



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
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Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA

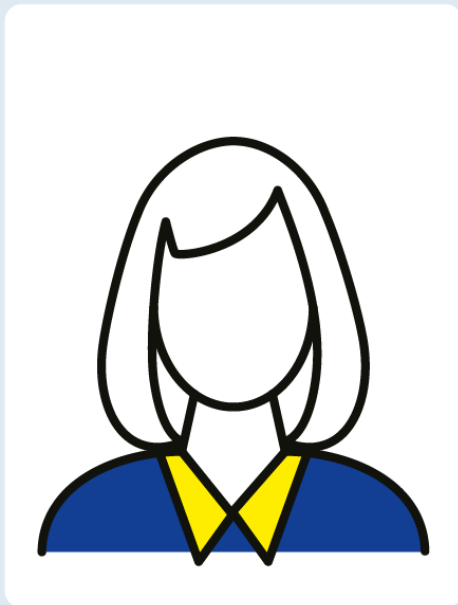
The European Union



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EU2145865



Name:
European Union

Date of birth:
9 May 1950

Place of birth:
Paris

Place of residence:
Brussels

Marital status
Economic and political union between member states

Size:
27 member states / >445 million people / >4 million km²

Weight:
Economy (GDP 2021): EUR 14.475 trillion

- Trade (2021):**
- Share of global imports of goods: 13.9%
 - Share of global exports of goods: 14.6%

Official languages:
24

Awards:
Nobel Peace Prize 2012

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2018, 2020 source: Eurostat



Europe 74 years ago

The EU emerged after the Second World War driven by the maxim '**never again war!**'.



Image: Berlin during the Second World War © FDFA

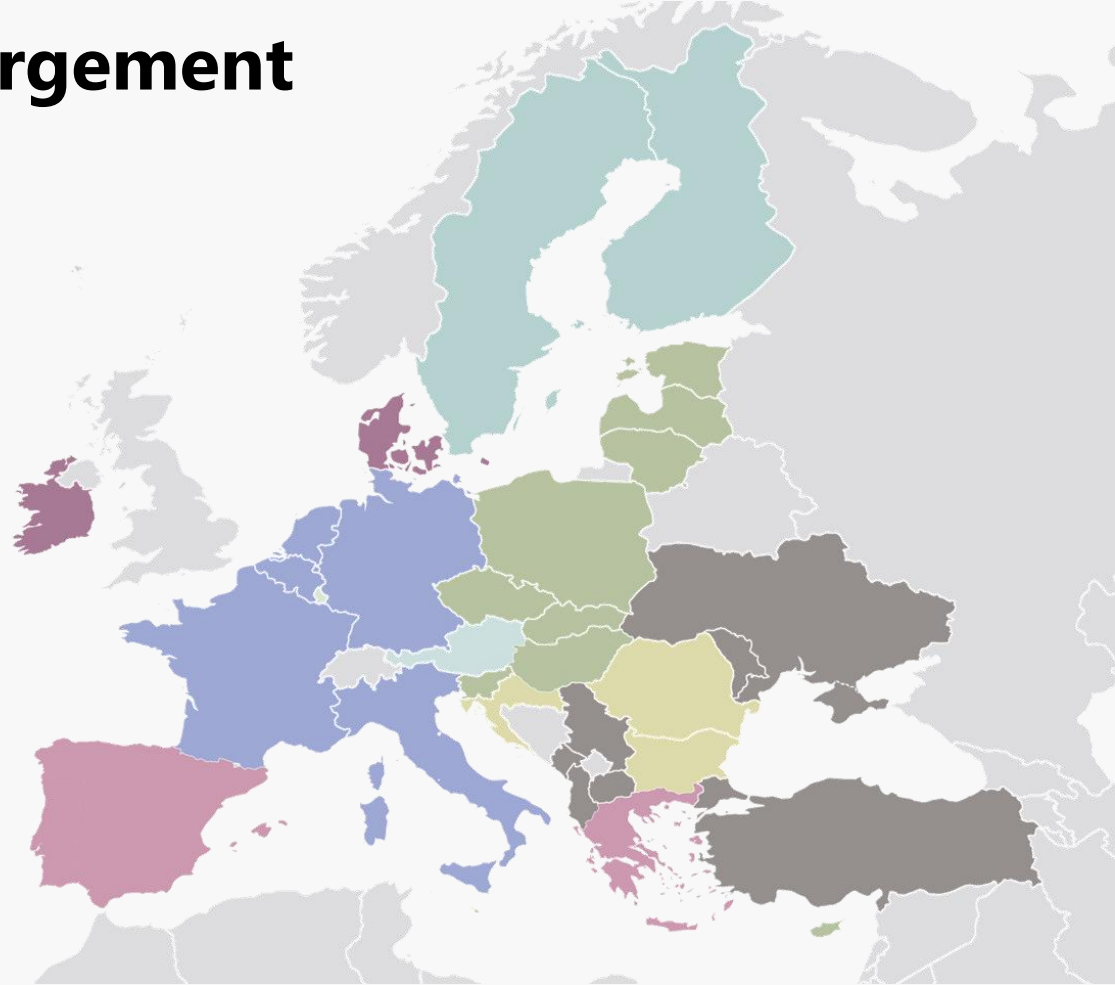


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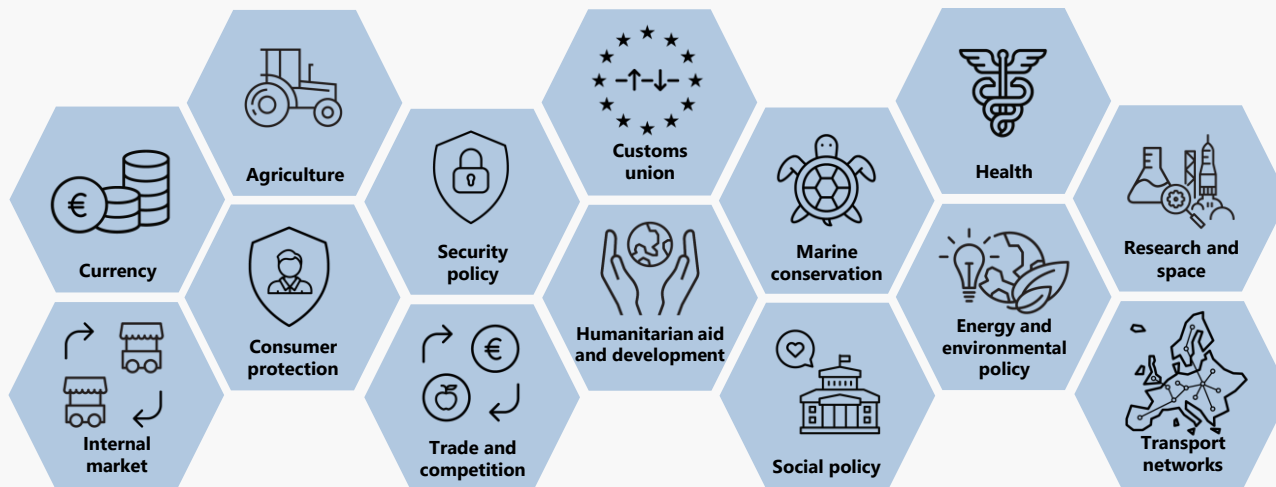
EU enlargement

- 1957
- 1973
- 1981–1986
- 1995
- 2004
- From 2007
- EU Applicant Countries



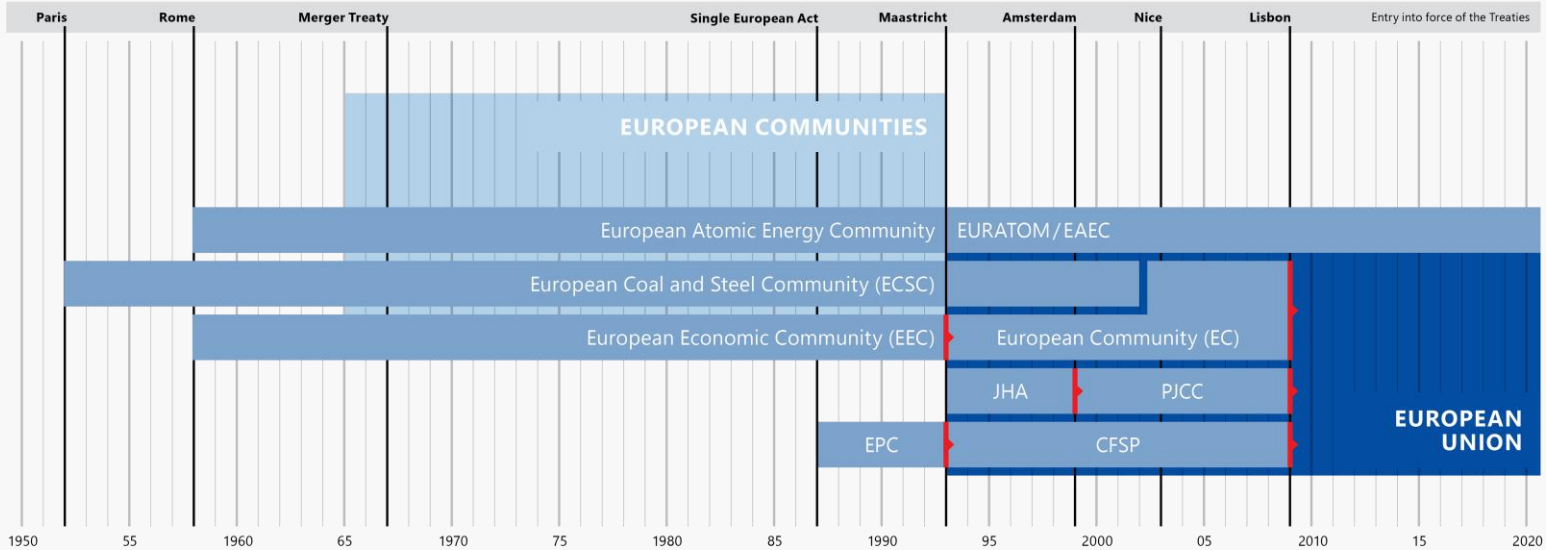


Responsibilities





EU treaties



Incorporation



Treaty of Lisbon

Modern and efficient institutions

- Majority voting widely used, Unanimity less common
- Permanent President of the European Council
- High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
- European External Action Service

Simpler structure

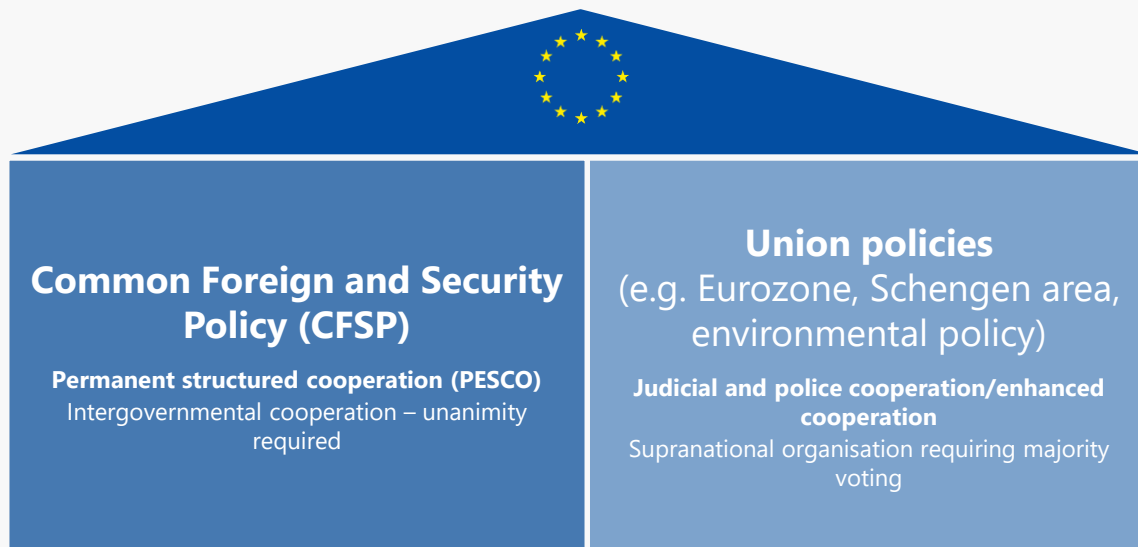
- 'European Communities' → 'European Union'

Democracy and bringing the Union closer to its citizens

- European Parliament strengthened
- Citizens' initiative

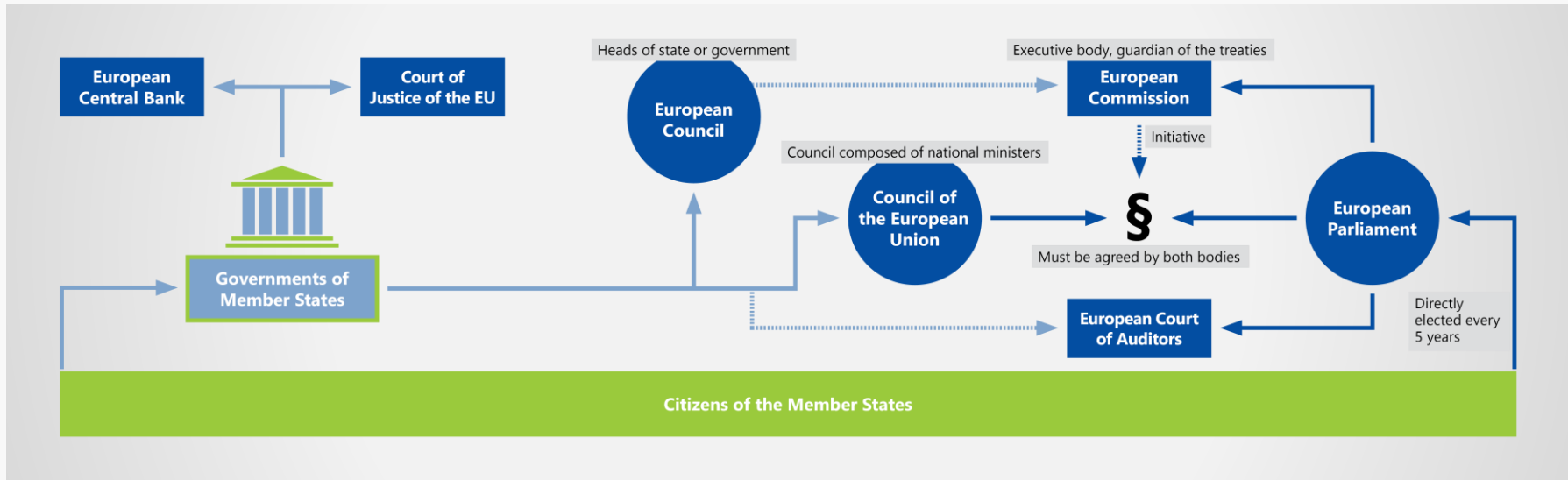


EU policy areas





EU institutions and bodies





Other EU bodies



**Committee of the Regions
(CoR)**



**European External
Action Service (EEAS)**



**European
Investment Bank
(EIB)**



**European Economic
and Social Committee
(EESC)**



Brexit

Referendum

Referendum on the UK's membership of the EU ('Leave' won 51.9% of the votes)

Notification

Formal notification under Article 50* of the Treaty on European Union (TEU) triggers negotiations on the terms of the UK's withdrawal

Withdrawal

UK's withdrawal with agreement and beginning of transition period

End of transition period

Transition period until end of 2020 (can be extended once with the agreement of both parties)



*Art. 50 TEU

- Negotiations must be completed within a period of two years from the date of notification.
- The European Council, with the agreement of the UK, may decide unanimously to extend this period.



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Thank you for your attention

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Title, date, speaker