

# History of European Integration – An Introduction

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# The Road to European Union – 1945-2010



- **Second World War**
- **Decolonisation**
- **Reconstruction**
- **The Cold War**

## WWII - Man's inhumanity to man

- The Second World War.
- Global military conflict.
- Involving most of the world's nations.
- Estimated 60 million deaths.
- One of every four Soviet citizens was killed or wounded in the war.
- Concentration Camps and the Holocaust.



# The end of Empire



- Impact of the war on empire and imperialism
- The winds of change vs. Reluctant change.

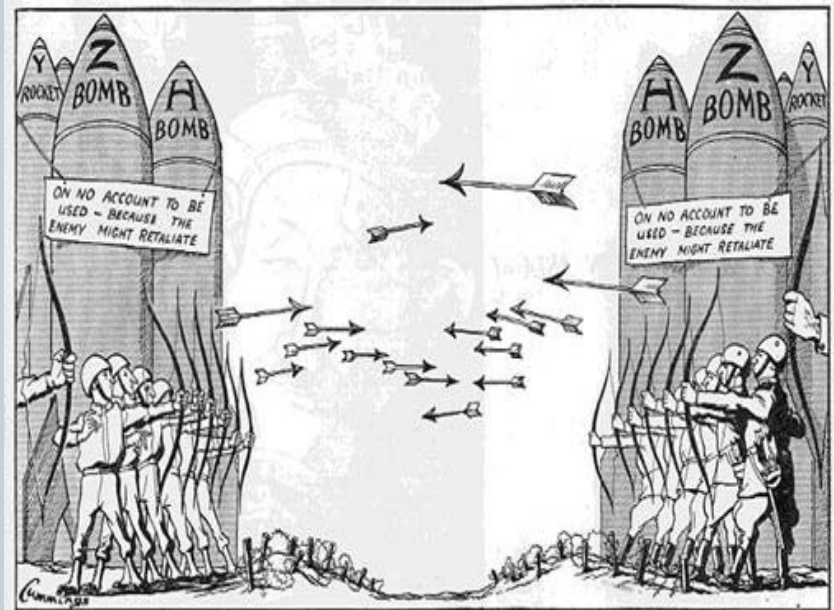
# Rebuilding Europe after 1945



- US economic/political support.
- The Marshall Plan – ERP
- World Bank
- International Monetary Fund
- United Nations

# The Cold War

- Harry Truman
- MAD – Mutually Assured Destruction
- Spoils of war? Division of Germany/Berlin
- Creation of North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO)
- Germany comes in from the cold.



# Early step towards European integration, 1950s

- Franco-German relations
- Coal and Steel production
- Defence Community (Failure)
- Political Community (Failure)
- Atomic Energy Community
- Creation of the European Economic Community, 1957
- A Customs Union/Common Market



# Between crisis and compromise, 1960s

- **Common policies**
  - Agriculture
  - Competition
  - Transport
- **Enlargement – the British problem.**
- **Reluctant Europeans?**
  
- **Charles de Gaulle's vision for France (and Europe)**



# Deepening, Widening, Enlarging, 1970s - 2010

- 1973, First enlargement (Britain, Denmark and Ireland).
- Economic downturn during 1970s - oil crisis, low growth/high unemployment.
- Good ship Europe running out of steam.
- Single European Act, 1986
- Reforms during 1980s – Common Agricultural Policy; Institutional changes.
- 1992 – Maastricht Treaty (Euro single currency developed)
- European Communities become the European Union
- 1995 – 15 members of the EU
- Euro launched in 2002 - currency in

# Today's European Union



- 27 members
- Many more seeking entry – Turkey, Croatia, Bosnia, Albania...
- Lisbon Treaty, 2009.
- Further Reform – more powers to European Parliament.
- Attempts to deal with ‘democratic deficit’ and bring Europe closer to its citizens.