



THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN AFRICA

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MAIN EXAMINATION

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JANUARY – APRIL 2022

INSTITUTE FOR REGIONAL INTEGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

EVENING PROGRAMME

MRI 506: COMPARATIVE REGIONALISM

Date: APRIL 2022

Duration: 3 Hours

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer Question ONE and any TWO Questions

Q1.

(a) Free movement of persons is considered a pillar for African Regional Integration. What's the rationale for the free movement of persons among/within RECs in Africa? Make an assessment on the progress made with regard to free movement of persons among/within the RECs in Africa. **(10 marks)**

(b) Compare and contrast New Regionalism and Old regionalism **(5 marks)**

(c) The continent's poor historical record of regional cooperation and integration in the past has led many in the field to claim that regionalism in Africa is doomed to fail. However, existing empirical evidence tends to suggest that the possibility of some success in regionalism in contemporary Africa still exists even though limited in its scope. Judging from historical experience and current conditions, what is the future of regionalism in Africa.

(15 marks)

Q2. The Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in Africa are considered as building blocs to an integrated Africa. In your assessment of the various RECs in Africa, what are some of the identifiable limitations among the RECs in Africa, and how can these limitations be addressed to realize the envisaged African Economic Community dream?

(15 marks)

Q3. The African regional integration model seems to follow the linear integration model. Africa has experienced challenges in its integration journey and has bench-marked with the European and Asian integration initiatives. Compare and contrast the African Regional integration initiative with Asian and European Integration Initiatives **(15 marks)**

Q4. Regional organizations (ROs) display significant variation in their institutional design. Some involve broad-ranging formal institutionalization; others are based primarily on informal networks. Some have powerful general secretariats with extensive competencies; others feature only small administrative units. Some have a diversified institutional architecture; others are fairly simple in their institutional organization. Some make decisions by consensus; others use majoritarian decision-making rules. Some appear to be relatively fixed in their institutional structure, while others change considerably over time.

- (i) In your view, how can this variation institutional design be explained? **(5 marks)**
- (ii) What are some of the identifiable consequences of variation in institutional design of regional organizations **(10 marks).**

Q5. Choose any two RECS in Africa and analyze the connections among globalization, domestic politics, and regional orders in each REC. **(15 marks)**

END