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Name: Martha Lingua-Wheless		Unit Plan: Cold War and Contemporary Europe (Unit 9)
		Subject/Grade Level: AP European History/ 10 - 12
Topic Title:	9.10: The European Union	
Key Concepts:	Key Concept-4.4.IV European states began to set aside nationalist rivalries in favor of economic and political integration, forming a series of transnational unions that grew in size and scope over the second half of the 20th century.  Key Concept-4.4.IV.A As the economic alliance known as the European Coal and Steel Community, envisioned as a means to spur postwar economic recovery, developed into the European Economic Community (EEC or Common Market) and the European Union (EU), Europe experienced increasing economic and political integration and efforts to establish a shared European identity.	
Objectives		

→ LEARNING OBJECTIVE: HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENTS Unit 9: Learning Objective J Explain how the formation and existence of the European Union influenced economic developments throughout the period following World War II to the present.

## **Essential Questions**

- → What is the European Union?
- → What are the benefits of and challenges to the European Union?

Learning Acquisition and Assessment				
Students will know (content/concepts)  → The history of the EU  → The component parts of the EU  → The impact of the EU on its citizens	Students will be able to (skills, performance tasks)  → Contextualize the European Union's  creation  → Discuss challenges facing the EU in 2020  → Explain how the EU can impact the lives of its citizens			
<ul> <li>Formative Assessments         <ul> <li>→ Annotated timeline of the founding of the EU</li> <li>→ Paper or infographic of how the EU impacts the lives of Europeans.</li> <li>→ Infographic, Google Slides, or video of one of the challenges facing the EU</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Summative Assessments  → As this learning plan is a part of a larger unit on the Cold War and Contemporary Europe, the unit test will include the EU information within the scope of the larger unit.			

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# Learning Activities (1 week - 3 days): Lesson introduction, body, and closing

# Day 1 | Day 1/Task 1: History of the European Union

In May 1950, Robert Schuman in The Schuman Declaration proposed: "World peace cannot be safeguarded without the making of creative efforts proportionate to the dangers which threaten it.

The contribution which an organized and living Europe can bring to civilization is indispensable to the maintenance of peaceful relations. In taking upon herself for more than 20 years the role of champion of a united Europe, France has always had as her essential aim the service of peace. A united Europe was not achieved and we had war.

Europe will not be made all at once, or according to a single plan. It will be built through concrete achievements which first create a de facto solidarity. The coming together of the nations of Europe requires the elimination of the age-old opposition of France and Germany. Any action taken must in the first place concern these two countries."

(Robert Schuman was French Foreign Minister between 1948 and 1952. Read about his life here: <a href="https://europa.eu/european-union/sites/europaeu/files/robert\_schuman\_en.pdf">https://europa.eu/european-union/sites/europaeu/files/robert\_schuman\_en.pdf</a>).

- 1. <u>Warm-Up</u>: Read the excerpt from the Schuman Declaration aloud. Then ask the students: "What events led to the Schuman Declaration?"
- 2. View the video Europe: From World War II to Today's European Union (<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xRwZyDTdCAc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xRwZyDTdCAc</a>) and create an Annotated Timeline of the events that resulted in the formation of the European Union. (Remember, an Annotated Timeline includes an explanation of the event and its importance along with the date of the event.)
- 3. At the end of your timeline identify and explain the importance of these key EU institutions and agreement: European Parliament, European Council, European Commission, European Court of Justice, European Central Bank, and the Schengen Agreement.
- 4. Closure: Which of the steps in the creation of the European Union do you believe was the most important? Why?

Main EU-related concepts/activities: Schuman Declaration, Components of the EU

### Day 2

# Day 2/Task 2: Understanding the European Union

1. Warm-up: On a blank map of Europe label all the EU members and the date that they joined the EEC/EU.



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- 2. Explore how the EU works. Watch the video and answer the questions that follow (<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9eufLQ3sew0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9eufLQ3sew0</a>)
  - a. What kind of union is the EU? (note: there are now 27 members)
  - b. What are some other areas of responsibility for the EU?
  - c. Who does the European Commission represent?
  - d. What is the purpose of the European Parliament. Whom does the Parliament represent?
  - e. What are some criticisms of the EU? What are some benefits of the EU?
- 3. Explore "What Europe Does for Me." Go to <a href="https://www.what-europe-does-for-me.eu/en/home">https://www.what-europe-does-for-me.eu/en/home</a> and explore different aspects of how the European Union affects peoples' lives. Then choose one aspect and write a short (1 2 page) reflection about what this aspect does and why it is important in the lives of Europeans. In lieu of writing a paper you may make an infographic explaining one way that the EU would affect your life if you lived in Europe.
- 4. Closure: What do you believe is the biggest benefit of the European Union?

Main EU-related concepts/activities: component parts of the EU; the EU's impact on its citizens

# Day 3 | Day 3/Task 3: Challenges Facing the EU

- 1. Warm-up: Not including the COVID-19 virus, what do you think is the biggest challenge facing the EU in 2020?
- Choose one of the two articles to read and take notes on. Choose either "The Top Five Challenges for Europe for 2020"
   (https://docs.google.com/document/d/1LYqRE0Y9rUI-VKFuhXyHczdWcPi90mYSd05xlk1pWN0/edit?usp=sharing) or Europe's Big Problems in 2020 (https://www.politico.eu/article/europe-big-problems-in-2020-climate-change-finance-brexit-china-iran/).
- 3. Once you have read your article create a infographic, video, or Google Slide presentation highlighting the challenge that you find most important. Be sure to explain why the challenge you chose is the most important and discuss the possible long-term consequences of this challenge for Europe. Additionally, please include any possible responses to the challenge.
- 4. Closure: Do you think Brexit will hurt the EU? Or will Brexit hurt Britain more?

Main EU-related concepts/activities: Events and ideas challenging the EU as 2020 begins



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Resources and Materials				
Books/Articles	Worksheets	Social media accounts/other digital resources		
→ "The Top Five Challenges for Europe for 2020" https://www.forbes .com/sites/pascaled avies/2020/12/31/ the-five-top- challenges-for- europe-in-2020/  → Europe's Big Problems in 2020 https://www.politic o.eu/article/europe -big-problems-in- 2020-climate- change-finance- brexit-china-iran/	→ Blank map of Modern Europe	<ul> <li>→ Website: European Union         <ul> <li>https://europa.eu/european-</li></ul></li></ul>		