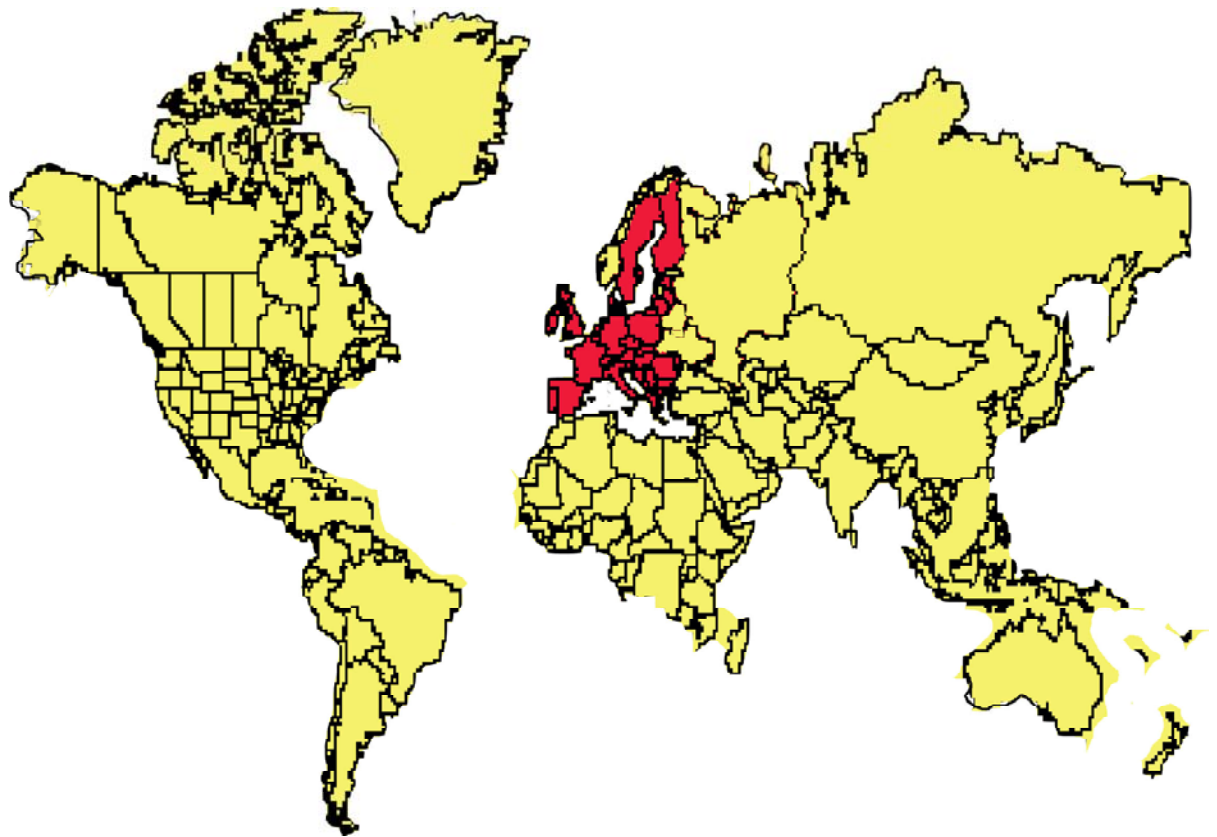


The European Union in a Global Context



A world player



World

EU

Population

6.6 billion

490 million

http://europa.eu/abc/index_en.htm

Land mass

148,940,000 sq.km.

3,860,137 sq.km.

GDP (2006)

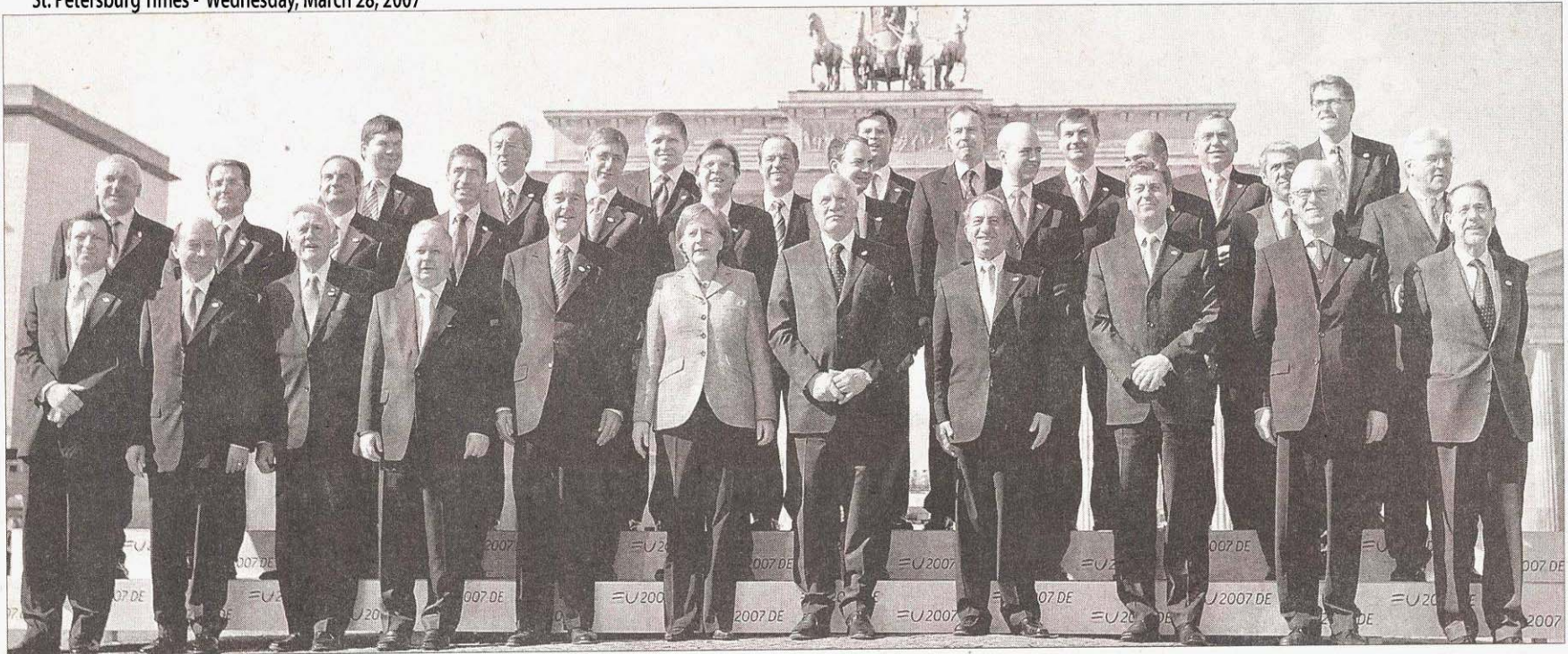
\$65 trillion

\$13.5 trillion

Sources: EU website; CIA World Factbook; IMF; World Bank

EU and member state leaders March 2007

St. Petersburg Times - Wednesday, March 28, 2007



Getty Images

Leaders of the 27 European Union nations, plus other officials, pose for a photo in Berlin on Sunday with German Chancellor Angela Merkel, center front. How many do you recognize?

27 in 2007

http://europa.eu/abc/history/animated_map/index_en.htm

- 1958 – Germany, Italy, Netherlands, France, Belgium, Luxembourg
- 1973 – United Kingdom, Ireland, Denmark
- 1981 – Greece
- 1986 – Spain, Portugal
- 1995 – Austria, Finland, Sweden
- 2004 – Czech Republic, Cyprus, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Slovenia, Slovakia
- 2007 – Bulgaria, Romania



Union Institutions

Commission: executive/civil service, one member per state, draft legislation, president nominated by Council and elected by Parliament

Council: ½ of legislative system; national ministers responsible for the area of EU law being addressed (e.g., Ag Ministers)

European Council: Heads of 27 states; meet quarterly; Presidency rotates every 6 months

European Parliament: ½ of legislative system. 785 members, Direct Elections every five years

European Court of Justice: supranational legal system, 27 judges, Court of First Instance, European Court of Auditors (budget)

European Central Bank: 13 member states

The Strategy: Functional Economic Integration First

- Rome treaty and the common agriculture policy (CAP)
- European Monetary System to the Euro and a Central Banking System
- Single European Act: an internal market
- The Schengen Agreement and Labor mobility
- A regional trade bloc
- EU role in closing the global development gap

The (intended?) outcome: supranational state

- European Coal and Steel Act (July 23, 1952)
- Rome Treaty (January 1, 1958)
- Single European Act (July 1, 1987 – internal market)
- Maastricht treaty (November 1, 1993 – Three pillars: economic, defense, justice and home affairs = European Union)
- Schengen Agreement (1995)
- Amsterdam Treaty (May 1, 1999 – merging prior treaties)
- European Constitution adopted June 2004 based on Intergovernmental Conference (IGC) in 2000; the Treaty of Nice (February 1, 2003), the European Convention (finished July 2003), and the IGC (10/2003-6/2004); 16 ratified - Spain 2/2005 and Finland 12/2006; French and Dutch reject in 2005

Integration depth: Education

- ERASMUS (European Regional Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students): higher education program established in 1987 and forms a major part of the EU Socrates II program; increase mobility: 1.4 millions
- Socrates II programme in 2000. Other educational programs include Leonardo (secondary schools), Grundtvig (adult learning) and Arion (teaching decision-makers).
- Bologna process (1999): create a European higher education system by making degree standards and quality assurance standards more comparable and compatible throughout Europe
- The EU is also sponsoring a large number of research projects aimed at academics and institutes, organised in frameworks of calls. From 2007 the EU has opened its 7th framework for grant applications.
- http://ec.europa.eu/education/policies/2010/et_2010_en.html
- <http://www.eurydice.org/portal/page/portal/Eurydice>

Immediate concerns

ECONOMIC

- Integrating new and future members
- CAP budget
- The Euro: from 13 to 27?
- Economic impacts of EU leadership on Global Warming – the Kyoto Protocol
- Regional Inequalities and development gaps

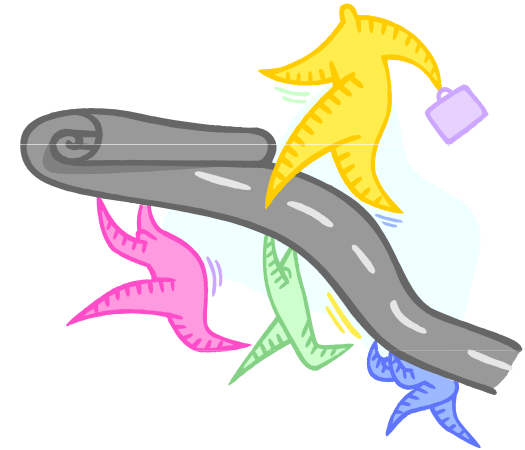


POLITICAL

- The democratic deficit: transparency and a political constitution
- The Constitution
- National to Regional Sovereignty
- Common Foreign and Security Policy: autonomy from NATO?
- <http://www.nato.int/issues/nato-eu/index.html>

The cultural road

The Cultural Legacy



- Distinct histories
- Many languages: 23 Bulgarian, Czech, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Irish, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish, Swedish
- Longstanding Religious diversity: Christianity (Roman Catholic, Protestant, Eastern Orthodox), Judaism
- Secularism, Atheism, Agnosticism

New Cultural Points

- New religious diversity: Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, Baha'i, and Sikhism
- Immigration from the former colonies
- Turkey

Paths to Political Union

Political Will

Multiculturalism

Hybridity

European citizenship

Youth and the EU

- Citizenship –
http://ec.europa.eu/youth/yia/index_en.html
- What drives youth?
- Blogs
- Sport
- Sex
- Music
- Transportation
- Family
- Religion
- Career

Youth Identity

