



## **EU Key Messages**

*Updated August 20, 2009*

### **General**

**The EU is more than just a trade organization or a common market; it is a global player committed to promoting peace, stability, prosperity, democracy, and human rights around the world.**

- The EU is the single largest economic body in the world; its Member States account for almost a third of the entire global economy (30 percent of global GDP). It is the world's leading exporter and the main source of foreign investment and development aid.
- Collectively, the EU provides 60 percent of worldwide official development assistance (ODA) – a figure projected to rise to 63 percent by 2010. Together, the EU and the U.S. are responsible for 80 percent of ODA.
- Trade is essential to help the poor escape from poverty, and it lies at the heart of EU development strategy. The European Union is the most open market in the world for the poorest countries, and their largest trading partner.
- Since 1992, the EU has required that a "human rights clause" be inserted into all trade or cooperation agreements with third parties stipulating that respect for human rights is essential to relations between the parties. More than 120 such agreements exist.
- Of the estimated \$2 billion spent annually on democracy-related aid projects worldwide, approximately half is spent by the EU.
- The promotion of democracy is a cornerstone of EU foreign and security policy, and the EU has been a global leader in providing and financing electoral assistance since 1993.
- The EU is opposed to the death penalty in all cases and in all countries, a stance rooted in the inherent dignity of all human beings and the inviolability of the person, regardless of the crime committed.

**The EU is the world's most successful invention for advancing peace.**

- Since the creation of the EU more than a half century ago, Europe has enjoyed the longest period of peace in its history.
- Democracy has been a requirement for EU membership from the start, and for many nations, the prospect of EU membership has helped smooth the transition to democratic rule.
- One of the EU's greatest successes in democratization has been the enlargement process, which used the EU's gravitational pull to foster democracy and the rule of law across Central and Eastern Europe.
- EU Member States have stable governments that encourage pluralistic political thought and support freedom of speech, religion, and free market economics.
- The EU is a unique organization to which Member States voluntarily cede some elements of national sovereignty to carry out common policies and governance.

- Enlarging the area of peace and prosperity continues: Having expanded from six founding members to 27 countries today, the attraction of the EU continues. Presently, four countries –Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, and Turkey –are official applicant countries. Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Kosovo, and Serbia are engaged in a pre-accession process that helps prepare them for eventual membership.

**The EU is committed to reaching its foreign policy goals through diplomacy, relying on economic sanctions and military operations as a last resort.**

- Multilateralism – relying on an effective multilateral system – is at the core of EU foreign policy.
- The EU has responded to a rising demand for a European role in external crises, and has contributed to global peace and security by sending peacekeepers and providing other support in areas including the Western Balkans, Georgia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Darfur (Sudan), Aceh (Indonesia), and the Palestinian Territories.
- Since 2003, the EU has deployed more than 20 operations on three continents ranging from peacekeeping to border monitoring to security sector, police, or judicial reform.
- The EU has created a Rapid Reaction Force (RRF) to respond to tasks including humanitarian and rescue missions, peacekeeping, crisis management, and peacemaking. The RRF's military strength is being built up over several years, but already its readiness to respond to short-term calls for action has been bolstered through battle groups, consisting of 1,500 men each.

**Country / Region Specific [U.S. example]**

***The transatlantic economic partnership is a key driver of global economic growth, trade, and prosperity.***

- *The \$3.75 trillion EU-U.S. transatlantic economy represents the largest, most integrated and longest-lasting economic relationship in the world.*
- *Europe's investment stake in the U.S. totaled a record \$1.4 trillion in 2008, more than triple the level of a decade ago.*
- *As the world's single largest economic body, accounting for almost 20 percent of global trade, the EU is the most important commercial market in the world for corporate America, and accounts for roughly half of total U.S. global earnings.*
- *Europe is also by far the most important source of jobs created by foreign direct investment in the U.S.; the transatlantic economy employs an estimated 14 million workers on both sides of the Atlantic.*
- *Our trade agreements bring significant benefits to both the U.S. and the EU. For example, following the launch of the Open Skies Agreement, economic forecasts indicate a gain of 26 million passengers, \$18 billion in consumer benefits and an additional 80,000 jobs in the U.S. and EU over the next five years.*
- *98 percent of trade between the EU and the E.U. is dispute-free.*

***The EU and the U.S. must continue to work together to address global challenges.***

- *The EU and the U.S. already cooperate in areas including fighting terrorism and transnational crime, advancing trade liberalization, and combating piracy and intellectual property violations.*
- *Since climate change is a global problem, it requires global leadership from the U.S. and the EU to make a significant impact.*
- *The EU has set an example by implementing the most ambitious set of climate and energy targets anywhere in the industrialized world, and demonstrating that making the necessary deep emissions cuts is fully compatible with continued economic growth and prosperity and can even boost the economy and competitiveness.*
- *Together the EU and U.S. must work to ensure that world trade benefits the world's poorest countries.*
- *When the EU and the U.S. agree, other countries follow.*
- *The EU and the U.S. are the indispensable partnership.*

***Some comparative statistics for the EU and U.S. in 2008***

- *Together, in 2008, the EU and the U.S. represented 54 percent of global GDP and just 12 percent of the world's population. Comparable figures for China are 6.4 percent of global GDP and almost 20 percent of the world's population; Japan was responsible for 8 percent of global GDP, with just under 2 percent of the world's population.*
- *More than 51 percent of total U.S. FDI went to the EU in 2008; EU FDI in the U.S. in 2008 was almost 63 percent of total FDI in the U.S.*
- *The top six U.S. states' exports to the EU in 2008 represent significant portions of these states' total exports: California-19.54 percent; Texas-13.37 percent; New York-24.33 percent; Massachusetts-42.49 percent; New Jersey-32.25 percent; Illinois-20.43 percent.*

**Statistical Tables**

<b>2008</b>	<b>GDP</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Imports Of Goods \$billions</b>	<b>Exports Of Goods \$billions</b>	<b>Imports of Commercial Services \$billions</b>	<b>Exports of Commercial Services \$billions</b>
<b>World</b>	<b>\$60 trillion</b>	<b>6.7 billion</b>	<b>\$16,415</b>	<b>\$16,127</b>	<b>\$3,469</b>	<b>\$3,731</b>
<b>EU27</b>	<b>\$18 trillion</b>	<b>497 million</b>	<b>\$2,283</b>	<b>\$1,928</b>	<b>\$1,516</b>	<b>\$1,738</b>
<b>U.S.</b>	<b>\$14 trillion</b>	<b>304 million</b>	<b>\$2,166</b>	<b>\$1,301</b>	<b>\$364</b>	<b>\$522</b>
<b>China</b>	<b>\$3.8 trillion</b>	<b>1.3 billion</b>	<b>\$1,133</b>	<b>\$1,428</b>	<b>No data available</b>	<b>No data available</b>
<b>Japan</b>	<b>\$4.9 trillion</b>	<b>128 million</b>	<b>\$761</b>	<b>\$782</b>	<b>\$166</b>	<b>\$143</b>

***Sources: GDP and Population-World Bank;***

***Imports/Exports-WTO.***

***(EU 27 merchandise trade reflects extra-EU trade). (Commercial services, excluding government services)***

**World Bank—Ranking Tables:**

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/DATASTATISTICS/0,,menuPK:232599~pagePK:64133170~piPK:64133498~theSitePK:239419,00.html>

**WTO Statistics Database:** <http://stat.wto.org/Home/WSDBHome.aspx?Language=E>

<b>2008</b>	<b>U.S. FDI Abroad</b>	<b>FDI in the U.S.</b>
<b>EU27</b>	<b>\$1.63 trillion</b>	<b>\$1.43 trillion</b>
<b>Canada</b>	<b>\$227 billion</b>	<b>\$222 billion</b>
<b>Mexico</b>	<b>\$96 billion</b>	<b>\$8 billion</b>
<b>China</b>	<b>\$46 billion</b>	<b>\$1.2 billion</b>
<b>Japan</b>	<b>\$79 billion</b>	<b>\$260 billion</b>
<b>Total FDI</b>	<b>\$3.1 trillion</b>	<b>\$2.3 trillion</b>

*Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis*

<http://www.bea.gov/>

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