

European Union Overview

- 27 Member States
- 440+ Million Citizens
- Single Market Economy
- Free Movement of People, Goods, Services & Capital
- Key Dates:
 - 1951 First Community | 1957 Treaty of Rome
 - 1993 EU Created | 1995 Austria Joined
 - 2002 Euro Introduced | 2013 Croatia Joined

EU Member States and Year of Accession

- Founding Members (1957):
Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands
- 1973: Denmark, Ireland
- 1981: Greece
- 1986: Spain, Portugal
- 1995: Austria, Finland, Sweden
- 2004: Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Cyprus, Malta
- 2007: Bulgaria, Romania
- 2013: Croatia

EU Candidate Countries

Official Candidate Countries:

- Albania
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Georgia
- Moldova
- Montenegro
- North Macedonia
- Serbia
- Türkiye
- Ukraine

Economy and Currency

One of the world's
largest economies

Integrated single
market

Euro common currency

20 Eurozone countries

Strong international
trade

What is important to the EU?

- Peace and stability in Europe
- Democracy and human rights
- Economic development
- Environmental policy leadership
- Freedom to study and work across Europe

EU Institutions

European
Commission -
Proposes laws

European
Parliament -
Represents
citizens

Council of the
EU - Member
states

European
Council -
Strategic
direction

Court of Justice
- EU law

Comparison European Union - United States

Population

- EU: ~440 million
- USA: ~330 million

Political Structure

- EU: 27 independent countries
- USA: One federal country

Economy

- Both are among the world's largest economies

Currency

- EU: Euro used in many countries
- USA: US Dollar