Sample Completed PERSIA Graphic Organizer

The Formation of the European Union

Intellectual Influences
- Founding Fathers of the EU, e.g. Winston Churchill, Jean Monnet, Robert Schuman
- Idea that nationalism is the root of war; integration and cooperation as only way to prevent future war
- Idea that countries who trade with each other become economically interdependent and more likely to avoid conflict
- Coal and steel as instruments of war and of reconstruction
- Schuman Plan (1950): brainchild of Monnet and Schuman; leads to European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC)

Religious Influences
- Peace as a religious ideal
- Christian Democratic parties as early supporters of EU, at the forefront pushing European integration forward

Political Influences
- World Wars I and II
- Treaty of Paris (1951) establishes European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC)
- Cold War context heightens urgency for European cooperation and fuels US advocacy of the European project
- Treaties of Rome (1957) establish the European Economic Community (EEC) and the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom)
- Broad support for the European project across the political spectrum
- Elite-led project with little popular participation

Economic Influences
- Need for rapid economic reconstruction post-World War II
- Marshall Plan (1947): US helps to rebuild Europe
  → to prevent spread of Communism
  → to re-establish Europe as a healthy economic trade partner
- Idea to begin cooperation with low economic issues (e.g. coal and steel); over time, cooperation in certain economic areas will necessitate cooperation in other areas ("spillover")
- Desire to be united bloc for economic and trade purposes

Social Influences
- Determination to prevent war and destruction

Area - Geographic Influences
- Physical post-war devastation of Europe
- Mass movements of people in post-war period
- Location of coal (France, Benelux countries) and steel (Germany)
- 6 founding members located on mainland of Europe; share common boarders
- Idea of creating a regional power
- European Economic Community (EEC) creates a common market in which goods, services, people, and capital move freely across borders