

The European Union



What is the European Union ?

- The EU is a political and economic union
- Member states have common institutions and an EU parliament.
- EU member states share common interests & values



Why was the European Union formed ?

- The European Union was set up with the aim of ending the frequent and bloody wars between neighbours, which culminated in the Second World War.
- In 1950, the **European Coal and Steel Community** began uniting European countries economically and politically in order to secure lasting peace.



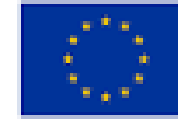
What is the purpose of the EU ?

Its main purposes are:

- to uphold peace
- to promote economic and social solidarity
- to bring European people together.

The EU gives freedom to move in the European Union so EU citizens can live, work and study in any other European country.

EUROPEAN UNION



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What countries are part of the EU?

- As of April 2020, the EU's **27 member countries** are Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, and Sweden



What is the currency of the EU?

- The € is the common currency for the EU area.
- It is the second most-commonly held currency in the world, after the U.S. dollar.
- It replaced the Italian lira, the French franc, and the German Deutschmark, among others.



What does the flag symbolize?

- The **EU flag** has a circle of 12 golden stars on a blue background which symbolises **unity, solidarity and harmony** among the European member countries.



How many people live in the EU?

- The EU is home to **513 million** inhabitants in total living in the member countries. Thus the EU has the **third largest population** after China and India
- Largest country by land area in the European Union is **France**, while the biggest EU country by population is **Germany**.
- The smallest country of the EU by land area and population is **Malta**



Which countries
founded the EU?

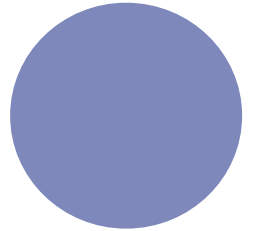
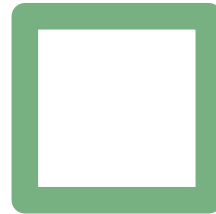
- The six founding countries are Germany, France, Italy and the three Benelux countries (Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg).





When did Ireland join the EU?

In 1973 Ireland joined the European Economic Community along with the United Kingdom and Denmark.



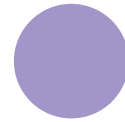
What cities are important in the EU?

- Brussels, Belgium (EU HQ)
- Strasbourg, France (European Parliament)
- Frankfurt/Main, Germany (European Central Bank)
- Luxembourg City, Luxembourg (seat of the European Parliament and the European Court of Justice)
- The EU capital city is Brussels, which is also the capital city of Belgium.



When is Europe Day?

- **Europe Day** is celebrated on **9 May**. This is, however, not a public holiday, although in Brussels and Strasbourg many public institutions will hold various activities, concerts and open-door events for the interested public.




Eu facts ...

- **Awards:** Did you know that the EU was recipient of **the Nobel Peace Prize** in 2012? The prize was awarded for advancing peace, reconciliation, democracy and human rights in Europe.
- **Largest airport:** After Brexit, Paris Charles de Gaulle in France became the busiest airport in the EU.



- **Famous Landmarks:** Among the most visited tourist sites and landmarks in the EU are:
 - Brussels and the Atomium in Belgium
 - Paris and the Eiffel Tower in France
 - Berlin and the Reichstag in Germany
 - Athens and the Acropolis in Greece
 - Rome and the Colosseo in Italy



Thank you !!!!