



The European Union: Less than a State, More than an International Organization

*Academy of Young Diplomats WORKSHOP
20 June 2020*



WHAT IS OUR GOAL TODAY?

Let's try to answer three questions:

1. Is the European Union still an International Organization?
2. Is the European Union a democratic entity?
3. What is the future of the European Union?



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WHAT THE EUROPEAN UNION ?





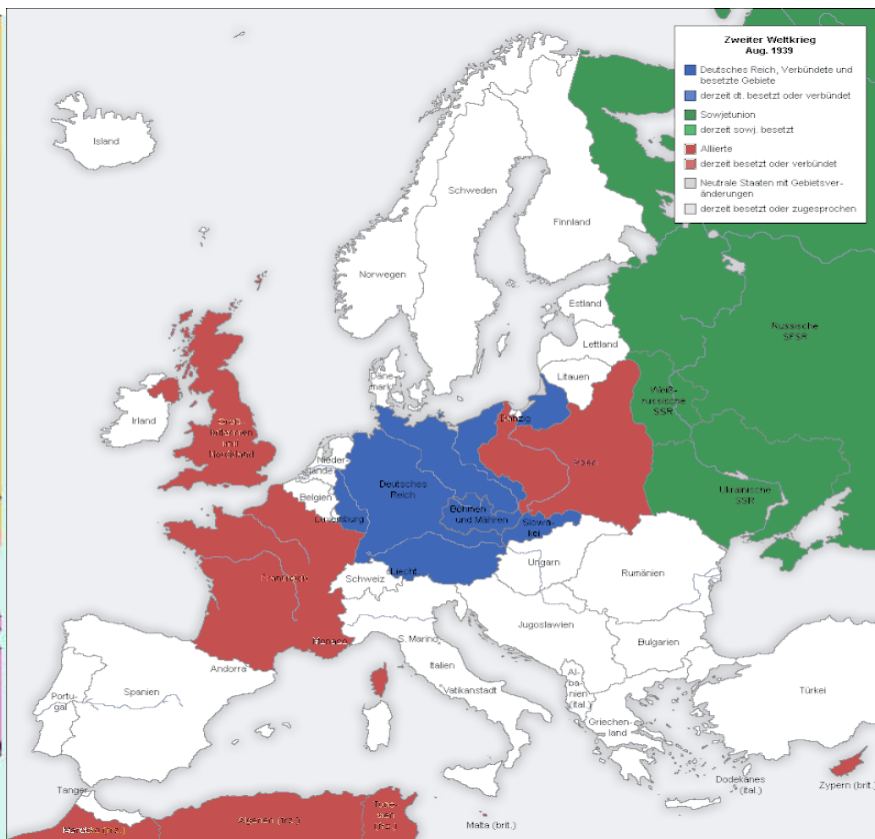


Middle East Friendship Chart

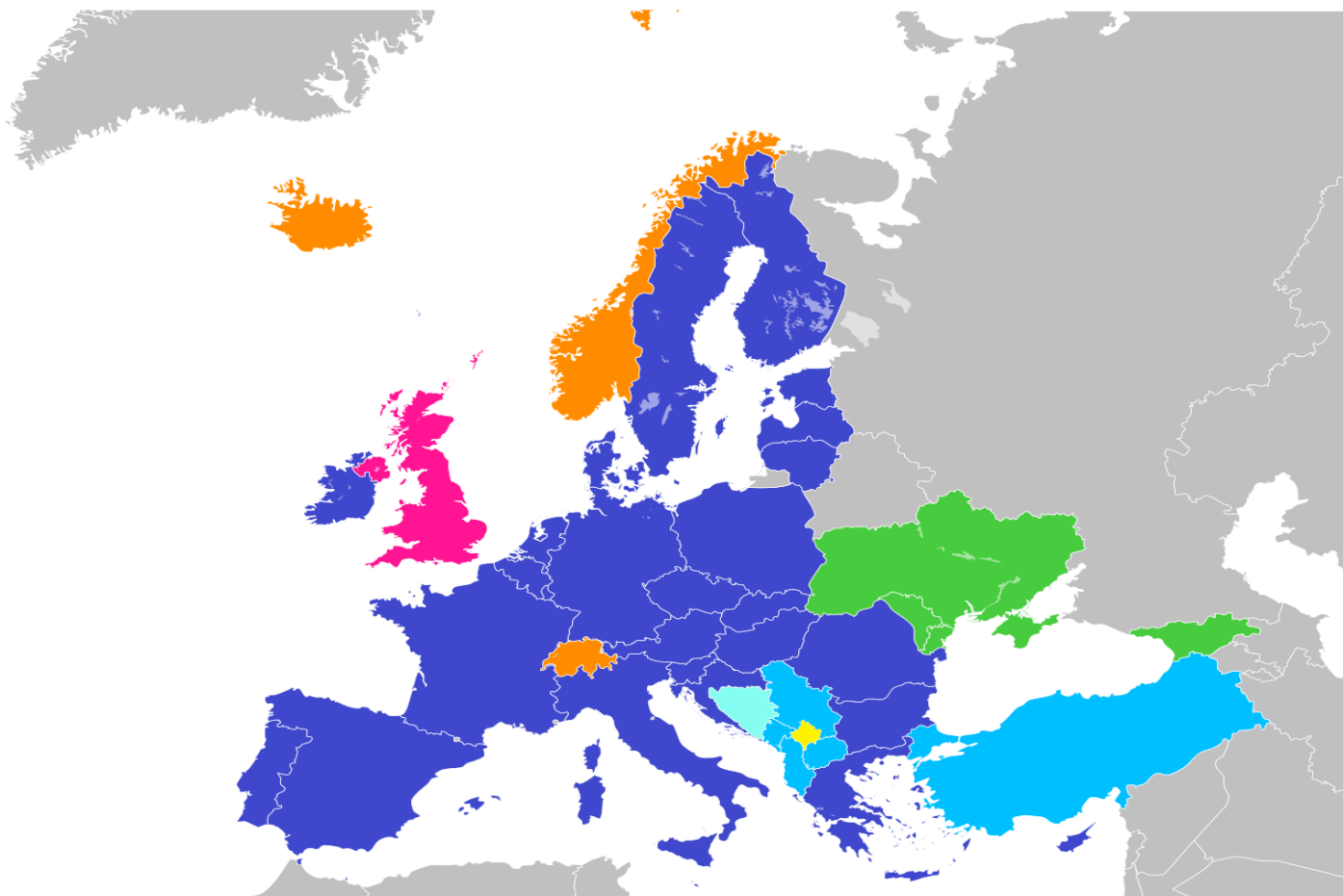
Legend:  Friends  Enemies  It's complicated

With overlapping civil wars in Syria and Iraq, a new flare-up of violence between Israel and the Palestinians, and tense nuclear talks with Iran, Middle Eastern politics are more volatile than ever and longtime alliances are shifting. Here's a guide to who's on whose side in the escalating chaos.

	Al-Qaida	Egypt	Hamas	Hezbollah	Iran	Iraq	ISIS	Israel	Palestinian Authority	Saudi Arabia	Syria	Turkey	United States
Al-Qaida													
Egypt													
Hamas													
Hezbollah													
Iran													
Iraq													
ISIS													
Israel													
Palestinian Authority													
Saudi Arabia													
Syria													
Turkey													
United States													



THE 27 MEMBER STATES OF THE EU



27

Member States

Combined
population of
EU Member
States

450
million

7

Percent of world's
population

Percent of
global GDP

20

55

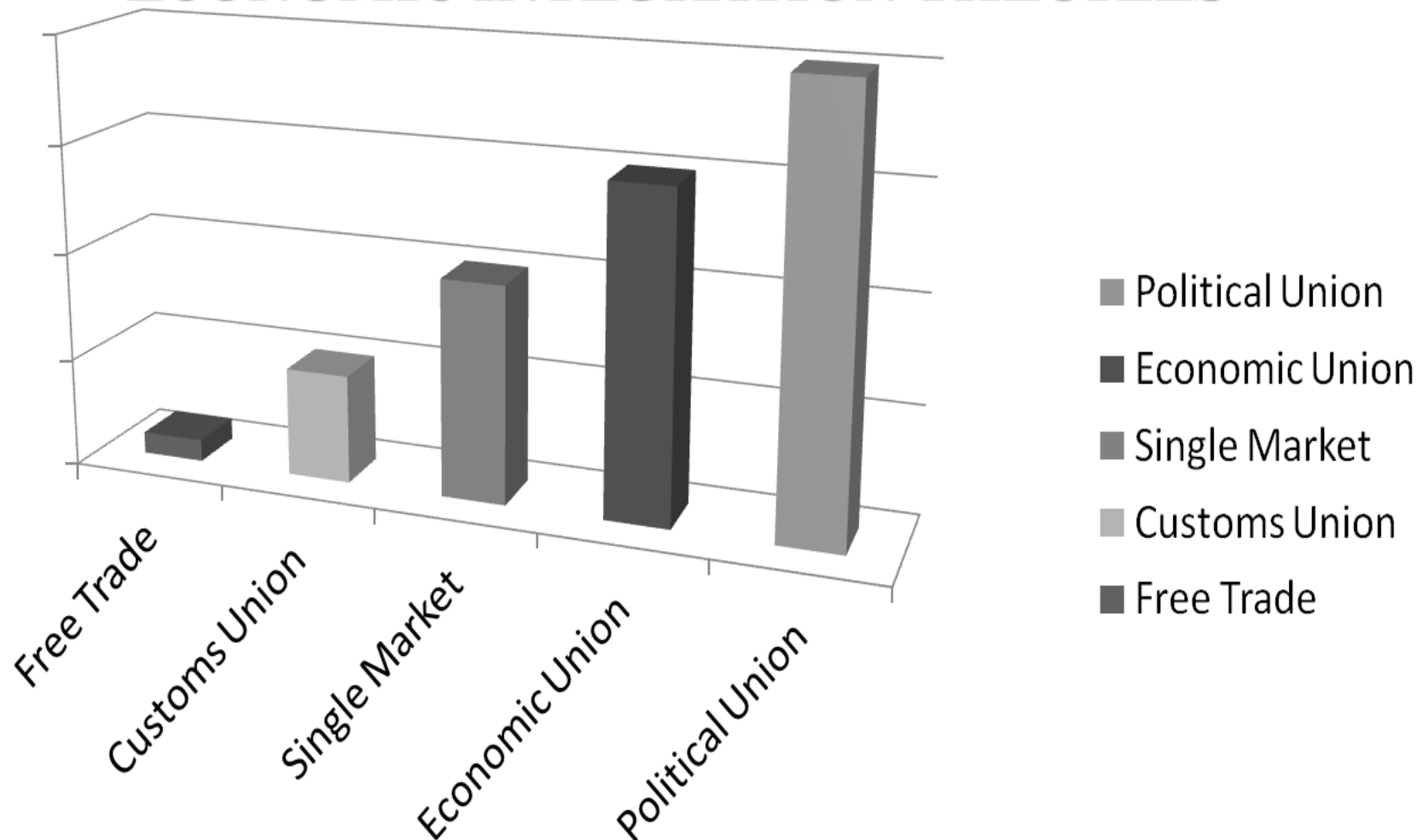
Percent of combined
worldwide Official
Development Assistance

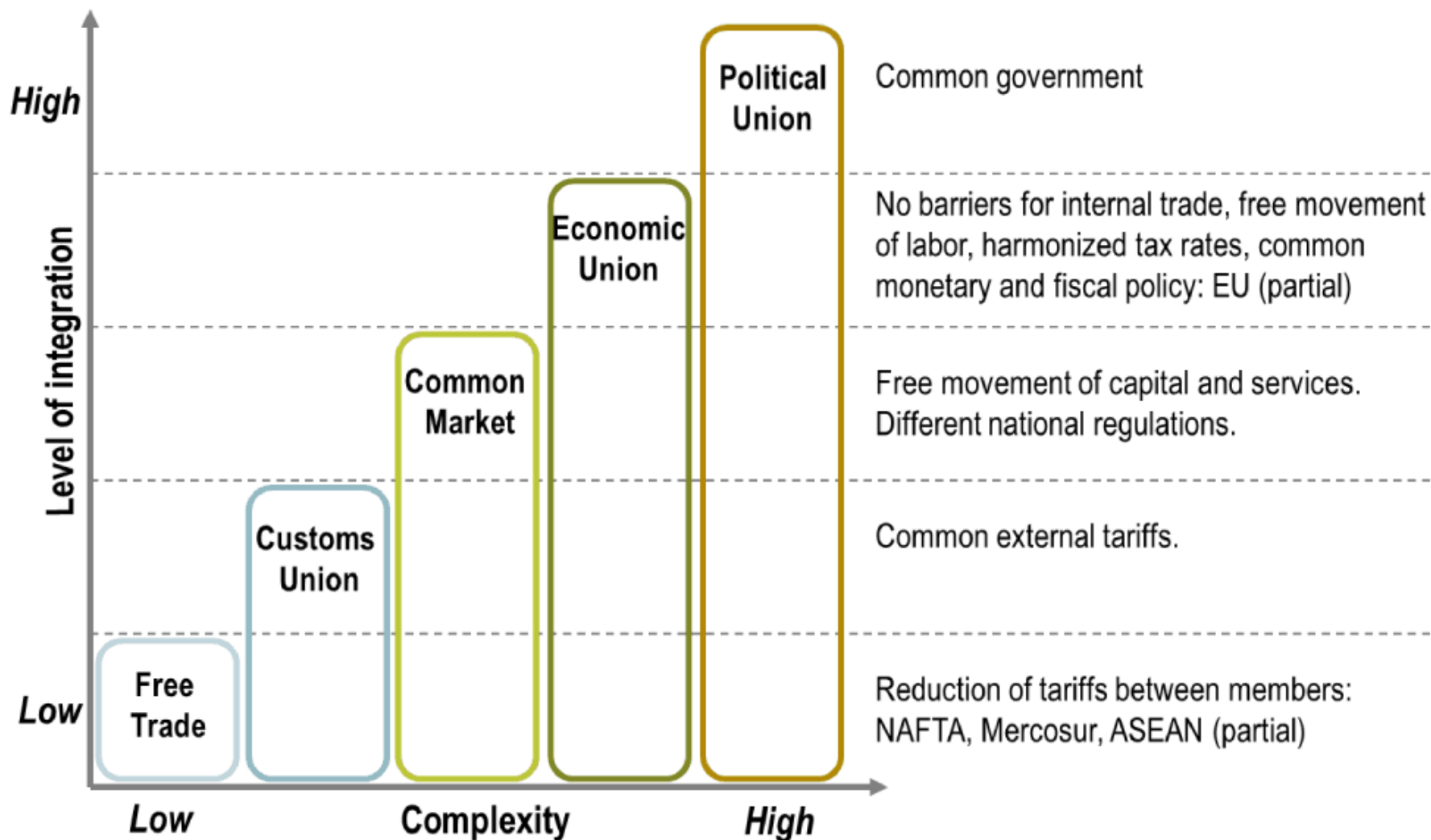
- Shared values: liberty, democracy, respect for human rights and the rule of law.
- Largest economic body in the world.
- A unique institution – Member States voluntarily cede national sovereignty in many areas to carry out common policies and governance.
- Not a super-state to replace existing states, nor just an organization for international cooperation.
- World's largest & most open market

WHY HAS IT EVOLVED?



ECONOMIC INTEGRATION THEORIES







Jean Monnet and other leaders with the first "European" ingot of steel

1951: **European Coal and Steel Community**

- In the aftermath of World War II, the aim was to secure peace among Europe's victorious and vanquished nations and bring them together as equals, cooperating within shared institutions.
- Based on a plan by French Foreign Minister Robert Schuman.
- Six founding countries – Belgium, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands – signed a treaty to run heavy industries (coal and steel) under common management.



Signing of the Treaty of Rome

ToGEThe[®]
SINCE 1957

 European Union
50th Anniversary

1957:

Treaty of Rome

- The six founding countries expanded cooperation to other economic sectors, creating the European Economic Community (EEC) – or “common market.”
- As a result, people, goods, services, and capital today move freely across the Union.

1951

***Founding
Members***

Belgium
France
Germany
Italy
Luxembourg
Netherlands



1973

Denmark
Ireland
United Kingdom



1981

Greece



1986

Portugal
Spain





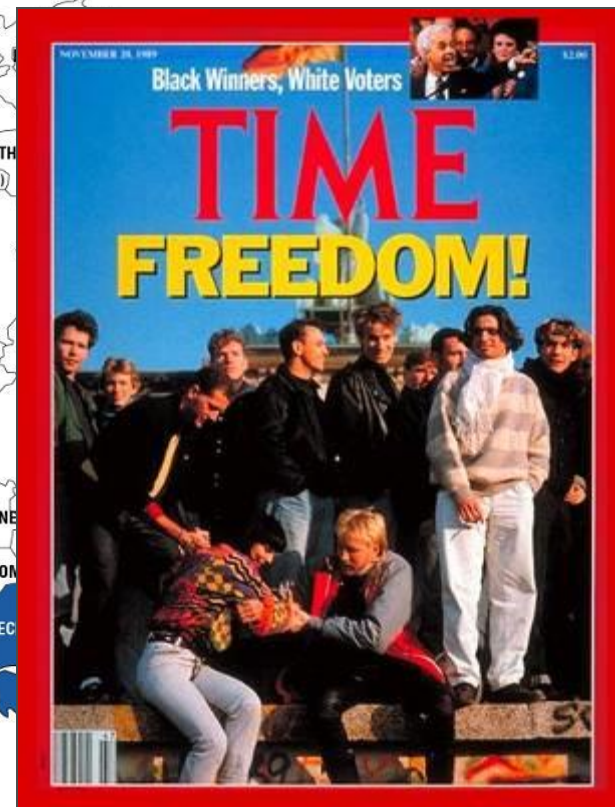
1987:

The Single European Act

- Introduced measures aimed at achieving an **internal market** (for instance, harmonisation) plus institutional changes related to these (such as a generalisation of qualified majority voting and a cooperation procedure involving the European Parliament).

**November
1989**

**Fall of the
Berlin Wall
sets the
stage for
unifying
Europe and
EU
enlargement**



EU FOUNDING TREATY: THE TREATY OF MAASTRICHT



- The Treaty of Maastricht (1992): the three „pillars” structure of the EU:
 - I. **Community pillar**, which corresponded to the three Communities:
 - the European Community (EC),
 - the European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM);
 - the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) (until 2002);
 - II. **Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP);**
 - III. **Justice and Home Affairs (JHA);**
- The three pillars functioned on the basis of different decision-making procedures:
 - ☐ the **Community procedure** for the **first pillar** and
 - ☐ the **intergovernmental procedure** for the **other two**.



1995

Austria
Finland
Sweden



Cyprus
Czech Republic
Estonia
Hungary
Latvia
Lithuania
Malta
Poland
Slovakia
Slovenia



THE TREATY OF LISBON:



- The Lisbon Treaty **strengthens EU role** on the international scene:
 - by giving it **legal personality** and
 - by **uniting the three former pillars** that used to make up the European Communities.

The institutional structure in three “pillars” introduced by the Maastricht Treaty is eliminated and the European Union replaces and succeeds the European Community.

Within the EU, decisions are taken in accordance with a procedure of „common” law, called the “**ordinary legislative procedure**”. However, **specific decision-making procedures** are maintained in certain areas (CFSP, JHA)

- The division of powers between the Union and the Member States is clarified:
 - the **exclusive competences of the European Union**
 - the **competences shared between the Union and the Member States**
 - the **areas in which the Union supports, coordinates or supplements the actions of the Member States.**

Exclusive competence:

- the customs union
- the establishing of the competition rules necessary for the functioning of the internal market
- monetary policy for the member states whose currency is the euro
- the conservation of marine biological resources under the common fisheries policy
- common commercial policy
- conclusion of certain international agreements

Shared competence:

- the internal market
- social policy
- economic, social and territorial cohesion
- agriculture and fisheries, excluding the conservation of marine biological resources
- environment
- consumer protection
- transport
- trans-European networks
- energy
- the area of freedom, security and justice
- common safety concerns in public health matters, for the aspects defined in the Treaty
- research, technological development and space
- development cooperation, humanitarian aid
- coordination of economic, employment and social policies
- common foreign, security and defence policy

Supporting competence:

- the protection and improvement of human health
- industry
- culture
- tourism
- education, youth, sport and vocational training
- civil protection (disaster prevention)
- administrative cooperation

2007

Bulgaria
Romania

2013

Croatia





Candidate Countries

Northern Macedonia
Montenegro
Serbia
Turkey

Potential Candidate Countries

Albania
Bosnia & Herzegovina
Kosovo



EUROPEAN UNION

- **The European Union** is a unique economic and political union of 27 member states which are located primarily in Europe
 - it is **not a state** intended to replace existing states, but it does represent a greater **compromise of sovereignty** than any other international organization;
 - its Member States have set up **common institutions** to which they delegate some of their sovereignty so that decisions on specific matters of joint interest can be made democratically at European level; this pooling of sovereignty is also called „European integration”.

WHAT IS OUR GOAL TODAY?

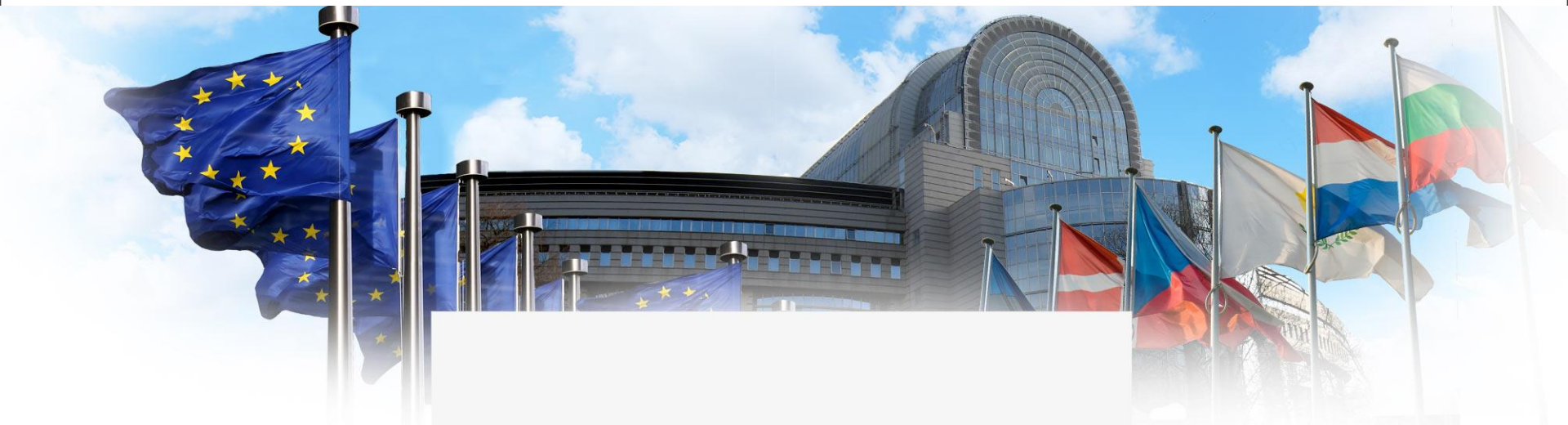
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HOW ARE DECISIONS IN THE EUROPEAN UNION MADE?



EU INSTITUTIONS



THE INSTITUTIONS OF THE EU:



EUROPEAN
COUNCIL

EUROPEAN
PARLIAMENT

COUNCIL OF THE
EU

EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

COURT OF
JUSTICE

COURT OF
AUDITORS

ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE OF THE
REGIONS

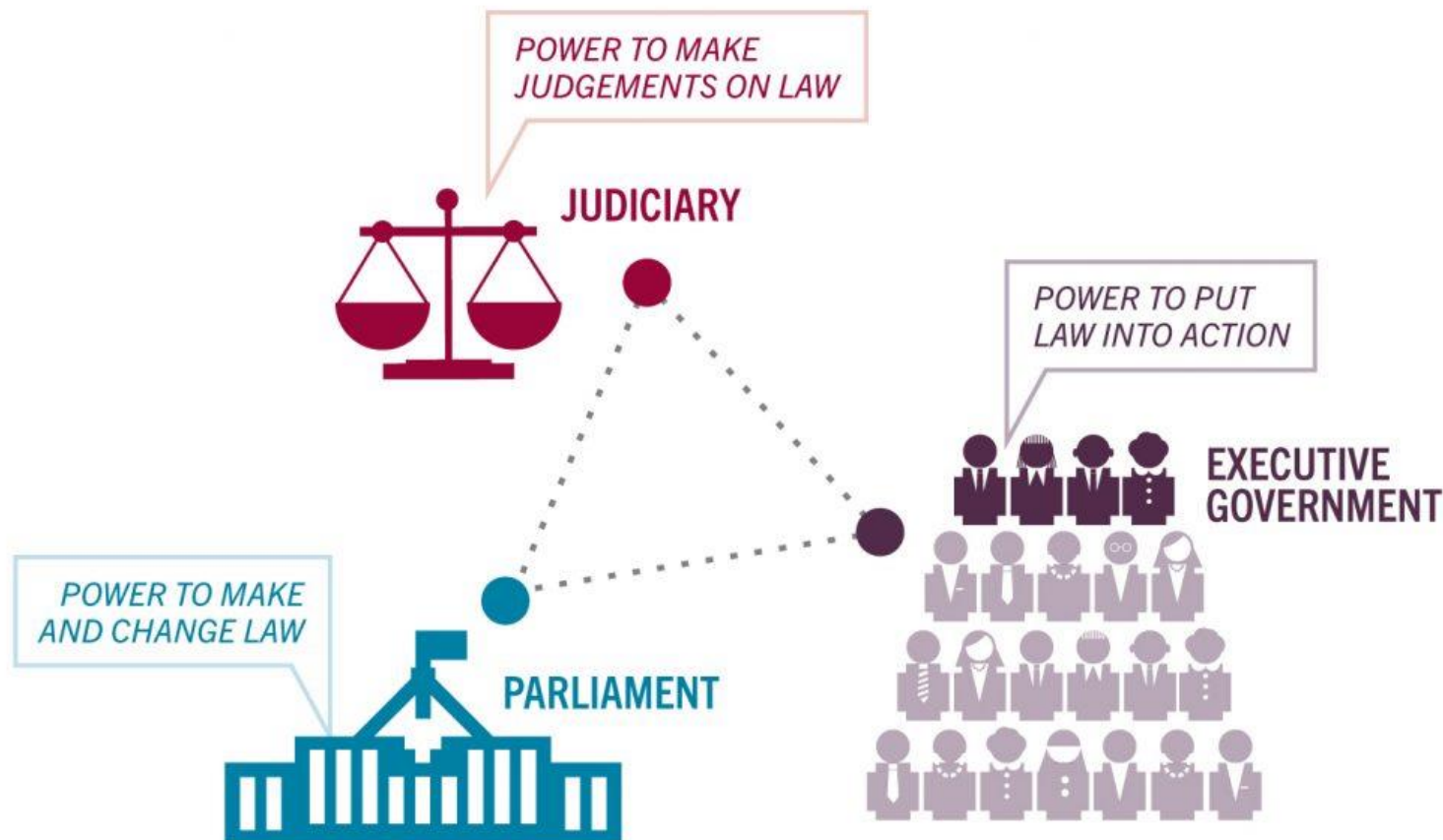
EUROPEAN INVESTMENT
BANK

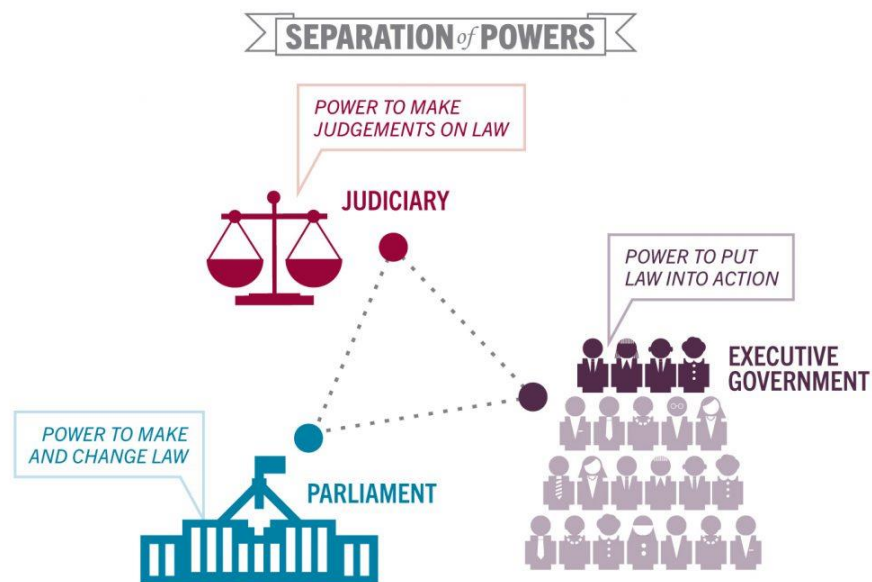
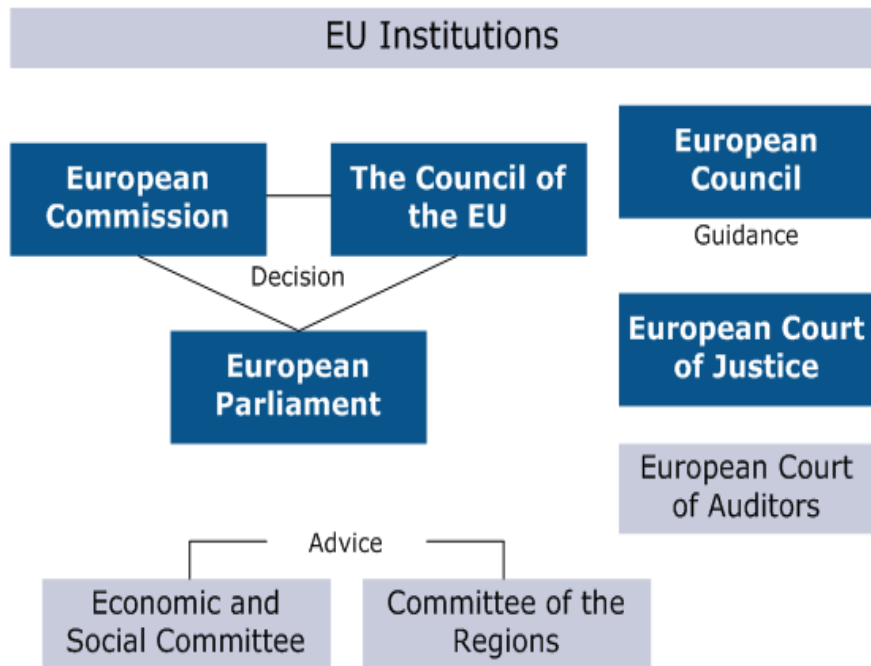
EUROPEAN CENTRAL
BANK

- **Supranational vs. Intergovernmentalist approaches:** the EU operates through a system of supranational independent institutions and intergovernmental negotiated decisions by the member states

	Intergovernmentalism	Supranationalism
Actors	European Council Council of the European Union EU member states	European Commission European Parliament* European Court of Justice*
Assumption	States are the important actors for integration. Supranational institutions are only instruments for the interests of states.	National governments transfer power to transnational institutions. Decisions are binding for member states. institutions will ensure further integration.
Effect	States want to foster the own national interests and objectives.	Several states transform some power to a common (supranational) body which develops binding rules for the member states.

SEPARATION of POWERS







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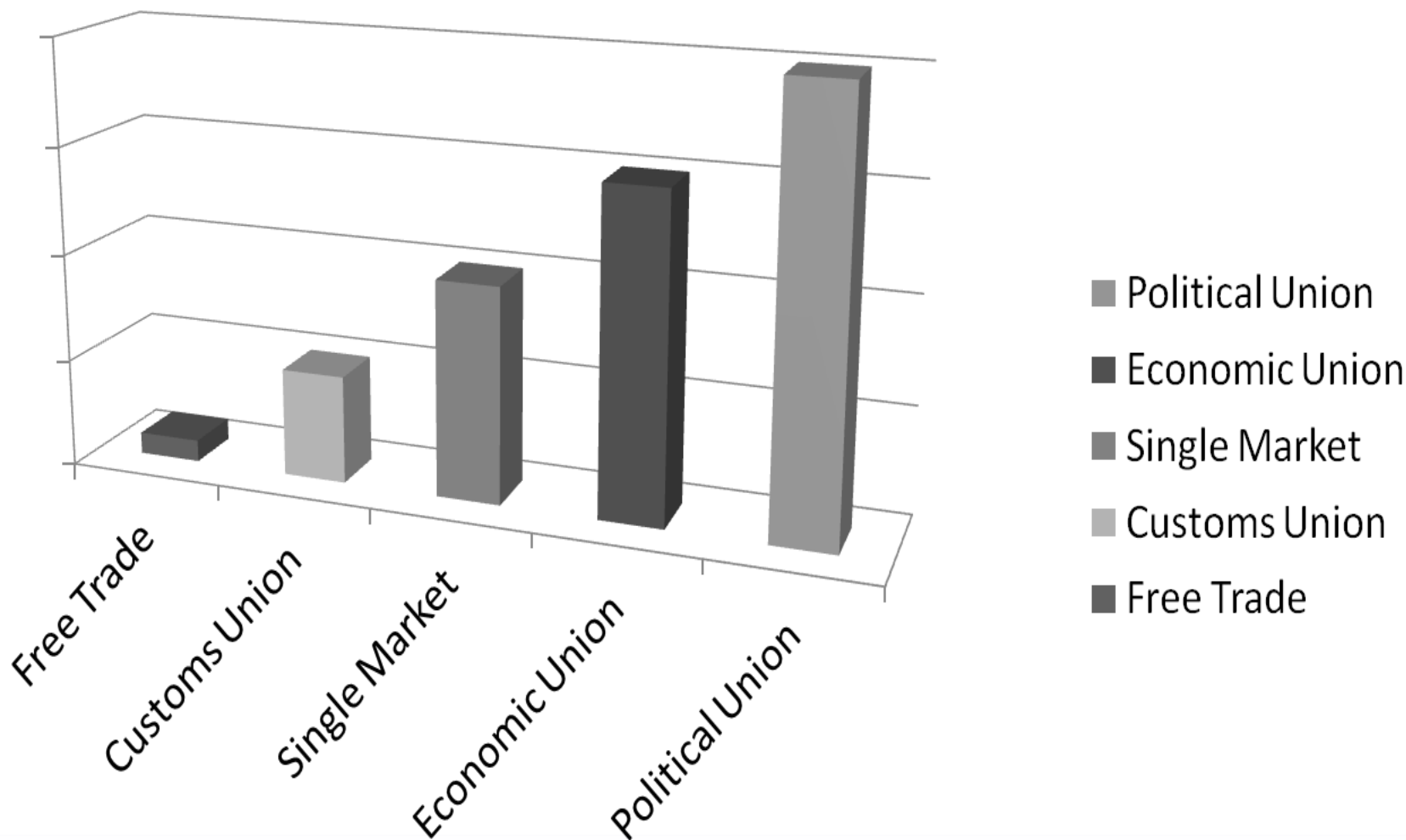
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WHAT IS THE EUROPEAN UNION'S FUTURE?



STAGES OF ECONOMIC INTEGRATION



SCENARIOS FOR EU'S FUTURE

1. Carrying On:

The EU27 focuses on delivering its positive reform agenda

2. Nothing but the Single Market:

The EU27 is gradually re-centred on the single market

3. Those Who Want More Do More:

The EU27 allows willing Member States to do more together in specific areas

4. Doing Less More Efficiently:

The EU27 focuses on delivering more and faster in selected policy areas, while doing less elsewhere

5. Doing Much More Together:

Member States decide to do much more together across all policy areas