

Shaping Europe's Future

The European Commission at Work



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- The European Union and you
- Who decides what in the EU?
- The work of the European Commission





The European Union and you

The EU: a unique project



How many countries?

27 Member States

How many people?

448 million citizens

How many languages?

24 official languages

The EU Member States

1951

Belgium, Germany, France, Italy,
Luxembourg and Netherlands

1973

Denmark, Ireland, United Kingdom
(the UK left the EU in 2020)

1981

Greece

1986

Spain and Portugal

1995

Austria, Finland and Sweden

2004

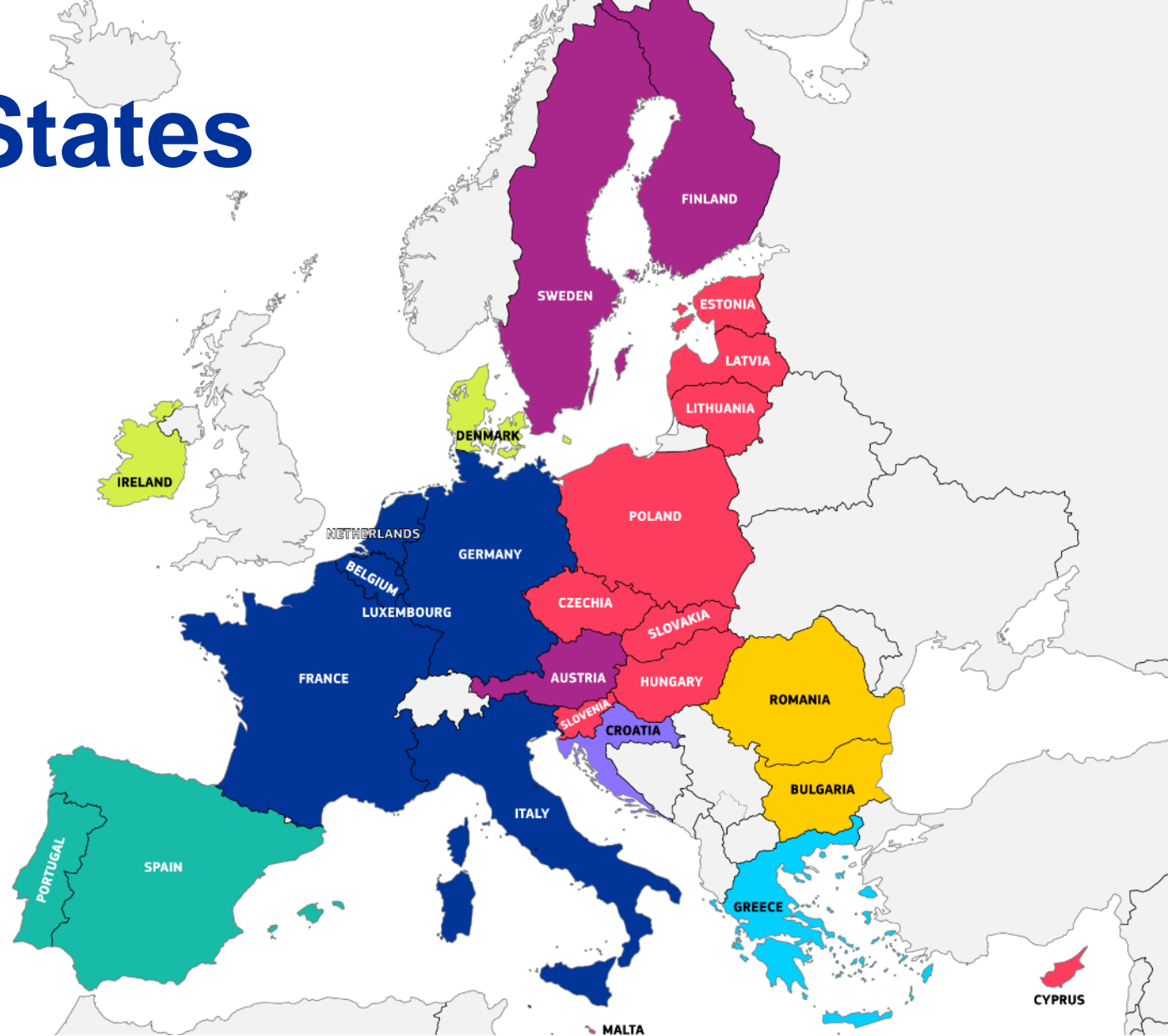
Czechia, Estonia, Cyprus, Latvia,
Lithuania, Hungary, Malta, Poland,
Slovenia, Slovakia

2007

Bulgaria and Romania

2013

Croatia



Source

Administrative boundaries: © EuroGeographics © UN-FAO © Turkstat

Cartography: Eurostat – IMAGE, 10/2024



How is the EU improving our lives?



Free movement of people



Healthcare abroad



No roaming charges



**Strict standards
for safe and healthy food**



Common charger



Strong toy safety rules



Who decides what in the EU?

The EU and its Member States

Exactly who makes the laws?

EXCLUSIVE (EU)

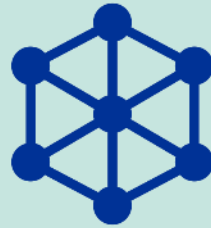
e.g. trade, competition



SHARED

(EU and Member States)

e.g. single market, environment



SUPPORTING

(Member States with support of EU)

e.g. defence/civil protection, education



DIVISION OF COMPETENCES

Exclusive competence

- Trade
- Competition
- Monetary policy
- Conservation of marine environment
- And more...

Example:

The Eurozone

20 countries using the same currency



Shared competence

- Internal Market
- Agriculture and Fisheries
- Freedom, Security and Justice
- Research
- Environment and Energy
- And more...

Example:

Air passenger rights

The EU is the only area in the world where passengers are protected by a full set of rights



Supporting competence

- Industry
- Education and Culture
- Health
- Civil Protection
- Tourism
- And more...

Example:

Erasmus+

Programme for education, training, youth and sport

Main EU Institutions

1

European Commission

Represents the common interests of the EU



2

European Parliament

Represents the citizens



3

Council of the European Union

Represents the governments of the EU Member States





The work of the European Commission



The European Commission

What do you know about it?



President + 26 Commissioners



32 000 employees



50 Departments
and 6 Executive Agencies





College of Commissioners

The four roles of the European Commission

1. Right of initiative

**2. Policy
and budget
implementation**

**3. Guardian
of the Treaties**

**4. Represents
the EU
internationally**

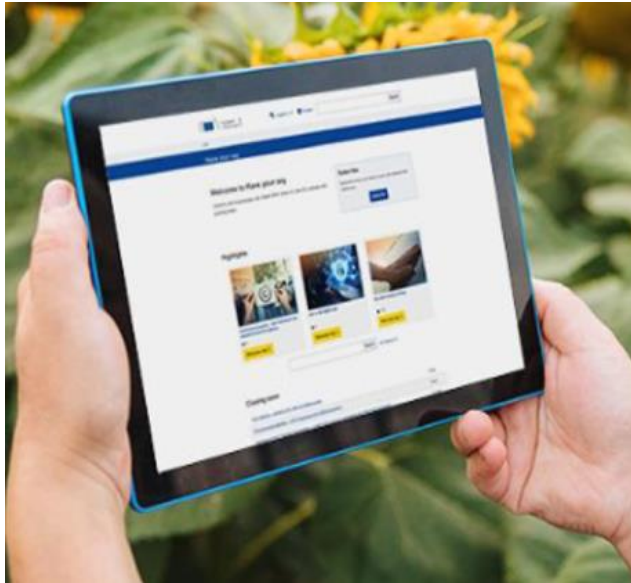
Right of initiative

Proposing new laws and policies



Right of initiative

Your voice in the EU



Have Your Say portal

Share your views on new EU policies and existing laws



European Citizens' Initiative

Call on the European Commission to propose new laws



Citizens' Engagement

Get involved through Youth Policy Dialogues, Citizens' Panels and more

Policy and budget implementation

EU budget

Where does it come from?

- National contributions
- Custom duties
- Value-added tax
- Non-recycled plastic packaging waste contribution
- Fines imposed when businesses fail to comply with EU rules

Where does it go?

The EU's 2021-2027 long-term budget

	Amounts in € billion
Cohesion, Resilience and Values	426.7 (+776.5 from NGEU)
Natural Resources and Environment	401 (+18.9 from NGEU)
Single Market, Innovation and Digital	149.5 (+11.5 from NGEU)
Neighbourhood and the World	110.6
European Public Administration	82.5
Migration and Border Management	25.7
Security and Defence	14.9
Total budget	2 018 billion



Policy and budget implementation

EU programmes and funds

2021-2027 long-term budget and NextGenerationEU



Funded by
the European Union



Co-funded by
the European Union

Erasmus+
EU4Health
European Agricultural Guarantee Fund
Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values
European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development
Creative Europe
Connecting Europe Facility
European Regional Development Fund
Just Transition Fund
Sustainable Development
Horizon Europe
Recovery and Resilience Facility
European Defence Fund
Space Programme
InvestEU
European Social Fund+
Cohesion Fund



What does it mean?



Making sure that everyone follows the rules

Example:

The Court of Justice of the European Union confirms 2016 Commission decision concluding that Ireland granted Apple unlawful aid which Ireland now has to recover.

International dimension

Represents the EU internationally

International agreements



Neighbourhood Policy & Enlargement Negotiations



International partnerships



Emergency Response Coordination Centre and EU Civil Protection Mechanism



Political guidelines

for the European Commission 2024-2029



A new plan for Europe's sustainable prosperity and competitiveness

A new era for European Defence and Security

Supporting people, strengthening our societies and our social model

Sustaining our quality of life: food security, water and nature

Protecting our democracy, upholding our values

A global Europe: Leveraging our power and partnerships

Delivering together and preparing our Union for the future

First 100 days of the mandate



Make Europe more competitive

- Competitiveness Compass
- Clean Industrial Deal
- Union of Skills
- AI Factories ...

Security Action for Europe

- REARM Europe
- White Paper on the Future of European Defence
- Vision for Agriculture and Food

Continue our unwavering support for Ukraine

Engage with the world in win-win partnerships

- Mercosur, Switzerland, Mexico, Malaysia, India ...



Europe and you



What Europe
does for you

EU projects
taking place
in your region

The European
Social Fund Plus



Experience Europe

Interactive exhibition in Brussels



5 minute-walk from the Visitors' Centre
Schuman roundabout, Brussels

More information: [Experience Europe](#)

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Locate the EU in your region

Commission offices in EU capitals and regions



Europe Direct and other info points in your region



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EU Spotify



Thank you



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