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1. Name

demosEUROPA

2. Organisation

demosEUROPA

3. Type of Organisation

NGO

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6. What subject area of the Foreign Policy Report does your evidence relate to?

Institutional Framework for EU Action in Foreign Affairs

Global Issues

7. What are the comparative advantages/disadvantages of working through the EU in the area you wish to comment on, rather than the UK working independently?

The European Neighbourhood Policy – Eastern Partnership Advantages: acceptance of the *acquis communautaire* (a necessary step for implementing AA/DCFTA) by the EaP countries will bring substantial advantages for the EU member states, incl. UK, for ex. By stabilizing the socio-economic situation in the region and thus creating more favorable conditions for business activity and SME development. Disadvantages: time-consuming, consensus-based consultations within the EU, need of an engagement in a discussion on countries remaining sometimes on periphery of the UK public interest Sanctions regime Advantages: stronger impact, the EU global position equal to the US and the UN Access to markets Advantages: In 2012, Chinese investment in Europe amounted to 10 billion dollars (among others Chinese investors purchased considerable stakes in British industry). The challenge for the EU is to leverage this increase in Chinese investment in Europe to improve their own access to China's market. The goal of the EU policy should be to achieve openness of several sectors of the Chinese economy in which foreign investment is currently not permitted (finance, services, strategic industrial, investment in infrastructure). Based on Lisbon Treaty the European Commission acquired competence over investment policy and leads negotiation on a new EU investment treaty to supplant existing bilateral agreements.

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8. In what areas of global affairs does the EU add value or deliver impact or not on behalf of the UK?

In today's world, size matters and key outside players would like to listen to a single view coming out of the EU. In addition, many problems such as climate change require close cooperation of regional blocks rather than individual states. Areas with community competence such as trade stand out as those where the EU is most respected and achieves best results. None of the single EU member states, including the UK, would be able to agree on equally favourable trade packages than the EU is able to do, as evidenced in the recent negotiations with South Korea, Singapore or Canada. The US would not be prepared the concessions it might have to grant to the EU in individual negotiations with EU member states, however well predisposed to transatlantic cooperation. In foreign and security policy, the EU as a collectivity has a greater power of persuasion. The EU sanctions regime, in spite of some shortcomings, is a genuine example of activity, where the collective decision by the

EU has much stronger impact than steps undertaken by a EU member state. Finally, initiatives aimed at strengthening the EU's relations with groups of states in its closest neighbourhood, for example the Eastern Partnership, are another example of a policy which the UK benefits from and which is impossible to succeed outside of the EU institutional framework, given the range of different instruments applied from regulatory convergence to visa facilitation.

9. How effective is the EU at combining its foreign, defence, economic and civil contingency policy instruments to deliver best effect in foreign policy? What, if anything, should it do differently?

Ways of combining various instruments of foreign policy (be it classic foreign policy, defense or trade policy) have been envisaged in the Treaty of Lisbon. The EEAS as the institution responsible for implementation of the TL regulations has been functioning for a very short time (since 2010). Thus, a comprehensive diagnosis of the Service cannot be done properly. In spite of obvious shortcomings (i.e. ability to ensure cohesiveness of various activities in the field of foreign relations), there is a potential for positive changes. One of the main traits of the EU is evolutionary rather than revolutionary – model of internal adjustments. Foreign policy is not an exception. It is worth noting, that even within the current structure, the EU has been able to efficiently use its foreign policy mechanisms, playing an active role in stabilizing the situation in Somalia. Different lines of command are often the challenge which the EU needs to overcome in the practical use of its diverse instruments.

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10. How effective are the EU's delivery mechanisms? Would any changes make them more effective, and if so, which ones and why?

The EU is moving in the right direction by elaborating comprehensive strategies for challenges such as those in the Sahel and the Horn of Africa. Implementation engages a number of instruments from CSDP operations to humanitarian action and development assistance. The biggest difficulty comes when the EU needs to verify on the ground what it has agreed on paper and adjust to the circumstances of the moment. Therefore, enhancing strategic planning and anchoring crisis management more strongly at the political level are essential ways for the EU to prove more effective in its foreign policy response functions.

11. Would a different division of EU and Member State competence in a particular area produce more effective policies? If so, how and why?

EU foreign policy needs consolidation rather than a change of rules in the forthcoming period. There is no doubt, however, that the unanimity rule on foreign policy often serves as an excuse for inaction. It should be reduced to issues of vital national interest with a "last resort" legal procedure determining that this interpretation would not be extended by the member states beyond legitimate reason. As the first step, governments which demand the application of the unanimity rule should explain their motives to the European Council.

12. How might the national interest be served by action being taken in this field at a different level e.g. regional, national, UN, NATO, OECD, G20 – either in addition or as an alternative to action at EU level?

There is no reason to perceive action at the EU level as an alternative to that undertaken at the national level. EU engagement in the international organisations is a force multiplier. There are, needless to say, situations when compromises have to be made and initial national position may have to be compromised. It is, however, in the interest of the UK to always work towards persuading other member states to come around to its position rather than concentrate its attention on remaining faithful to its initial standpoint. The EU herself is increasingly under pressure from other

regional groupings and new international actors as evidenced by the difficulties in winning votes on human rights at the UN. Dynamics within the G20 will also change in the future as the emerging powers acquire experience and are increasingly skillful in playing the EU off against other members.

13. What future challenge/opportunities might we face in this area of policy and what impact might these have on the balance of competence between the UK and the EU?

No Response

14. Are there any general points you wish to make which are not captured above?

Leaving the EU will mean for Britain returning to the foreign policy concept of keeping controlled distance from Europe and concentrating on defending/promoting more narrow British interests. It might be that in many concrete issues the UK will be able to act more quickly and in more flexible way, although it could not then effectively shape or influence the international order. Such an opportunity could only be guaranteed through the EU and its internationally recognized position. At best, the UK might become a “junior partner” of the US. Remaining within the EU preserves the UK’s place within the top rank of global powers. The UK that will stay fully outside the EU would soon find itself poorer, less competitive, and with a diminished ability to shape its own economic destiny; withdrawal from the EU for reasons of sovereignty and the illusion of greater strength through re-imagined independence would be self-defeating. UK’s special relationship with the US would suffer accordingly, as is clear from recent statements of American officials.