Constructivist Critique of dynamics of International Treaty

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Abstract

International Treaty is very important source of International Law. Treaty is a sort of agreement between two or more states and its provisions are considered binding on the states. The paper aims to analyze International Treaty from the Constructivist perspective developed in International Relations. Constructivism contends that reality is constructed, shaped and moulded by interactions of relevant players and institutions. There is need to evaluate the functioning of treaty in the light of distribution of powers among the states and their perception regarding their security and insecurity. Treaty is an act of compromise and the very acceptability of compromise depends upon the hawkish or dovish perspective of given group. The nature, purpose and scope of treaty is greatly influenced by the dynamic identities and interests in the contemporary world of rapid scientific and technological progress. The people have greater ability to express their views and thus international treaty is more subjected to public pressure in the era of Information Revolution. The tremendous growth of world economy in the past two centuries has increased the importance of treaty.

Keywords: International Treaty, Constructivism, Functionalism, Power Asymmetry, Democratization of Knowledge, Constructed Political Ecology of Insecurity.

Constructivist Analysis of International Treaty

International Treaty is an agreement signed between two or more sovereign states. The treaty contains specific provisions defining the rights, duties, assets and liabilities of the given states. The treaty is different from Convention where there is agreement related to broad or general features of some specific field. Treaty has more well defined or sharp attributes. Treaty establishes relationship between the parties and it is deemed binding on

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