Brussels Study Tour 2019  
K-12 Teacher Unit Planning Template

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name: Lisa Mortenson</th>
<th>Unit Plan: The EU as a Global Institution</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unit Title:</td>
<td>The European Union as a Global Institution</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subject/Grade Level:</td>
<td>AP World History</td>
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**Unit Narrative:**
In the post-war era, numerous transnational agreements and institutions have been developed in order to address regional and global issues. These organizations attempt to address issues of human rights, international movement and trade, the environment, and international conflict, security, and peacekeeping. The historical context of the creation of each of these organizations has influenced their goals and structure, as well as their means of accomplishing stated goals.

**Standards:**
This unit covers standards from the 2019 College Board AP World History CED, primarily unit 9 (Globalization: 1900-present)

**Objectives**
- Explain the structure and relationship of EU member states
- Compare EU systems to American Federal system
- Explain how and why globalization changed international interactions among states (CED 9.6)
- Evaluate the relative success of the EU and other global institutions at addressing issues

**Big Ideas**
- Issues such as conflict, immigration, trade, and the environment have been challenges throughout history, and have often required solutions on a transnational level. The European Union is one example of individual states creating structures to aid this process.

**Essential Questions**
- To what extent is the European Union effective as an international organization in addressing issues facing Europe and/or the global community

**Learning Acquisition and Assessment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students will know... (content/concepts)</th>
<th>Students will be able to... (skills, performance tasks)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>→ Structure and reasons for creation of the EU</td>
<td>→ Describe the structure, function, and goals of the EU</td>
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<tr>
<td>→ How the EU has attempted to address current issues facing Europe and the world</td>
<td>→ Compare EU to American institutions of government</td>
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<td></td>
<td>→ Evaluate the relative success of the EU in addressing contemporary issues</td>
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**Formative Assessments**
- Venn Diagram
- Case study graphic organizer & presentations

**Summative Assessments**
- Socratic/Harkness discussion
- LEQ (prompt based on essential question)

**Learning Activities (1 week – 5 days): Lesson introduction, body, and closing**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Day 1</th>
<th>What is the European Union</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>→ Teacher led overview of history and structure (powerpoint)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>→ Comparison to American federal system of government: Use articles for students to individually or collaboratively complete Venn Diagram comparing American and European institutions. These articles can also be assigned in advance, depending on the length of the class.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>→ Depending on the degree of student background knowledge, the following article can be assigned as pre-reading before teacher led overview of the EU, or as a preview of issues facing the EU today before assigning case study topics: <a href="https://www.thestreet.com/politics/what-is-european-union-14690672">https://www.thestreet.com/politics/what-is-european-union-14690672</a></td>
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<td>Day 2</td>
<td>The EU as an international organization</td>
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<td>→ Discuss homework article: what are the EU’s goals and major issues</td>
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<td>Day 3</td>
<td>Case study work time: fill in graphic organizer and create summary paragraph(s) addressing answers to the required questions (problem, goal, means to address, divisions between EU nations, comparison to another region/organization)</td>
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<td>Day 4</td>
<td>Presentation of case study findings: summarize the problems, goal of the EU in addressing the issue, means to address the problem, possible divisions between EU countries, comparison to how another region or organization has attempted to address a similar issue.</td>
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<td>Day 5</td>
<td>Socratic/Harkness discussion of essential question: To what extent is the EU an effective international organization (issues of focus: trade, environment, regulations, immigration, peace/conflict, economic cooperation)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td>Essay prompt (AP/LEQ format): To what extent has the European Union been an effective international organization from its creation in the post war era through 2018?</td>
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**Resources and Materials**

- Day 1 homework article: [https://www.thestreet.com/politics/what-is-european-union-14690672](https://www.thestreet.com/politics/what-is-european-union-14690672)

Case Study Materials: Suggested articles by topic:

American vs. European Union Governing Institutions

*Use the following resources as well as your knowledge of American government to complete the Venn Diagram:*

- Federalism and Democratization: The United States and European Union in Comparative Perspective: [http://fas-polisci.rutgers.edu/dkelemen/research/Kelemen_FederalismAndDemocratization.pdf](http://fas-polisci.rutgers.edu/dkelemen/research/Kelemen_FederalismAndDemocratization.pdf)
# Issues Facing the EU: Case Study Research Organizer

**Group Member Names:** ________________________________________________________________

**Issue:** ____________________________________________________________________________________

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summarize the issue/problem:</th>
<th>Countries involved:</th>
<th>Addressing the Issue:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Countries involved &amp; why:</td>
<td>Goals/End Results:</td>
<td>Means/Strategies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outside EU countries involved (if any) and why:</td>
<td>Discrepancies between various EU member states and/or challenges?</td>
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Make a connection: how has this issue been present in another region of the world? What comparisons can you make to how it was addressed/solved? Was there another international organization or specific nation playing a role in addressing the issue? To what extent was it resolved and how?

Summary: Write an approximately one paragraph summary of the information above to help you consolidate your thoughts before presenting your topic:
Overlapping European Treaty Members

Choose colors to shade each of the following (color lightly – many will overlap!). The following website can also help: https://www.visualcapitalist.com/a-guide-to-europes-member-states/

- EU member states
- Eurozone member states (those officially using Euro as currency)
- Schengen Treaty states
- NATO alliance members
The European Union

• International body in Europe representing:
  • 28 member countries
  • 24 official languages

• Created as an economic partnership
  • Origins in European Coal & Steel Community (ECSC) and European Economic Community (EEC)
  • Today Eurozone provides common currency across 19 of 28 member states
Eurozone & the Euro

Map via Political Geography Now: https://www.polgeonow.com/2014/08/map-which-countries-use-euro-plus-this.html
Growth of the European Union
Governance in the EU

Set up similar to the American Federal System

European Commission:
- Functions as executive
- Proposes, but does not create legislation
- Decisions by consensus

European Council:
- Determines political direction and priorities
- Representatives from 28 member states
- Co-decisions with Parliament

European Parliament:
- Directly elected by EU citizens
- Co-decisions with European Council
Proposes legislation

Adopt legislation by co-decision
How the EU works

- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O37yJBFRrfg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O37yJBFRrfg)
Initiating Laws & Policies
Overlapping Treaty Membership

- Image via http://factsmaps.com/eu-nato-schengen-eurozone-member-states-in-europe/
The European Commission

- What does the Commission do?
- How does it affect the lives of European people?
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nWpgO1EPO_Y
Current Issues Facing the EU

• Brexit
• Environmental Regulation
• Trade (within and outside of the EU)
• Human Rights
• Migration
• Enlargement/Growth of the EU