

CHAPTER I

BACKGROUND

A. Introduction

The main factor causing climate change is brought on by an increase in greenhouse gases in the atmosphere (Denchak, 2023). Over the past 150 years, there has been an increase in greenhouse gas emissions and atmospheric concentrations. The use of fossil fuels, such as coal, natural gas, and petroleum, for diverse reasons like transportation, heating, and power, results in carbon dioxide emissions which account for most of the conservatory gas emissions created by humans. Between 2010 and 2019, the average global surface air temperature was expected to rise by 0.8°C to 1.3°C due to human activity (*Greenhouse Gases' Effect on Climate Change*, 2022). Temperatures rise and continue to rise because of the steady growth in carbon dioxide ranks in the atmosphere, which entraps additional heat close to the surface of the planet (*Climate Change Indicators: Greenhouse Gases / US EPA*, n.d.) Thus, cooperation between nations is crucial to diminish greenhouse gas emissions and recede the effects of climate change. The EU has taken decisive measures to lower greenhouse gas emissions and strengthen its capacity for adaptation. In order to reduce emissions and boost adaptive resilience, however, significant global cooperation is required to meet the remaining obstacles (Masripatin et al., 2016).

Since 1990, greenhouse gas emissions in the EU27 have decreased by approximately one-third, according to early estimates incorporating the reductions achieved in 2020. This notable decline is attributable to the practical enactment of EU and national policies and measures, an increase in the use of renewable energy sources, the transition from coal to gas in power generation, improvements in energy efficiency, and substantial structural changes within EU economies. To further emphasize its commitment to combat climate change, the EU has set a goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by net 55 percent by 2030. The EU's net emissions were already 34% lower in 2020 than in 1990. Numerous sectors have experienced significant reductions in emissions, mainly the residential, industrial, and energy supply sectors. Nevertheless, despite the implementation of climate policies and efforts to improve vehicle efficiency, the transport sector's emissions have remained relatively high. Additionally, agricultural sector emissions have increased over the past few years. While commendable

progress has been made in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, substantial efforts will be required across all economic sectors to attain a climate-neutral economy in the EU by 2050; This highlights the ongoing commitment necessary to address the global climate challenge effectively (Analysis & About, 2019).

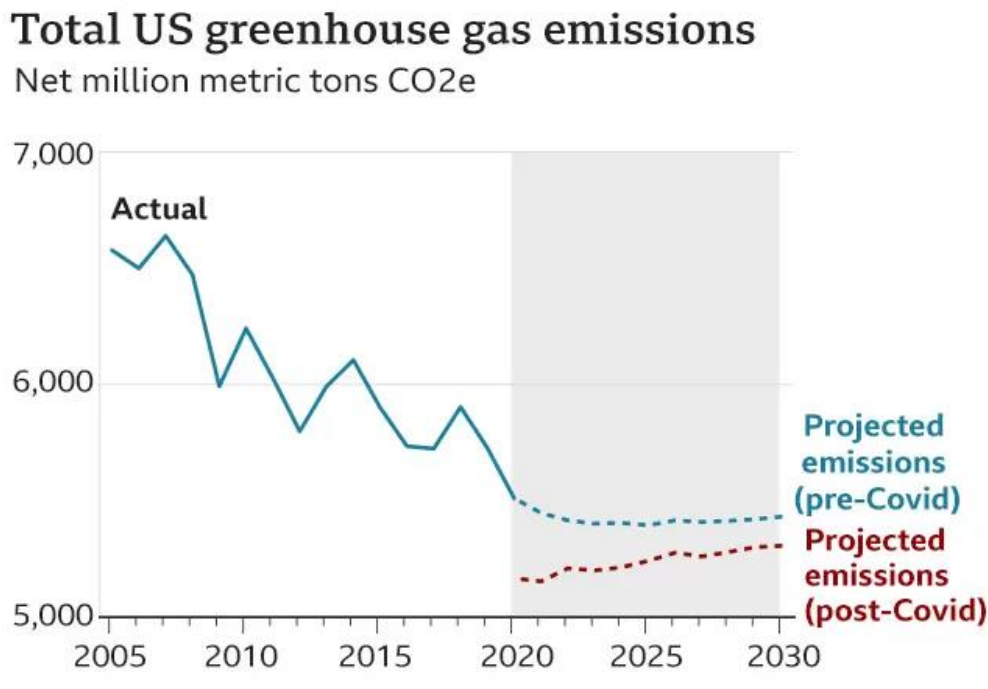
The effects of climate change on various aspects of the environment and human existence are substantial. As greenhouse gas concentrations rise, so does the global surface temperature, making 2011-2020 the warmest decade on record. Since the 1980s, this trend of rising temperatures has been observed, with each decade warmer than the last. The increase in temperature results in more hot days and heat waves, leading to increased heat-related ailments and difficulties with outdoor work (Nations, n.d.-a).

According to data from NRDC, the world temperature has risen by 1.1 degrees Celsius due to global climate change, and previously uncommon extreme weather events like droughts, storms, and floods have become more frequent. The effects can be observed in disrupted ecosystems, from melting sea ice at the poles to increasing sea levels that could endanger coastal communities. Climate change also impacts the economy since it increases agricultural unpredictability and raises the possibility of a food crisis. There have also been effects on human health, such as increased illnesses spread by insects and severe weather. Furthermore, there will be significant economic effects, population displacement, and an exacerbation of inequality due to climate change. Urgent and vital action is required to mitigate climate change, save the environment, and preserve human life to prevent the worst-case scenario (Courtney Lindwall, n.d.).

Regarding the EU's climate policy from BBC NEWS, the recently released draught proposal reflects the EU's ambitious objective of becoming carbon neutral by 2050. There are obstacles to these measures' approval and possible talks. This will affect citizens in several ways and households through higher bills and more expensive flights inside the EU. Sectors that fear the economic and social consequences, such as aviation, vehicle manufacturing, and coal-dependent regions, will likely face resistance. After a 24% reduction in emissions in 2019, the Fit for 55 packages of actions aim to fulfill the EU's pledge to reduce emissions by 55% from 1990 levels by 2030. Stricter car emissions regulations are one of the main recommendations; these may perhaps stop the use of petrol and diesel automobile sales in 2035, taxes on aviation fuel, and duties on non-EU manufacturers' carbon emissions (*EU Unveils Sweeping Climate Change Plan - BBC News, 2021*). Following almost 150 years of

industrialization, deforestation, and extensive farming, the amount of greenhouse gases in the Earth's atmosphere has risen to phenomenal levels not seen in three million years. Climate change's effects include weakened health, food security risks, economic adverse impacts, and population displacement. As science has demonstrated, many facets of human existence are impacted by the indisputable changes in the climate system and rising global temperatures directly caused by human movement. For this explanation, international agreements such as the Paris Agreement are crucial in addressing this problem and safeguarding both the environment and human lives. The IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) has unleashed new research demonstrating how human activity has quickly and extensively altered several parts of the climate, including warming the atmosphere, seas, and land. These conditions pose serious risks to people's health, food security, the economy, and the stability of international society. Thus, it is imperative to take prompt and all-encompassing action to cut greenhouse gas emissions and prepare for climate change (Nations, n.d.-b).

Diagram 1.1



Source: Rhodium Group

This is a data portraying the total United States' (US) greenhouse gas emissions. Based on the data above, there is much controversy about the US's decision to leave the Paris Climate Agreement after a three-year delay. It draws attention to the discussion and possible conflicts

of interest in the field of international environmental diplomacy, especially about the objectives and promises made by the accord. The world's confidence in global climate solutions has been questioned. However, President Trump's decision to withdraw is an obvious example of national concerns taking primacy. Many Americans who think that the US should lead the battle against climate change and that it is a critical global problem are disappointed. The scenario was made more complicated by the possibility that the US could rejoin the deal, as proposed by then President-elect Joe Biden. Furthermore, other nations were influenced by the US's exit, with some possibly taking a slower approach to climate action and others holding out hope for the emergence of global unanimity to address climate change issues (Climate Change: US Formally Withdraws from Paris Agreement, 2020).

In this context, the role of the European Union (EU) in environmental diplomacy is crucial. The EU has been involved in international negotiations on climate change, such as the United Nations Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC), and has contributed greatly to the achievement of global agreements such as the Paris Agreement. The EU has also adopted various policies and programs to promote renewable energy, energy saving, and efficiency, as well as strengthen adaptation and mitigation measures domestically and abroad (Firdaus & Wandira, 2022).

However, the strategy of EU environmental diplomacy in tackling climate change remains a matter of debate. Some consider that the EU has successfully led global efforts to tackle climate change, while others criticize that it is still unable to meet its own emissions targets and has not provided sufficient support to developing countries (Tänzler et al., 2021).

In this context, research on the EU's environmental diplomacy strategy in tackling climate change is crucial. The research can look at how the EU uses its political and economic influence to influence global policy on climate change, evaluate their success in achieving mitigation and adaptation goals, and provide recommendations for future improvements (ESPAS (European Strategy and Policy Analysis System), 2015).

B. Research Question

Based on the background of the problems above, the formulation of the problem in this study is as follows:

“How European Union Strategies Shaping Climate Change Diplomacy?”

C. Theoretical Framework

The theoretical framework of this thesis was chosen based on the background of the problem and to analyze the EU's strategy in environmental diplomacy in overcoming global climate change or addressing strategy in climate change. The author will use 1 theory and 1 concept to help analyze the writing of this thesis. The first is Institutional Theory, which will help in understanding the concepts, strategies of the European Union, and the practice of diplomacy used by the European Union in tackling climate change. Meanwhile, the concept that is used is using the concept of Sustainability, which is related to understanding how the European Union's environmental diplomacy strategy can be related to a sustainable environment. This involves consideration of the integration of environmental policy with economic development, as well as sustainable management of natural resources.

1. Institutional Theory

Institutional theory is a theory that is widely used to understand individual and organizational behavior (Kisworo & Shauki, 2019). This theory initially explained how institutionalized meaning structures influence processes in organizations. The institutional theory is used to analyze institutional behavior, both formal and informal, in public administration and politics. This theory emphasizes how important it is to understand how institutions affect people's and organizations' lives in many contexts. The idea of institutionalization also provides a foundation for understanding how institutional changes, such as institutionalization and deinstitutionalization processes, occur. This theory focuses on institutional isomorphism, whether it be in the normative, kerf, or mimetic sense, as well as how institutional changes might affect stability and predictability in various contexts (Staroňová & Gajduschek, 2019).

Institutional theory is concerned with the rules, regulations, ideas and corporate culture that indicate the social context in which the company operates (Anna & Dwi R.T, 2019). According to (Darono, 2012) the characteristics of an institution are: (1) in the form of a thought organization; (2) has a certain level of eternity; (3) have goals to achieve; (4) have the tools to achieve their goals; (5) in the form of symbols; (6) have both written and unwritten documentation. Based on these characteristics, the researcher chose a definition that is quite representative as stated by Surbakti (2011): institutions are patterns of behavior that are stable, meaningful and repeated.

Only four of the seven primary institutional approaches—the normative approach, the rational choice form of institutionalism, historical institutionalism, and empirical institutionalism—were the subject of Peters' study more than 20 years ago. Under the normative approach, the norms and procedures of the institutions involved in the decision-making process serve as the decision-makers guidelines rather than maximizing their ultimate goals. In this instance, the people making the decisions are more devoted to the organization and its regulations than they are to the results that one would anticipate from a rational choice approach. An example of this would be someone reporting accurate vote counts who uphold voting integrity by abiding by the law rather than caving in to political pressure to back his party's nominee. According to normative institutionalism, individuals become aware of and follow the procedures and norms just by being a part of the institution. Institutionalism is significant, among other reasons, because it emphasizes that structures remain while people come and go. People who work for institutions alter their behavior because of them (more so than individuals who change the institutions). As a result, policy decisions are more stable than they otherwise could be, and reform is more complex than expected (Hoefler, 2022).

The institutional theory argues that organizations prioritizing legitimacy tend to seek alignment with external expectations or social norms. This theory is employed to explain actions and decision-making within public organizations (Berthod, 2020). This theory emphasizes that organizations, wielding political and economic influence, tend to utilize their power to shape global policies related to climate change. In an effort to maintain and enhance their legitimacy at the international level, these organizations actively strive to adapt to global norms and demands concerning the issue of climate change. The theory recognizes the crucial role of institutional adaptation in ensuring consistency with external expectations or social norms, with the stability of policies related to climate change and the ability to innovate in response to the ever-changing dynamics of the global environment.

Key European Union (EU) Climate and Energy Diplomacy strategies such as implementation of the Paris Agreement, limiting global temperature increases to 1.5°C, support for the most vulnerable countries in facing the impacts of climate change, and increasing shared climate finance, can be understood in line with institutional theory. Based on this theory, the EU tends to adapt its policies and practices in line with global norms, reflecting a drive to align with international standards. In addition, the normative institutionalism approach, as explained by Hoefler, suggests that decisions are taken based on institutional norms and procedures, creating policy stability, which is visible in the EU's long-term commitment to climate issues.

2. Sustainable Concept

Sustainability is a multifaceted and intricate topic that holds immense significance for everyone as it pertains to the continued existence of the human species and virtually all life forms on Earth (Ragheb et al., 2016). According to the Bruntland Commission's 1987 definition of sustainability, it is "development that meets the necessities of the present without compromising the capability of coming generations to meet their own necessities." To ensure the welfare of present and future generations, it highlights the significance of striking a balance between economic development and environmental stability. Because it offers a framework for incorporating environmental issues into development strategies, the idea of sustainability is essential. It acknowledges the connection of economic, social, and environmental elements and works to advance ethical behaviour that upholds ecological balance over the long run. Sustainability seeks to stop the depletion of natural resources, reduce pollution, and promote equitable and inclusive development by considering the requirements of both the present and future generations. Addressing urgent global issues, including climate change, biodiversity loss, and resource shortages, requires sustainability. It promotes eco-friendly technologies, the development of renewable energy sources, ecosystem preservation, and sustainable agriculture methods. Additionally, it encourages social equality by guaranteeing that growth benefits all facets of society and reduces inequalities. The idea of sustainability contests is that economic growth and environmental preservation must be compromised. It emphasizes the potential for peaceful cohabitation between economic growth and environmental conservation while highlighting how sustainable practices can increase the quality of life and long-term success (Emas, 2013).

More than just promoting sustainable development or adaptive ability, the sustainable concept is involved in environmental quality promotion. It also consists in converting current resource use practices into sustainable management techniques. Stakeholders who manage natural resources (such as individual farmers, small businesses, or large international corporations) are subject to changes in resource availability and hazards over time. As a result, they are currently looking to update management practices to make their actions more sustainable. Effectively, there are two main ways to reduce the risk of disaster, and each can involve adaptation to climate change differently. The top-down strategy is built on institutional reactions, financial distribution, and established protocols and practices (Lasco et al., 2007).

The environmental diplomacy policy of the European Union could be examined through the lens of sustainability. By taking into account the needs of both the present and future generations, the concept of sustainability aims to stop the depletion of natural resources, decrease pollution, and promote equitable and inclusive growth. Promoting environmentally friendly technologies, creating renewable energy sources, protecting ecosystems, and sustainable agricultural practices are all areas of analysis for the EU's climate change strategy. The significance that the EU Member States and the European Commission place on international climate policy has led to the expansion of the EU's negotiating strategy outside the UNFCCC (Schaik, 2009).

The sustainable idea, which emphasize the need to balance environmental stability and economic development to preserve the welfare of present and future generations, is pertinent to the European Green Deal. The Green Deal encourages environmentally friendly technology, the creation of renewable energy sources, the protection of ecosystems, and sustainable agricultural practices-all crucial elements of sustainability. The Green Deal also aims to promote equitable and inclusive growth and minimize pollution by regarding the needs of current and future generations. The Green Deal exemplifies the EU's commitment to sustainability and environmental protection (Cifuentes-Faura, 2022).

The concept of sustainability reflects the philosophical foundation and main principles driving the European Union's environmental diplomacy strategy in the face of global climate change. The concept of sustainability states that the European Union's efforts to overcome global climate change must consider the welfare of present and future generations. In this regard, the European Union's environmental diplomacy strategy must be designed in such a way that it includes sustainable aspects, including efforts to stop the exploitation of natural resources, reduce pollution, and encourage fair and inclusive economic growth. Furthermore, sustainability highlights the importance of environmentally friendly technology, renewable energy resources, ecosystem preservation, and sustainable agricultural practices which are relevant to the strategy implemented by the European Union in overcoming global climate change. For example, the use of green technologies and investment in renewable energy resources is an integral part of the European Union's efforts to achieve its goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and mitigating the impacts of climate change. The concept of sustainability also emphasizes the importance of fair and inclusive growth. This means that the European Union's efforts in environmental diplomacy must ensure that the benefits of such

actions are spread evenly across all levels of society. This includes reducing social and economic inequality and minimizing pollution that can harm people's welfare.

D. Hypothesis

Based on the theoretical framework and problem formulation described in the previous discussion, the author tries to put forward two steps, namely:

1. By supporting the Paris Agreement to decrease carbon emission
2. By the European Union (EU) shaping its climate change diplomacy, collaboration is fostered, and policy stability is promoted internationally.

E. Purpose of Research

Based on the formulation of the problem above, this study has the following objectives:

To analyzing the EU's environmental diplomacy strategy in addressing global climate change and understand the factors that influence the success or failure of the strategy, with the aim of providing recommendations to improve the EU's efforts in addressing global climate change.

F. Research Methodology

The object of research in this study is about the European Union environmental diplomacy strategy in addressing global climate change. The research methodology used is qualitative and qualitative research techniques are used in this study. John W. Cresswell defines qualitative research as a method for discovering and comprehending the significance that various people or groups of people attach to social and humanitarian concerns. According to Norman K. Denzin and Yvonna S. Lincoln, qualitative research entails investigating and gathering numerous types of empirical data, including case studies, individual experiences, introspective life stories, interviews, and observational, historical, interactive, and textual data. Visual writing that describes common and troubling occurrences that have significance for each individual. This study's authors described the research's object, analytical and observational units, and data-gathering methods.

This research will be organized using a qualitative research approach. With this method, the author can fully comprehend the environmental diplomacy tactics used by the European Union to combat climate change. This study will rely on literature searches and literature

searches linked to the subject, as well as secondary data collection from sources such as official websites of European Union governments, policy reports, documents from international negotiations, and pertinent journal articles.

G. Research Advantages

The expected benefits of this study are as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefits

This research can make an important contribution to the understanding of the role of environmental diplomacy in addressing climate change globally. The study can identify factors that influence the strategy of EU environmental diplomacy, such as political and economic relations with other countries, internal factors such as policy differences and priorities between EU member states, as well as external factors such as success in persuading non-member states to adopt similar mitigation and adaptation policies. (Tänzler et al., 2021)

The research can also offer a better knowledge of the challenges and chances faced by the European Union in influencing global policy on climate change and furnish valuable recommendations for future improvements. In addition, research results can enrich the theory of environmental diplomacy and contribute to developing thinking in the field. (Yiwananda & Nugrahani, 2021)

Overall, the research can supply significant theoretical benefits in understanding environmental diplomacy and the EU's global role in tackling climate change and yield helpful insights for future policymaking. (Tudela et al., 2004)

2. Benefits in Practice

Research on the EU's environmental diplomacy strategy to tackle climate change could yield practical benefits in several ways:

1. The results of this study can offer input for EU policies in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving their adaptation resilience. The recommendations from this study could assist the EU in achieving its emissions targets and extend more effective support to developing countries.

2. The research can supply input for other countries looking to take action on climate change. In this regard, research can provide examples of successful environmental diplomacy strategies that different countries can emulate.
3. This research can furnish important information for international decision-makers in tackling climate change. The research results can assist decision-makers in developing policies and programs in addressing climate change.
4. This research can also benefit the general public and environmental organizations.

The study results can raise public awareness about the importance of environmental diplomacy in addressing climate change and lend support to environmental organizations in fighting for better policies and programs to address climate change.

G. Scope of Research

The research centers on assessing the strategy of the European Union's environmental diplomacy in addressing global climate change by analyzing the EU's diplomatic practices and strategies from 2013 to 2023. The author will examine European Union's Strategy in Environmental Diplomacy in addressing global climate change.

H. Writing Structure

The structure of this thesis which analyses the European Union's environmental diplomacy in addressing global climate change is arranged as follows:

Chapter I: Background, Research Question, Theoretical Framework, Hypothesis, Research Method, and Systematic Writing.

Chapter II: Environmental Diplomacy and Climate Change, and European Climate Change Policy and Strategy.

Chapter III: European Union Environmental Diplomacy Strategies in Shaping Climate Change Policies

Chapter IV: Conclusion.