

## **Pedantic & Prolix Info #9**

### **The Road to European Union**

1944	Bretton Woods agreement creates world monetary system w/fixed exchange rates
1947	Creation of GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs & Trade)
1952	Creation of European Coal-Steel Community (ECSC) with "the Six." <sup>1</sup>
1954	Britain becomes "associate" member of ECSC French National Assembly rejects Signing of European Defense Community Treaty. <sup>2</sup>
1958	Treaty of Rome creates European Economic Community (EEC) with "the Six"
1959	Turkey applies for associate membership in EEC
1960	Creation of European Free Trade Association (EFTA) with "the Seven". <sup>3</sup>
1963	France vetoes Britain's application to join EEC
1967	France vetoes Britain's application to join EEC ( <i>again!!</i> ) EEC becomes EC (just "European Community")
1969	EEC Conference at The Hague decides to enlarge the Community
1972	Norwegians reject EC membership in referendum EC leaders commit the Community to monetary union (EMU) by 1980
1973	The "Northern Enlargement": Britain, Ireland & Denmark join EC. <sup>4</sup>
1975	EC gets its own income based on external customs duties and 1% VAT
1979	Establishment of an improved European Monetary System (EMS)
1981	Greece joins EC in first step of EC's "Southern Enlargement" <sup>5</sup>
1985	"Single European Act" sets goal of achieving "common market" by 1992. <sup>6</sup> Greenland leaves the EC. <sup>7</sup>
1986	Spain & Portugal join EC to complete "Southern Enlargement" <sup>8</sup>
1987	Turkey applies for full EC membership
1990	Reunification of Germany; former GDR now becomes part of EC Malta & Cyprus (Greek portion) apply for membership
1991	Members of EC conclude Treaty on European Union in Maastricht, Netherlands. <sup>9</sup>
1992	Referendum in Denmark rejects Maastricht treaty (50.7% <i>against</i> ) Britain & Italy leave Exchange Rate Mechanism (ERM) after massive speculation Switzerland applies for membership, but abandons application the same year
1993	EC single internal market comes into existence Second Danish referendum supports amended Maastricht treaty European Union (EU) comes formally into existence
1994	Norwegian referendum rejects accession to the Union for second time (see 1972) GATT becomes the World Trade Organization (WTO)

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<sup>1</sup> "The Six" – constituting the core of the states of the European union – were Germany (FRG), France, Italy & the Benelux countries (Belgium, Netherlands, Luxembourg).

<sup>2</sup> Originally signed in 1952.

<sup>3</sup> "The Seven" included Britain, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, Austria, and Portugal--later joined by Iceland (1970) and Finland (1985). That is, "the Seven" were in effect the non-Six.

<sup>4</sup> Application by these three countries first made in 1961 (Norway's first application in 1962).

<sup>5</sup> Greek application made in 1975

<sup>6</sup> The "Single Act" was ratified in 1987.

<sup>7</sup> Greenland had received home rule from Denmark in 1979 and held a referendum in 1982, in which 52% of the population voted to leave the EC. To my knowledge, this is the only case of a country *leaving* the EC.

<sup>8</sup> Application by Spain & Portugal made in 1977.

<sup>9</sup> Calls for creation of single currency, the Euro, by 1999 and other elements of further integration.

1995	Austria, Sweden & Finland join the EU. <sup>10</sup> Creation of World Trade Organization (WTO) as successor to GATT
1997	Turkey is excluded from current round of negotiations for inclusion in EU
1999	Introduction of Euro for certain non-cash transactions Turkey recognized as candidate, but no date set for negotiations
2002	Euro fully replaces national currencies (except in the UK, Denmark & Sweden) <sup>11</sup>
2004	Ten countries, mostly former communist countries join the Union. <sup>12</sup> Croatia gains status as a candidate for membership in EU EU establishes conditions for opening of accession negotiations with Turkey 25 Member states sign European Constitution – but ratification required <sup>13</sup>
2005	Macedonia formally becomes candidate for membership in EU France & Netherlands reject European Constitution in referenda; ratification ceases <sup>14</sup>
2007	Romania & Bulgaria join the EU Slovenia adopts the Euro formally Negotiations on Reform (Lisbon) Treaty begin, to replace failed European Constitution
2008	Malta & Cyprus (Greek portion) adopts the Euro
2009	Slovakia adopts Euro
2010	Lisbon Treaty goes into effect in December, amending Maastricht Treaty Serious discussion of candidacy status for Serbia

### Members of the European Union (and Its Predecessors)

1957 (6)	1973 (9)	1981 (10)	1986 (12)	1995 (15)	2004 (25)	2007 (27)
Belgium	UK	Greece	Portugal	Austria	Cyprus	Bulgaria
France	Denmark		Spain	Finland	Czech Rep.	Romania
FRG	Ireland			Sweden	Estonia	
Italy					Hungary	
Luxembourg					Latvia	
Netherlands					Lithuania	
					Malta	
					Poland	
					Slovakia	
					Slovenia	

<sup>10</sup> Applications made in 1989, 1991, and 1992 respectively.

<sup>11</sup> New members of EU (2004 and 2007) also did not adopt Euro immediately.

<sup>12</sup> Those countries (with years of application in parentheses) are Cyprus & Malta (1990), Poland & Hungary (1994), Slovenia, Slovakia, Czech republic, Lithuania, Latvia & Estonia (1995-1996).

<sup>13</sup> European Constitution – more accurately, Treaty Establishing a Constitution or Europe – was designed to replace all early EU treaties.

<sup>14</sup> Votes in were 54.68% vs. 45.32% (France) and 61.54% vs. 38.46% (Netherlands). The Dutch referendum was only consultative, but the Dutch government resolved not to ratify the Constitution after the vote.

**Adoption of Euro (by year)**

<b>1999 (11)</b>	<b>2001 (12)</b>	<b>2007 (13)</b>	<b>2008 (15)</b>	<b>2009 (16)</b>	<b>2011 (17)</b>	<b>Non-Euro (10)</b>
Belgium	Greece	Slovenia	Cyprus	Slovakia	Estonia	Denmark
Germany			Malta			UK
Spain						Sweden
France						Poland
Ireland						Hungary
Italy						Latvia
Luxembourg						Lithuania
Netherlands						Czech Rep.
Austria						Bulgaria
Portugal						Romania
Finland						

### Curious Table on European Union

Country	Year of entry	Population in millions (2006)	Relative GDP per person (2006) <sup>15</sup>
France	1958	62.9	107.3
Belgium	1958	10.5	118.1
Netherlands	1958	16.3	126.1
Germany	1958	82.4	110.2
Luxemburg	1958	0.5	257.1
Italy	1958	58.8	99.4
United Kingdom	1973	60.4	117.3
Ireland	1973	4.2	139.2
Denmark	1973	5.4	122.4
Greece	1981	11.1	84.9
Spain	1986	43.8	98.0
Portugal	1986	10.6	69.8
Sweden	1995	9.0	116.0
Finland	1995	5.3	112.9
Austria	1995	8.3	123.2
Estonia	2004	1.3	65.0
Latvia	2004	2.3	52.3
Lithuania	2004	3.4	55.0
Poland	2004	38.2	51.1
Czech Republic	2004	10.3	76.1
Slovakia	2004	5.4	59.4
Hungary	2004	10.1	63.6
Slovenia	2004	2.0	83.6
Romania	2007	21.6	35.8
Bulgaria	2007	7.7	34.2
Croatia	(under negotiation)	4.4	49.0
Turkey	(under negotiation)	72.5	28.2

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<sup>15</sup> EU 25 members = 100