MONETARY COOPERATION IN THE EAST ASIAN CONTEXT: PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES

Chien-Huei Wu*

ABSTRACT

In the evolutionary process of Asian monetary cooperation, the Asian Financial Crisis played a significant role. With a view to safeguarding themselves from another financial crisis without resorting to the IMF, East Asian countries have accumulated large amounts of foreign reserves and constructed a network of swap arrangements. This article aims to account for the recent development of monetary cooperation among East Asian countries. It focuses on the Chang Mai Initiative ("CMI"), movements toward multilateralisation, and the relationship among the Chang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation ("CMIM"), pre-existent bilateral swaps, and the International Monetary Fund ("IMF"). The article investigates to what extent the CMIM is legally consistent with the IMF Agreement, based on arguments advanced by scholars, and concludes by considering the future of Asian monetary

^{*}Assistant Research Professor, Institute of European and American Studies, PhD in law (EUI). An earlier draft of this paper was presented at the Asian WTO Research Network Annual Conference & ACWH at 10 "Asia's Plurilateral Trade Agreements: TPP, ASEAN and Beyond", held on June 15-16, 2013 in Taipei, Taiwan. The author's interests in Asian monetary cooperation finds its root in his article *The ASEAN Economic Community under the ASEAN Charter; its External Economic Relations and Dispute Settlement Mechanism, in* EUROPEAN YEARBOOK OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC LAW 2010 331, 331 (C. Herrmann & J. P. Terhechte eds., 2010). This article is a substantially revised and enlarged version of some ideas developed in that article. This article is part of the fruit yielded from a project funded by National Science Council of Taiwan (NSC 98-2410-H-001-098). The author can be reached at wch@sinica.edu.tw.

cooperation.

KEYWORDS: Chang Mai Initiative (CMI), Chang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM), Asian monetary cooperation, the Asian Monetary Fund (AMF)