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ПРИ МЗС УКРАЇНИ
ПОСОЛЬСТВО РЕСПУБЛІКИ КОРЕЯ В УКРАЇНІ



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NEW INVITE TO ITALY-KOREAN RELATIONS: ASSESSING PARTNERSHIP PRIORITIES

Introduction

Observing the milestones of the EU-UA DCFTA implementation, the author presents its personal observation how another kind of FTA between EU and Republic of Korea led to receive predictable and sustainable benefits for one of EU member states, Italian Republic in education, science and trade.

Emerging Asia is to be considered as the fastest-growing region also in 2017. The rage of voices in Europe determines that optimism is in short supply in Europe which fosters its member states to be trajectored more and more to the East. At times the progress and innovation are of utmost importance, the reach of partnerships in this region can be considered as mutually beneficial.

The Republic of Korea (RoK) is considered to be one of the Far East trade partners of the European Union and its member-states in a region which is being characterized by ongoing confrontations and security challenges. Over the last 6 years, EU and RoK have been negotiating new partnership priorities regarding the measures to foster cooperation envisaging for the upcoming years. At a closer overview, RoK as one of the Far East aspiring regional powers is marking the transformational change this country is trying to reach with key EU partners.

KOREA-EU and Korea-Italy: Caveat Venditor

A bilateral approach with regional powers in the Far East from the EU is considered also to be advisable due to the ambitions of some of them, for example, China, to free-ride the global international order. Moreover, one of the lessons for the Ukraine-EU relations is that the magnitude of innovations is characterizing EU-Korea FTA which is regarded to be one of the most comprehensive and high-level trade agreement. It is considered to a new model of the FTA trade deals with which EU will continue to promote and foster its relations with other countries worldwide.¹ The FTA between EU and Korea was signed in 2010 (coming into effect in 2011) in order to enhance joint trade and investment by lifting the existing tariffs and non-tariff barriers and marking first of the EU-Asian trade deals.

¹ <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/south-korea/>

The implications for the areas of this agreement started to reach its peak already in 2015 when the trade augmented to 90 billion Euros favoring market access for European companies to the highly dynamic Asian environment.² This FTA enhances cooperation related to industrial and agricultural goods and products as well as investment opportunities, government procurement, intellectual property rights, etc. In July, 2016 EU-Korea FTA marked its fifth anniversary with the final trade-barrier eliminations and determine being EU's eighth largest source of imports as well as exports.³

Fostering economic growth with Asian markets is also considered to be the priority for the EU member states. One of them, Italy, is merely interested in the joint cooperation in the areas of education, industry, technology and science. The Italian trade context is to use the benefits of the European foothold in East supply chain with respect to expanding its export routes targeted to the East.

The official "new invite" between Italy and RoK can be measures starting from 2014 marking 130-years anniversary of RoK and Italy's bilateral relations (at that time – two kingdoms). The specific interest of Italy related to Korea enhanced after female leader Park Geun-hye came to power in 2013. Addressing towards pro-business reform path, Korea is becoming even more attractive. It has already proved a strong willingness to nudge its economy away from the long-lasting export-oriented growth model. Therefore, Italy's interest in cutting-edge fields was converted into a serious of talks of presidential and governmental levels.

The list of the new areas of cooperation was presented in Milan during Korea-Italy business forum on creative economy⁴. It was an opportunity to bring Italy's prowess to the Oriental attention. Being innovative in creating new business units and forms of cooperation, both of the countries considered the establishment of joint productive units combining the potential of Korea textile manufacturer giants and Italy's family-owned SMEs in line with EU-Korea FTA implementation. The Prime minister of Italy, Matteo Renzi, in his boisterous way, was trying to draw attention to Italy's potential also during Milan Expo 2015. Therefore, the readiness of Italy to continue its in-

fluence in Asia continued to prevail. Scientific and innovative developments are the areas prominently observed in the policy of a modern state. On the sidelines of the Group of 20 leading economies summit (Sept. 5, 2016), Matteo Renzi and President Park expanded their cooperation in robotics, healthcare and design sectors. Moreover, Italy and South Korea signed new scientific and cooperation protocol for 2016-2018 enhancing joint projects of biotechnology, energy and space sciences to prevail⁵.

A positive format of the bilateral relations started to be economically supported from the Italian side. On the subject of prestige as an objective for both states were nano-initiatives. The Ministry of Science and Education of Italy organized two scientific symposiums where, among others, nanoscience projects were discussed⁶.

The joint interest in Arctic is considered to be crucial for Italy and Korea. Starting from 2013 Kiruna ministerial, when Italy and RoK became an observer state of the Arctic Council, this area became of a specific interest to the countries especially regarding renewable sources of energy and mining. The result of the its observer status turned Italy into presenting a fully-fledged strategy for Arctic⁷.

Italy's bilateral cooperation with Canada on science coordination and Finland on environmental issues was expanded with the assistance of RoK. This interest can be demonstrated by the initiatives of some of the Italian companies together with ISAC-CNR (Italian Institute of Climate Change) and Korean Polar Research Institute elaborated programs to respond to the changing global environment already after 2014⁸. From the economic point of view, Italian company ENI is one of the mostly involved into Arctic affairs. Together with Statoil (Norway), it is developing the first offshore oil field in Barents

² http://www.koraitimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2016/09/120_214520.html

³ Implementation of the EU-RoK FTA: http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2016/october/tradoc_155014.pdf

⁴ <http://www.ispionline.it/it/articoli/articolo/asia/2014-korea-italy-business-forum-creative-economy-milano-5-giugno-10572>

⁵ Italy and South Korea sign new scientific and technological cooperation protocol: http://www.eseri.it/mac/cw/sala_stamp/archivio/monitric/aprofondimenti/2016/01/italia-e-corea-firmato-il-nuovo.html

⁶ <https://www.researchitaly.it/innovitalia/news/a-seoul-scienziati-italiani-e-coreani-a-confronto/>

⁷ Verso una strategia italiana per l'Artico: http://www.eseri.it/mac/resource/doc/2015/12/strategia_artica_09_12_2015.pdf

⁸ Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Verso una strategia italiana per l'Artico, <http://www.eseri.it/mac/resource/doc/2015/03/ist.pdf>

Sea where the interests are overlapping with oil and gas giant - Russia⁹. In this field, Italian companies have already got a privilege to collaborate in Russian Arctic¹⁰.

The tendencies in the educational initiatives gave an impact for Italy also to advocate for inter-regional cooperation beyond EU-Korea FTA in order to suit other foreign policy tastes¹¹. The example of such unforeseen triumph crystallized into an initiative between Russia, Italy, Brasil and RoK to collaborate on the University level establishing a four-countries' network chain. The 2015 hindsight analysis sees that Italy wants to enclose about 100 Universities and research institutes into this network. Meanwhile, RoK is only limited to 46¹².

Conclusion

The EU-Korea FTA gave an impulse to the mutually beneficial bilateral ties between RoK and Italy. It is one of the examples how Italy, as EU member state, and a new rising regional power, Republic of Korea, sharing new horizons in economic and scientific credentials and partnership priorities. Its thorough examination can be of specific interest for Ukraine in order to promote its own position with both some of the EU member states and representative from the Far East taking into account some of its neighbor's giant aspirations.

However, proposals such as bilateral cooperation between Italy and Korea demonstrate new ways to hold attention on fostering cooperation beyond EU on bilateral level. An existing widespread disillusion among political and business environment, impacts the global economic growth. As a result, it would help the global investors not to constantly lament and gain some confidence in the chances of the regional markets to reach certain stability in this turbulent world.

⁹ <http://www.thearcticinstitute.org/countries/italy/>

¹⁰ The Italian shipbuilding company Fincantieri is to build a €1 billion drillship able to operate in up to 1.5 meters thick ice in the Russian Arctic. <http://businessobserver.com/en/energy/2013/11/italian-arctic-strategy-unfolding-russian-oil-29-11>

¹¹ <http://www.eset.it/mae/resource/doc/2015/03/usl.pdf>

¹² <http://eurasiancenter.ru/ednews/20150515/1004100164.html>

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МІЖНАРОДНА ПРОБЛЕМА ОБ'ЄДНАННЯ КОРЕЇ І ПОЗИЦІЯ УКРАЇНИ

Міжнародні відносини 90-х років XX ст. характеризуються, як епоха завершення холодної війни, однак ситуація на Корейському півострові залишається напруженою і в постбіполярний період. Питання об'єднання Корейського півострова має комплексний характер і включає низку аспектів: Військово-політичну ситуацію на Корейському півострові, Міжкорейський діалог, а також Стратегічні інтереси великих країн, які формують напрям міжнародної політики, щодо Корейського півострова.

Корейське питання є одним із найскладніших в азійському векторі політики США, Російської Федерації та КНР, які глибоко залучені у справи півострова: по-перше, Республіка Корея (РК) є одним із головних азійських союзників США, на території якої знаходяться американські військові сили; по-друге, Російська Федерація та Китайська Народна Республіка є посередником у переговорах між КНДР та РК; по-третє, у вирішенні ядерної проблеми головними діючими сторонами виступають саме КНДР і США. В XXI ст. в корейському напрямку Вашингтона та Москви особливо загострюється тема ядерної зброї.

Всі ці фактори зумовлюють зацікавленість Вашингтона, Пекіну та Москви в збереженні миру і стабільності на півострові та врегулюванні корейських проблем у відповідності зі своїми стратегічними інтересам. Історія корейського питання визначається й тим, що ситуація на півострові, тенденції її розвитку, зокрема, поширення зброї масового знищення зачіпають інтереси не тільки «флігманів» міжнародної політики, але й інтереси міжнародного співтовариства, в тому числі й України.

Перехід людства з XX в. в XXI століття супроводжувався серйозними змінами в системі міжнародних відносин. Зруйнувала політико-ідеологічна двополосність світу. Україна в свою чергу стала представити своєї власні інтереси в міжнародному просторі, а отже стала незалежним членом у світовій політиці, і виражає зацікавленість вирішення проблем Корейського питання. Стали набирати темпи економічна та політична глобалізація міжнародних відносин. Простежуються тенденції форму-