

World of Nation States in Transformation: The Case of Sub-State Entities

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ABSTRACT

With the European Integration from the 1980s and the economic transformation after 1990s international state system has increasingly been subjected to new forms of political organizations and institutions in the global order. In addition to Non-Governmental Organizations and multinational and international organizations, substate entities have come to the forefront. In this sense, the theories of the classical sovereign state and nation state are way too far to explain the present political and social dimensions on the states due to the constantly changing economic developments and modifications on national and international levels. Because the states are constantly transforming, the transformation over the last decades has special characteristics and consequences due to the impacts on the state actors and institutions. Those impacts do not solely contain cultural and social relationships, but also on regulations and external relationships via substate entities: Multi-level governance and multi-actors feed into the process of the present transformation. Therefore the states claiming their sovereignty in the terms of authority based on

territoriality and the exclusion of external actors from domestic authority structures might be intervened by different powers of state and non-state actors.

Hence, the question of whether nation-states can still be considered a sole and unique sovereign even the political authority has been shifting or not will be raised in this research. Given that internal and external authorities are solely not at the state level, while referring to international organizations of World Bank and IMF mainly the practices of substate entities will be underlined. As such, before 1993, Wallonia and Flanders regions had mainly focused on the international cultural activities including the cooperation in the educational field. But later on they enlarged their regulations on foreign trade, political agreements, education exchanges. Besides, Bavarian external relations starting with economic, environmental, educational and cultural development in Alpine region, those relations were hereafter involved in a number of cooperation projects with Chinese provinces. In this framework, this research will focus on how the nation-state sovereignty is impacted with the new implications on the national and international economy by referring to the legislations both in national and international orders.

Keywords: substate entities, sovereignty, nation state, transformation