

Define democratic peace. Highlight its basic norms and discuss how it played a vital role in the political economic integration of the European Union (EU).

I - Democratic Peace and its Link to European Union: A political and Economic Analysis

Democratic Peace Theory explains the behavior of democratic states. It is originated from the idea of Immanuel Kant, he believed that Republic is more inclined towards peace and negotiations over conflicts. This theory works on the principle of institutional constraints and Normative Explanations. Moreover, the core idea of this theory best aligns with the European Union. European Union (EU) is the best real-world example of this theory. This organization is based on the same principles: Economic interdependence, common political views and many more. Although EU is facing

Eu

Several challenges. Yet it is considered as one of the most successful Model. Angela Merkel appreciated the EU in the following words:

The European Union is the most successful peace project in human history.

11. Understanding the "Democratic Peace Model"

After Immanuel Kant proposed this idea in 1795, some scholars started working. For instance, Michael Doyle in 1983. They proposed that democratic countries do not fight

Democratic countries do not fight war, as they work on cooperation and coordination. This theory works on two principles.

Institutional constraints

Principles of Democratic
Peace Theory

Normative Explanations

I- Institutional constraints.

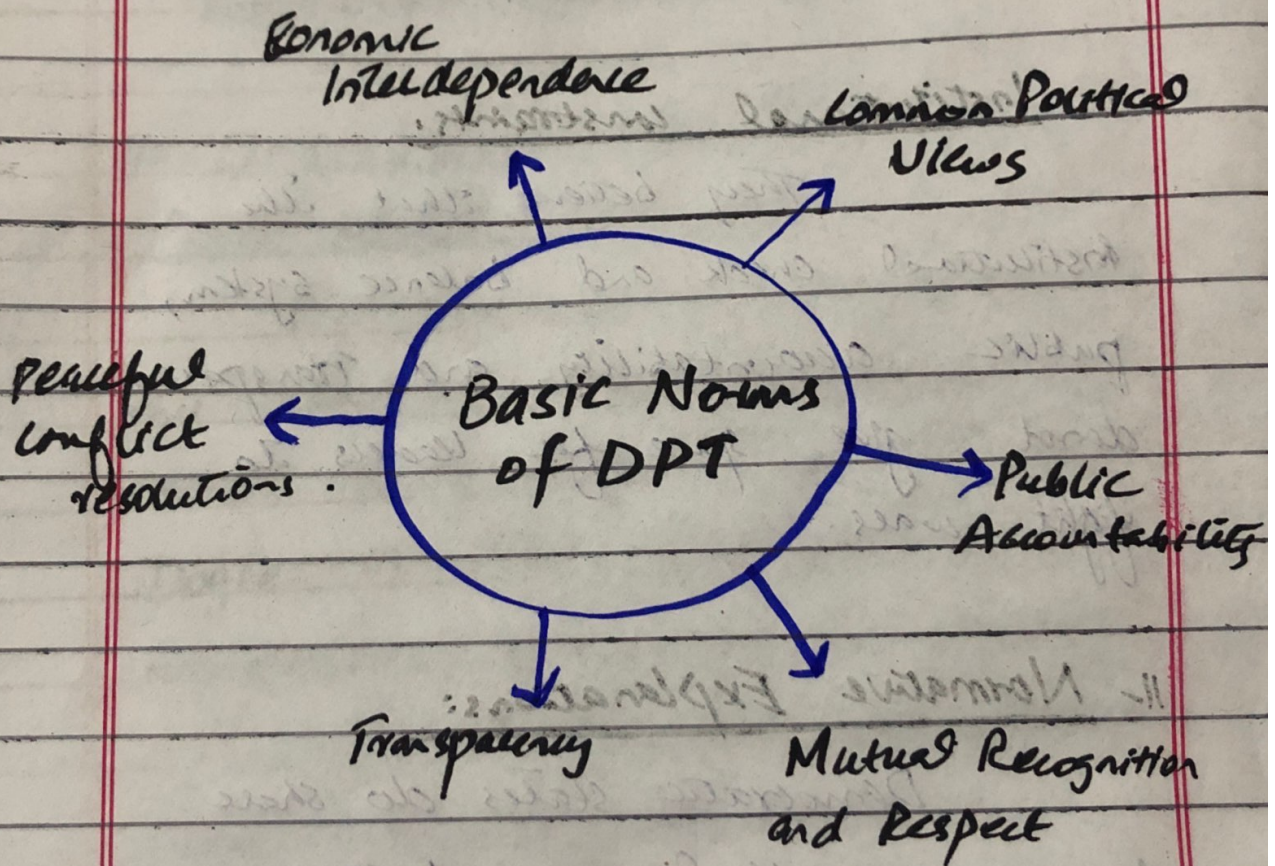
They believe that the institutional check and balance system, public accountability and transparency do not give space for leaders to fight wars.

II- Normative Explanations:

Democratic states do share common political views. Instead of relying on kinetic operations, they resolve issues through negotiations and preserve the democratic framework.

III- Basic Norms of Democratic Peace Theory (DPT) and European Union

European Union is the most successful model of Democratic Peace theory. All basic norms of this theory is aligned with EU.



a. Economic Interdependence:

EU works on the principle of Economic interdependence which was

Firstly done in 1951 through
European Coal and Steel Community.

Case Study: Franco-German Economic Ties

Such ties bridge the connection
between countries and increase the
dependency. Hence, reduces the chances
of war.

b. Common Political Views

It is mentioned in Copenhegan
Criteria that these countries should
be democratic states. It paved the
way for negotiation and mutual
interests.

c- Public Accountability

EU ensures public accountability
by double majority ~~de~~ votes for
any decision. To practice the essence
of equality, the ^{majority} vote of both states

are required for any decision.

d. Transparency and Open debate:

EU practice the DPT in true sense. They practice transparency and one of the major example is referendum of Brexit.

Case Study: Brexit Referendum (2016)

e. Peaceful Conflict Resolution

They prioritize the debates and negotiations for any conflicts rather than attacking.

Case Study: The Good Friday Agreement

f. Mutual Recognition and Respect:

Each country has earned

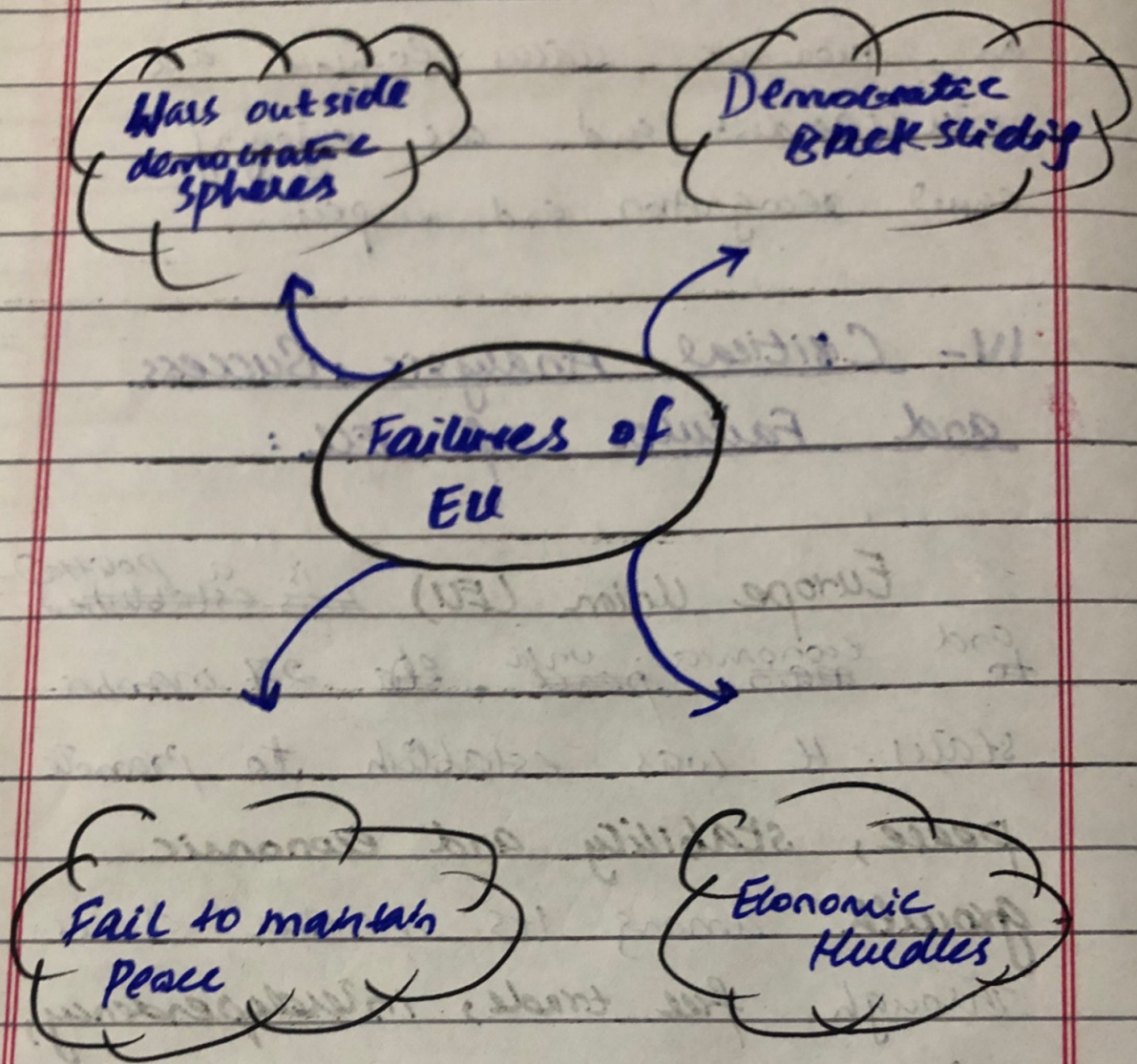
representation in decision making -

There is no discrimination based on economic status. Countries are interdependent and are enjoying equal recognition and respect.

IV- Critical Analysis : Success and Failures of EU :

Europe Union (EU) ~~was established~~ ^{is a political} and ^{economic union} ~~main~~ ^{of} 27 member states. It was established to promote peace, stability and economic growth among its member states. Through free trade, interdependency, and common policies model, this union has achieved its goals. It created the monetary union. The French and Germany. It brings regional cooperation as well. However it faces many criticisms due to its failure in certain areas. Following are some of the

The failures of EU -



a - Wars outside democratic spheres: EU roles in Military Conflicts

NATO and EU play crucial role in war with outside democratic states. Some European countries, Germany, France, Italy, were

Involved in Libya war (2011).

Cristopher Lyne in his book
Myths of democracies writes that

Democracies do not
fight wars is a myth: they
choose their enemies carefully

b. Democratic Backsliding

EU claims in their Copenhagen
Criteria that their member states should
be democratic. Some of its member
countries are shifting in authoritarianism
from democracy.

Case Study: Hungary (2010 - Present)

c. Prevailing Economic Hurdles

It was developed to
promote economic growth. As the
ill luck have it, The economic
disparity between wealthier and

poor states are increasing, it is one of the major failures of such democratic models. It is highlighted by Joseph Stiglitz in the following words:

“
Economic crises do not necessarily lead to war; they lead to resentment, nationalism and instability.”

d- NATO OR EU: Maintaining Peace in Europe:

EU failed to maintain peace as it was observed during **Kosovo war**. NATO sent military aid to stop the gen ethnic cleansing in Kosovo. The role of NATO is also appreciated by John **Measheima** in maintaining peace in Europe.

The peace of Europe has been kept not by

European Union; it is NATO's
Nuclear Umbrella "

Conclusion:

Democratic peace Theory is followed by EU in true sense. Although it has achieved many success in region, yet they face certain challenges -