



# EU POLICY FORUM FOR EDUCATORS

13 AUGUST

EUROPA E



**20 YEARS AFTER THE EU'S BIG BANG:  
ENLARGEMENT, PROSPERITY, THE FAR  
RIGHT, AND THE RUSSIAN THREAT**

*Curriculum Resource  
Guide*

9:00AM - 5:00PM  
Thomson Hall, RM 317,  
University of Washington



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## How to Use This Guide



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# Outlining Standards

## A Note on Learning Standards Presented in this Guide

Three sets of standards have been linked to each of the learning objectives in this packet. The **Washington State K-12 Social Studies Learning Standards** and the accompanying Grade Level Requirements are the social studies standards for WA State.

**The College, Career, & Civic Life C3 Framework for Social Studies State Standards** are the standards published by the National Council for the Social Studies. Guiding the packet as a whole is the Framework for Global Learning created by the Asia Society and the Council of Chief State School Officers titled *Educating for Global Competence: Preparing Our Youth to Engage the World* (2011).

Cross-objective standards are listed at the beginning of the packet, and content-specific standards can be found after each learning objective.

The standards provided have been selected for relevance, but are not exclusive: many other standards, such as Common Core, may be applicable to the resources and learning objectives identified in this packet. The intention for this packet's organization is to provide educators with an idea of resources available and possible uses for resources. Users should feel free to create their own learning objectives and to select resources according to the specific needs of their classrooms.

The student understands and applies reasoning skills to conduct research, deliberate, and form and evaluate positions through the processes of reading, writing, and communicating.

## WASHINGTON STATE K-12 SOCIAL STUDIES LEARNING STANDARDS

There are five EALRs in Social Studies, one for each of the discipline areas: civics, economics, geography, and history, and a fifth for social studies skills.

### (1) Social Studies EALR 1: CIVICS

The student understands and applies knowledge of government, law, politics, and the nation's fundamental documents to make decisions about local, national, and international issues and to demonstrate thoughtful, participatory citizenship.

### (2) Social Studies EALR 2: ECONOMICS

The student applies understanding of economic concepts and systems to analyze decision-making and the interactions between individuals, households, businesses, governments, and societies.

### (3) Social Studies EALR 3: GEOGRAPHY

The student uses a spatial perspective to make reasoned decisions by applying the concepts of location, region, and movement and demonstrating knowledge of how geographic features and human cultures impact environments.

### (4) Social Studies EALR 4: HISTORY

The student understands and applies knowledge of historical thinking, chronology, eras, turning points, major ideas, individuals, and themes on local, Washington State, tribal, United States, and world history in order to evaluate how history shapes the present and future.

### (5) Social Studies EALR 5: SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS

The student understands and applies reasoning skills to conduct research, deliberate, and form and evaluate positions through the processes of reading, writing, and communicating.

# Outlining Standards

## COLLEGE, CAREER, & CIVIC LIFE C<sub>3</sub> FRAMEWORK FOR SOCIAL STUDIES STATE STANDARDS

The C<sub>3</sub> Framework is organized into the four Dimensions, which support a robust social studies program rooted in inquiry.

The four Dimensions are as follows:

- (1) Developing questions and planning inquiries;
- (2) Applying disciplinary concepts and tools;
- (3) Evaluating sources and using evidence;
- (4) Communicating conclusions and taking informed action

DIMENSION 1: DEVELOPING QUESTIONS AND PLANNING INQUIRES	DIMENSION 2: APPLYING DISCIPLINARY TOOLS AND CONCEPTS	DIMENSION 3: EVALUATING SOURCES AND USING EVIDENCE	DIMENSION 4: COMMUNICATING CONCLU- SIONS AND TAKING INFORMED ACTION
Developing Questions and Planning Inquiries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Civics</li> <li>• Economics</li> <li>• Geography</li> <li>• History</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gathering and Evaluating Sources</li> <li>• Developing Claims and Using Evidence</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communicating and Critiquing Conclusions</li> <li>• Taking Informed Action</li> </ul>

Dimension 2 has four disciplinary subsections: **(1) Civics; (2) Economics; (3) Geography; (4) History**. Each disciplinary subsection has three to four additional categories, which provide an organizing mechanism for the foundational content and skills within each discipline.

### C<sub>3</sub> Framework Organization

CIVICS	ECONOMICS	GEOGRPAHY	HISTORY
Civic and Political Institutions	Economic Decision Making	Geographic Representations: Special Views of the World	Change, Continuity, and Context
Participation and Deliberation: Applying Civic Virtues and Democratic Principles	Exchange and Markets	Human-Environment Interaction: Place, Religions, and Culture	Perspective
Processes, Rules, and Laws	The National Economy	Human Populations: Spatial Patterns and Movements	Historical Sources and Evidence
	The Global Economy	Global Interconnections: Changing Spatial Patterns	Causation and Argumentation

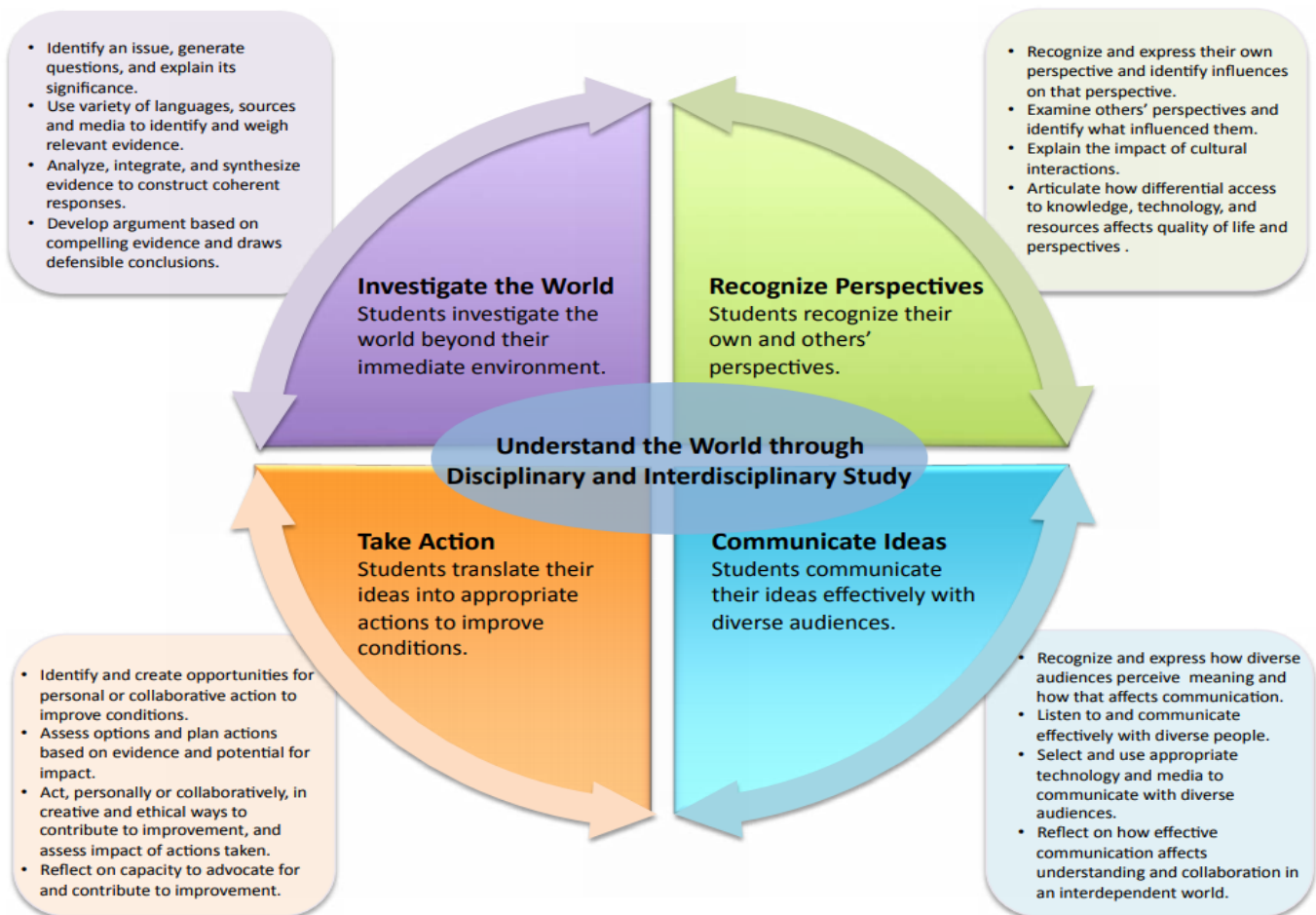
# Educating for Global Competence

Frameworks taken from *Educating for Global Competence: Preparing Our Youth to Engage the World* (Asia Society and the Council of Chief State School Officers 2011).

“Global competence is the capacity and disposition to understand and act on issues of global significance” (Chapter 2).

*Globally competent students are able to perform the following four competences:*

1. **Investigate the world** beyond their immediate environment, framing significant problems and conducting well-crafted and age-appropriate research.
2. **Recognize perspectives** others’ and their own, articulating and explaining such perspectives thoughtfully and respectfully.
3. **Communicate ideas** effectively with diverse audiences, bridging geographic, linguistic, ideological, and cultural barriers.
4. **Take action** to improve conditions, viewing themselves as players in the world and participating reflectively.





# Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

## The SDGs in Action

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also known as the Global Goals, were adopted by the United Nations in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity.

## SDGs Working Group

These working groups engage young people in the work of GCE, providing the opportunity to have an active role in EU decision making and be heard on climate and environmental issues. Each working group is managed by two coordinators. The currently working groups are: Biodiversity, Circular Economy, Climate Justice, Clean Mobility, and the Sustainable Development Goals.

## The SDGs Explained For Business

No matter how large or small, and regardless of their industry, all companies can contribute to the SDGs. While the scale and scope of the global goals is unprecedented, the fundamental ways that business can contribute remain unchanged. The UN Global Compact asks companies to first do business responsibly and then pursue opportunities to solve societal challenges through business innovation and collaboration.



# Introduction to Workshop Moderator



## Ryan Hauck

*Ryan Hauck* is a teacher at Glacier Peak High School in Snohomish, WA. As a teacher of comparative politics and international studies, he is often applauded for bringing the world into his classroom by engaging students around the importance of living in an increasingly interconnected, interdependent world. One of Ryan's global projects has been his work in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria, building not only a sister school relationship between his high school and a remote village school in Oporoza, but also a village library. Recently, Ryan participated in a U.S. State Department fellowship to Senegal as part of the Teachers for Global Classroom Program and as a fellow with the Goethe Institut's Transatlantic Outreach Program to Germany. Ryan Completed his master's degree in Globalization and Educational Change from Lehigh's Comparative & International Education Department. As part of this program, Ryan worked with a cohort of classmates and teachers on a professional development project in Cambodia to enhance teacher training and student learning. As a Washington State Council for the Social Studies Board Member, Ryan extends his passion for global studies to other teachers, students, and communities. Ryan brings his own real-life experiences into the classroom so that his students begin to understand the value of cross-cultural understanding and humanitarian action.

### Fast Fact

"The European Union is present in Israel and the Palestinian Territories at different levels with the Delegation of the European Union to Israel in Tel-Aviv, the Office of the European Union Representative - West Bank, Gaza Strip, UNRWA (ex-ECTAO), the European Union Special Representative (EUSR) for the Middle East Peace Process, two CSDP Missions – EUBAM Rafah and EUPOL COPPS – and a representation of the European Commission Humanitarian Aid department (ECHO)."

<https://www.eubam-rafah.eu/en/node/5057>

# Introduction to Workshop Speakers



## Dean LaRue

*Dean LaRue* is a Senior Lecturer for the Center for West European Studies and European Union Center in the Jackson School of International Studies at the University of Washington. Mr. LaRue holds a Master of Arts in Policy Studies and a Graduate Certificate in Global Trade, Transportation and Logistics from the University of Washington. He is a member of the founding team for the West Coast Model European Union, the primary instructor for the UW's European Union Policy and Simulation course since 2005, and a former Outreach Coordinator for CWES/EUC. Mr. LaRue is a former US Foreign Service Officer for the United States Information Agency and International Product Manager for Amazon.

## Guntis Šmidchens

*Guntis Šmidchens* has research interests in Baltic Studies; Baltic Languages and Cultures; Folklore; Russian Folklore; Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian languages and literatures. He is an Adjunct Associate Professor of Slavic, Executive Board member at the Ellison Center for Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies, and past President of the Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies (AABS).



## Dustin Ellis

*Dustin Ellis* is a recent PhD in political science from University of Oregon. His research focuses primarily on American politics, with an emphasis on immigration histories and policy. He's also written and published on populism in a comparative politics (Americas and Western Europe). Beyond that, he's an enthusiastic educator for political science broadly construed!

# The European Union (EU)



## [EU Made Simple](#)

“EU Made Simple is dedicated to providing simple and easy-to-understand explanations of everything related to the European Union. From the history of the EU to its current policies and initiatives, they strive to make complex topics accessible for everyone. Whether you’re a student, a professional, or just curious about the EU, these videos are the perfect way to learn more about this important organization.”

## [European Union—The History of the European Union](#)

This website explores the creation of the European Union inspired by a diverse group of visionary leaders, including resistance fighters, lawyers, and parliamentarians, who shared the common goal of a peaceful, united, and prosperous Europe. Their dedication laid the foundation for the EU, contributing to the peace and stability we enjoy today. The EU's development over the decades is documented in a timeline and the historical archives as well.

## [EU Members Countries in Brief](#)

This list of EU member states includes information about each country’s capital, population size, flag, languages, currency, and more! The EU was not always as big as it is today. When European countries started to cooperate economically in 1951, only Belgium, Germany, France, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands participated. Over time, more and more countries decided to join. The Union currently counts 27 EU countries. The United Kingdom withdrew from the European Union on 31 January 2020.

# The European Union (EU)



## [How Does the EU Actually Work?](#) *(Atlantic, July, 31, 2019)*

An animated short (6 minutes) film explaining how democracy works in the EU and the European Parliament. This introductory video will help students learn of the basic structures and processes of the EU.



## [EU Symbols](#)

Symbols of the European Union include its blue flag with a circle of yellow stars, but it also has an anthem and motto.



## [EU Learning—Introduction](#)

Intended for enriching Canadian secondary school students about the European Union, this launchpad from Carleton University provides all secondary school educators resources about the history, politics, economics, and culture of the EU as well as lesson plans, programs, and games.



## [Learning Corner: A Short Guide to the EU \(2021\)](#)

This document provides a short guide to the EU. From introduction - "Ever wondered which EU countries use the euro or what it means to be part of the Schengen area? What the European Green Deal is and how it will make your life better? What exactly does the EU do for you and where the money comes from to pay for it all? Read on to find out everything you need to know about the EU."



## [Europe in a Global Context: Geographical Perspectives](#)

Columbia University's journal, EuropeNow, gives a thorough history and description of the geography's uses and significance in understanding Europe's politics, especially in the last century. It provides a background for subjects that would become paramount to the European Union's policymaking, including the European Green Deal, geography in economics, and Europe's success in achieving the UN SDGs. The source also explores the relationship between the European Union and the European Association of Geographers (EUROGEO).

# Geography | European Union



## [European Union Maps](#)

Maps depicting the various enlargements of the European Union, the total number EU member states (prior to Brexit), and some candidate countries provide a great visual for students to understand the breadth of EU territory and its role across the 20 and 21st centuries.



## [Geography: The Language of Europe](#)

The Royal Geographical Society has put together a cross-cultural lesson plan outline for introducing the geography of the European Union. It focuses on understanding which countries are in the EU, what the EU's primary goals are and why, and how the EU prioritizes unity in light of its diversity.



## [Learn Europe—Educational Open E-Tools](#)

This website gives a teaching guide (lesson planning resource) for educators who wish to teach about the foundations of the European Union through geography, history, and the economy. It also provides topics (e.g. energy policy, fisheries policy, sustainable development) for classroom debates, mirroring the conversations being held among the EU.



## [Teaching the EU](#)

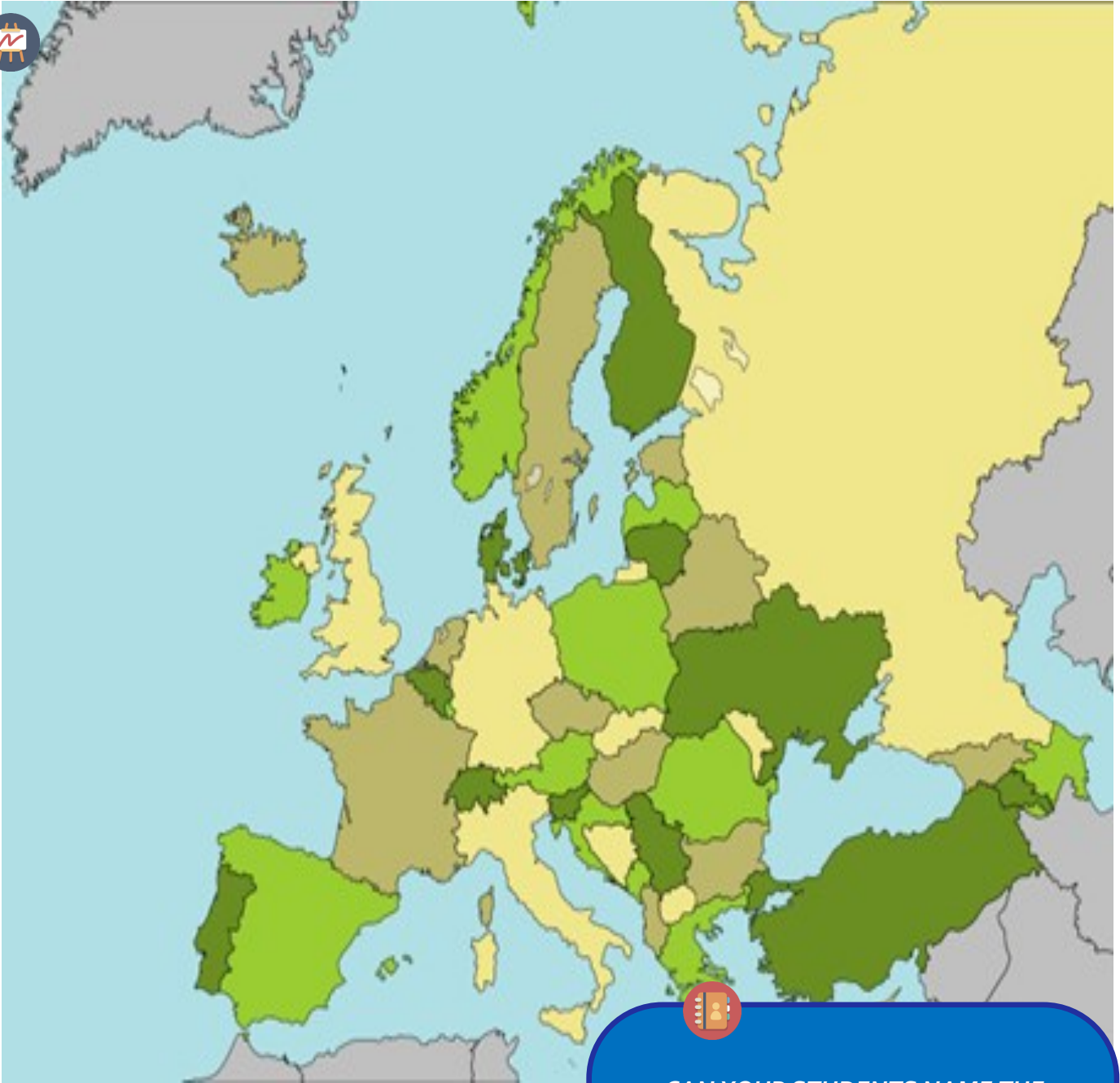
This compilation of resources by the University of Wisconsin supports educators in teaching about the EU. It has links to several general resources and databases but also has resources that delve into specific topics like Brexit and the Euro.

### *Did You Know?*

There are 24 official languages in the European Union. The most commonly used are English, French, and German!



# Geography Activity



## [Learning Corner: Play-Teach-Discover the European Union](#)

This site by the EU provides students with opportunities (many interactive) to learn more about the European Union. Students can play games, examine an EU development timeline, and the site provides materials for primary and secondary students.



*CAN YOUR STUDENTS NAME THE NATIONS OF THE EU AND EUROPE?*

*HAVE YOUR STUDENTS IDENTIFY THE NATIONS ON THE MAP IN SMALL GROUPS OR AS A CLASS.*

*HOW DO THEY THINK EUROPE'S GEOGRAPHY MIGHT IMPACT ITS CLIMATE POLICY?*



2024 EU  
Policy Forum

# SESSION ONE



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From Before the Big Bang  
into the 21st Century: EU  
Origins and Challenges for  
the EU

## Session Speaker

Dean LaRue, Senior Lecturer  
UW Henry M. Jackson School of  
International Studies





# Key Terms

**European Union (EU):** International organization comprising 27 European countries and governing common economic, social, and security policies. Originally confined to western Europe, the EU undertook a robust expansion into central and eastern Europe in the early 21st century.

**European Climate Law:** Writes into law the goal set out in the European Green Deal for Europe's economy and society to become climate-neutral by 2050. The law also sets the intermediate target of reducing net greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030, compared to 1990 levels.

**European Green Deal:** The European Green Deal is a package of policy initiatives, which aims to set the EU on the path to a green transition, with the ultimate goal of reaching climate neutrality by 2050.

**European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA):** Is an agency of the European Union mandated with supporting Member States in applying the package of EU laws that governs asylum and international protection.

**European Environment Agency (EEA):** Provides valuable insights on the state of Europe's environment. Thanks to reliable data collected from our extensive network, we actively support Europe's environment and climate policies.

# Learning Objectives

- 1). Students will explain the origin of the European Union and describe how EU institutions have developed since 1957. In addition, students will be able to explain why the EU has chosen to add new members over the past several decades.
- 2). Students will be able to identify and/or explain the primary goals, aims, and values of the European Union.
- 3). Students will be able to identify and analyze specific political, economic, and social challenges faced by the European Union over the past 20 years. In addition, students will describe how EU policymakers have tried to address some of those challenges.
- 4). Students will be able to identify and evaluate how domestic and foreign policy decisions are made within the European Union. In addition, students will be able to describe the EU's international role in addressing global issues.
- 5). Students will be able to analyze past and present EU challenges through primary and secondary sources.
- 6). Students will be able to evaluate EU perspectives and policy issues by using charts, graphs, and other stimulus-based information.

# The Origins of the European Union (EU)



## [Interactive EU Map](#)

This interactive map of the EU allows students to click on countries, see when they joined the EU and when they adopted the euro as currency. The site also includes a detailed timeline of the creation of the EU and its history up to 2020.



## [History—Consilium](#) (June 5th, 2023)

The European Council, one of the main governing institutions of the European Union, has selected pivotal events that have shaped the EU following its creation after World War II. This webpage features an interactive timeline with images, key treaties, policies, and enlargements, as well as several videos and a documentary tracing the history of the European Council.



## [#EUArchives – Europe 1957-2017: 60 Years of Peace, Democracy, Solidarity](#) (March 24th, 2017)

With images and videos from the archives of the European Union, this video from the European Commission showcases how the EU has changed the face of Europe with increased stability and prosperity across the region.

## **Fast Fact**

The EU has undergone seven enlargement rounds to date, including:

**1973:** Denmark, Great Britain, and Ireland

**1981:** Greece

**1986:** Portugal and Spain

**1995:** Austria, Finland, and Sweden

**2004:** Czech Republic, Cyprus, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, and Slovenia

**2007:** Bulgaria and Romania

**2013:** Croatia

[https://www.bmeia.gv.at/en/european-foreign-policy/european-policy/eu-enlargement#:~:text=Up%20to%20now%2C%20seven%20enlargement%20rounds%20have,Slovenia\)%2C%202007%20\(Bulgaria%2C%20Romania\)%20and%202013%20\(Croatia](https://www.bmeia.gv.at/en/european-foreign-policy/european-policy/eu-enlargement#:~:text=Up%20to%20now%2C%20seven%20enlargement%20rounds%20have,Slovenia)%2C%202007%20(Bulgaria%2C%20Romania)%20and%202013%20(Croatia)



# Rising Discontent in the EU



## [The Geography of EU Discontent](#)

“Over the last decade, political parties opposed to EU integration have almost doubled their votes. The general opinion of the EU has also deteriorated, revealing a growing number of people who distrust the Union. To understand this development, this paper focuses on the geography of EU discontent. For the first time, it maps the vote against EU integration in the last national elections across more than 63 000 electoral districts in each of the 28 EU Member States. It assesses whether a range of factors considered to have fostered the surge in populism have had an impact on anti-EU voting. Research into populism often relies on the individual characteristics of anti-system voters: older, working-class, male voters on low incomes and with few qualifications to cope with the challenges of a modern economy. The results show that economic and industrial decline are driving the anti-EU vote. Areas with lower employment rates or with a less-educated workforce are also more likely to vote anti-EU. Once these factors have been taken into account, many of the purported causes of the geography of discontent either matter much less than expected or their impact varies depending on the strength of opposition to the European project.”



## [The Geography of EU Discontent – Interactive Map](#)

“This map showcases the vote against EU integration in the last national elections across more than 63 000 electoral districts in each of the 28 EU Member States. It assesses whether a range of factors considered to have fostered the surge in populism have had an impact on anti-EU voting.”

# Present-Day Challenges Facing the EU

## [Standard Eurobarometer 99 - 2024 | European Union](#) (Spring 2024)

This is a survey conducted by the European Union in the spring of 2023 that gages public views on various topics and ideas important to the European Union. The survey touches on the climate crisis, the war in Ukraine and issues of European security.

## [7 Key Challenges Facing the European Union](#) (December 14, 2023)

"Twelve experts come together to discuss the biggest issues confronting the European Union today."

## [2023: The Year the EU Must Step Up to Tackle Development Challenges](#) (January 13th, 2023)

"War in Ukraine. Exploding refugee and humanitarian crises. Surging food and fuel prices. Soaring inflation and economic contraction. Skyrocketing debt in developing countries. Extreme temperatures and proliferating climate-related disasters. In 2022, European Union (EU) development cooperation was supposed to be all about 'building back better' from the pandemic; sustainable infrastructure; connectivity; and strengthening health and education systems across the globe. But just one week out from the EU-African Union (AU) Summit, during which the EU announced investments EUR150 billion in the African continent over the next five years, Russia invaded Ukraine and threw its plans and the entire world into disarray. The EU now faced the dual challenge of providing assistance to Ukraine while maintaining funds for other regions of the world, even more so as they were dealing with consequences of the conflict on food and energy prices."

## [European Climate Law](#)

Outline of European Climate Law and their goals. Discusses implementation of the law, when it was created, key elements and the compliance of individual countries.

## [Interactive Maps and Data Viewers](#)



European Environment Agency database of interactive maps and data viewers that show Europe's struggle with climate change. Shows greenhouse gas emissions, energy consumption, progress towards clean energy etc.

### **Did You Know?**

"At the end of 2021, less than 10% of all the world's refugees and only a fraction of internally displaced persons were living in the EU. By the end of 2022, as a result of the war in Ukraine, the share of refugees living in the EU increased to more than 20%."

[https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/promoting-our-european-way-life/statistics-migration-europe\\_en#:~:text=Fact%20to%20consider%3A%20At%20the,increased%20to%20more%20than%2020%25](https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/promoting-our-european-way-life/statistics-migration-europe_en#:~:text=Fact%20to%20consider%3A%20At%20the,increased%20to%20more%20than%2020%25)



# CHALLENGES FOR THE EUROPEAN UNION



## The Russian Challenge

The EU cannot find a way to lessen its energy dependency on Russia. The EU is also passive against Russia's military maneuvers.

## Brexit

UK leaves the EU on 29 March 2019 with or without a deal.

## Responsibility of France & Germany

After the Debt Crisis in 2010, Germany and the French public began to criticize their politicians for carrying the entire burden of the EU.

## Migration Crisis

Italy criticizes the EU's failure in finding a solution to its migration crisis. Over the last 8 years, approximately 10,000 migrants died in the Mediterranean Sea.

## Sanctions against Poland & Hungary

The EU is preparing to impose sanctions on Poland and Hungary for violating the Union's values. Anti-EU parties are dominating Poland and Hungary's politics.

## A dead end: EU-Turkey relations

The EU-Turkey relations have come to a freezing point. Membership negotiations are deadlocked. Turkey no longer views EU membership as essential as before.

## Structural Issues

- **The EU failed against Russia's maneuvers.**  
The EU made insufficient effort over South Ossetia (2008) and Ukraine Crisis (2014)
- **The EU remained passive in "Arab Spring"**  
The EU's values are not seen exemplary for the peoples in the "Arab Spring" and it failed to establish a common foreign policy in Syria.
- **The EU's struggle for integration continues.**  
No political and economic integration has been achieved. The economy of Eastern European countries is far behind the EU's economic targets.
- **The far right and populism is rising in the EU.**  
The right wing and anti-EU populist parties' votes in France, Germany and Austria, begin to increase.
- **The membership motivation is falling in the Balkans.**  
The EU is unable to deliver the benefits of its membership, especially over what happened in the Western Balkans in the early 2000s.



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# How Climate Change is Impacting the EU

[EU Study on Climate Change: Temperatures in Europe Climbing at Twice Global Average](#) (April 20th, 2023)

“A study published shows Europeans, particularly in the south of the continent, are being subjected to more heat stress during the summer months. It comes as climate change causes longer periods of extreme weather. The European Commission's Copernicus Climate Change Service said comparisons of data going back over decades show record heat last year resulted in hazardous conditions for human health. Heat stress is increasingly viewed as a significant issue worldwide as the planet warms due to human-made climate change. FRANCE 24's Olivia Bizot reports.”

[Climate Change Threatens EU with Mass Deaths and Huge Costs: Report](#) (March 11th, 2024)

“Europe urgently needs stronger measures to respond to climate change risks, a new report has warned. The 32-paged assessment, published by the European Environment Agency (EEA), asserted that the bloc is not prepared to respond to the increasingly severe risks that climate change poses. The policy adviser's first-ever report on the threats faced by the world's fastest-warming continent warns of “catastrophic” consequences.”



[Why Are Farmers Protesting in Europe, What Are Governments Doing?](#) (February 20th, 2024)

“Farmers are protesting across the European Union, saying they are facing rising costs and taxes, red tape, excessive environmental rules and competition from cheap food imports. Demonstrations have been taking place for weeks in countries including France, Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, Poland, Spain, Italy and Greece. While many issues are country-specific, others are Europe-wide. Here is a detailed look at the problems that have prompted the protest movement across the bloc and in individual countries.”

## **Did You Know?**

“The EU has adopted many climate policies, including the EU Emissions Trading System, in response to international treaties like the Kyoto Protocol. In 2019, the EU Commission introduced the European Green Deal, which aims to increase the EU's GHG reduction target to 55% by 2030 and decarbonize its economy by 2050.”

[https://www.europarl.europa.eu/factsheets/en/sheet/72/combating-climate-change#:~:text=The%20European%20Union%20\(EU\)%20is,line%20with%20the%20Paris%20Agreement.](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/factsheets/en/sheet/72/combating-climate-change#:~:text=The%20European%20Union%20(EU)%20is,line%20with%20the%20Paris%20Agreement.)

# Navigating Immigration in the EU

## [Young More Anti-Immigration Than Old in Parts of Europe, Polling Shows](#) (May 28th, 2024)

"The young are more anti-immigration than older generations in some parts of Europe, Guardian analysis has found, as attitudes to migration harden in mainland Europe before EU elections in June. Analysis of pan-EU polling reveals that in some countries, typically those in eastern Europe, negative attitudes to immigration are more commonly held by gen Z or millennials than gen X or baby boomers."

## [EU Agrees on a New Migration Pact. Mainstream Parties Hope It Will Deprive the Far Right of Votes](#)

(May 14th, 2024)

"EU government ministers approved 10 legislative parts of The New Pact on Migration and Asylum. It lays out rules for the 27 member countries to handle people trying to enter without authorization, from how to screen them to establish whether they qualify for protection to deporting them if they're not allowed to stay."



## [Why Europe Has More and More Refugees](#) (February 28th, 2024)

"New conflicts on the EU's doorstep - and around the world - have led to increasing numbers of people

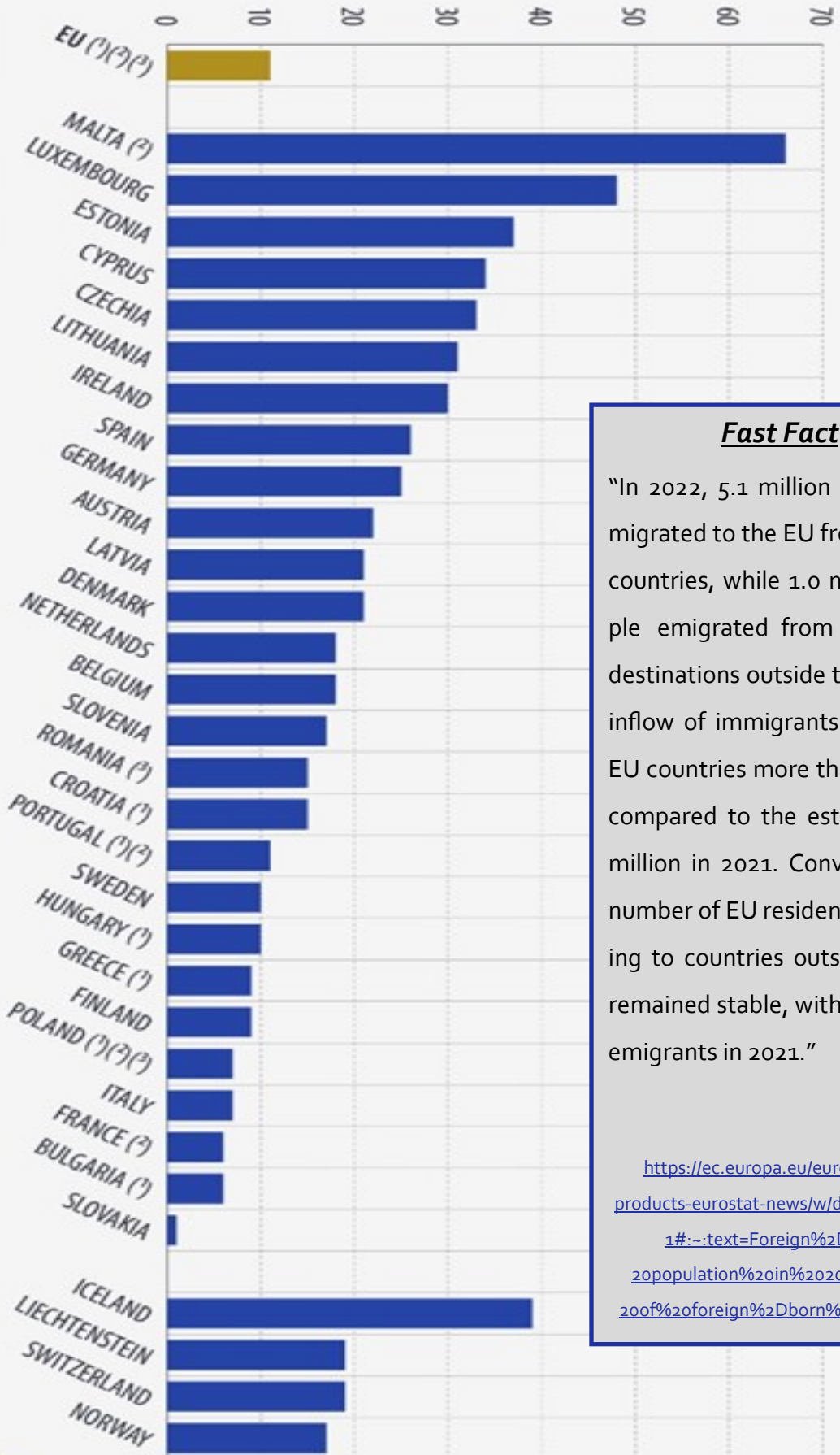
seeking refuge in the bloc. Last year, the EU received more asylum applications than at any time in the last seven years. That's according to a new report by the European Union Agency for Asylum. The figures are the highest since Europe's 2015-2016 migrant crisis, when



more than a million people fled across the EU's borders. Applications decreased in the years that followed, but then rose again. Syrian and Afghan nationals submitted the most applications in 2023, followed by Palestinians and then Turkish nationals. The latest figures don't include the more than 4-million Ukrainians given refuge since Russia's invasion. Germany recorded more than 330,000 asylum applications in 2023 - more than any other EU member state. It's followed by France, Spain and then Italy."

# Immigrants in the EU, 2022

(per 1 000 residents)



## **Fast Fact**

"In 2022, 5.1 million people immigrated to the EU from non-EU countries, while 1.0 million people emigrated from the EU to destinations outside the EU. The inflow of immigrants from non-EU countries more than doubled compared to the estimated 2.4 million in 2021. Conversely, the number of EU residents emigrating to countries outside the EU remained stable, with 1.0 million emigrants in 2021."

<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-eurostat-news/w/ddn-20240327-1#:~:text=Foreign%2Dborn%20population%20in%202023,shares%20of%20foreign%2Dborn%20population>

<sup>1</sup> Break in series; <sup>2</sup> Provisional; <sup>3</sup> Estimate.  
Bulgaria, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden and Liechtenstein did not include refugees from Ukraine who benefit from temporary protection in their population and migration statistics.







2024 EU  
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# SESSION TWO



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**Fundamental Questions of the  
EU: Enlargement, Colonization,  
and the Uncomfortable Global  
Challenges of Ukraine, Gaza, and  
China**

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## **Session Speaker**

Dean LaRue, Senior Lecturer  
UW Henry M. Jackson School of  
International Studies



# Key Terms

**Enlargements:** Happen when new countries join the European Union. This has taken place several times in the EU's history, each time transforming both the EU and the countries that joined. The enlargement of the EU has contributed significantly to the spread of stability, peace and prosperity across the continent.

**Brexit:** The United Kingdom's withdrawal from the European Union (EU), which formally occurred on January 31, 2020. The term Brexit is a portmanteau coined as shorthand for British exit.

**The Schengen Area:** Encompasses most EU countries, except for Cyprus and Ireland. Bulgaria and Romania became the newest Member States to join the Schengen area as of 31 March 2024, any person crossing the internal air and sea borders will no longer be subject to checks. Nevertheless, a unanimous decision on the lifting of checks on persons at the internal land borders is still expected to be taken by the Council at a later date. Additionally, the non-EU States Iceland, Norway, Switzerland and Liechtenstein also have joined the Schengen Area.

**Western Colonialism:** a political-economic phenomenon whereby various European nations explored, conquered, settled, and exploited large areas of the world.

## Learning Objectives

- 1). Students will be able to explain the benefits and challenges of EU enlargement past and present.
- 2). Students will be able to identify and analyze the perspectives of EU member states and European citizens on EU expansion.
- 3). Students will be able to assess how European colonization has impacted domestic and foreign policy issues in Europe and abroad.
- 4). Students will be able to identify and explain how European colonialism has affected specific nations or regions around the world (such as the Middle East, Africa, etc.). In addition, students will be able to analyze and explain an example of how colonialism contributed to a specific challenge in one of these countries or regions.
- 5). Students will be able to evaluate EU policy and EU decision-making on current conflicts occurring in other parts of the world such as the Middle East.
- 6). Students will be able to identify and assess key political, economic, and/or social issues impacting EU-China relations.

# What is EU Enlargement?

## EU Enlargement

This EU source maps out the enlargement process in detail. It provides information on what candidate countries need to do to become members and where current candidates stand in the process.

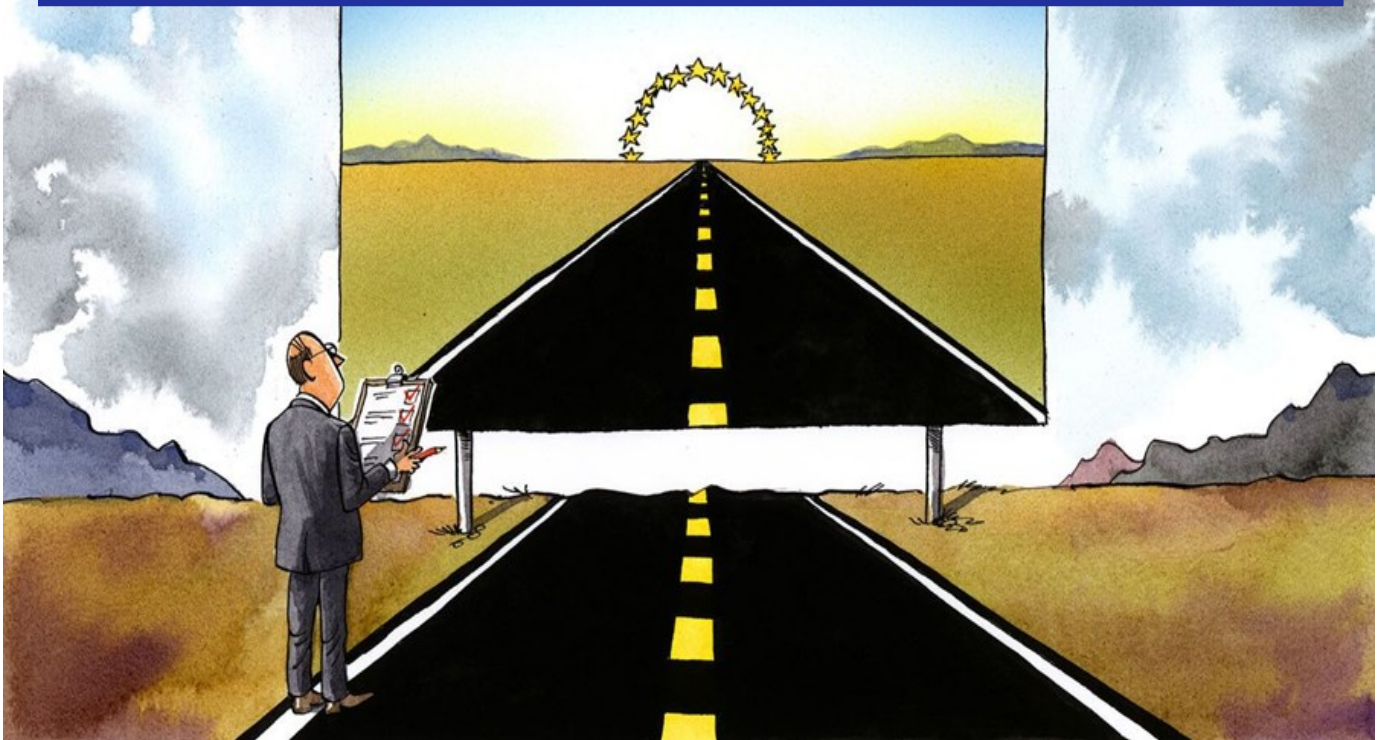
## The EU's Best-Laid Plans for Expansion Are Clashing with Reality (May 16th, 2024)

"After the fall of Poland at the start of the second world war, a paradoxical peace reigned. Carnage was on the cards, but not quite yet. The "phony war" lasted for eight months, ending when Germany invaded its western neighbours. Today the European Union is going through a "phony enlargement". On paper up to nine countries are making progress towards membership. Both in the capitals of the countries looking to join and in Brussels, officials say preparations are being made, reforms enacted, boxes ticked. But whether the mooted expansion will happen is still doubtful. A flush of enthusiasm in the wake of Russia's invasion of Ukraine has given way to the realisation that the journey from 27 to 36 will be long and uncertain. A target of 2030 used to be seen as aspirational. It now looks delusional."

### *Did You Know?*

"EU enlargement can bring political stability, increased funding and investment, and access to the single market, which can lead to increased trade. It can also give citizens the freedom to live, study, or work anywhere in the EU, and raise social, environmental, and consumer standards."

[https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/eu-enlargement\\_en](https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/eu-enlargement_en)



# What is EU Enlargement?

## Fast Facts

“The 2004 enlargement added 10 new members to the EU, which increased the single market's potential consumer base by over 74 million. This led to a more than fivefold increase in trade between the new countries and pre-2004 EU members since 2000. The EU as a whole has also seen an increase in the internal flow of goods by more than 40% in less than 20 years.”

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/infographics/2004-enlargement-facts-and-figures/#:~:text=the%20EU%27%20average.,How%20did%20the%20EU%20as%20a%20whole%20benefit?,joined%20the%20EU%20single%20market>

“The economies of the 10 countries that joined in 2004 have experienced sustained economic growth. For example, Estonia's average yearly Gross National Income (GNI) growth rate has been more than 8%, while Poland, Slovakia, Malta, and Latvia have grown by more than 7% on average. Between 2005 and 2020, poverty and social exclusion levels in these countries also declined significantly, from 37% to 17%.”

[https://commission.europa.eu/20-years-together\\_en](https://commission.europa.eu/20-years-together_en)

## European Union Marks 20 Years Since “Big Bang” Enlargement (April 30th, 2024)

This source provides a comprehensive overview of the history of countries joining the EU from 2004 to the present, highlighting the EU's growth in membership, GDP, and global influence. It addresses current issues with democracy in Poland, Hungary, and Slovakia, and discusses the aspirations of ten European countries, including Turkey, Ukraine, and Serbia, to join the EU. The content also examines the dynamics of EU enlargement in the context of tensions with Russia and the potential threat of a "new Iron Curtain" dividing eastern countries.

## Can the EU Afford to Expand (March 28th, 2024)



“Vladimir Putin’s land grab has catapulted EU expansion back to the top of Europe’s agenda. For the first time in decades, EU leaders are pushing for the bloc to grow. But the countries in line to enter the EU are poorer than those already in the Union. And many Europeans worry that enlargement will threaten their livelihoods. In this episode, we investigate whether the EU can really afford to expand and who the winners and losers of EU enlargement could be.”



# Global Challenges: The EU and Palestine



## [Relations Between EU and Israel Plummet as Spain, Ireland Prepare to Recognize a Palestinian State](#)

*(May 27th, 2024)*

This article examines how tensions between the EU and Israel are rising as EU members Spain and Ireland are set to recognize Palestine as a state. This comes as the EU's foreign policy chief Josep Borrell displayed support for the International Criminal Court which is seeking an arrest warrant against Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and leaders of Hamas. This is the first time a Western power has recognized Palestine, and the decision was met with heavy criticism from Israeli foreign policy leaders.



## [Pathways to Peace in Gaza: The Prospects for Palestinian Statehood](#) *(April 19th, 2024)*

"In this week's episode, Mark Leonard welcomes senior policy fellow Hugh Lovatt and chief of programmes and communications at the Euro-Med Human Rights Monitor, Muhammad Shehada from Gaza, to discuss the war in Gaza and the prospects for Palestinian statehood. What pathways for a solution to the conflict remain? Should the emphasis continue to be on Palestinian statehood, or on self-determination in a broader sense? Can Europeans play a constructive role in finding a peaceful solution?"

## [When Soft Power Is Spent: Gaza, Ukraine, and Europeans' Standing in the Arab World](#) *(March 4th, 2024)*

"Europeans' reputation as defenders of international law has cratered among their Arab partners. The first step is to recognise the problem."

# Global Challenges: The EU and China

## [Europe's Business Chiefs See EU-China Relations Worsening](#) (May 28th, 2024)

"A majority of Europe's chief executives believe relations between Europe and China will worsen over the next three years, with the EU's de-risking strategy and Beijing's close ties with Moscow cited as the greatest areas of friction. The European Round Table for Industry (ERT), which includes chief executives and chairs of large European companies such as ASML and Unilever, found 54% of those surveyed believed EU-China relations would deteriorate, with just 7% seeing improvement."



## [Finding a European Answer to the China-Russia Partnership](#) (May 10th, 2024)

"Russia's President Vladimir Putin is set to visit Beijing in May to meet with China's leader Xi Jinping. This will be his first foreign trip after his reinauguration on May 7. The meeting will be another chance for the two leaders to emphasize how important and close the "no limits" partnership of Russia and China is. In this episode of our podcast, we look at the implications of the Sino-Russian relationship for the European Union, in particular due to the ongoing invasion of Ukraine and their opposition to and undermining of the existing global order."



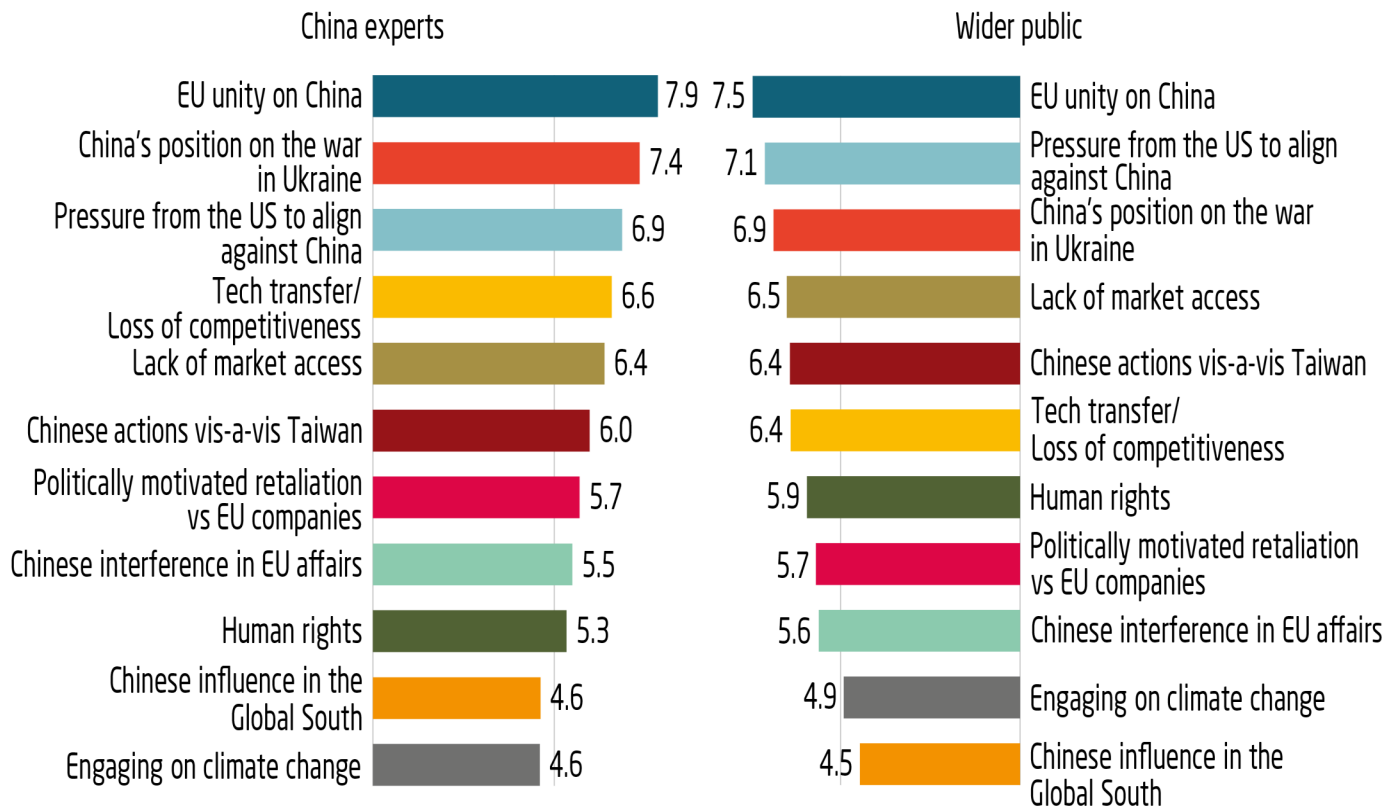
# Global Challenges: The EU and China

## EU-China relations: Challenges on many levels



MERICs  
CHINA FORECAST  
2023

Q: In 2023, the biggest challenge for the EU in EU-China relations will be...\*



\* Average ranks

© MERICs



### [EU-China Relations Factsheet](#) (July 12th, 2023)

“The EU sees China as a partner for cooperation, an economic competitor and a systemic rival. However, EU-China relations have become increasingly complex due to a growing number of irritants. China has become less open to the world and more repressive at home, while taking a more assertive posture abroad, resorting to economic coercion, boycotts of European goods, and export controls on critical raw materials.”



### [The EU-China Relationship Explained](#) (November 9th, 2023)

“From the origins of their economic ties to the recent shifts in political landscapes, discover how the EU navigates the complexities of dealing with a rising China, from discussing trade and human rights to geopolitical issues.”

# Global Challenges: The EU and Ukraine/Russia



## [Why Europe Still Pays Billions for Russian Fossil Fuels](#) *(July 24th, 2024)*

"Despite a raft of sanctions against Russia, especially its lucrative fossil fuel sector, the European Union is still paying billions to that country for energy. Legal loopholes are allowing barrel after barrel of oil into the bloc, even as Brussels sends aid money to Ukraine. Are more sanctions necessary? DW talks to Isaac Levi, Center for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA)."

## [Newly Elected Parliament Reaffirms Its Strong Support for Ukraine](#) *(July 17th, 2024)*

"The resolution, which sets out the newly-elected European Parliament's first official position on Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, restates the continued support of MEPs for Ukraine's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity within its internationally recognised borders. It calls on the EU to maintain and extend its sanctions policy against Russia and Belarus, monitor and review its effectiveness and impact, and systematically tackle the issue of sanctions circumvention by EU-based companies, third parties, and third countries."





# Global Challenges: The EU and Ukraine/Russia

[Josep Borrell, Europe's Outgoing Foreign-Policy Chief, on the U.S., China, Ukraine, and Gaza](#) (May 16th, 2024)

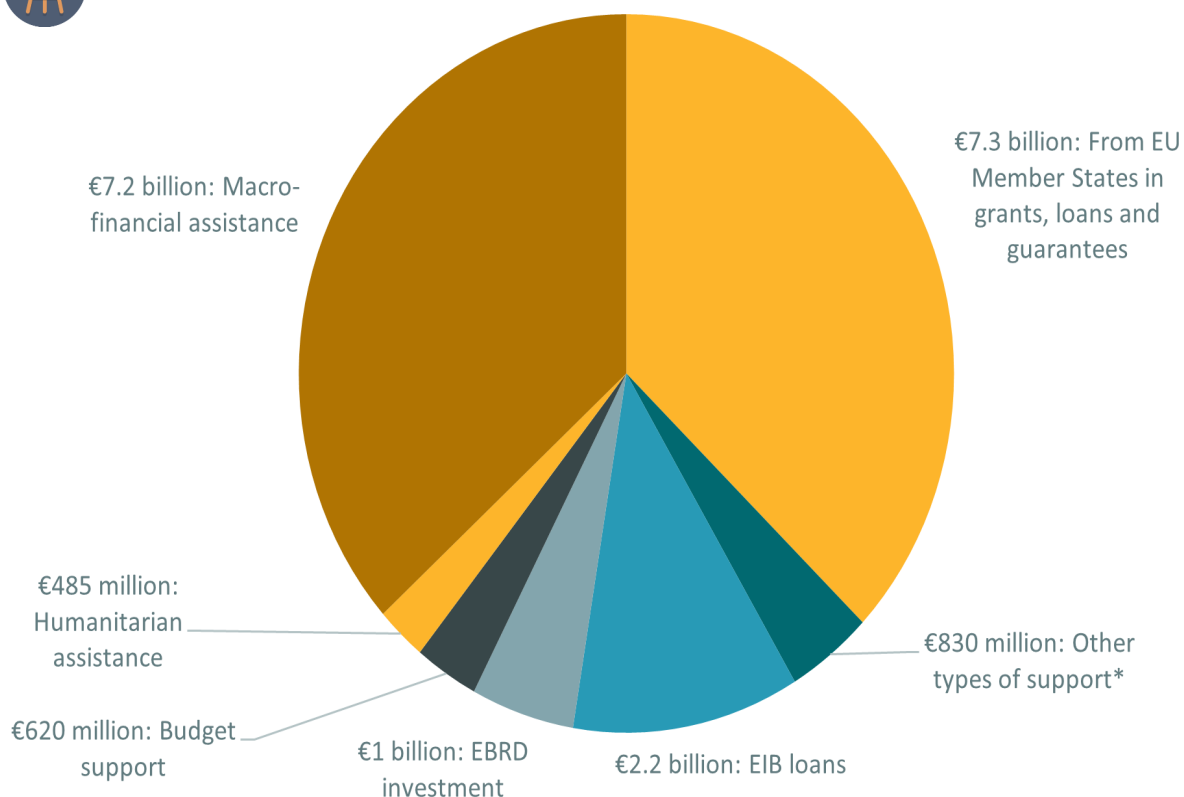
"Josep Borrell is in a reflective mood about Europe's role in the world—a question whose answer he has spent the last four years shaping as the European Union's foreign-policy chief. And as Borrell does not plan to contest the EU's upcoming election next month, he'll be leaving his post at a time when that question is perhaps more salient than it has been for quite a while."

[Fact Sheets on the European Union – Russia](#) (April 2024)

"EU-Russia relations have been strained since 2014 because of Russia's illegal annexation of Crimea, support for separatist groups in eastern Ukraine, destabilisation policies in the neighbourhood, disinformation and interference campaigns and internal human rights violations. After Russia launched its unprovoked, unjustified and illegal war of aggression against Ukraine on 24 February 2022, the remaining political, cultural and scientific cooperation was suspended."



## [Team Europe Support Mobilized for Ukraine in 2022](#)





2024 EU  
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# SESSION THREE



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A Baltic Perspective: Was  
joining the EU a Success?

## Session Speaker

Guntis Šmidchens, Director  
UW CERIAS (CES and Ellison Center),  
UW Associate Professor and Head of  
Baltic Studies



# Key Terms

**Baltic States:** Northeastern region of Europe containing the countries of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania, on the eastern shores of the Baltic Sea.

**Bloc:** A group of nations united by treaty or agreement for mutual support or joint action.

**European Round Table for Industry (ERT):** Includes CEOs and Chairs from around 60 of Europe's largest companies in the industrial and technological sector. They are committed to creating a strong, open and competitive Europe through which they promote sustainable growth, jobs and prosperity for all. They publish reports and papers, which are shared with the public, decision makers in European and global institutions and national governments. They also advocate policies that underpin the values of freedom, tolerance, equality and openness.

**Gross Domestic Product (GDP):** Total market value of the goods and services produced by a country's economy during a specified period of time. It includes all final goods and services—that is, those that are produced by the economic agents located in that country regardless of their ownership and that are not resold in any form. It is used throughout the world as the main measure of output and economic activity.

## Learning Objectives

- 1). Students will be able to explain the benefits and challenges of EU enlargement past and present.
- 2). Students will be able to identify, analyze, and explain the benefits and challenges of Baltic EU membership. In this context, students will be able to evaluate the successes and challenges from both the Baltic and EU perspective
- 3). Students will be able to evaluate Baltic perspectives and policy issues by using charts, graphs, and other stimulus-based information.
- 4). Students will be able to explain how Baltic EU membership has impacted policymaking decisions related to the war between Russian and Ukraine (within the EU and by Russia).
- 5). Students will be able to identify and assess Baltic political, economic, and social issues.
- 6). Students will be able to apply media literacy skills in their analysis of primary and secondary sources.

# Historical Context of the Baltic Region



## [The Baltic States \(Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania\)](#)

"This worksheet includes 19 pages with a great variety of activities and exercises about the Baltic states. The materials have informative exercises about the geography, wildlife, history, culture, economy, and attractions of the three countries! Crosswords, word searches, puzzles and other kinds of activities are included to make it a fun and interesting class."

## [The Baltic States 1918 - 2018](#)

This timeline of the Baltic States from 1918 to 2018 details their break from the Soviet Union, their experiences with authoritarian governments, and their eventual transformation into democracies. It culminates with their accession to the EU in 2004.

## [New Episode of the Central Baltic Stories Podcast](#)

"The Central Baltic Stories podcast explores cross-border cooperation, innovation, and community-building in the Central Baltic region. Hosted by Viola Mickos, the national Contact Point for Finland, each episode features inspiring stories, interviews, and insights from project partners, experts, and change-makers."

# Historical Context of the Baltic Region

[‘Western Europe Wouldn’t Have Missed the Baltics’ – How Latvia and Estonia Joined the EU](#) (May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023)

"This article examines the EU accession process from the Baltic perspective, detailing which countries joined first and why. It also explores how Russian influence persisted throughout the process, highlighting the challenges faced by the Baltic states in their journey toward EU membership."



[The Baltic States | Map, Region & Importance](#) (October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022)

"Learn about the Baltic states and see where the Baltics are located on a map. Explore facts about the Baltic States, which are Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania."



[Baltic Sea - Lesson Plan Geography](#) (October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019)

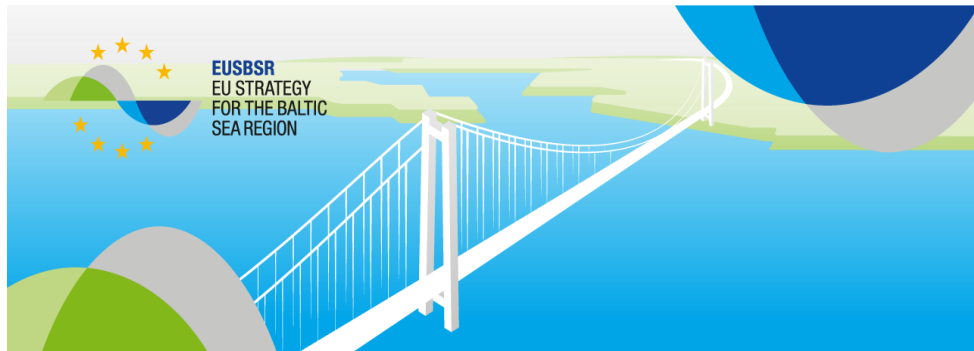
"This geography lesson plan focuses on the Baltic Sea. The aims are for students to learn the names of countries surrounding the Baltic Sea, understand concepts like catchment areas and salinity, and describe the Baltic Sea's location and low salinity. During the lesson, students will identify countries on maps, mark rivers flowing into the Baltic Sea, explain why it has low salinity, analyze pollution levels from different countries, and discuss international cooperation on protecting the waters. The lesson concludes with an interactive online game as homework."



# The EU and Baltic Region: Economic Impacts

[COME SAIL AWAY: The Baltic Sea Region as a Boating Destination Thanks to EU Funds](#) (July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024)

"The Baltic Sea, characterized by its unique natural features, offers a picturesque and less demanding environment for sailing. EU funds have



facilitated the development of sailing infrastructure and promoted sustainable tourism in the region. The collaborative efforts within the framework of the "BaltSusBoating 2030" project present a case study of branding for the Baltic Sea as a premier sailing destination for long-term competitiveness."



[20 Years After EU's Eastern Enlargement: Was It an Economic Success?](#) (April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024)

"In 2004, the EU made its boldest foreign policy move to date. The bloc took in 10 new member countries, many of them were former Soviet states. A critical step to unifying Europe, it was an economic gamble. We asked economist Zuzana Zavorska at the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw) if it paid off."

[From Gains to Grumbles: Euroscepticism in the Baltic States](#) (April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024)

"This article explores the rise of anti-EU sentiment in the Baltic states, examining the origins of this discontent and its potential impact on future relations. It delves into the reasons behind the growing opposition and assesses the implications for the region's relationship with the European Union."

[The Baltic States in the EU: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow](#) (September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013)

"As Lithuania is holding the rotating presidency of the EU Council and Latvia will join the Euro Area, we publish a Study dealing with the historical and political context, the recent economic crisis and the energy policy in the three Baltic states."



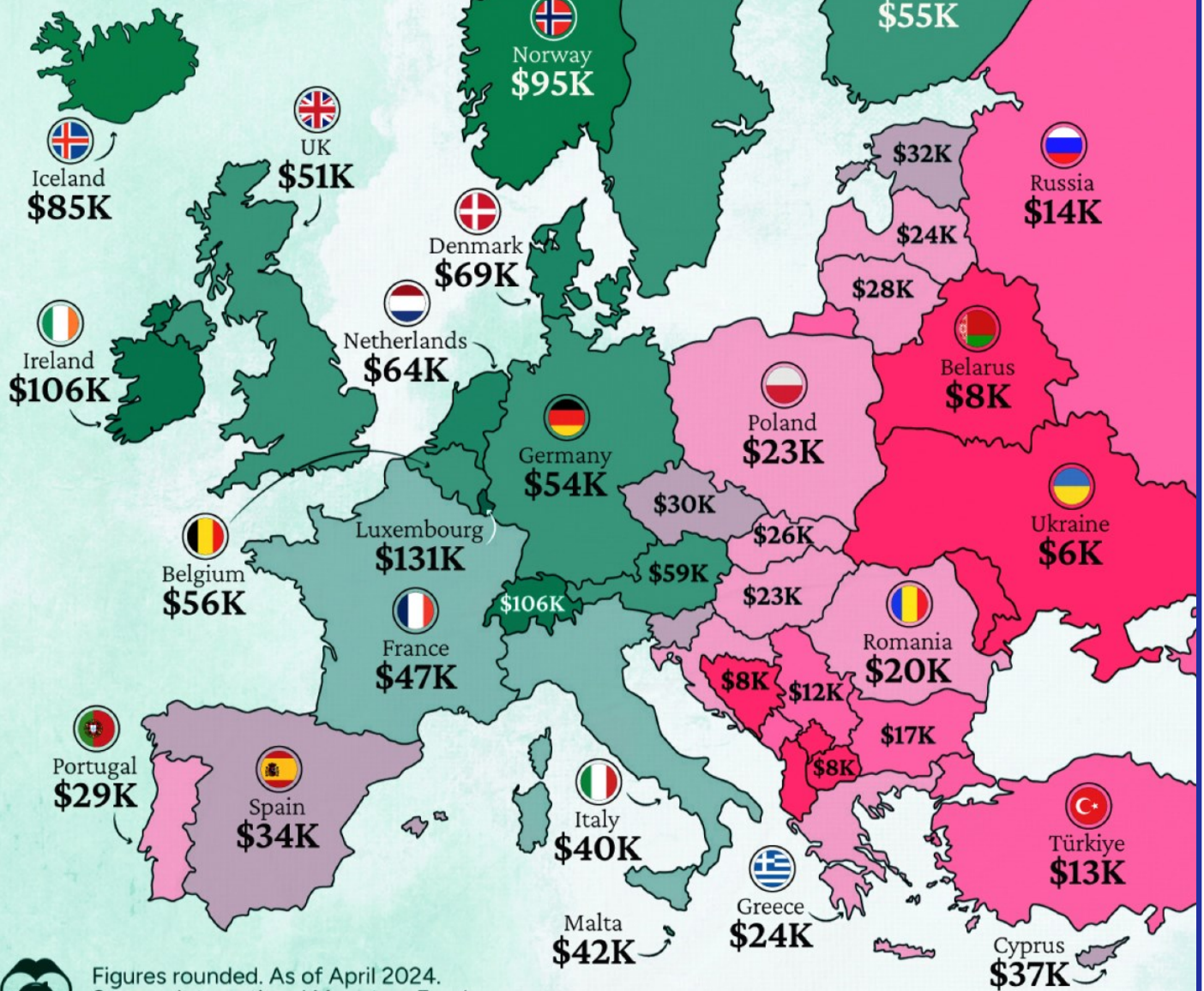
[The Integration of the Baltic Economies](#)

This Graphic organizer compares the economies of the Baltic EU nations to the rest of the EU nations and examines how these Baltic economies are very similar.



# GDP Per Capita Across Europe

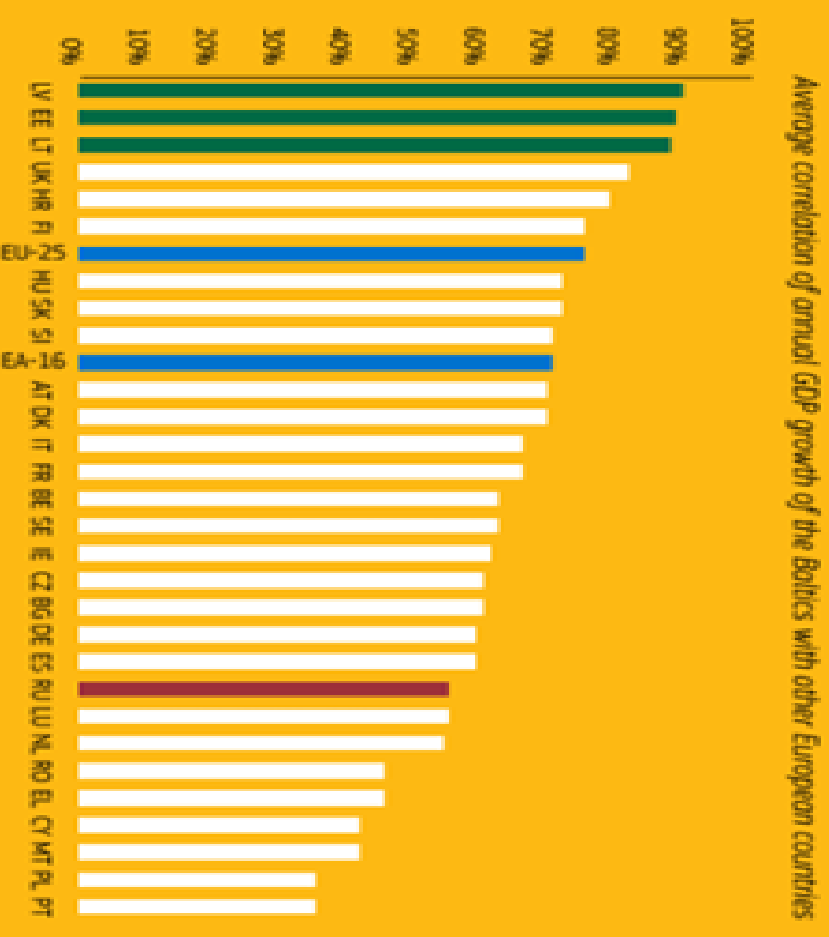
EU Average  
**\$44K**



Figures rounded. As of April 2024.  
Source: International Monetary Fund

# THE INTEGRATION OF THE BALTIC ECONOMIES

The economies of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania are closely linked. Real GDP growth in the three countries is closely correlated, more so than it is between them and any other EU Member State.



Source: Ameco



Economic and Financial Affairs



# The EU and Baltic Region: Regional Security

## [How Small Member States](#)

### [Shape EU Narratives](#)

(February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024)

“Central European and Baltic states have been the driving force of the EU’s response to Russia’s war on Ukraine. Their influence has important implications for the union’s future direction.”



## [Conventional and Unconventional Threats to the Baltic Sea Region](#) (December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023)

“The Baltic Sea region boasts some of the world’s most prosperous nations, almost all of which work together through NATO and the EU. Yet, the region still faces challenges that it needs to overcome to ensure its security in the context of Russian aggression.”

## [The Baltic Sea Region: A Laboratory for Overcoming European Security Challenges](#) (December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023)

“The Baltic Sea region boasts some of the world’s most prosperous nations, almost all of which work together through NATO and the EU. Yet, the region still faces challenges that it needs to overcome to ensure its security in the context of Russian aggression. This article is part of the Baltic Sea Region Security Initiative developed by the Carnegie Endowment’s Europe Program.”



## [War in Ukraine - The Threat to the Baltic States](#) (July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022)

“NATO needs to come up with a solution which deals with the current threat from Russia and has the potential to defend and reinforce its Eastern flank, urge committee chairs from Latvia and Estonia. Rihards Kols, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Latvian Parliament, and Marko Mihkelson, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Estonian Parliament, join host Tom Tugendhat MP to discuss Russia’s invasion of Ukraine through the eyes of the Baltic states. They’re joined by Tobias Ellwood MP, Chair of the House of Commons Defence Committee, who talks about the “huge wake-up” the invasion of Ukraine is for European security.”

2024 EU  
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# SESSION FOUR



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**Model European Union - Roleplay  
Finland and the Baltics: EU  
Enlargement, NATO, and the  
Russian Threat**

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## Session Speaker

Dean LaRue, Senior Lecturer  
UW Henry M. Jackson School of  
International Studies



# Key Terms

**North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)**: Military alliance established in 1949 that sought to create a counterweight to Soviet armies stationed in central and eastern Europe after World War II. Following the end of the Cold War, NATO was reconceived as a “cooperative-security” organization. It has 32 member states.

**Baltic Sea**: Arm of the North Atlantic Ocean, extending northward from the latitude of southern Denmark almost to the Arctic Circle and separating the Scandinavian Peninsula from the rest of continental Europe. The largest expanse of brackish water in the world, the semi-enclosed and relatively shallow Baltic Sea is of great interest to scientists, while to historians it represents the economic core of the Hanseatic League, the great medieval trading group of northern European ports. The many names for the sea attest to its strategic position as a meeting place of many countries.

**Barents Sea**: Outlying portion of the Arctic Ocean 800 miles (1,300 km) long and 650 miles (1,050 km) wide and covering 542,000 square miles (1,405,000 square km). Its average depth is 750 feet (229 metres), plunging to a maximum of 2,000 feet (600 metres) in the major Bear Island Trench. It is bounded by the archipelagoes of Svalbard and Franz Josef Land (north), the Norwegian and Russian mainland (south), the Novaya Zemlya archipelago (east), and by the conventional border with the Greenland Sea (west), which runs from Spitsbergen to Norway’s northernmost tip, North Cape, via Bear Island (Bjørnøya).

## Learning Objectives

- 1). Students will be able to apply critical thinking and problem-solving skills during participation in an EU roleplay simulation.
- 2). Students will be able to identify and explain the role of NATO in providing EU security.
- 3). Students will be able to explain the role of Finland and other Baltic states in the EU’s efforts to deter Russian aggression in Ukraine (and the region).
- 4). Students will be able to identify and assess the perspectives of different EU nations on security issues in Europe.
- 5). Students will be able to explain the role of EU policymakers in addressing security threats nationally and regionally.
- 6). Students will be able to analyze and explain the process by which the EU makes policy decisions.

# NATO's Role in the Baltic Region



## [Baltic Concerns Over Russian Plan to Move Sea Borders](#) (May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024)

"There have been calls for calm in Finland and the Baltic states after a draft Russian decree proposed revising its borders in the Baltic Sea."

## [How NATO's Northern Enlargement Changes the Power Balance in the Region](#) (March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024)

"With Finland, and most recently Sweden, joining NATO, the strategic situation in the Baltic Sea region and the Western military alliance's Northern Flank is changing radically, but Russia still poses a threat above and below water."

## [The Nordic-Baltic Region: An Example for NATO](#) (February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024)

"Russia has now transformed to a wartime economy. Nordic and Baltic countries closest to Russia have got the message and are preparing."



## [Lesson Plan: The North Atlantic Treaty Organization \(NATO\)](#) (September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017)

"The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is a military alliance between 29 different countries in Europe and North America. This lesson traces the history of NATO starting with its formation and ending with President Trump's efforts to increase Europe's financial contributions to the alliance."

# NATO's Role in the Baltic Region

## [The Baltic States and Finland: Fencing Themselves Off from Russia and Belarus](#) (September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023)

"The migratory pressure on the Polish, Lithuanian and Latvian borders with Belarus which has been ongoing since mid-2021, as well as Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, have spurred the Baltic states and Finland to ramp up their investments in border infrastructure. The construction work is currently at different stages in each of these countries, and there are some differences between them as regards the final shape of the planned border reinforcements. This is partly due to different terrain, but the primary reason is that these countries' governments have differing perceptions of the threat. Estonia's and Finland's actions are preventive, while Lithuania and Latvia have been facing real pressure from Belarus."



## [Helsinki and Tallinn: Baltic Sisters](#) (August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013)

"Rick Steves' Europe Travel Guide © 2010 | The fascinating capitals of Finland and Estonia offer a chance to sample each country's history, art, and distinct love of life. We'll start in Helsinki with its Neoclassical old town, modern flair for design, and steamy saunas. Then it's just a two-hour boat ride to Tallinn — with its medieval charms and newfound prosperity — celebrating its freedom and thriving in its post-USSR renaissance."



## [Projects That Strengthen Cooperation in the Baltic Sea, Barents Sea and the Arctic Regions](#)

"Measures aimed to strengthen cooperation in the Arctic and Baltic regions are recorded in the Government Programme under the heading Globally influential Finland. The appropriations allocated for cooperation in the Baltic Sea, Barents and Arctic regions under the Foreign Ministry's main title of expenditure are used to support the practical implementation of Finland's policy objectives in this area."

### **Fast Fact**

"In 2021, the EU was the third largest emitter of GHGs in the world, after China and the United States. However, the EU's share of global emissions has decreased from 15.2% in 1990 to 7.3% in 2021. In 2022, emissions fell below 2019 levels, reaching a total reduction of 32.5% since 1990. The energy sector is the largest source of GHG emissions in the EU, followed by agriculture, industry, and waste."

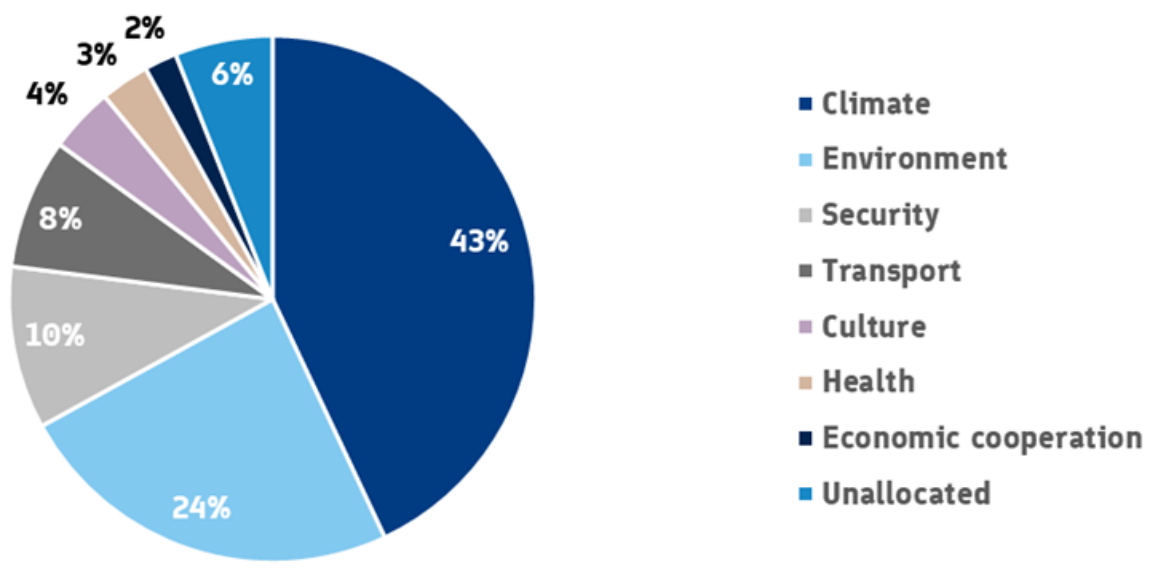
[https://www.europarl.europa.eu/topics/en/article/20180703STO07123/climate-change-in-europe-facts-and-figures#:~:text=their%20warming%20potential-,The%20EU's%20biggest%20greenhouse%20gases%20emitters:%20countries%20and%20sectors,the%20waste%20sector%20\(3.](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/topics/en/article/20180703STO07123/climate-change-in-europe-facts-and-figures#:~:text=their%20warming%20potential-,The%20EU's%20biggest%20greenhouse%20gases%20emitters:%20countries%20and%20sectors,the%20waste%20sector%20(3.)

# NATO's Role in the Baltic Region



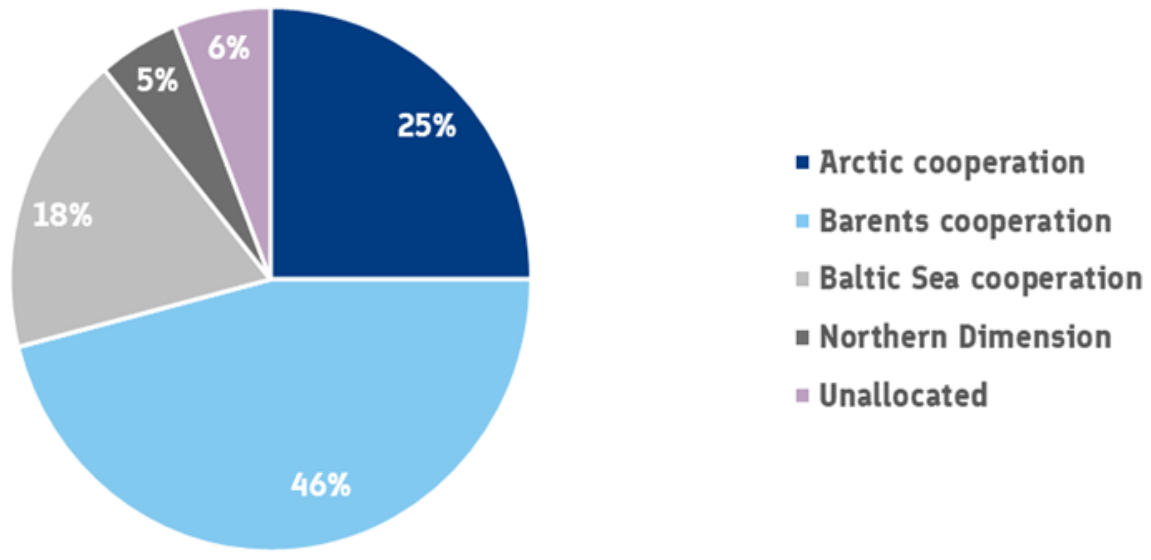
Funding allocated for cooperation in the Baltic Sea, Barents and Arctic Regions under the MFA's main title of expenditure in 2022

Appropriations per sectors, total EUR 4,8 million



Funding allocated for cooperation in the Baltic Sea, Barents and Arctic Regions under the MFA's main title of expenditure in 2022

Appropriations per area, total EUR 4,8 million



# NATO's Role in the Scandinavian Region



NATO

## Finland joins NATO

Finland has become the 31st country to join the world's largest military alliance. The Nordic nation shares a 1,340km (833-mile) border with Russia, which has long complained about NATO's eastwards expansion.

- May 2022**  
Sweden and Finland submit bids to join NATO
- July-September 2022**  
28 members except for Hungary and Turkey approve the Nordic countries' accession
- March 2023**  
Turkish parliament ratifies Finland's NATO membership
- April 2023**  
Finland formally joins NATO



Source: NATO

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# NATO's Role in the Scandinavian Region



## [Finland is Planning Aggressive Response Against Russia After This Happens](#) (July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024)



"Russia's aggressive moves in Europe have not gone unnoticed, with Ukraine and Crimea capturing headlines. But did you know Finland is also in the crosshairs? In this video, we explore how Finland is preparing to counter Russia's hybrid warfare tactics. From joining NATO to boosting its military, Finland is taking a strong stance! Join us as we delve into the complex history between these nations and what the future might hold."

## [The NATO Accession of Finland and Sweden: A Strategic Advantage for the Alliance and the U.S.](#) (July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024)

"Since joining the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), Finland and Sweden have demonstrated significant capacity and will as NATO members by investing in their militaries and by providing substantial amounts of aid to Ukraine. Finland and Sweden's NATO membership enhances the Alliance, especially through certain critical assets, such as Finland's substantial reserve forces and Sweden's robust defense industry. Both countries have boosted their defense budgets beyond NATO's 2 percent GDP guideline, actively support Ukraine, and engage in NATO military exercises. Both stand as model NATO members, and the Alliance would be markedly improved if every member state were to emulate them."



## [Sweden and Finland in NATO: A Strategic Defeat for Russia? | To The Point](#) (February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024)

"It took a while, but this week Sweden got the green light on its bid to join NATO. Following Finland's accession last year NATO is now firmly anchored in the high North. Will that strengthen the alliance... or risk provoking Finland's neighbor Russia? Meanwhile new trouble is brewing in southeastern Europe, as the breakaway region of Transnistria, just south of Ukraine, asks Russia for "protection." As the challenges multiply, NATO members send diverging signals in the direction of Moscow— with France's president sparking pushback by refusing to rule out sending ground troops to Ukraine. Our topic this week, "Sweden and Finland in NATO: a strategic defeat for Russia?"

## [How Allied Sweden and Finland Can Secure Northern Europe](#) (January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023)

"NATO is approaching its ninth round of enlargement. The accession of Sweden and Finland—two solid democracies and defenders of the international-rules based order—into the Alliance will strengthen the core of the transatlantic community. Their NATO membership opens up new opportunities to bolster regional deterrence and defense in Northern Europe, increase transatlantic burden sharing, and secure the Alliance as a whole in ways not previously possible."



# NATO's Role in the Scandinavian Region



## [Episode 48: Finland, the UK and Northern European Security](#)

(April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023)

"In this episode of the Global Security Briefing, host Neil Melvin sits down with Matti Pesu, Leading Researcher at the Finnish Institute of International Affairs (FIIA), and Ed Arnold, Research Fellow for European Security at



RUSI, to discuss how Finland's security policy is changing and how NATO membership will likely change Finland as a European security actor. How will the UK–Finnish defence and security relationship develop, and where are the priority areas for enhanced cooperation?"



## [Video Clip: Finland's Accession to NATO](#) (April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023)

"Finnish President Sauli Niinistö joined NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg during a welcome ceremony for Finland's acceptance into the alliance. "A new era begins," said the Finnish president. The ceremony coincided with the 74th anniversary of the signing of NATO's founding documents, the Washington Treaty, in 1949."

## [Finland as a NATO Ally: First Insights into Finnish Alliance Policy](#) (December 2022)

"This Finnish Foreign Policy Paper delves into Finland's emergent NATO policy, identifying and analysing its underlying factors and rationales. In addition to tracing the contours of Finland's embryonic approach towards alliance politics, the paper also aims to shed light on the alliance Finland is joining, describing both the evolution of, and recent trends in, several areas of NATO activity, and discussing what these mean for Finland."



## [PBS | Finland and Sweden Announce Plans to Join NATO](#) (May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022)

"Russia's invasion of Ukraine has prompted a major shift in public opinion in Finland and Sweden, with support for joining NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) recently surging in both countries. Sweden and Finland have resisted joining NATO for decades in an attempt to stay neutral with their neighboring nation Russia. Meanwhile, Russian President Vladimir Putin said the expansion of NATO infrastructure would trigger a response."



# Sweden clears final hurdle to join NATO

Sweden will be the 32nd country to join NATO, after Hungary held a parliamentary vote to approve the move

## EUROPE'S NATO MEMBERS

- Founder members 1949\*
- Joined 1950-2000
- Joined 2000-2023
- Joining 2024



\*Includes United States, Canada and Iceland

## SWEDEN'S MILITARY STRENGTH (2022 data)

 Active personnel: <b>14,600</b> Reserve: <b>10,000</b>	 Submarines: <b>5</b>
 Tanks: <b>120</b>	 Patrol and coastal craft: <b>150</b>
 Armoured vehicles: <b>1,475</b>	 Mine countermeasures vessels: <b>7</b>
 Artillery: <b>357</b>	 Fighter/ground attack aircraft: <b>96</b>
 Surface-to-air missile systems: <b>11+</b>	 Transport helicopters: <b>53</b>

Sources: Politico, Forces Network

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2024 EU  
Policy Forum

# SESSION FIVE



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**Emotional Elections: Political  
Psychology and Europe's Populist  
Right – On the 2024 European  
Parliament Election and Other  
2024 Summer Elections**

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## Session Speaker

Dustin Ellis, Visiting Assistant Professor of  
Political Science and Public Policy  
Eastern Oregon University



# Key Terms

**European Parliament:** Legislative assembly of the European Union (EU). Inaugurated in 1958 as the Common Assembly, the European Parliament originally consisted of representatives selected by the national parliaments of EU member countries.

**Members of the European Parliament (MEPs):** The European Parliament is made up of 720 Members elected in the 27 Member States of the enlarged European Union. Since 1979 MEPs have been elected by direct universal suffrage for a five-year period.

**European Commission (EC):** An institution of the European Union (EU) and its constituent entities that makes up the organization's executive arm.

**Council of the European Union:** Represents the member states' governments. It is where national ministers and experts from each EU country meet to negotiate and adopt EU laws, conclude international agreements on behalf of the EU, adopt the EU budget, develop the EU's foreign and security policy, coordinate member states' policies in specific fields.

**Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU):** The judicial branch of the European Union (EU). Its basic mission is to ensure the observance and uniform application and interpretation of EU law within EU member states and institutions. Its headquarters are in Luxembourg.

**Court of Auditors:** Through our independent, professional and impactful audit work, our mission is to assess the economy, effectiveness, efficiency, legality and regularity of EU action in order to improve accountability, transparency and financial management, thereby enhancing citizens' trust and responding effectively to current and future challenges facing the EU.

## **Did You Know?**

"The European Parliament is the world's only popularly elected multinational legislature, with European residents choosing lawmakers to represent their interests at the EU level. Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) decide which laws will apply across the European Union – from environmental regulation to migration to security policy – as well as approve the EU budget and monitor how the money is spent."

<https://www.france24.com/en/europe/20240529-eu-elections-explainer-four-things-what-to-know-about-vote-eu-parliament>

# Learning Objectives

- 1). Students will be able to explain how elections work within the European Union. Additionally, students will be able to discuss and explain the outcome of the 2024 EU Parliamentary elections.
- 2). Students will be able to explain why free, fair, and competitive elections are essential to democracies around the world.
- 3). Students will be able to analyze and explain the recent rise in populist right political parties (and candidates) in Europe.
- 4). Students will be able to assess EU elections through graphs, charts, and other stimulus-based resources.
- 5). Students will be able to compare 2024 EU elections patterns to other elections worldwide.



## *Did You Know?*

British citizens resident in EU countries will only get local election voting and candidacy rights according to the law in the country they are living in.

UK nationals can already vote in local elections in Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Ireland, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Sweden. Domestic legislation in these countries already allows all non-EU citizens to register to vote in local elections (subject to varying residency and registration requirements).

In the countries where the UK has signed a post-Brexit reciprocal voting rights agreement (Spain, Portugal, Luxembourg and Poland), British citizens resident in those countries will retain voting rights (subject to local residency and registration requirements).

In EU countries where there is no domestic right for non-EU citizens to vote in local elections, and no reciprocal agreement with the UK, British citizens will not be able to vote. In these places, such as France and Germany, British citizens lost their local election voting rights at the end of the implementation period when the UK left the EU.

<https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/can-eu-citizens-take-part-in-uk-elections-after-brexit/>

# Understanding the EU Elections



## [European Elections 2024 - Educational Toolkit \(2024\)](#)

“The purpose of this educational toolkit is to provide an easy access to educational resources that can help you explain to young people the benefits of the European Union, the role of the European Parliament and the importance of voting in the European elections.”



## [Youth Hub | European Parliament, Learning Resources](#)

“The European Parliament offers different resources to help you bring Europe closer to your students in an interactive way. In this section, you will find active lessons, thematic modules, pedagogical toolkits and audiovisual materials to discuss relevant European topics, generate debate and work with your students in a playful way.”



## [How European Elections Work](#)

“In European elections, citizens of European Union countries elect their representatives as Members of the European Parliament (MEPs). The European Parliament is the world’s only directly elected transnational assembly. The Members of the European Parliament represent the interests of EU citizens at the European level. Together with representatives of the governments of EU countries, MEPs shape and decide on new laws that influence all aspects of lives across the European Union, from supporting the economy and the fight against poverty to climate change and security.”



# Understanding the EU Elections

## After the Elections

“The European elections on 6-9 June 2024 open the next chapter for the European Union. The newly-elected Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) will take a number of key decisions on who will head EU institutions and resume Parliament’s work of adopting legislation and holding the European Commission and other EU bodies to account. Find out what happens after the elections and how the European Parliament plays a key part in the process.”



## All Politics Is Local: What the EU Election Is Actually About in Each Country (June 3, 2024)

“When EU voters head to the polls later this week, one thing is certain: Almost none of them will be thinking of Europe when they cast their ballot. A plethora of studies — and sky-high abstention rates — show that most of the bloc’s citizens neither understand nor care about the European Parliament vote. Because of this, they tend to vote based on domestic concerns instead of Brussels politics.”

# 2024 EU Election Outcome

## [EU Leaders Approve Von Der Leyen, Kallas and Costa for Top Jobs](#) (June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024)

This article delves into the selection of leadership positions within the EU Parliament, highlighting the contentious dynamics between the chosen leaders and right-wing factions, particularly from Italy. It details the struggles and grievances of these right-wing leaders, who felt marginalized and excluded from the decision-making process by the dominant centrist bloc.



## [MEGA Shift in the EU's Balance of Power](#) (June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024)

Almost two weeks after the EU election, political maneuvering continues in Brussels and national capitals. POLITICO's chief EU correspondent, Barbara Moens, recaps the race for top jobs after European leaders failed to reach a deal. The podcast highlights weakened leaders and those seizing new power, with discussions on German Chancellor Olaf Scholz's precarious situation and Donald Tusk's growing influence. Additionally, it previews Hungary's upcoming presidency of the Council of the EU with the slogan "Make Europe Great Again."

## [Takeaways from the European Parliamentary Elections](#) (June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024)

"National political parties form alliances across the continent to create larger parliamentary groupings based on shared values and policy proposals, and the results announced so far in several major economies — including France, Germany and Italy — indicate a surge of popular support for political parties that are far to the right of the political spectrum. However, the largest political groupings in the next European Union parliament will continue to be the center-left and center-right."

## [EU Elections 2024: Who Lost and Won, and Who Was Hurt?](#) (June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024)

The new parliament is expected to be less environmentally friendly, more fragmented, and less welcoming to immigrants. This article explores the reasons behind this shift, including voters' desire for increased security, which was a key promise of far-right parties. It also highlights the winners and losers of the election, the impact on national politics, and includes a visual representation of the shifts in alliances within the EU parliament.



## [Empowering Young Voters: Teaching Material Targeting EP Elections '24](#) (January 2024)

"The countdown to the June 2024 European elections has begun. As European countries gear up for this continent-wide democratic exercise, educators are seeking effective ways to empower citizens, especially the newly enfranchised young voters aged 16-18 (in Belgium, Germany, Malta, Greece)."



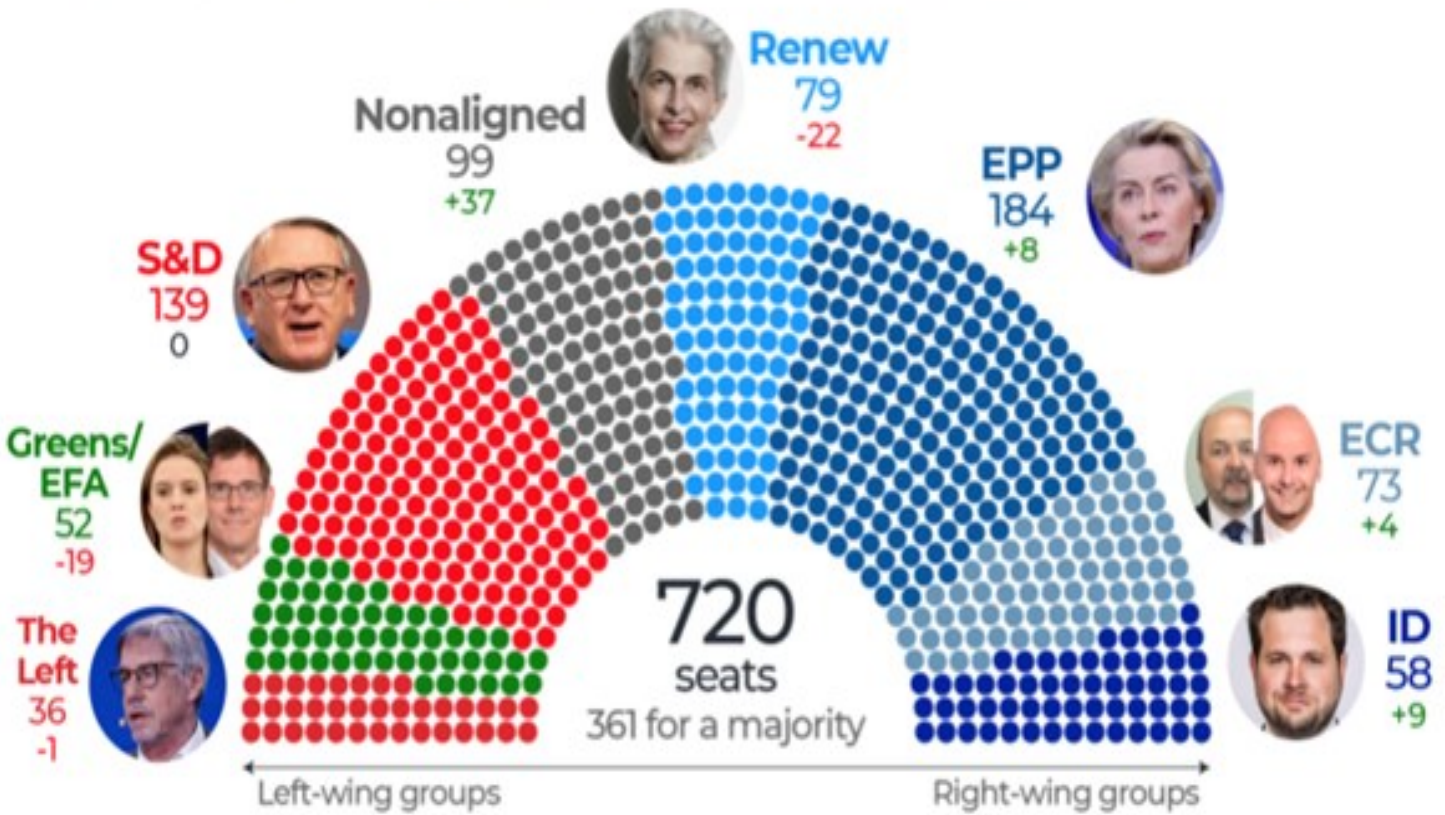
# 2024 EU Election Outcome



EUROPE

## European Union parliamentary elections

Far-right parties have made significant gains in the European Parliament elections that took place across the 27 EU member states from June 6 to 9.



Provisional results	Group	Seats	% of seats	Change
	EPP	184	25.6%	+8
	S&D	139	19.3%	0
	Renew	79	11.0%	-22
	ECR	73	10.1%	+4
	ID	58	8.1%	+9
	Greens/EFA	52	7.2%	-19
	The Left	36	5.0%	-1
	Nonaligned	99	13.8%	+37



Source: results.elections.europa.eu | June 10, 2024



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# France's Response to the Election



## [French Snap Elections: "Macron Is Not the Loser That We Expected"](#) (July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024)

"Despite President Macron's current unpopularity in France, his centrist camp won the second most seats in parliament according to projections on Sunday's vote in France's legislative elections. "Macron is not the loser that we expected", said H el ene De Lauzun, columnist at The European Conservative."



## [EU Top Jobs Deal – French Election, Round 1](#) (June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024)

"From the European Council summit, host Sarah Wheaton, with POLITICO colleagues Barbara Moens and Aitor Hern andez-Morales, discuss EU leaders' choices for the next top EU institutions. With Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy attending, they also covered the recent opening of EU accession talks with Ukraine. Senior correspondent Clea Caulcutt unpacks the prospects of Sunday's first round of snap parliamentary elections in France."



## [France's Far Right at the Gates of Power](#) (June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024)

This episode of NYT's "The Daily" podcast focuses on France's political landscape amid snap elections called by President Macron. The episode delves into the rising possibility of the far right gaining power, the ongoing protests in Paris, and the broader implications for France's future.

## [Far Right Seizes France's Conservative Heartlands](#) (June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024)

"Growing grievances over a rural-urban divide help Marine Le Pen's National Rally make inroads."

## [French Election: Your Guide to a Vote That Is Set to Shake the EU and NATO](#) (June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024)

"As elections go, this is as big they get. The far right stands a decent chance of being able to form a government in a nuclear-armed permanent member of the U.N. Security Council that plays a major role in global security from the North Atlantic to the Pacific. That same far right is also skeptical of France's engagement with both the EU and NATO, while without an engaged France, both are significantly weakened."



## [The Far Right's Election Gains Rattle EU's Traditional Powers, Leading Macron to Call Snap Polls](#) (June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024)

"The recent election results reveal a clear shift to the right in the EU Parliament. Italian Premier Giorgia Meloni significantly increased her party's seats, while the Alternative for Germany party, despite a scandal, gained enough seats to surpass the declining Social Democrats of Chancellor Olaf Scholz. The source includes an interactive map showing election results by country."

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