The Common Foreign and Security Policy and Asia: A learning phase for the European diplomacy? 1991-2011

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I'm studying the relationships between Europe and Asia, covering many areas as the fields of cooperation and competition are vast, as well are an increasing number of meetings at various levels and changes in the decision-making process of Europe's external action. Asia offered the opportunity to study different aspects of the relationship: bilateralism, interregionalism (ASEAN), transregionalism (ASEM) and "multilateralisms" in various areas of interaction: economy, politic, security, environmental and human rights. Indeed, it is also the emergence of Asia and certain key states (China, India, Japan, Korea) who made it the most suitable candidate to study European diplomacy. By analysing Euro-Asian relations between 1991 and 2011, the purpose is to study the role that Asia, European institutions and the Member States most involved in the region may have played in the definition of European external action. If this European diplomacy is going to become progressively professionalised, it is also through the obstacles that it will have to overcome.

Thus, the study of relations between Europe and Asia enables us to assess the European practice of international relations. Has the relationship between Europe and Asia and the Asian strategy put in place by the Community bodies, in addition to those of member states, contributed anything to the establishment of European diplomacy?

And if so, in which area? Through the wide variety of contacts it offers, the areas it addresses, Euro-Asian relationship has provided an opportunity for the European diplomacy to experiment different forms of relationship. Although she suffered setbacks there, she was able to integrate herself into various dialogues, improve her image and gain credibility. The EU is present in Asia and even if it status, as well as the action of the Member States, can make the decision-making process and the adoption of measures more complicated, despite the distance, the EU owns the means to weigh in the Asian region.

<u>Keywords :</u> European Union, Asia, New Asian Strategy, ASEAN, ASEM, CFSP, CSDP, China, India, Japan, Korea, Aceh Monitoring Mission.