

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

The establishment of Greenlink interconnector has become part of UK and Ireland milestone to shift their energy resources to renewables one. The theory of national interest has told us that a policy is an issue or goal driven and Greenlink is made based on a major issue that might affect economic and political stability, therefore several ways out need to figured. Establishing a cooperation was decided by both parties to deal with each other national interest and meet their national's RED goal set by EU as well as satisfying their energy white paper in electricity. Greenlink believed to support the convenience of energy security, ease congestion in electricity trade, and ultimately is to enhance the use of renewable energy in Europe; fighting the climate change challenges. Previously the alike bilateral agreement called 'Greenwire' has been shelved due to the policy discrepancy between UK and Ireland. However, it does not seem to stop the urge and ambition to move towards renewable energy driven state. The aim of this research is to find out on what is the background call of UK and Ireland in conduction the agreement to its present form.

The discovery of both state's motivation to finally conduct an interconnector project 'Greenlink' can be identified through internal and external factors. The internal factors mainly driven from the political and economic interest, while the external factors come from the regional body (European Union) and the

sole developer of Greenlink – Element Power as the MNC. We may identify the background through each state’s white paper on their energy planning for years ahead and the renewable electricity state of affairs before the project is conducted. According to Kant, states might happen to cooperate as part of their political interest through factors of homogeneity and common fate. Homogeneity stands for the same value and vision delivered through the white paper. Their concern in meeting energy security is to be achieved effectively through renewable energy interconnector that could endorse market competitiveness and distribution of excess electricity in real time. The action shall refer from the value of transparency and sustainable development of society. These likenesses of value encourage the chance of cooperation through collective identity. Meanwhile the common fate has shown that both countries suffer from the diminishing of oil reserved and high dependency of import, plus the need to reach 2020 goal of renewable electricity. Greenlink would get them diverse electricity resources from across integrated electricity market and lessen the risk of volatile nature of imports. The access of electricity export would bear a hand of meeting renewable consumption of electricity at the state by 2020. The combination of these variables has become political motives of Ireland and UK to deal with the energy security through Greenlink.

The economic interest set forth the comparative advantage of wind energy possessed by Ireland, supported by demographic and geographic feature. Meanwhile, UK with their biomass energy with greater production and technology compare to Ireland. To sum the internal factors, we may involve in the perspective of green economy where the state now need to consider the environment as the

subset of economy for a sustainable development through integrated policy. Embracing the social, economic, and environment factors; Greenlink assured to open job employment and investment as well as reducing the electricity price for a better improvement of society. Agreeing that electricity plays an integral part of the society and economic activities that require energy to take part in it, renewable resources will be the ideal way out with the certainty feature and advantage of convenient interconnector.

However, this interconnector would not be in its establishment without the external factors, as what liberal pluralism portrays the international relations does not only comprise the existence of state but also MNC and regional body that promote international cooperation. With EU and the ambition to drive the member states to promote the use of renewable energy. The privilege of IEM and granted predicate of PCI also ease the financial constrain through the funding. EU has made conducive, supportive environment and political backing as a regional body that contributes as a stimulant for UK and Ireland to conduct this project. Element Power that acts as a sole developer has been truly determinate to make Greenlink come to realization. Having well-known reputation on renewable energy developer in both countries, assisting both actors with its better mobilization to meet various requirement needed by every state; especially in part of maintaining transparency. These contributions have led UK and Ireland to conduct more effective and efficient project like Greenlink.

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