cooperation with them is crucial today.

European citizens are at the core of the European Union. The political and social achievement of the Union has to be as close as possible to its citizens, to be a representative voice of them at international and supranational level, to create the field for the development of their well-being. In order to do that all the actors are necessary, in particularly those who are close, connected to and living for the society: CSOs.

3. CSOs at European Level

3.1 Awareness among Civil society

With the Treaty of Maastricht, the Treaty adopting a Constitution of Europe (2004), the Treaty of Lisbon, the White Paper on Governance (2001), the European convention (2001) and the Citizens' initiative (2012), CS has emerged among the EU as an actor with responsibilities, capacities and influence.

At article 46, the Treaty adopting a Constitution of Europe introduces the principle of participatory democracy that, with the principle of participatory governance introduced by the principle of subsidiarity and the MLG, gives a new action-oriented approach to the EU: for the people and by the people.

How CS emerged among EU is strictly connected with the arising of questioning about the democratic legitimacy of the EU, in particular during the 1990s, but continuing

today. This rendered the EU a "decision-making context […] more politicized, which put the spotlight on CS as new actor in EU policy process"[174]. In addition, the academic studies are focusing their attention more on the governance issues instead on integration issues. The interest towards CS as actor capable to improve the democratic and effectiveness is growing[175]. Lastly, CS is seen as a developing actor, able to adapt itself to changes on governance and evolution of globalisation process, without losing its identity, but on the contrary, increasing its relevance and internal cohesion. With the civil dialogue, its role is going to be included and developed within the EU. Aware of that, CSOs are emphasizing the necessity of structuring and formally recognize civil dialogue, in order to "establish accreditation of European NGOs and the creation of a horizontal unit within the Commission Services to manage the relationship with NGOs"[176].

3.2 Challenges between collaboration and lobbying

The relationship between CSOs and EU nowadays is considered essential, despite some obstacles remain:

new division of labour between the Commission, the other institutions, the Member States and civil society. A new, more democratic form of partnership between the different levels of governance in Europe. [...] it is time to realise that Europe is not just run by European institutions but by national, regional and local authorities too and by civil society[177].

The mainly form of collaboration is based on consultations. European institutions, in particular the European Commission, consult CSOs and NGOs networks in the majority kind of policy fields in order to assess the CS point of view, purposes and critiques. CSOs are usually identified within the solidarity interested groups because they are not

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174 Heine, H., *Civil society participation in EU governance*, Living Reviews in European Governance, Vol.7, No.2, December 2012, retrieved on March 2016, available from: http://www.livingreviews.org/lreg-2012-2, p. 8
175 Ivi, p. 9
176 Platform of European Social NGOs (Social Platform), *Democracy, Governance and European NGOs. Building stronger structured civil dialogue*, March 2001, available from: http://ec.europa.eu/governance/contributions/social-ngos_en.pdf
177 Prodi, R., *2000-2005 Shaping the New Europe,* Speech/00/41, European Parliament, Strasbourg, 15 February, 2000, available from: http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_SPEECH-00-41_en.htm

for profit and they are dealing with the areas of policies correlated to human rights, solidarity, democracy, environment, cooperation and development, security, education and work.

One of the main issues is that the consultation of CSOs is not well regulated among the EU and for this reason they are not always represented among the institutional debates that lack of a worldwide perspective for an effective policy-making.

The CSOs among the European institutions represent public interest and reduce the gap between European institutions and European society in order to build a social solidarity. In addition to advocacy, consultancy and relational actions, CSOs are also considered the guardians or "watch-dogs"[178] of public interests.

The lobbying action is a characteristic of all interest groups dealing with European institutions, but for CSOs is considered a crucial action for pressing institutions and governments in putting in practice effective action-oriented policies for public interests. Emerging from the field of activism and manifestations, CSOs have a natural predisposition in lobbying and in carrying the interests of the CS on the decisional table of EU. With the lobbying action, interest groups bear the voice of their groups to the decision-makers.

3.3 Structural format

3.3.1 General Characteristics: example of Oxfam

CSOs at European level are often structured as networks. Those NGOs and CSOs that cover international paths, usually do not need to form a network of distinct NGOs and CSOs in order to be heard by the European institutions or for coordinating their common goals and actions at worldwide level. They can join other networks at European level, but they maintain their definition as NGOs or CSOs. Their structure is vertically constructed from a coverage point of view, but all the local, national and regional representatives interact with the same importance and influence among each other. We can take as example Oxfam international structure (Figure 2). Oxfam is a

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178 Platform of European Social NGOs (Social Platform), *Democracy, Governance and European NGOs. Building stronger structured civil dialogue*, March 2001, available from: http://ec.europa.eu/governance/contributions/social-ngos_en.pdf

confederate NGO with the aim of fighting against poverty, purposing new and innovative ways for limiting that and for spreading information around the world.

The Board of Supervisors as the role of coordinating and structuring the activity of the organisation by supervising the work of the Executive Board and the secretariat approving their reports, policies and programs; supervise the work of the Board of Supervisors'

Committees

(Finance and

Audit

Committee;

Governance

Committee;

Board-ED

Committee);

Approve and

adopt the

annual financial
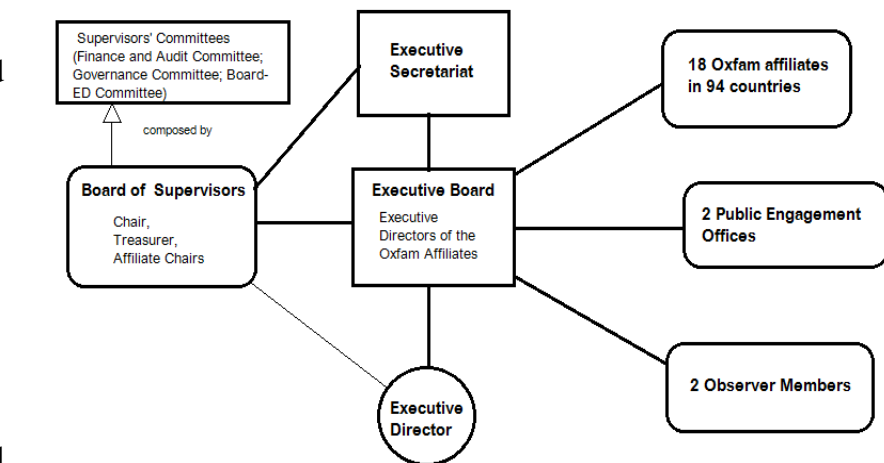
Fig. 2

accounts, the Code of Conduct, and the Rules of Procedure, the Oxfam Strategic Plan; and any other supervisory task or duty delegated to the Board of Supervisors[179].

The Executive Board has to put in practice purposes and goals at practical level and take measures for doing that, always under the supervision of the Board of Supervisors. It is composed by the Executive directors of the affiliates.

The Executive director, nominated by the organisation, has the role to mediate between Executive Board and the Board of Supervisors and to deal with other CSOs, NGOs, networks, governments and institutions in order to be the representative voice of Oxfam international.

The secretariat manage the logistic and the communication within and outside the organisation, while the affiliates work at national and regional level.

The engagement offices have the main goal of raising money and engaging the public in the work of Oxfam, while the observer members are organisations that Oxfam has

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179 Our Governance, Oxfam International, available from: https://www.oxfam.org/en/node/3690

welcomed into its network to work together in practice[180]. Oxfam has an office in Brussels for dealing directly and outright with European institutions and other CSOs and NGOs, but it is officially registered in The Netherlands.

3.3.2 Structure of an European network: the European Volunteer Centre

Another different structure is the one represented by the European networks, taking as example the European Volunteer Centre (CEV).

The CEV is a network of over 80 national, regional and local volunteer centres and volunteer support agencies across Europe[181] with the aim of promoting, supporting and developing volunteering in order to build an effective and strong path of action for strengthening the relevant and crucial role of volunteering for the creation of an Europe of solidarity. It was created in 1990 by six regional volunteering centres (from Belgium, France, United Kingdom and Italy), after a meeting in Lucca (Italy), where they agreed over the need of creating a body able to connect volunteering organisations among Europe and increase their cooperation. In 1992 the European Volunteer Centre (Centre Européen du Volontariat, CEV) was officially recognised as a non-governmental organisation in Belgium. Two years later, the CEV organised the first European Volunteering Day at the European Parliament, receiving the official support of the European Parliament, the European Commission, the European Union Council and the UNESCO. The main actions of the CEV are:

- *"Developing partnerships with EU and other institutions at different levels, civil society organisations as a member of various Alliances, and with other volunteering stakeholders.*

- *Sharing knowledge through publications, social media, training courses, studies and other initiatives & events.*

- *Training members and other stakeholders on volunteering related issues.*

- *Advocating for supportive volunteering policies as a member of EU expert groups, attending and presenting at hearings & consultations, and organising CEV policy*

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180 Our Governance, Oxfam International, available from: https://www.oxfam.org/en/node/3690
181 About, European Volunteer Centre, available from: http://www.cev.be/about-2/

conferences[182].

The CEV is structured in such a way that all the actors involved have the opportunity of choosing and being involved in the decision-making process of the network (Figure 3). Everyone has a voice and the possibility to make purposes and share ideas and opinions.

The Board has the role to examine the various purposes and issues emerged during internal meetings with the member organisations or with other networks; to examine possible cooperation and projects with other organisations, networks, governments, European institutions and private organisations; to make new purposes and develop strategy plan and action policies. The member organisations have always the power to vote over purposes made by the board.
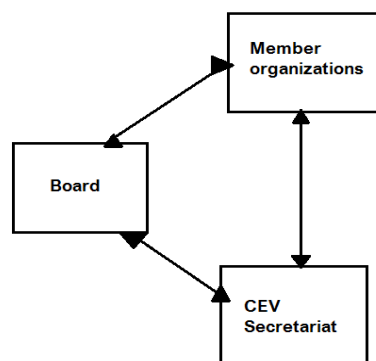
Fig. 3

Members of the board are representatives of member organisations elected during the annual General Assembly by the member organisations.

The member organisations are divided between full members and associate members:

CEV Full members are national and regional support centres for volunteering and organizations exercising the role of a national or regional support centre for volunteering in European countries. Full members must be not-for profit and non-governmental organisations.
Associate members are volunteer involving organizations or organizations that promote and develop volunteering in a specialized field or a specific type of volunteering. Associate members act on a local, regional, national or international level[183].

The CEV secretariat is composed by a paid staff and has the role to manage in practice the communication, logistic, balance sheet, European Union funds, collaborations and representativeness of the network, within it and outside it.

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182 About, European Volunteer Centre, available from: http://www.cev.be/about-2/
183 Member Organizations, European Volunteer Centre, available from: http://www.cev.be/about-2/member-organisations/

3.4 EU Funding for CSOs

The EU has established the presence of particular features for CSOs for being eligible for funding mechanisms: the autonomy, the representativeness and the geographical coverage (covering a huge range of countries). Without these characteristics, that identify the respect of democratic principles, CSOs cannot have access to the procedure for requiring funding. The non-profit basis is the fundamental point for receiving the economic support by the EU and this is a fixed point that identifies CSOs, making them the "natural target group eligible for a vast part of the EU funding"[184].

The world of European funding is very complicated and the way for being worthy for receiving them requires a well-prepared staff, composed by personnel that had the chance of being prepared by specific courses on Europlanning.

In 2014 it was adopted by the EU the Multi-annual Financial Framework (MFF, 2014-2020) due to the changes in the internal and external structure of the EU and the increasing relevance of the role and power of CSOs and the need of implementing the structured dialogue between all actors participating to MLG.

CSOs can award action grants of the EC through open call for proposals, presenting their projects and structures. The new funding delivery mechanism delegates the work of the EC to its DGs:

- the EuropeAid/DG Devco;
- the DG ECHO, that divides its funding operation between humanitarian aid, for needs-based humanitarian assistance, and civil protection, for emergency situations that need an immediate response[185];
- the DG NEAR.

The direct access to programmes run by the EC is no more a priority today, because its DGs are today seen as the main entry point for CSOs for having access to specific

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184 *Understanding and identifying EU Funds*, Welcome Europe, available from: www.welcomeeurope.com/toolbox-eurofunding.html
185 EU Funding for NGOs- Value for Money?, NGO Monitor, available from: www.ngo-monitor.org/reports/eu-funding-for-ngos-value-for-money

founds. This also is a response to the task-specific needs of modern issues and projects.

CSOs for receiving funds can follow several different mechanisms, depending on their needs and on the kind of action they want to support.

The different mechanisms within the EU funding delivery mechanisms are all summarized within Table 1[186]. Each CSO should propose its idea of funding to a specific DG of the EU or directly to the EC, depending also on the different announcement selection that the body makes. If the CSO respect all the features required for being eligible and if the project is considered worthy of the EU support, the funding is arranged and can be distributed.

Name of mechanism	What it means
Direct award	A grant awarded without a call for proposals
Pooled funding/trust fund	Donor resources combined under an EU-managed fund
Framework Partnership Agreement	Long-term cooperation between the European Commission and a strategic partner, which may receive grants
Re-granting (financial support to third parties)	Sub-granting by a primary grant recipient
Follow-up grant	An additional grant to an existing beneficiary, for continuing a successful action
Ring-fencing	Setting aside all or part of a budget for a particular type of beneficiary or action
Eased co-financing requirements	Changes in the proportion of the budget covered by the grant recipient
Operating grant	Core funding
Flagship initiatives	Large, multidisciplinary development programmes designed to tackle major global issues
Blending	Using grants to leverage non-grant resources, e.g. loans or private investment

Table 1

3.5 Weaknesses of CSOs role within EU

Despite the huge changes adopted by the EU in order to create a system where all the actors are involved in a democratic process, some gaps still remain taking into reference the implementation of article 11 of the Lisbon Treaty.

The first one concerns information, when at the first proposition it is said: "The institutions shall, by appropriate means, give citizens and representative associations the opportunity to make known and publicly exchange their views in all areas of Union

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186 Report on *EU Funding Delivery Mechanisms. New Trends in EuropeAid Funding, and what they mean for CSOs,* CONCORD, March 2016, available from: http://concordeurope.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/CONCORD_publication_EUfunding_DeliveryMechanisms.pdf?1d6b43

action". Information is crucial within EU because citizens, in order to be involved, have the priority and the right to be informed. How is it possible to involve citizens in EU debate? First of all giving more information to their direct representatives, that could be governments, but also CSOs. There are some positive attempts like the Europa site[187], a tool available to all citizens of the EU, and where it is possible to find all the crucial and necessary information about European Union.

Another one is the public consultation on EU citizenship, a questionnaire that was available online from 14 September to 7 December 2015 and useful for reporting "obstacles you might be encountering in your daily life when living, travelling, studying, voting, or running for political office in other EU countries […] Civil society organisations and other stakeholders may also reply to these questions"[188].

One last positive example is the one concerning the several info-points present close to European Institutions, for example in Brussels, where it is possible to take the newest documents, reports and publications of the European Union.

Despite these positive aspects, information is open and wide when dealing with general and "public" topics, while it can be considered closed when deals with crucial topics under negotiations or talks, such as the recent TTIP (Transatlantic Trade Investment Partnership), launched in 2013 between US and EU. EU is accused, firstly by CSOs, of having developed negotiations behind closed doors, keeping secret also the composition of the preparatory group and the wording of the negotiations[189], going over the principle of democracy and participation that MLG and article 11 of Lisbon Treaty support.

The second preposition of article 11 deals with "representative associations and civil society". Representativeness is the second crucial issue of CSOs because they have members from most the EU countries and beyond, and their positions and argument have a strong importance[190]. Networks, NGOs and CSOs could have a different way of

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187 Europa, Official European Union website, available from: http://europa.eu/index_en.htm

188 Jourova, V., *Public Consultation on EU Citizenship. Share your opinion on our common values, rights and democratic participation*, Factsheet, Justice and Consumer Directorate General, September 2015

189 TTIP and CETA in detail, Stop TTIIP, available from: https://stop-ttip.org/what-is-the-problem-ttip-ceta/faqs/

190 Venables, T., *The EU's relationship with NGOs and the issue of "participatory democracy"*,

structuring their dialogue and their representativeness, despite the majority works in the same way. But they represent also different aspects of public interest, for this reason it is difficult to create an unique and equal way of representativeness for all. What CSOs ask is a set of a common ground, for example concerning transparent budgets or verified non-governmental conditions.

The third prepositions refers to "broad consultations" carried out by the European Commission. "The Commission as adopted binding minimum standards of consultation"[191] and these standards do not give the possibility to achieve and consult broadly CSOs, that are many within the European context. What CSOs support is a sort of agreement, in order to enlarge the participatory democracy also with other European institutions and bodies.

The fourth point concerns the "not less than one million citizens", fundamental for asking the Commission to take initiative within its competence. The collection of one million signatures is really difficult considering the vastness of European territory and population. CSOs have the connections for collecting them, but not always the means, and this can create a limit on the capacity of CSOs of being proactive and of acting within the terms, in addition it slows down citizen's initiative and its involvement within EU.

Conclusions

Although CSOs within the EU have serious issues to overcome, their action and presence is well-considered and taken as crucial within the MLG. EU structures and procedures for the involvement of CSOs are innovative and advanced, giving voice, despite some issues, to the public interests, to the direct wishes of the citizens. Standing on this, CSOs have developed too, enhancing their cooperation, enlarging their structure, broadening their influence and their field of action. Networks and their proactive participation through consultations and lobbying represent an effective result of solidarity and cooperation principles proclaimed by the EU.

Transnational Association, Contents 2/2004, 56th year, Bruxelles, Belgium
191 Ibidem.

Chapter IV: The role of CSOs in the European Cooperation and Development Practice

Introduction

The field of development and cooperation is the one where the role of CS and CSOs has emerged recently as fundamental. With the implementation of the MDGs and its Agenda, the EU has promoted itself as the major source of aid, financial and logistic, thanks to its capacity of being multi-actor, proactive and having a multifaceted view.

Eliminating or at least reducing the gap between developed and developing countries and keeping as main focus the reduction of poverty are the main goals of the present cooperation and development action. However, recently, with the beginning of the SDGs, one element has become crucial: the compulsiveness of partnership between different actors involved, such as governments, supranational organisations, intergovernmental organisations, local and regional governments, private actors and CS. Following the case studies of DEEEP Project and SDG Watch Europe, a fundamental principle arise: that together, with the support, action and involvement of all actors, it is possible to achieve goals that apparently seem far.

1. Field of Application: Cooperation and Development

1.1 Contextual relation

With the globalisation process and the increasing interdependence within territories, countries and human beings, the need of supporting each other and trying to escape from periods of crisis that could affect everyone, cooperation and development have become crucial.

Cooperation and development are two aspects of the same coin, and they strictly depend on each other: without cooperation, development cannot be achieved and vice versa. Growing together, from political, social, economic points of view, cooperation and development are a necessary step for all countries, in order to overwhelm gaps and be able to deal with each other without discriminations based on situations of "under-development". Despite the positive aim that development and cooperation want to achieve, the practices, meanings, structures and actions are not already well coordinated

between the different actors involved. For some of them cooperation and development mean funds and financial aid, for others refer only to logistic supports, while for some others to a varied system where political, economic, social, cultural and structural support coexist.

Standing on the ECOSOC point of view, development and cooperation should have three main tasks:

- to support developing countries in the provision of global public goods;

- to enhance the provision of social standards for the exercise of people's human rights;

- and to support and collaborate for a common level of well-being between countries for diminishing the gap[192].

The four main criteria[193] promoted by the ECOSOC and shared by all actors involved into this field are:

1. to support national and/or international development priorities: sometimes actions, policies, bodies and needs do not report the words "development" and "cooperation" and for this reason are excluded from the action-oriented approach or development goals perspective. It is important to base the analysis on the global common goals, in order to better identify what situations need the support into this field;

2. it is not-for-profit: lower profit is well accepted, but the main goal is to make the cooperation and development self sustainable for all actors involved, in order to eliminate the possible establishment of dependency relationships;

3. focus on developing countries: developing countries need first of all to break the impediment to their development, for this reason more action and support are necessary;

4. cooperative relationship: a hierarchy cannot help cooperation and could only fix the old international structure, existing before the decolonization process,

192 Alonso, J., Glennie, J., *What is Development Cooperation?*, 2016 Development Cooperation Forum Policy Briefs, ECOSOC, No. 1, New York, United States, February, 2015, available from: http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/newfunct/pdf15/2016_dcf_policy_brief_no.1.pdf
193 Ibidem.

increasing the dependency and limiting the capacity of developing countries[194].

The three main kinds of development and cooperation are: financial transfer; capacity support; policy change[195]. Financial transfer could be referred to the so called "aid". It is the easiest and fastest way for supporting another country in its development process. It is also the most criticized way today, due to its lack of real cooperative approach, delegating everything to funds and so to a sort of dependency between donor and receiving. Capacity support refers to countries that do not need a necessary economic aid, but they lack of the ability to understand, to coordinate and to structure their capacities. The example and the capacity support of other countries and actors could be useful and crucial for finding their own way for self-management. Helpful is for example sharing the experiences, positive and negative, with the premises, analyses and results. Policy change is considered the best way for cooperating with developing countries and support them in their route, with the creation of *ad hoc* rules, specific policies, creation and management of multi-agency work for an effective implementation process.

What is development cooperation?[196]		
Purposes	*Characteristics*	*Types*
Guaranteeing universal basic standards of social protection	*Explicitly intended to support national or international development priorities*	*Financial (and in-kind) transfer*
Promoting convergence among countries' standards of living	*Not driven by profit*	*Capacity supporting*
		Policy change
Supporting efforts of developing countries to actively participate in the provision of international public goods	*Discriminates in favour of developing countries*	
	Based on cooperative relationships that seek to enhance developing country ownership	

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194 Alonso, J., Glennie, J., *What is Development Cooperation?*, 2016 Development Cooperation Forum Policy Briefs, ECOSOC, No. 1, New York, United States, February, 2015, available from: http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/newfunct/pdf15/2016_dcf_policy_brief_no.1.pdf
195 Ibidem.
196 Ibidem.

1.2 Development Cooperation: defining the conceptual issues

In its inaugural speech in 1949, Truman introduced for the first time the word "development" as a characteristic of countries with a determined internal situation. President Truman presented the definition of development as a sort of "global promise of generalised happiness"[197], but without concrete references. Its real meaning remained vague, but mainly correlated to economic growth: developed countries were for example the US, able to achieve technological, industrial and scientific development, possible only with a substantial economic stability, with an high GDP level. In this speech, developed countries were called for supporting the developing ones: "And, in cooperation with other nations, we should foster capital investment in areas needing development"[198], those countries that,
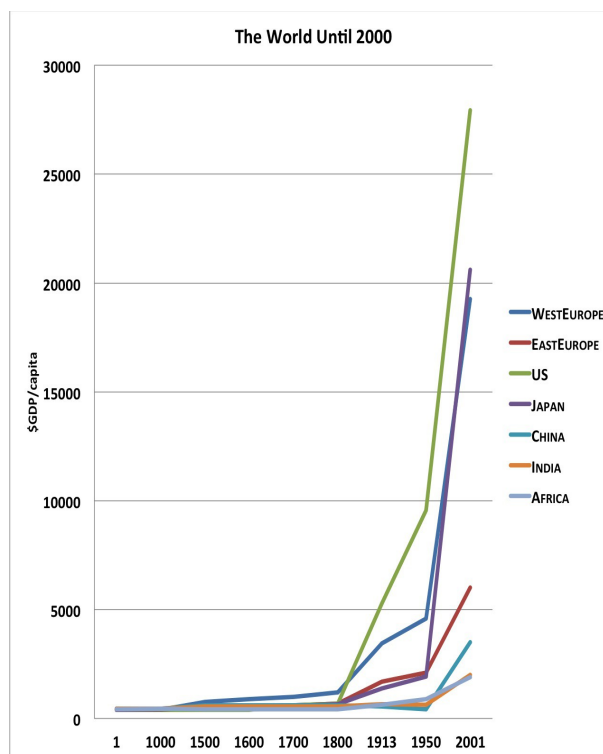
Graph 1

due to a precarious economy, could not achieve alone a "developed" status. In the Graph 1[199] it is possible to see the rapid economic growth done after the Second World War, in particular by US, West Europe and Japan, leaving East Europe, Asia and Africa to an inferior level, causing a huge gap between continents.

Truman was not really aware about the use of the word development, however, his speech is often recalled by researchers on development as the first time that the word "development" appeared officially as main goal for countries that are seen as part of the

197 Rist, G., *Development as a buzzword*, Development in Practice, 17: 4, 485-491, 2010, available from: http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/09614520701469328
198 Truman's Inaugural Address, January 20, 1949, available from: https://www.trumanlibrary.org/whistlestop/50yr_archive/inagural20jan1949.htm
199 Nuwer, R., *The Arc of History is Long, But it Bends Toward Asian Economic Dominance*, Smithsonian magazine, June 21st, 2012, available from: http://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/the-arc-of-history-is-long-but-it-bends-toward-asian-economic-dominance-131130650/?no-ist

same family, despite at different levels of development. During the Cold War, the word was used by developed countries "as an excuse for enticing developing countries to side with one camp or the other"[200], with the US or the USSR.

With the time, development started covering different crucial areas such as the social cohesion, the human capital, the protection of the environment from pollution, deforestation and climatic change. Rising results correlated to all these topics were included under the definition of
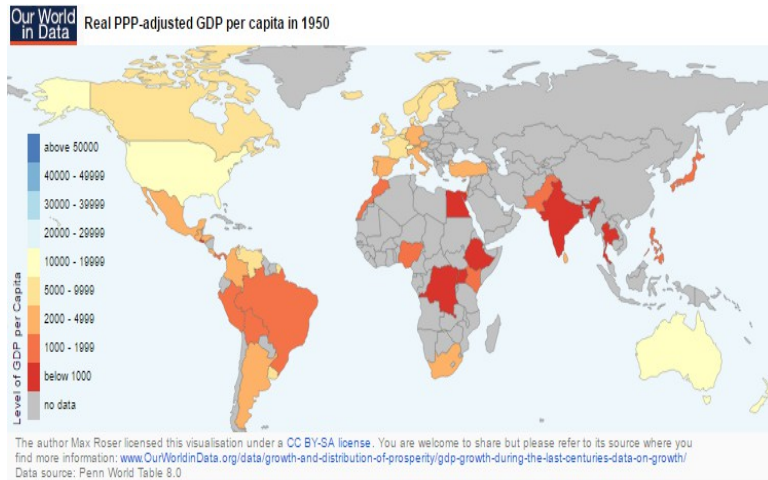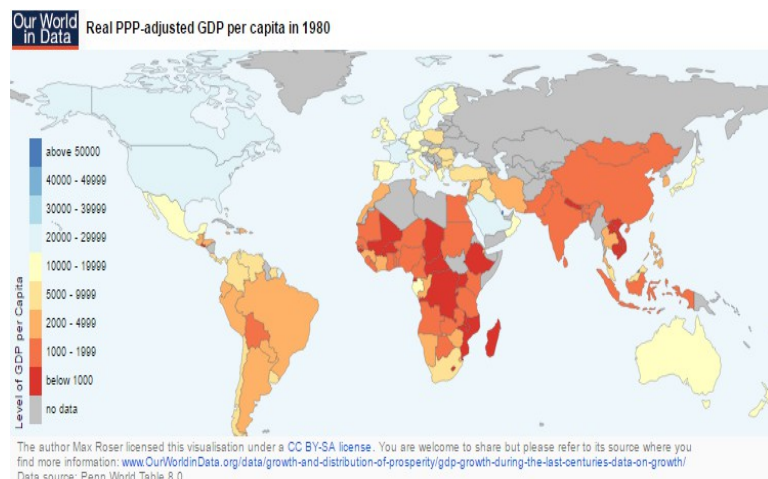
Graph 2

Graph 3

development, defining it with a positive connotation, referring to a country in continuous growth and capable to assure a optimal level of well-being to its population. Despite the positive connotation, this definition of development was and is criticized today, in particular for its incapacity of closing the gap between saying and doing[201], between the rhetoric (for the benefit for all) and realization (for the benefit of small ruling classes)[202]. Since 2000

200 Rist, G., *Development as a buzzword*, Development in Practice, 17: 4, 485-491, 2010, available from: http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/09614520701469328
201 Ibidem.
202 Harvey, D., *Neo-liberalism as creative destruction*, Interfacehs, v.2, No.4, Trad 1, 2007, available from: http://www.interfacehs.sp.senac.br/en/translations.asp?ed=4&cod_artigo=79, p. 25

its premises and achievements, such as better life conditions for all and good standards of living and benefits were conferred only to a tiny minority. As already seen in the first chapter, the effects of such need of economic growth affected negatively mostly the so called developing and non-developed countries, able to raise their economic conditions in 1980s, but falling in political and subsequently social instability, with a following arrest of the economic growth (Graphs 2 and 3[203]).

What the Chicago School supported led to a general focus of all countries in achieving an economic ratio as close as possible to the one of Western countries, enhanced by the general support given to neoliberalism, identified as the main answer to economic constraints. An elitist development emerged, where the majority of the population was left to solve its emergencies and imminent issues alone for the well-being of the economic growth and a future implementation of the welfare state. The state gained relevance as the first agent for redistributive policies, but, in the practice, it followed the interest of the elites, as it happened in Britain with the Thatcher's programme for the privatization of social housing, or in Mexico with the privatization of the *ejidos*, that forced many rural dwellers off the land into the cities in search of employment[204]. What the achievement of development demonstrated was the "redistributive tactics of neoliberalism" as "wide-ranging, sophisticated, frequently masked by ideological gambits but devastating for the dignity and social well-being of vulnerable populations and territories"[205].

For limiting the negative impacts that development was having in the majority of the population, it was necessary to strengthen democratic institutions and to build some structures, will and goals, able to contrast the flow towards an unique economic-focused development, starting from the IMF, WTO and the World Bank and the sharing of their projects and actions with other actors at all levels. The firsts that started expressing this necessity were labour movements in South Korea, South Africa and Latin American

203 Roser, M., *GDP Growth Over the Last Centuries*, OurWorldInData.org, 2016, available from: https://ourworldindata.org/gdp-growth-over-the-last-centuries/#data-sources

204 Harvey, D., *Neo-liberalism as creative destruction*, Interfacehs, v.2, No.4, Trad 1, 2007, available from: http://www.interfacehs.sp.senac.br/en/translations.asp?ed=4&cod_artigo=79 , p. 21

205 Ivi, p. 22

working-class parties during the 1980s and following: movements spread across the world, without a concrete and visible connection between them, but aimed by the achievement of the well-being for all. Subsequently, those movements organized themselves into structures and the majority of them merged into the creation of CSOs, making pressure among governments for a more inclusive and wide development.

With the MDGs, which results will be analysed later, the attention was completely focus on the reduction of poverty, changing radically the vision of development, no more correlated mainly to economic growth, but also to social, cultural, human, environmental and human rights development. However, the efforts put in place between 2000 and 2015 were not sufficient for achieving the goal of substantially alleviating poverty, but they created the circumstances for the improvement of a new way of living development: the sustainable development with its SDGs.

Defining development remains an issue that probably with the participation of all actors could be solved, finding a way of evaluating and practising development with increasing cooperation, partnership and willingness.

1.2.1 Development as a Global Public Good

Development is became recently considered as a GPG due to gross and on-going changes at local and international levels. New exigences coming from new realities, multi-actor cooperation, the need of equity have made pressures on the necessary change in the action for the implementation of GPGs. In 1986 such relevance has pushed the UN in recognising development as a human right creating the Declaration on the Right to Development which at article 1 states:

1. *The right to development is an inalienable human right by virtue of which every human person and all peoples are entitled to participate in, contribute to, and enjoy economic, social, cultural and political development, in which all human rights and fundamental freedoms can be fully realized.*

2. *The human right to development also implies the full realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, which includes, subject to the relevant provisions of both International Covenants on Human Rights, the exercise of their inalienable right to full*

sovereignty over all their natural wealth and resources[206].

Today, with the promotion of the MDGs, and the following SDGs, and the strong efforts made for reducing poverty worldwide, the main focal point is the closing of the gap between the so called "developed countries" and the "developing countries", with the cooperative action of all actors, from CSOs to governments at all levels. Equity can eliminate the strong and prejudging distinction between countries that are not "developed" and those who are, it can give the possibility to reinventing a new approach and a new way of achieving development, more sustainable and less depending on foreign aids. Indeed, the restructuring of developing finance is a step that all actors have the duty to start, with willingness and proactive spirit, with the main message that together is possible to find the right policies and the right solutions.

Since few years ago, dealing with development cooperation meant mainly aid, the ODA, provided by rich countries to poor countries[207]. These funds are principally directed to governments that not always are willing to cooperate and do not always know deeply projects and realities living in their territory and so the aids are concentrated on areas well-known. This cannot allow a wide allocation of funds, covering all new issues and capable of answering to all needs, such as transnational issues. What is necessary is to open the range of actors involved, in particular when we are dealing with the allocation of aids. The presence of a donor and a recipient remains crucial, but the involvement of more actors, representing the reality of the global situation, is fundamental.

The EU has started to develop a new way of interacting, in particular with the shift from the MDGs to the SDGs, but it is only the beginning because projects and structures are based on producing long-term effects and changes. What could be done by the EU for example is to individuate, in addition to countries, issues focus and allocate the

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206 United Nations Declaration on the Right to Development, UN Human Rights, Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights, 4th December, 1986, available at: http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/41/a41r128.htm
207 Kaul, I., Grunberg, I., Stern, M., *Conclusion: Global Public Goods. Concepts, Policies and Strategies*, in Kaul, I., Grunberg, I., Stern, M., (edited by) *Global Public Goods. International Cooperation in the 21st Century*, Oxford University Press, New York, United States, 1999, p. 450-502

resources[208] in such a way that the granting could effectively act without boundaries restraints.

However, equity remains the main pillar for changing the old structure and vision of development cooperation. Equity should be considered a GPG, that society perceives inviolable: equity supports, and is supported, by participation. Participation is a basic element for future steps towards a development cooperation more equitable and representative of real people needs and solutions, where individuals perceive themselves involved and are willing to take part into decisional procedures, making purposes or organizing themselves for a real cooperative work with governments and institutions. Funds have also to be developed as self-administered, for promoting a self-sustainable perception and practice of the development cooperation, as happened in the EU with the Marshall Plan for recovering the unsure economy after the Second World War.

1.3 International Development Cooperation: partnership with CSOs

At the international level the most prominent body that has to deal and to manage the development and cooperation is the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) that has the main goal of supporting governments in their cooperation and application of development achievements connected to the improvement of economic growth and social well-being. As a path for promoting the cooperation among different actors involved into the development field, the OECD has set itself as promoter in numerous agreements and partnership for the accomplishment of numerous purposes, projects and objectives.

Into this work of promoting partnerships, CS has received increasing relevance since 1996 with the first publication called "Shaping the 21st Century", supported by the OECD's Development Assistance Committee (DAC) that "sets out a partnership-based vision for effective development co-operation centred on strategies led by developing country governments and civil society"[209].

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208 Kaul, I., Grunberg, I., Stern, M., *Conclusion: Global Public Goods. Concepts, Policies and Strategies*, in Kaul, I., Grunberg, I., Stern, M., (edited by) *Global Public Goods. International Cooperation in the 21st Century*, Oxford University Press, New York, United States, 1999, p. 450-502

209 OECD, *Development Co-operation Report 2015. Making Partnerships effective coalitions for actions*, OECD, 2015, available from: http://www.oecdilibrary.org/docserver/download/4315041e.pdfexpires=1469554952&id=id&accname=guest&checksum=7ADBAE2135265C11E61222E662B138FF, p. 334

With the time, the DAC was able to develop a series of forums for shaping the pillars for a future effective development partnership like the forums in Rome (2003), Paris (2005) Accra (2008) and Busan (2011).

As it is possible to notice in Figure 4[210], the involvement of CSOs is increased enormously within the years and forums, underlining a crescent appreciation of their role and the necessary need of creating a partnership between all actors involved into development process.

Figure D.1. **Growing inclusiveness of the DAC High-Level Forums**

Forum/participants	ROME 2003	PARIS 2005	ACCRA 2008	BUSAN 2011
Developed countries	22	32	42	45
Developing countries	28	53	39	100
Multilateral regional organisations	22	33	30	53
Civil society organisations	0	13	50	700+ (through BetterAid)

= 10 countries or organisations
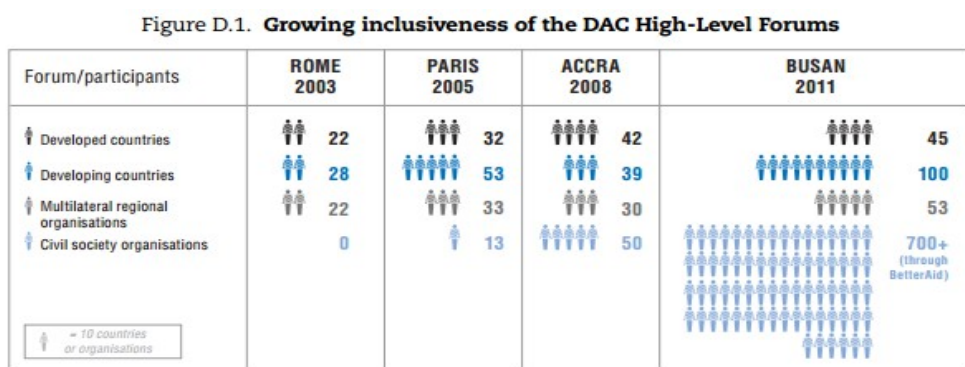
Note: This does not include philanthropies, emerging providers of development assistance or private sector participants. BetterAid is an open platform that unites over 700 development organisations from civil society.

Fig. 4

The forum in Rome was based primary on the nature of aid and on finding a common way of seeing it.

During the forum held in Paris, participants agreed on a set of principles "to anchor and guide the aid effectiveness agenda, culled from years of experience and learning on all sides"[211]. These principles, considered the pillars of today strategy, are:

- *ownership by developing countries of development strategies, together with a recognition of the importance of improving national institutions for their implementation;*
- *alignment by development assistance providers behind those strategies and institutions;*
- *harmonisation among providers, implying a commitment to co-ordinate, simplify*

210 OECD, *Development Co-operation Report 2015. Making Partnerships effective coalitions for actions*, OECD, 2015, available from: http://www.oecdilibrary.org/docserver/download/4315041e.pdfexpires=1469554952&id=id&accname=guest&checksum=7ADBAE2135265C11E61222E662B138FF , p. 335
211 Ibidem.

procedures and share information;

- *a focus on development results;*
- *the pledge to be held mutually accountable for delivering on commitments[212].*

They also have created a monitoring framework in order to follow the progresses in the implementation of all these principles "amounted to a practical, action-oriented road-map to improve the quality of development co-operation and its impact on development"[213].

The forum in Accra noted for the first time lively negotiations within a forum between development co-operation providers, partner countries and CS[214], while the forum in Busan is considered the one that changed the main focus from aid to development effectiveness, more in line with the following SDGs. During the forum in Busan, thanks to the previous results given by the MDGs application, it was possible to rearrange the direction and the kind of cooperation needed for an effective application of the goals with a global partnership, larger than before and less technical agenda: "for the first time it established an agreed framework for development co-operation embracing traditional donors, South-South co-operations, the BRICS, civil society organisations and private funders"[215]. Between the common principles defined during this forum, two were crucial for CS engagement:

- *partnership for development: development depends on the participation of all actors, and recognises the diversity and complementarity of their functions;*
- *transparency and shared responsibility: development co-operation must be transparent and accountable to all citizens[216].*

Also the ECOSOC has a focus on cooperation and development with the Development

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212 OECD, *Development Co-operation Report 2015. Making Partnerships effective coalitions for actions*, OECD, 2015, available from:
http://www.oecdilibrary.org/docserver/download/4315041e.pdf?
expires=1469554952&id=id&accname=guest&checksum=7ADBAE2135265C11E61222E662B138F
F , p. 335
213 Ibidem.
214 Ivi, p. 333
215 Ivi, p. 336
216 Ivi, p. 338

and Cooperation Forum that "reviews the latest international development cooperation trends, and encourages coordination across diverse actors and activities. […] it brings together decision-makers from developing and developed countries, parliamentarians, civil society organisations, local governments and private foundations"[217].

While the UNDP, that in 2016 celebrates 50 years of activity, is the main UN agency working in the field of development for the eradication of poverty and supporting countries and people in the creation and application of policies and practices for the creation of an effective sustainable development[218]. It is the first promoter of the MDGs and the SDGs and has the role to do annual reports on the Human Development situations around the world.

1.4 Local dimension of Development Cooperation

Although national governments has detained for decades the final decisions above development policies and actions, local governments and realities has increasingly raised their voice and capacities for the implementation of a development as more sustainable as possible. Sustainability is claimed by local spheres because they have the important role of contributing and maintain a certain level of development and they need particular and stable conditions for doing that without risking to collapse. Indeed, a collapse of the local dimension can cause the subsequent incapacity of achieving one of the development goals, producing not only a failure for the country, but also for the world. For this reason all the dimensions of governance and actors at all levels should be involved into this process and should be monitored and supported by those that have the capacities.

"Territory is a global public good that produces inseparable advantages and disadvantages that cannot be separated"[219], for this reason the fragmentation of the territory, the division done from up to bottom decisions without consulting the local dimension, cannot for sure achieve the real availability of territory as a GPG, violating the first nature of these goods of being public, available by all for all and non-

217 Development and Cooperation Forum, ECOSOC, available from:
https://www.un.org/ecosoc/en/development-cooperation-forum
218 Overview, UNDP, http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/ourwork/overview.html
219 Dematteis, G., Governa, G., *Local Development and the territorial dimension. The contribution of the SloT model*, (mimeograph), 2005, p. 2

excludable.

The interest towards the local dimension is increased with the introduction of the MDGs, including the local as actor in the process of development. This attention has created serious obstacles in the division of powers between state, usually considered the only manager of the whole process, and the local authorities. The principle of subsidiarity has increased its vitality because

in addition to safeguarding the independent decision-making and management capabilities of the lower-level entity, organizes the relationship between public authorities and civil society. In this sense, it is the point of intersection between two converging movements: the movement towards joint planning, and the movement towards territorialization of collective action[220].

The local dimension is proactive, it generates added values like sustainability, effectiveness and legitimacy, it is basis for the collective action with an autonomous level of organisation able to interact directly with the global and to develop transnational relationships with other local realities.

2. Cooperation and development at EU level

The EU is considered the most important donor of the so called Official Development Assistance (ODA). Taking into account the analysis of 2013, the EU, with its MS, has provided aid for an amount of 56.5 billion Euros, around the 52% of the total global ODA donated during 2013[221]. In Graph 4[222] it is possible to follow the level of aid given by EU from 2009 to 2012: despite the economic crisis has affected the total amount of European aid (in 2010 53.3% while in 2012
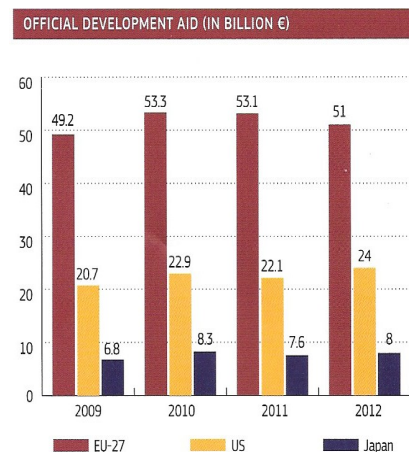
Graph 4

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220 Dematteis, G., Governa, G., *Local Development and the territorial dimension. The contribution of the SloT model*, (mimeograph), 2005, p. 3

221 European Commission, *International Cooperation and Development. Fighting poverty in a changing world*, The European Union Explained,European Commission, Brussels, Belgium, 2015, p. 3

222 Ivi, p. 10

51%), compared to other countries that had involved a considerably amount of their efforts into development and cooperation aid, the gap remains huge. The EU is present in more than 140 countries, playing a crucial role in coordinating and developing the action of different donors (Graph 5[223]).
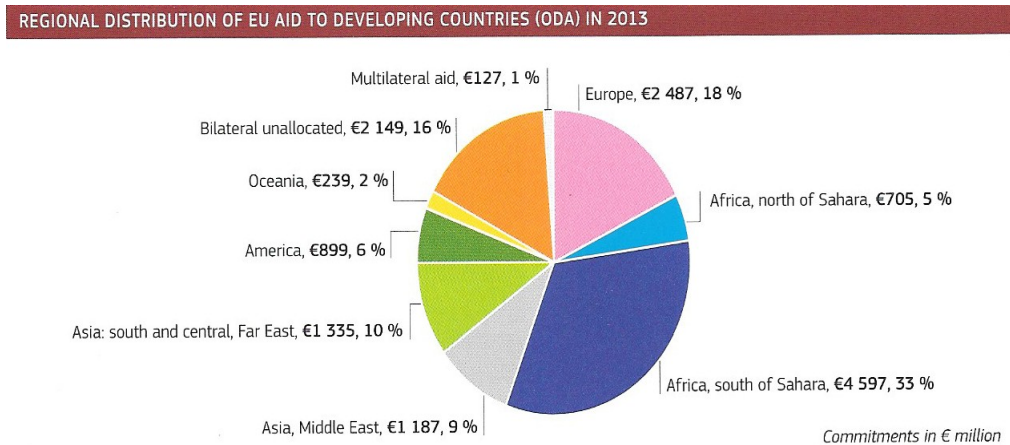
Graph 5

2.1 Historical context

The main reason of such engagement and responsibility is attributable to the historical involvement of EU within the development cooperation field. Starting with the Treaty of Rome (1957), promoting the creation of the European Development Fund, followed by the decolonization process and the support that EU gave to countries involved with the creation of economic partnerships. This process saw also the signature of the Cotonou agreement in 2000 and the commitment of the EU into the implementation and promotion of the MDGs with the aim to reduce extreme poverty by 2015. Finally the Treaty of Lisbon strengths the engagement of the EU with development cooperation stating clearly that "the reduction and the eradication of poverty are the primary objectives of the Union's development cooperation policy"[224].

In 2011 the Union adopted the "Agenda for Change" that is a strategy for reducing poverty with the introduction of some changes in the usual EU assistance, such as:

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223 European Commission, *International Cooperation and Development. Fighting poverty in a changing world*, The European Union Explained,European Commission, Brussels, Belgium, 2015, p. 12
224 Ibidem.

- Differentiation: a double-focused approach based on countries that need most and where those aids can have the greatest impact. Each action should be based on different needs and opportunities of each country;
- Improving EU coordination and emphasising human rights, democracy and good governance[225].

Policies on development are correlated to all policy fields of the EU, from human rights to social support, from social security to agriculture, from migration to climate change. In all these sectors development cooperation actions can affect positively the contribution that EU can give[226]. Strengthening cooperation with Latin America, Asia, central Asia, the Middle East and southern Africa, with the Development and Cooperation

SECTORAL BREAKDOWN OF ODA MANAGED BY THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION IN 2013

Commitments in € million

	€ million	%
692		5 %
1 556		12 %
5 377		39 %
867		6 %
865		9 %
1 797		13 %
1 481		11 %

Disbursements in € million

	€ million	%
744		8 %
1 394		15 %
3 521		38 %
871		10 %
1 955		14 %
856		9 %
1 010		11 %

- Social infrastructures: education, health, water, government, civil society
- Economic infrastructures and services: transport, communications, energy, etc.
- Production: agriculture, forestry, fishing, industry, trade, etc.
- Multisector/cross-cutting: environment, other
- Budget support, food aid, food security
- Humanitarian aid
- Other/unallocated: admin. costs, unspecified

Graph 6

Instrument, the EU can focus its attention on specific global challenges like the role of non-state actors.

There are other tools and instruments for spreading and increasing the work of the EU within this sector like the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights, the Instrument for Nuclear Safety Cooperation. However, within all its branches (see Graph 6[227]), the EU tends always to "encourage the participation of civil society organisations and local authorities in development cooperation"[228] in order to apply the principle of subsidiarity and be a proactive builder of MLG everywhere.

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225 European Commission, *International Cooperation and Development. Fighting poverty in a changing world*, The European Union Explained,European Commission, Brussels, Belgium, 2015, p. 4
226 Ivi, p. 14
227 Ivi, p. 7
228 Ibidem.

The EU is also active in international forums, such as the forums in Rome (2003), Paris (2005) Accra (2008) and Busan (2011) already cited, as a result of this involvement, it has developed the EU Transparency Guarantee with the main goal of making information on aid available to all actors involved and shareable for mutual confrontation on issues and excellencies.

Then there are several bodies involved like the Commission's DG for Development and Cooperation – EuropeAid and the European External Action Service (EEAS), both of them working for the implementation of development and cooperation policies, creating a path for discussion and effective monitoring, managing and promoting operations.

The role of CS is well-evaluated by the EC because

Civil society is a key partner of donors in developing countries. Non-state actors can, for instance, include NGOs, professional associations, social partners, universities or the media. They are usually close to local communities and can help donors to respond to people's needs. Hence, they increasingly take on more responsibility in shaping strategies and programming. A stronger role of civil society in development helps improving local ownership[229].

For the EU, poverty reduction should be based explicitly on good governance, CS participation, democracy, gender equality, environment safety, human rights respect, in a context where the receivers of the aid are the first promoters of their development and are inclined into fostering a constructive political dialogue with the EU[230]. What this new approach promotes in practice is an effective partnership where responsibility is shared; priority is given to human development goals instead to economic goals; and the integration is done between the donors interests and recipients needs, "respecting the principle of reciprocity"[231].

The EU presents itself to the world as an actor able to diversify its action, but also capable to promote a different and a new way of thinking development, more inclusive and with less relevance given to the "giving-and-giving back" relationship. In addition,
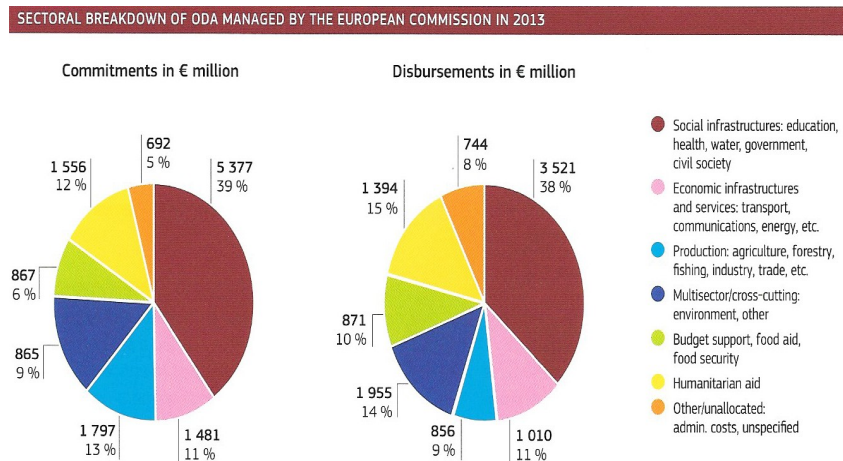
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229 European Commission, *International Cooperation and Development. Fighting poverty in a changing world*, The European Union Explained,European Commission, Brussels, Belgium, 2015, p.8
230 Bosello, F., *Nuove frontiere della cooperazione, nell'interdipendenza globale*, in Bosello, F., (edited by), *Nuove frontiere nella cooperazione internazionale*, I percorsi dello sviluppo 15-2012, Cleup, Padova, Italy, 2012, p. 27
231 Ibidem.

pillars of the Union are democracy and human rights respect, creating a direct connection with the aim of the EU of supporting the promotion of fundamental rights and democratic principles within developing countries. The Fourth Lomè Convention (1989) enunciates at article 5 that

Cooperation shall be directed towards development centred on man, the main protagonist and beneficiary of development, which thus entails respect for and promotion of all human rights. Cooperation operations shall thus be conceived in accordance with the positive approach, where respect for human rights is recognized as a basic factor of real development and where cooperation is conceived as a contribution to the promotion of these rights. In this context development policy and cooperation are closely linked with the respect for and enjoyment of fundamental human rights. The role and potential of initiatives driven by individuals and groups shall also be recognized and fostered in order to achieve in practice real participation of the population in the development process in accordance with Article 13.

The respect of human rights and fundamental principles is put at the basis of the development, where the human being is the main cornerstone.

However, despite all these principles and efforts, the action of the EU was not always effective. During the 1990s, due to serious violations of human rights or interruptions of democratic processes by developing countries, the EU adopted severe sanctions against countries of the ACP signatories of the Cotonou Agreement, like the suspension of the development cooperation, while with other countries, that were accused of having committed the same violations, it had softer reactions[232], demonstrating the incapacity of the EU in promoting in the practice its principles and aims with an egalitarian approach. The Cotonou Agreement was an innovative one, putting politics at the centre of development cooperation in order to increase, within and with those signatories countries, peace and democratic stability. The respect of human being is posed as pillar of the agreement, but in case of violation of such principle, sanctions can also achieve the partial or total suspension of the cooperation (articles 96 and 97 Cotonou

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232 Reccardini, G., *Diritti umani, democratizzazione e cooperazione allo sviluppo*, in Bosello, F., (edited by), *Nuove frontiere nella cooperazione internazionale*, I percorsi dello sviluppo 15-2012, Cleup, Padova, Italy, 2012, p. 41-46

Agreement). The sanctions applied towards the ACP countries were criticized, in particular by networks of CSOs, underling an application based on economic interests rather than on the violation of Cotonou principles, due to the fact that the support given by EU was crucial for some governments of the ACP countries in fulfilling their obligations at international and national levels, in particular in human rights and development fields[233]. However, the failures of the Cotonou Agreement could not limit its broad scope in enhancing development cooperation with ACP countries and in 2011 its scope was enlarged to a multi-actor partnership in contrasting terrorism and criminal transnational organisations.

2.2 Relevance of CSOs for enhancing cooperation and development in the EU system

The Communication of the EC "The roots of democracy and sustainable development: Europe's engagement with Civil Society in external relations" underlines the necessity of synergistic work between governments and CSOs for overcoming "challenges of poverty, widening inequalities, social exclusion and unsustainable development"[234]. The multi-agency work with CSOs can develop the effectiveness of policies and can also increase the legitimacy of state from society's point of view. Within the same document it is underlined the increasing evidence of CSOs as development actors, due to the increase in numbers, but also to their strengthen capacity in responding to new social issues and their ability of creating coalitions at all levels, role also recalled in the Istanbul CSOs Development Effectiveness Principles.

From 2007 to 2013 the thematic programme "Non-State Actors and Local Authorities in Development" (NSA-LA) had funded projects made by CSOs with 1.3 billion Euros[235]. This is because CSOs are increasingly participating in all the phases of projects cycle management. Indeed, from the Structured Dialogue process emerged the Policy Forum

233 Hazelzet, H., *Suspension of Development Cooperation: An instrument to promote human rights and democracy?*, ECDPM, Discussion Paper No. 64B, August, 2005, available from: http://ecdpm.org/publications/development-cooperation-instrument-promote-human-rights-democracy/

234 Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, *The roots of democracy and sustainable development: Europe's engagement with Civil Society in external relations*, EC DG Development and Cooperation- EuropeAid, COM (2012) 492 final, Brussels, Belgium, 2012

235 Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council, *Annual Report 2014 on European Union's development and external assistance policies and their implementation in 2013*, European Commission, DG Development and Cooperation, Brussels, Belgium, 2014, p. 109

for Development, set up in 2013, that involves representatives of Local authorities, Trade Unions, Business Associations, Foundations, Cooperatives and transnational networks of CSOs.

Despite this increasing role, the relationship with governments remains fragile in particular in some countries where certain rights are not full recognised and implemented. This characterized an obstacle for ensuring the legal and judicial status to CSOs that relies on the state final decision. In these cases, the EU has the power to suspend the relationship with the governments of such states and to continue to cooperate with CSOs placed in that country. In any case each country deserves a specific approach, created after having studied and analysed the situation.

The Communication "The roots of democracy and sustainable development: Europe's engagement with Civil Society in external relations" has three priorities:

- *to enhance efforts to promote a conducive environment for CSOs in partner countries;*
- *to promote a meaningful and structured participation of CSOs in domestic policies of partner countries, in the EU programming cycle and in internal process;*
- *to increase local CSOs' capacity to perform their roles as independent development actors more effectively[236].*

Transparent, constructive and proactive dialogue should be at the basis of this multi-actors partnership, with independent and competent CSOs. What the Communication stresses is the representativeness of CSOs for being considered valid sources, but, as underlined in the previous chapter, this is a crucial issue for CSOs, living in a variegated and on-going developing field, without a formal recognition since the beginning of their history.

What CSOs can also do in development and cooperation policies is to monitoring their implementation and the promotion of a democratic system: without a democratic and good governance, the development is constraint and cannot grow. The promotion of the European Instrument for Democracy and Human rights (EIDHR), in force since 2007, is

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236 Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, *The roots of democracy and sustainable development: Europe's engagement with Civil Society in external relations*, EC DG Development and Cooperation- EuropeAid, COM (2012) 492 final, Brussels, Belgium, 2012
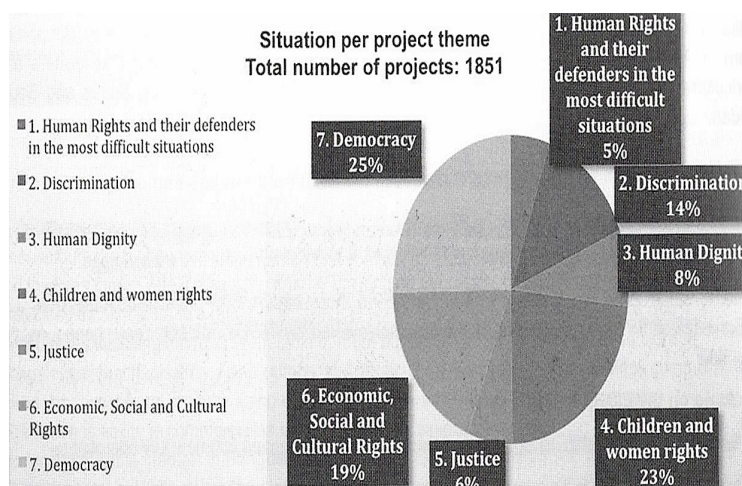
crucial, standing on the fact that this instrument supports "over 1500 projects in more than 130 countries worldwide. These projects, mainly implemented by NGOs, support real change on the ground"[237], promoting democracy and human rights and guaranteeing an effective and cooperative path for development (Graph 7[238]).

Graph 7

The EU wants also to strengthen its collaboration with CSOs at regional and global level and to put a particular focus on the dialogue between CSOs and European institutions. Indeed, the "Agenda for Change", the EU Strategic Framework on Human Rights and Democracy, the Communication Towards a Post-2015 Development Framework call the EU to shift to a Rights-Based Approach on EU Development[239], that requires a change not only at structural and formal level, but also at operational and involvement level, where all actors can contribute, thanks to their capacity and their strengths that are enhanced by formal and institutional mechanisms.

2.3 Assessment: from the MDGs to the SDGs

The MDGs ended in 2015, but their establishment fixed a common framework valid for all, an universal reference, that the majority of countries of the world had agreed upon and they were willing to reach. Despite the strong efforts put into and the results achieved, the final report of the UNDP on the MDGs says that "millions of people are being left behind, especially the poorest and those disadvantaged because of their sex,

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237 Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council, *Annual Report 2014 on European Union's development and external assistance policies and their implementation in 2013*, European Commission, DG Development and Cooperation, Brussels, Belgium, 2014, p. 117
238 Ivi, p. 118
239 Ivi, p. 18

age, disability, ethnicity or geographic location. Targeted efforts will be needed to reach the most vulnerable people"[240].

The situation of women, their discrimination and their gender equality do not seen a enormous change and women continue to be discriminated and treated in a different manner than men in the majority of countries. In a global perspective, they are less than men and, despite the higher education in certain situations, they remain limited into minor roles than the ones that deserve.

A huge gap still exist between poor and rich areas of the world as between central and rural areas. Children risk to remain out of schools in many countries evaluated poor and, despite the efforts made for the MDGs, "about 16 per cent of the rural population do not use improved drinking water sources, compared to 4 per cent of the urban population. About 50 per cent of people living in rural areas lack improved sanitation facilities, compared to only 18 per cent of people in urban areas"[241].

Climate change and its effects are increased, damaging also the populations most fragile: the 40% of the people are still affected by water scarcity[242]. Conflicts are increasing and they are the main cause for 60 million of people of abandoning their homes, affecting negatively also children education.

However, the MDGs structure was a path for learning new approaches. It shows that certain practices were right, thanks to the positive results, but also shows that more effort needs to be done for approaching development in a different way, a more cooperating and sustainable way. The collection of data is one of the crucial step, because without data is impossible to evaluate correct policies, aids and to structure operations.

What the MDGs have taught is the necessity of working together: "Leaders and stakeholders in every nation will work together, redoubling efforts to achieve a truly universal and transformative agenda. This is the only way to ensure a sustainable future and a dignified life for all people everywhere"[243].

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240 The Millennium Development Goals Report 2015, United Nations, New York, United States, 2015, available from: http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/2015_MDG_Report/pdf/MDG%202015%20rev %20(July%201).pdf , p. 8
241 Ibidem.
242 Ivi, p. 9
243 Ivi, p. 8

The sustainability arose due to the strong differences between countries in adhesion and timing. More communication and cooperation were necessary, but also new ways of communicating: in certain countries all the efforts done in spreading MDGs failed. For example a public opinion survey in EU shows that "in 2013 only 22% of the European Citizens had heard of the MDGs, up from 12% in 2004"[244].

Nevertheless, MDGs supported a new way of conceiving development, focusing more on results than on inputs, more on the concrete actions and improvements and this made governments more responsible of their commitment that they gain signing the Millennium Declaration.

The areas where the MDGs were better achieved were those where CSOs, governments and institutions worked together and this was a signal for change, for learning that a major connection and cooperation between all actors is necessary in order to reach the goals. But this could be done only if also the goals are more close and adaptable for each situation, and so more perceived by the people: the SDGs.

"The SDGs call for much broader, holistic approach to development, which will require enhancing coherence across all branches of government while reaching out to the private sector and civil society"[245]. The heritage of the MDGs is that cooperation and multi-agency work can effectively achieve objectives, and so the necessity of "more inclusive and integrated approaches and partnerships"[246].

The presence of new actors, new tools and new forms of developing has required a new form of organisation and so new goals, with a new reality able to give voice to all the actors and to all the purposes and practices. The distinction between international and local strategies is becoming less sharp and the 2015 was considered the year of change, the crucial year for arranging new approaches and new strategies. For underling its relevance the EU has declared the 2015 the European Year for Development

244 OECD, *Development Co-operation Report 2015. Making Partnerships effective coalitions for actions*, OECD, 2015, available from:
http://www.oecdilibrary.org/docserver/download/4315041e.pdf?
expires=1469554952&id=id&accname=guest&checksum=7ADBAE2135265C11E61222E662B138F
F , p. 160
245 Ivi, p. 158
246 Ivi, p. 161

(EDY2015) launched with the motto "Our world, our dignity, our future". The year was crucial for starting a stronger collaboration between EU institution, MS and CSOs, organizing activities for the promotion and information of the public about development cooperation and "encouraging critical thinking and involvement"[247].

3. Case Studies Analysis

3.1 DEEEP Project: Citizens Empowerment for Global Justice

DevelopmentEeducation (DE) is a crucial step for enabling a society in the defence, support and promotion of its rights and needs. Without an informed society it is impossible to develop a good communication and practice between CSOs and European citizens, the capacity of CSOs of being representative of the needs and issues of citizens and so being heard by institutions at all levels. What the DEEEP project had tried to do was to develop practices, spaces and partnerships for promoting DE as a fundamental goal for all, capable of activating citizens and of connecting all actors for achieving common goals. The focus of DEEEP project was on MDGs at the beginning and then on SDGs in the last part. This part of the thesis will analyse the whole project, with a main attention on the last part connected to SDGs and the World Citizens Movement, an then focusing on the final results of this project, its failures and possible improvements.

3.1.1 DEEEP Project Context

CONCORD Europe is the European NGOs Confederation for Relief and Development composed by national association, international networks and associate members representing over 2600 NGOs[248] and it is considered the main interlocutor with European institutions in the field of development and cooperation, particularly in the consultation operation for developing policies. One of the core-working groups is the Development Awareness Raising and Education Forum (DARE Forum) composed by networks and platform from Belgium, Finland, Czech Republic, United Kingdom, Germany, Romania, Ireland and Lithuania, that meet twice a year. Its establishes

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247 European Commission, *International Cooperation and Development. Fighting poverty in a changing world*, The European Union Explained,European Commission, Brussels, Belgium, 2015, p. 15

248 About us, CONCORD, available from: http://concordeurope.org/who-we-are/

common strategies in order to strengthen DE in Europe[249], promoting and supporting projects such as the DEEEP Project. Its objectives are:

- *To be the driver of the global citizen-led transformative agenda through Development Education/Awareness Raising (DEAR) and global citizenship education (GCE) for global justice.*

- *To be a laboratory to explore new ways of thinking and acting for a change towards global justice and to contribute to citizens empowerment through GCE.*

- *To support the DEAR/GCE community in Europe to empower people to act for a more just and sustainable world*

- *To represent these communities towards the EU institutions and to raise the profile of DEAR/GCE*

- *To collaborate closely with other actors, in particular (but not limited to) civil society, such as CONCORD, CIVICUS and EADI [250].*

3.1.2 DEEEP Project: Analysis

The DEEEP Project was promoted and supported by CONCORD Europe and its DARE Forum and co-founded by the European Union. It was started in 2002 and ended in 2015 and composed by four phases made of three years of duration per each. What will be analysed into this chapter is the fourth phase, DEEEP 4, from January 2013 to December 2015.

DEEEP Project logo, co-funded by the European Union

The consortium of this last part of the project was composed by 5 associations such as: Kehys, OXFAM Italia, Sdwind, Grupa Zagranica and IDEA (the Irish Development Education Association).

This project was conceived as a transformative process able to promote and sustain global justice through global education for raising awareness; for being a model for the development sector and a pioneer in the CS sector; and encouraging a systemic approach within the development education sector[251].

The main aim of DARE Forum in initiating this project was the one of creating a global movement able to involve different stakeholders with the same will of promoting global justice and enhancing global education. This global movement called "World Citizens

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249 The DARE Forum, DEEEP Project, available from: http://deeep.org/the-concord-dare-forum/
250 Ibidem.
251 Ibidem.

Movement: a community of practice for transformative change" is developed with the collaboration of GCAP, CIVICUS and the Forum for a New World Governance, with the goal of giving voice to the growing awareness of the capacity of citizens of the world in influencing decision, taking position, defending and owing human rights. And this voice can be heard only giving more political space to them and enforcing democratic mechanisms.

For starting this promotion of political space there were organized three global conferences, involving more than 600 representatives of CSOs and social movements where the focus was concentrated on: giving the global, regional and local vision of the need of a growing representativeness and acceptance of new actors, such as CSOs; learning other experiences, perceptions, alternatives; and on connecting the different realities at transnational level. Then it was also created an online community for aiming a global connection between all the actors and being able to reach as much people as possible.

The whole work and procedures of DEEEP project was always analysed and put under discussion several times between all the DARE members and the members of the project, involving sometimes also representatives of CSOs that had the opportunity of taking part to the project as outsider or external partners. This aspect gives an innovative perspective to the project and also a real and concrete idea of the "working together", of the involvement of several actors able to coordinate themselves for an unique goal, but also capable of critical evaluation of their work and approach. One of the main pillars of the participants to the project was to not promote myths, but to be concrete and afford obstacles and difficulties always with a cooperative spirit, where the analysis is the opportunity for understanding the holes, the missing parts and the positive approaches[252].

The three phases before DEEEP 4 occupied a large period of the project, from 2002 to 2013 and they developed different aspects of the whole structure for creating a strong path for the final part of the project.

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252 DEEEP Project, available from: http://deeep.org

The DEEEP1 was used in particular for assessing the overall functioning of the project. What was achieved was a clear and effective way of operating of NGOs in old and new EU Member States and of communicating, exchanging ideas and information. A strong cooperation emerged and was able to "create a sense of ownership amongst stakeholders"[253]. It was created a website and a newsletter and it was started the definition process of DE: a common definition shared by all the stakeholders.

The DEEEP2 was a more complicated part due to the fact that started the first concrete activities of the DEEEP project. There were identified target groups with focus on the real needs of the organisations of the 27 Members States. Following always a multi-stakeholder approach and reinforcing the initial cooperation among the actors involved, this second phase was able to raise the awareness among the European public on development issues and promoting the relationships and cooperation with other CSOs and the European institutions. There were activated summer schools for sharing knowledge and national and regional seminars for promoting the project. In addition the communication and cooperation with Member States were able to influence policies and introducing DE in school curricula.

The DEEEP3 objectives were:

- *On-going pan-European and National coordination, networking, exchange, learning and systematisation mechanisms are actively supported and coordinated*
- *Political support to Development Education at European and National level is increased and translated into concrete strategies and policies*
- *A pan-European multi-actor reference framework on quality Development/Global Education is developed*
- *Skills and knowledge of Development/Global Education practitioners are improved and increased all over the EU-27[254].*

During this third phase there were organised online courses, three DE Summer Schools, training seminars at both national and international levels.

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253 DEEEP Project, available from: http://deeep.org
254 Ibidem.

3.1.3 DEEEP4

The fourth part of the project was put into practice from 2013 to 2015. The main aim of this last part was to connect DE and Global justice, increasing the awareness of citizens and their power for a systemic change. The global movement of citizens working for change[255] is the result of an educated society, meaning a society aware and conscious of its capacities, rights, duties and strengths, capable of moving autonomously within multi-level governances and not limited by geographical and educational restraints: citizens connected worldwide, using technological and basic tools, cooperating and communicating transparently and in a proactive way, able to analyse and make constructive judgements for a better cooperation.

During this part of the project, DE was promoted for a better coordination, with a development of the education sector for improving the quality and impact of DE (Figure 5[256]). These concepts and aims were embraced into four activities: capacity building; advocacy; communication; research.

The capacity building was structured by DEEEP Project in such a way that could be developed in the long-term as something planned and able to influence the process of the DE, within the broad project of creating a global movement for social change, in particular with the support of national platforms and DE practitioners[257].

The main activities realised were:

- Development Courses (from September 2014 to March 2015);

- National Seminars: each year were planned 5 national seminars for strengthening national platforms;

- International Seminars: each year DEEEP co-founded an international (European) seminar;

- Sub-granting mechanism: for DE projects DEEEP offered the total amount of

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255 DEEEP Project, *Global Citizens can Change the world*, leaflet, Brussels, Belgium, 2015

256 *The Best of Global Learning Celebrating the real work of development education and awareness raising*, DEEEP final conference Brussels, 28-29 October 2015

257 Skinner, A., Oliveira, S., *Journeys to Citizen Engagement: Action Research with Development Education Practitioners in Portugal, Cyprus and Greece*, Research 3, DEEEP, CONCORD, May, 2014

ten 10.000 Euros of sub-grants[258].

Concerning advocacy the main goal of DEEEP4 was to "achieve global justice by being translators, enablers and advocates of the SDGs"[259]. Global citizenship education, DE and awareness raising are the pillars for a transformative change, promoting citizens able to work proactively for new ways, opportunities, ideas and projects within the achievements of the SDGs. DEEEP is seen as a laboratory where various purposes and plans can be translated into reality and tested in order to analyse possible issues and correct them for a more sustainable practice in the long-term. Increasing global connections, the advocacy at EU level and supporting members into communication, the DEEEP4 was able to:

- give valid contribution during the European Year for Development co-developing with the EESC, EP and EC creating a webinar, "The European Year for Development 2015", and a European seminar titled "European Year for Development 2015: Engaging citizens for Global Justice";

- develop a multi-stakeholder process, with sharing of experiences and practices, considered the only way for a real, engaged and sustainable process for creating future action durable with the time and perceived by the people. The results of these activities, done within the Multi-Stakeholder Group on Development Education created in 2006, were the European Development Education Monitoring Report "DEAR watch"[260] and "The European consensus on Development", which was finalized for contributing in the implementation of the MDGs with the reduction of poverty, the promotion of democratic values and the nationally-led development[261];

- the Global Citizenship Education Post 2015 was one other crucial issue of DEEEP 4. With the SDGs, governments and institutions risk to lack into a broad and indefinite work on DE. DEEEP4 took the opportunity of its activity and its

258 DEEEP Project, available from: http://deeep.org
259 Ibidem.
260 The European Development Education Monitoring Report "DEAR watch" is available from:
   http://deeep.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/de_watch.pdf
261 The European Consensus on Development is available from:
   https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/policies/european-development-policy/european-consensus-development_en

capacity to collect and connect different and a huge amount of stakeholders for promoting and developing practices for concrete form of sustainable DE goals and advocating among EU and UN for the promotion and discussion of these proposals. There were organised a webinar, an European conference, a panel discussion, a conference among the UN Headquarters and it took part to the World Education Forum 2015;

– the analysis and promotion of alternatives or development of European policies on education and development[262].

The activities concerning communication were the ones most supported as example for change. The history of development is composed by failures caused mainly by lack in communication and the general incapability of a real and transparent involvement of all stakeholders. This had led always to debates and general mistrust that finalized into failures or serious issues, difficult to overcome. Communication is also a good tool for fundraising and for spreading awareness among citizens, for this reason the goal of empowering communication is fundamental and needs a serious attention.

The DEEEP4 supported its stakeholders with the creation of a toolkit named "Transformational communications for global justice" for improving the way which development issues are communicated and improved the good practices. In order to increase its capacity, DEEEP 4 has built partnership with the DevReporter network and the "Reframing the Message" project[263].

Research was another crown jewel activity of the project because considered fundamental in promoting innovation within DE. The approach was participatory and cross-sectoral in order to involve as much perspectives and practices as possible on international development and education[264]. Reports and articles[265] were constantly published in the official website and spread with newsletters, during conferences, seminars and meetings. The publications involved authors from all sectors, from

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262 DEEEP Project, available from: http://deeep.org
263 Ibidem.
264 Ibidem.
265 All the researches done are available from: http://deeep.org/research/research-conferences/ and http://deeep.org/research/publications/

academics to CSOs representatives, from teachers to volunteers. Recently, August 2016, it was published the book "Education, learning and the transformation of development"[266] containing reports and researches done during this project in order to further spread the amount of knowledge and experiences collected during these years with the main aim of "examine the role of learning in shaping new discourses and practices of development"[267].

3.1.4 DEEEP Project Assessment

What DEEEP has aimed to do is to connect citizens around the world and this required unprecedented efforts and innovative practices. Its capacity of connecting actors, of operating as a glue between CSOs, national, European and international institutions and citizens, can give it the record of having developed a strong and wide project on DE, a project with long-term goals and that could be considered the first step of many others towards a more engaged and multi-actors field of working on policies for implementing the SDGs. At the end of the project, all the goals planned were achieved.

The positive results,

like three global conferences (each with 180-390 global participants, accompanied by a global steering group (the "movement circle") and a global online community); an "Explorers' Journey for systemic change" with 51 participants from all over the world, consisting of three 3-days workshops and individual Action Learning processes; 12 European conferences, including, i.a. Two European Citizens Summits and three research conferences; 21 publications (academic articles, think pieces, reports…); an online and offline library; 15 webinars; 15 national seminars and 10 sub-grants[268];

the new connections and relationships with networks and associations, the innovative tools that this project has introduced, were accompanied by some small critical aspects.

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266 Brown, E., Skinner, A., Smith, M., B., Troll, T., (edited by), *Education, learning and the transformation of development*, Routledge Taylor&Francis Group, New York, United States, 2016
267 Ivi, XX
268 Krause, J., *The space between stories*, Final Evaluation of DEEEP4, CONCORD, Brussels, Belgium, December, 2015, p. 11

As many participants to the project have said, the time was not sufficient for achieving some goals and purposes with satisfying results. This happened for example during the Summer Schools and seminars of DEEEP2, where the resources were considered by the participants insufficient and the knowledge shared imperfect[269]. In addition the relationships between national platforms, networks and CONCORD members were not sufficiently developed due to time and resources restraints[270].

Another difficulty came from the incapacity of connecting effectively the local to the global during activities in the field and this happened in more or less all the countries involved: as result the global sphere was often perceived as distant and closed[271]. The DEAR (Development Education and Awareness Raising) in particular was often seen as a "bubble"[272], where if you are inside, you are involved and you can understand easily all the steps and actions, while from outside the vision is less limpid and further efforts should be done, efforts that CSOs cannot always do due to their low amount of funding, in particular during periods of crisis. For this reason the work of DEEEP project was not able to break this bubble everywhere and for all, due to lack of time and efforts required for achieving such an enormous goal.

However, the work of DEEEP project was huge and able to strength the passion and will of all the participants. Indeed, the crisis has increased the perception of citizens of their capacities and their crucial role in the world, the awareness that if they work together, they are informed and there are fields for discussion and elaboration of proactive action, they can make the difference. For this reason CSOs are also changed, their responsibilities are more heavy than before and they have to deal with an increasing number of issues, a growing number of people needed to be represented and also have to deal with their raising role within the global level.

DE is the only way to certify that the work and efforts that CSOs are doing, cannot be

269 Previous phases of DEEEP Project, DEEEP Project, available from: http://deeep.org/deeep-project/previous-deeep-phases/
270 Ibidem.
271 Skinner, A., Oliveira, S., *Journeys to Citizen Engagement: Action Research with Development Education Practitioners in Portugal, Cyprus and Greece*, Research 3, DEEEP, CONCORD, May, 2014, p. 22
272 Ivi, p. 21

fail due to lack of information, awareness and willingness of citizens. They should be supported and this is what the DEEEP project had tried to do, connecting the world for the creation of a global movement.

Probably more advertisement could be have done also by European and national institutions, reinforcing the messages and works of the DEEEP project, not only on concrete activities, but also creating space for discussion and so spreading the presence of this project to those who were not involved.

The collaboration with the institutions was done greatly, in spite of all the constraints that in particular the economic crisis has created. Institutions answered to the call and started to be involved and to collaborate with non-state actors. These years of work have achieved strong and effective results, but probably a long-term practice is required for developing a stronger partnership and a multi-actors cooperation for the future, particularly in the achievement of the SDGs.

The final report of DEEEP project, made by Johannes Krause, a Critical Friend in the DEEEP4 project, concludes with these words, that could be considered explicative of all the work done and all the issues remaining open:

After three years of experimentation, DEEEP does not continue. [...] it seems that DEEEP did not gain sufficient active support for a continuation and extension of its more radical approaches within CONCORD. To what extent is this kind of critical and challenging 27 engagement really appreciated by the larger community of development NGOs? To what extent does the development sector remain a fruitful working environment for those who believe in system change? After the end of DEEEP4, these two questions remain unanswered. Is this the end of the story? Surely not. Everything is in process. The world is in transformation and so is the development sector. [...] DEEEP4 was full of contradictions. It generated great enthusiasm and deep frustration. It was a revolutionary initiative within the constraints of a carefully managed EU project. It was driven by great vision and at times lost in total confusion. Its energy flew out of passion and true humanity while its procedures often followed the standards of technical rationality. As it seems, DEEEP4 was a perfect expression of our current time between paradigms: a "space between stories"[273].

273 Krause, J., *The space between stories*, Final Evaluation of DEEEP4, CONCORD, Brussels, Belgium, December, 2015, p. 27

The Word cloud representing the word classification within the ending summary of the final document of the DEEEP project[274] can help in understanding the main aims and achievements of the DEEEP project.

As it is possible to notice immediately, a strong relevance has the name of the project that is accompanied by the word "change". This means that the main message and results of the DEEEP project converge all to a radical and strongly perceived change, starting from the definition of the word "development" (that it is classified as one of the most used words) to the real and concrete new approach to DE. "System" and "systemic" follow the word "change", as it is one of the goal of DEEEP project: changing the way things are done, develop the way of constructing a better DE and in order to do this, it is important to create partnership and so a change on the main system of relationships among different actors and roles.

The promoters of the project and their strategies are always referred to ("CONCORD", "DARE", "DEAR") as well for the words "new", "global" and "strategy". These three last words characterized the main perceptions of those that took part into the project: a global and new strategy, that was needed and that needs to be continued within the different partnerships and projects inspired by that.

Other two words recurred frequently such as "society" and "people": the objectives of the project.

3.2 SDG Watch Europe

3.2.1 The Sustainable Development Goals and their Agenda within the EU

In September 2015 it was adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable development, came into force in January 2016, elaborating 17 Sustainable Development Goals. These goals

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274 Krause, J., *The space between stories*, Final Evaluation of DEEEP4, CONCORD, Brussels, Belgium, December, 2015

are valid for 15 years with the main objective to reach them, with the most mobilization as possible and following the motto of "No one left behind". Climate change, end of poverty and fight inequalities are the pillars of these goals: all countries of the world are called for being involved in the achievement of the SDGs, poor and rich countries without discriminations, because the work of everyone can really make the change.

The main purpose is to create the basis for a sustainable development, where everyone can easily find his role and has the capacity of positively influencing the whole process. Economic growth still remain one of the crucial aspects, but only with a "promoter" role, as considering that with a regenerated economy it is possible to create further job and to guarantee a cycle of goodness for everyone.

The SDGs are not binding, but with approving them, countries implicate themselves in the creation of the legislation for their implementation and also in doing continuous follow-ups of their progresses both at regional and global levels.

The SDGs promote a development based on the needs and on the circumstances of the present period, taking into consideration also the future generations and their future needs. A strong importance is given to the environment,

The 17 SDGs from the UN website:
http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainabl
e-development-goals/

due to the fact that recently climate change has increased its negative effects. Solid efforts should be done for preventing the growth and born of poverties and dangerous situations in particular in those countries where forces, necessary for preventing and combating those effects, are not sufficiently equipped: "For sustainable development to be achieved, it is crucial to harmonize three core elements: economic growth, social inclusion and environmental protection. These elements are interconnected and all are crucial for the well-being of individuals and societies"[275].

The SDGs are innovative because they are following the present, they are current goals responding to our global situation, made of different actors, different realities, acting

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275 The Sustainable Development Agenda, United Nations, available from:
    http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/development-agenda/

within a glocal dimension and in transnational cooperation. Positive and negative events happening in one place, are perceived by the whole planet, for this reason it is important to cooperate, to give the possibility to everyone to live in a proactive way creating a world where poverty cannot limit the personal, societal and global growth and solidarity. The UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at article 52 says:

"We the peoples" are the celebrated opening words of the Charter of the United Nations. It is "we the peoples" who are embarking today on the road to 2030. Our journey will involve Governments as well as parliaments, the United Nations system and other international institutions, local authorities, indigenous peoples, civil society, business and the private sector, the scientific and academic community – and all people. Millions have already engaged with, and will own, this Agenda. It is an Agenda of the people, by the people and for the people – and this, we believe, will ensure its success[276].

The universality of this document permits its application to all countries at all levels, and the EU has fully committed itself into the implementation of such Agenda and the fully accomplishment of its goals: "The world has undergone enormous change over recent years […] New actors, including private and other non-governmental players, have arisen in the global arena"[277]. Indeed, the EU has already started at the beginning of 2015 with promoting and divulging SDGs with its partners enhancing dialogue and organizing public consultations.

From the aid perspective, the EU will invest billions in research, science, technology, sustainable agriculture and nutrition, trade, increasing the mobilization of domestic resources, continuing to be the world's largest provider of the ODA[278].

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276 Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 25 September 2015, *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, 4th Plenary Meeting, New York, United States, 21 October, 2015, available from: http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=E

277 Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, *A decent life for all: Ending poverty and giving the world a sustainable future*, COM/2013/092 final, Brussels, Belgium, 27 February, 2013, available from: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2013:0092:FIN:EN:HTML

278 *Financing global sustainable development after 2015: Illustrations of Key EU Contributions*, EYD, European Union, available from: https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/post-2015-development-infograph_en.pdf

From the political and participation perspective, the European institutions, in particular the EESC, strongly support the involvement of CS, as an actor ready and prepared for facing the new challenges purposed with the reach of the SDGs. This will was demonstrated during the UNEP Regional Consultation meeting for Europe of November 2015, where a change of the unsustainable consumption and production is required for making governments capable of implementing such goals in full transparency and also the involvement of CS supported by the EESC, "The European Economic and Social Committee is ready to support a full implementation of the Sustainable Development Agenda and suggests to set up a European Sustainable Development Civil Society Forum, in order to make the voice of civil society truly heard in this process"[279], and by CSOs representatives,

In light of the current global political context, the SDGs are probably the best set of universal goals that we could get. There are still hurdles such as the threat to reduce full participation of civil society in the UN system, although we are hopeful that we will win this fight as many member states and the EU are on the side of civil society. Civil Society is ready to start work on monitoring the implementation, but is also waiting for a EU strategy and action plan to implement all the 17 goals in Europe[280].

For reaching all these premises, a strong policy coherence is required at all levels and this required an effective and coordinated dialogue between all the stakeholders involved:

Developing capacity to deliver also requires an enabling environment for civil society both at national and international level. An inclusive engagement of citizens and civil society is key for nurturing democratic ownership, development effectiveness and sustainability of results. Multi-stakeholder partnerships can contribute to sustainable development and bring together the

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279 Dassis, G., Introductory speech during the Sustainable Development Goals: Implementation in Europe Conference, Brussels, Belgium, 12 November 2015, available from: http://www.eesc.europa.eu/resources/docs/sdgs-conference-and-rcm-report-brussels-nov-2015.pdf, p.8
280 Rijnhout, L., Introductory speech during the Sustainable Development Goals: Implementation in Europe Conference, Brussels, Belgium, 12 November 2015, available from: http://www.eesc.europa.eu/resources/docs/sdgs-conference-and-rcm-report-brussels-nov-2015.pdf, p.8

knowledge and experience of a wide variety of actors[281].

3.2.2 SDG Watch Europe Context

A group of networks and organisations at European level, working in all fields and identifying themselves as the SDG Watch Europe, has sent an open letter to the vice-president of the EC Frans Timmermans asking that EU applies, implements and achieves the SDGs, answering to the structures required by the UN. This requires an effective involvement of CSOs with "broad consultations with all stakeholders" and also ensuring that "funding mechanisms and budget lines for civil society organisations are aligned with the new needs of the global and European challenges"[282].

The main crucial point supported by those networks and organisations is the application of the Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development, because with that it is possible to cooperate and work together. Despite the SDGs are not perfect in covering and solving issues, they purpose a new and broader approach than the one proposed by the MDGs. Here CSOs can cooperate directly with governments and private sector applying an integrated approach to policy-making. So these goals are seen by CSOs as an unique opportunity for starting the dialogue and cooperation between all actors acting in the world. The engagement of CS is crucial and for being ready, also CS has to re-organized itself at all levels and all sectors.

At international level in 2010, during one of the meetings of the MDGs, it was created a small network of CSOs that wanted to structure their work for the post-2015: these CSOs launched the "Beyond 2015" and they started to enlarge their work presenting the project at the World Social Forum 2011 in Dakar. From that moment "Beyond 2015" began its enlargement that it is still going today. Beyond2015 is heard at the UN as representative voice of CSOs worldwide, being involved in several preparatory and discussion meetings, such as the Rio+20 conference, and the Bonn conference, achieving the number of over 900 CSOs coming from all over the world. With the end

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281 Council Conclusions, *A New Global Partnership for Poverty Eradication and Sustainable Development after 2015*, General Secretariat of the Council, Brussels, Belgium, 26th May, 2015, available from: http://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-9241-2015-INIT/en/pdf
282 CSO open letter to vice-president Timmermans on the 2030 Agenda, EYD, September 2015, available from: https://europa.eu/eyd2015/en/concord/posts/2030-agenda

of the MDGs, the Beyond2015 started to perceive the change in the approach towards development and the relationships between actors. In order to follow this change, it promoted a shift from policy to action and tasks of responsibility where given by the UN during the preparatory meetings of the Agenda 2030.

At EU level CSOs, inspired by Beyond2015 and pushed by the necessity of establishing a voice of CSOs at regional level, started working for supporting the implementation phase of the SDGs within and outside the EU: from June 2015 they are working together for settling a structure and an agenda for concretely playing this vital role within SDGs[283].

The European CS wants to make the Agenda 2030 something real, something that really exist and can give concrete results. Cooperation between networks and organisations is crucial, a coordinated body of all CS participants, able to be proactive, to monitor, to promote and discuss for the implementation of the SDGs. This is why the SDG Watch Europe was created in 2015: for becoming a partner of EU and CS in the implementation of the Agenda 2030, thanks to the experience and long practice of its members in a variety of areas, such as social inclusion, human rights, environmental sustainability, governance.

3.2.3 SDG Watch Europe Analysis
SDG Watch Europe is a partnership between over 70 networks and CSOs that have decided to work together for being the voice of a new way of approaching development. A more inclusive and transparent voice, where equity, human rights and solidarity are the pillars and where a new perception

Networks and CSOs joining the action for SDGs in Europe

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of economy is promoted. An economy at the service of the people, of the environment and able to reinforce the role of the EU as global actor. An economy that does not have profit and continuous growth as main focus, but where growth and profit are the means for achieving the well-being of all human beings.

SDG Watch Europe wants to act as an interlocutor[284], as the representative voice of needs and issues of CS and also act as a bridge between CS and institutions.

As it is possible to see from Figure 5[285], SDG Watch Europe has four key strands of its work such as:

1. Reflection and innovation: what SDG Watch Europe wants to be is a "think thank" that can explore the field and new ways of working and monitoring, "reflect on how to use the SDGs to bring about systemic change and a shift away from the dominant neoliberal
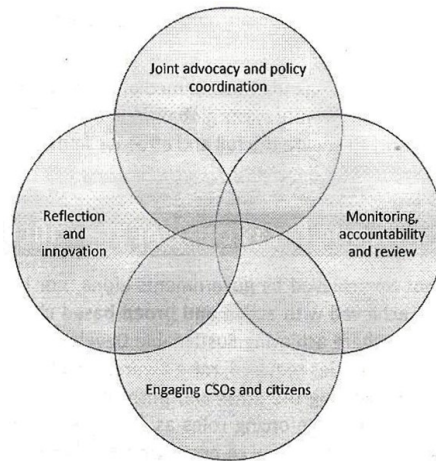
Fig. 5

ideology that puts profit and competition first"[286] and bring new knowledge with a continuous exchange of experiences and developing a strong cooperation with academic and research institutes.

Necessary is also the creation of a structure able to coordinate and supporting the work of SDG Watch Europe and of all CSOs involved. CSOs involvement should be always promoted and its growth guaranteed in particular with forms of training and mutual follow-ups.

2. Monitoring, accountability and review: this part will need a strong commitment into the collection of data and the development of the means of collecting them in order to be always more and more engaged with the CS. In addition, verifiable data collection, sources and strong experience of the field, the ability

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285 Ibidem.
286 Ibidem.

of monitoring the work of regional and local governments can also be a challenge for those governments that want to pump up their achievements and work. This can also help the construction and implementation of *ad hoc* policies that for sure have positive effects thanks to the truthful representation that data give.

3. Joint advocacy and policy coordination: the SDG Watch Europe should be considered by institutions as a valid collaborator, expert and support in the establishment of the policy agenda. For reaching this it is important to strengthen the cooperation within the members of SDG Watch Europe and their commitment towards the achievement of SDGs keeping in mind their three dimensions: the social, the environmental and the economic.

   Among the EU institutions and MS governments, SDG Watch Europe should make pressure on the implementation of a "new over-arching EU Sustainable Development Implementation Strategy with a timeline of 2030"[287] that permits the reach of such goals within and outside EU. A broad consultation is required into this strategy, involving all forms of governments and all actors.

   Working in such a way allows SDG Watch Europe to work on advocacy from different perspectives, strengthening the relationships within the CSOs and also being a strong voice in the decision-making process. It is important to learn from the mutual experience, to establish a strong participation and being the bearer of added values.

4. Engaging CSOs and citizens: through Global Citizenship Education and the implementation of the SDGs, SDG Watch Europe aims to connect, to spread information and to strengthen awareness among all citizens, inside and outside the EU. Starting from the local level, where they perceive clearly they capacity and responsibility in implementing and promoting practices over the global agenda, connecting in such a way the local to the global.

   Mobilizing CSOs can also have positive effects on the engagement of citizens and encouraging them to "hold governments at every level accountable for the

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implementation of the SDG as part of global justice and sustainability campaign"[288]. A mobilization citizen-driven, following a bottom-up structure, where experience in the field can give the strongest asset for the creation and implementation of focused and effective policies and projects.

The membership among SDG Watch Europe is open to all CSOs that wish to introduce a strong and concrete commitment into the implementation of the SDGs. All kinds of CSOs can participate, with the responsibility to participate and support with their resources the partnership. All levels of CSOs are well accepted, in order to achieve the strongest engagement and cooperation for the implementation of the goals and also for being capable of starting collaboration with governments and institutions at all levels. SDG Watch Europe is open also to support other organised partnerships of CSOs that want to work at international and/or European levels, for strengthening the voice and representativeness of CSOs during UN and EU meetings. Indeed, what SDG Watch Europe representatives say for representing the organisation and the key role of CSOs is "we are the long-term answer to many of the problems"[289].

3.2.4 SDG Watch Europe Assessment

Crucial for this analysis is that SDG Watch Europe is a new born partnership, where the main structure and pillars are under establishment and a complete study cannot be done. In addition, it is a developing organisation, that has recently started to work and for this final results are not available and it does not exist already a logo, a website or other kinds of sources. Everything is under preparation and kept under control in order to guarantee a well-prepared, effective and structured beginning of the work of the partnership, without risking to fall due to hurry and enthusiasm without practical support.

The analysis will converge mainly on the results expected and the impact that this organisation can have on the implementation of the Agenda 2030 and on the initial measures put in place as pillars for a radical change in the approach towards

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289 Ibidem.

development.

SDG Watch Europe has started its work with a direct connection with the EU institutions, as underling their presence and willingness in participating and cooperating with the institutions. It has proposed itself strongly, demonstrating competence, knowledge and experience over the development issues and in particular over the SDGs. In addition, the strong partnership and collaboration created between CSOs and networks since the first meeting, underlines a strong commitment towards the role that CS wants to play within the SDGs infrastructure and the capacity of involving CSOs, dealing with different issues and at all levels. The heterogeneity of the partnership shows also its ability to respond to all the areas connected with the SDGs implementation.

What the partnership expresses in its firsts actions is the solid will of being partner, bridge, connector, promoter, supporter, decision-maker, proactive and proactive actor among the EU and worldwide. And it is important also the internal analysis that these actors are making, finding their shared vision and possible ways for interacting only for achieving innovative and developing results, and not for competing against each other for starting the strongest collaboration with the EU institutions. This is a new step of CSOs' world, a world where not often the need of funds creates cooperation and where their representativeness is not always considered sufficient. With the SDG Watch Europe, CS is gaining authority, is becoming a heard actor, with its respectful capacity and recognition by the EU.

A strong effort is put in pressing the EU institutions for the creation and support of the Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development (PCSDG), included in Goal 17 of the SDGs "means of implementation", in order to develop a target considered SMART ("specific, measurable, attainable, relevant (for all countries), and time-bound"[290]). Policy coherence is considered crucial for transparent and effective policy making and implementation process. It is a innovative way for applying the development goals and

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290 Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development in the SDG Framework Shaping Targets and Monitoring Progress , OECD, available from: http://www.oecd.org/development/pcd/Note%20on %20Shaping%20Targets.pdf

crucial for supporting the partnership promoted by the SDGs.

Innovative procedures are put in place. The use of new technological tools and of social networks is expected to create a decisive change on the impact that SDGs can have, differently from the MDGs. Social networks and contemporary means of communication could be a great tool for attracting the attention of a more ample public. These are ideas under projects, that will be finalized within the first part of the project in order to be an effective promoter of the awareness of CS and other actors.

As a partnership of CSOs, funds are difficult to find and manage. For this reason all members shall contribute with what they can, economically and in particular with experiences, practices and expertise. The partnership should be able to work autonomously in order to destiny the funds more on a local dimension than a global one. The glocal connection is crucial for achieving the SDGs and both institutions, private actors and non-governmental actors should cooperate in order to guarantee this.

"No one left behind" is the motto that all actors involved have incorporated, and SDG Watch Europe is based on that: in involving all realities that want to cooperate and work within the Agenda 2030, ready for making the change.

The negative aspects that are detectable from this first part of the partnership are mainly correlated with time schedule and the "formal" secrecy of the partnership. All this negative aspects are negative only from an outsider that does not really understand the huge structure and way of working of the CSOs' sector. It could seem that SDG Watch Europe is not actually working to much, in particular on advertising its work and ideas. The reality is more complex: networks and CSOs have to deal with different works and actions during the year, that are strongly correlated with their topics and here emerges the real negative aspect: the lack of strategic involvement. A partnership is difficult to build and to maintain and many obstacles can occur during an year of work (projects in progress, concluded projects, new partnerships, new plans, new emergencies to follow) and often CSOs and networks lack of the support that they need. They often cover a huge amount of activities with a staff of ten members at maximum. For this reason the beginning of a new partnership, despite the will, despite the involvement, despite the

enthusiasm, could be perceived as a dispersion of energies in a moment where all the efforts should be focused on prefixed projects. And this is a huge obstacle for CSOs, that they should overcome in a way or another. If governments and institutions should work hard in opening their structural boundaries for a more broaden and inclusive partnership with other actors, CSOs should reorganize themselves in order to strength their voice and their action, and in order to be representative, without loosing energies. This part of the whole plan of SDG Watch Europe is not fully analysed: a general reorganisation is explained and supported, but more on the partnership side, while few words are spent on the internal restructuring process of CSOs that have to add SDGs achievement within a plan already structured and where other possible emergencies where already taken into account. Probably the action of SDG Watch Europe was started too late from this point of view, because with 2015 the SDGs were already started from a formal point of view, and this makes pressure on the speed in the organisation of the whole structure of the SDG Watch Europe partnership, in order to be capable of action from the end of 2016.

The word cloud of the SDG Watch Europe, created from the final summary of the establishing agenda conference[291], has redundancy of the word "implementation" as well of "development" and "sustainable". This is a sign that the focus of the SDG Watch Europe is on the seriousness of the action of all actors involved into the achievements of the Agenda 2030. All the actions proposed and done until now, including the open letter sent to the EC, underline the necessary reliability of all those involved into the reach of such goals. SDG Watch requires concrete implementation that could be based only on the will and cooperation of actors.

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The following most used words are "Europe", "CSOs" and "agenda": these three aspects are correlated in the mind of the SDG Watch. A more inclusive partnership is required for being able to follow the Agenda 2030. Both CSOs and Europe have the responsibility and the capacity of doing that, but they should work together, for this reason they result at the same level of repetition in the summary.

The words "global", "work" and "new" are following each other in a scale repetition. Something new, that is actually what this partnership supports a new approach to development, needs work, done by all those involved, and this can reach a global result starting from a global need.

Conclusions: policy suggestions

Making comparisons with other fields, development and cooperation is the framework that has been subjected to the hugest number of changes. The globalisation process, with its growing interconnection and interdependency has strongly required a change in the way of considering and achieving development and cooperation. Old structures are increasingly leaving the stage to new systems and new ways of reaching goals. This change is an opportunity for governments at all levels for exploring methods and solutions for concretely solve the issues of their population, but it is also a chance for the actors that, during these years, have acquired knowledge and experience and they are ready for carrying on new challenges and opportunities. Private actors had always had a certain relevance within the decision-making process as they are seen as donors.

Different was the situation of CSOs, consulted at all levels of governance, but never really involved into the policy-making processes. With years of working as lobbyist, monitoring actors, figure for change close to the citizens and to their needs, today are the most influential actor within development and cooperation. They have ideas, projects, plans, purposes, data, effective monitoring means, growing capacities in communicating and spreading information. They are bridge in many situation, knowing perfectly how to advocate and how to cooperate in the different areas they face, from the more influencing and pressuring approach, to the more calm and mediating one.

The structures at international and European level are now following this change, they

are opening their doors to CSOs, they are increasingly recognizing the fundamental role that CSOs cover in our world and their strong correlation with an effective achievement of SDGs. Already with the MDGs they had shown their influence in implementing policies and in informing and making aware the population about the importance of achieving such goals. The result gained by the MDGs has seen a strong contribution by CSOs.

The two case studies analysed present two different periods of the development and cooperation history: the DEEEP project that follows the MDGs period and that is grown with the raise of awareness of governments about the essential role of CSOs, and the SDG Watch Europe, starting with the end of the MDGs and it is already part of the shift on the new approach towards development. Both case studies dealt with the institutional approach and it is crucial to see the differences. With the DEEEP project, the relationship with the European institutions and national governments is based mainly on a sort of dependency, where without the consensus of the other part, strong efforts on pushing their collaboration are avoided and this, in certain situations, had lead to the failure of some projects and possible collaborations. The opposite is happening with SDG Watch, and this is a signal of the change on the approach and will, because the partnership has started its work referring directly to the European institutions and the crucial role of CSOs in implementing some new strategies in order to make the work for SDGs more inclusive as possible. The open-letter addresses directly to the EC and its responsibility of taking stand on the effective implementation of what the Agenda 2030 requires, included the strong partnership and cooperation between all actors involved into development and cooperation.

It is important to support the "shift of mentality"[292] that the implementation of the Agenda 2030 requires to the EU. This shift could develop the connection between different parts of the European policies, increase the internal and external coordination, find integrated solutions and also make pressure on structural changes within the UN
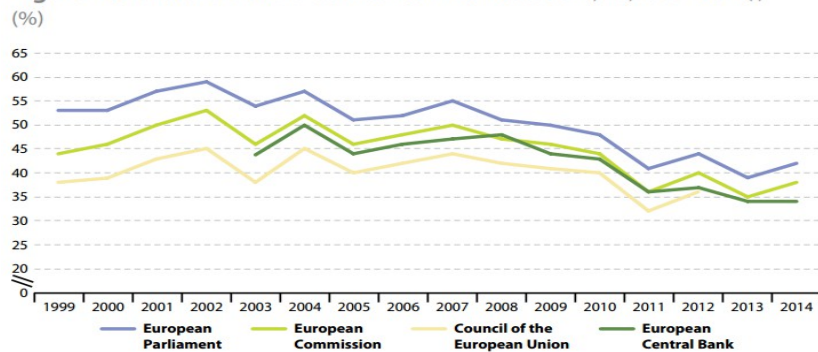
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292 Closing statement by Federica Mogherini, Vice-President of the EC, on Agenda 2030 and Sustainable Development Goals, extracts from the plenary session of the EP, Strasbourg, France, 10th May, 2016, available from: http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+CRE+20160510+ITEM-014+DOC+XML+V0//EN&language=EN

system for being capable of achieving the SDGs[293].

What it is crucial for fostering this shift of mentality is to be aware of the present situation, of the possible influence that everyone can have on the future of the world. What the EDY2015 supported was the motto "Get involved!", starting in understanding that we are always dealing with "our world, our dignity and our future". The risk of lack of information and reliable data is that society loses the credibility towards institution and so is no more interested in what that structure is doing. What was registered by the Eurostat in its "2015 monitoring report of the EU Sustainable Development Strategy" is that the confidence of the EU citizens towards the EU institutions is *Graph 8* decreasing over the time (Graph 8[294]).

Figure 10.1: Level of citizens' confidence in EU institutions, EU, 1999–2014 (¹) (%)

What SDGs need for being implemented is the involvement of CS, and the EU should focus its energies first of all on doing this enhancing its relationship with CSOs. CSOs are ready and the case studies shows their will too cooperate, their wish to be involved, their awareness towards their crucial role. Something that probably the EU is realising now. The first step towards a cooperation could be done with the creation of reliable data. Without reliable data no one can work transparently and with the knowledge that the policy purposed is the right one for fixing problems or for being well-accepted by a society. Reliable data are created only with the cooperation of all actors, from EU institutions to governments and CSOs. The title of the 2016 edition of Compact Guides

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293 Ibidem.

294 Eurostat, *Sustainable development in the European Union, 2015 monitoring report of the EU Sustainable Development Strategy*, 2015 Edition, European Union, 2015, available from: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/3217494/6975281/KS-GT-15-001-EN-N.pdf/5a20c781-e6e4-4695-b33d-9f502a30383f

of the Eurostat is "We can do better if we know better"[295] for underling the necessity within the achievement of the Agenda 2030 of a better media-gathering, making proposals concerning cooperation for creating reliable statistics for development.

Despite the EU is making a lot of efforts for applying the shift of mentality that an effective development cooperation needs, these are not enough today. It is necessary to make the majority of efforts at the beginning of the SDGs implementation process, what was not done for the MDGs. This is the reason why CSOs are working on the shift of mentality before and at the beginning of the SDGs achievement period. The DEEEP project created solid bases for a more shared and efficient DE within the SDGs field, and the SDG Watch Europe is working now as fast as it can for being able to be formally operative at the end of 2016. But what the EU is effectively doing in practice it seems far from the work done until now by networks and CSOs. What the EU should be able to do now is to strengthen the information, to spread awareness about SDGs and the Agenda 2030 within the European citizens. And it is a goal far to be achieved: European population is not aware of those changes, is not even aware of the existence of SDGs and that the EU is trying to do changes for their implementation; public is not informed about the crucial changes that should be done in the cooperation and partnership among actors. Few information could be found in the main websites and official documents of the EU, but it is well known that the majority of the European population is difficult to be reached through the official websites and documents, while social networks and other means of connection are more used and close to the society. Society awareness should be fostered, otherwise all the efforts that CSOs, EU and governments are doing, will fail. If the society is aware, it responds more actively and with a proactive and sympathetic spirit to innovative proposals and new policies; if society is aware, the SDGs can be perceived as something real that regards all of us, without distinction and discrimination; if society is aware, the SDGs can be achieved and a new, real and shared definition of development could be found.

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295 Eurostat, *We can do better if we know better! Statistics for development,* 2016 edition, Compact guides, European Union, 2016, available from:
http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/4031688/7497418/KS-02-16-482-EN-N.pdf/d535a95a-2ff2-4c51-9edf-d22bf6c46052

Conclusion

Globalisation has demonstrated that the old structures at all levels of governance are insufficient for developing effective answers to new world's issues. The world now is clearly multi-faced and this thesis has demonstrated that new structures are in construction for reorganising the way to interact at local, regional, national and international levels. All the actors now are involved into decision-making processes and the failures happened in the past, due to a runaway desire of states of achieving a developed neoliberal growth, are now today lessons for present decisions.

CSOs are the voice of human beings needs, in a world where the state is not sufficiently equipped to answer to all needs and problems of its citizenship. CSOs are the result of active citizenship, of the will of citizens of being involved into the decisions and being capable of influencing the future steps of the world. CSOs are structured and devoted to bring those wishes to the table of the decision-making processes, to discuss with other actors possible solutions and capacities to put in place in order to achieve them.

What this thesis has demonstrated is the strong will of CSOs of being involved and of being considered as a real actor, able to conduct projects, to lead and control situations, to strongly contribute with experience and practical action to the IR structure. CSOs are ready, they are following the changes that the globalisation process is forcing to do, they are a present and modern actor, a responsible and effective partner, a concrete valid assistant.

However, the world seems reluctant, in particular states that are still scared of losing power and authority. Despite its incapability of fully guaranteeing a fluent, transparent and equal dialogue, due in particular to the fear of states, efforts are done by the EU: its principle of subsidiarity and its MLG are gaining more and more relevance today, with also a general translation of the original economic structure and goals of the EU to a more political and human rights approach. A field that this thesis has taken as example of such change and efforts is the one of sustainable development.

Sustainable development is emerging now as a revolutionary, but at the same time ordinary concept. It is seen as a discovery of something that it was always there, but only now, after all the mistakes done and all the failures, it is possible to discover it as the real and concrete solution to the majority of humanity and planet Earth issues. Sustainable development is close to the citizens, it is a real, tangible route that the society can really feel as operating, can really see the results and the efforts done. The SDGs are the first action that strictly require the coordinated action between all actors operating in our world and, in particular, a full involvement of CSOs, seen as a watchdog of state implementing process, as bridge between populations and institutions, as proactive and experienced actor.

SDGs and their achievement constitute the basis for the creation of a new structure, of a new way of working and cooperating between actors. They are the milestone for our future, for guaranteeing policies and actions that have effective and positive results, because all the crucial and prepared actors are involved and together can find joint solutions and operative actions. In addition, this cooperation enhance the trust of citizens towards institutions, different levels of governance and in general towards the whole transnational structure. This can give effective results in the will of citizens and in their participation as the DEEEP project demonstrates: despite its end, people continue to be involved into the projects started under its wings, the desire and ambitious are continuing for the achievement of the SDGs. This underlines how a project started within an old and incompatible structure, where the cooperation had different aims and goals, where actors were seen in a different manner, can follow the process, can propose changes and be a herald of new solutions and purposes, despite its mandate is close to the end. While the SDG Watch Europe is the continuation of this will and achievements, taking as a strong characteristic the continuous and vigorous lobbying over the possibility of working together, demonstrating to states that no one will steal the power to anyone, but quite the opposite: every actors, within its area of work, within its field of operation, is complementary to the other actors, creating together a multi-faced, multi-operative, multi-level, multi-actors and multi-cultural puzzle. This puzzle is the strongest structure capable of facing the problems of modernity, capable to deal with transnationality without facing it, but on the contrary

trying to be involved into it.

Solidarity and cooperation are the answers for facing modern threats. Without a strong will of working together, it is almost impossible of covering problems on all their faces. Cooperation helps in avoiding the possibility of creating holes in policy-making and decision-making processes, holes that, has the MDGs had demonstrated, can cause sometimes the aggravation of existing emergencies.

The role of CSOs today is giving a message in contrast with the atmosphere of fear and mistrust towards the other that the unwillingness and ignorance are creating, limiting the capacity of solving modern issues. The incapacity of dealing with transnationality and with a new way of conceiving a changing world, are often the basis for a closure not only towards the change, but also towards the different, towards new problems and difficulties. With their coming close to other actors, CSOs demonstrate an opposite message, made of curiosity, of will of knowing, of trust towards the others, of sharing of ideas, cultures, actions and ways of acting. CSOs are expressing solidarity and this feeling is also the one suggested by the achievement of the SDGs: solidarity cannot leave someone alone, solidarity is for everyone and so solidarity always works and gives results.

This dichotomy existing in our world, with one side the fear of the change and in the other the curiosity and will of contributing, creates ambiguities and does not help in clarifying the ideas of citizens, leaving the floor to uncertainty and misleading information. What this thesis supports is the need of a joint action, where all the actors agree that fear is not the solution and where ideas and actions countercurrent can actually safe the humanity against the risk of living in a world where wars, poverty, famine and fear are the only milestones of future projects.

What the EU is demonstrating, despite the difficulties, is an attempt of opening its arms for embracing the proactive and multi-actors approach as a recurring practice, in order to establish a habit for better dealing with present and future challenges of this world.

The EU, thanks to the increasing presence and lobbying of CSOs, is gradually developing structures and procedures capable of covering the new framework, where MLG can exist without interferences and being practically achieved, involving all levels of governance and all actors within the field of the EU. Thanks to these efforts, the EU is showing itself as an example for a possible modern structure, capable to deal with transnational relations and situations.

It is crucial to understand today that dependency cannot be any more the answer to issues affecting humanity. Everyone is entitled to be proactive, to make proposals and to cooperate with others, not only at governmental level, but also at personal level, starting from each human being. Sharing correct information, involve all individuals of the world, trying to connect all human beings living in this planet, developing strategies for diminish the gap between us and supports transnationality as an added value, capable of connecting all the lives present in our world. These are the aims of CSOs, that should be shared and supported by all actors, from states to supranational organisations, from MNEs to every single human being. Together the humanity can face the most risky and impossible obstacles, together, with awareness and knowledge, with will and understanding, with coordination and cooperation, promoting a development that does not enrich one part of the world, but a development that comes from and for all of us, made by collective actions and shared values, because we are all responsible of humanity, without exceptions.

The future of humanity and of our planet lies in our hands. It lies also in the hands of today's younger generation who will pass the torch to future generations. We have mapped the road to sustainable development; it will be for all of us to ensure that the journey is successful and its gains irreversible[296].

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296 Art. 53 of the Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 25 September 2015, *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, 4th Plenary Meeting, New York, United States, 21 October, 2015, available from: http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=E

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