

Lesson on general aspects of the European Union

In this lesson students are supposed to get familiar with the general aspects of the European Union. This includes a quiz on general knowledge, a map of the member states, some historical facts and information about the main institution of the European Union. The whole material might be a bit too much for a 45-minutes-lesson, so changes can be made spontaneously. Most of the material is pair work. Make sure that, if possible, a Finnish student works together with a German student

Lesson plan

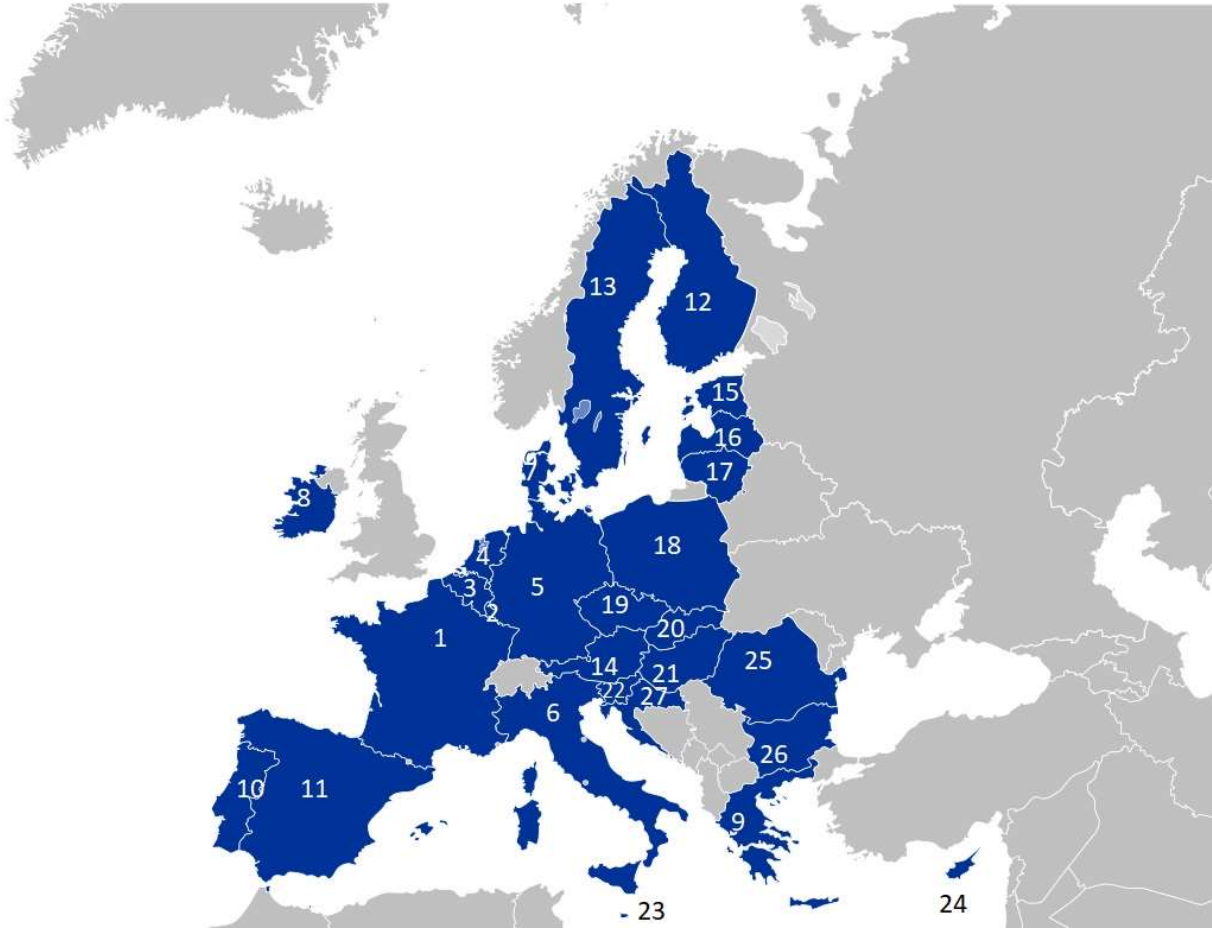
- Hand out the quiz (page 2). While the teacher is reading out the questions, the students (in pairs) are supposed to tick one possible answer of each question. Then hand in the quiz (5-10 minutes). While students are working on pages 4 and 5, the teacher can correct the quiz and find out who the winner is. A solution is on page 6
- Go over map (page 3) together with students (10 minutes)
- Teacher explains the two remaining exercises. Students do them (pages 4 and 5) in pairs on their own (15 minutes). Solutions are on page 7.
- Check both exercises with students (10 minutes)
- Reveal results of the quiz, say who is the winner, and reveal the average

Quiz: How much do you know about the EU?

1. How many member states does the EU have?
a) 17 b) 27 c) 37
2. All the member states have the EURO as currency. **True or False?**
True/False
3. There is no real capital of the EU. True or False?
True/False
4. Choose one: Which of the following is the official anthem of the EU.
a) Vivaldi's "Spring" b) Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" c) Händel's "Water Music"
5. Which of the following dates is celebrated as the "Day of United Europe"?
a) 9th May b) 9th December
6. Choose **one**: Which of the following countries was among the six founding nations of the European Union?
a) Denmark b) Sweden c) Belgium
7. Choose **one**: Which of the following countries left the European Union?
a) Great Britain b) Croatia c) Greece
8. Choose **one**: Which of the following countries is a member state of the EU?
a) Norway b) Iceland c) Ireland d) Switzerland
9. Choose **one**: Which of the following EU institutions functions like a government?
a) European Parliament b) European Council c) European Commission d) European Court of Justice
10. Choose **one**: Which of the following is the main idea of the Schengen Agreement?
a) To have a common currency within the EU b) no internal border checks within the EU

EU – member states (year of entry)

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden



- 1 _____ (1951) 2 _____ (1951) 3 _____ (1951)
- 4 _____ (1951) 5 _____ (1951) 6 _____ (1951)
- 7 _____ (1973) 8 _____ (1973) 9 _____ (1981)
- 10 _____ (1986) 11 _____ (1986) 12 _____ (1995)
- 13 _____ (1995) 14 _____ (1995) 15 _____ (2004)
- 16 _____ (2004) 17 _____ (2004) 18 _____ (2004)
- 19 _____ (2004) 20 _____ (2004) 21 _____ (2004)
- 22 _____ (2004) 23 _____ (2004) 24 _____ (2004)
- 25 _____ (2007) 26 _____ (2007) 27 _____ (2013)

Some important events in the history of the European Union

Put the event in the right place

- **Ukraine** applies for EU-membership
- The **Euro** is introduced in twelve countries.
- **Schuman-Declaration**: French foreign minister Robert Schuman suggests putting the production of coal and steel under a single authority
- **Brexit** – Great Britain leaves the European Union.
- **Treaty of Rome**: The six countries of the **European Economic Community** to foster economic integration among its member states.

1946	British Prime Minister Winston Churchill calls for a “ United States of Europe ”.
1950	
1951	Belgium, France, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands and West Germany found the European Coal and Steel Community
1957	
1968	European Union Customs Union comes into existence: There are no tariffs between the members of the customs union.
1979	First elections to the European Parliament .
1993	The European Single Market comes into existence: It seeks to guarantee the free movement of goods, capital, services, and people.
1995	The Schengen Agreement is signed: Internal border checks are abolished
2002	
2012	The European Union is awarded the Nobel Peace Price .
2020	
2022	

How EU bodies work together



EU Commission (2x)	European Parliament	EU Council	European Council
European Parliament			

Put the institution in the right gap

1. The consist of the Heads of State or government of each EU country.
2. It works together with the, which consists of 27 Commissioners (one from each country)
3. The proposes laws.
4. Both the and the(which consists of Ministers from each EU country) make the laws.

solutions

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a) To have a common currency within the EU **b) no internal border checks within the EU**

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2002	The Euro is introduced in twelve countries.
2012	The European Union is awarded the Nobel Peace Prize .
2020	Brexit – Great Britain leaves the European Union.
2022	Ukraine applies for EU-membership

EU - institutions

1. The European Council consist of the Heads of State or government of each EU country.
2. It works together with the EU Commission, which consists of 27 Commissioners (one from each country)
3. The EU Commission proposes laws.
4. Both the European Parliament and the EU Council (which consists of Ministers from each EU country) make the laws.