

African Union: Legal and Economic Analysis

The diploma paper primarily focuses on African integration process, both from the legal and economic point of view. It provides a brief outline of the history of African integration, as well as the socio-political background surrounding the current attempt to unite the African region.

In the first chapter, I focus on the political and legal concept of Africa, which is regarded by the preamble of the Constitutive Act of the African Union as seamless and clear. However, the idea of Africa is difficult to grasp, as multiple concerns exist within the geographic borders of Africa. This chapter also introduces in brief the theory of economic integration.

The second chapter provides us with the history of African integration, which was for the most of its time closely bound with the project of decolonization and ideas of panafricanism. The adumbration of the African Union, the Organization of African Unity, evolved in a non-operational entity discredited by the respect to many African autocratic rulers who mostly demonstrated little or no sentiment to privation of their peoples. According to the Constitutive Act of the African Union, the significant attribute of this organization is to overcome such a limitation and contribute to the evolvement of the values of democracy and good governance, as well as to respect human rights.

The third chapter comprises of the analysis of the African economic community, an economic part of the project of the African Union. The establishment of the African economic community consists of six stages; the primary stages shall be realized not on the African level, but on the regional level – for that reason, main activities shall be conducted by the associated regional economic communities. The following chapter subsequently describes in deep the particular regional economic

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communities.

The fifth chapter contains the thorough analysis of the African Union, its main goals, principles upon which it is built-up and organs of the African Union.