

The Challenges of Brexit on United Kingdom – European Union diplomatic relations

Author:

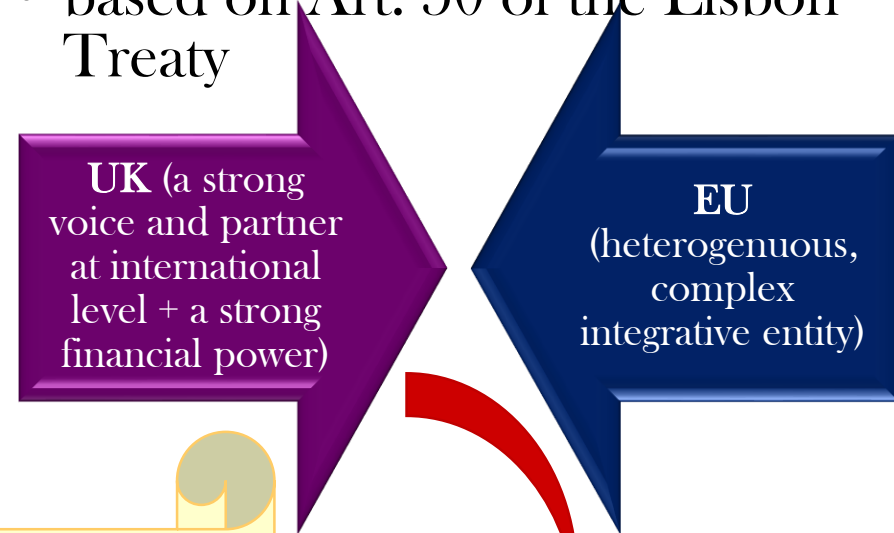
Lecturer **MARIA MIRONA MUREA, Ph.D.**



Introduction

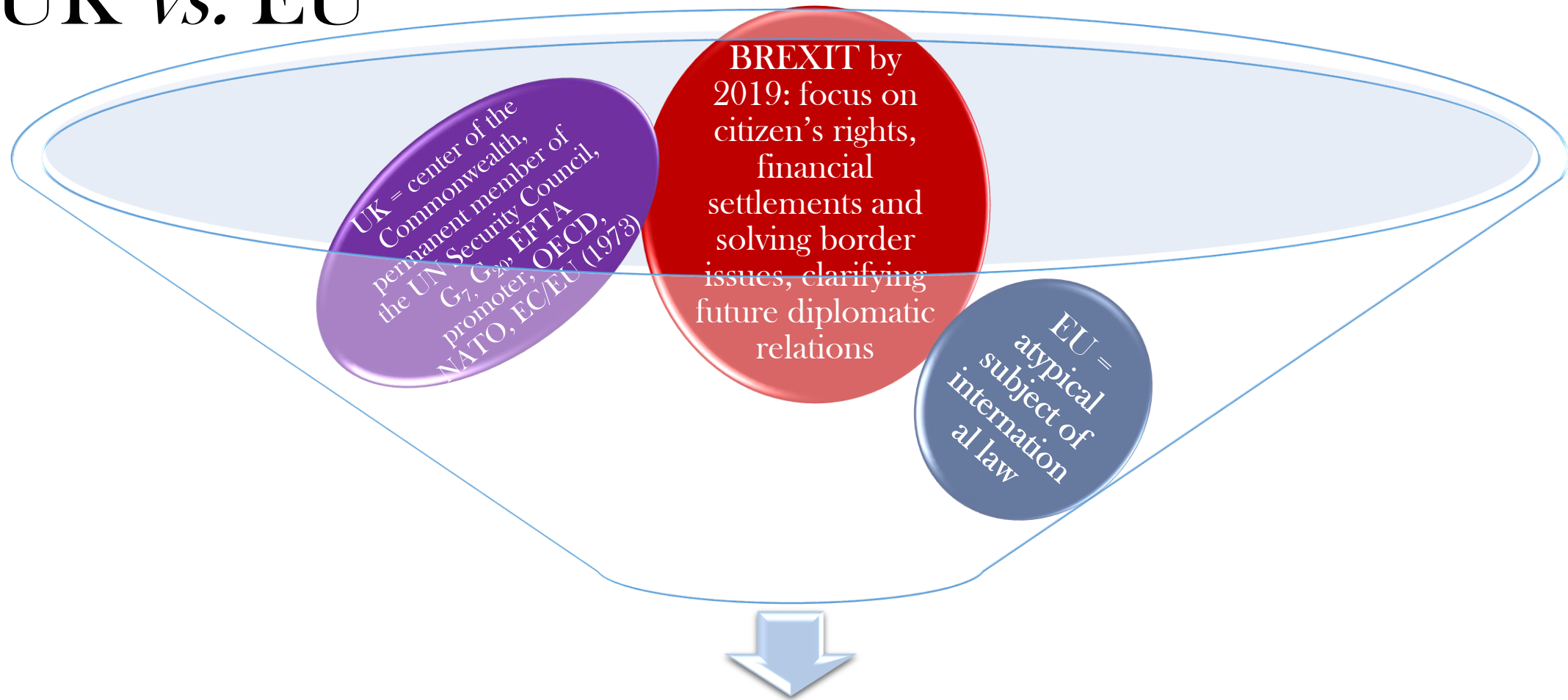
- The European integration (until the Lisbon Treaty):
 - a *progressive* and *irreversible* process
 - until July 2016, just a *hypothetical situation*

- The “Brexit experiment” :
 - based on Art. 50 of the Lisbon Treaty



Is soft power a strong enough tool for UK and EU to ensure the success of negotiations?

UK vs. EU



BREXIT consequences (EU + UK): economy, society, politics, finances, citizens, workforce, business environment, external security policy

IMPORTANCE OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS



- “carrots and sticks”
- coercive

Hard power

Soft power

- attraction and persuasion
- persuasive



- reinforces both concepts
- balance

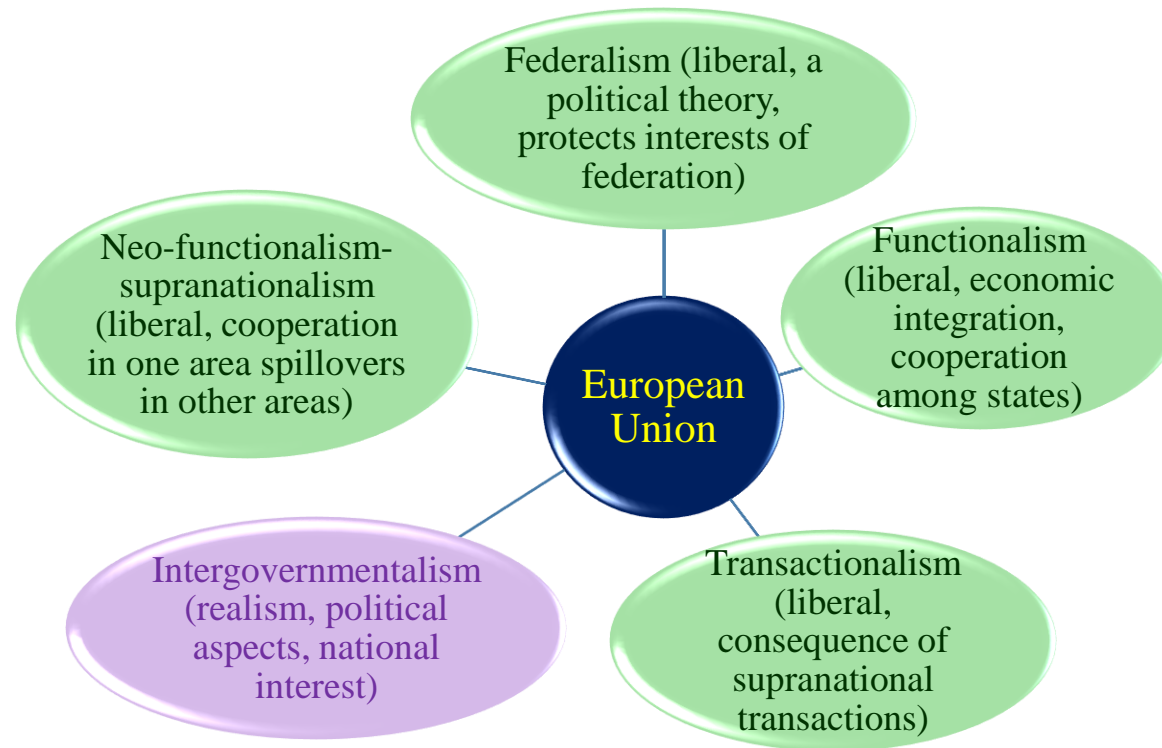
SMART POWER



IMPORTANCE OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

EU's diplomatic relations – brief presentation

EU's main theories of International Relations



EU's diplomacy

CFSP

- added to the EU through the Maastricht Treaty (1992)
- based on intergovernmental cooperation

Reform Treaty Lisbon, (2007)

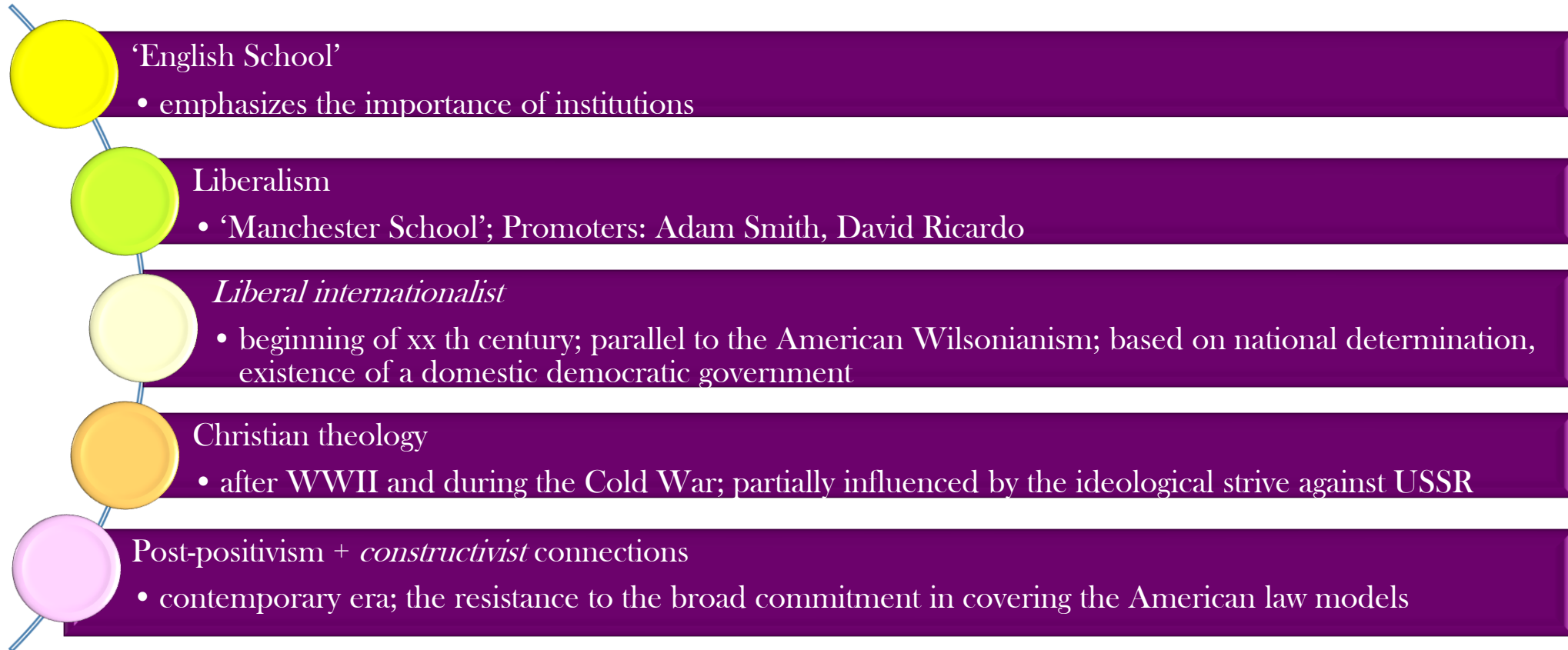
- development of an external relations mechanism on behalf of the EU
- new actors (the President of the European Council, the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the European Commission) represent the Community's interests in foreign policy and security
- European Commission represents EU with third parties

EEAS (2010)

- a major diplomatic innovation,
- use of *smart power* to ensure a high degree of institutional cooperation, coordination of their interests by means of diplomacy and collaboration
- relies on the support of the COREPER Members

IMPORTANCE OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS (CONT'D)

UK's diplomacy



UK's diplomatic relations

- brief presentation

Modern UK

- outward-facing
- globally engaged
- more dependent on the stability and durability of an interconnected new world order

UK's foreign policy

- needs a strong diplomacy
- UK's FCO's staff of 13,000 employees +270 diplomatic offices worldwide

FCO

- safeguarding Britain's national security, supporting its' citizens, building its' prosperity
- 2016 - 2017: FCO's expenditures = £1.98 billion,
- responded to 26 crisis situations
- provided consular support for 23,311 cases
- it had an increased core contribution to ODA by 30%

IMPORTANCE OF UK IN THE EU



- UK = EUROSCEPTIC
 - EC Member State: 1973
 - For EMU: *opt-out clause* (alongside Denmark, Sweden)
 - recognized qualifications from CEECs in a period of 7 years (2 + 3 + 2)
 - *opt-out* clause from the Schengen Agreement
 - introduced the regional and cohesion policy
 - re-launched of the Single Market
 - designed of the EMU and the Enlargement Policy

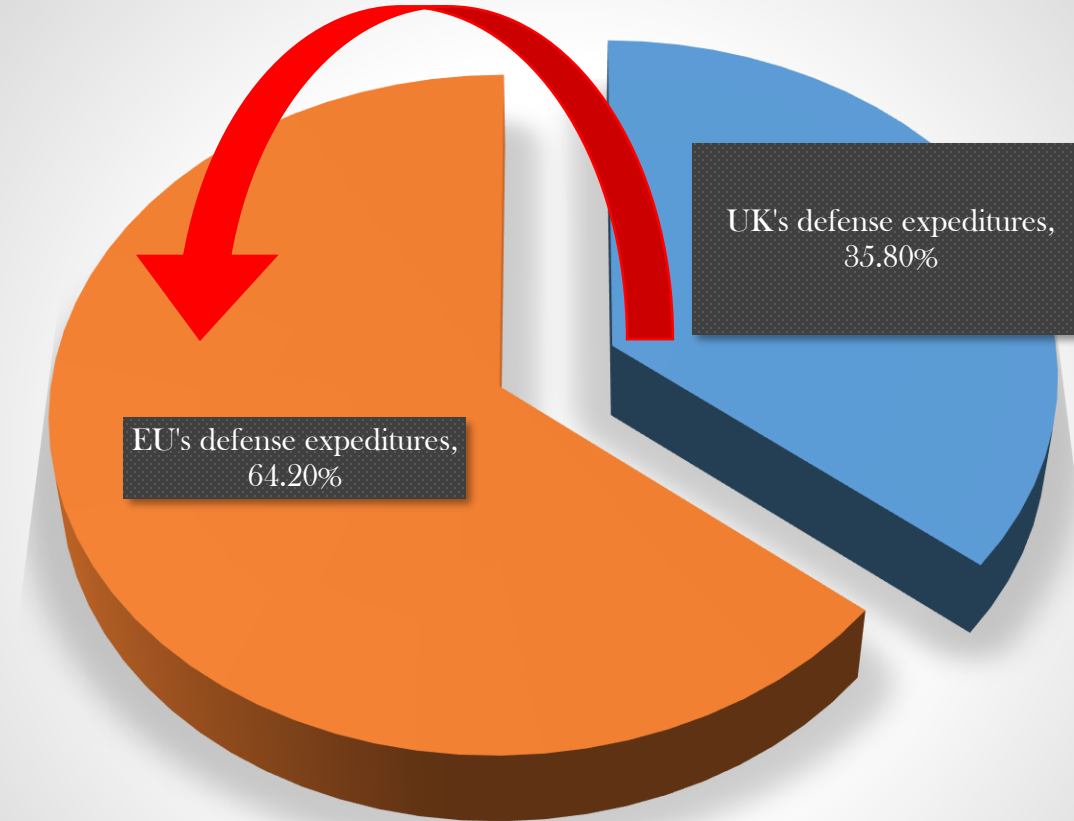


IMPORTANCE OF UK IN THE EU

in the area of
security,
analysis of the the
COFOG99
indicator

A liniar
relation

between the
EU's defense
expenditures
and UK's
defense
expenditures



UK is an
influential
partner for
the EU

BREXIT INFLUENCE ON BILATERAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN UK AND EU

What caused Brexit and how to manage it

- Main cause:
 - related to UK's external security, USA's diminished engagement towards the Western part of Europe
 - the instability of the Middle-East => massive migrationist wave of refugees
 - Ukraine's crisis.
 - at Community level: challenges of the flaws of EMU
- Need:
 - custom tailored economic relationship with the EU
 - full use of 'smart power' to maintain a close relation with the Union



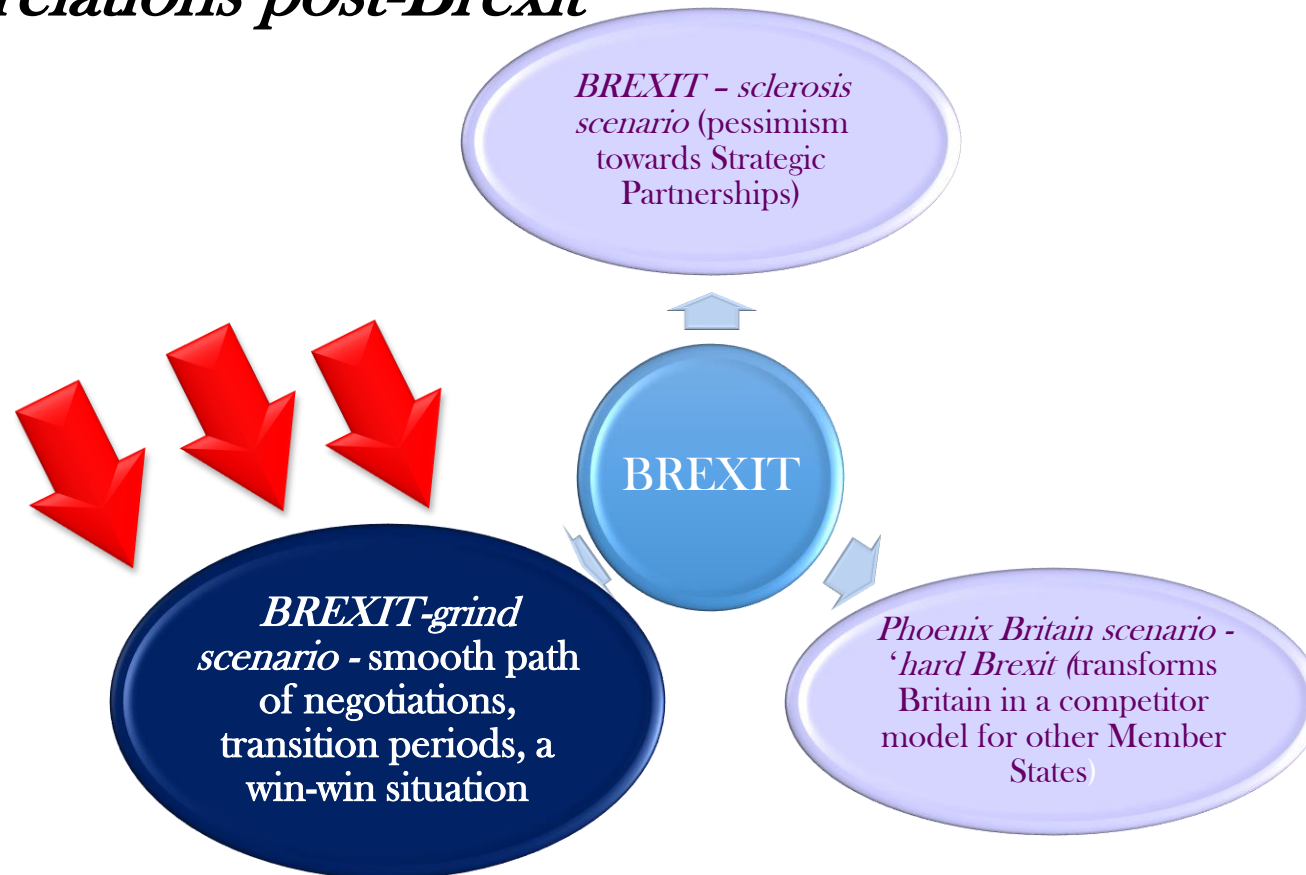
UK's foreign policy post – Brexit

- *UK preserved its 'soft power' assets,*
- *in international affairs British 'hard power' is predominant*
 - arguing that the capacity to project force was vital to British security – an island nation
 - *maintaining territorial integrity post-Brexit is a challenge and it would prove UK's seriousness as a world power (Scotland issue)*



BREXIT INFLUENCE ON BILATERAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN UK AND EU (CONT'D)

Diplomatic relations post-Brexit





Conclusions

- BREXIT: expensive in terms of security, of alliances and establishing new strategies for UK's new *status quo*
- for UK (*liberalism + liberalist internationalism + constructivism*) => Brexit = a reinforcement of the use of '*soft power*' & shift towards '*smart power*'
- for EU (*federalism + functionalism + transactionalism + neo-functionalism supranationalism* (all of liberal influence) + *intergovernmentalism* (belonging to the realistic thoughts) => generating spillovers in all areas
- the main tool: use of '*soft power*', as being the most efficient in the given situation
- Brexit experiment:
 - how a Member State can cope with all the domestic, Community and international pressure of leaving EU
 - this maneuver – successful: only by a powerful country such as the United Kingdom

**THANK
YOU**