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Two Always Better Than One: The Reality for the Community of Nations and Why Zimbabwe is Pursuing a Friend to All Trajectory

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Abstract

With the emergence of globalisation, there is no country that can exist in isolation. Survival of every State wherever they are situated will always require the positive cooperation another or others. This is largely so since no nation is endowed with all resources that it may need in order to service or meet the deep needs of its citizens. The citizens within virtually all States will always have a diversity of needs. These need to be acknowledged and efforts pursued to attend to them so as to secure stability and progress. Stability and progress are at the heart of every leader as they seek to promote egalitarian societies. Consequently, all leaders across the globe are always seeking opportunities to make friends who can help improve the lives and livelihoods of their citizenry. States are expected to behave well about others in as much an away as they for themselves. This view is also motivated by the Rule of Reciprocity, "do unto others as you want others do unto you.

Keywords: Trade, reengagement, development, deep needs, isolation, 2nd Republic, globalisation, cooperation.

Introduction

Zimbabwe is a country that has found itself writhing under challenges for period in excess of two decades. Resultantly, the citizens have visibly suffered. The development of many sectors has also suffered, stifled and stalled.

The coming of the Second Republic in Zimbabwe in 2017 has ushered in a new window for survival following the conception and adoption of the Zimbabwe is a friend to all mantra. This was came after nearly decade of isolation. The Second Republic leadership has pursued the engagement and re-engagement drive so as to create more friends than enemies while retaining respect and autonomy (Digesser 2009). Following this intervention, many relationships have warmed up. The country is now being seen in positive light by many who are now embracing Zimbabwe warmly and opening up embassies as well as getting into business arrangements. It needs no contestation that survival of an economy is a function of strategic partnerships. Such relationship results in justified and equal sharing of many resources. This is what creates stability within a country. Many sectors within a country can improve as more opportunities open up with improved trade and economic relations between countries. As the relations improve, the opportunities for improved trade equally improve. This will translate into improved trade cooperation. This is what brings stability into a country. Trade

is the critical component in the survival of a nation. Once trade opportunities exist, they will need to be nurtured and sustained. It is the continued efforts for engagement and re-engagement that warms up relations between nations and resultantly propel and sustain trade. As the relations deepened, each country will learn grow to be a brother's keeper. This oils the relations and exports will continue to flow.

As long as the export continue to command respect, a country will immensely benefit. This is what ought to be at the heart of every leader. As countries relate, what however needs to be understood is that they ought to do so as equal partners. The concept of 'big brother' should be frowned at. It must dawn upon all and sundry that all nations are equal in the community of nations. Each and every country should and ought to practice their autonomy and sovereignty. When equality exists between States, they will treat each other with respect. The tendency of one State being subjected to the selfish needs of another will not have a place.

The view of one State being the core while the other is the periphery will not have a place in a system that upholds equality and cooperation. The diversity characterizing the States will be respected. The differences or inadequacies of one State will not be abused by the powerful one [Osaghae 1994].

Methodology

The study reflected on literature already compiled and existing within many sources. The documents consulted cut across the biases that have characterized the media space in Zimbabwe. The method was adopted so as to interpret and extract meaning from written text. The views of various scholars were explored. For purposes of this study it was the document analysis that was used as a stand-alone method. The documents consulted were physical public and private documents created or developed by institutions, organizations or governments for the purposes of administrations or communication. Private documents include those documents created by individuals. This was meant to approach or access the lived experiences, emotions and motivations from the perspectives of the author. Physical evidence refers to tangible items that contain written, visual or symbolic information, which may include photographs, signs, hand written notes or even posters.

Findings and Discussions

Many scholars and social commentators are agreeable to the fact that there is no country that can survive without others. Even the Splendid Isolation adopted by Britain in the 19th century could not survive for long. It was abandoned as an alliance with France known as the Entente Cordiale was formed. No matter how powerful or resourced a country is, the need for alliance needs no debate. Self-sufficiency is not a reality where people are habitat. A comment from an Ambassador Designate in The Herald [18 November 2025] confirmed this position. He said

...it [South Africa] is an important country and we will do our best to build on our predecessors have done to make sure that we deepen our relations that we continue to get investors from that country and our commodities, our exports continue to enjoy a good share of the South Africa attitude...

While this Ambassador Designate was making reference to South Africa, the view is true for virtually all countries. There is always something one country can benefit from another. This view point actually borrows from the thinking that *no tree can stand and survive on one root*. To survive, a tree is sustained by several roots, some big some small. Each of them has something to contribute to the tree's survival and wellbeing. To this Stewart Patrick and Erica Hogan while writing an article on the BRICS had this to say

"Even countries that enjoy relatively positive relationships with the United States value BRICS as a vehicle for greater international economic integration in any otherwise fragmentation of Western centric global economy..."

Commenting on the need for cooperation and collaboration among States Stewart Patrick and Erica Hogan [The Herald, 03 November 2025] had this to say while commenting on the BRICS, ...no doubt the expanding coalition will shape prospects for and the nature of international cooperation in a turbulent world...

This view clearly reveals that survival in the rigors, turbulency and uncertainties in the world needs partners therefore '*Two is better than one*'

The world over as confirmed by the majority of those interviewed and documents accessed, there is no State that

can survive in isolation. This means that no matter how resourced a country is, the need for support from other countries cannot be contested. With this understanding, two is always better than one.

The strategy therefore by the Second Republic to pursue the Zimbabwe is a friend to all trajectory is not only the best thing for the country but a reasonable thinking that will support the growth, progress and stability for the country into the future. Without others as echoed by responded 07 a country without friends will not only find the going tough but will grow to be unpopular with its own people. As a country relates with others there are numerous benefits that come with such relations and this is what every country needs as a matter of priority and not as an option.

Recommendations

In view of the findings of this study the following recommendations are hereby suggested:

- Every country should endeavor to be at peace with other countries in accordance with the United Nations Charter.
- States within the global space need to treat each other with respect and respect International Law.
- Each country should be allowed to exercise their sovereignty and autonomy
- Every country should endeavor to avoid instigating fights with other countries and respect the U.N. Charter.

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