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#### EUROPEAN UNION CITIZENSHIP AND IDENTITY

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Introduction:

The concept of European citizenship and identity has been a topic of debate since the inception of the European Union (EU). While the EU has made significant strides in creating a sense of shared identity among its citizens, there are still challenges that remain. In this article, we will explore the concept of EU citizenship and identity, the evolution of these ideas over time, the challenges that have arisen, and the future of European citizenship and identity.

1. The Evolution of European Citizenship

The Maastricht Treaty, signed in 1992 and in force in 1993, is considered the most significant and important step in the evolutionary process of Union citizenship. The concept of "Citizenship of the Union" was introduced at Maastricht, forming a key part of the Community's response to provide the glue to help bind together nationals of all the member states. Before the Maastricht Treaty, citizenship status was not involved in founder treaties, but some rules on the basis of this status were envisaged, such as the prohibition of national discrimination and providing free movement in the internal market. EU citizenship depends on Member State nationality and does not replace national citizenship. EU citizenship is evolutionary and can expand to new rights together with the expansion of the scope of the EC Treaty. At the beginning of the European integration, the approach towards citizenship was limited to economic freedoms, but it was not sufficient for building a "People's Europe." The Maastricht Treaty introduced a new and rather novel section on citizenship, establishing a citizenship of the Union to be conferred on every person holding the nationality of a member state. The Treaty does not create a nationality of the Union, but rather a complementary citizenship to the citizenship of a member state.

Moreover, the Maastricht Treaty introduced a number of new rights for EU citizens. These rights included the right to move and reside freely within the territory of the member states, the right to vote and stand as a candidate in municipal and European Parliament elections in the member state of residence, and the right to diplomatic and consular protection from the authorities of any member state when in a non-member state.

In addition, the Maastricht Treaty also established the concept of EU citizenship as a basis for the development of a common European identity. This was a significant step in the evolution of EU citizenship, as it marked a shift away from the economic focus of earlier integration efforts towards a more social and cultural agenda.

Since the adoption of the Maastricht Treaty, EU citizenship has continued to evolve, with the Amsterdam Treaty of 1997 and the Treaty of Nice of 2001 introducing further rights and protections for EU citizens. These included the right to participate in the democratic life of the Union, the right to petition the European Parliament, and the right to access documents of the Union's institutions.

Overall, while there were important developments in EU citizenship before the Maastricht Treaty, this treaty marked a significant turning point in the evolution of EU citizenship, establishing it as a fundamental aspect of the European project and introducing a range of new rights and protections for EU citizens. Since then, EU citizenship has continued to evolve, reflecting the changing needs and aspirations of European citizens and the ongoing process of European integration.

2. The Idea of European Identity in the EU

What is the core of European values and how do they relate to the concept of identity in Europe?

The core of European values is based on the respect of human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law, and the respect of human rights. These values are shared by the Member States in a society typified by pluralism, non-discrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity and equality between men and women. These values provide a base for a joint political identity in Europe. However, national identities and histories still exist, and borders have not been abolished.

Europe has a common culture but is politically fragmented, leading to a duality at the heart of European identity. European culture is characterized by elements such as the Church, feudalism, the Court, the town, religious orders, universities, Renaissance and Reform, the scientific revolution, the Baroque Crescent, classical art, the Republic of Letters, and the Enlightenment. On the other hand, the creation of nations in France and England, the national revolutions of 1830 and 1848, the Italian and German unifications, and the political model of the Nation State created competition and formed the core of European dynamic.

One of the ways in which the EU has sought to promote a European identity is through the development of common symbols and institutions. The EU flag, which features a circle of 12 gold stars on a blue background, is a well-known symbol of the union. The EU also has its own anthem, "Ode to Joy," which is based on the final movement of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony. In addition, the EU has its own institutions, such as the European Parliament and the European Court of Justice, which help to promote a sense of shared purpose and common values among member states.

Despite these efforts, the idea of a European identity remains contested. Critics argue that it is difficult to develop a sense of shared identity across such diverse cultures and languages, and that the EU risks eroding national identities in the process. Others argue that the EU has been too

focused on promoting economic integration at the expense of social and cultural cohesion, leading to a sense of alienation among some European citizens.

3. The Role of EU Institutions in Promoting European Identity

The European Union (EU) is a unique entity that has transformed the political and economic landscape of Europe over the past few decades. One of the aims of the EU has been to promote a sense of European identity among its citizens. European identity refers to the shared values, beliefs, and cultural heritage that unite the people of Europe.

The European Union was founded on the idea of promoting peace, prosperity, and unity in Europe. The EU institutions play a crucial role in shaping policies and strategies that help to achieve these goals. One of the ways in which the EU institutions promote European identity is by supporting cultural exchange programs, education, and social initiatives that foster a sense of belonging and unity among Europeans.

The European Commission is one of the EU institutions that plays a crucial role in promoting European identity. Through its programs such as Erasmus+ and Creative Europe, the Commission funds initiatives that encourage cultural exchange, creativity, and innovation among Europeans. These programs allow young people to study, work, and travel abroad, which helps to break down cultural barriers and build bridges between different communities.

The European Parliament is another EU institution that promotes European identity. The Parliament is made up of elected representatives from all EU member states, and it serves as a forum for debate and decision-making on issues of common interest to Europeans. The Parliament promotes democracy, human rights, and the rule of law, which are all key values that underpin the European identity.

The EU also promotes European identity through its policies and initiatives. For example, the EU has implemented policies aimed at protecting the environment, promoting sustainable development, and improving public health. These policies help to create a sense of shared responsibility among Europeans, who recognize the importance of working together to address common challenges.

Moreover, the EU institutions also play a role in promoting multilingualism, which is a key component of European identity. The EU recognizes the importance of preserving the diversity of European languages and cultures. The European Parliament conducts its debates in 24 official languages, and EU documents are translated into all official languages. This ensures that all Europeans have access to information and can participate in the democratic process, regardless of their language background.

The EU institutions play a vital role in promoting European identity. Through its policies, initiatives, and cultural exchange programs, the EU aims to foster a sense of belonging and unity among Europeans. The EU recognizes that a strong European identity is essential for promoting peace, prosperity, and democracy in Europe. By continuing to invest in initiatives that promote European identity, the EU can ensure that the people of Europe continue to work together towards a brighter future.

4. The future of European Identity

The European Union (EU) was founded with the aim of promoting peace and prosperity across the continent, and has played a vital role in shaping Europe's political, economic, and social landscape over the past few decades. Central to this endeavor has been the idea of European citizenship, which has granted citizens of EU member states certain rights and privileges that extend beyond their national borders. However, as the EU continues to grapple with various challenges, including Brexit, rising populism, and the COVID-19 pandemic, the future of EU citizenship and identity remains uncertain.

One of the key challenges facing the EU is the erosion of trust and solidarity between member states. The 2015 migration crisis exposed deep divisions between member states over how to address the influx of refugees and migrants, and led to the adoption of controversial policies such as the EU-Turkey deal and the closure of borders. More recently, the COVID-19 pandemic has further strained relations between member states, with some countries accused of prioritizing their own interests over those of the wider EU community.

These challenges have called into question the very notion of European identity, and have raised concerns about the future of EU citizenship. In order to address these issues, the EU has launched various initiatives aimed at promoting a stronger sense of European identity, including the European Solidarity Corps and the European Capital of Culture program.

Another key aspect of EU citizenship and identity is the role of education. The EU has long recognized the importance of education in fostering a shared sense of European identity, and has established various programs aimed at promoting intercultural dialogue and exchange among students and teachers. The Erasmus+ program, for example, has provided millions of young people with the opportunity to study, train, or volunteer abroad, thereby promoting cross-cultural understanding and cooperation.

However, the future of EU citizenship and identity is far from certain. The rise of populist and nationalist movements across Europe has led to increased polarization and a questioning of the EU's fundamental principles. Brexit, in particular, has raised concerns about the future of the EU project, with some fearing that it could lead to the fragmentation of the bloc and a further erosion of European identity.

In order to safeguard the future of EU citizenship and identity, it will be crucial for the EU to address the underlying causes of distrust and division between member states. This will require a renewed commitment to solidarity, cooperation, and mutual respect, as well as a willingness to address the concerns and grievances of all member states. It will also require a continued focus on promoting intercultural dialogue and understanding, particularly among young people, who will be the future leaders of Europe.

In conclusion, the future of EU citizenship and identity is intrinsically linked to the success of the European project as a whole. As the EU continues to face various challenges, it will be crucial for member states to work together to promote a stronger sense of European identity, based on common values, shared history, and mutual respect. Through education, cultural exchange, and a renewed commitment to solidarity, the EU can build a stronger, more cohesive community, capable of addressing the challenges of the 21st century and beyond.

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#### UDC 339.924 THE COOPERATION OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND ITS IMPACT ON INDIA-KAZAKHSTAN RELATIONS

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Friendly relations and cooperation between India and Kazakhstan date back to ancient times. One of the symbols of mutual trade was the Silk Road, which ran through Kazakhstan and ended in India. Even back then there was an exchange of goods and ideas between our states. For centuries, the Indian people, like the people of Kazakhstan, have always welcomed people of different religions in their land. This intercourse had the results of enrichment through ideas, knowledge, and worldviews. This union of cultures and different religions has given to our peoples an inner strength and a unique national character.

India was one of the first states to establish diplomatic relations with Kazakhstan after the Independence on February 23, 1992. Since then, there has been close cooperation and development of relations between our two countries in a wide and varied range of areas. Even on January 27, 2022, the 1st India-Central Asia Summit was held in the format of a videoconference, during which the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan K. Tokayev confirmed Kazakhstan's commitment to deepening freedom with India. However, it is not only trade and meetings of presidents that strengthen the prospects for cooperation. In a time of globalization, migration rates have risen around the world. Most young people travel the world to increase their horizons and experiences. Thus, it is not uncommon for students in Kazakhstan and India to choose a semester-long exchange program.

A student who comes to study in another country goes through a process of adapting to a new place of residence, local culture, traditions, and a new educational system. In some cases, the difference between home and new environment is too significant that causes complications for incoming students. For example, students between Kazakhstan and India point to the difference in temperature. The two countries are in radically different climates. However, adaptation to the new climate is not a reason to reject the opportunity.

Currently, there are about 2,400(two thousand four hundred) Indian students studying at various medical and other institutions in Kazakhstan. Many Indian students are looking for ways to study MBBS on a budget. And at that time, Kazakhstan became most picky choice to enter. Medical universities in Kazakhstan has the best state accreditation and good infrastructure for international students with a low fee structure. To get into the MBBS program in Kazakhstan,