

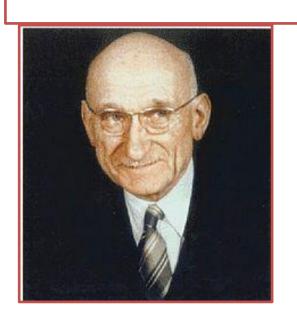
The EU at a glance

- ➤ a group of 28 independent states with 496 million of citizens who speak about 23 languages
- A political and economic organization and its capital is <u>Brussels</u> (Belgium)



The founding fathers of the European Union

May 9, 1950: **Robert Schuman**, was a Luxembourg-born French statesman. Schuman was an independent political thinker and activist. He was one of the founders of the European Union, the Council of Europe and NATO. The 1964–1965 academic year at the College of Europe was named in his honour.





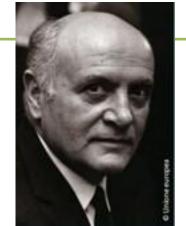
JEAN MONNET and his dream of a united Europe → the Father of Europe"

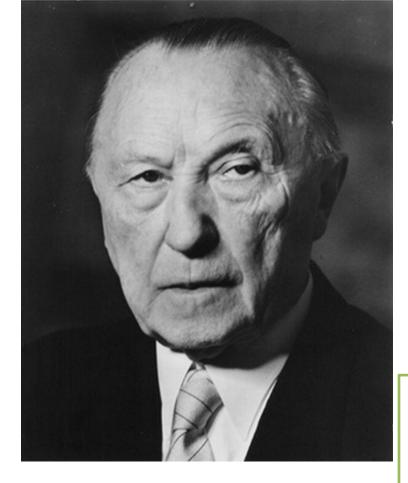
He was a French political economist and diplomat. An influential supporter of European unity, he is considered as one of the founding fathers of the European Union establishing the European Coal and Steel Community, the predecessor of today's European Union.



"Our mother country "Europe" → Alcide De Gasperi – He was the last prime minister of the Kingdom of Italy and the first one of the Italian Republic. He promoted initiatives aimed at the fusion of Europe, working on the realisation of the Marshall Plan, creating close economic ties with other European countries and backing Schuman Plan for the creation of the European Coal and Steel Community. He contributed to the development of the idea of a common defence policy in Europe.

Altiero Spinelli – In June 1941, the antifascist intellectual, together with other political prisoners that were held captive in Ventotene island (Mar Tirreno) by the Fascist regime, outlined a federal Europe with the Ventotene Manifesto. The Manifesto was one of the first texts arguing for a European Constitution and the formation of a European federation of states, whose primary goal would link European countries and prevent a new war. On 14 February 1984 the European Parliament adopts his proposal by a vast majority and approves the "Draft Treaty Establishing the European Union", the so-called "Spinelli Plan". National parliaments will not ratify the Treaty but the document constitutes the basis for the subsequent treaties of the European Union.





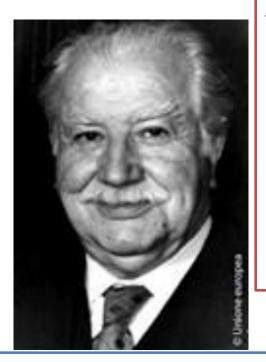
Konrad Adenauer

Konrad Adenauer – The first Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany lays one of the most important stones in the foundation of Europe. A cornerstone of Adenauer's foreign policy is reconciliation with France. Together with French President Charles de Gaulle a historic turning point was achieved: in 1963 the one-time arch-enemies Germany and France sign a treaty of friendship, which will become one of the milestones on the road to European integration.



Spaak





Joseph Bech – The Luxembourgish politician and lawyer experiences both World Wars, which will be of determining importance for his biography. It is that difficult situation, experienced in a small country between two large and powerful countries – France and Germany – which will teach him the importance of internationalism and cooperation between states. Being aware of this, Bech participates in the creation of the Benelux, i.e. the union between Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxemburg. It is a historic phase which is still considered as the first model for the future European Union.

Winston Churchill – The British Prime Minister during the Second World War is one of the first to call for the creation of a "United States of Europe". Following the Second World War, he was convinced that only a united Europe could avert the nightmare of future wars. Churchill, a partisan of the anti-nazi coalition and a winner of the Nobel prize for literature, is one of the main champions of the European cause in the collective memory.



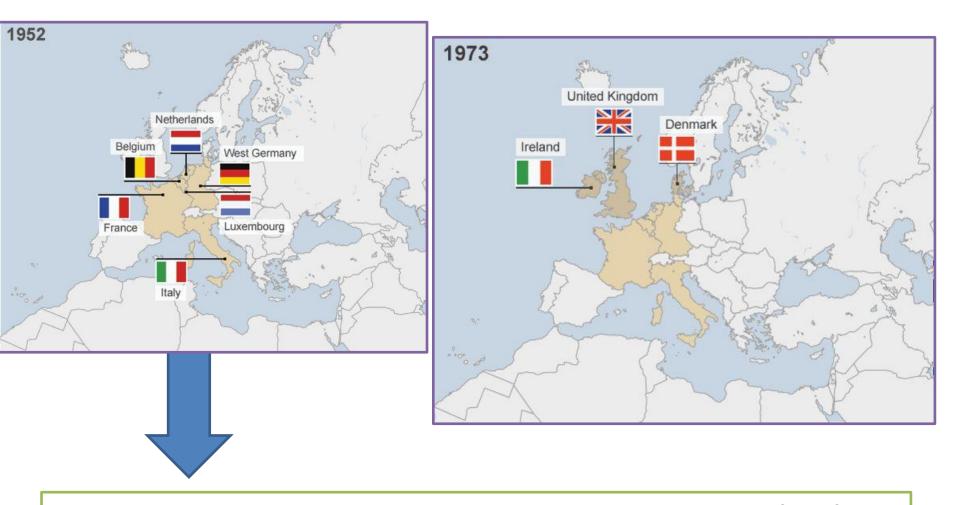
The EU was created in the aftermath of the Second World War. The first steps were to foster economic cooperation: the idea being that countries that trade with one another become economically interdependent and so more likely to avoid conflict.



Official Website: www.europa.eu

Official and	Romanian
working languages Dutch	
are 24:	Irish
Bulgarian	Slovak
French	English
Maltese	Italian
Croatian	Slovenian
German	Estonian
Polish	Latvian
Czech	Spanish
Greek	Finnish
Portuguese	Lithuanian
Danish	Swedish
Hungarian	

all EU citizens have the right to access all EU documents in the official language(s) of the Commission, and should be able to write to the Commission and receive a response in their own language



The result was the European Economic Community (EEC), created in 1958, and initially increasing economic cooperation between six countries: Belgium, Germany, France, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands.

In 2013 28 member states

From purely economic to political union and then to a wide organization spanning areas from climate, environment, health, security, justice and migration A name change from the European Economic Community (EEC) to the European Union (EU) in 1993 reflected this.



The EU is based on the rule of law: everything it does is founded on treaties, voluntarily and democratically agreed by its member countries. The EU is also governed by the principle of representative democracy, with citizens directly represented at Union level in the **European Parliament** and Member States represented in the **European Council** and the **Council** of the EU.

The main EU institutions

Legislative Power

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

751
members
elected
every 5
years
Current
president
Antonio
Tajani

The Council of The Union

of the member states, the presidency rotares every six months
President:
Donald Tusk
(Polish)

Question:

- 1. who proposes the laws?
- 2. Who approves the laws?

Executive Power

The European Commission

28 commissioners Main duties: proposing legislation, implementing decisions, upholding the EU treaties, managing the dayto-day business of the EU, Presidency (currently Jean-Claude Juncker, Luxemburg)

Political guidelines

The European Council

Composed by the prime ministers and head of the States of each countries, it has no formal legislative power, it is a strategic (and crisis-solving) body that provides the union with general political directions and priorities, meet every 6 months

The European Parliament is the EU's **law-making body**. It is the ONLY body **directly elected by EU voters** every 5 years. The last elections were in May 2014.

What does the Parliament do?

The Parliament has 3 main roles:

≻Legislative

Passing EU laws
Deciding on international
agreements
Deciding on enlargements

≻Supervisory

Democratic scrutiny of all EU institutions
Electing the Commission
President, approving the way EU budget citizens'
petitions and setting up inquiries, Discussing monetary policy with the European Central Bank

Establishing the EU budget, the "Multiannual Financial

Framework"

≻Budgetary



751 members (MEPs)

The President of the European Parliament is Antonio Tajani

The European Parliament has three places of work – <u>Brussels</u> (Belgium), <u>the city of Luxembourg</u> (Luxembourg) and <u>Strasbourg</u>

(France)



100 200 km

100

The Council of The Union



Overview

Role: Defines the general political direction and priorities of the European Union, it's the main decision making institution

Members: 28 ministers of the member states, the presidency rotares every six months

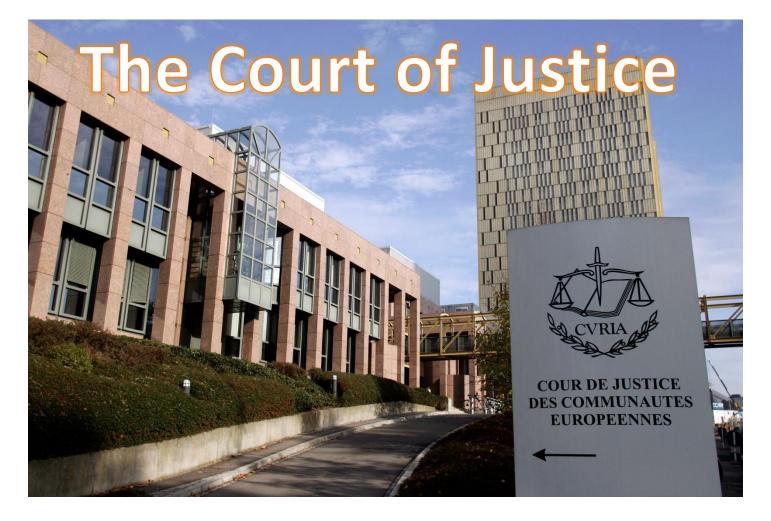
President: Donald Tusk
Location: Brussels (Belgium)
Website: European Council

It represents the **highest level** of political cooperation between EU countries.

What does the European Council do?

Decides on the EU's overall direction and political priorities – but does not pass laws.

Deals with **complex or sensitive issues that cannot be resolved** at lower levels of intergovernmental cooperation Sets the EU's common foreign & security policy, taking into account EU strategic interests and defence implications



Main functions:

ensures that all rules decided in the EU are followed in practice and are understood in the same way everywhere

Members: Court of Justice: 1 judge from each EU country plus 11 advocates generalGeneral Court:

47 judges. In 2019 this will be increased to 56 (2 judges from each EU country.

Established in: 1952 Location: Luxembourg

Website: Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU)

The European Central Bank

The European Central Bank (ECB; French: Banque centrale européenne) is the central bank for the euro and administers monetary policy of the eurozone, which consists of 19 EU member states and is one of the largest currency areas in the world. The counties are:

Euro area counties:

Austria

Belgium

Cyprus

Estonia

Finland

France

Germany

Greece **Ireland**

Italy

Latvia

Lithuania

Luxembourg

Malta

the Netherlands

Portugal

Slovakia

Slovenia

Spain

Bulgaria Croatia Czech Republic Hungary **Poland** Romania Sweden



Denmark United Kingdom

The Treaty of Amsterdam established the bank in 1998, and it is headquartered in Frankfurt, Germany. As of 2015 the President of the ECB is Mario Draghi, former governor of the Bank of Italy

A timeline of the EU

The 1950s and the 1960s: the beginning of cooperation



the 1970s and the 1980s A growing community



The 1990s
A Europe without frontiers



The 2000s
A decade of further expansion

1973: Denmark, Ireland and the UK enter

1981 Greek

1990 Germany after the fall of the Berlin Wall

1995: Austria, Finland, Sweden joint

2004: Estonia, Tatvia, Lituania, Poland, Slovakia,

Hungary, Slovenia, Malta, Cyprus, the Czech Republic

enter the 1° May

2007: Bungaria, Romania,

2011Estonia 2013 Croatia 1957: The Rome treaty → Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxemburg and The Netherlands establish the European Economic Community (EEC) or "Common Market"

1979: The European Monetary System (EMS) starts the road to the euro. All EEC members joint excetp the UK

1985: The Schengen Treaty (Schengen is in Luxemburg) → France, Germany, Belgium, Luxemburg and the Netherlands agree to abolish all checks on people travelling between them creating a zone known as the Schengen zone.

1992: The Maastricht Treaty tranforms the EEC into the EU, introduced European citizenship giving the Europeans the right to live and to vote in elections in any EU countries

1995: France, Germany, Portugal, Spain, Austria, Italy, Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Greece, the Neetherlands, Belgium, Luxemburg drop borders controls but not the Uk and Ireland

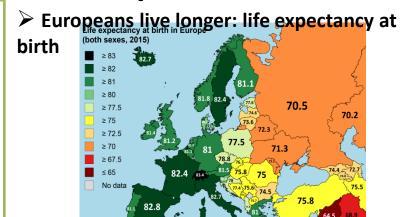
2002: Euro notes come into circulation in 12 member countries

2005: plans to introduce a constitution falters after the rejection by voters in two founding nations (France and the Netherlands). EU leaders declare a "period fo reflection".

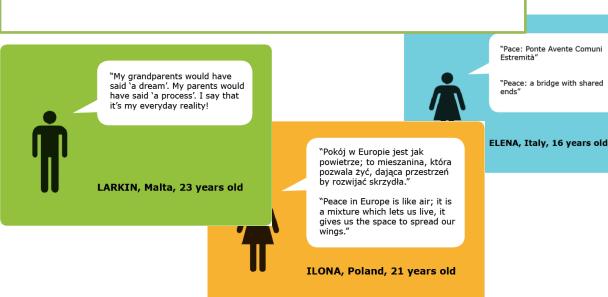
Stability, a single currency, mobility and growth

- > half a century of peace, stability and prosperity
- raise living standards
- > a single European currency: the euro.
- ➤ In 2012 the EU was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for advancing the causes of peace, reconciliation, democracy and human rights in Europe
- ➤ Thanks to the abolition of border controls between EU countries, people can travel freely throughout most of the continent., much easier to live, work and travel abroad
- > goods, services, money and people move freely

A shapshot of the EU



- ➤ Young Europeans are better educated
- > learns a foreign language
- > completed at least upper secondary education





Human rights and equality

One of the EU's main goals is to promote human rights both internally and around the world. Human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights: these are the core values of the EU. Since the **Lisbon Treaty's** entry in force in 2009, **the EU's Charter of Fundamental Rights** brings all these rights together in a single document. The EU's institutions are legally bound to uphold them, as are EU governments whenever they apply EU law.

The Lisbon Treaty

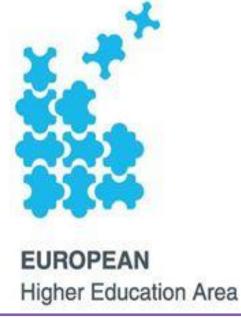
- What is the Lisbon Treaty?
- Why is it important?
- · In what way is it different from a constitution?
 - The Lisbon Treaty is no longer the "European Constitution"

The Treaty of Lisbon is an international agreement which amends the two treaties which form the constitutional basis of the European Union (EU). The Treaty of Lisbon was signed by the EU member states on 13 December 2007, and entered into force on 1 December 2009

The Bologna Process

Definition

The Bologna process – it is a process of convergence (сближение) and harmonization of education systems in Europe under the Bologna Agreement, to create a single European Higher Education Area.





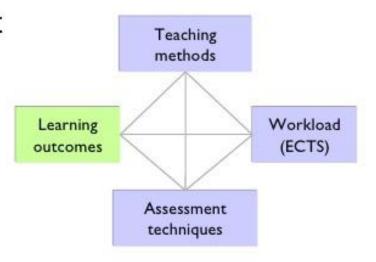
the **Bologna Process** is a series of ministerial meetings and agreements between European countries to ensure comparability in the standards and quality of higher-education qualifications. The process has created the

European Higher Education Area under the Lisbon Recognition Convention. It is named after the University of Bologna, where the Bologna declaration was signed by education ministers from 29 European countries in 1999 → 2015.

Outcome-based education

- Bologna Process: focus on learning outcomes (student centered view)
- Learning outcomes state what a learner
 - knows, understands (knowledge), and
 - is able to do (skills, competences)

after completing a learning process.



Edith Cresson (French minister)
(Bruxelles,1995)

"White Paper on education and training"

Teaching and learning

Towards the learning society

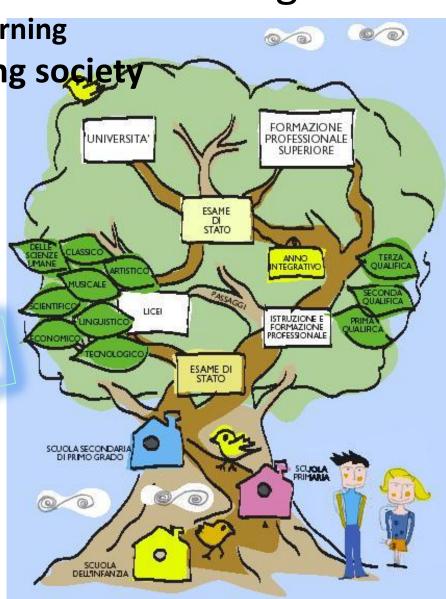
EUROPEAN COMMISSION

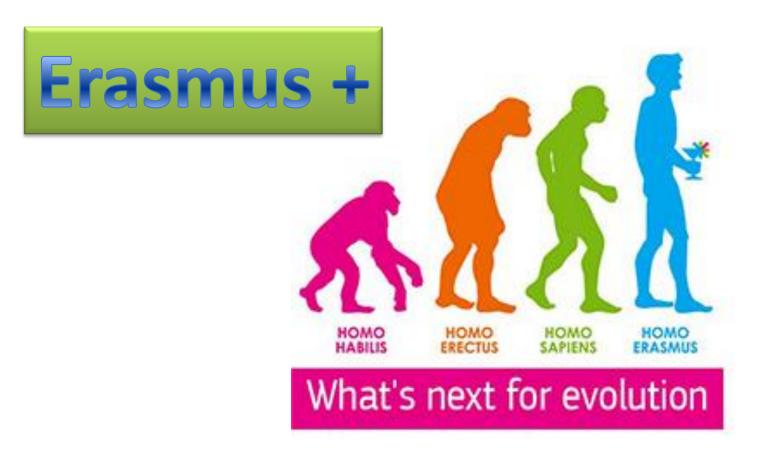
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL XXII — EDUCATION,

TRAINING AND YOUTH

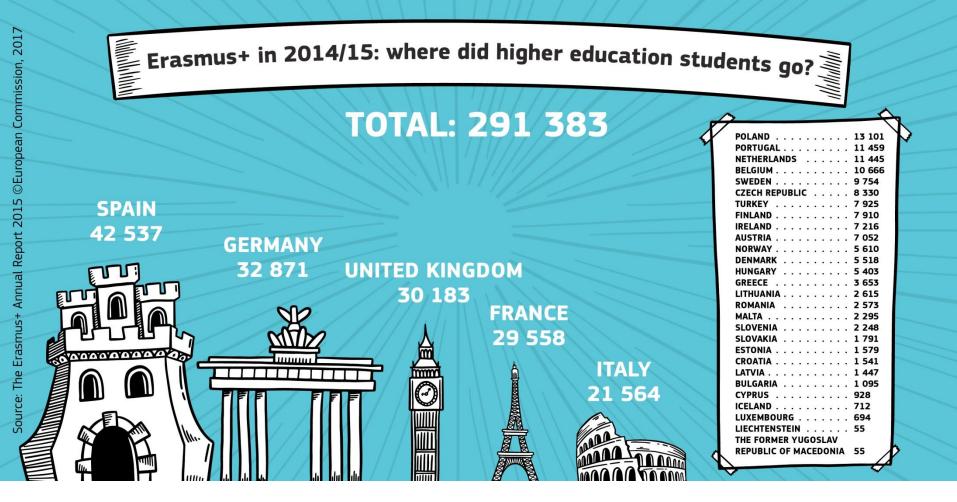
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL V — EMPLOYMENT,
INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

That's the starting point for each school system





The program is named after the Dutch philosopher and catholic monk Desiderius Erasmus of Rotterdam, known as an opponent of dogmatism, who lived and worked in many places in Europe to expand his knowledge and gain new insights. At the same time, ERASMUS is a backronym meaning *EuRopean community Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students*.



The **Erasmus Programme** is a European Union (EU) student exchange programme established in 1987. Erasmus+, or Erasmus Plus, is the new programme combining all the EU's current schemes for education, training, youth and sport, which was started in January 2014.



Erasmus+ helps you get a job



Erasmus+ alumni double their chances of employment a year after graduation

HIGHER EDUCATION



1/3 of Erasmus+ trainees are offered jobs in the company where they worked

HIGHER EDUCATION



Erasmus+ alumni tend to find their first job faster and earn 25 % more

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION



3/4 of employers say volunteering is a + for job seekers

EUROPEAN VOLUNTARY SERVICE

Source: Agence Erasmus+ 2010, European Commission 2014 and 2015. © European Commission, 2017

incorporated into the Socrates programme established by the European Commission in 1994, replaced with the Socrates II programme on 24 January 2000, which in turn was replaced by the Lifelong Learning Programme 2007–2013 on 1 January 2007.

The Key competences



What are '21st century' or 'key competences'? Why are they important in school education? What are European countries doing to ensure these competences are taught in schools?

HOW CAN WE GET MONEY?...

THE EU FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

HORIZON 2020



EXCELLENT SCIENCE
COMPETITIVE INDUSTRIES
BETTER SOCIETY

Horizon 2020 > Programma Quadro europeo per la Ricerca e l'Innovazione (2014 – 2020)
Finanzia il tuo progetto o la tua idea con il Programma Quadro Europeo Horizon 2020