

164.287 European Union - Institutions, Policies and Future Challenges

List of Questions 2022WS

1. Provide some examples:

- Major inventions of the "Second Industrial Revolution" were:
 - Modern steel production → railways
 - Electricity → radio, electric lightening, telephone
 - Combustion engine → automobiles
 - Pharmaceuticals → modern medicine
- The "Third Industrial Revolution" is essentially based on
 - invention of the transistor
 - exploration of the structure of the DNA
- The core elements of the EU Lisbon Agenda aiming at sustainable development are:
 - Economic Growth
 - Social Equilibrium
 - Environmental Quality
- The most important "Copenhagen" criteria for joining the EU are:
 - Candidate country must have stable institutions guaranteeing democracy, the rule of law, human rights and respect for minorities
 - Candidate country must have functioning market economy
 - Candidate country must take on board all the "acquis" and support the various aims of the European Union
- The two biggest political parties in the European Parliament are:
 - Conservative/Christian Democrats (EPP)
 - Social Democrats (SD)
- List three important European Union Agencies:
 - European Environment Agency (EEA)
 - European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)
 - European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)
- The main regulative acts of the EU are:
 - Regulations
 - Directives
 - Decisions
- The Single Market is a European frontier free area for the movement of
 - People
 - Goods
 - Services
 - Money

- The major challenges to transport within the EU refer to:
 - Reduce CO₂ emissions by 80-90% by 2050
 - Share of road traffic now 20%
 - Reduction of mobility via modern communication
 - Replace mid-distance flights with fast trains
- The three biggest regions/countries in respect to energy consumption are:
 - China
 - USA
 - EU
- The most important solidarity policies are:
 - Regional and Cohesion Policy
 - Common Agricultural Policy
 - Common Fisheries Policy
 - Environmental Policy
- The purpose of the EU solidarity policies is to:
 - support the completion of the single market
 - correct structural and economic imbalances
 - support industrial sectors encountering difficulties
- The main instruments for providing regional aid within the EU are:
 - European Regional Development Fund
 - Cohesion Fund
 - European Investment Bank loans
- The original aims of the CAP, as set out in the original Treaty of Rome from 1957, were:
 - to achieve a fair standard of living for the farming community
 - to stabilize the markets
 - to supply the consumers at reasonable prices
 - to modernize farming infrastructure
- Aim of the Common Fisheries Policy:
 - reduce the overcapacity in the fishing fleets
 - preserve fish stocks
 - provide financial assistance to allow fishing communities to develop other economic activities
- Measures of the Common Fisheries Policy:
 - assignment of lot for fishing operations
 - limitation of number of fishing vessels
 - quota for catches
- Community research includes contributions to very large scale EU projects such as (give name/acronym of programme):
 - Euratom - European Atomic Energy Community
 - ESO - European Southern Observatory
 - ITER - International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor

- Major measures of the EU to reduce air pollution from road transport:
 - Lead and sulfur free gasoline and diesel
 - Catalytic converters for gasoline cars
 - Particle filters for diesel passenger cars
 - Maximum emission limits for passenger cars and large vehicles
 - Maximum fuel consumption for the fleet of passenger car manufacturer of 4,5l/100km
- The main measures to achieve a reduction of the Green House Gas emissions in the EU of 55% by 2030 are:
 - Less primary energy usage
 - Decarbonisation of transport
 - Renewable energies
 - Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS)
- Major criteria for a country joining the Eurozone:
 - price stability: rate of inflation may not exceed the average rates of inflation of the three member states with the lowest inflation by more than 1.5%
 - inflation: long-term interest rates may not vary by more than 2% in relation to the three member states with the lowest inflation
 - deficits: national budget deficits must be below 3%
 - (public debt: this may not exceed 60% of GDP)
 - (exchange rate stability: exchange rates must have remained within the authorized margin of fluctuation for the previous two years)
- Criteria of the Stability and Growth Pact ("Maastricht Criteria") for the Eurozone Member States:
 - deficit of the state budget limited to 3%
 - national debt limited to 60% of GDP
- The initial services provided by Copernicus are:
 - Land monitoring
 - Marine monitoring
 - Atmospheric monitoring
 - Crisis monitoring
- Practical achievements of EU activities in the domain freedom, security and justice:
 - Elimination of border control between "Schengen" countries
 - Europol for co-operation of police forces
 - Eurojust for co-operation between prosecutors and civil law cooperation in areas like extradition, family law, criminal justice
 - Frontex for co-operation between border control authorities
 - First steps towards a common asylum policy
- In respect to its position in a globalised world the EU has major strengths:
 - The EU is (still) the second largest economic region in the world
 - The citizen of the EU experience an unprecedented wealth
 - The EU has the best education system in the world
 - Its political "Leitmotiv" - Sustainable Development - can serve as a model for the whole world

- Excellent political relations with most countries in the world
- In respect to its position in a globalised world the EU has major weaknesses:
 - Lack of financial or economic coordination of the member states at EU level
 - Lack of common foreign policy and military coordination between member states
 - High taxes and labor cost, expensive social system
 - Insufficient R&D investments in new technologies and low innovation
 - No common asylum policies
- Major structural problems of the EU:
 - Aging society
 - High taxes, high labor costs, expensive social system
 - Insufficient R&D investments in new technologies and low innovation
- Key threats to the security of the EU as identified in the EU security strategy:
 - Terrorism
 - Proliferation of weapons of mass destruction
 - Organized Crime
 - Regional conflicts, failed states
- Major achievements of the Single Market of the EU:
 - Single European Act (1987): Provides for free movements of people, goods, services, and money and abolition of custom controls and fees; EU largest economic area in the world
 - Transport Policy: Trans-European Networks (TEN)
 - Energy Policy: Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan)
 - Competition Policy: breaking up of monopolistic methods and structures, reduced air fares and telephone charges
- Major achievements of the Innovation Policies of the EU:
 - Research Policy: European research programmes to enhance competitiveness (around 5% of EU budget)
 - Education Policy: ERASMUS and Leonardo for exchange students and trainees
- Major achievements of the EU in the area of Home Affairs:
 - Freedom: Schengen Agreement for abolition of border control
 - Security: Europol for co-operation of police forces; Eurojust for cooperation between prosecutors; Frontex for co-operation between border control authorities
 - Justice: Civil law cooperation in areas like extradition, family law; European prosecution attorney
- Major achievements of the EU in the area of Foreign Affairs:
 - External Security: High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy; EU diplomatic corps; EUFOR; European Union battle groups, Eurofighter
 - Trade: EU second largest economic region in the world
 - Development Cooperation: EU is largest provider of development aid (0,4% of GDP)

2. Choose the correct item/figure:

- The Philosophical School of Athens which established the principles of our Western civilization was founded by Alexander the Great, **Plato**, Julius Cesar or Montesquieu.
- The foundations of the governance systems of the Western world were developed in Athens, **Rome**, Paris or London.

- The "Pater Europae" establishing dominance of Christianity in Europe was Augustus, **Karl der Grosse**, Ludwig XIV. oder Heinrich VIII.
- The largest empire in human history was founded by Germany, France, **England** or Spain.
- The key invention leading to the "First Industrial revolution" was the electric light bulb, the abacus, **the steam engine** or the wheel.
- WTO agreement of 1995 **generated a global market for goods and services**, introduced high tariffs for import from developing countries into the EU, created a trade barrier between the USA and Europe, established the EURO as a new currency.
- WTO agreement of 1995 covers 30, 50, **95** or 100% of the global population.
- The World Wide Web was invented at the Bell Labs in the USA, **the CERN in Geneva**, the Oxford University or the Max-Planck-Institute for Mathematics in Bonn.
- About 10, 25, **60** or 80% of the global population use the internet now.
- About 10, 25, **60** or 80% of the global population use the smart phone now.
- The decision to allow a new country to join the EU must be taken with simple majority, two-thirds majority or **unanimously, by the existing member states meeting in the Council**.
- In respect to its structure the European Union is a federation like the USA, a loose group of states connected by an international treaty like the UN, **a unique construction where Member States pool their sovereignty in areas of common interest** or a centralised multinational state like China.
- The trade balance of the EU with Russia is positive, balanced, **negative** or unknown.
- The Member State with the largest population in the EU is Spain, France, **Germany** or Italy.
- The largest Member State by area in the EU is Spain, **France**, Germany or Italy.
- The President of the European Commission is Roberta Metsola, Josep Borell, **Ursula von der Leyen** or Charles Michel.
- The President of the European Parliament is **Roberta Metsola**, Josep Borell, Ursula von der Leyen or Charles Michel.
- The President of the European Council is Roberta Metsola, Josep Borell, Ursula von der Leyen or **Charles Michel**.
- The High Representative for Common Foreign and Security Policy is Roberta Metsola, **Josep Borell**, Ursula von der Leyen or Charles Michel.
- European Summits are chaired by the **President of the Council**, the President of the European parliament, the President of the European Commission or the High Representative.
- The Council Presidency is executed by **a Member State on a half-year rotational basis**, the President of the European Council, the High Representative or the President of the European Parliament.
- A "qualified majority" in decisions of the Council of Ministers is reached when 50, **55**, 66 or 80% of the Member State votes are for the proposal.
- The European Parliament has 250, 500, **705** or 900 members (EU-27).
- The number of seats assigned to a country in the European Parliament is roughly proportional to its size, **number of population**, international ranking or GDP.
- Members of the European Parliament are elected for a period of 4, **5**, 7 or 10 years.
- Members of the European Commission are appointed for a period of 4, **5**, 7 or 10 years.

- Members of the European Commission have to be approved by the national parliaments, the Council of Ministers, **the European Parliament**, the UN.
- A special privilege of the Commission is **the right of initiative in the law making process**, the right of declaration of war on terrorists, the right to call the state of emergency in crisis situations or the right to exclude a Member State from the European Union.
- In the law making process of the EU the European Commission **makes proposals for legislation**, decides about legislation alone, decides about legislation together with the Council or decides about legislation together with the European Parliament.
- In the Community Law making process the co-decision is made by European Commission and Council, European Commission and Parliament, **Council of the European Union and Parliament**, European Council and European Court of Justice.
- The supreme decision making body in matters of foreign and security policy is the European Commission, **the European Council**, the European Parliament or the Council of Europe.
- The European Court of Auditors controls the implementation of the EU legislation in the Member States, **controls the execution of the EU budget**, checks the legality of the treaties signed by the European Union or manages international agreements like TTIP.
- The main task of OLAF is to control the execution of the EU budget, **to discover irregularities in the use of EU funds**, to advise the Commission President on the establishment of the EU budget or to monitor the legislative performance of the EU parliamentarians.
- The Governing body of the ECB is composed of the Governors of the national banks of all EU Member States, **the Governors of the national banks of all Eurozone Member States**, the Finance Ministers of all Eurozone Member States, or members delegated by the European Parliament and the European Commission.
- The European Central Bank (ECB) is responsible for monitoring the expenses of the European Commission, **for the monetary policy of the Eurozone**, for establishing the budget of the Member States or for securing the stability of the other European Currencies like the British Pound.
- The President of the ECB is Josep Borell, Ursula von der Leyen, **Christine Lagarde** or Charles Michel.
- The primary objective of the ECB is to keep the value of the EURO as high as possible, **to maintain price stability within the Eurozone**, to provide Member States with direct credits or to keep the interest rates for interbank loans high.
- The right to issue EURO banknotes is reserved to the National Central Banks, to the World Bank, to the European Investment Bank or **the European Central Bank**.
- The ECB sets the rate for interbank loans which directly influences the trade balance of the EU with third countries, taxation of the US internet giants like Google, **the interest rates for deposits and credits in banks of the Eurozone**, or the social security benefits provided by Member States for their citizens.
- The green house gas emissions of the EU are roughly 3, 8, 20 or 30% of the global emissions.
- The European Defence Agency has as a major task to negotiate a defence treaty with the USA, to enhance the military cooperation with Russia, **to enhance the European armaments cooperation** or to represent the Member States in NATO.
- The contribution of Austria to the EU budget is € 2; **3,8**; 5 or 8 billion per year.
- The biggest net payer of the EU is France, **Germany**, Luxemburg or Italy (2018).
- The biggest net receiver of the EU is Hungary, Spain, **Poland** or Greece (2018).

- The PPP GDP per capita of Romania for 2021 is 30, 40, **60**, 90% of the average of the EU.
- The most important energy source in the EU is presently **oil**, coal, hydro or nuclear.
- The share of wind energy in electricity production in the EU is 4, **14**, 25 or 50% (data from 2019).
- The share of photovoltaics in electricity production in the EU is **5**, 10, 25 or 50% (data from 2019).
- Agricultural productivity has dramatically gone up: While in the Sixties 40% of the population worked in farming it is now only 2, **3**, 5 or 8%.
- The first environmental policy of the European Community was launched in 1972 and over the years 7 Environmental Action Programmes have been established and more than 50, **250**, 500, 750 pieces of environmental legislation have been produced.
- A key element for intelligent transport management of the future is a high accuracy satellite radio navigation system, called Erasmus, Copernicus, **Galileo** or Leonardo.
- The economy of the European Union combines the economies of 27 member states and was generating an estimated nominal GDP for 2021 of € 5.000, **16.000**, 25.000 or 40.000 billion which is one fifth of the global economy.
- The PPP GDP per capita reflecting the buying power of an EU citizen is roughly 30% or **50% lower**, or 20% or 40% higher than in the USA.
- The spread in the living standard (expressed as ratio of PPP GDP per capita) between the richest and the poorest Member State is roughly 10:1, **5:1**, 2:1 or 1:1.
- The share of industry in the GDP of the EU is 10, **25**, 40 or 60%.
- The dollar is the major global reserve currency whose share is about 40, 50, **65**, 80% of the global money volume available.
- The Commission is answerable to the national governments, the national parliaments, **the European Parliament**, or the Council of the European Union.
- Speakers in the European Parliament are entitled to speak in any of the EU's 12, 15, **24** or 28 official languages.
- To fund its policies, the European Union has an annual budget of € 60, **150**, 200, 300 billion for the period 2021 – 2027.
- The EU's regional policy is based on transfers of funds from rich to poor countries/regions in an amount of ca 10, **30**, 60, 100 billion annually.
- Member states have so far been enthusiastic, moderately eager or **very reluctant** to develop social standards to be applied in the whole Union.
- The number of EU member states participating in the Schengen agreement is 16, **22**, 25, 27 (year 2022)
- Eurozone members have special obligations in respect to financial and economic stability: its public debt must not exceed 40, **60**, 80, 100% of GDP ("Maastricht Criteria").
- In the OMT-Programme the ECB lends money to developing countries, pays credits of debtor countries like Greece, **buys asset-backed securities (state bonds) of national banks to provide these with liquidity** or carries out stress tests for system relevant European banks.
- With a share of more than 10, **25**, 40, 60% of the global money volume available the Euro has become a global reserve currency.
- The EU's (27) exports amount each year to about 500, **2.000**, 2.700 or 3.000 billion EUR (reference year 2020).

- The number of votes allocated to each EU country in the Council roughly reflects the area of the country, the number of ministers in that country, **size of its population** or the duration of membership in the EU.
- Community law is inferior, equal or **superior** to national law for areas covered by the Treaties.
- The EU currently imports ca. 75%, **50%**, 40% or 25% of its primary energy
- Consumers spend about 3, 5, **10**, 20% of their income for food now compared to nearly 50% in the Sixties.
- The European System of Central Banks (ESCB) is composed of the European Central Bank (ECB) and the national central banks (NCBs) of 17, 23, 25, **27** European Union (EU) Member States.
- Military defence of EU member states is a core task of the European Parliament, the United Nations, the European Commission or **each individual member state**.
- The major source for air pollution in the EU is now heavy industry, agriculture, electricity production or **road traffic**.
- The emission reduction for road vehicles in the EU over the last 20 years is roughly 20, 50, 80 or **95%**.
- Biodiversity: Within the EU roughly 1, 5, **15** or 25% of the mammal species are endangered.
- Natura 2000 refers to a network of protected sites in the EU **to maintain biodiversity**, to generate living space for new invasive species from abroad, to forbid hunting activities or to allow research with genetically modified crops.
- Since preindustrial times the concentrations of Green House Gases CO₂, N₂O and CH₄ increased due to fossil fuel consumption, agriculture and land use changes from 280 to 450 ppm CO₂e causing an increase of the global mean temperature by ca 0,5; **1,2**; 2 or 4°C.
- The EU Policy on Climate Change and Energy aims at limiting by 2100 the global warming by 1, **2**, 3 or 4 °C (compared to preindustrial times).
- According to the EU Policy for Climate Change and Energy to achieve the 2°C warming limit by 2100 the emissions of Green House Gas in the EU must be reduced at least by 10, 20, **50** or 80% till the year 2050.
- The share of Green House Gas emissions from the consumption of fossil fuels and biomass is ca 25, 50, **80** or 90%.
- The daily expenses of the EU for energy imports are ca. 200 million EUR, 500 million EUR, **1.000 million EUR** or 2.000 million EUR.
- The main task of the Joint Research Center of the EU is to perform fundamental research, to develop advanced systems for storage of renewable energy, **to provide scientific support for EU policy makers** or to protect European citizens from cyber attacks.
- In the experimental fusion reactor ITER hydrogen isotopes react to produce a helium atom plus highly energetic photons, **neutrons**, electrons or quarks which can be used for production of thermal energy.
- The Dublin Agreement on immigration foresees hotspots for the accommodation of refugees in Greece and Italy, **the responsibility for immigrants to seek asylum in the first EU Member State they enter**, to provide financial aid for Turkey to stop the move of refugees across the Aegean Sea to Greece, or a redistribution scheme for immigrants on the different Member States of the EU.
- The total number of asylum applicants in EU countries for the period 2008-2018 was 1,2; 2,7; **5,7** or 7,5 million.

- In the European Union free trade agreements are negotiated and concluded by the individual Member States, **the European Commission**, the ECB or European Investment bank.
- The biggest trade deficit of the EU is with USA, Japan, **China** or Russia.
- The biggest trade surplus of the EU is with **USA**, Japan, China or Russia.
- The total global GDP is roughly 20.000; 50.000, **80.000** or 100.000 billion EUR (2021).
- Decisions in respect to the Common Foreign and Security Policy of the EU are made by the European Commission together with the Council of the European Union, by the Council of the European Union with the European Parliament, **by the Council of the European Union alone** or by the European Parliament together with the Commission.
- Decisions in respect to the Common Foreign and Security Policy of the EU require **unanimity**, a 2/3 majority or a qualified majority.
- The speaker for the EU in international organizations is the President of the Commission, the Council President, **the High Representative** or the President of the European Parliament.
- The main responsibility for the military defense of Europe rests with the UN, **NATO**, WTO or the IMF.
- The budget of NATO amounts to 10, 25, 50 or **70%** of the global military expenses.
- The development aid of the EU amounts to 0,2%, **0,4%**, 1% or 2% of the GDP.
- The most successful product of technical military cooperation between the EU member states is the Airbus 320, the Ariane rocket, the international space station ISS or **the Eurofighter**.
- The energy consumption per capita in Africa is approximately 5%, **10%**, 20% or 50% of that of the EU.

3. Select the correct component by underlining:

- **Most eminent scientists of the Renaissance were**
 - Galileo Galilei
 - Raffaello Santi
 - Albrecht Dürer
 - Martin Luther
 - Leonardo da Vinci
- **The global financial crash of 1929**
 - caused wide spread unemployment in Europe,
 - strengthened democracy in Germany,
 - caused the communist revolution in Russia,
 - gave rise to fascism in Europe, and
 - increased the living standard of most people.
- **The “founding fathers” of the European Union were:**
 - Bruno Kreisky,
 - Konrad Adenauer,
 - Francois Mitterrand,
 - Alcide de Gasperi,
 - Jean Monnet,
 - Dwight B. Eisenhower,
 - Robert Schuman,

- Michael Gorbatschov,
- Winston Churchill
- **The European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom) was established in 1957 for**
 - the development of a nuclear defense capability
 - the peaceful use of nuclear technologies for energy production
 - to expand the mining of uranium at the European territory
 - to enhance the use of radioisotopes in medical treatments.
- **The Acquis (Communautaire) includes**
 - all the EU's treaties and laws
 - opinions of the Commission President
 - international agreements on EU affairs
 - press releases of the European Parliament
 - the judgments given by the Court of Justice.
- **The Treaty of Lisbon in force since 2009**
 - created the position of a High Representative for the Union in Foreign Affairs and Security Policy,
 - gave Member States the possibility to conclude free trade agreements with third countries,
 - set up a common European space program,
 - allows Member States to leave the EU,
 - established the co-decision procedure in law making,
 - set up a Charter for Fundamental Rights for the EU citizens,
 - provides that the EU obtains a seat in the UN security council,
 - abolished border controls between EU Member States.
- **The Mission of the EU is to**
 - expand its territories,
 - guarantee peace and prosperity for its citizens,
 - support the USA in any global hegemonial efforts,
 - support global sustainable development,
 - block globalisation to strengthen the position of its nations,
 - ensure that its people can live in safety,
 - achieve a global military leadership.
- **Official candidates for membership in the EU are**
 - Serbia,
 - Iceland,
 - Albania,
 - North Macedonia,
 - Belarus,
 - Turkey,
 - Switzerland.
- **Participants in summit meetings of the European Council are**
 - Heads of States and Governments,
 - the President of the European Parliament,
 - the High Representative,

- the President of the European Commission,
- the President of the European Council,
- national ministers relevant to the agenda,
- commissioners whose portfolio is discussed.
- **Participants in the meetings of the Council of Ministers are**
 - Heads of States and Governments,
 - national ministers relevant to the agenda,
 - the President of the European Commission,
 - the President of the European Council,
 - relevant members of the European Commission.
- **The Court of Auditors**
 - controls the budgets of the Member States,
 - has a say in the nomination of the commissioner responsible for the EU budget,
 - controls the lawfulness of the expenditures of EU funds by Member States,
 - has a say in the nomination of the commissioner responsible for the EU budget,
 - can propose fines for violation of the Maastricht Treaty,
 - audits institutions using EU funds,
 - has a say in the nomination of the commissioner responsible for the EU budget,
 - controls the monetary policy of the ECB.
- **The two major monetary reserves held by the national banks worldwide are**
 - US Dollars,
 - British Pounds,
 - Japanese Yen,
 - Swiss Francs,
 - Euro,
 - Chinese Yuan,
 - gold.
- **The CAP is nowadays one of the most controversial policies in the Union since**
 - genetically modified agricultural products are produced in the EU
 - food safety cannot be guaranteed
 - the amount of subsidies places a heavy burden on the EU budget
 - the farmers do not take care of the landscape
 - very small production subsidies are provided for farmers
 - import tariffs lead to unfair trade conditions for developing countries.
- **The two major reserve currencies of the states in this world are**
 - British Pound
 - Swiss Frank
 - EURO
 - Japanese Yen
 - US Dollar
 - Chinese Yuan
- **The European Investment Bank (EIB) lends money for**
 - large projects of common European interest

- increasing the defense potential of Member States
- subsidizing trade deficits of Member States
- improving infrastructure in Developing Partner Countries
- supporting the stability of national currencies in the Eurozone States.
- **The (common) EU energy policy contains the following goals:**
 - increase competition in the internal market
 - reduce import of natural gas from the USA
 - diversify energy resources with better systems to respond to a crisis
 - develop the exploitation of shale gas within the European Union
 - phase out nuclear energy
 - increase renewable energy
 - increase funding for new energy technologies.
- **The Strategic Energy Technologies Plan (SET Plan) aims at stimulating the**
 - development of wind energy
 - the exploitation of shale gas
 - development of photovoltaics
 - building concentrated solar power plants in the Sahara (DESERTEC project)
 - increasing the production of biofuel from cereals with the aim that 20% of the fuel consumed in transport should come from biomass
 - developing the "intelligent" grid
 - developing CCS to market maturity
 - exploration for oil and natural gas in the Arctic
 - improving the electricity infrastructure in Africa
- **The European Environment Agency (EEA) produces reports on**
 - air quality in Europe,
 - spreading of infectious diseases,
 - safety of airlines,
 - green house gas emissions,
 - food safety,
 - military spending of EU Member States,
 - trade balance of the EU with third countries,
 - impact of Climate Change in Europe.
- **The European Food Safety Agency (EFSA)**
 - produces reports on air quality in Europe,
 - monitors the spreading of infectious diseases,
 - establishes an inventory of green house gas emissions,
 - makes statements on safety of food and feed,
 - organises scientific studies on risk associated with the food chain,
 - collects data on food exports of the EU with third countries,
 - reports on the impact of Climate Change in Europe.
- **The European Center for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)**
 - monitors the spreading of infectious diseases,
 - makes statements on safety of food and feed,

- organises scientific studies on risk associated with the food chain,
- publishes epidemiological data on communicable diseases in Europe,
- reports on the impact of Climate Change in Europe.
- **The European Chemicals Agency (ECA)**
 - makes statements on safety of food and feed,
 - manages the registration of new chemicals marketed in the EU,
 - organises scientific studies on bacteriological risks associated with the food chain,
 - monitors the quality of drinking water in the EU,
 - authorizes the marketing of substances of very high concern,
 - reports on the impact of Climate Change in Europe.
- **The European Medicines Agency (EMA)**
 - makes statements on safety of food and feed,
 - manages the registration of new chemicals marketed in the EU,
 - evaluates medicinal products,
 - organises scientific studies on bacteriological risks associated bathing water,
 - monitors the quality of drinking water in the EU,
 - authorizes new medicines for use in the EU,
 - reports on the impact of Climate Change in Europe.
- **The Community Fisheries Control Agency (CFCA)**
 - makes statements on safety the consumption of fish,
 - manages aquaculture production of fish and mussels in the EU,
 - sets quota for fishing for EU Member States,
 - monitors the position of fishing vessels within the EU waters,
 - organises scientific studies on fish breeding,
 - monitors the quality of ocean water in the EU,
 - fights overfishing,
 - reports on the impact of Climate Change in Europe.
- **The European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA)**
 - makes type approval of airplanes,
 - manages weather forecast systems in Europe,
 - allocates slots to airlines for airports in the EU,
 - implements and monitors safety rules for air traffic,
 - promotes the Single European Sky,
 - regulates the fares for flights within the EU,
 - encourages the operation of cheap airlines,
 - compiles a black list of airlines with insufficient safety standards.
- **The European Global Navigation Satellite System Supervisory Authority (GNSS)**
 - is responsible for operating the Copernicus satellite observation system,
 - is setting up the Galileo system,
 - will offer its positioning services for public and military use,
 - will operate only 10 satellites for economic reasons.
- **The European Border and Coast Guard Agency**
 - should support Member States in the control of its interior and exterior borders,

- is supposed to develop a common asylum policy,
- has its own large fleet of airplanes and ships,
- is foreseen to have an operational staff of 10.000 by 2025,
- should set up camps for rejected migrants in North Africa.
- **The European Defense Agency**
 - should support Member States to improve their defense capabilities,
 - is supposed to develop a common asylum policy,
 - operates its own large military force,
 - should promote the European armaments cooperation,
 - is directed by the High Representative,
 - should set up camps for rejected migrants in North Africa.
- **The European Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA)**
 - should support Member States to improve their cyber security capabilities,
 - has the task to monitor organised crime in the EU,
 - develops cooperative response actions against cyber attacks
 - operates its own secret service,
 - should promote the European border control cooperation.
- **The Bologna Process started in 1999 aims to create a**
 - Open Sky System for Europe
 - institutionalised dialogue with Africa
 - European Higher Education Area
 - network for EU-cooperation in primary education
 - WTO-agreement including social standards for production of goods
- **The main instruments for implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy are**
 - financing projects in Member States through the Regional Development Fund
 - credits provided through the ESM
 - loans from the European Investment Bank
 - low interest rates set by the ECB for loans taken by companies
- **The EU Competition Policy aims at**
 - achieving the same prices for the same goods in different countries
 - setting-up a fair system for pricing avoiding unfair competition between companies
 - harmonising social services, like pensions, throughout the European Union
 - eliminating monopolistic structures in the provision of services and goods
 - providing a fair pay for European workers
 - lowering the prices for services and good by liberalisation of the market.
- **Achievements of an initial EU social policy up to now are:**
 - the right for 6 weeks vacation per year
 - equal rights for fathers and mothers to time off work after the birth of a child
 - the right to travel to any country in the world
 - the right to receive equal social benefits in each EU Member State
 - the possibility to transfer pension funds from one Member Sate to another
 - minimum wages in every EU Member State.

- **The major goals of the EU's Common Fisheries Policy are to**
 - reduce the overcapacity in fishing fleets
 - increase the price of tuna fish on the Japanese market
 - preserve fish stocks
 - stimulate salmon farming in Norway
 - protect Iceland from overfishing
 - providing financial assistance to European fishing communities
 - stop whale hunting
- **Targeted community research carried out in multinational consortia funded with about 15 billion EUR annually focuses on topics like**
 - climate change
 - space exploration
 - sustainable transport
 - new philosophical foundations for the EU
 - food safety and security
 - music and literature
 - impact of the smart phones on children
- **The European Stability Mechanism (ESM), legally a financial institution based on an intergovernmental treaty between the Member States of the Eurozone**
 - provides a permanent rescue funding programme for Eurozone countries in difficulties
 - provides direct loans to European industry for large investments
 - manages the issue of Euro notes
 - has a financial volume strictly limited to 700 billion Euro
 - receives its capital endowment from the Member States of the Eurozone
 - is strictly controlled by the parliaments of the Member States
- **These countries have a sovereign debt of more than 100% of the GDP (2021) and require special attention in respect to their economic and financial policies:**
 - France
 - Germany
 - Italy
 - Luxemburg
 - Greece
 - Austria
- **"Eurobonds" are**
 - in general state bonds issued in EURO
 - "stability bonds" issued jointly by all 19 Eurozone states which would allow weak countries to borrow money at low rates
 - shares (Aktien) of European industries traded in EURO at the stock market
 - credits taken by any European citizen at a bank in the EU,
 - managed by the ECB.
- **A falling value of the EURO versus the dollar is in general:**
 - beneficial for export oriented industry of Europe
 - reducing the price for oil imports from abroad

- stimulating unemployment in Europe
- making vacation in most non-EU countries more expensive
- attracting more winter tourists from Germany
- attracting more summer tourists from the USA.
- **Europol' priorities in fighting organised crime refer to**
 - human trafficking
 - copyright violations
 - illegal drugs
 - excessive pricing of companies
 - money laundering
 - false exhaust values for diesel cars
- **The EU security strategy identifies key threats Europe needs to deal with, like**
 - terrorism
 - the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP)
 - proliferation of weapons of mass destruction
 - the global financial crisis
 - regional conflicts
 - the increasing number of nuclear power plants
 - organised crime
 - failed states
 - decline of the value of the EURO in relation to the US Dollar.
- **The priority objectives of the CSFP are to**
 - preserve the independence of the EU
 - reduce drug trafficking from South America
 - promote peace in Europe and elsewhere
 - fight illicit trading practices
 - strengthen international cooperation to avoid conflicts
 - introduce the principle of sustainable development in Africa.
- **The 5 largest trading partners of the European Union in 2021 as a whole were**
 - USA
 - India
 - United Kingdom
 - Brasil
 - Japan
 - Norway
 - Turkey
 - China
 - Switzerland
 - South Africa
 - Russia
- **Major issues of dispute between the EU and the USA refer to the**
 - negative trade balance of the USA
 - widespread use of US software in European computers

- insufficient contributions of Member States to NATO
- copyright violations of Europeans
- illegal copying of US products in the EU
- higher tariffs raised by the EU than by the USA for the same products
- **The following countries are important members of NATO:**
 - Austria
 - Germany
 - India
 - France
 - Italy
 - Japan
 - Russia
 - Poland
 - Turkey
 - Switzerland
 - Japan

4. Complete the following sentences:

- The Spanish seafarer who discovered America was **Cristoforo Colombo**.
- The term "iron curtain" separating East and Western Europe was created in 1946 by **Sir Winston Churchill**.
- The initiative of the USA to rebuild Europe after the second world war was called **Marshall plan**
- **Robert Schuman** (French foreign minister) on 9 May 1950, proposed establishing a European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC).
- The Treaties of Rome of 1957 built two European Communities:
 - the **European Economic Community (EEC)** based on a wider common market covering a whole range of goods and services, and
 - the **European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom)** for the peaceful use of nuclear technologies for energy production.
- The Treaty creating the European Union in 1991 named after the town in the Netherlands where it was signed is the "**Maastricht Treaty**"
- The major achievement of the Single European Act of 1986 was the creation of a **single market**.
- The Treaty replacing a "European Constitution" becoming effective 1 Jan. 2009 is called the Treaty of **Lisbon**.
- The **European Council** is the meeting of Heads of State and Government (i.e. presidents and/or prime ministers) of all the EU countries, plus the President of the European Commission, and is the highest-level policy-making body in the European Union.
- The **Council of Ministers** refers to government ministers from all the EU countries meeting regularly to take detailed decisions and to pass EU laws.
- The **European Commission** is the 'Guardian of the Treaties' and has to ensure that the regulations and directives adopted by the Council and Parliament are being implemented in the member states.

- The "financial conscience" of the European Union is the **Court of Auditors**.
- The **European Investment Bank (EIB)** is the European Union's long-term lending institution supporting the EU's priority objectives, especially European integration and the development of economically weak regions, by providing loans for e.g. large infrastructure networks of transport, energy and telecommunications.
- A "New Common Agricultural Policy" was developed where the amount of financial support given to a farmer has been largely decoupled from the production volume and **environmental** criteria for subsidizing the farming activities have been introduced.
- The **Euro** introduced 1 Jan. 2002 is the key element of the Economic and Monetary Union.
- The **European Border and Coast Guard Agency (founded as Frontex)** is the EU agency responsible for external border control between the Schengen region and other countries by coordinating the activities of the national border guards.
- **EUFOR** is a multinational temporary military group set up under the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP) for peacekeeping missions of limited duration.
- The European Union has now **443** million inhabitants.
- The Motto of the European Union is **In Variate Concordia (United in Diversity)**.
- The **European Parliament** is the body that represents the EU's citizens and which exercises political supervision over the EU's activities.
- The EU judicial system consists of 2 levels: The higher level is called **the European Court of Justice**.
- The EU judicial system consists of 2 levels: The lower level is called **the General Court of the European Union**.
- The **European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)** (Stockholm) has the task to strengthen Europe's defences against infectious diseases.
- Formally the **European Commission** is the only body with the "Right of Initiative".
- Due to the stringent application of EU **single market act / competition** rules the EU has become a huge single market for air travel at moderate costs.
- The "**acquis**" for candidate countries contains strict environmental regulations leading to a great improvement of the situation in new Member States.
- The **Common Foreign and Security Policy** co-ordinates the EU's foreign policy.
- The **Rapid Reaction Force** could be the nucleus of a European army.
- 9 May is now the official "holiday" of the European Union and is called "**Europe Day**".
- The European Union has now **27** Member States.
- Pillars of the EU: The European Union takes decisions in three separate 'domains' (policy areas), also known as the three 'pillars' of the EU. The second pillar is the common foreign and security policy, where decisions are taken by the **Council** alone.
- The **Council of Ministers** refers to government ministers from all the EU countries meeting regularly to take detailed decisions and to pass EU laws.
- The EU judicial system consists of 2 levels: The lower level is called **the General Court of the European Union**.
- The EU judicial system consists of 2 levels: The higher level is called **the European Court of Justice**.
- The **European Environment Agency** (Copenhagen), is devoted to establishing a network for the monitoring of the European environment and regular reporting about the state of the European environment.

- **European Police Office (Europol)** is the European Union's criminal intelligence agency covering all 27 Member States.
- CCS stands for **Carbon Capture and Storage**.
- GDP is defined as **consumption + gross investment + government spending + (exports - imports)**
- The European Southern observatory measures relict microwave radiation from the "**Big Bang**".
- The intergovernmental cooperation of 22 European States for space exploration is coordinated by the **European Space Agency**.
- The **Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP)** is a major element of the Common Foreign and Security Policy pillar of the European Union covering defence and military aspects.
- The "Barcelona Process" aims at establishing cooperation between the EU and the **countries in the Mahreq and Maghreb regions**.
- Development cooperation with Africa is a high priority for the EU and is based on the **Cotonou Agreement** signed in 2000.
- The institution coordinating the cooperation between police forces in the EU is called **Europol**.
- The institution coordinating the cooperation between judicial prosecutors in the EU is called **Eurojust**.
- The organisation responsible for the border control in the EU is called **the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (founded as Frontex)**.
- The European satellite navigation system presently being set up is called **Galileo**.
- The European contribution to the global earth observations system for monitoring environmental changes is called **GMES (Copernicus)**.
- The ECB co-operates with the **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** which is the "lender of last resort" for countries in financial difficulties (like Greece, Ireland, Portugal, Cyprus...).
- The organisation assembling the most important countries in the world representing 90% of the global GDP and discussing the most important current global issues in annual meetings is called **G20**.
- The transatlantic military partnership is called **the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)**.
- The temporary military deployment of European Union troops for peace keeping is called **EUFOR**.
- Operation Atalanta was a most successful military operation of the EU to fight piracy off the coasts of **Somalia**.
- EUNAVFOR Med (Operation "Sophia") was established to combat human trafficking from **North Africa** to Southern Europe.
- The **Rapid Reaction Force** could be the nucleus of a European Army.
- The most successful product of European technical armaments cooperation is the **Eurofighter Typhoon**.
- The population of Africa will rise from presently 1,4 billion to **2 billion** by 2050.
- The median age in the EU is **45** years.
- The median age in Africa is **22** years.
- **EUFOR** is a multinational temporary military group set up under the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP) for peacekeeping missions of limited duration.
- The **Common Foreign and Security Policy** co-ordinates the EU's foreign policy.