



World Affairs Councils of America

European Union



EUROPEAN UNION
DELEGATION TO THE USA

**Educational Outreach Program
in the United States 2012**



History of the European Union

The Original Purpose of the EU



To secure peace between former enemies

How?

By controlling the production of coal and steel



Key Milestones

1951

ECSC

Production of coal and steel put under control of a High Authority

1957

Treaty of Rome

Creation of the EEC and establishment of the common market



Key Milestones

1986

Single European Act



First major revision of the Rome Treaty: Single Market and European Political Cooperation

1989

Fall of the Berlin Wall



Reunification of Germany and democratisation of Eastern Europe

1992

Maastricht Treaty



Creation of the European Union and the pillar structure



The Treaty of Lisbon

- Entered into force on December 1st 2009
- Amends current treaties without replacing them

Key improvements:

Democracy and
Transparency

Rights and Values

Visibility on the
Global Stage

Efficiency



The EU Today

501 million

23 languages

27 countries

The EU Today



The Values of the EU





European Enlargement

Conditions of Membership

Political



Stability of
Institutions

Human Rights

Rule of Law

Respect and
Protection of
Minorities

Conditions of Membership

Economic



Market Economy

Ability to Cope
with Competitive
Pressures



The Enlargement Process



History of Enlargement





EU Candidate Countries

Acceding Country

- Croatia – joining in 2013


Candidate Countries

- FYROM
- Iceland
- Montenegro
- Serbia
- Turkey

Widening the Union - EU Enlargements



-  Denmark
-  Ireland
-  United Kingdom









-  Greece

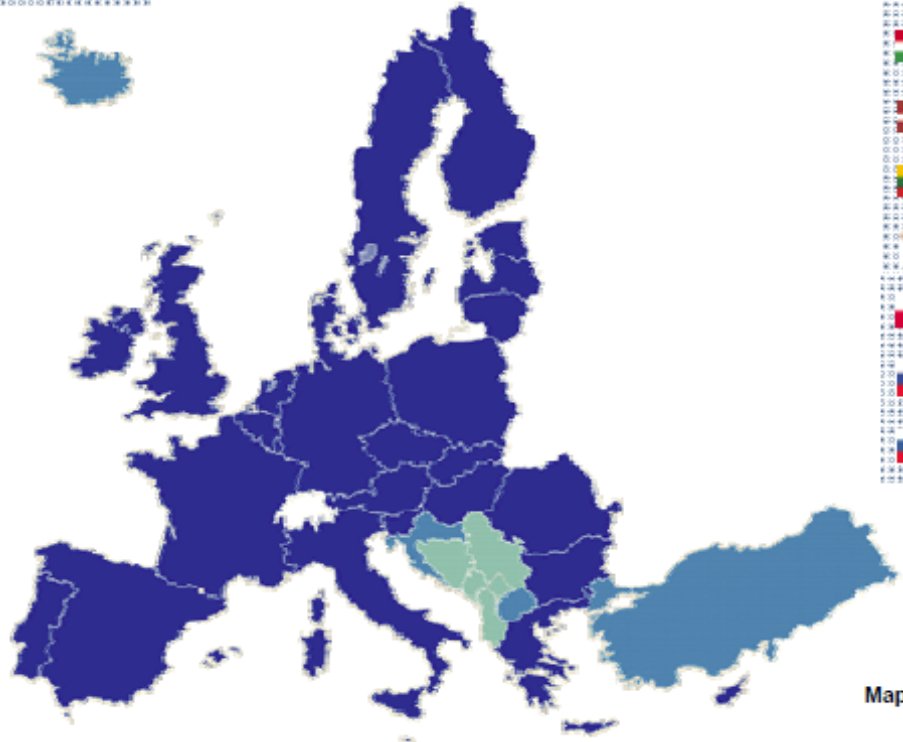
-  Portugal
-  Spain

-  Austria
-  Finland
-  Sweden

-  Cyprus
-  Czech Republic
-  Estonia
-  Hungary
-  Latvia
-  Lithuania
-  Malta
-  Poland
-  Slovakia
-  Slovenia

-  Bulgaria
-  Romania

- Candidates:**
-  Croatia
 -  Iceland
 -  FYR Macedonia
 -  Turkey
- Potential candidates:**
-  Albania
 -  Bosnia & Herzegovina
 -  Montenegro
 -  Serbia
 -  Kosovo*



* under UNSCR 1244



How the EU Works

Major EU Institutions



European Council



European Commission



European Parliament



**Council of the
European Union**

European Council



Composition

Heads of state or government from member states

Functions

Sets the general guidelines for EU policy

European Commission

Executive Branch of the EU

Composition

27 independent members, one from each EU country

Functions

Proposes new legislation

Manages EU's day-to-day business and budget



European Parliament

Voice of the People



Composition

736 MEPs from all member states

Functions

Decides on EU legislation together with CoEU

Democratic supervision of all the EU's work

Council of the European Union

Voice of the Member States

Composition

One minister from each member state

Functions

Decides on EU legislation together with parliament

Manages common foreign and security policy



European Court of Justice

The Judicial Authority of the EU

Composition

27 independent judges, one from each state

Functions

Rules on how to interpret EU law

Ensures EU countries apply laws in the same way





Economic and Monetary Union and the Euro

History of the EMU



The Euro is the single currency of the EU, introduced in 1999

12 of the then 15 members adopted it in 2002. Today 17 of the 27 countries use it

It has become an attractive world currency like the US dollar



Economic, Monetary and Fiscal Policy in the EMU

Economic Policy

- Coordination of economic policies
- Financial and budgetary discipline

Monetary Policy

- Set by the ECB

Fiscal Policy

- Set by national governments of member states

The European Central Bank

Ensures price stability

Controls money supply and
decides interest rates

Works independently from
governments



Joining the Euro: Maastricht Criteria



Price stability

Budget deficit

Debt

Interest rates

Exchange rate stability



The EU on the World Stage

Common Foreign and Security Policy



European External Action Service



The EU's foreign service

Improved coherence and
efficiency

Led by HR Catherine Ashton



Trade and Development

Doha

Development
Assistance

Democracy and Human Rights

Promoting:

Election Monitoring

...and fighting:

The Death Penalty

Torture

Human Trafficking





The EU-US Relationship



Shared Values



Natural
Partners



Promoting peace, human rights and democracy worldwide

Confronting global challenges, including security and non-proliferation

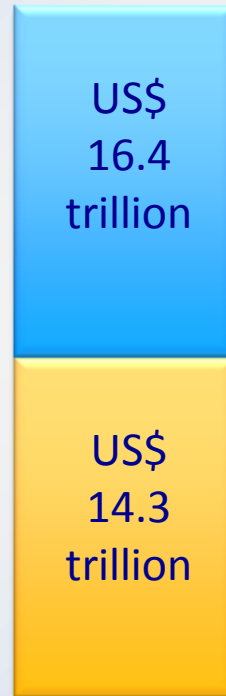
Fostering prosperity and opportunity

Advancing strategic cooperation on energy security, climate change and sustainable development

Comparative Statistics



Population



GDP



Area

Trade and Economics



Largest bilateral trade relationship in the world

We are each other's main trading partner and source of FDI

\$4.3 trillion
every year

Generates 15 million jobs in the EU and US

15% of global
trade

The Transatlantic Partnership

The Senior Level Group (SLG) comprises senior EU and US State Department Officials. They, together with the Joint Task Force, prepare for the Annual Summits. The Joint Task Force meets regularly to oversee the implementation of Summit decisions

Takes place once a year between the Presidents of the European Commission and the European Council and the President of the US

Annual Summit



- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| EU-US Development Dialogue | EU-US Working Group on Employment and Labor | Biotechnology Research Task Force | EU-US Cooperation in Crisis Management, Conflict Prevention and Capacity Building |
| EU-US Energy Council | EU-US Counter-Terrorism Dialogue | Transport and Border Security Dialogue | EU-US Education Policy Forum |
| Transatlantic Environmental Dialogue | Macroeconomic Dialogue | EU-US Financial Markets Regulatory Dialogue | EU-US Science and Technology Agreement |



EU-US Relations

"I believe that a stronger and renewed EU will be an even better transatlantic partner of the United States."

(President Barack Obama)



"The relationship between the United States and Europe is the world's strongest, most comprehensive, and strategically important partnership."

(President of the European Commission, José Manuel Barroso)



Thank you!

**Delegation of the European Union
Washington, DC**

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Question & Answer