

Weaknesses in the common foreign and security policy (CFSP) of the European Union

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Abstrak

This article attempts to identify and asses the weaknesses of the CFSP that have been inherently implicated in substantive and institutional limitations. Critical analysis on this particular issue becomes increasingly important, since the discourse on the CFSP in Indonesia is not well developed in the way that the very nature of the CFSP and its complexities are not properly understood. Having said that this article is particularly aimed at contributing to the development of the discourse on the CFSP in Indonesia. In analyzing this issue, it confines itself to the theoretical views assumed by realists because they would appropriately divulge and address the weaknesses of the CFSP. It also argues that the EU member states, despite their apparent enthusiasm for developing a truly CFSP, are reluctant to fully give up their national sovereignty over foreign and security policy. Since the CFSP can be only seen as reflection of the interests or EU Member States, it is very difficult to put any limits on the foreign policy initiatives of the member states, to shape their interests or bring them to stick to the common framework. In conclusion, this article suggests that all of these weaknesses are the underlying causes of the incapability of the EU to match today's global challenge.