



MODULE 1

EU HISTORY



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Module 1 – History & Quiz

1. Overview			
Title Driving question or Topic Ages, Grades, ... Duration, Timeline, Activities Curriculum Alignment Contributors, Partners Abstract - Synopsis	The History of the European Union and accompanying online quizzes		
	Ages: 8-15	4 th -8 th grade	3 learning hours
	3 * 45 minutes	phases	
	This module will educate students on the history of the European Union. More specifically, the module tackles the following subtopics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Why the EU came to existence - EU timeline - The evolution of the aim and objectives of the union - EU current status The module is accompanied by an interactive quiz.		
2. Objectives and methodologies			
Learning goals and objectives Learning outcomes and expected results Prior knowledge and prerequisites Motivation, methodology, strategies, scaffolds	<p><i>Upon completion of the module the students should be able to:</i></p> <p><i>Understand:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The concept of the EU</i> - <i>The advantages of any member state of the EU</i> - <i>The form and type of union of the EU</i> <p><i>Learn:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The brief history of EU</i> - <i>The timeline of EU's history</i> - <i>The member states, the currency, the population, etc. of the EU</i> <p><i>Acknowledge and promote:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The core values of the EU</i> <p>The context of this module will target the acquisition and/or enhancement of the following competences of the participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chronological Thinking - Historical Comprehension <p>Historical Analysis and Interpretation</p> <p>There is no specific prerequisite or prior knowledge on behalf of the students. It might be beneficial for the progress of the learning activities for students to have a prior understanding of the concept of the European union as a union between different countries which share common values.</p> <p>During the course of the module students will engage in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation of information and open discussion - Gamified learning through their participation in the Kahoot quiz implemented as a classroom activity 		
3. Preparation and means			
Preparation, space, setting Troubleshooting tips Resources, tools, material, attachments, equipment Safety and health	For the preparation of this module, the educator/teacher is advised to do the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Read the module syllabus and the module description to both comprehend the context and the approach as well as to see if the module aligns with their desired learning outcomes and objectives - Browse the learning resources (PowerPoint presentation, 		

	<p>accompanying videos, online quizzes, etc.) to get acquainted with and be able to utilize them effectively during the learning process</p>
<p>Cloud tools/platforms If any...</p>	<p>The following tools were used to develop the content for the learning and creativity plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Microsoft PowerPoint as presentation development tool - Adobe Premier for the editing of videos used during the course of the module - Kahoot for developing and implementing the online quizzes in class and for integrating the element of gamification <p>Tools that can be used to monitor, adjust, and modify the content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Any presentation making tools (e.g., Canva, PowerPoint, Prezi, etc.) - Any video editing software (e.g., iMovies, Adobe Premier, Movavi, InShot, etc.) - Any online quiz tool (e.g., Kahoot, Quizlet, ClassDojo, etc.)
<p>4. Implementation</p>	
<p>Instructional activities, procedures, reflections</p> <p>Assessment – Evaluation Presentation – Reporting – Sharing Extensions – other information</p>	<p>Module Activity 1 – Introduction to the concept of the EU Estimated Time: 15 minutes (1 Learning hour)</p> <p>Short Description of the activity: The teacher will start by engaging students in a set of questions that may seem to have a simple and single answer, such as the ones below:</p> <p>In what year was the European Union created? What was the first official name of the EU? Name the treaty that created the European Union.</p> <p>The point of using the above questions is to introduce students to the concept that the European Union is constantly evolving and changing, which means that there were different types of unions through the countries and over the years, which initiated based on different treaties signed in different points of the European Union history.</p> <p>The teacher will provide for every question two different possible answers, as follows:</p> <p>In what year was the European Union created? Possible answers: 1952 or 1993</p> <p>What was the first official name of the EU? Possible answers: European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) or European Union (EU)</p> <p>Name the treaty that created the European Union. Possible answers: The Maastricht Treaty (formally known as the Treaty on European Union) Or the Treaty of Paris</p> <p>The statement that follows these questions further adds to the element of a constantly evolving situation as it refers to the beginning of the concept of the European Union. The statement is the following:</p> <p>“And even this might not have been the true beginning! On 5 May 1949 10 Western European countries create the Council of Europe to promote democracy and protect human rights and the rule of law.”</p>

This initial short activity also aims to motivate students to explore the European Union history by pointing out its complexity and lack of knowledge on behalf of its citizens when it comes to facts and milestones related to its evolution.

Starting from this activity and implemented in the following activities were relevant, the countries participating each time in the treaties, events, etc. are graphically displayed with their flags and names so that there is a visual reference for students as well.

Learning Content: Informative presentation

Sources:

https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/history-eu_en

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/European-Union/Creation-of-the-European-Economic-Community>

Resources, Tools: PowerPoint Presentation “1_Module 1 – EU History_Part A.pptx”

Module Activity 2 – The early years – Part A 1945-1959

The introduction to this activity occurs through a video (as it is the case for the next chapters of history), which aims to briefly introduce the context of this part of the European History.

The introductory video has a total length of 41 seconds and refers to the following main points and milestones:

- Initiation of discussions for reuniting Europe following the devastation of WWI and WWII
- Winston Churchill calls for the creation of the United States of Europe which would ensure a sustainable and prosperous future
- In 1950 the declaration introduced by Robert Schuman (French foreign minister) was signed, linking the coal and steel, French and German productions, making a future war conflict impossible based on the extensive need for both

Video source: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GfN05WB_rYw

Introduced at this point for the first time, each history chapter will be introduced by a timeline, naming the important milestone of each specific time period.

The timeline for the 1945-1959 is the following:

- 8 May 1945 – end of World War II in Europe
- 4 April 1949 – NATO is created
- 5 May 1949 – The Council of Europe is established
- 9 May 1950 – A plan for new political cooperation in Europe
- 18 April 1951 – European Coal and Steel Community
- 25 March 1957 – Treaties of Rome
- 19 March 1958 – Birth of the European Parliament

With the aim of ending the frequent and bloody conflicts that culminated in the Second World War, European politicians begin the process of building what we know today as the European Union.

The European Coal and Steel Community, founded in 1951, is the first

step in securing a lasting peace. In 1957, the Treaty of Rome establishes the European Economic Community (EEC) and a new era of ever-closer cooperation in Europe. This period, however, also sees the emergence of a Cold War that divides the continent for more than 40 years.

In more detail, the following important events occur:

- The Second World War ends in Europe. The continent is devastated. Millions of people are dead, injured or displaced. Six million Jews have been murdered in the Holocaust.
- The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is established, an intergovernmental security alliance between the United States, Canada and 10 Western European countries. By 2020, NATO has 30 members, including 21 EU countries.
- 10 Western European countries create the Council of Europe* to promote democracy and protect human rights and the rule of law. The European Convention on Human Rights comes into force on 3 September 1953.
- Based on the Schuman plan, six countries sign a treaty to run their coal and steel industries under a common management.
- signing of two treaties, the European Economic Community (EEC), and the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom). They are referred to as the Treaties of Rome
- The first meeting of the European Parliamentary Assembly, a forerunner of today's European Parliament, is held in Strasbourg, France, with Robert Schuman elected President.

The introductory video of this session (length: 02:55) shows graphical images of a catastrophe in Europe, following WWII, with bombarded buildings, people who were homeless, suffering from starvation and degradation. Its intention is to introduce to students the general state of Europe following WWII and the need for reconstruction and reconciliation. The United Europe movement, represented by the letter "E", is also mentioned, including short part of Churchill's speech at a convention in Hague, mentioning the need of a form of unification between people of different European countries.

Video source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AZCRR-4WysA>

The Council of Europe (CoE; French: Conseil de l'Europe, CdE) is an international organisation founded in the wake of World War II to uphold human rights, democracy and the rule of law in Europe. It has 46 member states, with a population of approximately 675 million.

The idea of a Council of Europe was introduced by Aristide Briand, French Foreign Minister, in a speech in 1929, describing an organisation which would gather European nations together in a "federal union" to resolve common problems.

But it was Britain's wartime leader Sir Winston Churchill who first publicly suggested the creation of a "Council of Europe" in a BBC radio broadcast on 21 March 1943, while the Second World War was still raging.

The Council of Europe was signed into existence on 5 May 1949 by the [Treaty of London](#), the organisation's founding Statute which set out the three basic values that should guide its work: democracy, human rights and the rule of law. The Council of Europe was signed into existence on 5 May 1949 by the Treaty of London.

The treaty of London was signed by the following countries: Belgium, Denmark, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom, though Turkey and Greece joined three months later.

A short video (length: 01:10), covering some of the events between 1950-1961, introduces a major event for the European Union history but also for the world history, as the rise of the wall of Berlin begins along with the period known as Cold War. Students are presented with images of the construction of the wall, the separation of people and the will and attempts of east Berliners to cross the wall, despite the strict policy.

Video source: Euronews

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c3zYnnpBUKs>



Image source: <https://cdn.britannica.com/62/64262-050-B5A6C575/Cold-War-membership-Europe-Soviet-Union-satellites.jpg?w=500&h=500>

Based on the Schuman plan, six countries signed a treaty to run their coal and steel industries under a common management. In this way, no single country can make weapons of war to turn against others, as in the past. The six are Germany, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium, and Luxembourg. The European Coal and Steel Community comes into being in 1952.

A short video (02:35), presents how the Schuman plan evolved into the European Union that we know today.

Video source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c3zYnnpBUKs>

Building on the success of the Coal and Steel Treaty, the 6 founding countries expand their cooperation to other economic sectors. They formalise this by signing two treaties, creating the European Economic Community (EEC), and the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom). These bodies come into being on 1 January 1958. For both new Communities, decisions were taken by the Council on a proposal from the Commission. The Parliamentary Assembly is to be consulted and

give its opinions to the Council. The Assembly increases in size to 142 members. The European Parliamentary Assembly held its first session the following year, on 19 March 1958. With the Treaties of Rome, a specific provision is made for members to be directly elected (this was implemented in 1979).

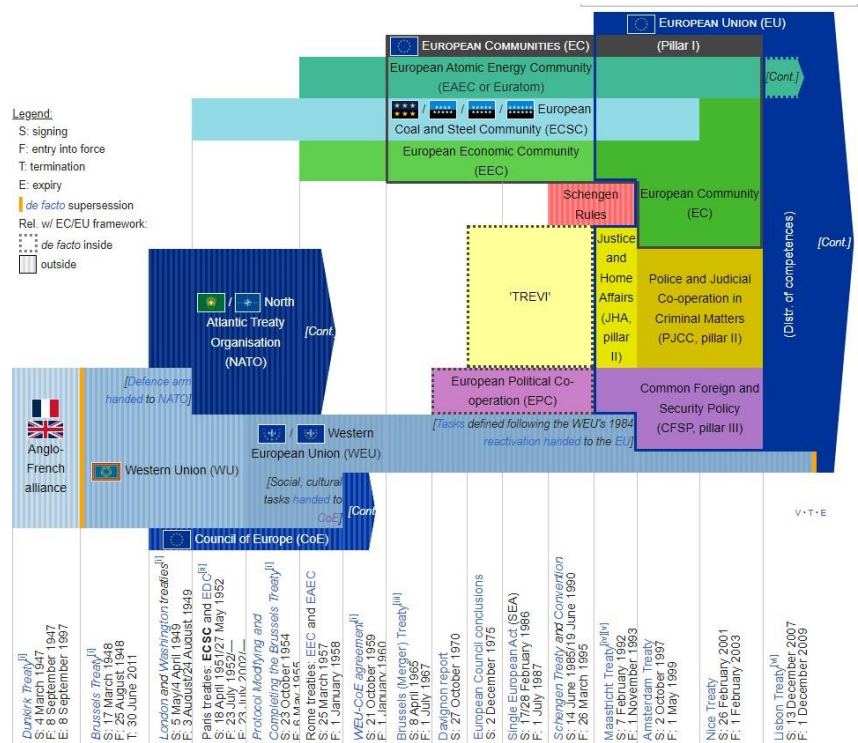


Image source:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Treaty_of_Paris_%281951%29

The first meeting of the European Parliamentary Assembly, a forerunner of today’s European Parliament, is held in Strasbourg, France, with Robert Schuman elected President. It replaces the Common Assembly of the European Coal and Steel Community and changes its name to the European Parliament on 30 March 1962. Following the establishment of the European Economic Community and the European Atomic Energy Community, the ECSC Common Assembly was expanded to cover all three communities. With 142 Members, the new assembly met for the first time in Strasbourg on 19 March 1958 as the ‘European Parliamentary Assembly’.

A video (length: 00:44), presents students with the structure and operation of the European parliament.

Video source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=55qBmyYOvCI>

Sources:

- <https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/history-eu-en>
- <https://cdn.britannica.com/62/64262-050-B5A6C575/Cold-War-membership-Europe-Soviet-Union-satellites.jpg?w=500&h=500>
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Council_of_Europe
- <https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/history-eu/1945-59/schuman-declaration-may-1950-en>

Module Activity 3 – The ‘Swinging Sixties’ – a period of economic growth – Part B 1960-1969

This activity will introduce students on how the European Union developed through the 1960s, with further economic integration in Europe and the beginnings of international cooperation.

The historical timeline, always presented at the beginning of each historical period, is as follows:

- 3 May 1960 – European Free Trade Association created
- August 1961 – The Berlin Wall is built
- 30 July 1962 – The first Common Agricultural Policy
- 20 July 1963 – The EEC signs its first big international agreement
- 8 April 1965 – Signing of the ‘Merger Treaty’
- May 1968 – Students riot in Paris
- 1 July 1968 – beginning of the Customs Union
- August 1968 – The Prague Spring is crushed

The 1960s is a good period for the economy, helped by the fact that EEC countries stop charging custom duties when they trade with each other. They also agree on joint control over food production, so that everybody now has enough to eat. May 1968 sees student riots in Paris, and many changes in society and behaviour become associated with the ‘68 generation’.

The European Free Trade Association (EFTA) is created, to promote free trade and economic integration between certain countries not in the EEC: Austria, Denmark, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

The communist government in East Germany builds a wall across Berlin. It becomes a symbol of the separation of Eastern and Western Europe during the Cold War.

A short video (length: 02:50), presents in more detail, and from the point of view of the people that experienced it, the building of the wall of Berlin, focusing on how families were separated from one day to the other, and shows real footage of the wall being build, at times passing through buildings.

Video source: Britannica

<https://www.britannica.com/video/180265/Overview-building-Berlin-Wall-1961>

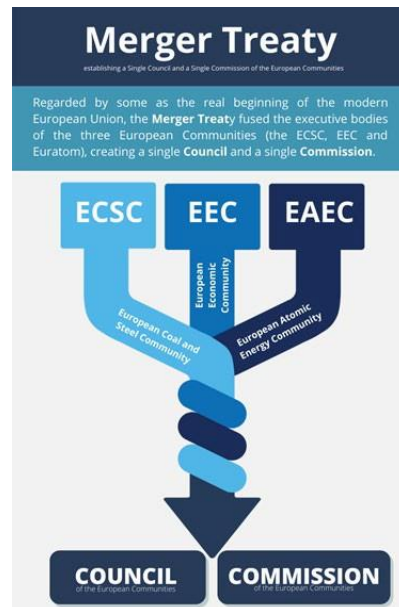
The first common agricultural policy gives EEC countries joint control over food production. There is enough food for everyone, and farmers earn a good living. The unwanted side effect is overproduction, with mountains of surplus produce. Since the 1990s, priorities have been to cut surpluses, raise food quality and promote sustainability. The common agricultural policy is born. The CAP is conceived as a common policy, with the objectives of providing affordable food for EU citizens and a fair standard of living for farmers.



The 6 member countries signed the Yaoundé Convention to promote cooperation and trade with 18 former colonies in Africa. This being the ECC's first big international agreement.

Today the EU has a special relationship of this kind with 79 countries in Africa, the Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) regions and is working to build a stronger partnership with Africa to tackle challenges common to both continents.

The Merger Treaty was the Treaty merging the executives of the 3 Communities (the European Coal and Steel Community, the European Economic Community and Euratom) is signed in Brussels and enters into force on July 1, 1967. From now on, the European Communities will have a single administrative arm (the Commission) and a single executive (the Council).



In May 1968, rioting by students and workers in France shakes the very foundations of the state. Milder student protests occur in other European countries. They reflect frustration at governments as well as protests against the Vietnam War and the nuclear arms race.

A short video (length: 01:48) aims to present students with the chaos caused by the riots in Paris, where a movement of students and other left-wing demonstrators, clashed with police forces in a series of street fights and rioting behavior by showcasing real life historical footage.

Video source: British Pathé
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F3weyKD1nIQ>

In 1968, the 6 EEC member countries remove customs duties on goods imported from each other, allowing free cross-border trade for the first

time. They also apply the same duties on their imports from outside countries. Trade among these 6 and with the rest of the world grows rapidly.

Students are presented of a video (02:13), of the time (1968), meant to educate people on the newly introduced change in border control between the 6 EEC countries.

Video source: https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/history-eu_en

Also in 1968, Soviet tanks crush the short-lived 'Prague Spring' of fledgling democracy in Czechoslovakia.

Sources:

https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/history-eu_en

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prague_Spring

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/08/20/world/europe/prague-spring-communism.html>

Module Activity 4 – A growing Community – Part C 1970- 1979

Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom join the European Communities on 1 January 1973, raising the number of member countries to 9. The Arab-Israeli war of October 1973 triggers an energy crisis and economic problems in Europe. Democracy spreads in Europe with the overthrow of the dictatorships in Greece, Portugal and Spain. Regional policy starts to transfer huge sums of money to create jobs and infrastructure in poorer areas. The first direct elections by citizens of members of the European Parliament take place in 1979.

The timeline of this historical period is the following:

- 1970s – Environmental protection on the agenda
- 1 January 1973 – From 6 to 9 member countries
- 1973 – Oil crisis hits Europe
- 10 December 1974 – Reducing disparities between the regions
- 1974-75 – New democracies in Portugal, Greece and Spain
- 1 July 1968 – beginning of the Customs Union
- June 1979 – First direct elections to the European Parliament

A short introductory video (length: 00:38), briefly presents some of the main events of this time period, mentioning the gain of momentum by moves of creating an economic union, the 1973 addition of three countries to the EEC, the 1979 first direct elections, and the 1980 addition of three more countries.

Video source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xRwZyDTdCAc&t=510s>

In the 1970s the European communities adopt laws to protect the environment, introducing the notion of "the polluter pays". The 'polluter pays' principle is the commonly accepted practice that those who produce pollution should bear the costs of managing it to prevent damage to human health or the environment. Many environmental NGOs are founded.

In 1973, 6 members become 9 when Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom formally join the European Communities

Also in 1973, and following an Arab-Israeli war in October, Middle East oil-producing nations impose big price increases and restrict sales to certain European countries. This creates economic problems throughout the EEC.

In 1974, there was an effort to reduce disparities between the regions of the EEC, and thus, by showing their solidarity, leaders of the EEC agree to set up a major new fund under European regional policy. Its purpose is to transfer money from rich to poor regions – to improve infrastructure, attract investment and create jobs. The European Regional Development Fund was created the following year.

During the years 1974-1975 there were several changes in countries with dictatorships in Europe. More specifically, the overthrow of the Salazar regime in Portugal and the collapse of military rule in Greece in 1974, together with the death of General Franco of Spain in 1975, mark the end of these dictatorships in Europe. The 3 countries commit themselves to democratic government, an important step towards qualifying for future membership of the European Communities.

In 1979, European citizens directly elect the members of the European Parliament for the first time. Previously members were delegated by national parliaments. Members sit in pan-European political groups, not in national delegations.

Sources:

https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/history-eu_en

London School of Economics

[https://www.lse.ac.uk/granthaminstitute/explainers/what-is-the-polluter-pays-](https://www.lse.ac.uk/granthaminstitute/explainers/what-is-the-polluter-pays-principle/#:~:text=The%20'polluter%20pays'%20principle%20is,human%20health%20or%20the%20environment)

[principle/#:~:text=The%20'polluter%20pays'%20principle%20is,human%20health%20or%20the%20environment](https://www.lse.ac.uk/granthaminstitute/explainers/what-is-the-polluter-pays-principle/#:~:text=The%20'polluter%20pays'%20principle%20is,human%20health%20or%20the%20environment)

Module Activity 5 – The changing face of Europe - the collapse of communism – Part D 1980-1989

The Polish trade union, Solidarity (Solidarność), and its leader Lech Walesa, become household names following the Gdansk shipyard strikes in the summer of 1980 for workers' rights and political change. In 1981, Greece becomes the 10th member of the European Communities, and Spain and Portugal follow 5 years later. The end of the decade sees the collapse of communist regimes in Central and Eastern Europe.

An introductory video (length: 01:11), presents the main events of this time period, the 1980 addition of Greece, Portugal, and Spain to the EEC, the 1987 speech of R. Reagan asking Gorbachev to open the gate (Berlin) and tear down the wall, the 1989 fall of the Berlin wall and the soon after fall of the Soviet Union.

Video source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xRwZyDTdCAc&t=510s>

The timeline of this period of EU history is the following:

- August 1980 – Shipyard strikes for workers' rights
- 1 January 1981 – Greece becomes the 10th country to join

- 28 February 1984 – First European research programme
- 1 January 1986 – Two new members – Spain and Portugal
- February 1986 – Towards a single market
- 13 June 1987 – Launch of the Erasmus Programme
- 9 November 1989 – Fall of the Berlin Wall

In 1980, shipyard workers in the Polish city of Gdansk, led by Lech Walesa, strike for more rights. Other strikes follow across the country. The government capitulates and Solidarność is created as an independent trade union in September. The government gradually reasserts its power and imposes martial law in December 1981, ending Poland's brief encounter with people power, but the seeds have been sown for later.

In 1981, Greece becomes the 10th country to join the European Communities. It has been eligible to do so since the military regime was overthrown, and democracy restored in 1974.

In 1984, and while in an era where computers and automation are changing the way we live and work, to stay at the forefront of innovation, the 'Esprit' programme launches in 1984, the first of many research and innovation programmes at a European level.

In 1986, Spain and Portugal join the European Communities, bringing membership to 12.

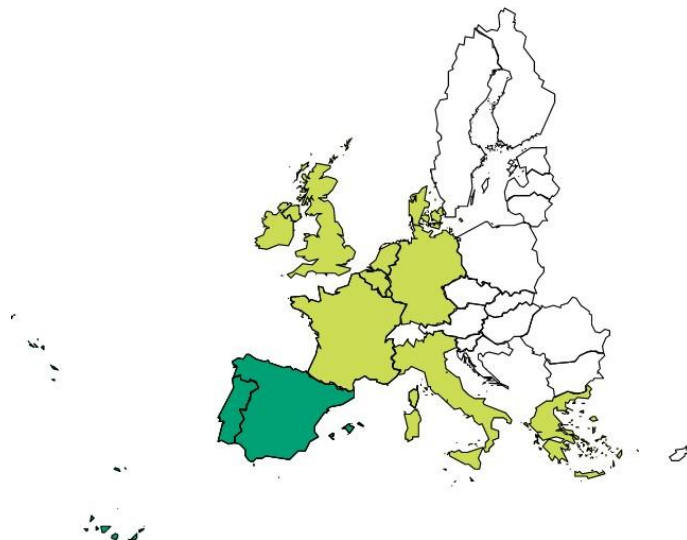


Image source: https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/history-eu_en

In 1986, there is a crucial step towards a single market. Although customs duties disappeared in 1968, trade is not flowing freely across the borders between member countries. The main obstacles are differences in national regulations. The Single European Act launches a vast 6-year programme to sort these out and thus create a single market. The act, which comes into force on 1 July 1987, also gives the European Parliament more say and strengthens the powers of the European Communities in environmental protection.

In 1987, the Erasmus programme is launched to fund university students wishing to study in another European country. Since then, the programme has given over 10 million people the chance to study, train, volunteer or gain work experience abroad.

In 1989, the Berlin Wall falls and the border between East and West is opened for the first time in 28 years. Germany is united after more than 40 years, and its Eastern half joins the European Communities in October 1990.

A video (length: 01:56) will present students with real images and footages from the fall of the Berlin Wall, accompanied by statements of people that were at the moment experiencing the fall of the wall in Berlin. Depicting huge crowds of people tearing down the wall, walking through the no man's land, and streams of crowds crossing from east to west Berlin.

Video source: <https://www.britannica.com/video/180265/Overview-building-Berlin-Wall-1961>

Sources:

https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/history-eu_en

Module Activity 6 – A Europe without frontiers – Part E 1990- 1999

In 1993, the single market is launched with the '4 freedoms' of free movement for people, goods, services and money. The 1990s is also the decade of 2 treaties – the Treaty on European Union (Maastricht Treaty) in 1993 and the Treaty of Amsterdam in 1997. Austria, Finland and Sweden join the EU in 1995, and a small village in Luxembourg gives its name to the Schengen agreement that will gradually allow people to travel to large parts of the EU without passport checks.

An introductory video (length: 03:43), introduces the Maastricht Treaty that aimed to achieve economic and political integration, unified foreign and security policy, closer cooperation of justice and home affairs, introduce the name European Union, and set up clear rules for a common currency. It furthermore, presents the 1999 adoption by 11 countries of the common currency, Euro, and its circulation three years later, as well as the Schengen Agreement allowing the free movement of people between the countries that signed it.

Video source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xRwZyDTdCAc&t=510s>

The timeline of this period is the following:

- 1991 – Break-up of Yugoslavia
- 7 February 1992 – Maastricht Treaty
- 1 January 1993 – Launch of the single market
- 1 January 1994 – European Economic Area is created
- 1 January 1995 – The EU gains 3 new members: Austria, Finland and Sweden
- 26 March 1995 – Border-free travel begins in 7 countries
- 2 October 1997 – Treaty of Amsterdam
- 1 January 1999 – The euro is born

In 1991, in the Balkans, Yugoslavia begins to break apart. The ensuing wars cause tens of thousands of casualties and last for much of the following decade.

In 1993, the single market and its 4 freedoms are established, meaning the free movement of (i) people, (ii) goods, (iii) services and (iv) money. Hundreds of laws have been passed since 1986 covering tax policy, business regulations, professional qualifications and other barriers to open frontiers. However, the free movement of some services is delayed.

In 1994, the agreement establishing the European Economic Area (EEA) enters into force, extending the single market to countries in EFTA. Today, people, goods, services, and capital can move around the EEA's 30 countries (EU-27 plus Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway). Switzerland does not take part in the EEA but does have access to the single market.

In 1995, Austria, Finland and Sweden join the European Communities, bringing membership to 15.

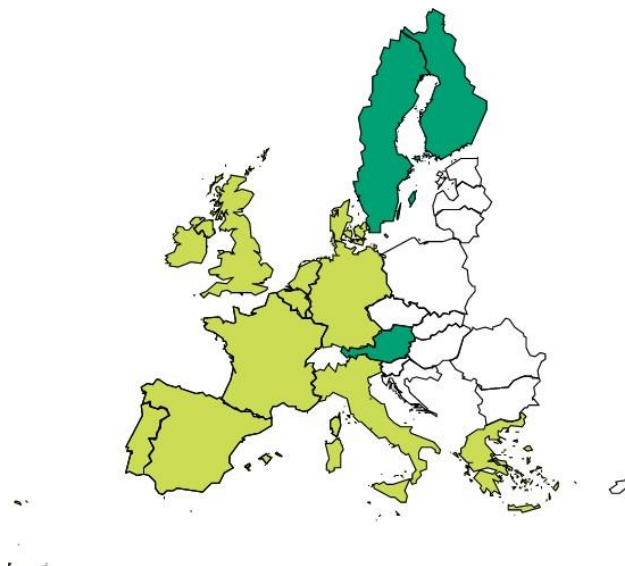


Image source: https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/history-eu_en

Also in 1995, the Schengen Agreement takes effect in 7 countries — Belgium, France, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal and Spain. Travellers can move between these countries with no passport controls at the frontiers. By 2021, 26 countries are part of the passport-free Schengen area, including Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.

In 1997, the Treaty of Amsterdam is signed. It builds on the achievements of the Maastricht Treaty, laying down plans to reform the EU institutions, give Europe a stronger voice in the world and devote more resources to employment and the rights of citizens. It enters into force on 1 May 1999.

In 1999, the euro is introduced in 11 countries for commercial and financial transactions only. Notes and coins will come later. The first euro countries are Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, and Spain. Denmark, Sweden, and the United Kingdom decide to stay out for the time being.

A video (length: 04:18), describes how the euro currency came into existence, which are the eurozone and non-eurozone areas, how trade could improve by avoiding fragmented currencies, while in parallel, presents how the initial ECSC and EEC led to the adaptation of this single currency.

Video source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PdLr3ITSyns>

Sources:

https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/history-eu_en

<https://www.schengenvisainfo.com/schengen-agreement/>

Wikipedia https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maastricht_Treaty

Module Activity 7 – Further expansion – Part F 2000 - Today

How the European Union developed from 2000 to 2009 with 12 new countries joining, the euro becoming legal tender and the signing of the Lisbon Treaty. How the EU developed from 2010 to 2019, responding to the financial crisis, Croatia joining the EU, and the UK voting to leave.

The timeline of the main events of this time period is the following:

- 26 February 2001 – Treaty of Nice
- 1 January 2002 – Euro notes and coins launch in 12 countries
- 1 May 2004 – 10 new countries
- 29 1 June 2005 – EU constitution
- 1 January 2007 – The EU welcomes Bulgaria and Romania
- 13 December 2007 – Lisbon Treaty
- 2010 – Europe tackles the financial crisis
- 1 July 2013 – Croatia becomes the 28th EU member
- 12 December 2015 – Paris Agreement on climate change
- 23 June 2016 – United Kingdom votes to leave the EU

The focus of this activity is the expansion of the European Union which occurred as follows:

In 2004, Cyprus and Malta join the EU along with 8 Central and Eastern European countries, Czechia, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, finally ending the division of Europe after the Second World War.

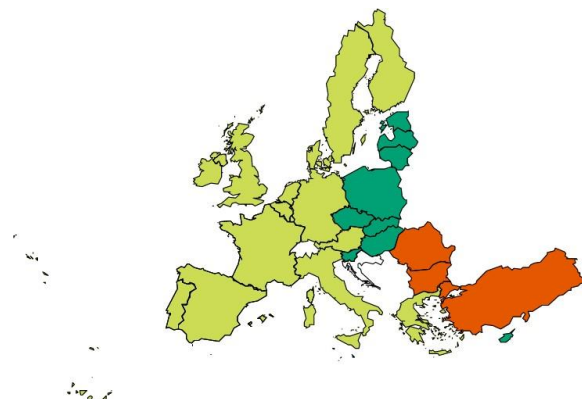


Image source: https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/history-eu_en

In 2007, two more countries from Eastern Europe, Bulgaria and Romania, join the EU, bringing the number of Member States to 27.

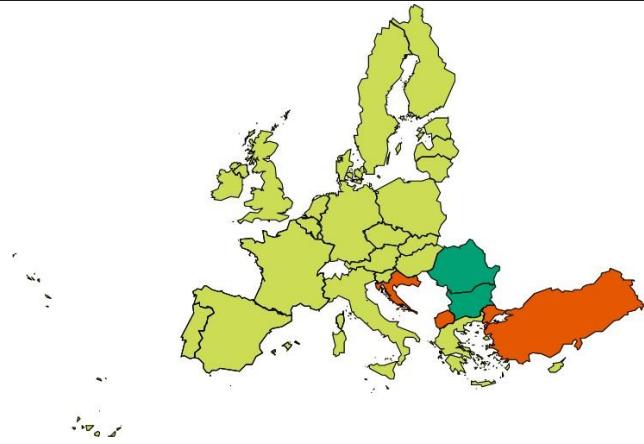


Image source: https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/history-eu_en

In 2013, Croatia joins the EU, becoming its 28th member.

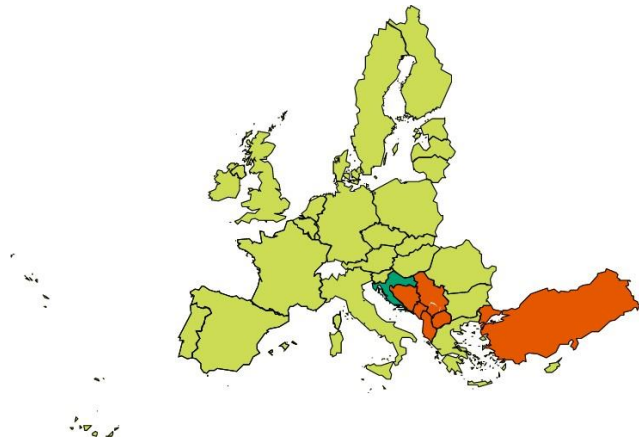


Image source: https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/history-eu_en

Despite the continues addition of countries to the European Union, there was also a case of a country departing from the EU. More specifically:

In 2016 in a referendum, 52% of voters in the United Kingdom vote for the UK to leave the European Union after more than 40 years as a member.

In 2020, the United Kingdom departs from the European Union.

During this time period, there was also the signing of two treaties, and to be more specific:

In 2001, EU leaders sign the Treaty of Nice. It aims to reform the institutions so the EU can function efficiently after reaching 25 member countries and prepare for the next major group of new members joining. It comes into force on 1 February 2003.

In 2007, the 27 EU countries sign the Treaty of Lisbon, which amends the previous treaties. It is designed to make the EU more democratic, efficient, and transparent, and thereby able to tackle global challenges such as climate change, security and sustainable development. All EU countries ratified the Treaty before it entered into force on 1 December 2009.

Sources: https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/history-eu_en

Engagement and active participation through hands-on practices

Students' feedback and reflection on their thinking processes or learning

Monitoring students' learning and progress measuring

Assessment and formative evaluation processes and rubrics to measure the students' ability to perform what was described in the objectives.

Documents, outputs artifacts, products produced by the students with references, web links etc.

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