**ABSTRACT**

This research report is a research methodology plan in the field of international relation (law), planned to investigate the research issue “In the recent years has the principle of sovereignty in international law been eroded?”. As per the research methodology norm in law related research, the plan of research methodology is described in the forms of research philosophy and research strategy/method.[[1]](#footnote-1) However, the plan begins with the introducing the research purpose and research questions. In the report, there is presented a critical analysis of the methods that may be applied to a research investigation of the above research question. Through this report there is considered research philosophy, research strategy /method and the overall purpose of the investigation. In order to carry out the report and develop research methodology plan there is contextualised the research question with the methodology proposed, contrasting methods and explaining why the method selected and suits better a research in this area.

**RESEARCH PURPOSE AND RESEARCH QUESTION**

The international law has had been playing vital role whilst facing the questions and the tendencies to persist for decades in order to it comes. More important these it includes an internationalised economy, an urbanisation, intrastate conflict, disagreement of cultures, unequal distribution of wealth, environmental degradation, international crime, collective safety, multilateralism, and humanitarian intervention. The international tribulations necessitate the international or global solutions the sovereign states cannot untie to them, even if they can examine the symptoms in their borders. Most, finally, will require the international collaboration. The international law has not existed never in a void. It portrays the existing rules and mores, and explains the difficulty the international order in a disturbed world. The Westphalian system[[2]](#footnote-2) has provided the fundamental frame for the order for centuries above three and has influenced a lot the growth of international law. With the passage of time the sovereignty has receded and flowed, since prevailing practical and the international policy shaping the behavior of leading states. In the extent that these practices and policy there is established the binding precedent, and determining the international law. Even if the sovereignty have provided the sovereign base for the international order, it has been adapted consequently in order to adapt the evolving significances of government, freedom, human laws, and search for the predictability and the stability, the historical traits of international law.

The disputed nature of subject of native sovereignty is innate in formulation of theory, since it makes up a commanding challenge in the fundamental aspects of international law. In order that completely they are comprehended if and up to who point such sovereignty exists really in the frames of modern international law, is essential is thrown a retrospective glance in the development and the growth of significance of sovereignty in the modern world. Such preliminary research serves the aim if the significance of sovereignty in the international law should be conceived meaning that absolute or, on the contrary, if this field beings in the influence of other competitive values that might consequently correspond to the foundations for the documentation of continuation of datum of degree of native sovereignty corresponding to the sovereign force that possesses the state.

From the viewpoint of international law, the translation of this theory in the practical terms presents the connection between the significance of sovereignty, at least meaning that her precise and narrower, with the significance the constitutional or legal independence. It therefore contunes when it is in position, at least in a satisfactory extent, is unloaded freely the sovereign entity her territory without exterior interventions a sovereign force should have hers government, one not amenable in the control of other governmental body. In general a line, in the modern international law, the entity that satisfies the essential terms on the sovereignty is the state. In consequence, even if the significance of sovereignty is to be distinguished from the relative significance of situation of state, it is connected in reality strictly with the existence of state. The other sovereign entities different from the states that exist in the frames of modern international law, such as the European Union law, emanate from the states and are the result a voluntary and conscious power delegation from the states.[[3]](#footnote-3)

The sovereignty is always a disputed subject in the international law. The sticking out efforts to throw fresh light on the sovereignty in recent times have resulted from the policies of US administration under Bush to promote the democracy worldwide. The existing practices and literature that surround these initiatives and the bigger theoretical questions result for the relation between the international law and the sovereignty. The international law has fought from time with the problem for how the sovereign states that make the international law can also be committed from. Self-defense has is offended this problem in a particularly acute form the perspective of the fundamental laws of sovereignty and because it can see in order to precede the law. In the current research literature there is the relation between the democracy and the international law has been investigated in the current literature. Several of the investigations of sovereignty support, or tacitly or expressly, in the discriminations between the different types state-democratic against nondemocratic or, precisely responsible against irresponsible states.[[4]](#footnote-4) However considering fast changes in international law and challenging the state of sovereignty across the world, the current literature is not adequate to respond the situation. The valid issue is that there requires more and more fresh and updated look in the issues, particularly in the context of whether the principle of sovereignty in international law been eroded over the years in the light of more and more internationalization.

**RESEARCH PHILOSOPHY**

Research philosophy all concerns to the system in which the research problem ought to be basically approached, and this comprises positivism and interpretivism.[[5]](#footnote-5)

The positivism research philosophy all concerns to the variables, that embrace various affairs for the social world and how it should it is searched. Supposes he the social world can be studied with the same way as the natural world, exists additional unit of method between the natural and social world and the social world can be value-free. Positivism is entrenched in atomism, the determination of quantity, and the functionalism. The life theory implies that a phenomenon exists since an entity that is separated from entire the world experiments with the particular elements. The determination of quantity is reported in the variables that can be expressed from opinion numbers and frequencies. This uses also the mathematic tools in order to reveal the importance for the conclusions of drawings.[[6]](#footnote-6)

Idea of positivists for atomizing and quantifying social phenomenon in the society is flawed. The positivists fail they recognize that the world is chopped with the disorganized units that are distinct from each other and can only strictly become comprehensible via the interactions.[[7]](#footnote-7) The positivism intensely supports that the methodological processes of natural sciences are adaptable in the social sciences. Nevertheless, despite his popularity, the positivism has the weaknesses that undermine ostensibly her possibility of application in the research of social sciences. In positivism research philosophy over simplifies the real world in the experimental situations that it is difficult put into application in reality.

Interpretivism is a general research philosophy in the research of social sciences that includes the phenomenological sociology, the philosophical hermeneutics and the prospects constructionist. They underline the examination of text in order to discover the incorporated significances, how the individuals use the language and the symbols in order to determine and they create the social practices so that become comprehensible the energies and the behaviors of individuals.[[8]](#footnote-8) Interpretivists use the research strategy methods as the observation participating and not-participate in order to it occupies the details of interaction in their frame. They consider that the social reality is based on the subjective interpretation of energies. The positivists could not portray the interdependence between the researchers and searched, since they examine the objects that are exterior in the researcher. Interpretivists are reproached also for the existence different from the positivists. They are reproached from opinion difficulties that result in the establishment of force, reliability, and generalisations in the social research. There exist also concerns for the intrusion of researcher in the lives participating as interpretation, which rests within the researcher might be unfair.[[9]](#footnote-9) Interpretivists, nevertheless, support that the interpretations are part of scientific knowledge in their right, even if the interpretation of reality depends from the researcher. Even if they underline the importance and the interpretation of reality via the comprehension of behaviors and the experience of persons, they tend to ignore the influence of natural environment in the subjects and their research. Even though positivism is the most suitable research philosophy to investigate whether in the recent years has the principle of sovereignty in international law been eroded, however since no quantitative data is to be collected and no theory is to be tested therefore interpretivvism philosophy will be applied in this international law research. Adopting interpretivism research philosophy, firstly various data in qualitative form will be collected and will be interpreted in accordance with the research issues and literature review relating to the research question.

**RESEARCH STRATEGY/METHOD**

Research strategy/methods are qualitative and quantitative.[[10]](#footnote-10) The quantitative research strategy implies conducting empirical research where the elements are under form of quantity. The quantitative research adopts the language of numbers, the syntax of mathematic processes and corresponds to the elements in the numerical values. The quantitative research method uses the statistical tools in the collection and the interpretation of elements. Quantitative methodology considers that the research can only become with the statistics and the statistical methods.[[11]](#footnote-11) The quantitative strategy is a research method that investigates deep in the positivism and their epistemologic orientation.

On the other hand, the qualitative method is that downplays statistical technical and the engineers of types of quantitative methods that are adopted, for example, in the research of researches. Widely, the qualitative method is a general term that shows a line of techniques, as the observation, the observation, the interviews, the focus group that seek to occupy the experience and the practices of basic informants and they locate him in the placements and their frame. The qualitative method is described more easily by determining. It is a research method that deals with few of quantification.[[12]](#footnote-12)

 The qualitative research strategy is not statistical type of research, methods and procedures that are adopted in order to they assemble the elements with regard to any question of poverty. In consequence such elements are collecting of words and objects that are related to phenomenon under the study. [[13]](#footnote-13)From this symbolic strategy, the qualitative research strategy might be adopted in this study, the extent, and analysing of subject. The qualitative method is a positioned system. It is constituted by total explanatory, material practices that render the world visible. These practices change the world in line of representations of includes documents, interviews, discussions, recordings and memoranda. From this perspective the qualitative research all concerns to studying of researchers in their natural placements that attempt to have meaning, or interpret phenomena from opinion of the individuals in the target population. Hence, in this proposed international law research, the research strategy/method will be applied making use of documents and interviews. Different data in qualitative form will be collected and will be interpreted in accordance with the research issues and literature review relating to the research question as whether in the recent years has the principle of sovereignty in international law been eroded.

**SUMMARY**

In the report, there has been presented a critical analysis of the methods that may be applied to a research investigation of the above research question. Through this report there is considered research philosophy, research strategy /method and the overall purpose of the investigation. Considering fast changes in international law and challenging the state of sovereignty across the world, the current literature is not adequate to respond the situation. The valid issue is that there requires more and more fresh and updated look in the issues, particularly in the context of whether the principle of sovereignty in international law been eroded over the years in the light of more and more internationalization.Since no quantitative data is to be collected and no theory is to be tested therefore interpretivvism philosophy will be applied in this international law research. Adopting interpretivism research philosophy, firstly various data in qualitative form will be collected and will be interpreted in accordance with the research issues and literature review relating to the research question. In this proposed international law research, the research strategy/method will be applied making use of documents and interviews. Different data in qualitative form will be collected and will be interpreted in accordance with the research issues and literature review relating to the research question.

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