



WHY WAS THE EU CREATED?

KEY WORDS

- Rhine-Ruhr Valley
- Economic asset
- Supranational
- Jean Monnet
- Schuman Plan
- Robert Shuman
- Europe Day
- ECSC
- Inner Six

WORLD WAR II

After the physical and financial destruction of WWII, European nations sought to find a way to prevent war and promote peace



COAL AND STEEL RESOURCES

The **Rhine-Ruhr Valley** had been a major **economic asset** to Germany during WWII. This region, shared with France, allowed Germany to manufacture resources to help them build economic and military strength

Why would a country need steel during a war?

Why would a country need coal during a war?



SCHUMAN PLAN

- Originally created by **Jean Monnet**
- **European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC)**
 - Create single authority to control production of coal steel
 - Mainly between France and West Germany
- Proposed by **Robert Schuman** on May 9, 1950
 - Celebrated as **Europe Day**
- **“Inner Six”** founding members
 - France, West Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg

EUROPEAN COAL AND STEEL COMMUNITY

- **Treaty of Paris** ratified in 1952 by all 6 members
- Created a common market for coal and steel
- Goal: prevent buildup of resources that would allow for the rise of a military superpower and lead to war
 - Legacy of Germany in WWII
- **First supranational organization**
 - Policy controls all nations and has a higher authority than national laws
- Created base organization for what would eventually become the European Union

MAIN GOAL OF ECSC: WORLD PEACE

“The pooling of coal and steel production... will change the destinies of those regions which have long been devoted to the manufacture of munitions of war...”

“Make war not only unthinkable but materially impossible”

