EXPANDING ROLE AND FUNCTIONS OF THE EC/EU
A Study of post-Cold War Period

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Abstract: - The European Union (EU) is formally known as the European Community (EC) which had origin in the post-World War-II to bring stability in Europe. It is regarded as a political and economic organization with keeping only European countries as its member states. During the Cold War period, the EC/EU's role was to bring economic integration and political stability in the Europe. But, in the post-Cold War period or after the disintegration of the Soviet Union, it has been expanded its role and functions to other areas such as peacekeeping and crisis management operations, fight against growing challenges such as terrorism, Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD), narcotic drugs and to establish peace and stability in the crisis region etc. The study throws light on expansion of its institutional structures, promoting and strengthening democracy among its member states and also addresses on how it enlarges of its membership to Eastern-European countries. At the end of the study it highlights on 'out of area' operation of the EU and what challenges are coming towards that operation.

Keyword: - EU, Peacekeeping and Crisis Management Operation, Afghanistan, Terrorism, 'Out Of Area' Operation.

Introduction

The EU is formally known as the European Community (EC) which had origin in the post-World War-II to bring stability in Europe. It has been regarded as a political and economic organization of Europe. It has only European countries as its member states. During the Cold War period, the EU's role was to bring economic integration and political stability in the Europe and mostly concentrated on its static role and functions. But, in the post-Cold War period, it has been enlarged its membership to Eastern-European countries, expanding its geography and its institutional structures, promoting and strengthening democracy among its member states, peace keeping and crisis management operations and fight against growing challenges such as terrorism, Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD), narcotic drugs and to establish peace and stability in the crisis region. It means in the post-Cold War era, the EC/EU has expended its role of economic integration and political stability to other areas like peace keeping and crisis management operations, 'Out of Area' operation and fight against global challenges etc.

Origin and Development:

The European Community (EC) has developed through the process of integration in several stages and forms. In 1950, French Foreign Minister Robert Schuman was first proposed to integrate Western Europe through creating the common market of steel and coal industries with the aim of organizing to involve the yielding of a degree of state sovereignty to a supranational authority with free movement of coal and steel, and free access to sources of production which leads to the Treaty of Paris in 1951 and it took effect in 1952, created the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) with six member states namely Belgium, France, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and West Germany. The ECSC was the product of a combination of integrationist impulses and ideas, national self-interest and international circumstances as the first

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international organization to be based on supranational principles which projected to enlarge the economies move up the standard of living within the Community and boost employment. The common market was also planned to increasingly downsize the allocation of high level production at the same time as ensuring immovability and employment. It eliminated tariffs and quotas on trade in iron ore, coal, coke, and steel within the six-nation economic union. This choice for making organization was not only economic but also political, as these two raw materials (Coal and Steel) were the basis of the industry and power of the two countries. The underlying political objective was to strengthen Franco-German solidarity, banish the specter of war and open the way to European integration (Pinder and Usherwood 2007: 10).

The overall achievements of the ECSC were positive. The Community was able to deal with crises, ensuring balanced development of the production and distribution of resources and facilitating the necessary industrial restructuring and redevelopment. Steel production increased fourfold as compared to the 1950s with better, cheaper and cleaner. Coal production declined, as did the number of people employed in the sector, but it reached a high level of technological development, safety and environmental quality. The ECSC's systems of social management (early retirement, transitional allowances, mobility grants, training, etc.) were of great importance in dealing with crises. It laid the foundation for the future stability and prosperity that would become possible in a unified Europe (Peterson and Usherwood 2007: 14). Only a few years after the overthrow of Nazism the idea of a German army alarmed its neighbors. At that time, the French government proposed a European Defence Community (EDC), modeled upon the ECSC, which would establish a Western European army that would include military units from all the member states, including West-Germany. However, the exercise failed when the French national assembly refused to take a decision to ratify the treaty to make EDC in 1954. The failure of the EDC contributed towards a discrediting of the sectoral strategy and threat ended to destroy the whole process of integration. The collapse of the EDC was a setback but, confidence in the community as a framework for peaceful relations among the member states had grown and there was a powerful political impulse to rel-aunch its development (Pinder and Usherwood 2007: 13). Dutch were ready with a proposal for a general common market, for which the support of Belgium and Germany was soon forthcoming. Although there was reason to fear that the effort undertaken by the ECSC was doomed to fail, the six members of the ECSC took a decisive step forward. At a meeting of their foreign ministers at Messina in Sicily in June 1955, Taking as their core text the 1952 Dutch proposal for abolition of quotas and tariffs within and the introduction of a common external tariff for, the community area, the foreign ministers agreed to launch 'a fresh advance towards the building of Europe'. This set in motion progress towards plans for a customs union and ultimately a common market, plans which culminated in March 1957 with the treaty of Rome and the formation of the European Economic Community (EEC). The treaty enjoined its signatories, among other things to establish a common market, defined as the free movement of goods, persons, services and capital to approximate national economic policies and to develop common policies, most specifically in agriculture. Although the objective of the treaty were express in economic terms, as the preamble implied a political purpose lay behind them. After the formation of the EEC by the Rome first treaty, again European atomic energy community 'Euratom' also set up in 1957 by the second treaty of Rome to promote collaboration on the development of nuclear energy for peaceful economic purposes (Pinder and Usherwood 2007: 04). In 1967, the institutions of EEC, ECSC and EURATOM were merged to form a single set of institutions: the European Commission, European Council and European Parliament. In 1968, after the ratification of the Merger Treaty, the EEC

also became known as the European Community (EC). The membership of the organization at this time remained largely static.

Interest to develop or internal pressures for evolving the CFSP (Common European and Security Policy) was an ambitious growing vision of the EC members, and also another fundamental change was introduced at the European intergovernmental conference in Maastricht. For the first time, member states of the EC incorporated in a treaty the objective of a common foreign policy. Since the Maastricht treaty's entry into force in 1993 created CFSP, the EU as an organization was capable to build its voice heard on the worldwide stage and convey its place on various global challenges (Jain 2002: 12). In this way the EU has transformed its structures and functions with adapting new tasks which were not given emphasized in the Cold War period. The collapse of the Berlin Wall, followed by German unification on 3rd October 1990, liberation from Soviet control and subsequent democratization of the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the disintegration of the Soviet Union in December 1991, transformed the political structure of Europe. The 1986 Single European Act, which committed the Community to adopt measures with the aim of progressively establishing an internal market by December 1992. The Member States determined to strengthen their ties and negotiated a new Treaty, the main features of which were agreed at the Maastricht European Council in December 1991. The Maastricht Treaty in 1992 gave the process the formal title of the European Union, which entered into force in November 1993.

By virtue of the Maastricht Treaty, the activities of the EU were divided into three areas or 'pillars' such as the European Community, Common Foreign and Security Policy, and Police and Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters. The first pillar 'Economic Community' covers internal market policies as well as agriculture and completion policy. It also covers most immigration and protection policies and economic and monetary union. In this pillar EU's common institutions such as commission, council and parliament can act largely (but not entirely) independently of the national governments. The second pillar 'Common Foreign and Security Policy' addresses about the attempt of EU member states to forge common positions and take joint action on foreign and security affairs. Decision making is primarily intergovernmental, neither the European parliament not the court of justice have much influence. The third pillar 'Justice and Home Affairs (formally called Police and Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters) addresses on the growing cooperation in the area of internal security including the fight against international crime and drugs trade. Both the 2nd and 3rd pillars are 'inter-governmental' in nature. Although the European council was created in 1974 still, it got a formal status in the 1992 by the Treaty of Maastricht. After getting a formal status in 1992, it has been considering an important institution of the EU which consists of the Heads of State or Government together with its president and the president of the Commission (Peterson and Shackleton 2006: 48).

Structural Expansion

In the Cold War period the structure of the EC consists of the European Court of Justice, the European Parliament, the Council of Ministers, the European Commission, the European court of auditors and various consultative and advisory bodies. All these institutions are different with each other with their respective role and functions. But, in the post-Cold War period in order to enable the EU fully to assume its responsibilities for crisis management and peace keeping operation, the European Council at Nice in December 2000, decided to establish permanent political and military structures such as The Political and

Security Committee (PSC), The European Union Military Committee (EUMC), European Union Military Staff (EUMS), The Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability (CPCC), European System of Central Banks and The Crisis Management Planning Directorate (CMPD) etc.

The Political and Security Committee (PSC) absorbs as a permanent composition of the EC (European Council) which contributes to the framing and executing of the CFSP and CSDP. It is an important body of the Council which deals crisis situations and examines all the options that might be considered as the EU's response. It proposes cohesive set of options for resolving the crisis to the Council, may draw up an opinion recommending to the Council that it adopts a Decision on the action to be taken. It also work outs political control and strategic direction in the event of a crisis for EU and monitors the international affairs in the parts covered by the CFSP such as delivers opinions to the Council for policies, scrutinizes the draft conclusions of the General Affairs Council and supervises the work led by the different Council working groups in the area of the CFSP. Article 38 of the EU's Maastricht treaty authorizes the PSC to decide and control the duration of the crisis management operations (European Union 2001: 02).

The European Union Military Committee (EUMC) is regarded as a premier military body which set up within the Council and advices to the PSC on all EU military activities. It consists of the Chiefs of Defence (CHOD) of the EU Member States who regularly represents by their permanent Military Representatives (MilReps). It has one permanent Chairman who is chosen by the CHOD of all the member states and appointed by the Council (European Union 2001: 05). He advises to the High representative of the EU for foreign affairs and security policy on all military matters. In this concern, the EUMC and PSC are advised by a Committee for Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management.

European Union Military Staff (EUMS) was established in 2001 and works under the direction of the EUMC. It also functions under the authority of the High Representative/Vice President (HR/VP) as multi-disciplinary military expertise within the European External Action Service (EEAS). It is an integral component of the EEAS's comprehensive approach and coordinates the military instrument, with emphasizing on military operations and missions. The EUMS has three main operational functions such as early warning, situation assessment and strategic planning. The EUMS provides strategic suggestion in order to make sure that EU activities under the CSDP agenda are in line with the political goals of the EU (European Union 2001). The EUMS also acts as a crucial role in the improvement of military capabilities and the initiation of military missions.

The Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability (CPCC) was established in 2007 as part of the EEAS, under the strategic direction of the PSC and overall authority of the High Representative, it ensures the proper planning and performs of civilian CSDP crisis management operations, as well as the proper implementation of all mission-related tasks. It is the permanent structure responsible for an autonomous operational conduct of civilian CSDP operations. Its command is to plan and conduct civilian CSDP missions in the areas of police, border assistance, rule of law and security sector reform including the supervision of each national contingents (even if the overall command remains to national authorities). At the same time, he is also the general Commander of all civilian Heads of mission.

European System of Central Banks was established in December 1991 through the Maastricht treaty of the EC to conduct single monetary policy of the Economic and Monetary Union (EMU). The ECB and the Central Banks of the member states are together called the European System of Central Banks ESCB

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(Pinder and Usherwood 2007: 73). In this context, EMU has been an integral part of the European integration process since the early 1970s which consists of a single monetary policy, a single monetary authority, a single currency and coordinated macro-economic policies, and European Central Banks were considered as completely independent bodies (Cini 2007: 325). The six members of the ECB's executive board together with the governors of the other central banks comprise the governing council of the ECB. The primary objective of the ESCB is to maintain price stability through subject to that overriding requirement. It also supports the community's general economic policies. The ECB has the sole right to authorize the issue of notes and to approve the quantity of coins issued by the states mints.

The Crisis Management Planning Directorate (CMPD) was created in 2009 which is a part of the European External Action Service and at the core of the EU CSDP as part of the EU Common Foreign and Security Policy. It helps in the EU's comprehensive approach to crisis management and developing CSDP partnerships, policies, concepts and Coordinate the development of civilian and military capabilities. It cooperates and develops the Strategic Planning, Reviews of CSDP missions and operations. The CMPD also assists the High Representative of EU Council bodies, but under control and strategic direction of the Member States in the Political and Security Committee, acting under the responsibility of the Council and the High Representatives for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy in EU (European Union 2001).

Functional Expansion:

The changing role and functions of the EU in the post-Cold War period is one of the most important debates among the scholars. After disintegration of the Soviet Union, not only NATO but, the EU has also expanded its role and functions like growing economic player, peace keeping and crisis management operations, Growing Membership, Fight Against Global Challenges, Growing Relations with Other International Organization and Out of Area Operation

Growing Economic Power

In terms of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) the EC/EU is the biggest economic power in the world. It produces goods and services more than at the total value of 10.793 trillion Euros that is ahead of the US by a slight margin. The GDP of the US is 10.035 trillion Euros. The accession of 10 countries in 2004 and two countries in 2007 contributed to the total GDP. In other words, the EC/EU owes its leadership position to the new members. Japan's GDP, meanwhile, is much lower. It is 3.674 trillion Euros. Since the 1990s, the EC also presents itself as a leading actor in international trade. The Union is one of the key players in the World Trade Organization (European Commission 2005: 11), and is one of the driving forces behind the current round of multilateral trade negotiations. The establishment of the EMU and a common currency 'Euro' symbolized a great step forward in the European financial integration. It tried to deepen its integration and enlarged its member states by accepting new members (Whitman 2002: 15).

Membership Enlargement

The EU's enlargement of member states was an important change in its membership as has been changed in many times after the end of the Cold War. It was enlarged three times in 1995, 2004 and 2007. Until the third enlargement in 1986, it had 12 member states and in the fourth enlargement in 1995, three new member states were added namely Austria, Finland and Sweden and reached to 15 member states. Another

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most important enlargement in the post-Cold War period was in 2004, when ten new member states were joined. Those member states were Cyprus, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia and Slovenia as the largest and historic enlargement of the EC which increased from 15 to 25 member states. They signed their accession treaty on 16 the April 2003 in Athens and officially joined in EC on 1st may, 2004. All ten members were joined because they see their natural place within the EC and they share its goals of freedom, democracy and prosperity. In this context, Bulgaria and Romania applied to join the EC in the early 1990 along with eight other former communist states of Central and Eastern-Europe, once they were no longer under the power of the Soviet Union. The other eight moved quickly to carry out political and economic reforms and joined the EC in 2004. The accession treaty with Bulgaria and Romania was signed on 25 April 2005 in Luxembourg and has been ratified by all 25 member states and both joined the EC/EU on 1st January 2007 and they took the membership of 26 and 27. So, in the post-Cold War period, the number of member states increased from 12 to 27 in about two decades. This led to the spread of the EC/EU geography to new areas like Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe and to the Eastern Mediterranean. This development also meant that the EC/EU has become neighbor to Middle East and became closer to Caucasus. The second enlargement after the end of the bipolar era made some of the former socialist countries on the European continent full members. At the same time the Union also carried out important reforms in order to deepen its integration. The Maastricht Treaty of 1992 further broadened the Parliaments powers with the introduction of a co-decision procedure which together with the Council, allows the Parliament adopt regulations and directives on an equal footing in specific areas. In other areas, noticeably with regards to agriculture and prices, the Parliament has only a consultative role. Together with the Council, the Parliament has the power to approve the budget and to dismiss the Commission. On certain questions (e.g. taxation) the European Parliament gives only an advisory opinion (the 'consultation procedure'). In some cases the Treaty provides that consultation is obligatory, being required by the legal base, and the proposal cannot acquire the force of law unless Parliament has delivered an opinion. In this case the Council is not empowered to take a decision alone. Parliament has a power of political initiative. It can ask the Commission to present legislative proposals for laws to the Council (Peterson 2006: 105).

Fight Against Global Challenges:

The EU has contributed its capacity for military contribution to peace keeping and peace making a most important complement to which is its capacity to contribute to the civilian elements of peacekeeping, together with its experience in assisting the building of democratic states. one example, which can follow directly from a successful military mission, is the police missions such as the EU has provided in Bosnia, where in 2003 it took over from a UN Police Task Force, followed by others in Macedonia, democratic republic of Congo and Palestinian territories. The EU's military enterprise was formally launched by the 1999 when the European council meeting at Helsinki announced its headline goal of 60,000 troops available to the ESDP and initiated its new decision making structures the PSC, the EU Military Committee EUMC and the EU Military Staff EUMS. Within only three years of its initiation the ESDP was to undertake its first operations. The most visible are the EU Force deployment in Macedonia (Concordia, march-December 2003), the democratic republic of Congo (Artemis, June-September 2003) and in Bosnia-Herzegovina (Althea, December 2004). Their scale has varied from 350 lightly armed troops in Macedonia, 2000 in the Congo to a 7000 forces in Bosnia. On the civilian side there have been the EU Police Missions (EUPOL); with 554 personnel police mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina during 2003.in the case of operation althea

there is a EUPOL unit included within the military deployment. The treaty on European Union signed in 1993 in Maastricht brought foreign policy coordination more prominently into EC structures and the 'common and foreign security policy' established as the second pillar of the EC. From then onwards, the competences of the EC in the field of foreign and security policy-making have increased in many small steps. This process accelerated towards the turn of the century as a reaction towards concrete crisis situation. And to meet their military capabilities as the EU's international commitments for common European defence, the agreement of the British and French governments at St Malo in December 1998, created an overwhelming momentum towards a common European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP). It demanded by the all EU member states. The ESDP is composed of three elements such as military crisis management, civilian crisis management and conflict prevention (Cini 2007: 245). It has both the military and civilian dimensions which developed at the Nice in 2001 with the other institutional structures that supported the policy. Those institutional structures are PSC which is assisted by a politico-military working group, a committee for civilian aspects of crisis management, the EU Military Committee and the Military Staff. At the same time other four institutional arrangements were created such as police cooperation, rule of law, civilian administration and civilian protection to fill the gap of soft security issues. In April 2001, the commission of the EU adopted a "communication on conflict prevention" which set out a new strategy for its efforts in the field of conflict prevention and civilian crisis management. This was part of a broader strategy, the EC/EU opted for a strategy that shifted attention from crisis management to prevention. In December 2001, the European council recognized that the EC/EU is now capable of conducting some military crisis management operations. The presence of military forces in Macedonia has since 31 march 2003 been under the direct command of the EC and not its member states or NATO. The operation makes use of NATO asserts and capabilities, which was made possible by the completion of work on EC-NATO arrangement. After the establishment of the ESDP the Union carried out military missions in Macedonia, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Georgia. Currently, it is carrying out operations in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Palestine and Iraq. It has police missions in Macedonia and the Republic of Congo (Whitman 2002: 287). Some of the previous NATO operations in the Balkans have been taken over by the EC. Hence the EC started to replace the role of the NATO and the US in this region. Although these EC missions could not be considered as operations of great scale, nevertheless they are still important as they are taking place for the first time in the history of the Community. An important development for the EC's military capability was the establishment of the European Defence Agency (EDA) that is responsible for "helping the member states develop their defence capabilities for crisis-management operations under the European Security and Defence Policy"(Schnabel and Rocca 2005: 63). The EDA helps the member states to exchange views on their defense policies. Another factor emphasized was the increasing expectations from the Union by other international actors. The United States especially wanted the EC to share more of the burden concerning the conflicts in the neighborhood of the EC (Christopher 2003: 07).

Another most important expanding post-Cold War role of EC is on fight against international terrorism. The 9/11 terrorist attacks in New York lifted counter-terrorism to the top of the European security agenda. Immediately after the terrorist attack in September 11, in order to express European solidarity with the US, Romano Prodi, President of the European Commission said that "In the darkest hours of European history, the Americans stood by the US. We stand by them now". Moreover, European leaders immediately convened to release a joint declaration as an expression of unity with American people, as well as condemnation of the perpetrators, organizers and sponsors of the terrorist attacks (Akgul 2002: 02). The EC

has become more decisive in order to fight international terrorism and in response to that, Belgian EU Presidency at Laeken Summit announced that the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP) was operational and that the EU would provide up to 4000 troops for the peacekeeping force in Afghanistan (Smith 2003: 04). The tragic events of September 11, the EU has acted on several fronts to reinforce its existing and nascent capabilities to combat terrorism, but, again on March 11, 2004, exactly two-and-a-half years after the September 11, 2001 attacks on the United States, a series of blasts killed more than 200 train passengers in Madrid (Bures 2006: 71). The EU declared its solidarity with the United States on the day after the attacks, and its members pledged both their individual and their collective support for any counter-terrorism efforts. This attack was immediately made terrorism a top priority for NATO. This terrorist attacks of also compelled EU to adopt a range of measures to fight terrorism. Within 36 hours of the 9/11 terrorist attack in New York, EU High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy Mr. Javier Solana and the President of the European Parliament Mr. Nicole Fontaine were made a formal statement or declaration that "the EU stands firmly and fully behind the US for fight against terrorism", and supported the NATO member states with one voice for counter terrorism. After two weeks the EU formed and implemented the anti-terrorism policies and comprehensive action plan which consists with different issues such as development of police cooperation and international legal instruments, spiraling of air security and enhanced cooperation with EU member states and other international actors. The EU Council emphasized their total solidarity with the U.S which strengthened the NATO's mission to fight against terrorism (Gaylord 2011: 24). The NATO Secretary General Lord Robertson and EU High Representative Javier Solana meet for the first time at NATO Headquarters on 30th April 2001, to discuss cooperation and coordination between both the organizations which was followed by another meeting on 25th June to discuss contribution of both the organizations towards the global war on terror. The EU and NATO foreign ministers meet in Iceland on 14-15 May 2001, to discuss the use of alliance asserts and capabilities of NATO by the EU (Lindley-French 2001: 12). On 21 September, 2001 the European Council, during its extraordinary meeting, stated that "Terrorism is a real challenge to the world and to Europe and that the fight against terrorism will be a priority objective of the EU" (Council of the European Union 2001: 03). To address the problem of terrorism with the additional efforts, at the Riga summit of NATO in 2002, NATO and its Partnership for Peace (PfP) members including EU member states made Partnership Action Plan Against Terrorism (PAPT) for cooperation and coordination among them. It has provided five areas of cooperation such as intensified consultations and information sharing, the need to impede support for terrorist groups, to enhance capabilities to contribute to consequence management, enhanced preparedness for combating terrorism and assistance to partners' efforts against terrorism (Forster 2012: 42). In between period of the NATO-EU engagement in Afghanistan for counter terrorism operation, another big terrorist attack has shown at Madrid in March 2004 and after this attack the NATO and EU had set and shared the common objectives for fight against terrorism such as: '*Capturing Bin Laden and all other members of Al Qaeda,Protecting the citizens of their member states from terrorist attacks, Destroying terrorists' infrastructure, lines of support and communication, Promoting democracy and free markets as the best long term tool against terrorism' (Irlenkaeuser 2006: 02).* The bombings in London of July 2005 proved that EC rope is also a target of the new forms of international terrorism (Wilkinson 2005: 29). As the implications of an Al Qaeda-linked terror attack on their own home soil sank in, the EU Member States began with a much needed critical questioning of all measures they have taken to combat terrorism thus far. The European Commission proposed a number of ways for further enhancement of operational cooperation in the fight against terrorism at the EC level and also several EC Member States attempted to enhance the EC

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counterterrorism policy in the area of intelligence sharing (Bures 2006: 69; European Commission 2005: 09). The most relevant institutions in EC counter-terrorism are the European Commission, Europol and Eurojust. In fact these three institutions play a major role at a legislative level (the Commission) and at the operational level (Europol and Eurojust), these two latter having as top priority in their mandate the fight against terrorism. Other institutions like the European Counter-Terrorism Co-ordinator, the European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders (FRONTEX) and the European Joint Situation Centre (Sit Cen) etc, are also under architecture of EC counter-terrorism.

The proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) and their means of delivery is a growing tangible threat in the 21st century. Easy access to these weapons through black markets and the willingness of some states to cooperate with terrorist, extremist, or organized crime groups increase the concern that such weapons might end up in illegal hands. At the Thessaloniki Summit in June 2003, the European Council adopted its first draft Strategy against the proliferation of WMD. Since that the EC has started to fight against the spread of nuclear weapons within its Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), and highlighted the proliferation of WMD as potentially the greatest threat to security. It remarked that although the international treaty regimes and export control arrangements have slowed the spread of WMD and delivery systems, the world was entering a new and dangerous period that raises the possibility of a WMD arms race, especially in the Middle East. In recent years the need for the EU to enhance its role as a non-proliferation actor has increased dramatically. Firstly, the US has effectively relinquished its leadership in arms control and adopted alternative methods to avert the spread of WMD. This makes it necessary for other actors willing to uphold the existing regime to upgrade their efforts. Secondly, particularly in the aftermath of terrorist attack in September 11, the proliferation threat is no longer seen in terms of the acquisition of nuclear weapons by states, but also by terrorist organizations. Although the September 11, attacks did not involve the use of WMD, claims by Al-Qaida to be in possession of nuclear weapons have put this concern at the centre of the international agenda. For example, the EC has repeatedly voiced its concerns over Iran's intention to develop WMD and their systems of delivery, in particular long-range missiles, and has prompted Iran to conclude the strengthened safeguards regime with the IAEA (Portela 2003: 19).

In 1986, a comprehensive legal basis for an environmental policy was introduced by the European single act, and turned the subject from a cross sectional to an independent field of policy. Since 1993, a comprehensive legal basis for an environment of economic activities, the promotion of a high level of environmental protection and the imperative of improving the quality of the environment where laid down as the tasks of the community, in Article 2 of the Maastricht treaty. At the same time article 174 (1) of the Maastricht treaty of the EU says about the preserving , protecting and improving the quality of the environment; protecting human health and rational utilization of the natural resources and promoting measures at an international level to deal with regional or worldwide environmental problems (Kumar 2007: 102). The treaty of Amsterdam 1997 finally gave environmental protection a status equal to that of the other tasks of the European commission. Keeping in mind the objectives and principles behind environmental protection and sustainable development, as laid down in article 174 of the Maastricht treaty, and going much beyond them, several initiatives have been taken by the EU. The creation of the European environment agency was designed to provide a unified facility in this area and there has also been a realization of the critical importance of an independent earth observation capability for effective participation in global

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environmental governance. Since 2000 the EU has developed a space policy through the coordination of national efforts and working in partnership with the European space agency. The significant outcome for environmental policy is the global monitoring for environment project. GMES, which was implemented in 2008, provides an information infrastructure coordination disparate European remote sensing resources in ways that support EU decision making and participation in multilateral agreements. The 1997 Kyoto Protocol, championed by the EU, provides for a 5.2 % reduction in developed world greenhouse gas emissions with an EU 15 commitment to an 8% reduction by 2012. By forging on alone the EU has abandoned its previous stipulation that all industrialized countries must be engaged in making emission reductions and ensured that, in the first phase at least the costs of the climate regime will be mainly borne by its member states.

Growing Relations with Other International Organization:

The European Union is constructing a role in the international system, represented through an identity as the conveyer of certain values and principles, a supporter of multilateralism, important contributor of economy, promoter of democracy and the rule of law, and the defender of a multilateral world order. Cooperation and Participation with the various international organizations like UN, NATO and WTO as well as other actors etc, is one of the crucial ways for promote these values and principles and at the sometime necessary for effective performance of its role and functions. To examine the EU's growing relations with other international actors, the study highlight on its relations with the NATO. Both the NATO and EU have has realized to make broader approach to deal different crisis management and peace keeping operations and fight against other global challenges. But, these new challenges are multi-faceted tasks which need military-economic and political tools. So, EU realized the need to develop its formal cooperation with the NATO to draw its military asserts and capability to successfully deal to new challenges. Similarly, NATO feel the need of EU for use its soft powers and economic resources to address some of the ground challenges. That first formal meeting was moving from the theory of European defence to practical cooperation on common concern relating to security, defense and crisis management. It also developed the draft on NATO-EU Security Agreement which is in form of Berlin Plus agreement. This agreement emphasized on four areas of cooperation such as working on equal footing, Coherence in defense planning, no unnecessary duplication, Participation of non-EU European allies and Capabilities. After a year of negotiations NATO member states were willing to sign the NATO-EU agreement. But, Turkey desired to have the right to block autonomous EU operations in an area of strategic importance to Turkey. Ankara ultimately backed down in return for guarantees that the EU would not carry out a military operation against a non-EU but, NATO member (such as Turkey), and arrangements whereby the EU would seek advice from Turkey in any crisis. Turkey was willing to accept this deal in December 2001, but Greece then rejected it as too great a concession to Turkey. At their summit in Prague in November 2002, NATO members declared their readiness to give the EU access to NATO assets and capabilities for operations in which NATO was not engaged militarily (Albright 1998: 22). The NATO-EU formal joint declaration for strategic partnership in peace keeping and crisis management was finalized on 11 March 2003 which was known as the 'Berlin plus Agreement'. The "Berlin Plus" arrangement provides the basis for NATO-EU cooperation in crisis management by allowing EU to access NATO's collective assets and capabilities for EU-led crisis management operations. The provisions of Berlin plus agreement paved the way to home single military force and allows EU to access NATO's capability, headquarters, structures and mechanism to carry out peace keeping and crisis management

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operations (Reichard 2006: 273; NATO 2003b). This was an important formal cooperation between NATO and EU, which created single integrated military force and also discourage EU not to develop its own military power under the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP), which it initially intended to do. This agreement also provides that NATO's Deputy SACEUR will be authorized as an Operation Commander of EU led operations, and also pave the way for the consultation arrangements between NATO and EU during the peace keeping or crisis management operations. In effect, they allow the Alliance to support EU-led operations in which NATO as a whole is not engaged (NATO 2003c: 01).

The European Union Cell at Supreme Headquarters (EUCS) of the Alliance's Operational Headquarters and NATO Permanent Liaison Team (NPLT) at the European Union Military Staff (EUMS) are the most important formal structures to develop cooperation between NATO and EU regarding military matters and information sharing (NATO 2003b; Lindley-French 2007: 116). NPLT has been operating at the EU Military Staff since November 2005 and EU Cell was set up at SHAPE, Belgium in March 2006 (NATO 2009c). Both the EUCS and NPLT developed proactive approach to their task and have contributed to the increased transparency and interaction between their two respective organizations (Council of the European Union 2009: 21). Under the Berlin-Plus framework, both EUCS and NPLT have provided support to Deputy Supreme Commander Europe (DSACEUR) of NATO, for full transparency between NATO and EU in the missions at Macedonia in 2003 and Bosnia since 2004. DSACEUR is also appointed as a European operational commander of Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) of EU and he has been authorized through the Berlin plus agreement to look into the matter of NATO-EU cooperation. Based on this 'Berlin Plus' agreement, the NATO-EU cooperation has evolved, especially in military to military contacts and expert consultations between civilians from their respective headquarters. In the Berlin plus agreement both the organizations have covered the exchange of classified information under reciprocal security protection rules and also they can consult together in the crisis management and peace keeping operation.

The NATO-EU cooperation in civilian matters in Afghanistan confronted with number of challenges, for example Germany says that police as a civilian law and order force whereas US regarded it could play counter insurgency role. Training efforts of Afghan police under German and American leadership are not only partially overlapped but also contradict one another on account of their different approaches to policing (Gross 2009: 28). Another challenge is the decision making problem in EU, where it's some member states like France, Britain and Belgium are against of operation in Afghanistan because of 'out of area' and some states like US and Canada are asserting that the EU and NATO can do (Gartner and Cuthbertson 2005: 140).

Out of Area Operation:

Afghanistan is EU's first 'out of area' operation beyond Europe. Afghanistan peace operation is a multi-faceted task which needs all the economic, political and military tools. The EU has committed to provide civilian resources for reconstruction of the political and economic system of Afghanistan (Reichard 2006: 22; International Crisis Group 2005: 5).To follow the 'Berlin Plus Agreement' and having tremendous financial burden in the civilian reconstruction effort, NATO seeks cooperation from EU to carry out its civilian tasks for rebuilding Afghanistan (Lindley-French 2007: 116). The NATO led ISAF has been providing security for EU's economic and political reconstruction tasks in Afghanistan (Ginsberg 2007: 315; Kamp 2007: 06). The EU has given EUR 8 billion aid to Afghanistan for the period of 2002-2010 (EU Council Secretariat 2009a). At the Riga summit in 2006, NATO declared that it can't bear the entire burden

of civilian and military needs in this operation and welcomed efforts by donor nations, EU and other international organizations to increase their support and coordination in the civilian activities and to support the Afghan Government (NATO 2006: 09, Dufourcq and Yost 2006: 10). In May 2007, the EU accepted a request by NATO to take the lead in training Afghanistan's police. The European police (EUPOL) training mission began in June 2007 with the addition of some 120 EU police trainers who joined the 41 German trainers that remained in the program. Aim of this mission is to provide effective civilian police system with the wider justice system under Afghan ownership (European Union 2009a).

The EU has provided economic assistance to Afghan Government to make alternative model for the economic development instead through narcotic drugs (EU Council Secretariat 2009). For the period of 2002-2006, EU has given EUR 236 million for rural development, alternative livelihoods and food security (EU Council Secretariat 2006). With the help of ISAF, Afghanistan government has established Afghan National Drug Control Strategy in May 2003 to combat the drug trade. ISAF has also more proactive role in conducting joint planning with Poppy Eradication Force and Inter-agency Operational Coordination Centre to end narcotic drugs. The successes of NATO led ISAF depends on the civilian resources of EU (Ginsberg 2007: 31; Dufourcq and Yost 2006: 36). Annual meeting between the North Atlantic Council (NAC) of NATO and Political and Security Committee (PSC) of EU, and establishing rule of law and democracy in Afghanistan as the common objective of NATO and the EU (Reichard 2006: 22; Ginsberg 2007: 315; Kamp 2007: 06).

Conclusion

The EU in the post-Cold War period is one of the most unusual and widest-ranging political actors in the international system. Its capacity has gradually expanded to encompass foreign policy initiatives towards nearly every corner of the globe, using a full range of foreign policy tools: diplomatic, economic, and now limited military operations related to peacekeeping and peace enforcement. This capacity, however, was neither included in the original Treaty of Rome, nor was it predicted by many knowledgeable observers of European integration. Increasing role of the EC/EU after the dissolution of the Eastern Bloc since the EC achieved more maneuvering space. The EC/EU had also expanded its structures and functions such as PSC, EUMC, EUMS and CPCC in the post-Cold War period. The EU has also adapted new tasks like fight against global challenges and establishing peace and stability in the crisis response regions and climate change etc., which were not appeared in the Cold War period. The EC has develop the concept of CSDP and also three pillars (such as the European community, common foreign and security policy and police and judicial matters in criminal matters) through Maastricht treaty for its keen interest to expand its role and functions in both the civilian and military sectors. From the structural point of view the EU remains as a political and economic organization because of its civilian capabilities. Due to lack of civilian resource capability NATO developed its relations with EU who holds civilian resource capability. Cooperation and coordination between NATO and EU have had appeared in the various crisis management and peace keeping operations which have been witnessed in Kosovo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Macedonia, Darfur and Afghanistan. Both organizations have a global outlook, and both have aspirations to act in a wide variety of political circumstances.

In Afghanistan operation, any eradication programme on narcotic drugs needs to be conducted in combination with sustainable alternative livelihood programmes in Afghanistan. Continued robust

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international assistance to Afghanistan will be required to maintain and build the institutional capacity of key ministries to address illicit narcotics cultivation and trafficking. Increasing employment opportunities is also important in order to reduce the amount of surplus labor available during the poppy harvest season. Economic growth and job creation must be sustained in Afghanistan, which still now the afghan people have not got sufficient resources for which they can stop that cultivation which regards as a great challenge for EU. Another challenge is the high rate of illiteracy in build-up of the ANA and ANP. Because, during providing police training by the EUPOL, due to illiteracy rate the EUPOL faces different challenges or difficulties to effectively carry out its mission in the state. Although the UN authorized NATO to lead the ISAF, and at the same time the EU's effort to contribute its civilian resources capabilities to NATO in Afghanistan operation is not coming under the purview of either EU or nor NATO as they should operate in their respective regions for which they made. Gradually the EU has been expanding to not only Europe but also to Asia, which regarded as beyond its geographical boundary. However, this operation is the 'out of area' operation for the EU beyond Europe, and if in future other 'out of area' operation will reoccur then that may be create conflicts among the member states of the organizations, because there were already opposition from the member states, like France, Belgium and Britain who had already opposed to this operation.

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