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The Emergence of Green Diplomacy in International Relations: A Qualitative Study

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Abstract

Key words:

Green diplomacy, international relations, foreign direct investment, sustainability, green politics.

As a result of the rapid trend of globalization and the increase in international trade between nations, environmental issues are at the forefront of governments' minds. The emergence of green diplomacy in international economic agreements has improved international relations. A qualitative research design has been implemented for this study. To this end, interviews with Chinese FDI executives have been undertaken, as they are the only ones who can provide their ideas on green diplomacy and international relations in an authentic manner. The results suggested that green diplomacy favorably strengthens and influences international relations by increasing the provocation of constructing preventive measures surrounding ecological reservations caused by dangerous or ecologically damaging pollution. The research contributes important insights to the expanding body of literature on the advent of green diplomacy as a beneficial force in international relations. This study has equal practical value since policymakers of FDI in different nations might seek out green diplomacy's positive characteristics, thereby strengthening international relations.

Introduction

One of the contemporary notions in international relations is green diplomacy. It was the outcome of various worldwide regulations designed to protect the environment from its threats, be they climate change, environmental pollution, global warming, or global warming. There is little doubt that green diplomacy has its roots in the green theory that emerged in the seventies of the previous century and whose primary objective was to establish a new formula for international relations that incorporates environmental concerns. The emergence of green diplomacy results from a growing desire among nations and organizations to defend previously neglected causes. It is one of the new subjects in international relations due to the significance of its new suggestion following the developments of the twenty-first century, which have demonstrated the existence of an imbalance in modern living regarding the destruction of the environment and planet.

As a state-centered profession, diplomacy in its early traditional form was exclusively concerned with higher politics, i.e., national security, defense, and sovereignty (Nicolas et al., 2021). Then, the focus shifted to environmental considerations, which are the essence of green diplomacy. As the latter is the ideal representation of environmental diplomacy, it is noted that senior international leaders are concerned with environmental issues. The G7 or G8 summit is incomplete without a statement regarding the environment. The same holds for the Non-Aligned Movement and the G77 conference (Narain, 1998). Upon its debut in the twenty-first century, green diplomacy can be characterized as being confused about the most significant challenges it was addressing. Perhaps this is due to the tension within green political thought, particularly in interpreting the essence of sustainable development requirements, which initially led green thought

to intervene in economic growth under what is known as ecological modernization, where green thinkers view economic growth as a prerequisite for protecting the environment ([Connelly et al., 2012](#)).

Due to a significant rise in environmental consciousness, green diplomacy has attracted considerable attention. Comparable to international relations, empirical research on international relations and green diplomacy techniques is scarce. Thus, the purpose of this study is to examine the effect of green diplomacy on international relations. To safeguard the environment and avoid international disputes from escalating into military conflicts, green diplomacy must be activated and placed at the core of each country's diplomacy and as the guiding principle for the policies of those countries ([Abu-Saleh, 2019](#)). This makes green diplomacy a requirement for preventing wars. Accordingly, according to the above description, the objective that governs green diplomacy is global governance, which is an essential objective for a global debate on matters of grave importance to the planet. Some characterize green diplomacy based on its goals: "Aiming to raise awareness and promote common interests in the management and protection of humanity's shared natural heritage, independent of geographic location. They are on the same planet and are influenced to the same extent. The only way to tackle one of the environmental problems they generated is for everyone to participate in its resolution " ([Ioan, 2013](#)).

The basic objective of green diplomacy is to attract attention to global threats and take action on this issue. As the disastrous implications of not doing anything about energy and environmental issues are very significant, this does not mean that there have been no positive actions, especially in the last three decades, for example, the founding of The Global Monitoring Institute in 1974. This institute is a research institution that seeks to create a socially and environmentally sustainable society ([Perlmeter, 2017](#)). The growth of interest in environmental issues such as climate change and phenomena connected to high temperatures led to the emergence of green diplomacy. These changes necessitate extensive international cooperation to develop solutions and collective decision-making. Also, these changes cannot be taken without a common ground through which the many talks on these concerns that threaten the existence of man and life on the surface of the world are addressed. Green diplomacy has increased governments' willingness to engage in negotiations concerning environmental challenges. It has offered considerable interest in these debates to the dimensions that include inappropriate uses, resources, dangerous gas emissions, water consumption, and the promotion of sustainable development. This research examines the emergence of green diplomacy and international relations to inculcate methodologies for assessing the relationship between green activities and their long-term impact on international relations.

Literature Review

Green Diplomacy and International Relations

Green diplomacy, according to the study of [Broadhead \(2002\)](#), is preventive diplomacy that attempts to promote resilience and balance the state's interest with the interest of every individual on the planet concerning the development and conservation of natural living conditions. In the context of international affairs, green politics or Eco politics is a political ideology that seeks to promote an environmentally sustainable society. According to an ethical or political movement that seeks to improve and protect the quality of the natural environment through environmental modifications to environmentally destructive human activity, the rising concern for speedy monetary gain has caused considerable environmental damage ([Kim et al., 2016](#)). Despite the interest in human nature, ecological theory is concerned with interest in nature. The green theory captures this tendency in terms of political agency and value. Environmental issues have emerged as a unique topic of discussion among scientists, civil society, and even international relations between nations. Current research indicates that several European nations have ineffective green political parties ([Broadhead, 2002](#)). On the one hand, the affiliation and increasing trade between two countries increase/improve international relations, while on the other hand, green practices and the motivation to remain environmentally conscious have been on the rise for quite some time.

[Lemke et al. \(2022\)](#) stated that environmental concerns gained prominence in international politics following the turn of the century. With the growth in environmentalism as an intellectual and social movement, green politics has become an integral aspect of international relations and has captivated the literature as environmental concerns have multiplied rapidly. According to the research conducted by [Hagen \(2000\)](#), the network comprises EEAS and EU delegates, as well as officials in the European Union's ministry of foreign affairs, whose responsibilities include the international environment and green/sustainable development. The importance of environmental issues has compelled international trade and regulations to continue emphasizing green practices to protect the environment from climatic risks ([Iftime, 2014](#)). The pervasiveness and significance of ecological issues and the offensive nature of some environmental actions have elevated environmental preservation to the top of the list of internalized state and global cooperation procedures. The transboundary character of pollution, the conventional "solidarity" concerning environmental issues, pollution export, and the assertion of international ecological concerns such as the greenhouse effect and climate change, ozone layer and desertification, and biodiversity conservations ([Petri, 2020](#)). These elements necessitate specialized global development and global or regional bilateral cooperation.

In contrast to conventional diplomacy, international relations are conducted in the spirit of reciprocity to achieve a stable equilibrium between a state's obligations and the benefits it receives from other states. Thus, the objective of green diplomacy in international relations is to raise awareness, develop mutual interest in management, and protect the shared human legacy. Globalization of green diplomacy occurs in the interest of and for the benefit of the global community. According to the findings of [Leann Brown \(2003\)](#), no top-level worldwide meetings do not examine the environmental implications of the presented issues, if not genuine ecological concerns. This results in a higher level of transitional green diplomacy. Global environmental cooperation is complicated and difficult as ecological issues impact the "core" of international interactions and home political accords ([Yang et al., 2017](#)).

According to the study by ([Goldstein, 2008](#); [Roemer et al., 2007](#)), the expanded international relations and improved relationship between the two governments have brought to light several ecological challenges that both nations had to address. Through green diplomacy, such preventive and resilient walls are erected around rising environmental issues that can be mitigated by implementing environmental sustainability measures ([Renaud, 1997](#)). International ties are mostly fostered when one nation seeks to invest, trade, or undertake joint business operations with another. A common example is the foreign direct investment conducted by nations in another state to increase and withdraw a mutually beneficial incentive. Increased FDI has also resulted in improved international ties, and the concept of green diplomacy is evolving as a result. Thus, green diplomacy ensures ecological safety through preventative environmental safety and security measures. Therefore, diplomacy aims to establish harmony, resilience, or a defensive barrier surrounding the alignment of the state's environmental protection measures with those of other nations. The reason for this is the creation and preservation of natural habitats. The influence of diplomats in international relations increased accordingly. The green goal or motives must be central to their agendas and multilateral engagements. Thus, the concept of the global diplomatic community acting as "change" and actively informing the international community about the dangers of climate change is deemed new ([Winter, 1997](#)).

Theoretical Background

One of the most appealing aspects of green theory in international relations is its emphasis on preserving a healthy global ecology ([Vincent, 2003](#)). It is argued that the theory of language is theoretical, i.e., the method of investigating the mind and imagination ([Anis, 2004](#)). Political theory is a systematic examination of the nature and goals of government, which necessitates a grasp of political institutions and strategies for altering them ([Researchers, 1994](#)). Political theory is capable of being defined as "An entire chapter of political science that consists of a set of analyses, hypotheses, and interpretations of the results in light of which it interprets political phenomena, i.e., the identity of the state: its origin, development,

functions, systems, and goals. In addition, the political theory requires an understanding of history, morality, and political conduct. It considers the prevalent values and principles, psychological composition, social structure, interaction, and conflict to determine the theory's methods and objectives " (Al-Kayyali, 1995).

Political theory is a foundation of political science intertwined with political thought and ideology; therefore, it has become impossible to distinguish between these concepts (Muhammad, 2009). Political theory is as old as the study of politics itself, and it was founded on the claims and arguments of political thinkers (Smits, 2013). After understanding the meaning of the political theory, the definition of "green" must be clarified, as the importance of environmental policies and what they entail. The Greens, or "supporters of the organic and ecological environment." are its supporters (Paterson, 2014).

The green theory is normative since it tries to reform global politics to accomplish sustainable objectives (Paterson, 2014). Normative theories are intended to describe how politics ought to operate; they specify what we ought to do (Smits, 2013). According to the perspectives of philosophers, the green theory is a theory that addresses the environmental crisis. It is centered on a global agenda that questions the nature of international politics in general, as well as recommendations on war and peace, development, and the implications of poor sustainability. It is a series of suggestions for achieving the objective of the green theory (Paterson, 2014). These premises represent the green theory's core foundation and immediately contribute to the reconfiguration of global politics in light of the accumulating environmental dangers.

"The relationship between political theory and environmental conditions or concerns can be traced back at least as far as Aristotle Countries exist in their geography," Napoleon Bonaparte said in *Water, Air, and Places*, except as an embodiment of an idea that has its origins in Hippocrates in the fourth century BC. Herodotus utilized it in his writings. Also, Aristotle gave it in the book *Politics* in the form of relationships between Climate and liberties, which Jean Bodine expanded upon. Later, when Montesquieu mentioned it in the fourteenth and seventeenth chapters of his book (*The Spirit of Laws*), this relationship grew (Duverger, 2011; Meyer, 2008). Notably, supporters of the environment and similar interests within the purview of the green theory consider themselves a group whose interests the democratic political system must regard when formulating public policies (Meyer, 2008). The green theory also asserts that it is distinct from other political theories and that this distinction originates from its interest in or research focus on nature, its central feature. The question of integrating politics and nature is crucial. Human political behavior has a decisive effect on nature and, by extension, an indirect effect on human life as a species (Vincent, 2003).

Methodology

Research Design

The rising development of green diplomacy in international relations has been evaluated using a qualitative research design for this study. This study utilizes an inductive research methodology and an interpretivism research philosophy for this objective. Thus, the research has been predicated on the collection of data regarding the opinions, attitudes, and experiences of the intended audience. The target audience has been determined rationally based on the projection of data accuracy assurance. For this study, data was acquired from the Chinese foreign direct investment institution and regulators. As the research aims to evaluate the emergence of green diplomacy in global relations, it is appropriate to record and analyze the responses of people who have experienced it. China's foreign direct investment has gained immense popularity. So the workforce/executives participating in Chinese FDI can effectively express their perspective on green diplomacy, which they have experienced or observed in their international dealings with other nations. The diversity in their work experience at FDI institutes was meticulously analyzed and incorporated with their sensible judgment. The interviews depend on the respondents' capability and ability to ensure the production of the relevant information. Hence it is customarily advised to use a purposeful sample. Five FDI executives will conduct interviews about the growth of green diplomacy in international relations.

Data Collection

The information for this study was collected through interviews. Five Chinese CEOs with FDI expertise have been recruited for interviews. The experience of these executives adds value to the collected data since more seasoned personnel can provide more logical solutions regarding green diplomacy. The responders' familiarity with the subject has been ensured for this aim. The goal of explaining the research purpose to the respondents was to ensure that their responses during the interview were appropriate. Before familiarity with the subject, an interview appointment and consent were obtained.

In addition, the respondents were familiar with the research issue and well-known for their ability to share their willingness and opinions in exchange for about two hours of their valuable time. As soon as the group of respondents was compiled, each individual was contacted to ensure their attention and availability by providing information on times and locations. For this interview, the following research questions have been formulated:

1. In your opinion, how can foreign trade promote green diplomacy?
2. In your opinion, how does the involvement of green diplomacy policies in global trade foster international relations?

3. In your opinion, how does China consider green diplomacy as a preventive measure in international relations?
4. In your opinion, how do ecological issues impact international trade the most? And to what extent can green diplomacy cater to this issue prevalence?
5. In your opinion, to what extent the Chinese FDI is devoted to an escalation of green diplomacy practices while undertaking trade with other countries?

Data Analysis

The interview questions have been prepared depending on the research's theme, objectives, and goals. The devised questions ensured that all feasible green diplomacy and international relations areas were incorporated into the interview questions. Based on the interview questions, appropriate topics were developed, and a thematic analysis was conducted. In the second phase, it was determined that the word frequency cloud technique is most suitable for data analysis. The respondent's most frequent responses were examined through this software-generated word cloud. A word cloud, also known as a text cloud or a tag cloud, is a visual representation of text in which the words appear much larger than they are used (Rodighiero et al., 2022). The word cloud is essential for visualizing unstructured text data and gaining valuable insights into patterns and trends (Cui et al., 2010).

Results

The purpose of the interview transcription was to provide the framework for the initial phase of the thematic analysis. The interview transcription was uploaded to NVivo, which assisted in identifying the primary themes of the interview. Following the identification of themes, the interview data was deciphered. Five questions were posed to respondents in discussions, and the related themes were formed based on their responses. This is an illustration of the systematic approach. The research findings were then refined following the identified themes, as illustrated in Figure 1:

1. In your opinion, how can foreign trade promote green diplomacy?
2. In your opinion, how does the involvement of green diplomacy policies in global trade foster international relations?
3. In your opinion, how does China consider green diplomacy as a preventive measure in international relations?
4. In your opinion, how do ecological issues impact international trade the most? And to what extent can green diplomacy cater to this issue prevalence?
5. In your opinion, to what extent the Chinese FDI is devoted to an escalation of green diplomacy practices while undertaking trade with other countries?

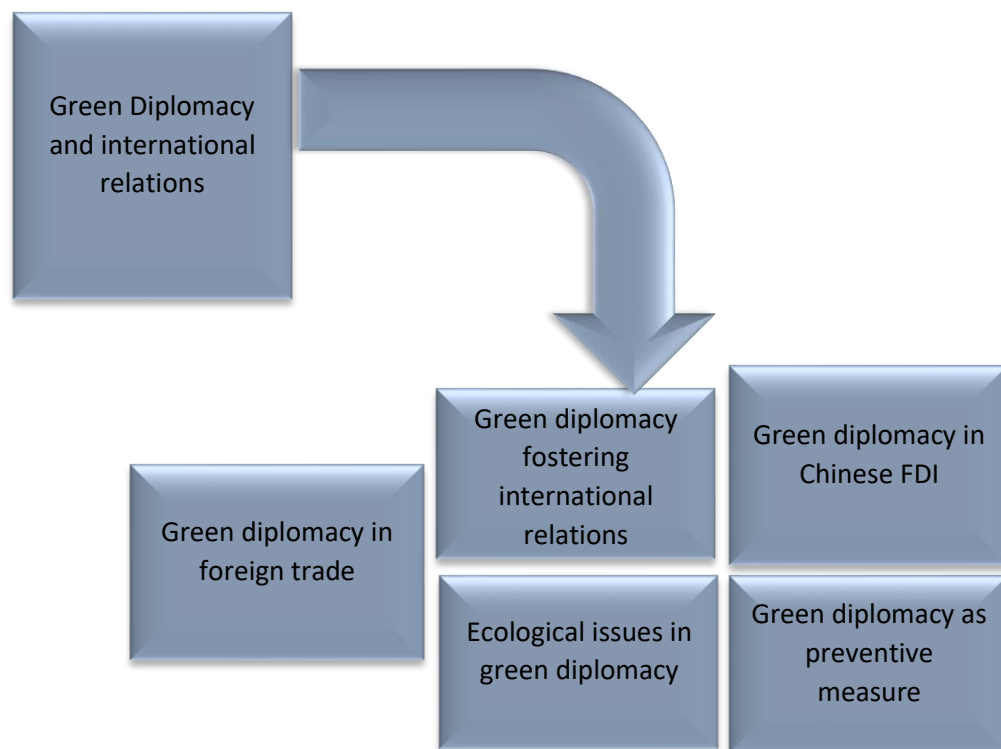


Figure 2. Themes Identification

Thematic Analysis

After conducting interviews with a sample of respondents, an edited version of the transcription was acquired, and five significant themes were coded and subsequently examined as follows:

Theme I: Green Diplomacy in Foreign Trade

Respondents believed that international trade is an efficient means of advancing green diplomacy. In this regard, they stressed the establishment of major green diplomacy measures. This was evidenced by the comment of one of the responders, who stated:

"International trade is a key enabler of a global and inclusive transition to a circular economy. This mechanism effectively transforms the take-make-waste model into a sustainable one."

The respondents also stated that incorporating trade agreements supporting green diplomacy would effectively enhance the overall growth of sustainability. This point was reinforced by a statement made by one of the respondents:

"In my opinion, foreign trade agreements should integrate green diplomacy policies to achieve sustainable development goals at the international level. This will be effective in preserving scarce natural materials."

Many responders also explored the application of sustainable digital technology to international trade. They considered technical advances advantageous in developing green and sustainable diplomacy technologies in international trade. Both emerging and developed nations promote these strategies extensively. An individual respondent stated:

"The world is largely becoming digital, promoting different sustainable technologies in this regard. Therefore, promoting sustainable technologies in foreign trade is also being encouraged these days to reduce global carbon footprints."

Theme II: Green Diplomacy Fostering International Relations

Almost all of the participants in this survey agreed that promoting green diplomacy agreements in international trade is advantageous for enhancing international relations. They argued that rising pollution and global warming had prompted several governments to take significant steps to mitigate these harmful effects. The development of green diplomacy in global trade has also proven effective in this regard. An individual respondent stated:

"Chinese FDI is largely promoting green diplomacy policies to contribute towards a safe and healthy environment. We believe in equality rather than promoting a partially controlled environment. So, the main aim of Chinese FDI is to provide opportunities for developing countries. The BRI initiative of China is the most quoted example in this context."

Respondents agreed that green diplomacy policies in international trade agreements effectively create employment prospects for foreign labor. This was demonstrated by the statement made by one of the respondents:

"In my opinion, green policies will benefit in providing opportunities for different international stakeholders and businesses to bloom internationally. This will be an effective approach to improve international relationships."

One of the respondents also stated:

"Green diplomacy strategy is crucial in eradicating poverty and promoting opportunities. Therefore, the Chinese government is taking important measures to promote green diplomacy policies for improving foreign relations."

• Theme III: Green Diplomacy as Preventive Measure in Chinese FDI

According to the responses, China was one of the first Asian nations to practice green diplomacy to strengthen its international partnerships with other commercial enterprises. China has undertaken many commercial activities with this aim. One respondent remarked:

"A Green Asia can be a blueprint for preventive and stabilizing climate foreign policy. In this regard, the Chinese FDI plays an important role as it largely promotes the climate foreign policy in its trading agreements."

According to the respondents, China is consistently promoting e-green diplomacy techniques to provide connected trading nations and other stakeholders with an effective and simple approach and accessibility. When asked about Chinese FDI green diplomacy policies, one of the interviewees stated:

"In my opinion, China is promoting green diplomacy policies in its foreign trade to achieve a competitive advantage and gain more foreign investors' attention. This strategy has proven to be very beneficial as China has emerged as one of the largest foreign direct investors in the world."

In terms of FDI, respondents said China has always been in fierce competition with the United States. This has prompted the Chinese government to take significant steps to enhance its image in the international trading community. Regarding this, one of the responses stated:

"China has always taken the initiative to support other developing countries such as Africa, Pakistan, and others. In contrast to the USA, which has always been occupied with its own economic and political issues. Thus, the promotion of green diplomacy policies in Chinese FDI has strengthened its position in the trading world."

• **Theme IV: Ecological Issues in International Trade**

The respondents stated that many environmental issues are noticed in international trade, affecting the overall environmental sustainability, such as the use of machinery and technologies, which may impact the international trade's overall sustainable performance. As a result, numerous nations are reducing their reliance on such technologies and machinery. An individual respondent stated:

"At present international trade is promoting ecological issues resulting in increased air and water pollution. Thus, there is an urgency to promote the integration of green diplomacy policies and green technologies in international trade for positive outcomes."

The respondents also highlighted the lack of compliance with climate policy in international commerce, which impacts the overall sustainability performance of international trade. One respondent remarked:

"The climate policy must be considered during international trade to ensure effective, sustainable development. This will help prevent different ecological issues usually observed during international trade."

The respondents supported the promotion of green diplomacy strategies in international trade agreements to prevent environmental problems. This strategy is deemed effective for addressing a variety of environmental challenges. In this context, one respondent highlighted the need for green diplomacy policies in international trade, stating:

"Green diplomacy policies must be included in foreign trade affairs to prevent ecological issues."

- **Theme V: Green Diplomacy in Chinese FDI**

Undoubtedly, countries that wish to engage in international trade have boosted their adoption of environmentally friendly and sustainable methods. China has been tasked with implementing a zero-carbon plan in its operations to accelerate its global interactions with other nations. Additionally, one respondent stated:

"The main purpose in this contemporary business environment is the environmental concern whereas the monetary concerns are our second priority while formulating strategies for international trade and relations." Foreign direct investment is a two-way street in which one country invests its scarce resources and new ideas, and the other country forms a mutually beneficial connection that, over time, flourishes and becomes entrenched. Foreign direct investment (FDI) guarantees favorable international ties between two nations. Additionally, the respondent explained:

"The ecological concerns in the country in which China plans to invest are the supreme priority of the country to incorporate green and clean environment. The less emission of hazardous and pollutant gasses creates environmental damage and, as a result, the sustainability effects. The project of any nature estimates the pros and cons that it could exert on the environment before practical application."

Foreign direct investment automatically develops international links between nations. Presently, green diplomacy is blooming and proving even to boost the international relationship between the two states. Consequently, the results suggested that green projects reduced carbon footprint and catered to the adverse effects of climate change on the environment, which include degrading and contaminating ecological surroundings. China has been regarded as the nation most committed to considering a green economy as a fundamental medium before drafting international trade accords. Positively enhancing international relations is considering other nations' ecological features and matching them with solid growth strategies.

Word Cloud Analysis

The second stage of the analysis generates a word cloud based on the previously stated topics. The phrase cloud generator has been updated

foreign direct investment has grown in some Asian countries, indicating that this increase has led to improved and better trading links with other nations (Yang et al., 2017). According to the research conducted by Johnson et al. (2014), green theory promotes the building of defensive and protective layers around ecological or climatic threats to improve the ecosystem. After the occurrence of Covid-19, which shook the globe to its core, the corporate sector's concern and awareness for encouraging green practices have increased. Positive change has resulted from the Chinese habit of incorporating climate change into their commercial processes (Yan, 2020). Before the agreement is finished, other countries recognize the importance of green policies and sustainable practices contributing to the accord's positive reputation. China's concern for a low-carbon, circular, and green economy has significantly shifted due to its international trade agreements with other nations. China intends to expand and exert a far-reaching influence on other countries by collaborating with their labor forces. The rise of green diplomacy is innovative yet essential for any global agreement; its neglect is unavoidable and cannot be afforded. Future development of a low-carbon and circular economy is a top objective for international commerce and multinational corporations in the wake of robust economic expansion (Kim et al., 2016; Zhao et al., 2022).

According to the study by Giri et al. (2022), green diplomacy positively strengthens international relations because the transitioning planning of countries in international trade initially forms the production system, the system of circulation, and the system of consumption, exhibiting green and low-carbon and the development of recycling by 2025, and consequently increasing the ecological environment to meet the net-zero challenge objective. Therefore, international relations are strengthened when environmental goals, ambitions, and objectives are linked and shared. Taking preventative efforts to ensure green practices while investing in other nations strengthens the other nations' faith in your environmental concern. Such as, China's investment in Mongolia's mining sector formulates green policies to assure sustainability and green concerns. This trade deal increases the Mongolian government's or regulatory bodies' confidence in China. Foreign trade is advantageous for all nations (Irfan et al., 2022). Gaining FDI strengthens the economy, and if it continues to be sustainable and concerned with green practices, it also boosts the country's confidence and trust in the investing nation. Such resiliency and green diplomacy activities significantly enhance international relations. According to the study, global interactions are advantageous for all countries since they result in increased aid for fostering international concerns over the long term and during economic downturns and periods of slowed growth. Many firms have adopted the increasing use of controlled or reduced fuel to prevent air pollution as a sustainable practice. Additionally, the study noted that eco-politics, often known as green politics, is an ideology that promotes an ecologically sustainable environment (Lee et al., 2022).

The improvement of green diplomacy has been attributed to the two countries foreign trade and partnership. To ensure the achievement of sustainable development objectives, trade agreements have shifted toward methods focusing on green diplomacy. Utilization of sustainable technologies, proper resource utilization that emits zero or minimal waste, promotion of circular production process and in terms of construction projects in foreign countries, estimation of environmental changes, and accurate forecasting to ensure a smooth transition and output of green practices toward economic expansion and sustainability as a whole (Shambaugh, 2022). Thus, green diplomacy promotes international relations, so countries view such acts as wholly advantageous. Access to digitization, moving toward paperless and circular production with little waste emission, leads to green diplomacy and enhanced international relations. Reducing carbon footprint and taking environmental concerns and obligations into account, regardless of profit production, is essential for all businesses (Lin et al., 2010; Pavličević, 2022). Before investing in a foreign country, China primarily evaluates its progress in dismantling coal-fired power plants, reducing overall emission levels, and decreasing particular matter emission rates. As a result, the air quality improves, as do China's relationships with other countries it invests in. After the pandemic, the worry of implementing green practices has not been limited to a single country; rather, many other nations are contemplating enhancing their sustainability practices (Jahanger et al., 2022; Lyu et al., 2022). Thus, green diplomacy is not confined to a single nation but has been noted as a practice of international collaboration. On a global scale, green politics has become a priority for nations; therefore, when conducting investment or trade with other nations, foreign nations prefer to set aligned green goals to implement growth, increased productivity, reduced emissions, a zero-carbon footprint, the construction of resilient walls to prevent ecological environments, and the improvement of air quality. Increased investments in clean and green energy have improved international ties. Green practices have increased governments' attention and concern for human and environmental well-being (Bose et al., 2022). The neglectful practices can affect the nation's relations and investment practices in international trade. International relations also improve when the international environment is studied in light of sustainable development issues. The foundation of possible international ties is prioritizing a low-carbon economy so that both countries can fulfill their societal commitment to achieve zero-gas emissions and carbon footprints (Abbasi et al., 2022; Huang et al., 2022).

Theoretical and Practical Implications

The rise of green diplomacy has been shown to grow substantially. The linkage and research of this concept in international relations have contributed significantly to the expanding body of literature on a sustainable global environment. In addition, greater globalization and international trade have been the focus of research, the findings of which have enriched the relevant literature. This study's significance cannot be

contested, and international ties that may be reinforced through green diplomacy are extremely advantageous for any economy and nation. Increased pollution and global warming have prompted worries about enhancing sustainability standards and international relations. Therefore, this study raises awareness of the significance of green diplomacy in the current trading environment. In addition, the nation's officials can benefit from a review of the green diplomacy increase tool to boost international trade agreements, policies, and relations.

Research Limitations and Future Research Indications

This research was conducted using a qualitative research design. A mixed methodology can evaluate the outcomes from many perspectives and varying responses. The study can also be undertaken by increasing the number of interview participants. In addition, the researcher has interviewed Chinese FDI professionals; foreign direct investment can be incorporated into future interviews of other nations. A prospective study might also examine earlier studies and perform research based on a thorough literature review of green diplomacy in international relations.

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