

Power Shifting Global Politics From The European Union (EU) To The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO): Analysis A Critical Analysis of The Russian-Ukrainian War

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KEYWORDS

European Union, Shanghai Cooperation Organization; power shift; Regional Security Complex Theory (RSCT); structural power theory

ABSTRACT

This research discusses the shift in global political dynamics from the European Union (EU) to the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) as a result of the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Over the years, the EU has been a significant global power, however, the Ukraine conflict has weakened its influence. This event became an important driver of the shift in political power, with the SCO emerging as one of the main players in response. A mixed research method is used, involving a multidisciplinary approach and critical analysis covering geopolitics, security, and international politics. The Regional Security Complex and Structural Power theories provide the theoretical foundation for this analysis. The results show that the Ukraine conflict has weakened the EU's global influence by exposing internal divisions in response to the conflict. The EU imposed economic sanctions on Russia in response to its annexation of Crimea and support for the insurgency in eastern Ukraine. However, the EU has also been active in diplomacy and mediation to find a political solution. Meanwhile, the SCO is emerging as a new force in global politics with a regional cooperation platform that is increasingly visible at the international level. The shift to the SCO could have a major impact on global political and security dynamics. This potential is driven by the SCO's large member population and the EU's internal problems. If the focus shifts to the SCO, it could shift the center of policy and diplomacy from Europe to Asia, creating a new paradigm in international relations.

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Introduction

The European Union (EU) is an intergovernmental organization made up of countries in Europe. It was established in 1951 by six founding countries: France, Luxembourg, Belgium, Italy, West Germany and the Netherlands, under the initial name

of the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) (Borchardt, 1995). Over time, the focus of the organization evolved from economics to security and defense aspects. After its transformation into the European Union, its membership increased to 28 countries, including major powers such as France and Germany ((Council of the EU, 2017; Deutsche Welle, 2017). Post-Cold War, the security environment in Europe changed drastically, shifting from inter-state military threats to non-military threats such as terrorism, immigration crises and cybersecurity. This condition encourages the EU to improve its defense capabilities.

The Lisbon Treaty, in force since 2009, provided the legal basis for the establishment of PESCO (Permanent Structured Cooperation) in December 2017 with the participation of 25 member states. PESCO aims to improve military interoperability, strengthen defense capabilities, and reduce overlaps in national defense projects, reflecting the EU's commitment to closer defense cooperation (PESCO, 2017). Although originally formed to strengthen economic cooperation, the EU now has significant global influence through the single market and the adoption of the Euro as the main currency. It also plays an important role in maintaining global peace and promoting values such as human rights, democracy and the rule of law (Hill, 2003). The EU's concept of hegemony in relation to international relations lies primarily in its ability to influence globally through economic, political and normative power, rather than military dominance (EU, n.d.).

However, the EU's hegemony has begun to fade due to various challenges, including the Russia-Ukraine conflict. This conflict had a significant impact on the EU's economy and politics, particularly in terms of energy dependence on Russia. Economic sanctions against Russia, including the suspension of energy imports, led to an energy crisis that destabilized the EU economy (Bobasu & De Santis, 2022). The weakening influence of the EU opens opportunities for other international actors to strengthen their influence, one of which is the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) (Negri & Dincă, 2023). The SCO, an international political, economic, security and defense organization founded in 2001 by Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, continues to expand its influence with new members such as India and Pakistan in 2017 and Iran and Belarus planned to join in 2023 (Kementerian Luar Negeri Turki, n.d.). The SCO's main focus is security cooperation and counterterrorism, alongside economic and trade cooperation (Xiaodong, 2012). The SCO plays an important role in strengthening relations between Russia and China, including through infrastructure projects such as the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) (Stronski & Ng, 2018).

After the EU energy sanctions, diplomatic relations between Russia and China have strengthened, with China buying energy supplies from Russia in Rubles and Yuan. This strengthens the value of these currencies and reduces Russia's dependence on the Euro and Dollar (Sharafedin et al., 2022). Meanwhile, the EU must find new alternatives to address the energy crisis, which strengthens the SCO within the global trade and economic framework. The SCO has the potential to be an actor that can replace the weakening influence of the West. The Russia-Ukraine conflict has also forced the EU to prioritize its regional security, diverting most resources and attention from global issues (Chausovsky, 2022) (Fels, 2017) (Garzón, 2017). On the other hand, the SCO continues to expand its influence on the global stage, implementing collective security measures and deepening internal ties through economic cooperation and solidarity among members (SCO, n.d.).

Regional Security Complex Theory (RSCT) provides a framework for analyzing changing power dynamics in Europe and Asia. RSCT describes how states within one region influence each other and form a particular pattern of security interactions, distinct from other regions. In the context of RSCT, the EU and SCO represent two significant regional security complexes (Buzan & Waever, 2003; Stivachtis, 2021). The Russia-Ukraine conflict is an example of structural power change, with Russia and China seeking to build alternatives through the SCO, reflecting efforts to shift power from the West to the East. Susan Strange's structural power theory explains that changes in structural power can alter the global political landscape, mirroring the shift from EU dominance to SCO influence in several key aspects (Gwynn, 2017).

Given this phenomenon, this research is entitled “Global Political Power Shifting From the European Union to the Shanghai Cooperation Organization: A Critical Analysis of the Russia-Ukraine War” to analyze the changing global power dynamics and its implications for the world political order. This research is relevant in discussions about the influence of the EU, the power of the SCO, and the impact of the Russia-Ukraine conflict, helping to anticipate the changes in international politics that will occur. Until this paper, the influence of the SCO in the Central Asian region has been widely discussed. However, the role of the SCO in international politics, which has relevance as a new political direction after the weakening influence of the European Union, has not received special attention. The problem formulation outlined above raises the following research questions: First, why is the EU involved in the Ukraine-Russia conflict which has implications for the weakening of the EU's political influence in the global arena? Why did the Ukraine-Russia war result in global political powershifting from the EU to the SCO? Second, how does the EU maintain its political influence and role as an international security actor? What are the implications of this powershifting for the EU and SCO?

The study aims to explore how the EU can maintain its role as a significant international security actor amidst these developments. The significance of this research lies in its contribution to understanding the changing geopolitical landscape, especially concerning the rise of the SCO as a prominent player in global affairs. By examining the implications of this power shift, the research aims to provide insights into how international relations may evolve in the future and what strategic adjustments the EU and other global actors might need to consider.

Research Methods

This research uses mixed methods (Kotler, 2016), to explore the phenomenon of the Russia-Ukraine conflict and its impact on global power shifts. A qualitative approach is used to understand the steps taken by the European Union (EU) and Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in expanding their influence, with sources of information from books, previous research, reports, and official websites. This qualitative data was then enriched with quantitative data for more in-depth analysis. The descriptive method is applied to analyze the geopolitical changes due to the Russia-Ukraine conflict, focusing on the SCO's increased influence compared to the EU. Regional Security Complex Theory (RSCT) and structural power theory are used as analytical frameworks. RSCT helps explain how regional conflicts in Eastern Europe affect global security and alliance dynamics. Meanwhile, structural power theory is used to understand changes in global power structures that are increasingly dominated by the SCO, replacing the

traditional role of the EU. Both theories provide a comprehensive understanding of the shifts in global political and security power resulting from the Russia-Ukraine war.

The author conducted a literacy study to collect data to be used in this research. Literacy studies are conducted through document-based and internet-based research methods, as well as through written studies such as books, journals, official documents, and articles on the internet related to the topic under study (Bakry, 2016). The data used in this research are qualitative data and quantitative data. Data collection will be carried out from several sources such as written studies such as books, journals, official documents sourced from the European Union, SCO, or various other official institutions, as well as articles on the internet related to the topic under study. The stages of this research are an explanation of the theories and concepts used to analyze power shifting from the EU to the SCO with a critical analysis of the Russia-Ukraine war using RSCT and structural power theory.

The stages of this research are an explanation of the theories and concepts used to analyze power shifting from the EU to the SCO with a critical analysis of the Russia-Ukraine war using RSCT and structural power theory. After that, the data is processed by analyzing data and literature studies using the theory that has been presented to answer the problem formulation and achieve research objectives. Data processing in this research uses Sequential Exploratory Design which is described as follows:



Figure 1. Data collection and processing process

Sequential Exploratory Design (SED) is a research methodology in the social sciences that involves two stages: qualitative data collection and analysis followed by quantitative data. The first phase involves qualitative methods such as interviews, group discussions, or observations to understand the research subject in depth. Findings from this phase are used to develop quantitative research instruments in the second phase. The second phase uses insights from the qualitative phase to design surveys or experiments that collect quantitative data, with the aim of validating and generalizing the initial findings. The sequential nature of this design allows researchers to refine questions and hypotheses before beginning the quantitative phase. The final phase involves analyzing the data using Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) to explain the ongoing phenomenon of global political power shifts. Overall, SED is a flexible and iterative approach that combines the advantages of qualitative and quantitative methods, resulting in in-depth and valid analysis in complex and dynamic contexts.

Results and Discussions

1. Russia-Ukraine Conflict and EU Involvement

The conflict between Russia and Ukraine stems from both countries' long histories, including the Soviet Union and policies that fueled tensions between them. Russia's annexation of Crimea in 2014 and the conflict in the Donbas region are the culmination of these tensions. Peace efforts through the Minsk agreements have not fully succeeded in resolving the conflict. The European Union (EU) has taken steps, including imposing sanctions on Russia and providing support to Ukraine, in response to Russian aggression. These developments highlight the EU's ambition to become a global power with a focus on the Asia Pacific region since the mid-1990s. (Song & Wang, 2019). The conflict between Russia and Ukraine stems from both countries' long histories, including the

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The political history of the EU covers the evolution of political systems and policies at the EU level, from the post-World War II recovery efforts to the establishment of its single market and monetary union (Cini & Borragán, 2022). This process reflects efforts to create a more integrated political entity that embraces the diverse identities and interests of member states. The EU's quest to become a global power also involves developing normative power, with an approach that includes macro influences, meso characterization, and micro analysis in developing the norms upheld by the EU on the global stage Manners (2013). The implementation of the European Union Global Strategy (EUGS) over the past few years reflects a journey full of challenges and achievements. Nonetheless, the EU continues to strive to strengthen its position as a global power that plays an active role in shaping the direction of the world by taking comprehensive strategic measures (Tocci, 2020).

The implementation of the European Union Global Strategy (EUGS) over the past three years has had its challenges and achievements Howorth (2016). Positive achievements include diplomacy, international cooperation, and projects that support peace, security, and sustainable development Cross (2016). However, conflicts such as Russia-Ukraine cast a shadow over the implementation of the EUGS. Growing tensions between Russia and Ukraine prompted EU military and security engagement, even though the EU is not a military alliance. The EU's support for the Minsk Agreement and assistance to Ukraine to address economic and institutional challenges reflect its role in promoting peace and stability in Europe. The EU has a global strategy to strengthen its international role with a focus on smarter diplomacy. However, difficulties in understanding the EU as a single actor by major powers may hamper its effectiveness. Nonetheless, the EU remains a key player on the international scene, shaping the image of the world through regulations, standards and policies that influence various aspects of global trade (Bradford, 2020).

The EU's involvement in the Russia-Ukraine conflict demonstrates a commitment to stability in Europe, but also makes partisanship clear (Popkova, 2017). The EU on Ukraine. Although the EU is experiencing sluggish economic growth, its priority remains diplomacy and mediation to achieve peace (Della Sala, 2023). Nonetheless, the EU's involvement in this conflict has triggered a decline in economic relations with Russia (Spaiser, 2018). EU measures such as imposing economic sanctions and providing aid to Ukraine have complicated relations with Russia (Genschel, 2022). It should be noted that EU engagement should be neutral and focus on creating peace and stability (Samokhvalov, 2015). However, stronger support for Ukraine is creating tensions with Russia and worsening mutual economic relations. Therefore, it is important for the EU to maintain a balance and ensure that its engagement does not benefit one side and harm the other

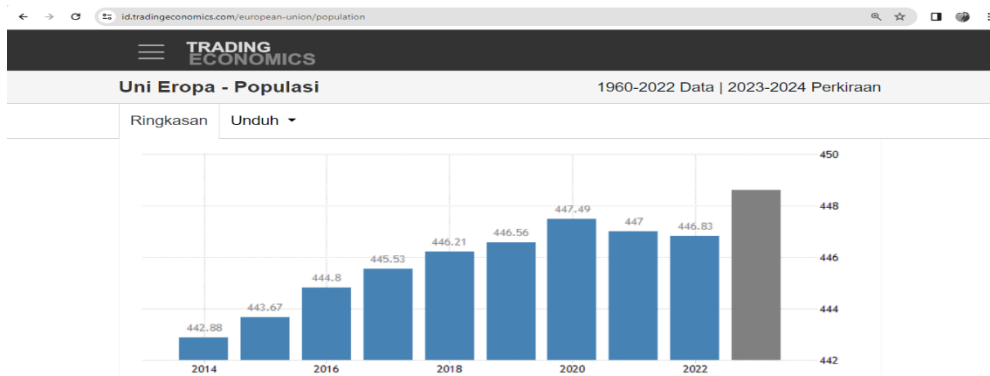


Figure 2: Population of the European Union (Source: Id.tradingeconomics.com, 2023)

The EU's large population has a positive impact on addressing the Russia-Ukraine conflict. With its vast human and economic resources, the EU can support diplomatic initiatives, sanctions and conflict resolution. The EU's cultural, political and economic diversity also enables a holistic approach to the conflict. In addition, a large population strengthens the EU's diplomacy globally, creating political pressure and gaining broad international support. This provides not only material support, but also diplomatic power that has an effect on conflict management in the region.

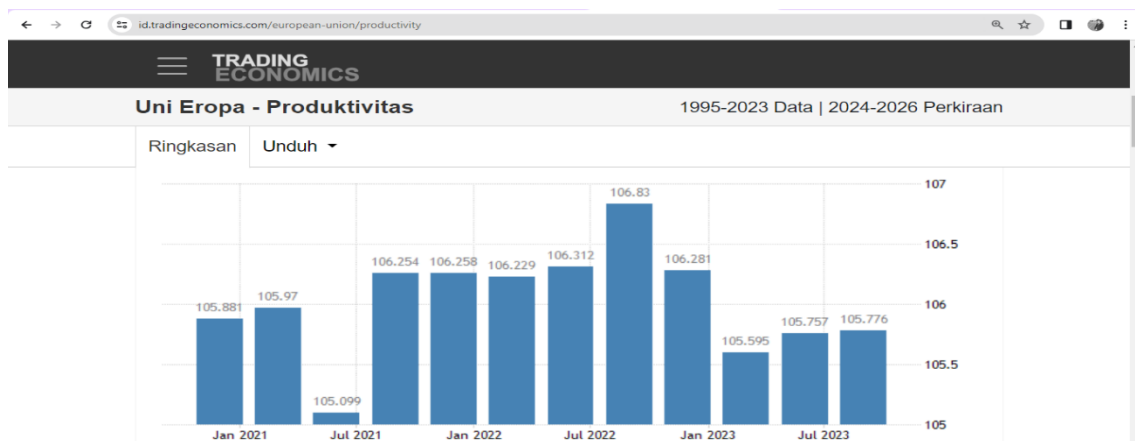


Figure 3: Productivity of the European Union (Source: Id.tradingeconomics.com, 2023)

The EU's productivity data demonstrates the stability that influences its engagement in addressing the Russia-Ukraine conflict. EU support for Ukraine has proven to be high, with the majority of members supporting humanitarian aid, refugee acceptance, and sanctions against Russia. EU engagement is more likely to support Ukraine as a victim of the Russian invasion, with the aim of maintaining peace and security. Despite appearing to take sides, the EU is acting in the interests of regional peace and security (Europa.eu (2023)). The Ukraine conflict has weakened the political influence of the European Union (EU) globally as it has exposed internal divisions and disagreements among EU members in response to the crisis. Since the beginning of the conflict, there have been significant differences of opinion among EU member states on how to deal with Russia and the Ukraine crisis. Some member states embraced a tougher and more proactive approach, while others tended to be more cautious and favored diplomatic solutions.

This imbalance creates an impression of weakness and lack of internal consensus within the EU, weakening the bloc's ability to formulate and implement an effective

foreign policy. Moreover, the Ukraine conflict also created uncertainty in the region and led to geopolitical instability that harmed the EU's overall political image. The EU's inability to respond decisively and coherently to the crisis undermines its credibility as a major player in international diplomacy. This could harm the EU's efforts to play a mediator and arbiter role in other global conflicts, as well as affect its diplomatic relations with relevant parties, including Russia. The Ukraine conflict has thus become one of the factors weakening the EU's political influence globally by illustrating its internal challenges and inability to address foreign crises with one voice.

The EU has been actively involved in the Russia-Ukraine conflict, particularly since the crisis in Crimea in 2014 and the war in the Donbas region. One of the EU's main responses has been to impose a series of economic sanctions against Russia in retaliation for its illegal annexation of Crimea and its perceived unlawful support of the insurgency in eastern Ukraine. The sanctions include trade restrictions, asset freezes, and travel bans on individuals and entities associated with actions deemed to violate Ukraine's sovereignty. The EU has also actively supported Ukraine with financial and technical assistance, including through Association Programs and Free Trade Agreements aimed at strengthening economic and political ties between the EU and Ukraine. In addition, the EU has served as a mediator and facilitator in efforts to diplomatically resolve this conflict. Through the Normandy Format (Normandy Process) together with Germany, France, Ukraine and Russia, the EU has attempted to mediate dialog and negotiate a peace agreement. Although this effort has not yet reached a comprehensive settlement, the EU's role in this diplomatic effort demonstrates its commitment to finding a political solution to the Russia-Ukraine conflict. As a global major political and economic entity, the EU's role in this conflict also reflects its efforts to promote the principles of peace, security and sovereignty in the European region.

The European Union (EU) has sought to address the Russia-Ukraine conflict as part of its efforts to maintain its global standing. One of the key approaches taken by the EU has been to strengthen internal solidarity among its member states. Despite differences of opinion on how to handle the crisis, the EU has sought to achieve consensus and unity of opinion in responding to the annexation of Krim and the war in eastern Ukraine. The economic sanctions imposed by the EU on Russia reflect this effort, although there are challenges related to their sustainability and effectiveness. In addition, the EU also plays an active role in diplomacy and mediation to find political solutions to conflicts. By engaging in the Normandy Process with Germany and France, the EU sought to overcome differences and reach a peace agreement between Russia and Ukraine. These diplomatic efforts not only demonstrated the EU's role as a key player in responding to regional conflicts, but also contributed to the EU's image as an entity committed to the peaceful resolution of global conflicts. Through this combination of economic and diplomatic actions, the EU seeks to maintain its position at the global level as a regional leader committed to the values of peace, security and justice in the European region and the world.

The collapse of the European Union's (EU) influence at the global level can be understood through two main dimensions: non-neutrality in the Russia-Ukraine conflict and unresolved internal problems. In the context of the conflict, the EU has faced criticism for its lack of a consistent and sustainable foreign policy response to the Ukraine crisis. A number of EU member states have different approaches to Russia, creating divisions and imbalances in the EU's collective response. This creates an impression of the EU's inability to unite and formulate a common approach in geopolitical conflicts, weakening

its position as a key player in global diplomacy. In addition, the EU's growing internal problems have also undermined its influence at the global level. Issues such as the economic crisis, Brexit uncertainty, and internal tensions between member states have resulted in divisions and a divided focus on addressing foreign challenges. These internal issues create a picture of an EU that is divided and unable to address its own internal problems, casting doubt on its ability to play a key role in global diplomacy and foreign policy. Therefore, the combination of a lack of neutrality in regional conflicts and complex internal problems has damaged the EU's image and political influence on the international stage.

2. The Role of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) as a New Political Direction Influencing EU Politics Globally

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) is an intergovernmental organization founded in 2001 by China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, with India and Pakistan joining as full members in 2017. The SCO also has observer states and dialogue partners. The SCO's decision-making mechanism is based on the principles of consensus and dialog among members. Key decisions are made in high-level meetings such as the SCO Summit, as well as Council of Heads of Government meetings and ministerial meetings, which discuss and agree on policies in the areas of economy, security, and diplomacy through consultations that take into account common interests and national differences. SCO member states' interests vary based on geographic factors, regional security and economic priorities. China and Russia focus on stability and influence in Central Asia, while countries such as Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan place more emphasis on regional economic development and countering security threats. Common interests include countering terrorism, combating separatism, and economic cooperation for regional growth. The SCO's decision-making mechanism, which is based on consensus and dialog, allows member states to reach agreements and coordinate their efforts in regional cooperation. The SCO claims to be actively involved in global affairs and is a significant force in Eurasian geopolitics. (Kurylev et al., 2021)

The SCO claims to be active in global affairs and a significant force in Eurasian geopolitics. As a Central Asia-based organization, the SCO has close ties with Eurasia, especially with Russia and China as the main members. SCO and Eurasian cooperation spans economics, security and diplomacy. In economics, the SCO's involvement in projects such as China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) strengthens economic connections between the SCO region and Eurasia, increasing cross-border trade and investment. In security, the SCO facilitates coordination in addressing regional security challenges such as terrorism, separatism and extremism, creating a forum for joint risk mitigation and enhancing regional stability. In diplomacy, the SCO and Eurasia build networks of cooperation in international forums and regional organizations, expanding their global influence and engagement. This relationship reflects the complex dynamics of regional cooperation, where economic, security and diplomatic factors intertwine to shape the direction of cooperation between the two regions.

The SCO's role in regional politics and its significance to US interests are often misunderstood. The SCO is not a military bloc, although it does engage in joint activities that look like military cooperation to the US. The organization is open to new members, but is currently unlikely to accept new members. SCO rhetoric opposes US presence and activities on its members' territory, although some member states use military base agreements with the US to their own advantage. (Plater-Zyberk & Monaghan, 2014) The SCO is not a military group. The SCO's main objective is to enhance regional cooperation

in politics, security, economy and culture to promote stability and sustainable development in Central Asia. Although some members have military forces, the SCO is officially not a military bloc and does not focus on military conflicts. Instead, it addresses challenges such as terrorism, extremism and narcotics, and strengthens relations between member states (Plater-Zyberk & Monaghan, 2014).

The SCO's global role includes security cooperation, regional stability, economic cooperation, and multilateral diplomacy. The SCO maintains ties with countries beyond its members and observers, including in Europe, Latin America, and the Middle East, thus playing an important role in international diplomacy and cooperation. China is leading environmental regionalism in the SCO, whose members include the world's largest CO₂ emitters, by providing positive incentives to establish regional environmental institutions and promoting green energy transition through Chinese financial institutions and construction companies. In this way, China is strengthening its regional leadership in Eurasia while promoting its economic influence and its ambitions for global environmental leadership (Agostinis & Urdinez, 2022)

(Agostinis & Urdinez, 2022) state that the SCO has global ambitions, not only in security cooperation, regional stability, economic cooperation, and multilateral diplomacy, but also to gain global recognition with good political objectives. According to (Aris, 2011), the SCO focuses on addressing intra-regional transnational security challenges that are considered to threaten the security of member regimes, especially terrorism related to extremism and separatism. (De Haas, 2016) adds that the SCO often conducts large-scale counterinsurgency and conventional warfare strategy exercises. SCO members are committed to countering these threats through intelligence sharing, coordination of security measures and deterrence.

The SCO is active in addressing drug and human trafficking issues in Central Asia, enhancing law enforcement cooperation and reducing energy supply risks for economic and social stability. Through high-level meetings, the SCO provides a forum for leaders of member states to formulate joint strategies to deal with transnational security challenges (Dadabaev, 2014). China and Russia cooperate in the SCO, coordinating approaches in confronting the US, expanding economic ties, and creating a new security order at the global level. China uses economic cooperation to strategically influence the SCO and Eurasia Yuan (2023), despite facing challenges such as mistrust and conflict between member states and Russian suspicion of China's goals (Alimov, 2018). However, China's investments in infrastructure projects such as the BRI are having a positive impact on economic growth and regional integration in Central Asia (Chao, 2022).

China's involvement in the SCO creates imbalances and tensions among members (Marketos, 2008). However, creating a broader SCO identity requires careful management of diplomacy and cooperation to maintain balance (Marochkin & Bezborodov, 2022). The prospect of trilateral cooperation between China, Russia and the US in the SCO has both potential and challenges. Although China-Russia relations are getting closer, geopolitical tensions with the US and China's economic dominance in the region could be obstacles. However, dialog and mutual understanding can reduce tensions and facilitate better collaboration (Nian, 2022). The SCO's large population creates significant economic, political and cultural potential, bringing benefits for economic growth and a central role in international politics.

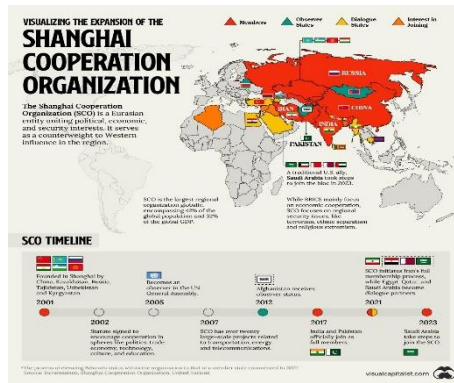


Figure 4: Visualization of SCO expansion (Source: Venditti, 2023)

The SCO's goal is to promote security and stability in Asia with a focus on combating extremism and terrorism and enhancing economic and cultural cooperation. Despite its diverse membership, the SCO has managed to maintain its coherence in the areas of security, economics and diplomacy. However, potential tensions between members still exist, as in the case of the border dispute between China and India. The SCO's expansion could create new dynamics in regional geopolitics and trigger reactions from other organizations. Despite not having an explicit military role, the SCO influences regional and global security through cooperation among members. Through the RSC theory approach, the dynamics of SCO relations at the local, regional, inter-regional and global levels can be better understood. Therefore, the SCO has a significant impact in shaping the policy direction and dynamics of international relations at the global level.

So it can be concluded that the role of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) can be considered as a new political direction that affects the political sustainability of the European Union (EU) globally. The SCO, whose members include Asian countries with large populations, has become a platform for regional cooperation that is increasingly visible at the global level. The SCO's success in shaping economic and political cooperation in the region can attract the attention of countries outside the SCO region, including in Europe. The large market potential and growing economic ties among SCO member states could be an attraction for the EU to pursue closer cooperation or seek alternatives amidst changing global political and economic dynamics. The SCO's growing political clout could also impact EU policy, particularly in the context of diplomacy and international relations. If the SCO succeeds in becoming an entity that can defuse tensions and conflicts in the Asian region, it could create an attractive model for the EU to develop a similar approach to responding to regional crises. Thus, the SCO's role as a new political direction could change the dynamics of international relations and affect the EU's political sustainability globally by creating alternatives or influencing EU foreign policy and strategy.

The global political turnaround from the European Union (EU) to the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) could have a major impact on the general political and security influence of the world. The EU, as a major political and economic entity, has a significant role in shaping global policy, especially in terms of peace, security and human rights. If there is a shift in focus to the SCO, this could change the dynamics of world policy by shifting the center of policy and diplomacy from Europe to Asia. The SCO's growing political influence could create a new paradigm in international relations, where Asian countries, particularly SCO members, play a greater role in global policy direction. In the security context in particular, the shift to the SCO could create a new dynamic in regional conflict resolution and global security management. The SCO, with its members

including major powers such as China and Russia, has the potential to become a key player in addressing security and geopolitical issues in Asia. It could create shifts in global interests and policies, influence preventive measures and responses to conflicts, and permeate a more diverse worldview in the context of international security. Alongside these changes, there will be new challenges and opportunities that could affect the stability and dynamics of international relations in general.

A global political turnaround from the European Union (EU) to the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) could become a reality given a combination of large population factors and internal problems in the EU. First, the SCO's member population of nearly half of the world's population provides significant economic and political power. A large population is the basis for creating a strong market, increasing bargaining power in global economic negotiations, as well as providing great political influence. SCO member states, especially China and India, with their large populations, can become centers of attraction for countries seeking potential trading partners and economic cooperation, enabling the SCO to become a key player in global policy flows. Meanwhile, internal problems in the EU, such as the economic crisis and internal political disagreements, could weaken the EU's position on the global stage. The internal uncertainties and disputes between member states create a picture of the EU's difficulty in coping with its own internal problems, reducing its credibility in terms of political influence and foreign policy.

In this context, countries outside the EU may see the SCO as an attractive alternative with its large population and higher coherence in conducting policies and responding to global issues. Therefore, a shift to the SCO as a global political direction could create a new dynamic in international relations, considering the population factors and internal issues involving both organizations. Economic and demographic factors have played a crucial role in reconstructing the global political power shift from the European Union (EU) to the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). In economic terms, the rapid economic development of China, a key member of the SCO, has played a central role in this shift. Significant economic growth, especially in the manufacturing and technology sectors, has given China a dominant position in international trade and global investment. In addition, some EU countries are facing economic challenges, such as slow growth and high debt burdens, leading to a relative decline in their economic influence at the global level.

Demographics are also a major factor in the reconstruction of global political power. Some EU countries are experiencing population aging and low birth rates, potentially reducing competitiveness and long-term economic growth. In contrast, some SCO members, notably India, are showing dynamic population growth, providing a significant demographic advantage. Younger populations can give SCO countries an edge in terms of labor force, potential consumers, and more positive economic dynamics. Therefore, the interaction between economic and demographic factors has become a key driver in reconstructing the power shifting from the EU to the SCO in the realm of global politics.

Conclusion

The EU is a complex political and economic entity, and the impact of the Russia-Ukraine conflict on EU influence will largely depend on further developments in the Russia-Ukraine war, as well as the responses and actions taken by the EU and its member

states. Changes in the SCO's influence over the Russia-Ukraine war will largely depend on the responses and policies of its member states as well as broader geopolitical dynamics. In this context, changes in the relationship between member states and their priorities within the SCO framework will play an important role in measuring the organization's influence. Power shifting in global politics from the EU to the SCO could be a real potential, especially given the influence wielded by the SCO's large population of member states. With key members such as China and India together accounting for more than half of the world's population, the SCO has significant economic and political appeal.

A large population can be a driving force for the SCO's economic growth, trade and political influence on the global stage. SCO member states, particularly China, have demonstrated a commitment to ambitious economic and infrastructure initiatives, such as the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), that could change the dynamics of international relations and redesign the global order. This potential power shifting is also driven by the increasingly important role that SCO member states are playing in international forums and global issues. With their large populations, SCO countries can increase their presence and influence in organizations such as the UN, IMF and G20. This creates an opportunity for the SCO to become a leader in shaping global policy and determining the direction of world politics. Although this shift still depends on a number of factors, including internal coordination and the balance of interests among SCO member states, the potential for success is gaining traction in global politics.

This research found that the Ukraine conflict has weakened the political influence of the European Union (EU) globally. The conflict has exposed internal divisions and disagreements among EU members in responding to the crisis. While the EU has tried to maintain its global standing by strengthening internal solidarity and imposing economic sanctions on Russia, the divisions have weakened the EU's bargaining power and political influence in the eyes of the world. The EU has also sought to play an active role in diplomacy and mediation to find a political solution to the conflict, but internal challenges have reduced the effectiveness of these efforts. The economic sanctions imposed by the EU on Russia are primarily a response to Russia's annexation of Crimea and support for the uprising in eastern Ukraine. This step was taken to demonstrate the EU's firmness in dealing with actions deemed to violate international law. However, the effectiveness of these sanctions is often debated, mainly due to differing views among EU member states on how harsh action should be taken against Russia.

These differences reflect the EU's inability to act cohesively and in unison on crucial issues, which in turn affects global perceptions of the EU's political power. In its efforts to address the Russia-Ukraine conflict and maintain its global influence, the EU has sought to strengthen solidarity among its member states. However, continued internal disagreements suggest that such solidarity is not as strong as expected. This complicates the EU's efforts to act as a cohesive unit on the international stage. In addition, the economic and political challenges facing some member states have also weakened the EU's overall position. Meanwhile, other organizations such as the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) are beginning to play an increasingly significant role at the global level. The SCO, whose members include Asian countries with large populations such as China and India, is becoming an increasingly influential platform for regional cooperation. The SCO's rising influence can be perceived as a threat to the EU's position in global politics, especially given the central role played by its member states in international economics and politics. The shift in the direction of global politics from the

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EU to the SCO has major implications for the influence of world politics and security in general. With the SCO's growing role, the center of world policy and diplomacy could shift from Europe to Asia. This is driven by the large populations of SCO member states and the closer cooperation between them. This shift not only affects relations between states, but also power dynamics in international politics as a whole.

The findings of this study can be explained through the Regional Security Complex Theory (RSCT) developed by Barry Buzan and Ole Waever. RSCT states that regional security is a product of interactions between states in a particular region that have interrelated security interests. In the context of the Ukraine conflict, the EU's internal divisions in response to this crisis reflect the dynamics of RSCT where European regional security is compromised by internal disagreements and interactions with Russia. This suggests that the EU has not fully succeeded in building a robust regional security complex. Susan Strange's Structural Power theory is also relevant to analyze these findings. Structural power refers to an actor's ability to shape global political and economic structures that determine how international relations are conducted. In this context, internal divisions and a non-cohesive response to the Ukraine conflict suggest that the EU is experiencing a decline in its structural power.

On the other hand, a stronger SCO can be seen as an actor that begins to build new structural power in the Asian region, shifting global power dynamics and introducing a new paradigm in international relations. The shift in influence from the EU to the SCO will be a major challenge, and factors such as security issues, economics, and political priorities will play an important role in this dynamic. However, it should be noted that the EU has its own distinctive features as a strong political and economic entity and such a shift will take significant time and effort.

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