



Erasmus Project Moving in Europe



Co-funded by
the European Union



Founding fathers



New ideas for peace and prosperity...



Konrad Adenauer



**Alcide De Gasperi
e Altiero Spinelli**



Winston Churchill



Robert Schuman



Jean Monnet

The European Union - Symbols



The European flag



Euro



The European anthem



Passport



Europe Day, 9 May



The motto: United in diversity

The European Union - Symbols



The flag and its history

The flag of the European Union: a circle of **twelve golden stars** on the site hours on a clock face on an **azure background**. The number of stars is unchanged.

The stars symbolise the ideals of unity, solidarity and harmony among the peoples of Europe.

The originators of the flag are: the Spanish diplomat Salvador de Madariagay Rojo and the French artist Arsene Heitz. The flag was acquired in **1986** from the Council of Europe, which approved the project in **1955**.



The European Union. Why?



- **Peace and stability**
- **Bringing Europe together again**
- **Safety and security**
- **Economic and social solidarity**
- **Identity and diversity in the globalised world**
- **Values**

The European Union. What is it?



T

* **What is the European Union?**

A unique economic and political partnership between 27 democratic European countries.

* **What are its aims?**

Peace, prosperity and freedom for its 500 million citizens — in a fairer, safer world.

* **What results so far?**

Frontier-free travel and trade, the euro (the single European currency), safer food and a greener environment, better living standards in poorer regions, joint action on crime and terror, cheaper phone calls, millions of opportunities to study abroad ... and much more besides.

* **How does it work?**

To make these things happen, EU countries set up bodies to run the EU and adopt its legislation. The main ones are:

- **the European Parliament** (representing the people of Europe);
- **the Council of the European Union** (representing national governments);
- **the European Commission** (representing the common EU interest).

The European Union - Symbols



The Anthem - Ode to Joy

The anthem of the European Union is a piece of the **Ninth Symphony** composed by Ludwig van Beethoven in **1823**, the text of Friedrich Schiller's poem "**Ode to Joy**" of **1785**.



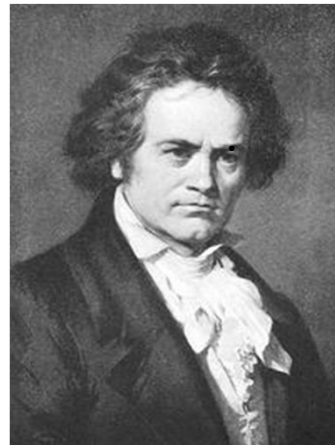
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D4wfGlzCYZI>

An instrumental version of the anthem reflects the European ideas of freedom, peace and solidarity.

In 1972, the Council of Europe adopted a fragment of Beethoven's IX "Ode to Joy" as the anthem.



**Fryderyk
Schiller**



**Ludwik van
Beethoven**

In 1985, the Heads of State and Government decided that this tune will be the official anthem of the European Union.

The European Union - Symbols



The EU motto - "United in diversity"



The message of this slogan is that through the European Union, Europeans are united in efforts to promote peace and prosperity, and that the multiplicity of cultures, traditions and languages in Europe is its major asset.

For the first time the motto was used in **2000**.

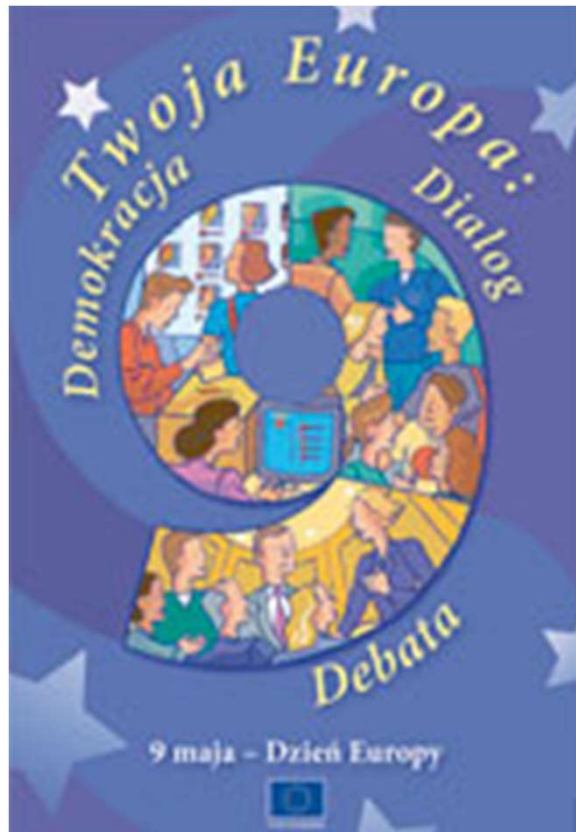
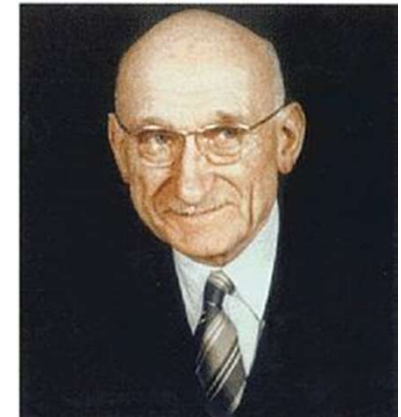
24 official languages



The European Union - Symbols



9 May - Europe Day



On 9 May 1950, **Robert Schuman** - French foreign minister, proposed the creation of an organized Europe, as a prerequisite for the maintenance of peaceful relations.

This proposal, known as the "**Schuman declaration**", is considered to be the beginning of the creation of the present European Union.

To commemorate this day, the **Day of the European Union** is celebrated in which we celebrate the peace and unity in Europe

The European Union - Symbols



Common currency – The EURO

The euro is the official currency of **20** out of **27** member states of the European Union (EU). The euro was introduced to world financial markets as an accounting currency on **1 January 1999**, replacing the former European Currency Unit (ECU)

The following members of the European Union do not use the euro:
Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Sweden.



The euro coins and banknotes entered circulation on **1 January 2002**.

The euro can be used everywhere in the euro area.

- * **Coins** – one side with national symbols, one side common
- * **Notes** – no national side

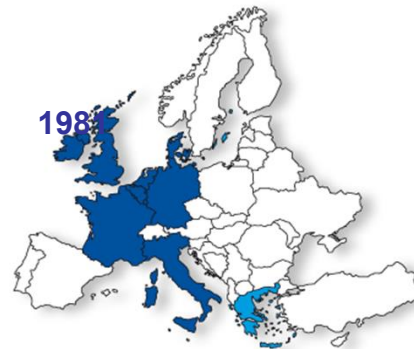
Nine enlargements



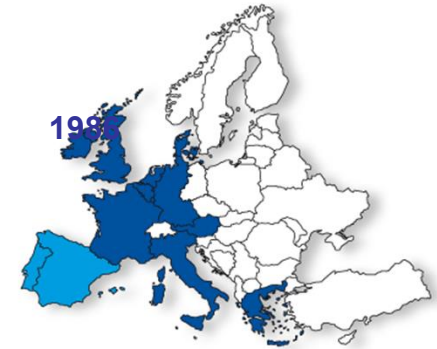
1952
six countries; France ,Germany, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg



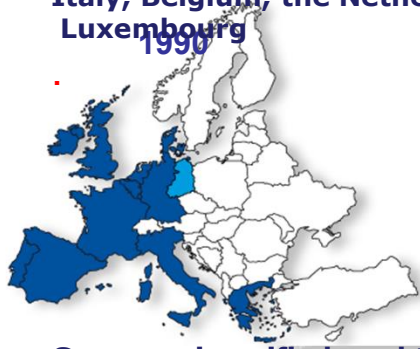
1973
Denmark, Ireland, the United Kingdom



1981
Greece



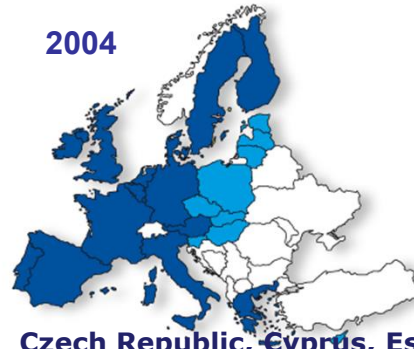
1986
Spain, Portugal



1990
Germany is unified, and the Länder of the former East Germany become part of the EU



1995
Austria, Finland, Sweden

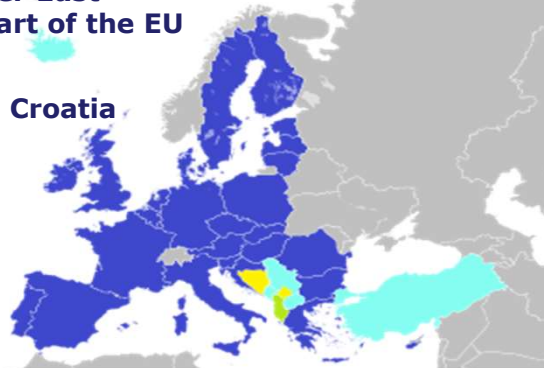


2004
Czech Republic, Cyprus, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Slovenia, Slovakia.



2007
Bulgaria, Romania

2013
Croatia



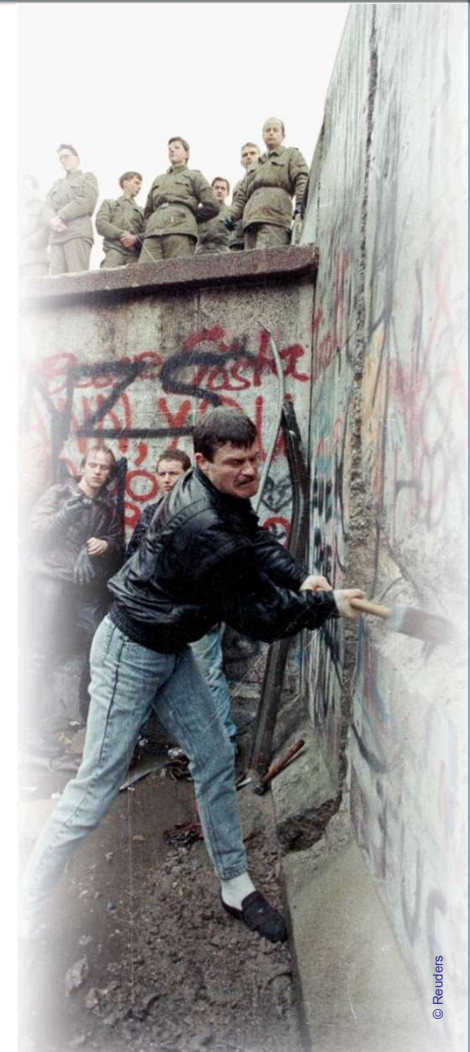
Member states

Candidates: Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia Turkey
Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo (status disputed), Ukraine, Georgia, Moldavia

The big enlargement - healing the division of Europe



- ▶ **1989** **Fall of Berlin Wall – end of Communism**
EU economic help begins: Phare programme
- ▶ **1992** **Criteria set for a country to join the EU:**
 - democracy and rule of law
 - functioning market economy
 - ability to implement EU laws
- ▶ **1998** **Formal negotiations on enlargement begin**
- ▶ **2002** **Copenhagen summit agrees enlargement**
- ▶ **2004** **10 new EU members: Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia**
- ▶ **2007** **Bulgaria and Romania join the EU**
- ▶ **2013** **Croatia joins on the 1st of July**
- ▶ **2020** **The United Kingdom exits the EU**



The treaties – basis for democratic cooperation built on law

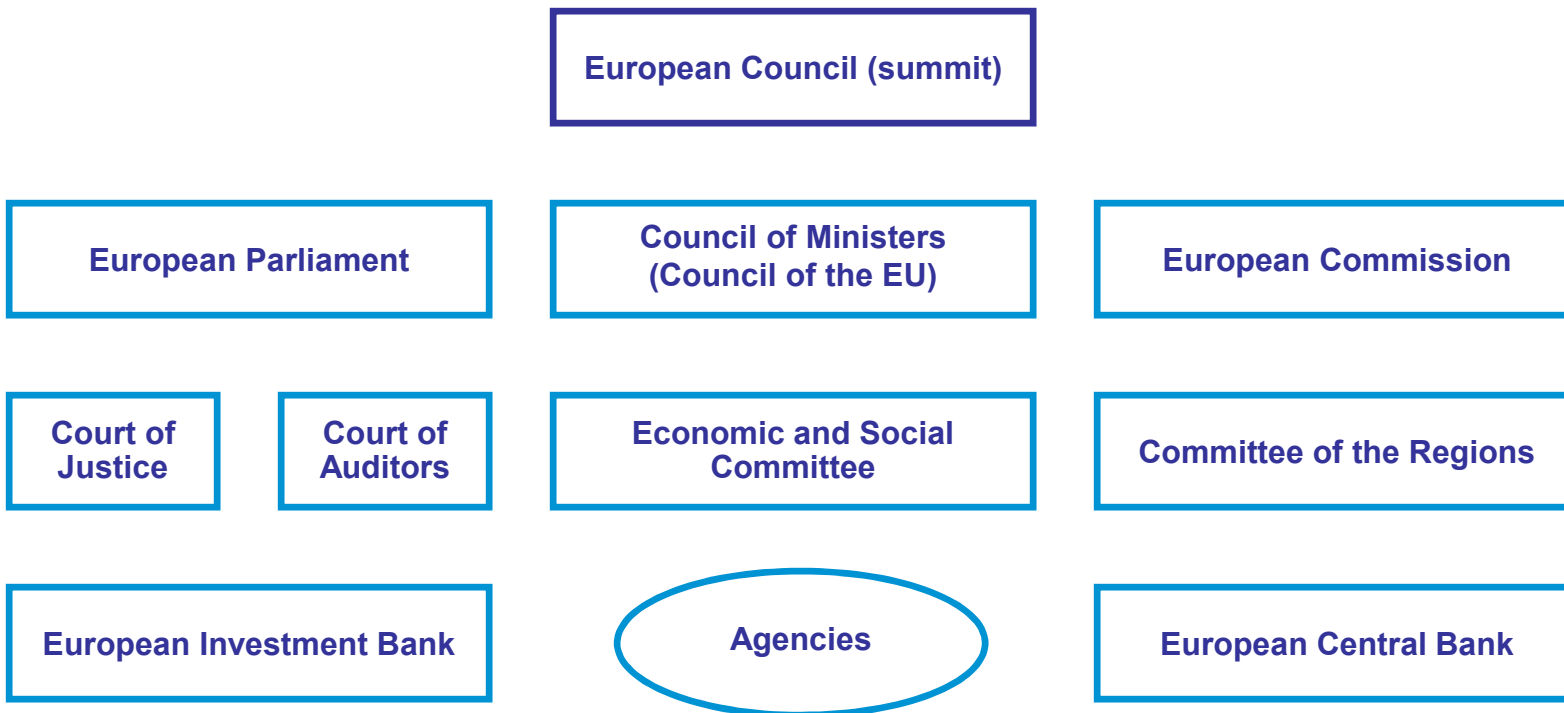


The European Union is based on the rule of law. This means that the foundation of all its activities are treaties adopted voluntarily not democratically by all Member - States. For example, if a given policy area is not mentioned in the Treaty, the Com-mission cannot propose legislation on this area.

The treaty is a binding agreement between the Member States of the EU.

It sets out the objectives of the EU, the principles of the functioning of EU institutions, decision making and the relationship between the EU and its Member States

The European Union Institutions



The European Union - Structure



European Parliament

Is made up of Elected Members of the European Parliament (MEP's). Elections are held every 5 years.



Council of the European Union

The council is made up of national ministers who with the European Parliament, adopt EU law.



European Commission

Is made up of appointed Commissioners and the EU's civil service. The Commission is responsible for the day-to-day running of the the EU and ensures EU treaties are being complied with. The Commission is also responsible for proposing legislation and carrying out decisions made by the European Council and Parliament



The European Union - Structure



Court of Justice of the European Communities

- * EU law courts.
- * Is responsible for interpreting the EU law and ensuring it is carried out.



European Court of Auditors

- * Reviews and audits the financing of the EU's institutions activities.
- * Is composed of one member from each EU member state.



European Ombudsman

- * Investigates complaints made by a citizen or resident of the Union about maladministration by EU institutions and bodies



European Data Protection Supervisor

- * Its duty is to uphold data protection standards in EU institutions and bodies. It plays advising role on data protection legislation.

The European Union - Institutions



European Parliament - Strasbourg

It is the institution that forms the democratic foundation of the EU

European Commission - Brussels

represents and protects, in full independence, the general interests of the European Union.

The Court of Justice of the European Union – Luxembourg

ensures respect for the law in the interpretation and application of the Treaties

European Central Bank Frankfurt

implements the EU's monetary policy

Summit at the European Council



Summit of heads of state and government of all EU countries

- ▶ **Held at least 3 times a year**
- ▶ **Sets the overall guidelines for EU policies**



The European Parliament



MEPs (Members of Parliament) representing the citizens. They are elected in direct elections, which are held every five years. Parliament is, together with the Council of the European Union (the "Council"), one of the main institutions responsible for lawmaking in the EU.

The European Parliament has three offices in: Brussels, Strasbourg and Luxembourg. The main meetings of the Parliament, called the plenary sessions are held in Strasbourg and committees in Brussels. Luxembourg became an administrative seat of the Parliament.

The Parliament has three main functions:

- debating the acts of the European law, and resolving them with the Council
- exercising supervision over the other EU institutions particularly the Commission to ensure that operate in a democratic manner
- debating the EU budget and adopting it with the Council.



The Council of Ministers - (Council of the EU) - voice of the member states

(Council of the EU)



As a part of this institution, informally also called the Council of the EU, ministers from all EU countries meet and adopt laws and coordinate policies in particular areas.

Rotating presidency
- 6 months.



What does the Council of the EU do?

- Enacting the EU legislation.
- Coordinating the broad economic policies of the Member States of the EU.
- Signing agreements between the EU and other countries.
- Approving the annual budget of the EU.
- Specifying the direction of foreign policy and defense policy of the EU.
- Coordinating cooperation between the courts and the police authorities of the Member States

The European Commission – promoting the common interest



The European Commission is one of the main institutions of the European Union. Its mission is to represent and protect the interests of the whole Union. It drafts proposals for new European laws. It manages current issues related to the implementation of EU policies in particular areas and spending EU funds.

27 independent members, one from each EU country



- ▶ **Proposes new legislation**
- ▶ **Executive organ**
- ▶ **Guardian of the treaties**
- ▶ **Represents the EU on the international stage**



Three key players



The European Parliament - voice of the people

**Roberta Metsola, President
of the European Parliament**



The European Council and the Council - voice of the Member States

Charles Michel , President of the European Council

The European Commission - promoting the common interest

**Ursula von der Leyen, President
of the European Commission**



The European Central Bank - managing the euro



- The European Central Bank (ECB, based in Frankfurt, Germany) manages the euro – the EU's single currency – and safeguards price stability in the EU.
- The ECB is also responsible for framing and implementing the EU's economic and monetary policy.

Christine Lagarde
President of the Central Bank



- The Bank works with the central banks **in all 27 EU countries**. Together they form the European System of Central Banks (ESCB).
- It also leads the close cooperation between central banks in the euro- area – **the 20 EU countries** that have adopted the euro, also known as the eurozone. The cooperation between this smaller, tighter group of banks is referred to as the 'Eurosystème'.

The Court of Justice – upholding the law



**27 independent judges,
one from each EU country**

- ▶ Rules on how to interpret EU law
- ▶ Ensures EU laws are used in the same way in all EU countries



A high representative for foreign affairs and security



Josep Borrell Fontelles



Double hat: chairs the Foreign Affairs Council meetings + Vice-president of the European Commission

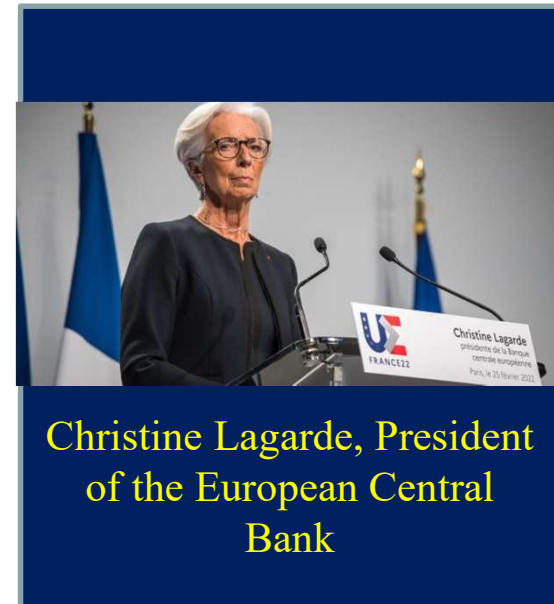
Manages the common foreign and security policy

Head of European External Action Service

Women in Europe



3 women that, in these days, have a great responsibility since they are taking the most important decisions in their life for the future of Europe. They are mothers and wives but they are determined to work for a peaceful, democratic Europe standing for the European values.



Roberta Metsola's speech on the war in Ukraine



We are here today in the dark shadow cast by Putin's war. A war we did not provoke. A war we did not start. An outrageous invasion of a sovereign, independent State. On behalf of the European Parliament, I condemn the Russian military aggression against Ukraine in the strongest possible terms and express my solidarity with all those suffering and all those killed. The message from Europe is clear: We will stand up. We will not look away when those fighting in the streets for our values face down Putin's massive war machine.....



Ursula von der Leyen's speech on the war in Ukraine



....In these days, independent Ukraine is facing its darkest hour. At the same time, the Ukrainian people are holding up the torch of freedom for all of us. They are showing immense courage. They are defending their lives. But they are also fighting for universal values and they are willing to die for them. President Zelenskyy and the Ukrainian people are a true inspiration....

Von der Leyen: President of the European Commission



On July 16, 2019, von der Leyen was narrowly confirmed, receiving 383 of 747 votes (with 374 needed). The following day she resigned as Germany's defense minister and, on December 1 she became the first woman to serve as president of the European Commission.

As President of the European Commission. She decides on the organization of the Commission and allocates portfolios to individual Commissioners. The President also sets the Commission's policy agenda.

The President represents the Commission in European Council meetings, G7 and G20 summits, summits with non-EU countries and major debates in the European Parliament and the Council.

Her role is crucial in the war in this period.



Christine Lagarde's statement on the war in Ukraine



At this dark moment for Europe, the thoughts of the ECB's Governing Council are with the people of Ukraine.

The ECB is closely monitoring the evolving situation. It will conduct a comprehensive assessment of the economic outlook, which will include these latest developments and which will form the basis of its policy meeting on 10 March.

It will ensure smooth liquidity conditions and access of citizens to cash. and implement the sanctions decided by the EU and the European governments. The ECB stands ready to take whatever action is needed to fulfil its responsibilities to ensure price stability and financial stability in the euro area.

Lagarde: President of the European Central Bank



On the 25th May 2011, Lagarde announced her candidacy to be head of director of the International Monetary Fund, she was the first woman to head the Washington-based body. Her candidacy received the support of the British, Indian, United States, Brazilian, Russian, Chinese and German governments.



On the 2nd July 2019, Lagarde was nominated to serve as the next president of the European Central Bank (ECB) to succeed Mario Draghi President from the 1 November 2019. On 17 September 2019, the European Parliament voted via secret ballot to recommend her to the position, with 394 in favor, 206 opposed, and 49 abstentions.