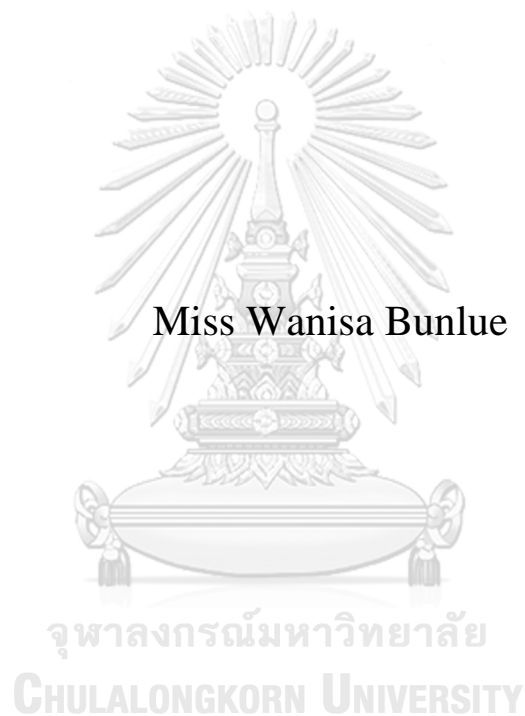


The European Union Solidarity in relation to COVID - 19
situation.



An Independent Study Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements
for the Degree of Master of Arts in European Studies
Inter-Department of European Studies
GRADUATE SCHOOL
Chulalongkorn University
Academic Year 2019
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ความเป็นปึกแผ่นของสหภาพยุโรปในวิกฤตการณ์ของโควิด - 19



สารนิพนธ์นี้เป็นส่วนหนึ่งของการศึกษาตามหลักสูตรปริญญาศิลปศาสตรมหาบัณฑิต
สาขาวิชายุโรปศึกษา สหสาขาวิชายุโรปศึกษา
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Independent Study Title	The European Union Solidarity in relation to COVID - 19 situation.
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วรรณิสา บรรลือ : ความเป็นปึกแผ่นของสหภาพยุโรปในวิกฤตการณ์ของโควิด - 19. (The European Union Solidarity in relation to COVID - 19 situation.) อ.ที่ปรึกษาหลัก : ศศ. ดร. ภาวรรณ เรืองศิลป์, อ.ที่ปรึกษาร่วม : ศ. ดร.มาติน ฮอลแลนด์

การศึกษาค้นคว้าอิสระนี้ได้จัดทำขึ้นตามข้อกำหนดของปริญญาศิลปศาสตรมหาบัณฑิตสาขาวิชายุโรปศึกษา สาขาวิชายุโรปศึกษาจุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย บทความนี้มีวัตถุประสงค์เพื่อศึกษาและตรวจสอบสถานการณ์ของความเป็นปึกแผ่นของสหภาพยุโรปที่เกี่ยวกับสถานการณ์โคโรนาไวรัสหรือสถานการณ์โควิด – 19 การระบาดของไวรัสโคโรนาหรือวิกฤตCOVID-19ทั่วโลกเป็นสิ่งที่ไม่มีใครคาดคิดว่าจะเกิดขึ้นในศตวรรษนี้เนื่องจากปัจจุบันมีผู้ติดเชื้อใน 213 ประเทศตามทุกวันนี้สหภาพยุโรปเป็นหนึ่งในสหภาพที่ประสบความสำเร็จสูงสุดในด้านเศรษฐกิจการเมืองความเป็นปึกแผ่นและเป็นหนึ่งในกลุ่มที่ใหญ่ที่สุดของประเทศซึ่งประกอบด้วย 27 ประเทศสมาชิกและได้ร่วมมือกันมานานกว่า 60 ปีจนกลายมาเป็นหนึ่งเดียวกัน และได้ก้าวสู่การเป็นของผู้ในระดับโลกในกิจการระหว่างประเทศรวมทั้งมีบทบาทสำคัญในตลาดโลก

อย่างไรก็ตามสอดคล้องกับสถานการณ์ของการระบาดของไวรัสโคโรนาไวรัสหรือโควิด - 19 สถานการณ์การแพร่ระบาดของเชื้อไวรัสโคโรนาในยุโรปมีความกังวลและรุนแรง โดยสรุปแล้วประเทศที่ติดอันดับ 10 ของโลกที่มีกรณี Coronavirus เป็นสมาชิกสหภาพยุโรปซึ่งสเปนอยู่ในอันดับที่ 4, อิตาลีติดอันดับที่ 6, อิตาลีอันดับที่ 7, ฝรั่งเศสที่ 7 และเยอรมนีตามอันดับ 8 ตามข้อมูล ในวันที่ 21 พฤษภาคม 2563 สหภาพยุโรปกำลังดำเนินการทุกขั้นตอนที่จำเป็นแก่ประเทศสมาชิกเพื่อให้คำแนะนำการทำงานร่วมกันเพื่อแก้ไขปัญหาและเพื่อแสดงความเป็นปึกแผ่นและความเป็นอันหนึ่งอันเดียวกันของประเทศสมาชิกก่อนที่พวกเขาจะมี สถานการณ์ที่ยากลำบากในช่วง Brexit ที่สันคลอนความเป็นปึกแผ่นของยุโรป แต่ตั้งแต่เดือนมิถุนายนที่ผ่านมาจำนวนผู้ติดเชื้อรายใหม่ของการติดเชื้อ Covid -19 ลดลง ดังนั้นสหภาพยุโรปและประเทศสมาชิกจึงทำงานร่วมกันอย่างแข็งขันโดยเน้นถึงสถานการณ์นี้และบรรเทาผลกระทบทางเศรษฐกิจและสังคมของโรคระบาดรักษายานและไม่เลิกทำงานใด ๆ ในสถานการณ์นี้

จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย
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สาขาวิชา ยุโรปศึกษา
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6284005120 : MAJOR EUROPEAN STUDIES

KEYWORD The European Union, European Solidarity, Covid - 19, Pandemic,
D: The European Unities, Solidarity Article, Coronavirus, Lisbon
Treaty, Emergency Purchase Program

Wanisa Bunlue : The European Union Solidarity in relation to COVID - 19
situation.. Advisor: Asst. Prof. BHAWAN RUNGSILP, Ph.D. Co-advisor:
Prof. Martin Holland, Ph.D.

This independent study submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts in European Studies Inter-Department of European Studies, Chulalongkorn University. This paper aim to study and examine the situation of the European Union Solidarity in relation to the Coronavirus or the Covid – 19 situations.

The outbreak of the corona virus or the COVID-19 crisis around the world, is something that no one has never expected to happen in this century, as there are currently infected people in 185 countries. According to nowadays, the European Union is one of the most successfully union in term of economic, politics, solidarity and unity as one of the biggest group of country which are consisted of 27 member countries has cooperate with one another for 60 years and becoming one of the global player in the international affairs as well as play an significant role in the global market. In accordance with the situation of the Coronavirus or the Covid – 19 outbreaks. The situation of the epidemic of the corona virus in Europe is of great concern and severe. In a nutshell, the top 10th countries of world's which have highly cases of the Coronavirus are members of the European Union which are Spain rank as number 4th , Italy rank as number 6th, France as 7th and Germany as number 8th as according to the information on May, 21th 2020. However, the European Union is providing all necessary steps to it member states in order to providing guidance, collaboration to solve the problem and to show the European solidarity and unity of the member countries, even before they were have a difficult situation during the Brexit which shaking the European solidarity but since the past month of June, the number of new cases of Covid -19 infections has decreased. Therefore, the European Union and its member countries are actively working together giving emphasize to this situation and alleviate the economic and social impact of the epidemic period, maintain work and not given up from any work in this situation.

Field of Study: European Studies

Student's Signature

Academic 2019

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Advisor's Signature

Year:

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Co-advisor's Signature

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First of all, as I would like to thanks to my professor for their continued support and encouragement: Assoc. Prof. Martin Hollan and Assoc. Prof. Dr.Bhawan Rungsilp. I offer my sincere appreciation for the learning opportunities provided by my professor.

My completion of this Individual Studies could not have been accomplished without the support of my classmates, Ms. Liping Zhang, Ms. Ananya Charoenwong and Ms. Uthaipan Promkhatkeaw. Thanks to my parents as well, Mr. and Mrs. Fraser and Bunlue family for always being by my side, supporting me as always and your encouragement when the times got rough are much appreciated and duly noted.

Finally, to the faculty stuff Ms. Teerada Worabantoon for always helping me with the ithesis system and any problems that I have with system of writing the paper.

Wanisa Bunlue

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Chapter 1: Introduction

The idea of Europe as a one unity began since the beginning of the wars that affected many European countries for many decades. Historically, attempts to unify Europe were made since after World War II ended. The new vision of a peaceful and united Europe was embraced by the war's survivors and witnesses as a defense against this historical cycle of violence. In 1950, Robert Schuman, a former French prime minister stated that Europe would be built through concrete achievements which first create a de facto solidarity. (The European union, 2019).

Since its founded, the European Union believed in Europe's mission to become great again, not to serve only itself but the world in general. Inspired by a as according to the Schuman Declaration as states that "consciousness of European unity, common destiny, obstacles and tasks to be fulfilled", the creation of supranational institutions for a united Europe was seen as the way this could happen. (The European Union,2019). However, Solidarity is not only about supranational institutions and policies to create a single common market. It is also a spiritual expression of an intent to transcend the ideological, cultural and religious traditions that have historically been used to divide Europe apart. The European Solidarity is intended as a series of norms and values of the European Union, under the political, economic, and social point of view, not only the member countries but also their citizens.

According to the Solidarity article of the European Union, which is introduced by the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union under the Article 222 which are provides the guideline for EU member countries as; first they need to act jointly among themselves within the group, prevent the terrorist threat in the EU territory and the member countries, and provide assistance or aids to another countries which is the victim or sufferer of a natural or man-made disaster. The article was implemented as predict following the terrorist attacks in Madrid in 2004. Therefore, the European Union need to laying down the rules and procedures for the operation of the solidarity clause in order to ensures that all member countries concerned at national and at EU levels work together to respond quickly to any kinds of situation, effectively and consistently in the event of terrorist attacks or natural or man-made disasters.

At present days, the European Union considered to be the cornerstone of all 27 member countries, it is not only a member country together but is also like the central government of the continent. Since the ended of World War II, European countries demanded to keep their continent at peace, prevent war to occur again and more over to restore economic life after facing with enormous damage from wars and economic crises.

Therefore, international cooperation at the regional level or as known as the regionalism is an important mechanism that European countries can use to restore peace, economic and social progress. The European Coal and Steel Community, therefore holding the birth and continuing to develop into the European Union at present. They have integrated in the form of a supranational organization with the integration of member states sovereignty is a strength that makes the European Union succeed in the economic arena. However, the referendum for Britain to withdraw from the European Union or Brexit raises many questions to the future of the European Union and as well as their solidarity, that used to be the key to develop regional cooperation as an engine of the EU.

The outbreak of the corona virus or the COVID-19 crisis around the world, is something that no one has never expected to happen in this century. It is one of the most nightmares for the world's population, as there are currently infected people in 185 countries. The information show that currently on July 08, 2020 there are 11,979,727 cases, 547,319 deaths and 6,924,010 recovered cases. Moreover, the severity of COVID-19 is due to it is able to spread rapidly which resulting in a large number of people infected in a short time across many nations.

In a nutshell, the top 10th countries of world's which have highly cases of the Coronavirus are members of the European Union which are Spain rank as number 4th, Italy rank as number 6th, France as 7th and Germany as number 8th as according to the information on May, 21th 2020. (Worldometer, 2020).

In accordance with the information from the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control on the 17th of March 2020, all countries within European continent of both within and outside the Schengen area had been confirmed with at least one case of COVID-19 in their country. In March 18, Montenegro is the last European country to account with one case of the Coronavirus. Moreover, there are now 54 countries which including territories in Europe that are infected by the virus. What is even more shocking is that all EU member states have been infected, including the European Economic Area countries as well.

However, it is already known that The outbreak of the Covid-19 virus has caused chaos for the world in all areas Whether it is economy, society, politics and also includes the way of life of people as many countries enforced the policy of stay at home, social distances, and many countries have use the policy of shut down cities or countries to prevent the spread and use of the curfew time. However, on 18 March 2020, the European Union commission announcing the closing of borders between all member countries which banning individuals from non-EU countries in all 26 countries, including Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland traveled for 30 days, but except those with long-term residency, family members of EU countries, diplomats, cross-border travelers Public health officer and the people who carry goods in the EU states. Due to after the World Health Organization announced the number of people infected with Covid-19 worldwide which are more that 164,000 cases and Europe is one third of that number. (T. E. Commission, 2020e)

Even though, the pandemic situation similarly to the Covid - 19 had already occurred once in Europe in 2009 due to the new influenza A virus or as we know as the H1N1 pandemic in Europe. This can be considered another important lesson for the European Union as it was epidemic in 13 European countries and the European Economic Area. The H1N1virus pandemic affected worldwide 214 countries which were causing 18,449 deaths. Although the number of people infected and killed at that time was not large compared to the current of Coronavirus situation, nevertheless that event was one of the greatest challenges for the European Union as a public health crisis, political and economy.

Consequently, the spread of the COVID-19 in Europe demonstrate that certain problems their necessity to shared efforts of solving the problem in order for greater common solutions. The EU is not just about Member States, it is also about the cohesion of member countries in radical situation to implement actions benefitting local communities and citizens. Therefore, at a time of emergency, solidarity is imperative the most for the EU. At the present day, the European Union is now facing the largest challenge ever since its founding due to the spread of a new strain of the corona virus in 2019. It creates the equal vibrations throughout Europe, all EU member countries are affected at the same level. Thus, what all parties want to do together is to find the ways for Europe to pass this challenge vigorously and as soon as possible.

Therefore, this study is conduct with two research questions which are;

1. What is the European Union Solidarity in relation to COVID 19 situation?
2. How does the Covid-19 pandemic effects European Union Economic and Politics.

I. Research Problems

According to nowadays, the European Union is one of the most successfully union in tern of economic, politics, solidarity and unity as one of the biggest group of country which are consisted of 27 member countries has cooperate with one another for 60 years and becoming one of the global player in the international affairs as well as play an significant role in the global market. In accordance with the situation of the Coronavirus or the Covid – 19 outbreaks.

The situation of the epidemic of the corona virus in Europe is of great concern and severe. However, countries with the most outbreaks in Europe are Spain, Italy, France and Germany, which are considered to one of the stronger members of the European Union. Moreover, for the old member of the EU like that UK, after the Brexit the British government is also cooperate on health situation during this pandemic time example as health network or the health emergencies plan. (Politico,2020).

In addition, the authorities of each country have ordered the closure of schools and universities around the country, including the announcement of closure of the country in some places to control the spread of this virus. Moreover, it is also including prohibiting people from participating in sports competitions as well as suggesting avoiding greeting with fragrant cheeks or holding hands.

In this situation, it is a major challenge to the government of the member countries as well as the European itself, due to the current situation of the corona virus which are spreading right now may affect severe to the economy of some Eurozone members and may spread larger effects to the economy of the European region as a whole. According to this it will led to the economic recession in the end and may be more serious problem than the SARS which occurred in Europe almost twenty years ago. Moreover, at the beginning of the year, the EU invited the changes of its member countries as in the case of Brexit. Therefore, this makes the integration of the European Union at the moment very necessary and important. The solidarity of Europe in this situation is what will help Europe to overcome the crisis.

Therefore, the study of the European Union Solidarity in relation to Covid 19 seems very interested in this research to study and conducts the result. Therefore, what need to be answered in this research is consisting of three research problems which are,

1. How will the Covid-19 affect the European Union solidarity?
2. How European Solidarity will be like after the Covid-19 pandemic?
3. How member states cooperated on the situation of the Covid 19?

II. Aims

Consequently, this research aims to study and examine the situation of the European Union Solidarity in relation to the Coronavirus or the Covid – 19 situations.

III. Objective

In order to, ensure that the research questions and research aim will be answer and achieve successfully, this research also consisting of 6 objective which will help answering research questions and aim, which are;

1. To analyze the changed of European solidarity since the starting point of Covid - 19 situation.
2. To account for basic history of solidarity within the framework of the European Union and Solidarity in Europe in Times of Crisis.
3. To study the Covid - 19 situation in EU member countries and how well they handled it?
4. To analyze the cooperation of the member states of the EU to manage the Covid - 19 situation in term of Economic and Policy to suppressing the outbreak.
5. To study about the EU policies to assist and manage with people who are affected by the virus and affected by this situation.
6. To study the possibility situation and the European plan to develop the group's prosperity after the situation ends.

IV. Hypothesis

In the situation of the COVID-19 pandemic, it has affected all EU member states. However, some member states are assault harder than others and have severely impacted according to the pandemic. However, in harmony with the European Union treaties, member states are responsible for COVID-19 response measures at national level who has legal competences, especially in regard to national health systems, repatriation of the EU citizens or restrictions to public life of people.

Therefore, in an act of solidarity, to dealing with the consequences of the crisis in their homeland, member states have come to each other's aid, bringing much needed help where it was needed most. They provided services, specialized personnel and medical equipment. Working together.

V. Research Types

According to the type of this research, it will be Qualitative Research.

VI. Data Collection

According to the data collection this research will use Secondary Sources.

VII. Methodology

This research is comprising with one research methodology which is secondary data. As this research will use qualitative method which will use more accumulate productive information that are related to the area of study that might come from books, Literature, journal, and the government website example as the EU Delegation, the European Union and the European Commission.

VIII. Scope of this research

For the scope of this research, this research is going to cover the as I has mention above one aim and six research objectives and will focusing on the study European solidarity from the very beginning of the Covid - 19 situation in December 2019 which the first case was identified in France, from an outbreak of a disease caused by a novel coronavirus is reported in Wuhan, China until the present day situation and study the measures and policies of the European Union until the end of the situation or the outbreak of disease in Europe.

IX. Research Timeline

For this research, the timeline that I had plan will be divided into 4 part which are,

1. In December, propose the research topic to advisor.
2. In January to March, I will start writing the paper.
3. In April – May, submitting the 1st draft to advisor.
4. In July, Public Presentation.

X. References Style

APA Style.

Chapter II: Literature Review

The situation of the Covid – 19 in the World.

The year 2020 is a major change to the world, opens with a series of violent incidents that continue throughout the first quarter. Beginning with the fierce Australian fires, the pollution problems in Asia which has also been extended for many years, more intense with unrest between the United States and the Middle East, Trade war between China and America and also including one of the major change in Europe which is the Brexit. Notwithstanding, a huge epidemic is not what we expect to happen in the nearly future. As since the end of December 2019, the world is aware of a mysterious contagious disease that is not yet clear to be what type of disease. In addition, the disease has changed the world in many dimensions including the education, economy, transportation, and tourism of the world. This is the first time since 2009, that every part of the world is being effects by this virus. However, as it is well known that in every globalization era there is no border of land and people are able to connect with each other more easily as well as travel freely, millions of people travel across the countries and continent every day and cross border business become very essential part of countries development. (Prevention, 2020)

Nevertheless, following the news of the outbreak of the new strain of virus from China which is expected to have originating from a fresh market in Huanan, a market that sells seafood and various of strange animals in Wuhan province, central region of China. The coronavirus or as know by the name COVID-19 is the current global pandemic of health crisis not only to one country but has already spread in at least 185 countries and territories around the world. (Center, 2020)

Nowadays, according to the Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research on the Coronavirus disease, the research states that the virus is now known as the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 or the SARS-CoV-2, lead to the disease it causes is called coronavirus disease 2019 or the COVID-19 in short. In addition, in March 2020, after three months since the disease was found in December the spread of the disease has intensified and there is no sign that it can be stopped.

Consequently, the World Health Organization has declared the COVID-19 outbreak as a pandemic situation.

Moreover, this is the greatest challenge we have faced since World War Two. Since the emergence of the Coronavirus in China late last year, the virus has spread to every continent except Antarctica. The Coronaviruses are a family of viruses that can cause illnesses to human and pass on from one to other. Which similar to the common cold, the severe acute respiratory syndrome or as known as the SARS and the Middle East respiratory syndrome or the MERS. All of this disease had occurred once before in the pass but for the Coronaviruses its spread is several times stronger. (Research, 2020)

The Coronaviruses is a large virus family that is commonly found in humans and many animals including bats, camels, or cows. However, the coronaviruses that came from the animals is almost impossible to infect to people and then spread between people. For the COVID-19, it is a virus in the corona family of viruses, very small and cannot see with the naked eye or by a microscope that is commonly used. Moreover, this disease is an infectious disease led to severe acute respiratory syndrome. When a person is receiving the corona virus in the first phase of 2-14 days in some cases may not show any symptoms, but when the virus is incubated, the infected person will have symptoms similar to the flu, such as fever, headache, dry cough. Body aches and fatigue. (Organization, 2020b).

Furthermore, each person received the severity of COVID-19 symptoms not the same, as it can range from very mild to severe and dead. But for some people it may have only a few symptoms, and the worst case is for some people it may not show any symptoms at all. However, for the Covid - 19, the scariest thing is for the people who are older or who have existing chronic medical conditions, such as heart disease, lung disease, diabetes, severe obesity, or liver disease, or even for people who have compromised immune systems may be at higher risk of serious illness to this disease. (Organization, 2020b).

At the present day, the Covid - 19 virus is not only affecting China, which is the origin of this virus or just only the Asia continent, but it is currently infected people in 185 countries around the world. As according to the life statistic from the “Worldometer” on the number of cases world wide, as the coronavirus pandemic continues to grow and evolve faster therefore as according on the information on April 28, 2020 there are more than 3060000 people have been infected, 210000 people have died and 920000 people are recovered. (Worldometer, 2020).

Currently, the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus has lasted more than 4 months, but the number of infections in many countries around the world including in Europe itself still soaring, there was no sign of a decrease of number of cases shortly. However, even though the WHO has elevated Coronavirus to be a global crisis, while also commenting that Governments in many countries that are affected must urgently stop the epidemic.

The situation of the Covid -19 in Europe.

However, in the pandemic of the coronavirus in Europe, the European countries have been attacking much harder than Asian nations and have spread the virus much faster and significantly more than other regions at the same time. One of the many factors is due to the travel from and within European countries as the European travel facilitated the spread of the coronavirus was due to those countries were strongly a close air links nation. (Europe, 2020).

For European countries, the first patients of the Coronavirus in Europe started in France and Germany due to the travel of infected tourists from China. However, in the beginning, Europe had only a small number of people infected until February 21, a major outbreak of the Coronavirus in Europe began in Italy. Which is a country in the European Union that is infected with the coronavirus acute increase. As according to the reports of Coronavirus, infection in Italy already has more than 528 people on the 28 of February, with most of the infected is in the Lombardy and Veneto region close to the large Italian financial institutions such as Milan and spreading to other Italian cities. (Organization, 2020b).

Moreover, only a few days later the number of people infected quickly increased due to the spread of the disease throughout Europe. After Montenegro reported the infection on March 17, there were patients in all independent nations of Europe. With this reason, Italy then became a country that faced the outbreak of Covid-19 Godzilla in Europe and the worst, the 2nd in the world after China at that time.

However, at present the World Health Organization has declared Europe as the new center of the virus after the situation has improved to be better in China. Due to the situation of the epidemic of the virus in Europe is still worrisome. Currently, members of the European Union such as Italy, Spain, Germany, and France, are the countries with the most infections and deaths in the world, after the United States. The United States has the highest number of infections at 1,010,507, followed by Italy 199,411, Spain 229,422, Germany 158,758 and France 165,842, according to data from July, 08, 2020. (Center, 2020)

Europe has become the epidemic center in replace of China. Especially in Italy, Spain, and France, where new infections and deaths continue to increase continuously. Many European countries have reported the highest deaths, setting a new record again. Since the beginning of the outbreak in Europe, the number of dead infected people in Italy, Spain and France increase significantly within just 24 hours, which shows that the impact of the epidemic in Europe is still under concerned. According to the World Health Organization report on the Situation on the Coronavirus, lately the epicenter of the Coronavirus pandemic is still in Europe and together with the US, where there are now more deaths than in the rest of the world combining together as the number of infected and dead people is still doubling every four days in most of European countries. (Organization, 2020a)

At the present times, most of the European countries including all European Union member states are under a state of emergency with curfews and border controls. Therefore, this situation has been a revolution in the European way of life example as in working as now everyone need to work from home, travelling, commuting, and

spending time with families and friends. Now, since the outbreak is continuing expand, European countries are now facing significant problems of a lack of doctors, a lack of lung respiratory equipment as well as hospital beds.

Therefore, we can see that in this situation Collaboration among members of the European Union is therefore very important and necessary to lead the country to overcome this difficult and dire situation. As now, the Public Health care systems of the European Union alongside with the state government and public finances, are being tested by the Covid-19 pandemic as the EU is facing one of the biggest challenges in order to overcome this problem.

Therefore, the European Commission is coordinating a common European response to the coronavirus pandemic. The EU is taking a strong action to support the public health sectors and attempt to reduce the socio-economic impact in the European Union states. The European Union is mobilizing all methods at their disposal to help all everyone coordinates their national responses and also providing information about the spread of the virus and effective efforts to contain it. During these times of crisis, across the European Union, member countries and regions need to be stretching out all the help they can, hand to hand with neighbors and assistance is given to those most in need. (T. E. Commission, 2020b)

The Solidarity of the European Union in the time of crises.

- Solidarity as a founding principle of European Union

The idea of Europe began in the minds of European peoples since, philosophers, scholars, artists, religious, and wars. Historically, attempts to unify Europe were made since after World War II ended. The new vision of a peaceful and united Europe was embraced by the war's survivors and witnesses as a defense against this historical cycle of violence. In 1950, Robert Schuman, a former French prime minister stated that Europe would be "built through concrete achievements which first create a de facto solidarity". (Pimor, 2017).

Solidarity commonly means something abstract and high ranking in a sentiment of unity, related to fellowship, team spirit or esprit de corps. This concept of solidarity is at the center of the European project and its integration process created as a direct response to the nationalist rivalries that led to World War II. Since its founded, the European Union believed in Europe's mission to become great again, not to serve only itself but the world in general. Inspiration by a "consciousness of European unity, common destiny of the European people, obstacles and tasks that need to be fulfilled", the creation of supranational institutions for a united Europe was seen as the way that it is could happen. (Pimor, 2017).

However, for a peaceful united Europe, Schuman the father of the European Union pointed out the need for the European countries to combat which called the "*état d'esprit*" contraire or a contrary state of mind which had characterized the European nation-states antagonistic mentality. If European countries were still attachment to national sovereignty of itself it will led to a culture of separation, hegemony and superiority between the countries and result in gave rise to political nationalism, protectionism, and the cultural isolationism. This idea of contrary needed to be substituted by the notion of solidarity, which defined as the "fraternity and the instinct of enlightened conservation". (Europe, 2020)

However, Solidarity is not only about supranational institutions and policies to create a single common market. It is also a spiritual expression of an intent to transcend the ideological, cultural, and religious traditions that have historically been used to divide Europe apart. The European Solidarity is intended as a series of norms and values of the European Union, under the political, economic, and social point of view, not only the member countries but also their citizens. According to the Solidarity article of the European Union, which is introduced by the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union under the Article 222 which are provides the guideline for EU member countries as; first they need to act jointly among themselves within the group, prevent the terrorist threat in the EU territory and the member countries, and provide assistance or aids to another countries which is the victim or sufferer of a natural or man-made disaster. (Sonny, 2015).

The article was implemented as anticipated following the terrorist attacks in Madrid in March 2004 (EUR-Lex, n.a.). Therefore, the European Union need to laying down the rules and procedures for the operation of the solidarity clause in order to ensures that all member countries concerned at national and at EU levels work together to respond quickly to any kinds of situation, effectively and consistently in the event of terrorist attacks or natural or man-made disasters.

The Concept of the European Union Solidarity.

The term 'solidarity' emerged in 18th century in France with a legal-commercial meaning come out from the Roman law. The principle of solidarity plays a key role in discussions of social, economic, and political issues as it often represents of social norms and public policies. For the European Union, their solidarity logically come from the significant decision of European states in order to create a common "Community" for economic and peace security in 1957 and more integrated as the "Union" in 1992. The value of European Solidarity is the essential core principle of the European political cultures. (Chiocchetti, 2017).

In the European Union, the term solidarity plays an essential role in discussions of social and economic policy. As a single country the main distinction is the one between internal solidarity between each member states and one other as well as toward the EU citizens. Moreover, solidarity within the European Union can affects the elaboration of several policy areas at the national and EU level, particularly in cooperation and development, trade, foreign affairs, migration, and asylum policies. (Lahusen & Grasso, 2018).

According to the Research from the Horizon 2020 projects, indicates that solidarity is alive and active in Europe and will continue to be as there is a clear citizen support for policies to assist the vulnerable and reduce inequalities in their group. European Union important solidarity must address its durability, mobilization, and the need for an appropriate legal framework in term of economic, politics, human rights, culture and etc. The principle of European solidarity was originally understanding as one of the founding values of the European Union and as a motor for the cohesion as one

group. European solidarity is not just the cooperation in terms of internal operations but also an aspect of international policy. In order to act outside the union, need to be strength which also includes strongly advocating the EU's political model and the values it embodies. Cooperative strength is an essential precondition of the union. (E. Commission, 2019).

There are many situations that the European Solidarity come in to place and play an important role, since after the 2007 economic crises in Europe or the H1N1 or the 2009 flu pandemic in Europe, solidarity and strength have become key concepts for the future of the European Union. The member countries become more and more intimately connected, without solidarity and cohesion, there can be no capacity to act either inside or outside the Union that will make them achieve their plan. According to the Coronavirus pandemic at the moment, the Union's ability to hold together and withstand the crisis is being put to the test.

The European Solidarity in the Coronavirus Pandemic Time.

In the situation of the pandemic of the COVID-19 demonstrate that some problems need common solutions and sharing efforts in order to overcome the problems. Nonetheless, as the European Union is a complex system of the centralization of power from every member country, with many decision makers, that may have different opinions and demand. Therefore, when in a pressure situation that can affect everyone in both their own countries and the group decisions making is a difficult matter to make example as in the situation of the COVID-19 pandemic, each member states have differences of negotiating a way out to the current challenging situation.(T. e. Commission, 2020a)

At demonstrated above, the outbreak of the coronavirus is affecting all member states of the European Union. Thus, the EU are determined to tackle this challenge together. For the European Union, their solidarity in supporting each other is not only in the form of donations or offering money for necessary medical equipment to overcome the Coronavirus. The European Commission is changing and giving priority to the general European response to the coronavirus pandemic to other member countries as

they are taking strong and swift action to strengthen their health sector in order to be ready dealing with this situation. It also attempts to alleviate the economic and social impact in the European Union for all citizens. The EU is gathering all the methods necessary to help all member states. Including coordinating their national responses, including providing information about the spread of the virus and effective efforts in times of crisis this requires the European Union, member states and regions. stretching out all the help they can, hand to hand with neighbors and assistance is given to those most in need. (Parliament, 2020).

As in this situation the majority of European governments are being aware that they need to join forces. According to Josep Borrell the European Union representative for foreign affairs and security policy, states that the European Union solidarity of pulling together and cooperating across borders will help everyone overcome the virus outbreak in Europe and contain its consequences after the outbreak finishing. (Union, 2020b).

1). European solidarity in bringing EU citizens home.

Bringing the EU citizens home safely is one in terms of EU solidarity. during the outbreak of COVID-19 member states of the European Union have come together to provide consular support and send EU citizens back from third countries and helping EU citizens trapped in countries around the world travel back to their home countries. Due to Asian countries and world travel being popular destinations for European tourists, the outbreak of the Covid-19 resulting in the cancellation of various flights in many countries, the way to return to Europe is reduced and limited.

In showing the unity of the EU Germany and France have taken a leading role in arranging special flights departing from countries around the world, such as China, Thailand and Singapore, with the support of an EU mechanism called the European Union Civil Protection Mechanism. (UCPM) whose goal is to protect the lives of EU citizens and other countries in times of crisis. However, the first flight back home by the UCPM was to brought home 447 European citizens, from Wuhan, China. (T. E. Commission, 2020b).

The EU Civil Protection Mechanism is the concept of the plan availability of the EU in order to strengthen cooperation between Member States in the field of EU civil protection, aims to improve prevention, preparedness and response to disasters. For this plan, the European Commission will play a significant role in coordinating the response to all kinds of disasters that happen in Europe and beyond. As when the scale of an emergency overwhelms the response capabilities of a country, it can request assistance from this plan. through spontaneous offers and to create strong and readily for civil protection capacities allowing coherent collective response. However, since its founding in 2001, the EU Civil Protection Mechanism has help more than 300 requests for assistance inside and outside the EU and apart from the H1N1 outbreak in Europe in 2009 this is the 2nd time of pandemic disease in Europe. (European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operation, 2020).

For the European Union civil protection mechanism activated for the repatriation of EU citizens, the EU will co-finance the transport costs of the aircraft. All EU citizens present in the Asia region and wish to be repatriated is be able to request the free flight back home, no matter their nationality. The effort of transport to bring citizens home began in January up to until mid of April 2020, the effort to bring the European population back home which supported by the European Union reached more than 650,000 Europeans overseas and nearly half a million people were brought home with access efforts leading to more returning of Europeans. In additions, the joint return flights to bring EU citizens back to co-financing from the EU budget which up to 75% including embassies of member states and the EU delegation providing consular assistance to EU citizens living in in a country that doesn't have an embassy.(Union, 2020b)

2). European solidarity in sharing medical supplies and treating patients.

The coronavirus pandemic situation is settling healthcare systems in all EU member states with high pressure and under unprecedented. To overcome the crises situation, the European Union Solidarity in support and encourage cross-border healthcare for cooperation between states and the local authorities in member countries are

necessary. In consequence, the European Commission has issued practical guidance for Member States. Since at the beginning of the epidemic in Europe, the Director-General for Health and Safety and the European Commission on Health Security has opened a notification in the Early Warning System and Responded also known as the “EWRS”, in which most member states have shared information regarding response and communication measures to deal with this situation.

As the COVID-19 pandemic is now a big barrier to healthcare systems medical staff and medical supply across the EU. However, as we all know that, the medical systems of member countries are not equal and proficiency in difference ways as some countries may have the potential for medical equipment but lack the medical personnel. Therefore, in this situation from the problems of overpopulating patients in hospitals in member states example as in Italy, France, and Spain. The Cooperation across borders can help ease the pressure on overburdened hospitals by transferring patients who suffering from the coronavirus for treatment in member countries where the hospital places and medical equipment are available.

In being Solidarity in this way, countries that have sufficient medical personnel or doctors to assist member countries such as Germany, Poland and Romania have sent teams of doctors and nurses to help retain patients in hospitals in the North and South of Italy where is the outbreak of virus in Europe started. Moreover, Austria, Belgium and the Luxembourg have made their intensive care units available to Dutch, French and Italian patients in critical condition. For this situation, the European Commission are fully support their member states and NGOs to send qualified doctors’ teams and supply to assistance across EU borders, including, sending air ambulances, pilots, and specialized staff. (T. E. Commission, 2020e).

The European Union also supports the use of qualified medical teams for treating epidemics and also encouraging health agencies at the local, regional and national levels by using existing bilateral and regional agreements for mutual acceptance of appropriate medical qualifications. Moreover it's also includes the implementation of a clinical management support system to support health professionals to reach more

people, reduce the risk of getting together at the hospital in order to keep social distancing and also to share medical knowledge and expertise through a web conferencing platform that allows physicians to exchange knowledge, discuss and share clinical cases across the European Union. (T. e. Commission, 2020a).

Furthermore, regarding to the financial assistance for cross-border healthcare collaboration, the European Commission has also extended the Solidarity Fund among the member states in order to cover more on the public health emergencies. The commission is also set out the health expenditure that is appropriate under the Structural Funds and easy to move funds as a part of the coordinated economic response to the coronavirus outbreak. Although the member states are unequally affected by the outbreak, this does not cause them to ignore each other. They can still reach out to others and share resources even when the resources are limited yet they still the care among member countries.

3). European solidarity in information sharing mode.

In times of pandemic disease, receiving the correct and the same effective information is important. As according to these, the European Union decided to activate the EU's integrated political crisis response mechanism or the IPCR in information sharing mode since January when the Coronavirus outbreak first case was occurred in Europe. The IPCR is the EU framework for coordination of cross-sectoral crises as through this mechanism, it's supports and allow rapid of coordinated decision-making at EU highest political level in case of crises which occur across EU. The IPCR supply all tools that are necessary to streamline information sharing, facilitate collaboration and coordinate crisis response at political level. In the case of Coronavirus pandemic, the IPCR has been activated in its information-sharing mode in order to facilitate the exchange of information between relevant sectors and secure a common understanding of the situation between EU states through a dedicated web platform.

Due to the European Union considering the unsure of the pandemic situation and the different sectors affected example as health, consular, civil protection, the EU economy. Therefore, they had decided to escalate the activation of the IPCR mechanism to full mode on 2 March 2020. Moreover, the full activation mode of the

IPCR allows the elaboration of coordinated for EU response measures at presidency with the participation of the Commission, the European External Action Service, the office of the President of the European Council, affected member states, relevant EU agencies experts at all level. (Union, 2020a).

4). The European Union Solidarity in Funding (The EUSF)

One of the European's Solidarity actions of the European Union is financial cooperation in term of the funding during the crises. In the situation of the spread of the Coronavirus, Europe is another continent with the highest number of people infected ranking in the world. Therefore, the EUSF is set up to create measures and cope with financial support to the spread of virus that affect the population in the EU. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, The European Union foresee the emergency and the urgency to address the associated public health crisis across the EU. Therefore, the scope of the European Union Solidarity Fund or the EUSF has been extended to encompass major public health crises of the EU countries. (T. E. Commission, 2020c).

The European Union has issue measures to assist member states' expenditures for emergency response measures and to support the population. It also helps to limit the spread of the disease during the first 4 months from the date of the first public action to the crisis. Funding from the EUSF will strengthen the efforts of the affected countries, which cover public expenditures for rapid assistance, including medical care for people affected by the emergency, critical public health services protect the population from the risks that may be affected, including the prevention, monitoring or control of the spread of disease, the fight against The serious public health or to mitigate their impact on public health. (Parliament, 2020).

Nowadays, the European Commission has set out the first package of €232 million aid package in financial support during the Coronavirus pandemic, to the World Health Organization and to allocated to the EU Civil Protection Mechanism for repatriation flights of EU citizens back home.

5). The European coordinated response plan during the coronavirus pandemic. (To counter the economic impact of the Coronavirus).

COVID-19 is a severe public health emergency for citizens, societies, and economies of the member countries, because in every member country there is a relatively high number of believers. The European Commission has therefore established an economic response plan to alleviate the economic and social impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak. However, the main financial response to Coronavirus will come mainly from the member's national budget. Focus on helping Circulation of the domestic economy People and companies, especially SMEs that are most affected by the COVID-19 outbreak. (Union, 2020b).

The European Union sees that the spread of the disease affects the economy. May have negative effects in the long run Like in the case of Italy One of the most affected countries from the European outbreak. Most analysts are starting to worry that Corona virus epidemic in industrial and central areas finances of Italy will cause the Italian economy to enter into recession for the 4th time in 12 years. The tourism industry will be affected by the epidemic of the disease With reports stating that Milan, which has an estimated population 1.3 million people were more quiet than usual over the weekend, with many important locations shutting down and some consumer goods becoming out of stock. Including the detention of airline passengers traveling from Phrae area, pandemic both Lombardy and Veneto It may affect the tourism industry, which accounts for more than 13 percent of the Gross Domestic Product of Italy. (Office of the Fiscal Policy Advisor in Europe from Thailand, 2020).

Moreover, in term of the Single Market, which on the other hand, the EU is also ensuring the solidarity in a single market perspective. Other than all of the above that mention in this research, the European Union still believes that with solidarity and coordination throughout Europe it will be able to effectively manage public health emergencies. Solidarity is key in this crisis, especially to ensure that essential goods needed to reduce the health risks of the outbreak can reach all people as needed. Therefore, it is imperative that member states work together to secure the production, storage, availability and use of open and transparent medical and pharmaceutical

protection devices in the European Union instead of open and transparent. Take measures of each country unilaterally and also promoting the movement of health products to reach all member states. (T. E. Commission, 2020c).

Therefore, the European Union is providing all necessary steps to its member states in order to make the market flow which includes by providing guidance for member states on how to put in place sufficient control mechanisms to ensure the security of supply by launching an accelerated joint procurement procedure for goods as well as issuing a recommendation on non CE-marked protective equipment.



Chapter 3: Analysis

After following the above information of the literature review, we can see that in critical situations and wikis like this, the European Union has shown that they have planned and collaborated well. However, during the corona crisis the disease has spread rapidly in European countries causing many countries to try to find ways to prevent the virus themselves. Many measures at the beginning of the spread since December 2019 were initially established as appropriate to the situation and depending on the each country, example as closing a school, closing a country or banning flying from other nations and more importantly, have set other restrictions on public life of the people to slow the spread of the virus. Nevertheless, many countries in the Schengen area also have decided to revive internal border controls and forbid access to risk areas for individuals. This was alleged to have served to expand the rate of infection, but demonstrates an understanding of the laws and regulations for virus control, most of which lack the necessary health policy components. (Action, 2020)

In this situation controlling the border or closing the country is therefore very necessary to stop the spread continuously to build confidence for the people. However, it is well known that the European Union has long been based on principles of solidarity, and Europeans still believe that the solidary between the member countries and joint efforts shall be the main theme in account to fight against the outbreak in Europe. (Globaltimes, 2020).

The question rises whether the European Union solidarity as currently defined is sufficient to address the pandemic. The Coronavirus pandemic is the greater public health, social and economic challenge to be faced by all European countries since the establishment of the European Union. The root cause of this terrifying pandemic in Europe is that at first Europe did not have appropriately and adequately prepared in all regards related to the situation. The European Union attaches great importance to the spirit of solidarity. Each member states of the European Union will emerge stronger after this pandemic crisis. The European Union had been born from a crisis, and this time they will continue to be strong and united.(E. Commission, 2019).

Since World War II, the concept of solidarity is at the center of the European project and its integration process, as it is intended as a series of norms and values of the European Union, under the political, economic and social point of view, not only the member countries but also their citizens.

Even in the time of crisis or the pandemic situation solidarity within the European Union can affect the elaboration of several policy areas at the national and EU level, particularly in cooperation and development, trade, health care system, emergency plan, foreign affairs policies. Since in the past there are many emergency situations that the European Solidarity come in to place and play an important role example as the 2007 economic crises in Europe or the H1N1 or the 2009 flu pandemic in Europe, solidarity and strength have become key concepts for the European Union to solve out the situation together.

However, with encompass with the Coronavirus pandemic it has shaking the solidarity of Europe to its core as the health services across Europe are being strained, all public health services are struggle as its need to face this situation. In a short span of time, the European Union has been able to deal with this situation well to a certain extent, with regard to mutual solidarity. Member countries know that European solidarity is not just a treaty policy. But it is a policy to insure the lives of people on their continent. The European Union must therefore work together and do everything in this historic crisis, considering solidarity and location because of the large number of people in Europe. The fact that one country will fight this virus, Pure can take a long time and can lead to calamity.(T. E. Commission, 2020b)

The clear expression of European solidarity in the major coronal outbreak is therefore important. As you can see, member countries are still supporting existing programs to fill gaps and expand security networks for all EU countries that need more support, with Germany being the pillar. In addition, Brussels has released the rules on security conventions and regulations on state aid. In addition, the European Central Bank has reassured the financial market by announcing a new purchase program, which will buy government bonds and additional billion companies will flow from a special EU

budget fund to help member countries affected by the crisis. In this case, the corona virus and still helping the people continue to have a job and the economy is still able to proceed. (T. E. Commission, 2020d)

Other than that, Financial stability is an important thing. It must be brought to the country that is most severely affected by the Coronavirus crisis quickly and only at the required level. The EU therefore working together quickly to ensure sufficient liquidity in all EU countries in this situation. The money must not come with any unnecessary conditions but comes must with a strict policy in order to prevent the same. To prevent unequal practice between each Member State the European Security Mechanism or as known as the ESM also allows countries in the eurozone to borrow together under the same favorable conditions, just like EU member states. They should be allowed to use this money for all the necessary expenses to fight the coronavirus for a quick and targeted relief. In the end when the corona virus crisis ended the unity of the EU will help. Their goals can be achieved. And to develop European economies back into the path of growth and recovery. EU member states therefore need to work together. And also, for the spirit of European solidarity and the unification of strength to the European Union. (T. E. Commission, 2020c)

Moreover, since the European Union is a Supranational organization whereas the union have the political power to influence member states on the national boundaries, share the decision making in differences areas of interest and vote on issues that are concerning on the collective body. For the European Union, all of decisions are taken beyond the level of national governments, even in the time of the pandemic most of the decision are made by the European government not the states governments. Nevertheless, as in the beginning of the outbreak of the Covid – 19 in Europe which started from Franc to Italy, the European Union was failed to fulfill the need of help to the member states since the Health Policies are belong to the decisions of the member states. (Politico, 2020).

Although that the European Union is an Supranational union, yet the union still has an exceedingly limited ability to take action beyond its core responsibility such as the Economic Union or the Foreign Policies under treaties of the European Union in order to complement national policies. But over the past year, the European Union has made efforts to consider joint decisions regarding the matter of the new threats across borders, such as pandemic of viruses, and even biological or chemical attacks.

However, since the Health policies are national competence of each member states but in this emergency situation of the pandemic, the member states needs to gartering the coordination of different national approaches by emphasize on the information sharing as this is the best way to the solutions. Although the initial collaboration of the EU was slow and ineffective at first due to the lack of viral information and widespread spread of infection among its members. Moreover, due to not ordering to block the border between member countries. So, the first phase of the outbreak people in the Schengen area are still able to travel between countries as the states that it would be unreasonable action which will contrary to the free movement of people. While there is still no consensus on the implementation of preventive and controlling measures the Covid-19 among EU members, governments in each country have begun to prepare to deal with the domestic situation by itself, such as the implementation of detention to monitor the symptoms of families with infected members, cancellation of sporting events and concerts including reducing public transport services, travel restriction policy and the announcement of the suspension of class or close the school. (Paliement, 2020).

At the moment, the European Union needs to take the necessary measures for controlling the new strain of the corona virus but could not avoid took control and restricted on some of basic freedoms in various fields which are freedom of movement of the people, freedom of assembly, or freedom of worship based on faith. All of this inevitably has to create an impact on economic damage especially for those small businesses that need to rely on cash flow. In the European Union that had previously declared "borderless", it appears that borders were returning suddenly as the EU is banning people from outside for at less 30 days.

However, the balance between Supranational and member state competences of the European Union in this situation has also demonstrated a lack of operational efficiency of coordination. Due to the differences in ability over state, the different methods of dealing with viruses at the national level, different potentials in the medical field Medical resources, values and norms, Public Health system, Protection standard and access to information makes each European country not able to cope well with this situation.

However, compared to the European Union's coronavirus response, it has shown improved and faster management when compared to the epidemic of the 2009 flu in 2009 that has a high number of people who get effects and died as well as very slow response plans to the situation. In order to create true unity of the Solidarity, the European Union must join hands in different situations at the national level in order to be supranational.

• Should the EU extend its competences to insure a common EU27 approach to managing the virus or not?

Since the Lisbon Treaty is create the EU solidarity and support all the European Union member countries to work together on problem that can affect them all in matters already. However, in this case of the pandemic of the Covid - 19 in Europe, its responsibilities have changed, it is important that the European Union need to adapt the stronger framework for it actions as therefore, the EU has the methods to tackle its today's challenges and future's.

Each member countries in Europe, seem to have similar ways of dealing with the pandemic situation as there are no differences in the ways to deal with COVID-19. The differences may be in capacity and details of the plan, examples of countries that are dealing with the situation the best is Germany as there are 3 points that Germany can do better than other countries which are first to take action quickly, second to

extend the examination and lastly to infrastructure, public health system, ready to receive patients. Moreover, the countries that did not respond well in the pandemic situation were Italy, France and Spain due to slow of the policy movements.

It is therefore difficult to decide whether in this situation has the European Union performed their duties properly as because each member country has different expectations for the European Union. Countries that are suffering from severe outbreaks are expected to receive assistance from the European Union and its member countries. Regarding to the public health assistance of member countries having to admit that the health systems of some member countries are better than other to the point that they can help and support patients outside the country for treatment. Yet, financial assistance is negotiated back and forth, especially in northern European countries with incredibly good economic conditions. (Parliament, 2020)

The conflict in this situation between the European Union and its member countries is not from the governments of its member countries but it comes from people who criticize the European Union that there is no solution to manage the crisis. However, under the Lisbon treaty, the European Union is authorized on the topic of trade and freedom matters but for public health matters it is authority in each member countries. The European Union is just a center for cooperation example as exchanging information through the Central Public Health Institute Or the process of purchasing a medical supply together, but as knows that about the closing of the boundaries, the closure of cities, school, or measures to deal with patients countermeasures from the closure of the cities are a matter of each member state not the EU.

The problem in this crisis caused a lot of infection of Coronavirus in Europe. There is no clear division of duties between the EU level and member countries, causing the EU responded not well to the crisis. But this situation may be a good opportunity for the European Union to learn and improve stronger cooperation and solidarity at the EU level. This is a situation that is hugely different from the previous crisis that the European Union encountered. Causing them to have to develop more in terms of clearly dividing the authority on public health between the European Union and its

member countries. Therefore, the improvement of the EU is still an issue to be discussed in the future. It is difficult to predict how after this situation will end, the cooperation and solidarity of the European Union will continue. In what direction does the European Union go.

Beyond, the cost in terms of citizens lives and public health of member states, the Covid - 19 pandemic has also created an economic shock on the European market on the scale that it could easily exceed stronger and hit harder than the financial crisis in 2008, the EU is now facing a massive downturn across all sectors of the economy.

As for the European solidarity, in the field of Economic recovery and the issuance of economic policy to support after the resolving situation still difficult to predict due to nowadays the pandemic situation in Europe is still severe, making it unclear what the economy of each member country will be like after the crisis ended. Although, the European Central Bank has issued a monetary policy to help member countries under the "*Pandemic Emergency Purchase Program*" to ensure of buying public and private securities with flexible regulations and many countries in the European Union have also made contributions in a way that is in conflict with the fiscal discipline in the normal situation. Therefore, after the situation has been resolved every country will have to face the problem of how to manage its own fiscal policy.(T. E. Commission, 2020c).

However, another challenge to the European solidarity is regarding the use of the same monetary policy but there is no joint for fiscal policy in the European Union. From this situation may lead to problems as each country has different fiscal discipline some countries may use a budget deficit policy while another country has fiscal discipline. Therefore, this may cause problems with currency exchange rates.

In addition to this, another challenge that the EU will face is Harmonization of the economic policies of the European Union to the member states, the policies of each member state to each other among themselves and member country policies to the European Union on the concern of how well they work together because the use of

monetary policy in the European Union is complicated and multi-layered both from the European Central Bank and from the national banks of each member countries.

• Is the Single Market and EU Trade policy an essential element in the recovery Phase? Simply, will be conclusion after Covid19 is gone that we need a more integrated Europe or a less integrated one where there is a return to national sovereignty?

With the solidarity between member states combining with internal market or the single market of the European might be the key factor to help European countries out of the bad economic crises in the time of the pandemic. The single provided the EU countries with the ability to better meet challenges as one, instead of acts alone as the single market is a key instrument to implement European solutions efficiently and show EU solidarity. The EU single market helps ensures the supply of necessary goods especially in crises situation to European people, example as while some member states have a strong production of medical and pharmaceutical supply which makes member states that have a low production of those thing can rely on imports from their European neighbors with a good deal.

Unfortunately, at the time of Covid-19 pandemic, member countries began to use more different policies to ensure that medical and pharmaceutical facilities were sufficient for the people in the country in which national measures in some member states does not follow the basic idea of the European internal market. When many member countries started to restrict the export of medical products such as respirators, medical masks, or medical protective clothing, it affects Europe's solidarity in the most needed situations.

Therefore, due to the Covid – 19 crises, the economics, politics of Europe and various cooperation have inevitably changed. Although governments of member states and the European Union are taking very strong actions to help alleviate this situation, but unfortunately limited the current strictness is not enough to prevent bankruptcy and the shutdown of many business and firms in Europe from this situation which will

lead to higher unemployment, lower tax revenue, poor public finances, and may include trade protection measures. (T. E. Commission, 2020c).

If any business can survive in this crisis and continue to grow, the European Union then needs to have a clear rehabilitation plan, ambitious and coordinate with various member states in order to focus on investment promotion, growth promotion and job creation for the European population. However, one of the key elements that helped the EU recover quickly from this situation might be what they already have which is the Single Market. The European Union is the largest economic group in the world, which believe in a free trade system along with the Economic policy of FTA with trade partners around the world. The European essential points is that Europe is the region that is the largest economic zone in the world and is a large single market with a high purchasing power of over 500 million people and is the largest importer and exporter of goods and services in the world. Accounting for approximately 16% of the FTA world trade and liberalization with countries around the world will drive European businesses to compete in the world trade arena more efficiently, will be a factor accelerating Europe's export growth and also believe that having the FTA will give Europe access to resources and raw materials from countries around the world. As, the European Union is one of the regions that has been severely affected by the outbreak of the Covid-19 virus. In which the European Commission predicts that the region's economy will contract by 7.4 percent in 2020 and will expand by 6.1 percent in 2021. (Department of the European Affairs, 2020).

However, it is known that European countries are affected by the spread of the covid-19 virus unequal, and its ability to revitalize the economy will soon be different as well as it is depending on when each country decided to stop using the lockdown measures, how much the countries dependence on tourism for income and how was their financial status before the crisis. This inequality may have a profound effect on the single market system of the European Union and the Euro area. Unless the member countries face each other and find a joint solution and maintain a strong solidarity at the EU level.

However, at the moment the number of people infected in Europe is steadily declining and the government has gradually relaxed the lock down measures since the beginning of May. The restaurant business, which is the first business group that was temporarily closed and the last group that is waiting to be opened for service again began to be resumed operations in many countries, and on June , 15, 2020 people will be able to travel between member countries for tourism and works again. Many countries in Southern Europe are more affected by Covid - 19 than other European countries, with expectations of earning tourism revenue this summer to help support the economic crisis.

From this research, as it is state above that in the last 2-3 months the European Union and the member states' governments have shown tight and clear solidarity by already implementing several fiscal and fiscal measures to overcome the Covid crisis. Moreover, it is also includes important policies such as the "Next Generation EU" fund of 7.5 billion euros, divided into 500 billion euros grants and 2.5 billion euros loans and the 1.1 million Multiannual Financial Framework or the MFF budget, for the next 7 years which start in 2021until 2027. It is expected to reach an agreement by July, and it must be approved by all EU 27 member countries before promulgation. Those plans will play an important role in sustaining the entire EU economy to be able to drive forward and return to growth. As well as a proof of the unity and solidarity of the European Union that is often criticized for weakening from the Brexit. (T. E. Commission, 2020c).

• So, the virus presents a fundamental challenge to the whole concept of EU integration.

The Coronavirus is actually presenting a fundamental challenge to the whole concept of EU integration as this situation is getting worst as the result of disagreements between member countries at first and the lack of interest among a number as a single entity. In this situation of the pandemic strong coordination can be a game-changer. For the European Union fundamental it means that they need to coordinated among the member states as it makes it possible to share best practices to deal with this

situation rather than one country trying to do everything for itself for its own benefit to fight the pandemic. (Sonny, 2015).

Given this situation, the European solidarity play an important role as member countries have taken variety of measures to prevent them with the least overall impact especially their economies from collapsing. Even though that the EU had launched recovery plans which is a step in the right direction however, it is still far from achieving an approach based on European solidarity. As a single entities whereas all decision are made at the intergovernmental lever, sometime the European solidarity had delayed the response to the crises as the same in the euro crisis due to Decisions that take a long time and are complicated. In the 2020 Coronavirus Pandemic crisis cost the EU huge amount of both economically and socially. Now, we can again see the limits of European solidarity by the fact that the EU are not yet a completely political union or even a completely real monetary union.

From the outbreak of Covid-19 causing the economies of many countries in the European Union to be contracted, which is a recurring problem due to the budget deficit and unemployment problems before the epidemic occurred. Moreover, originally EU member countries already had conflicts about their Foreign policy, National defense policy and immigration policy, before the outbreak of Covid-19. Therefore, this situation create more economic inequality among member countries, due to countries with good economic status may be able to help support the business and industry in their country and the result is that the industries in these countries will be in a position to gain an advantage than many other countries that has bad economic liquidity. (Action, 2020).

In addition, the different economic statuses of member countries call for a richer member state to help the poorer countries in order to maintain EU solidarity. The main factors that are pressuring the political situation that may affect the EU solidarity and membership ties that help the EU to exist may be undermined in the north. Most of which are rich member countries and the southern region has a worse economic foundation. The Unity and Solidarity of the European Union will be in

danger if the northern states not care to help the poorer countries in the south as they might be ready to follow the U.K. as the case of Brexit to be separate from the European Union, such as Italy and Spain.

However, when compared to the situation of the outbreak of Covid-19 in the EU it may not looking good at first after Italy became the epidemic of the outbreak and began to spread to many neighboring countries. However, former members like the United Kingdom select not to use any guidelines that are the same as the European Union such as not closing school, do not prohibit social grouping and do not cancel the flight but please cooperate for people to detain themselves for 7 days if a continuous cough or fever exceeds 37.8 degrees Celsius, which is considered to be a symptoms of the Covid-19 infection. If the symptoms are not severe, there is no need to call the hotline or the hospital but just stay home.

We can see that the British government's policies are completely opposite to the neighboring countries and the World Health Organization's recommendations and the situation of the epidemic of Covid-19 may affect the United Kingdom more than the European Union, the British has to fight in this situation by themselves and not receiving help from any countries in the European Union. If we compare the number of cases of infected people between the EU and the U.K, we can see that the European Union has fewer infected people than the U.K , in which still ranked in the top ten in the world in terms of the number of infected people as the British managed and handled worse the situation than the European Union.

Conclusion

At the present time, although the situation of the outbreak of the Corona virus is still severe to various countries around the world. However, in collaboration to solve the problem and to show the European solidarity and unity of the member countries, even before they were have a difficult situation during the Brexit which shaking the European solidarity but since the past month of June, the number of new cases of Covid -19 infections has decreased, causing many countries to begin loosening the lockdown measures. Some stores such as bookstores, stationery, Supermarket can open for service but must comply with social security measures as determined by the government including preparing cleaning wipes for customers and also the Council of the European Union has approved the recommendation to relax measures to restrict travel to the EU from various countries in the beginning of July.

According to the information from Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center on 28 of April 2020, it has shown that European countries has rank in the top 5 countries in the world that have the most cases of the Covid - 19 but nowadays as according to the information on July, 08, 2020, all the country that used to be in the top five such as Italy and France has accelerated to solve the problem, until at this time only Spain is ranked in number seventh in the world in term of number of Covid - 19 cause in the world.

In the midst of the current situation, in addition to the outbreak of the coronavirus in Europe, the EU still faces with many problems of the public debt crisis, Economic problems that are disrupted and depressing, immigrant crisis, Terrorism, Nationalism and populism that could have an effect on undermining the Solidarity and the strong future of the EU. The Solidarity of the EU members are now facing a new, painful test with the coronavirus crisis. As from the study of literatures review, for the European Union, the outbreak of COVID-19 or the Coronavirus crisis, is similar to the 21st century war as it is a situation that needs mobilization in terms of resources, financial, medical workers, planning and setting policies to divide the way out and deal with this situation.

Therefore, the cooperation of the member countries is very necessary at an unprecedented level. International reconciliation and readiness to sacrifice for the common good are drawn together, cross-border cooperation and European solidarity is one of the main factors that can lead Europe to overcome this virus. It is important for the European Union to show that they are able to truly protect and show solidarity, not just the empty phrases in the treaty.

We can see that after the first wave that national agencies have taken to deal with this situation, even though that Europe is still in the crisis phase but the European Union is moving forward with joint action on all routes that member states have the power to assist by providing important medical equipment, together with the common economic stimulus and necessary easing of fiscal aid rules and state. In addition, the role of the European Union includes helping member countries with consular efforts. In order to help bring the stranded Europeans all over the world back home. As since the beginning of the outbreak, thousands of people in the European Union have been brought back. One-third of returning passengers do not come from their own flight but is a flight of an EU's country that has setting up flights to help in this situation. As well as many other flights are organized, with seats available to all EU citizens.

However, in times of crisis like this Human instincts often turn to themselves and are interested in survival such as to close the borders and protect themselves but in an emergency case of the emergency of the COVID-19 it cannot be resolved in a particular country or by doing so alone. As doing so means that we will all have to struggle longer with the higher cost of life and economic costs. At the moment, the European Union and its member states are constantly working to fight the coronavirus situation as protecting the health and safety of citizens is the most important thing for the EU. Moreover, the European Union and its member countries are actively working together and give emphasize to this situation. However, to alleviate the economic and social impact of the epidemic period, maintain work and not given up from any work in this situation. The EU is mobilizing all available resources to help member states coordinate their national response and include providing objective information about the spread of the virus and effective control efforts.

Again, the European Union finds itself living at a time when member states are under different pressure, each with different ideas - the way each country chooses to combat this epidemic or policy that Promulgated by the European Union itself may affect the collaboration of societies in member states stability of the national political system of the European Union and the future of European integration. In order to achieve this goal, the EU institutions and policies need to win the hearts of the European people and must also show that basic EU solidarity does not make the situation worse.



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