Three organizations do a reasonably good job of representing the activities, promise, and problems of regional organizations globally: the European Union, NATO, and the African Union. Select one of these three organizations. Then select one of the two themes listed for that organization. Write a 2-3 page paper (plus citations and references) on that theme. A short set of sources is listed for each theme to get you started; feel free to seek other sources. Do not neglect what these issues say about the theoretical perspectives we discussed early in the course.

Papers are due by 3:00, Tuesday, April 14. Papers should be submitted via email attachment, as docx or pdf files.

A. European Union

Theme 1: Brexit has dominated EU affairs for four years. Why is Britain leaving the EU? Why Brexit? What problems did such extensive cooperation create that members defect?

Alan Riley, “Brexit: Causes and Consequences,” online at
https://www.cidob.org/publicaciones/serie_de_publicacion/notes_internacionales/n1_159/brexit-causes-and-consequences

John Mauldin, “3 Reasons Brits Voted For Brexit,” online at:
https://www.forbes.com/sites/johnmauldin/2016/07/05/3-reasons-brits-voted-for-brexit/#5d261e201f9d


Theme 2: In the wake of Brexit, there is a reasonable possibility that Greece and Spain will also leave the EU. In light of Brexit, what is the future of the EU?


Jon Henley, Jennifer Rankin and Lisa O'Carroll, “Brexit explained: how it happened and what comes next,” online at:


B. NATO

Theme 1: NATO was created to defend Western Europe from a Soviet threat. With the collapse of the Soviet Union, that threat largely disappeared. Why (and how) has NATO survived?

Mark, J. Rice, “NATO's New Order: The Alliance After the Cold War,” online at: http://origins.osu.edu/article/natos-new-order-alliance-after-cold-war


Theme 2: In light of the collapse of the Soviet Union, how have the purpose and activities of NATO changed? What does the future hold?


C. African Union

Theme 1: Though a young organization, the African Union is very active, most visibly in its peacekeeping activities. Discuss the importance of peacekeeping to the AU and to Africa.


Theme 2: Beyond peacekeeping, what does the AU offer Africa for the future? Think especially in terms of the shared problem of development.

