



Discovering the EU by PLAYing

2021-1-PL01-KA220-SCH-000034346

Pupil's Handbook



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the European Union

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Information

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Who is it for?

The Pupil's Handbook is designed for **students aged 13 to 15**, and it seeks to help them comprehend the context of the **European Union**, EU principles, and to strengthen their cultural identity and cultural awareness.



The **Pupil's Handbook** is divided into eight **chapters**, which are:

1. The Dream of a united Europe
2. The history of the European Union
3. The emblems of the European Union
4. The values of the European Union
5. The institutions of the European Union and what they do
6. The founders of the EU and relevant European personalities of our times
7. European Union Citizenship
8. The Greatest Challenges Facing the European Union



How to use it

The Handbook contains information about the European Union and its history, the EU principles, and a great deal more. For each chapter additional activities and exercises are provided to facilitate comprehension of all this knowledge.

Some pages contain **QR codes** or **AR codes** that must be scanned with a smart phone to access more information on the section being studied.



There are QR codes throughout the Handbook! What am I to do?

How to Scan a QR code with your iPhone

1. Open the Camera app on your iPhone.
2. Point your iPhone at the QR code to scan it.
3. Finally, tap the pop-up banner or the QR icon in the bottom-right corner of the app.

If you do not see the banner or QR icon, ensure that the Scan QR Codes feature is turned on. To do so, navigate to Settings > Camera and tap the slider beside Scan QR Codes. When it turns green, you will know it is on.

How to Scan a QR code with your Android

1. Open the Camera app on your Android phone.
2. Point your Android phone at the QR code to scan it.
3. Finally, tap the pop-up banner.



If you do not see the banner, you can instead utilise Google Lens. You may encounter the Lens icon (a circle within a broken box) someplace on your screen.

There are Zappar codes throughout the Handbook! What am I to do?

How to Scan a Zappar code with your Phone

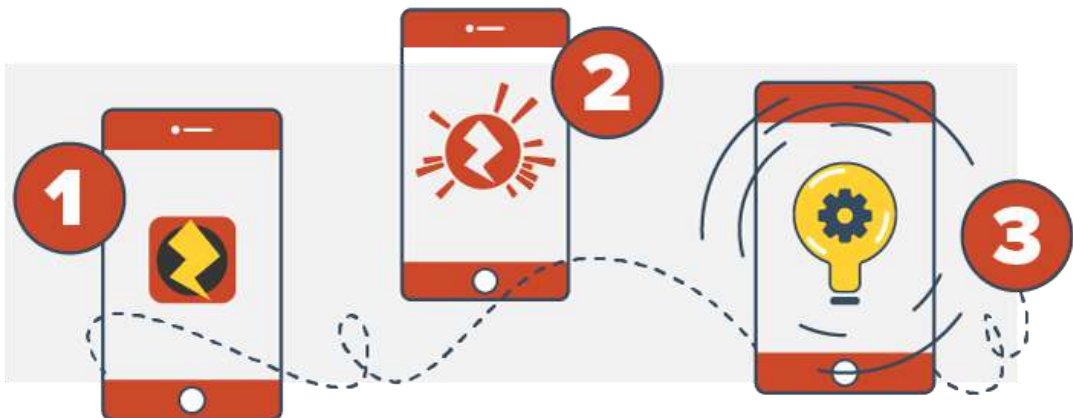
1. Download the Zappar app on your device.



1. Find a Zappar code. It will look similar to this:



1. Once installed: Open the app, hover the camera over the Zapcode and press 'Scan Zapcode'.
1. Access the interactive content.



Let's try it



Source: <https://www.zappar.com/how-it-works/>

*“Strengthen the European Identity through
Education and Culture”*

Chapter 1:

The Dream of a united Europe

Introduction

Europe – our home continent - is not the biggest in the world but it offers the most interesting and thought-provoking history. It has always been densely populated with nations squeezed into small area; there have always been people full of contrasts and clashing ideas leading to bloody and atrocious wars. It's been the cradle of the best and the worst features of humanity: on the one hand we have Mozart's music, Michael Angelo's Sistine Chapel, printing machine, Enlightenment, steam engine, phone, vaccinations and antibiotics. On the other, Europe has experienced colonialism, Nazism and the related Holocaust, as well as terror caused by some authoritarian systems, while greed and inequality still exist. All these from people living in the same continent, under the same value system.... So different and yet so similar and for centuries dreaming of living in unity and peace.

The dream of a United Europe

Objectives

The aim of this chapter is to:

- familiarise with the history of Europe before it became the European Union (EU)
- outline the history of basic European features
- present the ideas of a united Europe in the past
- show the underlying ideas of United Europe

Chapter 1

What are the three founding ideas of European culture?

GREEK DEMOCRACY and PHILOSOPHY

Ancient Greece laid the foundations of modern political systems. Athenian democracy and its institutions remain the model for the democratic system that you can see today in all our countries. It was based on voting by the majority, rotation of offices, and mass participation in social life.

Unfortunately, only male citizens over 20 who completed their military training could vote. Women and slaves had no right to vote.

Creative thinking

Can you think of other Greek advancements and ideas which are part of European civilisation today?

ROMAN LAW

Roman law had a significant impact on the development of European legislation in the form of universal law. Such jobs as solicitor, prosecutor and defendant were invented in Ancient Rome. The Romans also wrote the most important rules for community relationships, for example: inheritance, private property, right to have a court trial, contracts and sale agreements and many others.

Can you match the Roman legal proverbs with their meanings?

How do you understand them?

1. Nemo iudex in causa sua –
2. Audiatur et altera pars –
3. Lex retro non agit –
4. Dura lex sed lex –
 - A. It is hard law but that's the law
 - B. Nobody can be his own judge
 - C. The judge must listen to both parties
 - D. Law is not retroactive

CHRISTIANITY

Christianity became one of the most important faiths in the world. It has had a big impact on the history and culture of many countries: it has affected the ethical beliefs and religious systems of millions of people, but also other parts of human culture – for example, art, literature, music, building, and architecture! Christian religion became the foundation on which human rights, democracy, ideas of freedom and common good were born in Europe.

It gave us:

- One common idea of God, Jesus Christ and Holy Spirit for all the continent
- 10 commandments
- Love and forgiveness instead of revenge and hatred
- Calendar
- Respect for work “Ora et labora”
- Development of education and medical science
- Christmas and Easter

Creative thinking



*Can you think of the most famous religious places
- cathedrals, pilgrimage destinations in Europe?*

Ideas for Unity over the centuries

- ✓ Alexander the Great and his Europe and Asia
- ✓ The Roman Empire
- ✓ Christianity as the free-willed community of all believers
- ✓ Carolingian Empire by Charlemagne in Middle Ages
- ✓ The Enlightenment, as a significant intellectual and cultural movement that took place in Europe during the 17th and 18th centuries that had an impact on many aspects of society, including philosophy, science, politics, and human rights
- ✓ Napoleon's Empire
- ✓ Racial supremacy (the idea that because of their race or culture, some groups of people are better or more important than other groups) and expansionism (the desire to control more land or countries) by nazist Germany
- ✓ The expansion of Soviet influence through communist ideology
- ✓ Churchill's idea of Federal Union
- ✓ EEC
- ✓ EU

Creative thinking

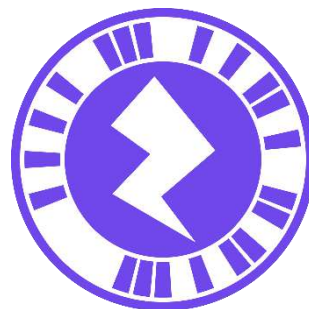
How do we think of these systems/ideologies today?

Europe's history is extremely complex. Empires flourish and fall, invasions sweep over the continent, and modern countries emerge gradually.

Many significant events have shaped European history in the past. The history of Europe is traditionally divided into four time periods: **prehistoric Europe** (prior to about 800 BC), **classical antiquity** (800 BC to AD 500), the **Middle Ages** (AD 500 to AD 1500), and the **modern era** (since AD 1500).

Even in the modern era, there have been moments and events that have acted as catalysts.

Zap the Code to see the map
of Europe in the modern era
and learn more ...



Source: <https://www.v4dplplus.eu/parledu-330/history-in-maps-447>

The need for the creation of the EU

Creative thinking

Why do you think people of Europe decided to create European Community as a legal, widespread organisation?

"Europe will not be made all at once, or according to a single plan. It will be built through concrete achievements which first create a *de facto* solidarity."

Robert Schuman, 1950

The need for the creation of the EU

In 1957, shortly after the Second World War, still keeping in mind the horror of the Great War, six countries in Europe came together to try to create lasting peace. These countries were: France, Italy, Germany, The Netherlands, Belgium, and Luxembourg. The organization which they formed was called European Economic Community – EEC.

The reason they formed the fellowship was to cooperate economically and not to compete and to share the market for their goods. The idea proved to be a great success and it started to grow and change into what we know today as European Union.

The need for the creation of the EU

This poem was written by Daniel Wright – it can be also sung to the melody of EU anthem.

Europe is united now.
United that it may remain;
Our unity in diversity
May contribute to world peace.
May there forever reign in Europe
Faith and justice and Freedom
For all its many people
In a greater motherland
Citizens, Europe will flourish,
A great task calls on to you.
The stars in the night sky
Are the symbols that unite us.

Creative thinking

What message can you see in the poem?

How does it make you feel?

CHAPTER 2:

The history of the EU

Introduction

The European Union was formed in order to put a stop to the frequent and destructive battles between neighbouring countries that culminated in World War II. The following chapter outlines the major events in the European Union's history.

The history of the EU

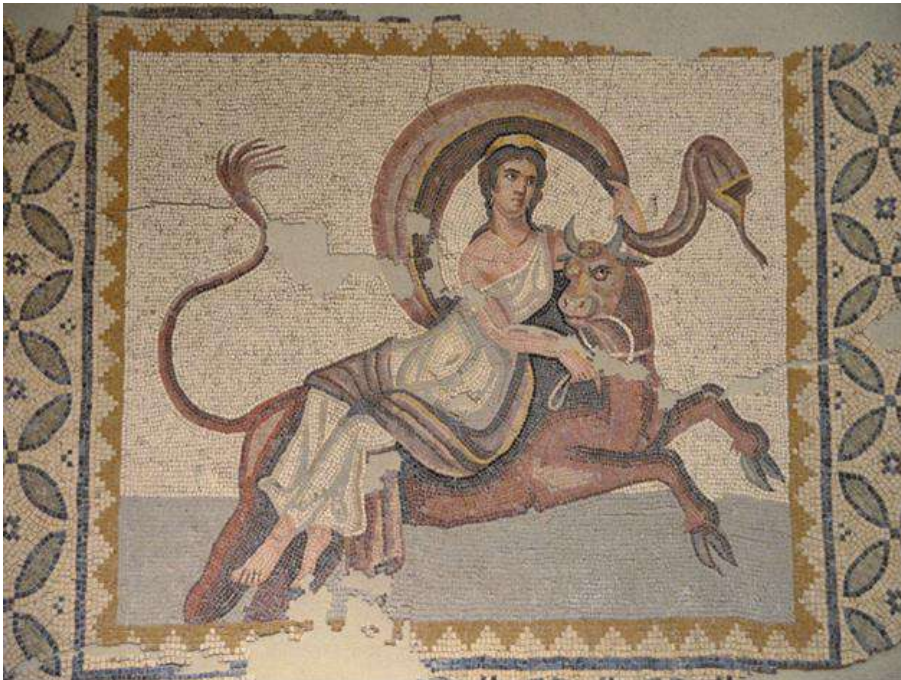
Objectives

Students will:

- understand how the European Union came to be
- learn about the history of the EU
- identify key steps and milestones in the EU history
- identify the EU member countries and candidate countries
- reflect on some of the challenges the EU currently faces, and
- envision the future of Europe and their place in it.

Chapter 2:

Europa and the birth of Europe



Envisioning a new world

After the Second World War, there was a growing interest in international cooperation among countries. This led to the creation of important institutions like the Bretton Woods System in 1944 and the United Nations in 1945. In 1946, the French Union also discussed integrating its colonies into a European community. These efforts were seen as a way to prevent the extreme nationalism that had caused so much destruction during the war.

Before this time, the idea of a united Europe was mainly discussed by philosophers and forward-thinking individuals. However, it eventually became a real political project and a long-term goal for governments. The concept of a "United States of Europe" was seen as a humanistic and peaceful dream, considering the history of bloody wars in Europe. For example, France and Germany had three wars between 1870 and 1945, resulting in the loss of many lives. and plenty of people lost their lives during these wars.

Imagining 'Europe'

The word "Europe" doesn't just mean a physical place like a continent. It's more about how we see different geographic regions and ethnic groups throughout history and cultures. In the past, it was used to describe a specific cultural region during the Carolingian Renaissance in the 9th century.

Later on, in the 15th century, it was used to refer to the influence of the Western Church compared to the Eastern Orthodox churches and the Islamic world. After Constantinople fell to the Turks in 1453, a king from Bohemia suggested that European Christian nations unite against the Turks.

In the 17th and 18th centuries, people like William Penn and Abbot Charles de Saint-Pierre proposed ideas for a European parliament and a league of sovereign states with common goals. Some Europeans even envisioned a United States of Europe, similar to the United States of America, after the American Revolutionary War.

Even Immanuel Kant, a famous philosopher, suggested the idea of a peace congress for Europe in 1795. The concept of "Europe" started to focus on Western Europe and Germanic-speaking countries in the 19th century, contrasting with the Russian Empire. Military alliances among European powers in the past were formed to protect against Islamic expansion.

Initial years and the Paris Treaty (1948-1957)

In 1948, different structures and deals helped Europe start to come together. The Western Union and the International Authority for the Ruhr were made when the Treaty of Brussels was signed. The Marshall Plan was also run by the Organisation for European Economic Co-operation (OEEC), which later became the OECD.

The Soviet Union, however, formed the Comecon as a countermovement. The Hague Congress in May 1948 was a big step towards Europe becoming one. On May 5, 1949, the European Movement International, the College of Europe, and, most importantly, the Council of Europe were all started because of this.

The Council of Europe was one of the first places where the independent countries of Western Europe came together. It gave people hope for the idea of Europe as a whole, and it was a big reason why the European Convention on Human Rights was signed in 1950.

The European Union (EU) came into being because of the Schuman Declaration, which was signed in 1950. This statement called for coal and steel production in France and West Germany to be run by the same organisation. This finally led to the creation of the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC). In 1952, France, Belgium, Netherlands, Luxembourg, West Germany, Italy, and Luxembourg got together to write the Treaty of Paris, which set up the ECSC. With the help of the Marshall Plan, which has given money to Europe from the US since 1948, the ECSC was a key part of the economic growth and unity of Europe. It also set up important EU agencies like the European Commission and the European Parliament.

Treaty of Rome (1958–1972)

1957:

- The European Economic Community (EEC) was set up when Belgium, France, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, and West Germany signed the Treaty of Rome in 1957. The EEC made its member countries into a customs union. This meant that there were no taxes or other barriers to trade between them, and that goods from outside the union had to pay the same price. The Treaty of Rome also led to the creation of the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom), whose goal is to work together to create nuclear power.

1958:

- The EEC and Euratom were officially set up.

1961:

- The Organisation for European Economic Co-operation (OEEC) was changed into the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Its membership grew to include countries that were not in Europe, such as the United States and Canada.

1960s:

- France tried to limit the power of international organisations within the European Communities. This led to a lot of trouble. But in the end, an answer was found.

1967:

- The Merger Treaty was signed. According to this, the European Economic Community, the European Atomic Energy Community, and the European Coal and Steel Community came together and were called the European groups. Jean Rey led the European Communities as its president.

First enlargement, and European co-operation (1973–1993)

1973:

- Denmark, Ireland, and the United Kingdom joined the European Communities, and Greenland also became a part of it. Norway was considering joining too, but in a vote, the Norwegian people decided not to join.

1979:

- People vote directly for members of the European Parliament for the first time.

1981:

- Greece joins the EU.

1985:

- Greenland left the European Communities because it didn't agree with them about fishing rights. In that year, the Schengen Area was made when the Schengen Agreement was signed. The goal of this deal was to make it easier to travel around the area by getting rid of internal border checks and passport controls between most member states and some non-member, making it easier to travel within the EU.

1986:

- The European Economic Community (EEC) started using the European flag, and the Single European Act was signed. During this year, Portugal and Spain also joined the European Communities.

1990:

- After the Eastern Bloc fell apart in 1989, the former East Germany joined the European Communities as part of a reunified Germany.

Treaties of Maastricht, Amsterdam and Nice (1993–2004)

1993:

- November:

With the signing of the Maastricht Treaty, the European Union (EU) became a real thing. When the twelve countries that make up the European Communities signed the treaty in 1992, it marked a new step in the union of Europe. It created the idea of a shared European citizenship, laid the groundwork for a single currency (which became the Euro), and set out joint policies for foreign affairs and defence. The name of the European Economic Community (EEC) was changed to the European Community by the pact.

- June:

The EU came up with the Copenhagen criteria, which set the rules for new countries that want to join the EU. This plan to grow was meant to include Cyprus and Malta, as well as the former communist countries of Central and Eastern Europe. As the EU grew, it got harder to work together and there were more differences.

1995:

Austria, Finland, and Sweden joined the EU, making it even bigger.

2002:

Euro banknotes and coins replaced the national currencies in 12 European Union countries. This was the start of the Eurozone, which is a group of European Union (EU) countries whose main currency is the euro. In the end, 19 countries were part of the Eurozone. The euro also became the second most important reserve currency in the world.

2004:

The European Union grew by the most it had ever grown! Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, and Slovenia are some of the countries that joined the EU. With this growth, the number of countries in the European Union grew, and new countries joined the union.

Treaty of Lisbon, and Brexit

(2004–present)

2007:

Bulgaria and Romania joined the European Union. This made the EU even bigger. In the same year, Slovenia changed its currency to the euro and joined the other countries that use the same currency.

2008:

A number of countries also switched to the euro, Cyprus and Malta being the first two. Then Slovakia (2009), Estonia (2011), Latvia (2014) and Lithuania (2015) joined.

2009:

The Lisbon Treaty, when it went into force in 2009, made a lot of changes to the European Union. It made the policies, foreign affairs, and law of the union, among other things, part of one judicial body. It also made Herman Van Rompuy the first leader of the European Council. The job of the high envoy for foreign policy and security was also made stronger by the treaty.

2012:

The Nobel Peace Prize was given to the European Union for its work to promote peace, unity, democracy, and human rights in Europe!

2013:

Croatia became the 28th country to join the European Union. This made the EU even bigger. At the beginning of the 2010s, the EU faced problems that put its ability to work together to the test. These problems included a debt crisis in some Eurozone countries and a rise in migration from Africa and Asia.

2016:

The people of the United Kingdom voted on whether or not to stay in the European Union. 51.9% of the people who voted did so to leave. After getting more time, the UK left the EU for good on January 31, 2020. But until December 31, 2020, many EU rules still applied to the UK during a transition phase.

The Schengen Area and Eurozone

The Schengen Area is a group of 26 European countries that have done away with visa checks and border control at their shared borders. It's part of a bigger plan to make the EU a better place for freedom, security, and fairness. For foreign travel, they both use the same visa procedure. It is called the Schengen Area because it was decided in the town of Schengen in Luxembourg. Schengen is made up of 22 of the 27 EU countries. Like Bulgaria and Croatia, the other 5 countries are meant to join in the future. Iceland and Switzerland, which are not in the EU, also have deals with Schengen. A few tiny countries, like Monaco and the Vatican City, have open borders with Schengen members.

Defining moments

The Berlin Wall coming down was a very big deal. It was the beginning of the end of communism in eastern and central Europe. This took about two years, and in 1991, it led to the fall of the Soviet Union. It also changed a lot about how these countries were run and how their businesses worked. From central planning, they switched to democracy governments and economies based on the market.

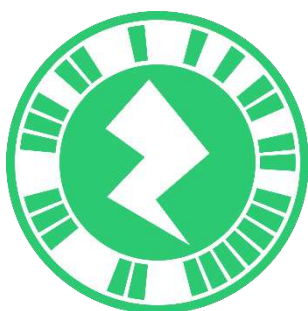
When eight countries that used to be part of the Soviet Bloc joined the European Union in 2004, the changeover period came to an end. This was a big step towards becoming fully part of Western Europe. During the changeover, the economy changed a lot. For example, the value of the currency went down, and there were big changes in the job market.

Defining moments

After the European Union grew in 2004, there was a clear divide between the countries in central Europe and those from the former Soviet Union. EU inclusion ended up playing a big role, but there was still a gap in institutions for the countries that didn't join. This is clear from the current situation in Ukraine, where changes have been slowed down because the country is not a part of the EU.

Even though the economy of the Eurozone has started to get better after a crisis, the EU has had to deal with many problems. Some of these are the crisis of illegal immigration, the choice to leave the EU, and the rise of far-right and populist groups. The movement of people in 2015 caused people to worry about how the Schengen Area worked and brought out differences between member states. The EU has been put to the test by these problems.

Scan the ZapCode to
take a trip back to learn
more about the EU:



The future

As of 2023, Albania, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Turkey, and Ukraine are all known to be candidates for EU admission. Norway, Switzerland, and Iceland have all tried to join before, but their applications have either been put on hold or taken away. Bosnia-Herzegovina, Georgia, and Kosovo are also seen as possible options. Bosnia-Herzegovina and Georgia have already applied to join.

Since 2004 when new countries joined, the EU has changed in many important ways. With a lower GDP per person than the EU average, there is now more difference between member countries. But there has been a rise in the movement of workers. The EU wants to integrate capital and labour more, and it is also working to make its systems more democratic and efficient. The EU is getting a lot of good things out of these changes.

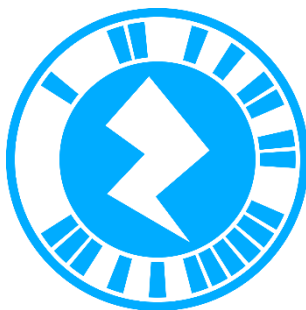
After the Great Recession and the EU's reaction to it, it became harder for enlargement to keep going in the right direction. Euroscepticism is on the rise, and politicians are blaming Europe for many problems. However, studies show that the main reason people don't trust EU organizations is because they don't trust their own leaders.

During the 2014 elections for the European Parliament, Euroskeptic groups won big in countries like France and Britain. This was a turning point. This calls for a new reform plan and a serious discussion about the costs and benefits of the EU and how it can be kept going in a more effective and long-lasting way.

We are optimistic the EU of 2024 will be better than the EU of 2014.

1. It gave 500 million people the freedom to live, study or work anywhere
2. It created one of the world's biggest single markets
3. It won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2012
4. It banished the death penalty
5. It built a 1.23-million-ton butter mountain
6. It took sewage off Europe's beaches and ratified the Paris Agreement

How much do you
know about the EU?
Scan the ZapCode to
take the quiz:



In the section that follows, you will learn about each partner country's progress toward EU membership.

Poland's accession to the European Union

1945-1989: as the result of the Yalta Conference in February 1945 Poland, like many other countries in Europe, were presented by Churchill and Roosevelt to Stalin and thus fell behind the Iron Curtain for decades. That fact influenced economy and political development of Poland. Consequently, the first attempt to become a member was after the partial decline of Soviet Empire.

1990: first Polish ambassador at EU to start negotiations on Association Agreement

1996: Poland's Application was submitted and accepted

1997: gaining Candidate Status

1998 – 2022: negotiations period

2003: referendum in Poland with 78% for the association.

1 May 2004: Poland becomes the Member State of EU together with 9 other countries – it was the largest extension of EU.

For Polish people becoming the member of EU had mainly political meaning as it was the final end of Soviet domination. Closed borders, economic collapse and terror of communistic times did come to an end. A new era began for the former Soviet Block.

Greece's accession to the European Union

June 1959: Greece applies for association to the European Economic Community.

July 1961: the application is signed, and it is known as the Athens Agreement. However, the accession of Greece was not immediate because certain procedures had to be followed. The agreement foresaw a customs union for a transitional period of approximately 22 years, during which Greece would be required to align its policies in a variety of areas with those of the EEC, and the allocation of funding to promote the country's economic development.

1967 – 1974: The intervention of the dictatorship delays the entire process.

May 1979: the Act of Accession is signed and from 1/1/1981 Greece becomes officially a member of United Europe.

By joining the EU, Greece hopes to achieve economic growth, a more active presence on the world stage, and the resolution of numerous national issues. In addition, the Europeans gain direct access to the Eastern Mediterranean and the Arab world as a result of Greece's entry.

Spain's accession to the European Union

The European Union is the natural framework for our country's political and economic development.

Spain's aspirations to join the European Communities were invigorated by the arrival of democracy and, to that end, **Spain requested accession on 26 July 1977**. These aspirations came to fruition on **12 June 1985, with the signature of the Treaty of Accession** in Madrid and its **entry into force on 1 January 1986**.

Three and a half years after its accession, in **June 1989 Spain's national currency joined the exchange rate mechanism of the European Monetary System**, created in 1979 by France, Italy, Denmark, the Netherlands and Luxembourg.

Moreover, Spain strengthened its commitment to further integration in **June 1991** by signing the **Schengen Agreement**, which brought the steady elimination of border controls between Member States, as part of the concept of a *Border-Free Europe*.

The **signature of the Treaty of Maastricht (1992)** provided the European Union with its current name, as well as a road map towards a common currency. That same year, at the Edinburgh Summit the Member States launched the Cohesion Fund for projects involving the environment, transport infrastructure, and energy in countries with income levels lower than 90% of the EU average.

Spain has played an active role in the construction of this European project, **participating in the negotiation of the Treaties of Amsterdam (1997), Nice (2001), and Lisbon (2009), and the Draft Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe (2004).**

Since its accession, Spain has also participated actively in developing and furthering the most important European policies: the Common Agricultural Policy; Common Fisheries Policy; internal market; energy and transport policies; industrial policies; and educational, cultural, and social policies.

Spain will continue to promote the EU becoming a truly global actor, with positive frameworks for its relations with the international community to promote its values and interests in such varied areas as human rights, free trade, and technical and scientific development.

Ireland's accession to the European Union

1919: Ireland declared independence from the British Empire.

1922: The Irish Free State was established.

1937: The Irish Free State became Eire.

1949: Eire achieved full statehood. The Republic of Ireland was declared.

1963 & 1967: 2 applications of Irish membership in the EEC were stopped by French President de Gaulle.

1969: The new French president George Pompidou, signaled that France would not stop Irish membership.

22/1/1972: Signing of the Treaty of Accession in Brussels, Belgium. On this date the Republic of Ireland became a member of the European Economic Community (EEC).

10/5/1972: The Irish people voted overwhelmingly in a referendum to join the European Economic Community. That referendum confirmed Ireland's entry into the European community with 83% of voters supporting membership of the EEC, which eventually became the European Union.

1973: The decision was taken by the vast majority of the Irish people to join the European Communities (the European Coal and Steel Community, the European Economic Community, and the European Atomic Energy Community).

1/11/1993: The Republic of Ireland (RoI) became a member of the European Union (EU).

All countries in the European Union work together to make sure that there is peace in the countries of the European Union and that people have good peaceful and safe lives living in fair and just societies where nobody is left out and the languages and cultures of all EU citizens are respected.



Source:

<https://irishelectionliterature.com/2011/03/04/is-this-the-kind-of-ireland-you-want-fianna-fail-ad-from-the-1972-referendum-on-entry-to-eeec/>

Cyprus's accession to the European Union

Cyprus was part of the biggest enlargement of the European Union, taking place on 1 May 2004, when Cyprus joined the European Union together with nine other countries. Cyprus was accepted into the EU as a whole, although the EU legislation is suspended in northern Cyprus until a final settlement of the Cyprus problem was reached.

1972:

The Government of the Republic of Cyprus concluded an Association Agreement with the EEC on 19 December 1972, which entered into force on June 1, 1973, leading to a Customs Union within a period of 10 years.

The purpose of the Agreement, which contained arrangements on trade, financial and technical cooperation that were to be applied for the benefit of the entire population of the island, was to consolidate and expand trade and the economic relations between Cyprus and the European Community.

1990:

The Republic of Cyprus applied for membership to the then EEC. After an extensive examination of the application the European Commission issued its Opinion (avis) on Cyprus' application on June 30, 1993, which recognized the island's European identity and character, as well as its vocation to belong to the EEC.

1998:

Accession negotiations between Cyprus and the EU started.

2002:

The European Council decided in Copenhagen to admit Cyprus as a new member state of the European Union.

2004:

Cyprus became a member of the EU.

2008:

Cyprus joined the euro zone and adopted the euro as its national currency.

History of EU and Turkey Relations

Turkey is one of the first countries to want to cooperate closely with the young European Economic Community EEC in 1959.

This cooperation within the framework of a "partnership agreement" known as Ankara Agreement, took place on September 12, 1963. What stood out in this plan was the creation of a "Customs Union" that allowed Turkey to trade goods and agricultural products with EEC countries without restrictions.

The main objective of the Ankara Agreement is to "perpetuate the improvement of living standards in Turkey and the EEC countries through accelerated economic development, regular expansion of trade, and the elimination of disparities between the Turkish economy and the Community economy".

Milestones in EU - Turkey Relations

1987:

Turkey applied for full membership on April 14.

1993:

EU and Turkey "Customs Union" negotiations started.

1996:

The "Customs Union" between Turkey and the EU entered into force on January 1.

1999:

European Council, following the recommendations of the Commission's second Turkey Report, granted Turkey the status of candidate country for EU membership at the Helsinki Summit in December.

2001:

The European Council adopted the "EU - Turkey Accession Partnership", which provides a roadmap for Turkey's EU accession process on 8 March. On 19 March, the Turkish Government adopted the National Program for the Adoption of the Acquis (NPAA), reflecting the Accession Partnership.

2001:

The European Council decided to increase financial support with the "Instrument for Pre-Accession Financial Assistance, IPA" system.

2004:

European Council decided to start membership talks with Turkey on 17 December.

2005:

Turkey's EU accession negotiations started on 3 October.

2005:

The "Scan Process", the analytical review of acquis alignment, started on 35 chapters.

2005:

The Council adopted the new accession partnership document for Turkey. On 17 May 2012, a Positive Agenda was initiated between Turkey and the European Commission. Positive Agenda was conceived as a working method that aims to strengthen the cooperation mechanisms on some important issues in terms of Turkey-EU relations and to fulfill the technical opening/closing criteria as soon as possible with the working groups formed, including the chapters with political blocks. The Positive Agenda came to an end in 2014 when Johannes Hahn took office, replacing Štefan Füle, European Commission Mem

CHAPTER 3:

The emblems of the European Union

Introduction

Emblems are landmarks for any organization that is concerned with the general public because they serve as identifiers and summarize its policies and principles in a clear and understandable manner. For the EU, its symbols – flag, anthem, Europe Day, and motto – attest to its existence as an autonomous entity, inspiring, motivating, and encouraging its member states to embrace its goals and values, while for third parties, they are the elements that establish the EU as a strong organization representing solid principles and values.

The emblems of the European Union

Objectives

The aim of this chapter is to:

- familiarize with the main European Union emblems and their symbolism
- promote the recognition of the significance of emblems for an organization such as the EU
- help to identify the EU's values through the symbols of its emblems
- connect the symbols to the common European culture
- use the EU emblems as a source of inspiration for original thinking and creativity.

Chapter 3:

The Symbols of the European Union

The European Flag



The Circle: Symbolizes unity, solidarity and harmony among the peoples of Europe

The Number 12: The Number 12 represents perfection, entirety. Not related to the number of Member Countries.

Colours: Golden stars against a blue sky.

It was adopted in 1984 by the European Union (then the European Economic Community) and flies over buildings, parks, and monuments across Europe.

Creative thinking

The EU Flag and me: What do you feel when you see the EU flag in a building inside or outside your country?

European Anthem

The melody used to represent the EU comes from Ludwig van Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, which he wrote in 1823. In it, he put Friedrich von Schiller's 1785 poem "Ode to Joy" to music. The poem portrays Schiller's utopian picture of humanity as brothers, which Beethoven embraced. It became the EU anthem in 1985. The anthem has only music, no lyrics and it expresses the European ideals of freedom, peace, and solidarity.

*Scan the QR
code to listen to
the EU Anthem:*



Inspiration

Imagine and try to create a poem with four verses and rhyme for the beginning of the EU anthem.

Europe Day

Every year on **May 9**, Europe Day honors peace and solidarity in Europe. The day honors the historic 'Schuman declaration,' which described his vision for a new type of political collaboration in Europe that would make war between Europe's nations impossible. Schuman's idea is widely regarded as the birth of the European Union.



Creative suggestions

Suggest ways of celebrating Europe Day in your school in order for you and your schoolmates to appreciate the significance of this special day.

EU motto

"United in diversity"

It was adopted as the European Union's motto in 2000. It represents how Europeans have banded together in the form of the EU to work for peace and prosperity for the members, while being enriched by the Europe's diverse cultures, traditions, and languages, that are intended to contribute to a common European culture.

Creative Suggestions

Create a picture (drawing, painting or digital) that will be in accordance with this motto.



CHAPTER 4:

The Values of the European Union

Introduction

The values of the EU are directly related to the goals both of its creation and its expansion with new members. They represent the continent's core ideals, which stem from its historical experiences as well as its rich heritage of philosophy, art, and humanism. They serve as landmarks for European citizens and define Europe's policy toward its Member States and the rest of the world.

The Values of the European Union

Objectives

The aim of this topic is to:

- set out the core values upon which the EU is founded,
- describe each of them briefly and clearly,
- outline the EU's moral profile,
- connect the EU's values to its goals,
- encourage EU citizens to adopt these values,
- demonstrate the EU as an ethical organization that transcends local interests and serves great universal goals.

Chapter 4:

The Values of the European Union

While Europeans speak different languages and have their own cultures and traditions, they nonetheless share the same common values that the EU was founded on. These **6 core values** form the basis of our society and are:

Human dignity

The dignity of human beings cannot be violated. It is a fundamental right that must be maintained and preserved.

Freedom

Citizens have the right to move and live freely within the Union. EU Charter of Fundamental Rights protects private life, thought, religion, assembly, expression, and information.

Democracy

An EU citizen has political rights. Adult EU citizens can run for and vote in European Parliament elections. EU citizens have the right to run and vote in their country of residence or their country of origin.

Equality

Means equal rights before the law. All European policies and European integration are based on gender equality. It applies in all areas. The 1957's Treaty of Rome established equal pay for equal work.

Rule of law

Everything the EU does is based on democratically agreed-upon treaties. An independent judiciary upholds law and justice. All EU countries must respect the European Court of Justice's verdicts.

Human Rights

The EU Charter of Fundamental Rights protects human rights. These include the right to be free from discrimination based on sex, race, religion, disability, age, or sexual orientation, the right to personal data protection, and access to justice.

Aims of the EU

Within its borders, the European Union's goals are as follows:

- promote peace, and the well-being of its citizens;
- offer freedom, security, and justice for its citizens inside its borders;
- take appropriate measures at its external borders to regulate asylum and immigration;
- prevent and combat crime;
- create an internal market and achieve long-term development and price stability, as well as a highly competitive market economy;
- fight unemployment and poverty;
- promote social progress by combating inequalities and social injustice and providing assistance to vulnerable social groups;
- protect and improve environmental quality;
- promote scientific and technological progress;
- combat social exclusion and discrimination;
- promote social justice, gender equality, and child rights protection;
- enhance cohesion and solidarity among EU countries;
- respect each country's rich cultural and linguistic diversity.

Global objectives of the EU

The EU's global objectives are as follows:

- maintain and advance its values and interests;
- contribute to global peace and security;
- promote the sustainable development of the Earth;
- contribute to peoples' solidarity and mutual respect, poverty eradication, and human rights protection throughout the world;
- strict compliance with international law.

Have you noticed what appears on both sides of euro banknotes?

Both series of euro banknotes feature windows and gates on their front sides. These elements represent the European spirit of openness and cooperation. The bridges on the reverse side represent communication between Europeans and the rest of the world.

Creative thinking

The euro banknotes depict various architectural styles from European cultural history, with a focus on three architectural elements: windows, gates, and bridges. What do you believe these architectural elements symbolize? Try to connect them to the aforementioned EU core values.

Scan the
QR code to
learn more:



CHAPTER 5:

The institutions of the European Union and what they do

Introduction

This chapter presents in brief the 5 institutions of the European Union listed below:

1. The European Parliament
2. The Council of the European Union
3. The European Commission
4. The court of justice
5. The European Central Bank

By the end of this chapter, you will know where these institutions are located, what are their main responsibilities, and which is their role in the European Union.

The institutions of the European Union and what they do

Objectives

The aim of this chapter is to describe in brief 5 European Institutions:

- The European Parliament located mainly in Strasbourg, France.
- The Council of the European Union located in Brussels, Belgium.
- The European Commission located in Brussels, in Luxembourg, and has also representations across the EU.
- The Court of Justice of the European Union located in Luxembourg.
- The European Central Bank (ECB) based in Frankfurt, Germany.

Chapter 5

The institutions of the European Union and what they do



The European Parliament

The European Parliament is located in **Strasbourg, France**, but parliamentary sessions or meetings also take place in **Strasbourg** and **Brussels, Belgium**. The parliament's administrative centre is in Luxembourg. The Parliament began life as the Common Assembly of the European Coal and Steel Community in 1951.

The European Parliament

The Parliament **elects the European Commission's President**. It can also approve or dissolve or dismiss the European Commission. It also approves the budget of the European Union.

In the European Parliament, there are debates about important political, social, and economic issues.

What kind of institution the European Parliament is?

The European Parliament is a legislative institution of the European Union. The European Parliament shares legislative and decision-making powers with the Council of the European Union.

What are the “plenary sessions”?

Parliament holds important debates every month. These debates are called ‘plenary sessions,’ and they are attended by MEPs. These debates or plenary sessions are held in Strasbourg, but sometimes they could take place in Brussels.

The European Parliament

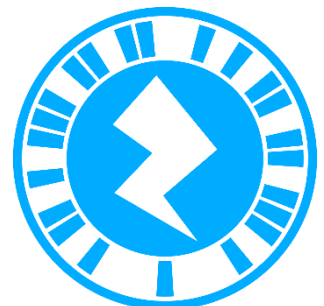
The European Parliament has **705 members, or Members of the European Parliament (MEP)**, democratically elected by about 380 million eligible EU citizens. Some countries have more MEPs because they are bigger countries. Small countries have fewer MEPs.

Eligible voters over the age of 18 can vote for MEPs **every 5 years**, so when you are 18, you can vote for an MEP in your local community voting office. In some countries such as Austria and Malta, you can vote from the age of 16 and in Greece a citizen can vote when they are 17 years old. An eligible voter is an EU citizen or legal non-EU citizen resident in an EU country.

When the MEPs from different countries work in The European Parliament they sometimes **work together**. For example, an Irish MEP might work with a Spanish or German MEP because they may share similar political points of view. So, for example, if the Irish, Spanish and German MEPs all believe in increasing the use of green energy such as solar power or wind power, they will work together to achieve their aim.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i-tumpJH2AU>

Scan the ZapCode to celebrate
the achievements of the last 70
years of the European Parliament!



The Council of the European Union



The Council of the European Union is the European Union's primary or top institution.

Why?

Because the Heads of State or Government make up the Council. Prime ministers and presidents lead the Council of Europe. That is why it is the EU's most important organisation.

The Council of the European Union, known also as the Council, is located in the Europa building in **Brussels, Belgium** where council meetings take place. **The Council meets 4 times a year**, but in April, June and October they are held in **Luxembourg**. The Council of the European Union **shares important law- and decision-making powers with the European Parliament**.

The Council of the European Union

The Presidency of the European Council lasts for 6 months.

It is a rotating presidency which means that one of the heads of the 27 European Union states takes turns to be President of the European Union every 6 months, so one country will preside over or lead the Council. Then, at the end of a six-month period, another country will govern the Council of the European Union.

So, what does the President do in the Council of the European Union?

During the president's time in office, the President manages or 'chairs' meetings; the President also makes sure that the EU's work in the Council continues to be done.

The Council of the European Union

How is voting in the Council done?

Voting in the Council is done using a system called 'qualified majority voting', which means you do not need all the voters to agree with a decision. Sometime everyone has to agree, which means you need a unanimous vote, but it depends on what they are voting for.

The job of the Council of the European Union is to act as a **vetoing body**. A vetoing body can stop unpopular decisions by vetoing or saying no, to a decision or legislative bill. The other vetoing institution is the European Parliament.

The Council has a **government minister from each of the member countries of the European Union**. The Council of the European Union and the European Council represent the thoughts, ideas, and opinions of the government of the country they represent.

What is the "trios" system?

Three countries that hold the Presidency consecutively or one after the other, work together to ensure continuity. This system is called 'trios,' meaning three and these three Presidencies work together to make long-term plans and prepare an agenda and topics for the following eighteen months for Council members to discuss. Each of the three Presidents make their own agenda or programme to discuss.

The European Commission



The executive arm of the European Union is the European Commission. An executive is the part of government that **allows laws and policies to come into effect**. **President of the European Commission** is nominated by the EU's 27 member countries in the European Council. Then the European Parliament 'appoints' or gives the job to the person with the most votes. The European Commission has 27 representatives from each EU country. These representatives are called **Commissioners**. Together the Commissioners are known as the College of Commissioners, and they are appointed or 'mandated' for **5 years**. The Commissioners together with the President of the European Commission, head the EU's executive branch, which is responsible for enforcing the laws of the EU and the daily running of the EU. The Commissioners represent the interests of the EU. The Commissioners are given a specific job to do by the European Commission's President; for example, one Commissioner may be responsible for energy and another for monetary policy for the eurozone countries and another trade.

The European Commission

What is a cabinet?

A cabinet is a group of people whose job it is to act as advisers to the President of the European Commission. The European Commission has a cabinet. The European Commission is represented by each country in the EU.

The work of the European Commission is to **suggest new laws and projects that will benefit the EU and its citizens**, but before it can suggest or propose for a new law or project, the Commission must ask what the opinions and feelings of the national parliaments, their governments, experts, advocacy or special interest groups, communities and the general public are. But how? They can make their opinions known online where they can leave comments. So, if for example, the Commission wants to update the law on medical devices it will seek the opinion of national parliaments, their government's medical representatives and ministers, experts in the field of medical devices, groups with an interest in medical devices, the medical community and the general public who have an interest in health issues. The Commission's proposals for laws or projects are looked at or scrutinised, very closely. Every detail is analysed and discussed by the European Parliament and the Council. Then both institutions make the final decision on which laws or projects to accept. They can alter a proposal or a new law or project or reject them.

The Court of Justice of the European Union



The Court of Justice of the European Union is located in **Luxembourg**. It is also known by its abbreviation or acronym **CJEU**. It was established in 1952 and is the **European Union's judicial, or legal arm**.

Is it 1 court or 2?

The Court of Justice of the European Union is not just one court it is, in fact, two courts. They are called the Court of Justice and the General Court.

In the 70 years of its existence, the **Court of Justice** of the European Union and EU states have written and proposed lots of laws for the European Union. The **General Court** deals with cases related to individuals, businesses, and companies, and at times EU governments. This could involve cases like business competition law, trade, agriculture, and trademarks. Imagine a company called itself Manzana (Spanish for Apple) and had a logo of an apple. This could be a copyright infringement. This is something the court may deal with in a copyright case. The Court of Justice deals with requests from national courts.

The Court of Justice of the European Union

How many judges are there in total?

There are 81 judges in total: 54 in the General Court, 2 representatives from each EU country, and 27 in the Court of Justice. This means there is one judge in the Court of Justice representing each member state of the European Union. There are also 11 advocates general. Their job is to help the court write impartial or equally and fair and independent opinions about cases in the court that the judges are working on before they give their judgment.

The job of the Court is **to understand, interpret and make sure that EU laws are followed or 'abided by' in all EU countries in the same way.** The Court of Justice of the European Union **helps member countries understand how EU law works** if they do not understand it or are not sure how to use an EU law.

As well as helping member states understand and interpret laws, it can be used by the general public, businesses, or other organisations. If, for example, they have a grievance against an institution belonging to the EU, they can go to the Court of Justice of the European Union.

The Court of Justice of the European Union

What are “rulings”?

Rulings are legal decisions that people, businesses, organisations, countries, and other EU organisations must abide by or follow.

The Court gives ‘rulings’ on cases. A case is a legal action. There are a number of cases or legal actions the Court rules on:

- ✓ Interpreting EU law: the Court will help national courts in EU member states to understand, interpret and apply the law correctly.
- ✓ Enforcing EU law: if a country does not follow EU law, then the Court will act to enforce the law.
- ✓ Annuling or reversing laws: the Court can annul an EU law if it violates or breaks, EU treaties, laws, or other fundamental rights. An annulment can happen if asked to by an EU government, the Council of the EU, the European Commission, or the European Parliament.
- ✓ The Court can also impose a penalty on or sanction an institution of the European Union if the Court feels that someone, a business, or an organisation has been hurt by the actions or inaction of an EU organisation or the EU as a whole.

The European Central Bank

Who makes up the governing Council?

There is a Governing Council of the bank made up of 6 executive board members and the governors of 15 national central banks from around the EU.



Its job is to make important decisions about policy within the eurozone area. These decisions could be about monetary policy. Monetary policies are decisions about how to best control a member nation and the EU's supply of money and help the economies of the European Union grow. It has contributed so much to macroeconomic stability in the Eurozone area.

The European Central Bank

The **European Central Bank (ECB)** is based in **Frankfurt, Germany**. It is an **independent organisation** within the European Union and is free of political control from influence.

The European Central Bank is the central bank of the Eurozone and the 19 EU countries in it.

The bank also issues **Euro banknotes**. The bank manages the euro, you can see this symbol on euro notes (€) – and the EU's monetary policy, by making sure there is price stability and supervising and looking after banks in the eurozone.

The Eurozone or the euro area, as it is formally called, is all the countries that use the euro as a currency. Although there are 27 countries in the European Union, **only 19 countries use the euro**.

The European Central Bank plays not only a central role in European financial markets but in global financial markets, too, and **has contributed greatly to macroeconomic stability in the Euro area**.

The European Central Bank

Which are the three parts of the ECB that make very important decisions?

1. *The General Council*
2. *The Executive Board*
3. *The Governing Council*

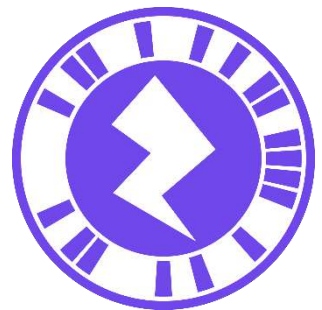
What do each of them do?

The General Council advises the Bank's president and vice-president of the ECB, the ECB, and the Central Bank governors of the EU countries in the Eurozone.

The Executive Board makes monetary policy to control the value of money, borrowing, secure the money supply, and make sure the money is stable and secure in the Eurozone.

The Governing Council includes the Executive Board and all of the national bank governors of the Eurozone.

Scan the ZapCode to Check
your knowledge of the main
European Union institutions



CHAPTER 6:

The founders of the EU and relevant European personalities of our times

Introduction

The founders of the EU are people who are considered to have contributed greatly to European unity.

The number and list of EU founders vary depending on the source. In this publication, we will list 6 builders of Europe: Winston Churchill, Konrad Adenauer, Robert Schuman, Paul-Henri Spaak, Alcide De Gasperi, and Ernest Bevin.

These men of dialogue, who had lived through two world wars and had first-hand knowledge of various European cultures, were the pioneers of a Europe of peace based on the values of human rights, democracy, and the rule of law.

The values embodied by these men can also be seen today in current characters who are a reference and guide for young people and adults of our times.

The founders of the EU and relevant European personalities of our times

Objectives

The aim of this chapter is to:

- meet the founders of the European Union
- learn about the work that each of them did in building the EU
- to get to know the political and social context in which the founders of the European Union lived
- to know a little more about some famous contemporary personalities from different European countries
- to understand why these characters are a reference for today's society
- relate the values embodied by these personalities to the main values protected, promoted and protected by the European Union

Chapter 6

The founders of the EU

Winston Churchill (1874-1965)

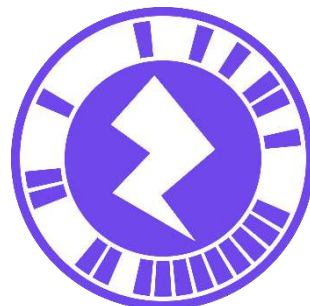
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom



"We must build a kind of United States of Europe"

In his address to the University of Zurich in 1946, Churchill urged Europeans to turn their backs on the horrors of the past and look to the future. He declared that Europe could not afford to continue in an atmosphere of hatred and revenge springing from the injuries of the past. For Churchill, the first step in recreating the 'European family' of justice, mercy, and freedom was 'to build a kind of United States of Europe.'

Scan the ZapCode to hear
Winston Churchill explain the
significance of forming the EU



Konrad Adenauer (1876- 1967)

Chancellor and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the
Federal Republic of Germany

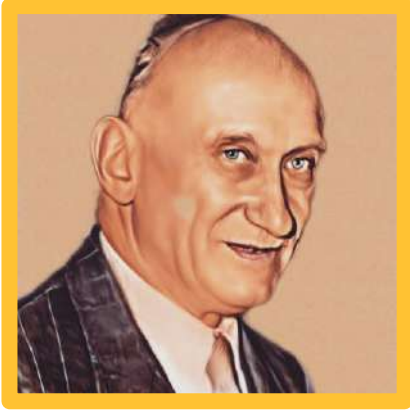


"In past decades and centuries, coal and steel have played a destructive role in conflicts between the peoples of Europe, having been used to manufacture weapons. Let us hope coal and steel will now unite them in thinking and acting together"

Adenauer's experiences during the Second World War made him a political realist and he focused his attention on promoting the idea of pan-European cooperation. Adenauer was a great proponent of the European Coal and Steel Community, which was launched with the Schuman Declaration on 9 May 1950, and the Treaty for the European Economic Community, signed in March 1957.

Robert Schuman (1810-1856)

French Republic Minister for Foreign Affairs



“The Council of Europe is, to be sure, the laboratory in which experiments in European co-operation are conducted”

In cooperation with Jean Monnet, he drew up the internationally renowned Schuman Plan. This was published on 9 May 1950, the date now regarded as the birth of the European Union and celebrated each year as ‘Europe Day’ In the accompanying speech, he proposed joint control of coal and steel production, the most important materials for the armaments industry. The basic idea was that those without control over coal and steel production would not be able to fight a war.

Paul-Henri Spaak (1899-1972)

Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Belgium in the 40s and 50s



“Because it is here that all of Europe comes together, and because there are occasions like today's when problems arise [...] and need to be examined by all the countries of Europe”

For Spaak, uniting countries through binding treaty obligations was the most effective means of guaranteeing peace and stability. He helped achieve these aims as president of the first full meeting of the United Nations (1946) and as Secretary General of NATO (1957-61). Spaak was a leading figure in formulating the content of the Treaty of Rome. At the Messina Conference in 1955, the six participating governments appointed him president of the working committee that prepared the Treaty.

Alcide De Gasperi (1881-1954)

Prime Minister of the Republic of Italy



“The future will not be built through force, nor the desire to conquer, but by the patient application of the democratic method, the constructive spirit of agreement, and by respect for freedom”

Since the end of the war, De Gasperi had campaigned actively for European unity, in the belief that only this could prevent a recurrence of conflict. He was motivated by a clear vision of a united Europe that would not replace individual states, but rather allow them to complement and support each other, and work together.

Ultimately, De Gasperi's work helped create the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC), which effectively removed the ability of European nations to wage war on each other.

Ernest Bevin (1881-1951)

United Kingdom Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs



“We are witnessing today the establishment of a common democratic institution on this ancient continent of Europe”

Ernest Bevin was a British Foreign Secretary. He believed that co-operation between the nations bordering the North Atlantic was essential to protect against the threat of an attack by the Soviet Union, and to contain communist expansion. Bevin’s vision was to create a union of the transatlantic nations that would provide effective military and economic security for the future.

To achieve this, he believed that it was essential for the United States to be involved in the defence of Europe. Bevin became a driving force behind the process that would culminate in the signing of the treaty in Washington and the creation of NATO.

Do you want to know more about...?



NATO



**TREATY OF
ROME**



ECSC



**MESINA
CONFERENCE**

Role playing

Based on what you have learned about the founders of the European Union, write your own speech adopting the role of one of the founders and present it in class.



Relevant European personalities of our times

Saint John Paul II

Polish Pope

The 264th pope of the Catholic Church: He was canonized in 2011, during the pontificate of Francis, making him a saint of the Catholic Church.

Pope John Paul II is remembered for his successful efforts to end communism, as well as for building bridges with peoples of other faiths, and issuing the Catholic Church's first apology for its actions during World War II.

John Paul II strongly advised European administration to allow eastern-block countries enter the structures.

In his famous address in Strasbourg in 1988, he stressed that Europe needs both lungs – western and eastern one to function properly. His diplomatic efforts helped a lot in admission post-communistic countries to EU.



Rafael Nadal

Spanish tennis player

Better known as Rafa Nadal, Rafael Nadal is a Spanish professional tennis player considered the best tennis player in history on clay courts and one of the best of all time.

Nadal is one of the best references for children, teenagers, young adults and adults in Spain. His psychological balance and emotional intelligence make him a unique athlete who plays fair, respects his opponents, is disciplined and fights beyond exhaustion and suffering. He is a person of integrity who wins with generosity, loses with humility and gives us his humility.



Marianna Vardinogiannis

Greek philanthropist

Marianna V. Vardinoyannis is a Greek philanthropist and global advocate for human rights and children's health.

She is a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador, founder and president of the ELPIDA Association of Friends of Children with Cancer (established in 1990), the Marianna V. Vardinoyannis Foundation (established in 1997) and the Orama Elpidas Association (established in 2014), as well as a board member of numerous organizations.

Her work enjoys international recognition and has a wide impact, helping children not only in Greece, but also in the Balkans, the Mediterranean region, Africa and elsewhere. She builds bridges of solidarity between countries, communities and hospitals in different parts of the world.



Stella Kyriakides

Cypriot politician

<https://mvvfoundation.gr/en/the-president/>

Stella Kyriakides is a Cypriot politician and psychologist who since 2019 holds the position of European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety under the leadership of the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen. She has been the first Cypriot citizen and the third woman to hold the presidency of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

Being the EU Health Commissioner during the COVID-19 pandemic, Stella Kyriakides was vital in pushing for and securing vaccines – especially for vulnerable groups, and ensuring that there was monitoring of the spread of the virus throughout the EU.



Prof. Dr. Aziz Sancar

Turkish physician

He is a Turkish physician, academic, biochemist and molecular biologist who won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 2015, along with American Paul Modrich and Swedish Tomas Lindahl, for their research mapping how cells repair damaged DNA and preserve genetic information.

He was born in 1946 in the Savur district of Mardin (south-east Turkey). He graduated from Istanbul University Faculty of Medicine, which he entered in 1963, with the first place in 1969.

Sancar has published 415 scientific articles and 33 books. Sancar received awards for his use of the circadian clock in cancer treatment.

In 2001, Sancar was awarded the North Carolina Distinguished Chemist Award given by the American Chemistry Society. He became an American Turkish scientist.

He was also elected as a full member of the Turkish Academy of Sciences in 2006.



Patrick J. Hillery (1923-2008)

Irish politician

A son of a doctor and a nurse, Hillery attended University College Dublin where he qualified with a degree in Medicine and became a doctor. In the 1950s, he became a member of the National Board of Health.

In 1951, Hillery was selected by Fianna Fáil, a center-right political party, with which he won a seat in the Dáil (the Irish Assembly). Following Ireland's successful entry into European Economic Community (EEC). In 1973, Hillery was rewarded by becoming the first Irish politician to serve on the European Commission in Brussels.

He was appointed Vice-President of the European Commission and European Commissioner for Social Affairs. Perhaps his most famous achievement as Commissioner was his successful introduction of legislation forcing all E.E.C. member states to give equal pay to women.

During his Dáil career he received the following Honours: LLD (Honoris Causa, 1962), National University of Ireland and Member of the Royal Irish Academy, 1963.



Creative thinking

All of the aforementioned personalities have been or are examples of the values extolled by the European Union. Think about the deeds of each of them and link them to one of the values of the Union.

Chapter 7:

European Union Citizenship

Being a EU citizen means...

EU citizenship is granted automatically to anyone who holds the nationality of an EU country.

Some rights and benefits derive from national law, and these may differ from country to country.

Other rights derive from EU law and are therefore the same in all EU countries.

These EU rights extend to everyday life – from *shopping* and *driving* to *healthcare* and *family/relationship* issues.

European Union Citizenship

Objectives

The aim of this chapter is to:

- strengthen the awareness of being an EU citizen
- emphasis the benefits of EU citizenship in daily life
- draw attention to practical information about the subject of citizenship

Benefits of EU Citizenship

- ☐ As an EU national, you have the right to live and move within the EU without being discriminated against on the grounds of nationality.
- ☐ You can also benefit from greater consumer protection than in your home country and, provided you meet certain requirements, can access healthcare anywhere in the EU.

Let's take a look to our rights!

- ☐ EU residency
- ☐ Free movement rights
- ☐ Healthcare across the EU
- ☐ Consumer rights & funds
- ☐ Family law in EU countries
- ☐ Cars & driving licenses

EU Residency

Did you know?

You have the right to live in EU countries where you are studying for the duration of your studies if you;

- ☐ are enrolled in an approved educational establishment
- ☐ have sufficient income, from any source, to live without needing income support
- ☐ have comprehensive health insurance cover there.

Free Movement

Did you know?

- ☐ Every citizen of the Union has the right to move and reside freely within the territory of the Member States, subject to the limitations and conditions laid down in the Treaty.

Healthcare across EU

Did you know?

- ☐ As an EU citizen, if you unexpectedly fall ill during a temporary stay in another EU country – whether on holiday, a business trip or studying abroad – you are entitled to any medical treatment that can't wait until you get home. You have the same rights to health care as people insured in the country you are in.
- ☐ You should always take your European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) with you on all trips abroad. This card is the proof that you are insured in an EU country.

Consumer Rights

Did you know?

- ☐ EU consumer protection rules ensure that when you buy goods and services in the EU you have **clear information** on the product or service you're buying, its price, shipping and delivery costs as well as on **your rights when things go wrong**.

Family Law

Did you know?

National rules on marriage differ from one EU country to another, mainly with regard to:

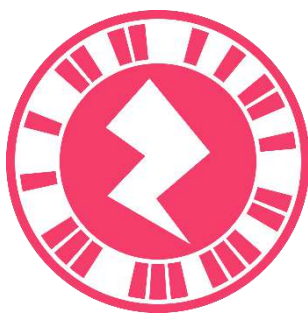
- ☐ **rights and obligations** of married couples: for instance, concerning their property, or their married name
- ☐ **relationship between religious and civil marriage**: some EU countries recognise religious marriage as being equivalent to civil marriage, while others do not
- ☐ the possibility for **same-sex couples** to get married. The following EU countries grant this right: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, and Sweden. Same-sex marriage is also possible in Iceland and Norway

Cars & Driving License

Did you know?

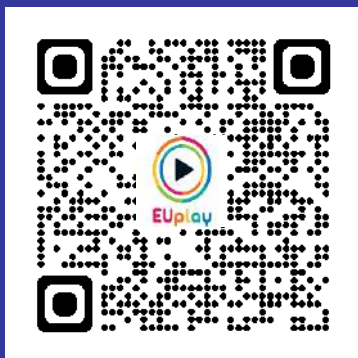
- ☐ You can have only one EU driving license at any one time. If you move to another EU country, you don't usually have to exchange your driving license for a local one. However, you can voluntarily exchange it for an equivalent one in your new country of residence, if you wish.

In what ways does the European Union affect your life?
Scan the ZapCode to take the quiz:



Let's have more info!

About your rights – and how to use them



About citizens' rights



Chapter 8:

The Greatest Challenges Facing European Union

Introduction

Key Challenges of our Times – The EU in 2022 (Special Eurobarometer 526) was carried out by the Kantar network in the 27 EU Member States between 19 April and 16 May 2022.

Here, you may find the greatest challenges of EU according to this survey!

The Greatest Challenges Facing the European Union

Objectives

This chapter aims to:

- give an insight into the agenda of the European Union
- raise awareness of the challenges facing the EU
- give an opportunity to discuss the challenges
- think about your top priority challenges.

The top priorities of the EU

Europeans consider the **EU's top 5 priorities for 2022** to be:



34%

**Defence
and
security**



26%

Making the EU and
its Member States
**more autonomous
in energy supply**



24%

Dealing with the
**current economic
situation** in the EU



22%

Working on
**environmental
issues** and
climate change



21%

**Fighting
unemployment**
in the EU

<https://europa.eu/eurobarometer/surveys/detail/2694>

Defense and Security

- ❑ Defense and security are seen as the EU's top priority in 2022 (%34)
- ❑ **War in the EU's neighbourhood** is seen as the main challenge to the internal security of the EU.
- ❑ According to the majority of Europeans, the best political level to deal with various policy areas is equally at the EU level and the national level.
- ❑ The war in Ukraine is perceived as a major threat to the security of the EU and the respondent's country.

EU-wide cooperation in defence and security

is considered crucial for a majority of Europeans

Over eight in ten Europeans
**support a common
defence and security**
policy among EU Member States



<https://europa.eu/eurobarometer/surveys/detail/2694>

Making the EU more autonomous in energy supply

- ☐ In seven countries, more than a third of respondents think it should be a priority for the EU to make the EU and its Member States more autonomous in energy supply.
- ☐ This is chosen most frequently in Denmark (48%), Sweden and Czechia (both 41%), and least frequently in Cyprus (12%), Lithuania (13%) and Ireland (14%).

Economy

Did you know?

Respondents are most likely to say that **dealing with the current economic situation in the EU** is a priority in Greece (45%), Bulgaria (41%) and Slovenia (37%), while the lowest proportions are seen in Sweden (16%), Portugal (17%) and Poland (18%).

Environmental Issues and Climate Change

Did you know?

- ❑ At least three in ten respondents would prioritise working on environmental issues and climate change in Sweden (41%), the Netherlands (38%), Denmark (33%) and Belgium (30%).
- ❑ A clear majority think it is important to make Europe the world's first climate-neutral continent by 2050.

Fighting Unemployment

- ☐ In seven countries, more than a third of respondents think it should be a priority for the EU to make the EU and its Member States more autonomous in energy supply.
- ☐ This is chosen most frequently in Denmark (48%), Sweden and Czechia (both 41%), and least frequently in Cyprus (12%), Lithuania (13%) and Ireland (14%).

Other Challenges of EU

- ☐ Stepping up cooperation on security
- ☐ Defending European values
- ☐ Fighting terrorism in the EU
- ☐ Providing humanitarian aid to the other countries
- ☐ Ensuring fairer working conditions and equality
- ☐ Handling migration issues in the EU
- ☐ Addressing global health issues in the EU
- ☐ Fighting disinformation
- ☐ Addressing the public debt of Member States
- ☐ Leading digital transformation of the economy and society

Did you know?

- By age, younger respondents aged 15-24 are more likely to think the EU should prioritise **working on environmental issues and climate change** (29% compared with 20% of those aged 55 or over).
- The only issue that is prioritised more by older respondents is **defence and security**.

Let's have more info!

Key Challenges of the EU



And now, let's have fun!

Let's play the Council's EU quiz!



Let's explore Europe!



Get ready to embark on a journey of discovery!

An [Interactive eBooklet](#) has been designed to provide students aged 13 to 15 with an exceptional opportunity to enhance their understanding of the European Union, EU principles, and cultural awareness. Through a range of [Interactive Games](#) aligned with the Interactive Handbook, this eBooklet ensures that learning about the EU is not only educational but also enjoyable and engaging.

[Click the image below to begin playing....](#)



Discovering the

EU *by* PLAYing



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