

# Brussels Fellowship Lesson Plan

**Grade Level:** 6<sup>th</sup> grade (I support Special Education sections of 6<sup>th</sup> grade mathematics so these lessons are tailored for the needs of the students).

**Unit Plan: (Title)** Applying Percentages in a Renewable Energy Context

**Lesson Overview:** In this lesson students will apply their understandings of basic percentages to real world situations, using the context of energy production in the European Union.

**Do Now:** Students will engage in a reading about energy consumption in the EU and then fill in a KWL Chart (Know/Wonder/Learn) to consolidate their thinking.

**Stop and Jot/ Turn and Talk:** Students will write down their response to the question and then “Turn and Talk” with their partner. Students can then share out their responses with the class in a “Popcorn Share.”

**Modeling:** Teacher will model calculating percentages with a visual bar model and through the algorithm of multiplying with decimals.

**Hook:** Students will watch the DW video about electricity generation from renewable sources in the EU and then will discuss with their partner.

**Partner Application:** Using the Energy Transition: The Global Energiewende graphic, students will calculate percentages of energy production in the EU. Students can then share their work out under a document camera or verbally describe their process.

**Mini-Poster-**At this point students will delve deeply into one word problem, solve using two strategies and explain their work fully. This will give teachers an opportunity to assess student learning prior to the exit ticket at the close of the lesson series.

**Exit Ticket:** Students will demonstrate mastery of information via an exit ticket

**\*Opportunity for extension\***

Students can research and compare renewable energy consumption in the US and the EU. Knowledge can be displayed by creating a poster or power point presentation.

**Outcomes for Student Learning:** Students will be able to fluently compute problems with percentages that include decimals.

**EU-related Learning Goals:** Students will explore elements of the EU’s commitment to the climate and the policy levers used to impact behavior.

**Explain - Identify Possible Solutions:**

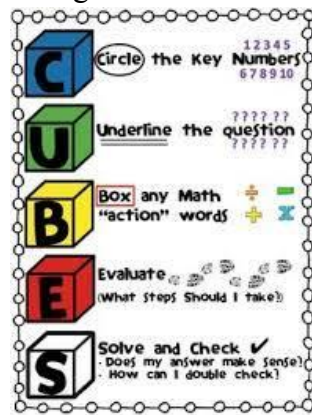
Students should be accurately calculating the computations involving percentages with decimals. There should not be multiple solutions to those calculations, however students may have a range of answers to questions that are opinion or summary based.

**Career Connection Exploration:**

Students will be exposed to careers in renewable energy. If this is an area of interest to students, teachers may provide additional information/lessons on those careers.

**Modifications for Differentiation:**

This lesson is heavily scaffolded to allow for appropriate access for students with disabilities. As a Special Education teacher, all of my classes are inclusion and require extensive accommodation in order for all students to be able to access the material. As many of my students have reading disabilities, I will read aloud the articles and turn on sub-titles during the video. I will also create anchor charts during the modeling portion of the lessons, so student have constant access to exemplars. Strategies such as the CUBES annotation strategy, Turn and Talks, Stop and Jots and Know Wonder Learn Charts are used throughout the lesson to provide further scaffolding.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date- \_\_\_\_\_

**Do Now: Read and annotate using the CUBES strategy**

## The EU's response to climate change: goals and legislation

### At least 55% fewer greenhouse gas emissions by 2030

The EU has adopted **ambitious legislation across multiple policy areas** to implement its international commitments on climate change. EU countries have set **binding emission targets** for key sectors of the economy to substantially reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

By 2017, the EU had reduced its emissions by almost 22% compared to 1990, reaching its 2020 emission reduction target **three years ahead of schedule**. In December 2020, in light of the EU's commitment to **increase its climate ambition** in line with the Paris Agreement, EU leaders endorsed a binding EU target for a net domestic reduction of **at least 55%** in greenhouse gas emissions **by 2030 compared to 1990** – a substantial step up from the EU's previous 2030 target of cutting emissions by 40%.

In April 2021, the Council and the Parliament reached a provisional agreement on the **European climate law** which aims to set into law the 2030 emissions reduction target. The agreement was adopted by EU ministers in June 2021.

While this increased climate ambition will require transforming the EU industry, it will also:

- spur **sustainable economic growth**
- create **jobs**
- deliver **health and environmental benefits** for EU citizens
- contribute to the long-term **global competitiveness** of the EU economy by promoting innovation in green technologies

Watch Video: [Here](#)

**KWL Chart: Take 2 minutes to fill in the chart below about what you read above.**

What do you KNOW?	What do you WONDER?	What do you want to LEARN?

### Activating Prior Knowledge

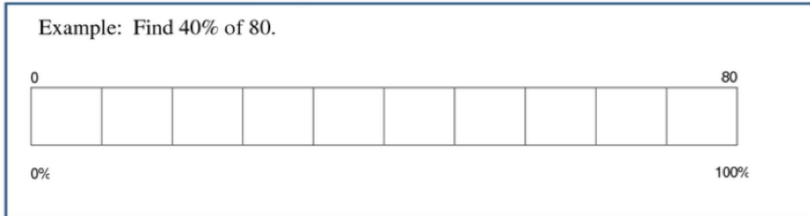
What is 12% as a fraction?	What is 12% as a decimal in simplest form?
What is 12.1% as a fraction?	What is 12.1% as a decimal in simplest form?

### Guided Practice

Stop and Jot	Turn and Talk
How were percentages important in your Do Now article?	Record your partner's response:

#### Model 1- Visual Bar Model

Ms. Smith's solar panels produced 40% of the electricity needed for her home. If she needs 80 KWh (kilowatt hours) of electricity per week, how many KWh were produced by her solar panel?



#### Model 2-The algorithm

Find 40% of 80

1. Convert the percent to a decimal
2. Multiply by the decimal

#### Model 3- The algorithm with decimals

Find 55.1% of 140

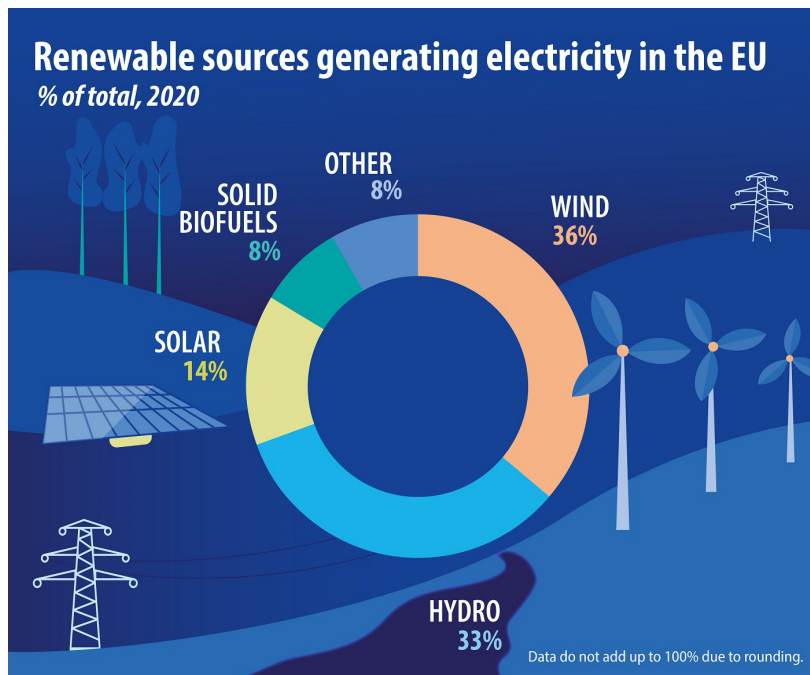
Read, annotate and solve each problem.

What is 65% of 155?	Sarah bought 14.5 gallons of gasoline for her truck. She used 28% of the gas on Friday, how many gallons of gas did she use? <i>Round to the nearest tenth.</i>
Jaquan hopes to earn \$135.50 before the summer. He is 80.25% of the way to his goal. How much money has he saved? <i>Round to the nearest tenth.</i>	Markel is collecting recycling at the middle school. He has collected 1,200 pounds of aluminum and has recycled 22.7%. how many pounds of aluminum has Markel recycled? <i>Round to the nearest tenth.</i>

### Partner Application:

Watch the [video](#) and take notes:

Recall the information from the video where we learned about the renewable energy endeavors of the EU. In 2021, the EU consumed 2,770 terawatt hours of electricity. Use this information to answer the questions below.



[ec.europa.eu/eurostat](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat)

How many TWh of energy were produced from wind power (onshore and offshore)?

\_\_\_\_\_ % of \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_.

How many TWh of energy were produced from solar power?

\_\_\_\_\_ % of \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_.

How many TWh of energy were produced from solid biofuels?

\_\_\_\_\_ % of \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_.

How many TWh of energy were produced from hydro power?

\_\_\_\_\_ % of \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_.

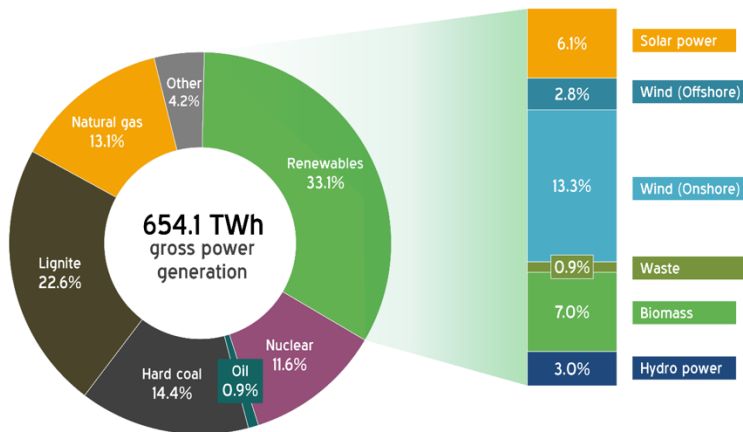
## Exit Ticket: Show all work

Germany is a leader in the European Union for supporting renewable energy but is also the largest consumer of energy in the EU, use the graphic to answer the questions below.

Germany reaches 33.1 percent renewable power in 2017

Gross power generation mix

Source: AGEA



Energy Transition  
The Global Energiewende  
energytransition.org © 2018

1. Germany generates 13.1% of its power from natural gas. What is this percent as a fraction? Decimal?

Fraction: \_\_\_\_\_ Decimal: \_\_\_\_\_

2. How many TWh of energy were produced from natural gas?

\_\_\_\_\_ % of \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_.

3. How many TWh of energy were produced from renewable energy in Germany?

Germany produces \_\_\_\_\_ TWh of  
energy from renewable sources.

4. Describe what you learned about renewable energy in the European Union today.

Today, I learned \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What questions do you still have about calculating percentages?

**Mini Poster-** Working with your partner, you will complete the mini poster rough draft below and then transfer your work to a full size poster for display at Family Night.

<b>Copy Problem and Annotate</b>	<b>Solve Problem using the Bar Model and Decimal Method</b>
<b>List the Steps to Solve</b>	<b>Answer in Complete Sentence</b>

**Mini-Poster Word Problems: Germany is a leader in the EU and is also the largest consumer of energy. We will focus on their energy consumption for the last portion of this mini-unit.**

1. Read and annotate the article linked [here](#), with you partner
2. Select a problem
3. Complete the problem on the mini-poster organizer
4. Get teacher feedback
5. Transfer to the full size poster board

(Cut problems and give one to each person/partner)

According to Coren's article "In 2018, 40% of the country's electricity mix came from wind, solar, biomass and hydroelectric sources." Assuming Germany still produced 654.1 TWh of energy in 2018, how many TWhs came from renewable sources?	In 2017 33.1% of the energy generated in Germany came from renewable sources. Assuming Germany produced 654.1 TWh of energy in 2017, how many TWhs came from renewable sources?
According to Coren's article "In 2018, 40% of the country's electricity mix came from wind, solar, biomass and hydroelectric sources." Assuming Germany still produced 654.1 TWh of energy in 2018, how many TWhs came from renewable sources?	In 2017 33.1% of the energy generated in Germany came from renewable sources. Assuming Germany Assuming produced 654.1 TWh of energy in 2017, how many TWhs came from renewable sources?

## **Evaluate - Scoring Rubrics**

### **Content Standard**

4 Advanced	3 Proficient	2 Partially Proficient	1 Beginning
Students are able to calculate percentages with 100% accuracy.	Students are able to calculate percentages with 80% accuracy.	Students are able to calculate percentages with 60% accuracy.	Students are able to calculate percentages with below 60% accuracy.
Students are able to calculate percentages involving decimals with 100% accuracy.	Students are able to calculate percentages involving decimals with 80% accuracy.	Students are able to calculate percentages involving decimals with 60% accuracy.	Students are able to calculate percentages involving decimals with below 60% accuracy.
Students answer responses in complete and well-formed sentences.	Students answer responses in complete and moderately formed sentences.	Students answer responses in complete but poorly formed sentences.	Students answer responses in fragments that are disjointed.

## **Meet the EU Lesson Plans**

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MeetEU 2022

These lesson plans are geared towards 9-12 grade students to explore what is the European Union and how the different components of it operate. I have tried to include as many links and supplemental materials as possible. I have provided ideas for assessments. Each lesson is based on a 55 minute class period.

### **Introduction to EU**

*Inquiry:* Ask the students what they know about the EU.

Can they name any countries?

Why did the countries combine into one union?

Can they identify the EU on a map?

Introduce the European Union with the attached [powerpoint](#).

Vocabulary: democracy, rule of law, parliament

For more information on the rule of law used by the European Parliament use this link to an infographic: <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/eu-affairs/20180222STO98434/rule-of-law-concerns-how-the-eu-can-act-infographic>

Use the powerpoints to initiate classroom discussion and provide information. Use the handouts to focus on specific parts of the idea of working together for business, travel and law making.

#### **Additional links:**

Conditions for EU membership: [https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/policy/conditions-membership\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/policy/conditions-membership_en)

Brief history of the EU: [https://multimedia.europarl.europa.eu/en/history-the-treaties-of-rome\\_V001-0011\\_ev](https://multimedia.europarl.europa.eu/en/history-the-treaties-of-rome_V001-0011_ev)  
<https://op.europa.eu/webpub/com/eu-in-12-lessons/en/#chap03-title>  
[https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies/law-enforcement-cooperation\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies/law-enforcement-cooperation_en)

#### **Activity suggestions:**

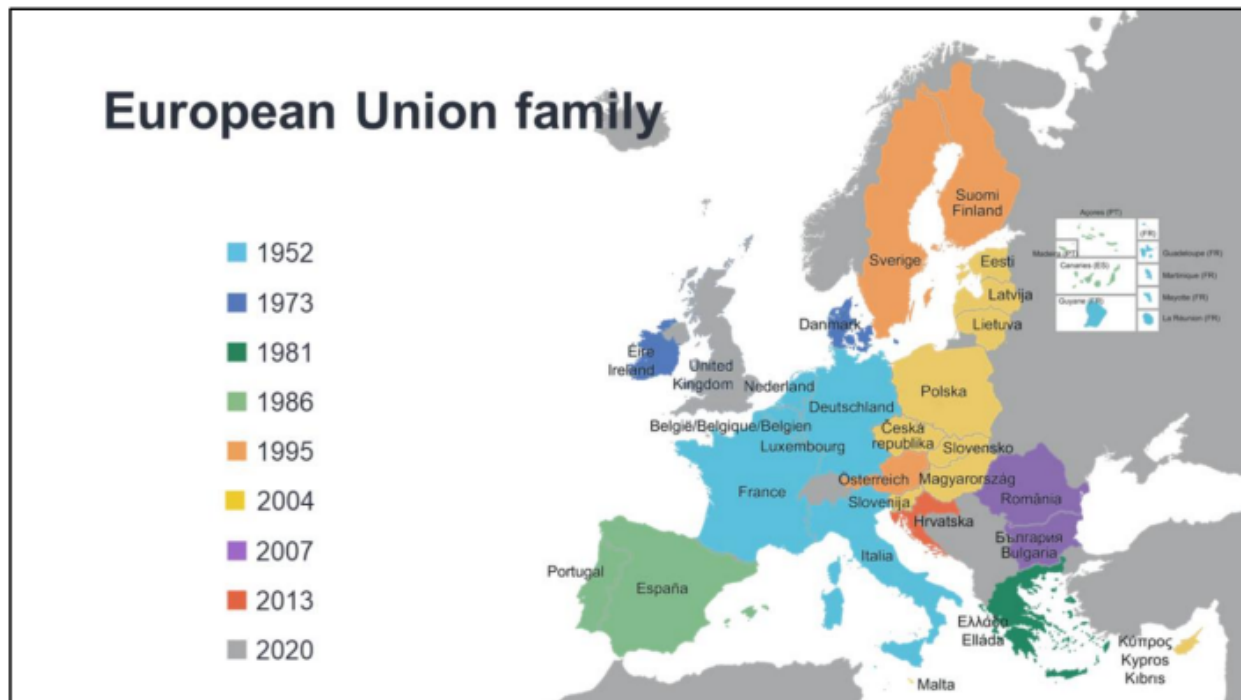
Create a map of the EU countries

Write a short essay showing an understanding of what the EU is and why it exists.

What is the Schengen Zone and why is it important.

On this website they provide complete instructions on simulation activities.

## Handout # 1 : Explaining the EU



- **The European project was created to reconcile old enemies and provide a structure to prevent future conflicts**

- There were 8 waves of enlargement, from 6 to 28 Member States.

- 5 current candidates: Albania, Montenegro, Northern Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey

- Potential future candidates: Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo and Ukraine

- The Copenhagen criteria- *what it takes to become an EU Member state*:

- **political**: stability of institutions guaranteeing:
  - Democracy,
  - the rule of law,
  - human rights and respect for and protection of minorities;
- **economic**: a functioning market economy and the capacity to:
  - Cope with competition and market forces;
  - administrative and institutional capacity to effectively implement the *acquis* and ability to take on the all obligations
- 

- Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein participate directly in the single market via the *European Economic Area*.



\*Switzerland does so via 120 bilateral agreements.

- In June 2016, the UK voted in a referendum to leave the European Union; transitional period expired on 31 December 2020. *Brexit*

The ABC's of the E U Institutions. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/eu-affairs/20130905STO18726/key-facts-about-the-eu-institutions-infographic>

A visual guide to Europe's Member states: <https://www.visualcapitalist.com/a-visual-guide-to-europes-member-states/>

## **Handout # 2 What is the EU Economic Zone and the Euro?**

The European Economic Area, abbreviated as EEA, consists of the Member States of the European Union (EU) and three countries of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) (Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway; excluding Switzerland).

The EEA originated on 1 January 1994. It seeks to strengthen trade and economic relations between the contracting parties and is mainly concerned with the four important factors of the market within this region.

- the free movement of goods
- Free movement of people
- Free movement of services
- Free movement of capital (financial funds).

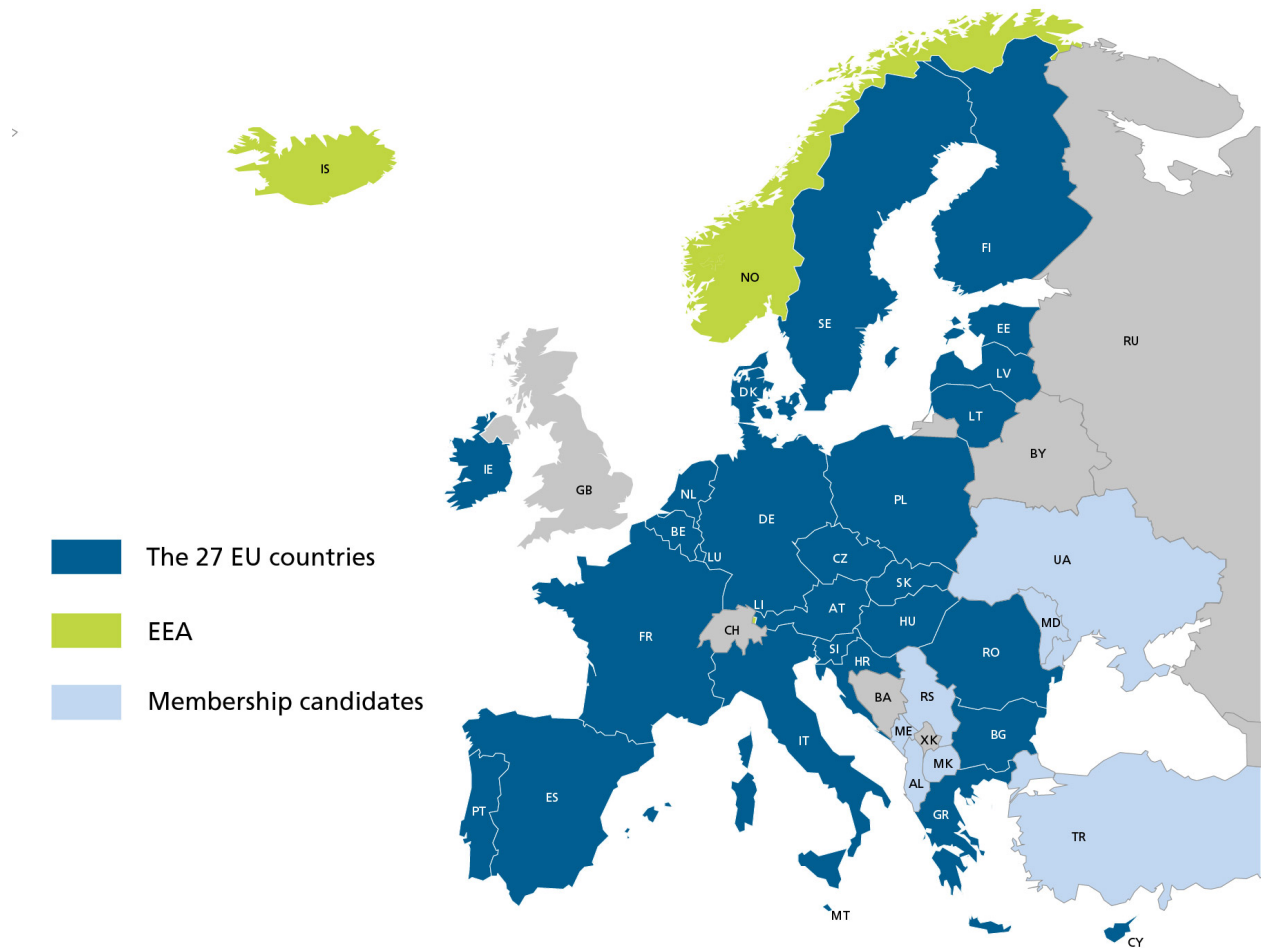
The availability of comparable statistical data is considered as relevant to the four freedoms and is therefore included in the agreement. This means that participants in the EEA share data with one another that is important to the success of the EEA and helpful to free trade.

What are some examples of each of the components?

Why is free trade important?

Why might some countries (Switzerland particularly) might not want to be a part of the EEA?

Why might countries want to be a part of the EEA but not part of the EU?



## What is the Euro and how does it work?

The euro is the single currency shared by 19 of the 28 Member States of the European Union. It came into use for non-cash transactions in 1999 and for all payments in 2002, when euro notes and coins were issued.

New Member States are expected to adopt the euro once they meet the necessary criteria. In the long run, virtually all EU countries should join the euro area.

The euro gives consumers in Europe considerable advantages.

- Travelers are spared the cost and inconvenience of changing currencies.
- Shoppers can directly compare prices in different countries.
- The European Central Bank ensures price stability.
- The euro has become a major reserve currency, alongside the US dollar.



## ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION (EMU)— THE EURO ZONE

European Union countries that:

- Have adopted the euro
- Have not adopted the euro



Why might some countries not want to use the Euro as their currency?

### Handout # 3 - Schengen Area



The border-free Schengen Area guarantees free movement to more than 400 million EU citizens, along with non-EU nationals living in the EU or visiting the EU as tourists, exchange students or for business purposes (anyone legally present in the EU). Free movement of persons enables every EU citizen to travel, work and live in an EU country without special

formalities. Schengen underpins this freedom by enabling citizens to move around the Schengen Area without being subject to border checks.

Today, the Schengen Area encompasses most EU countries, except for Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Ireland and Romania. However, Bulgaria, Croatia and Romania are currently in the process of joining the Schengen Area and already applying the Schengen acquis to a large extent. Additionally, also the non-EU States Iceland, Norway, Switzerland and Liechtenstein have joined the Schengen Area.

## Freedom and security for travelers

The Schengen provisions abolish checks at EU's internal borders, while providing a single set of rules for controls at the external borders applicable to those who enter the Schengen area for a short period of time (up to 90 days).

The Schengen area relies on common rules covering in particular the following areas:

- crossing the EU external borders, including the types of visa needed,
- harmonization of the conditions of entry and of the rules on short stay visas (up to 90 days),
- cross-border police cooperation (including rights of cross-border surveillance and hot pursuit),
- stronger judicial cooperation through a faster extradition system and the transfer of enforcement of criminal judgments,
- the [Schengen Information System \(SIS\)](#)

How is the Schengen Area beneficial to the EU?

How might the Schengen area be helpful to you when planning a trip to Europe? What does it mean for Americans?

Should the United States create an area similar to the Schengen to allow freedom of movement between the United States, Mexico and Canada? Why or why not?

## **Handout # 4 EU Parliament**

Accompanying slides:

[https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1jMwD3loUPRL2PdIYXo1NyftH\\_yIHd7qxxgmiC7LQ2HVo/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1jMwD3loUPRL2PdIYXo1NyftH_yIHd7qxxgmiC7LQ2HVo/edit?usp=sharing)

- European Commission prepares legislative proposals on its own initiative or at the request of other EU institutions or countries, or following a citizens' initiative, often after public consultations.
- The final proposal is sent simultaneously to the European Parliament, Council and national parliaments.
- President of the European Parliament refers the proposal to a parliamentary committee, which appoints a rapporteur who is responsible for drawing up a draft report with amendments to the proposed text.
- The committee votes on this report and any amendments to it tabled by other members.
- The European Parliament then discusses and votes on the legislative proposal in plenary based on the committee report and amendments.
- Parliament can accept the proposal without any changes or make amendments. In rare cases the President can request the Commission withdraw its proposal. Parliament's 1st reading position is forwarded to the Council.
- Council can: accept the EP position, in which case the legislative act is adopted; or adopt changes to Parliament's position, leading to a Council's first reading position, which is sent to the Parliament for a 2nd reading.

Legislative procedure:

[http://www.europarl.europa.eu/external/html/legislativeprocedure/default\\_en.htm](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/external/html/legislativeprocedure/default_en.htm)

Vocabulary:

Parliament	multilingualism
Plenary	rapporteur
MEP	legislative
Supranational organization	
Democratic	

### **Video questions:**

Why are there 3 locations for parliamentary meetings?

How do members vote?

How are the parliamentary participants elected?

How often are elections held?

## **Multilingualism in the EU Parliament**

The European Union has always seen its *great diversity of cultures and languages as an asset*. Multilingualism is the reflection of this cultural and linguistic diversity. Multilingualism makes the European institutions more accessible and transparent for all citizens of the Union, which is essential for the success of the EU's democratic system.

The European Parliament differs from the other EU institutions in its obligation to ensure the highest possible degree of multilingualism. Every European citizen has the right to stand for election to the European Parliament. It would be unreasonable to require MEPs to have a perfect command of one of the more frequently used languages, such as French or English. The right of each Member to read and write parliamentary documents, follow debates and speak in his or her own language is expressly recognised in Parliament's Rules of Procedure. All EU citizens must be able to read legislation affecting them in the language of their own country. As a co-legislator, the European Parliament also has a duty to ensure that the linguistic quality of all laws it adopts is flawless in all official languages.

Europeans are entitled to follow the Parliament's work, ask questions and receive replies in their own language, under European legislation.

## **Translation**

The European Parliament's translation service enables multilingual written and electronic communication in all official languages of the European Union. It has a crucial role in ensuring the transparency of the legislative and budgetary process of the EU and in bringing the EU closer to its citizens.

The Directorate-General for Translation employs approximately 1140 staff, among them more than 600 translators, and is one of the biggest employers of its kind in the world.

## **Interpretation**

The main task of the European Parliament's interpreters is to render orally the speeches given by MEPs faithfully and in real time into all the official languages. Interpreting services are provided for all multilingual meetings organized by the official bodies of the institution.

The European Parliament's Directorate-General for Logistics and Interpretation for Conferences employs approximately 270 staff interpreters and has at its disposal a reserve of some 1500 external accredited interpreters whom it calls on very regularly as required to cover its needs.

## **Multilingualism - Legislative Acts**

The legislation adopted by the European Parliament affects over 447 million people in 27 countries and 24 official languages: it must be identical and as clear as possible in all the languages. Verifying the linguistic and legislative quality of the texts is the job of Parliament's lawyer-linguists.

Parliament's lawyer-linguists ensure, throughout the legislative procedure, the highest possible quality of legislative texts in all EU languages. In order to guarantee that Parliament's political will is rendered in high quality legislative texts the lawyer-linguists are involved at all stages of the legislative procedure.

The work is carried out by a team of 75 lawyer-linguists. In particular they:

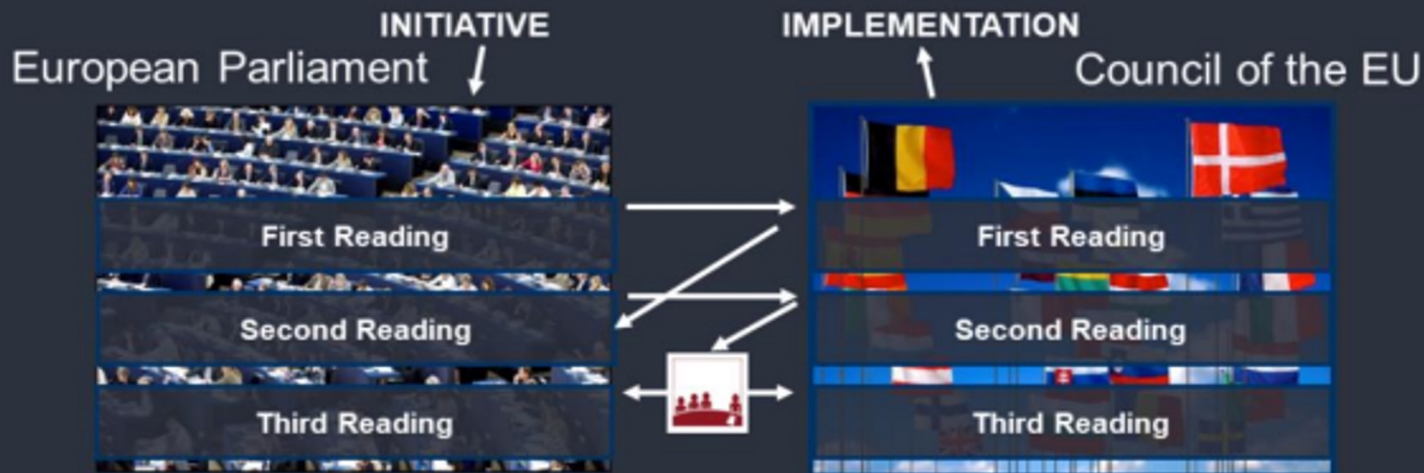
- provide Members and committee secretariats with drafting and procedural advice from the initial drafting of texts up to final adoption in plenary;
- prepare and publish legislative texts for adoption by Parliament in committee and in plenary, ensuring the highest quality of all the different language versions of the amendments in the reports and the smooth course of the procedure;
- are responsible for the technical preparation of amendments tabled for the plenary and for the publication of all the texts adopted on the day of the plenary vote;
- finalise legislative acts together with the lawyer-linguists of the Council.



# European Parliament

# How are EU Laws agreed?

European Commission

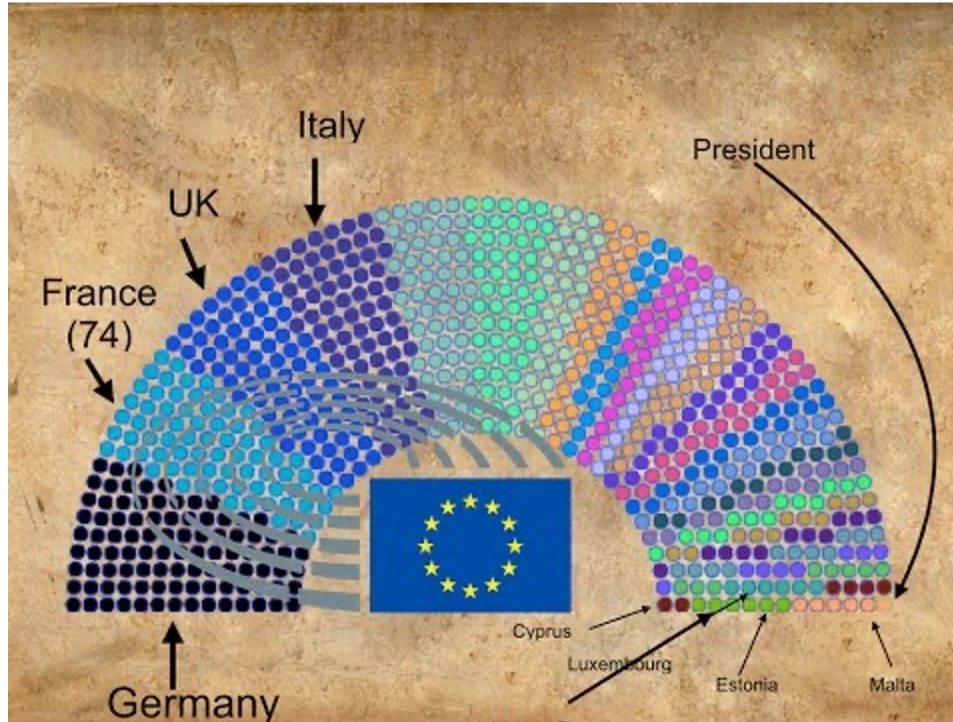




# The European Parliament



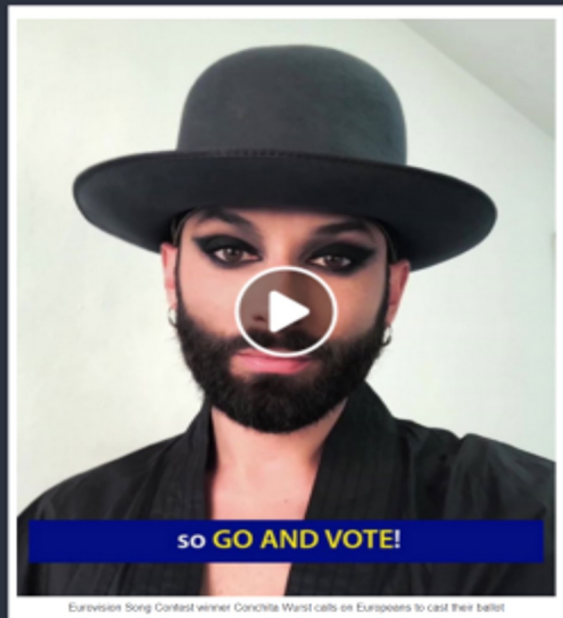
# Short video explaining how the EU Parliament works.



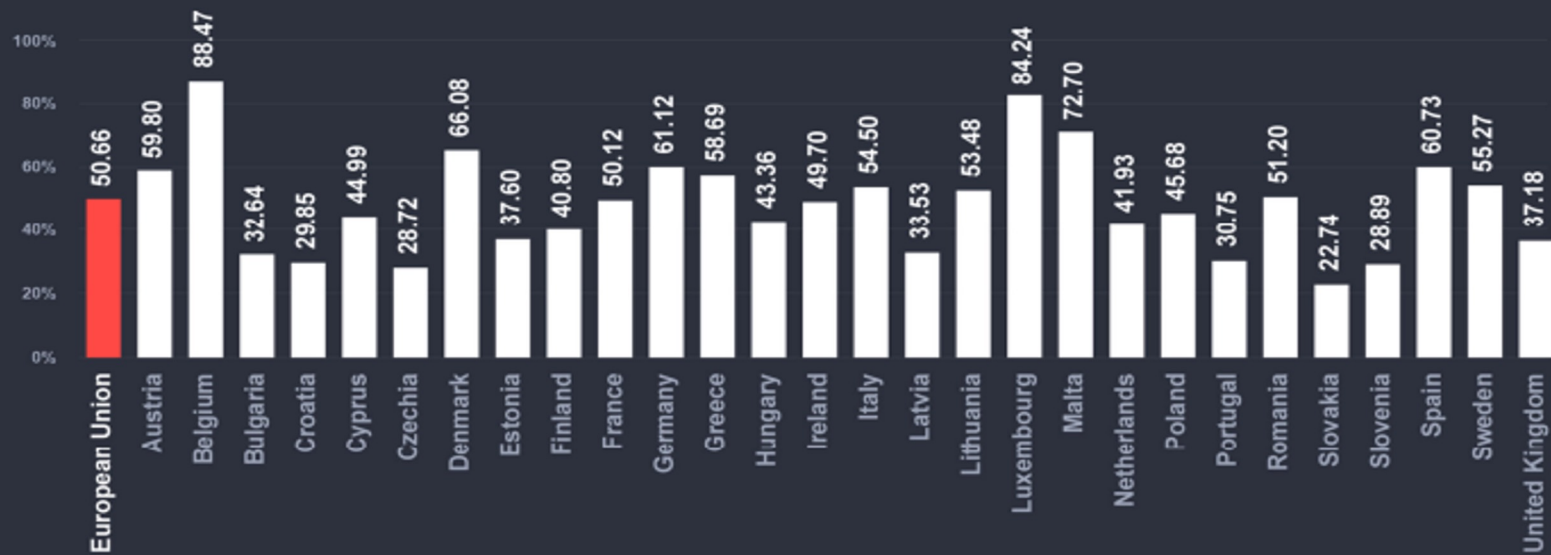
# European elections take place every 5 years



@dianazurloewen  
@xeniaadonts





# 2019 European election turnout by country (%)



# 705 Seats

96		Germany
79		France
76		Italy
59		Spain
52		Poland
33		Romania
29		Netherlands
21		Belgium
21		Czech Republic

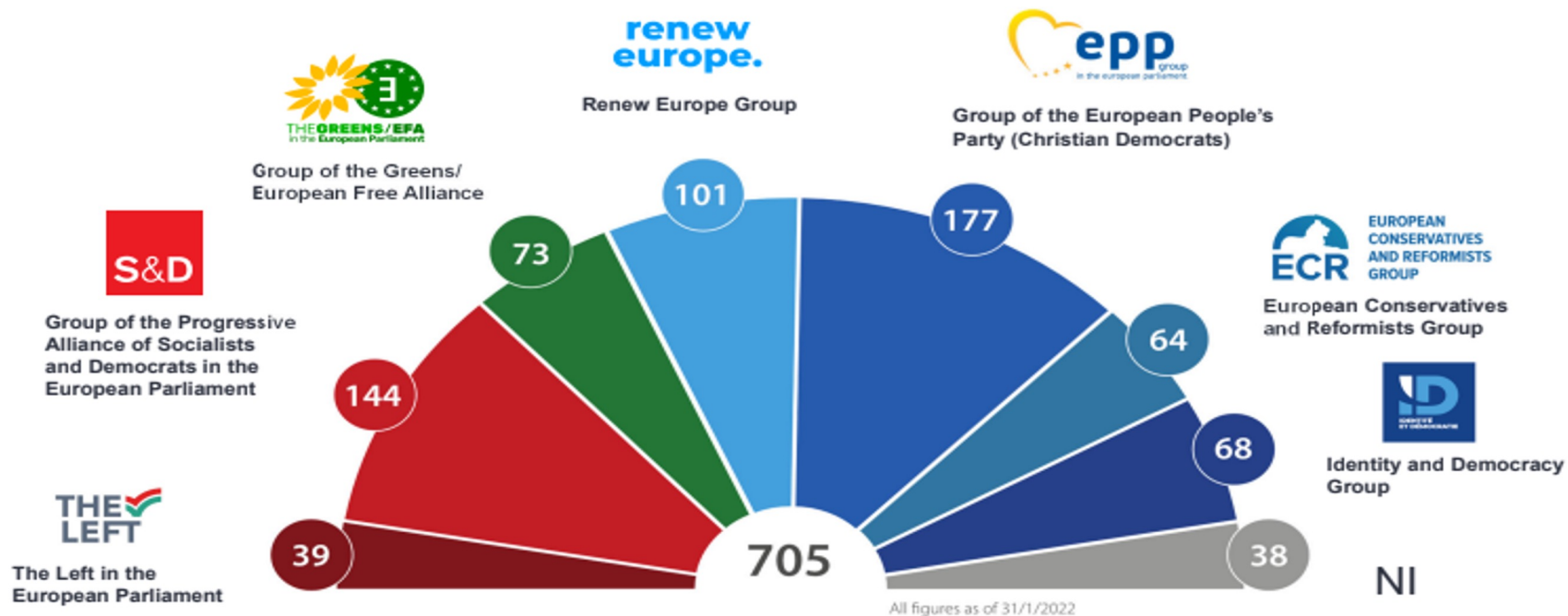
21		Greece
21		Hungary
21		Portugal
21		Sweden
19		Austria
17		Bulgaria
14		Denmark
14		Finland
14		Slovakia

13		Ireland
12		Croatia
11		Lithuania
8		Latvia
8		Slovenia
7		Estonia
6		Cyprus
6		Luxembourg
6		Malta

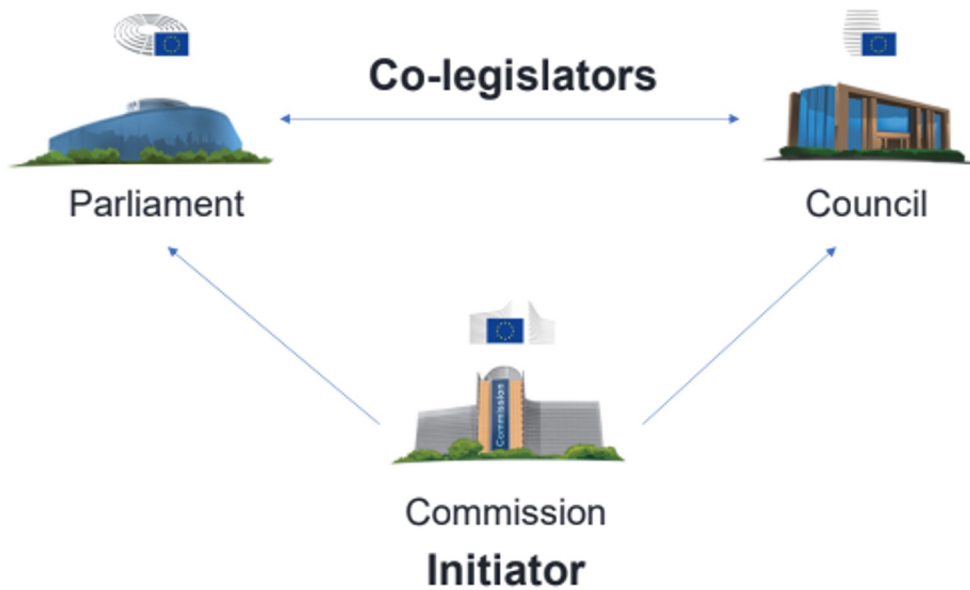
A photograph of a woman with curly hair, wearing a blue face mask and a headset, clapping her hands. She is seated at a desk in what appears to be a legislative assembly or parliament. Other people, also wearing masks and headsets, are visible in the background. The scene is brightly lit, and the overall atmosphere suggests a formal event or debate.

# **POLITICAL GROUPS**

# Political Groups



# How are EU Laws agreed?





## The European Parliament declares climate emergency

Press Releases [PLENARY SESSION](#) [ENVI](#) 29-11-2019 - 11:09

## Parliament supports European Green Deal and pushes for even higher ambitions

Press Releases [PLENARY SESSION](#) [ENVI](#) 15-01-2020 - 13:41

## EU Climate Law: MEPs confirm deal on climate neutrality by 2050

Press Releases [PLENARY SESSION](#) [ENVI](#) 24-06-2021 - 13:04

### Fit for 55: MEPs want stricter rules for member states' greenhouse gas emissions

[ENVI](#) 16-05-2022

MEP's call for stricter regulation of greenhouse gas emissions in member states including fewer options to exceed quotas.

### Fit for 55: New EU carbon sinks goal will increase 2030 reduction target

[ENVI](#) 16-05-2022

MEP's agree to increase the EU carbon sinks target for land use, land use change and forestry sector (LULUCF) which would de facto increase EU 2030 greenhouse gas reduction target to 57 %.

### Fit for 55: MEPs back CO2 emission standards for cars and vans

[ENVI](#) 10-05-2022

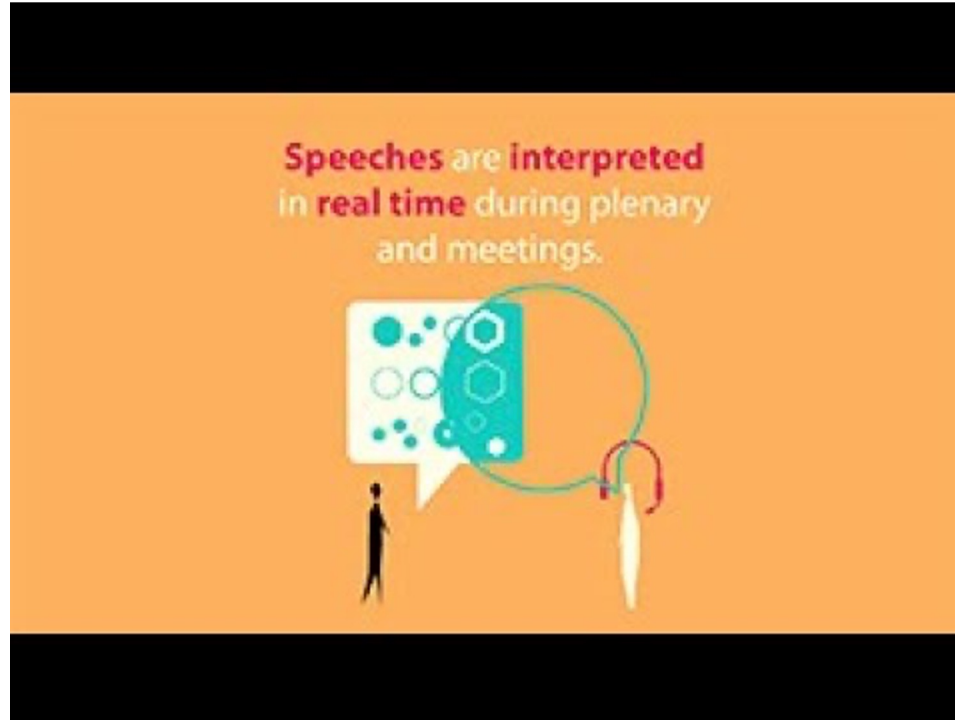
Environment Committee MEPs are in favour of a pathway towards zero-emission road mobility in 2035 for new passenger cars and light commercial vehicles.

### Fit for 55 in 2030: MEPs put forward demands on Emissions Trading System reform

[ENVI](#) 16-05-2022

To incentivise industries to further reduce their emissions and invest in low-carbon technologies, the Emissions Trading

# Multilingualism in EU Parliament



# MULTILINGUALISM IN THE EU

Debating  
Europe

24  
OFFICIAL  
LANGUAGES

60+  
INDIGENOUS  
REGIONAL  
OR MINORITY  
LANGUAGES

WITH  
40  
MILLION  
SPEAKERS

Catalan

Basque

Frisian

Yiddish

Saami

Welsh

EUROPEAN  
CITIZENS  
AND LANGUAGES

54%  
are able to hold  
a conversation in at least  
1 ADDITIONAL  
LANGUAGE

25%  
are able to speak at least  
2 ADDITIONAL  
LANGUAGES

10%  
are conversant in at least  
3 ADDITIONAL  
LANGUAGES

COUNTRIES  
WHERE CITIZENS  
DO NOT SPEAK  
ANY FOREIGN LANGUAGE

65% HUNGARY  
62% ITALY  
61% UK, PORTUGAL  
60% IRELAND

FOREIGN LANGUAGES  
SPEAKERS  
IN THE EU

38% speak  
ENGLISH 11% speak  
GERMAN  
12% speak  
FRENCH 5% speak  
RUSSIAN  
7% speak  
SPANISH

How many languages do you speak?

Why is multilingualism so important in the EU?

How does this compare with the U.S. ?



Welcome to the  
European Union



# What is the European Union?

---

The European Union is a political and economic union of 27 member states that are located primarily in Europe. It was created to promote peace and shared values within Europe.



## EU Values

Human Dignity

Freedom

Democracy

Equality

The Rule of Law

Respect for Human Rights  
including the rights of minorities



## Why the European Union?



**27**

member  
states



**446**

million  
citizens



**24**

official  
languages



**Peace**  
**Shared values**  
**Freedom,  
security and  
justice**  
**Economic and  
social solidarity**

The views that are being expressed are those of the speaker and not of the Council of the EU



Changing times, same values – values that need to be defended but within and beyond EU borders

- The EU is a community of values, not only an internal market of 440 million consumers.
- It is founded on the values of respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including the rights of Minorities.
- Fundamental rights apply to all people in the EU, no matter their status or origin. Some of these freedoms are as old as Europe: life and liberty, thought and expression. But others have had to be redefined to keep pace with the times. Protecting personal data or prohibiting human cloning were far from the minds of the first elected MEPs, some four decades ago.
- The Parliament defends democracy and the rule of law at the European level.

Video : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CeXgDZ9SSoA>

# Institutions of the European Union

7

institutions



COURT OF JUSTICE  
OF THE EUROPEAN UNION



European Parliament



EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK  
EUROSYSTEM



European Council



Council of the  
European Union



EUROPEAN  
COURT  
OF AUDITORS

2

advisory bodies



European Committee  
of the Regions

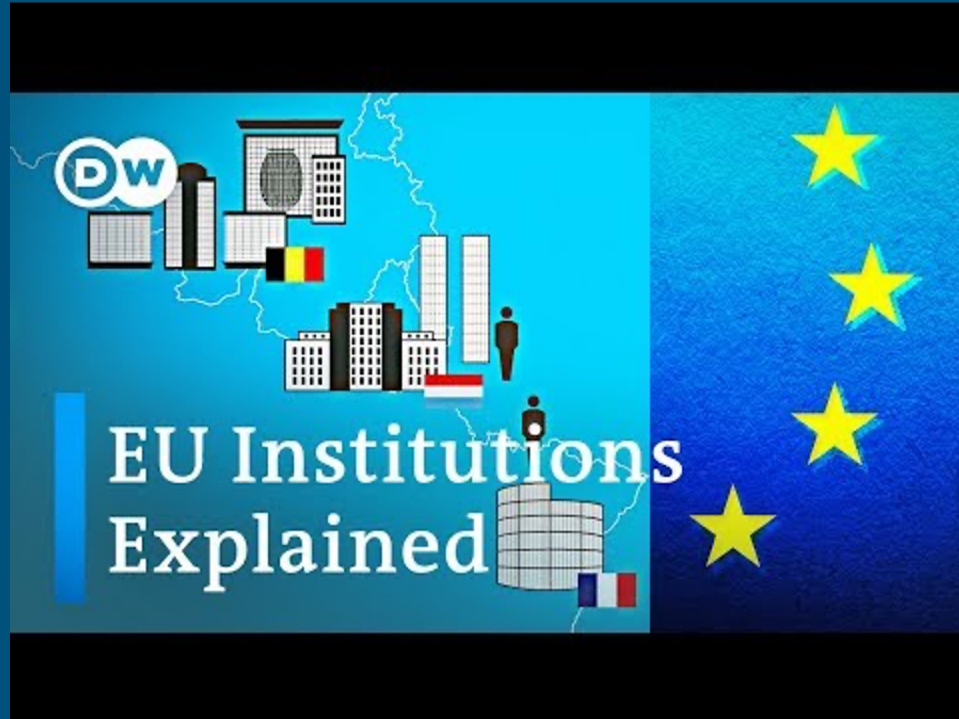


European Economic  
and Social Committee

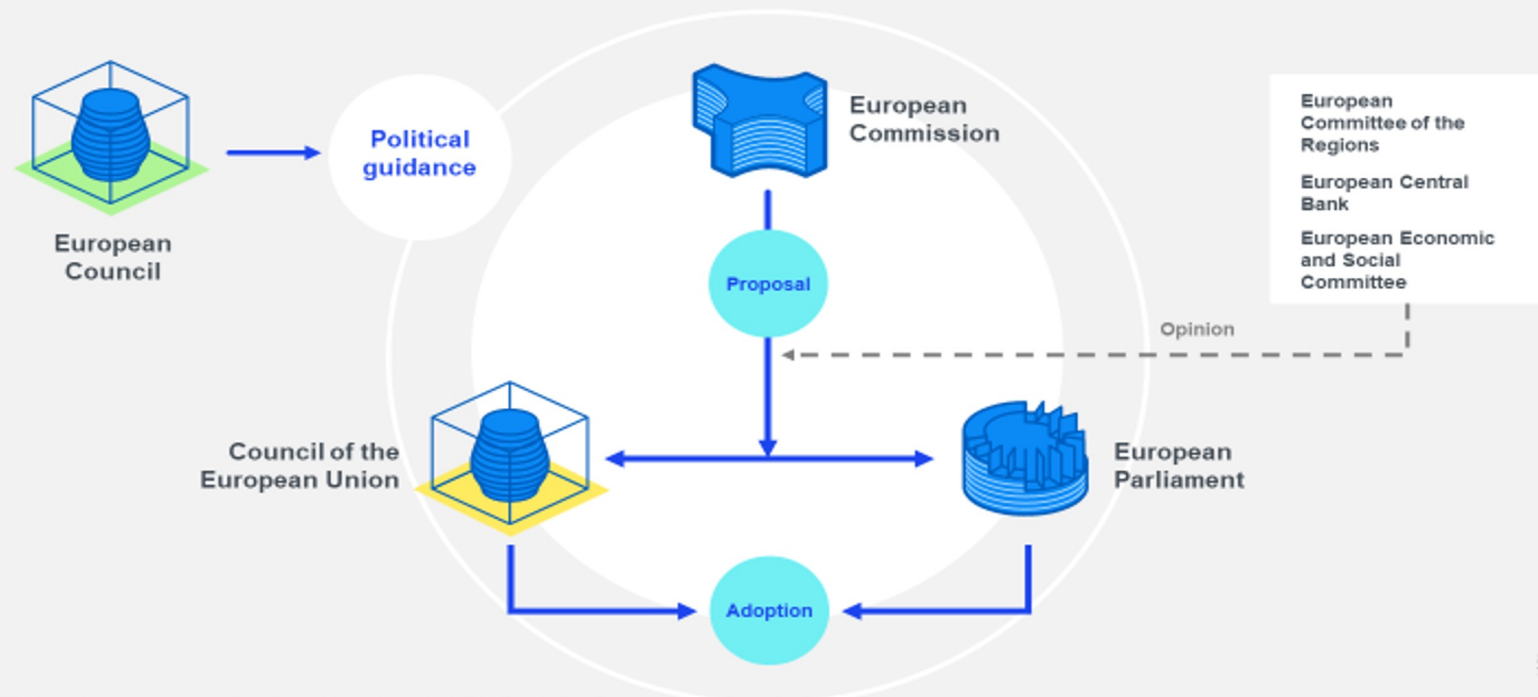


# How does the European Union work?

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# Institutions of the European Union



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A photograph of a large hall with a high ceiling and industrial-style architecture. A long row of national flags of EU member states is displayed on tall silver poles. The flags include those of Romania, Hungary, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Poland, Portugal, France, Italy, Finland, Sweden, and others. A semi-transparent blue rectangle is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing white text.

## The house of the member states

The views that are being expressed are those of the speaker and not of the Council of the EU



# The European Council and the Council

Two EU institutions under the same roof



## European Council

Sets the EU's political agenda

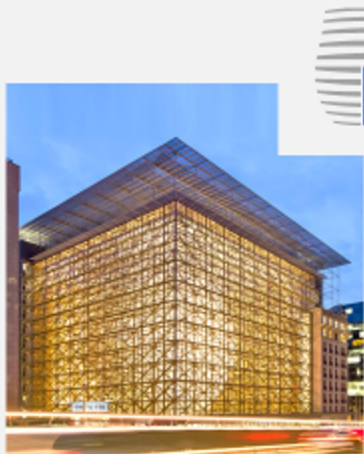


## Council of the EU

Negotiates and votes on legislation



## What is the difference between the **European Council** and the **Council of Europe**?



47 member states,  
including all 27 EU  
countries

All members signed  
up to the European  
Convention on Human  
Rights

Based in  
Strasbourg,  
France





## The Heads of State or Government meet as the **European Council**



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## The European Council sets the EU's overall political direction

27 Heads of State  
or Government  
+  
The President  
of the European Council  
+  
The President  
of the European Commission

Meeting twice every 6 months  
and whenever required  
(Special European Councils)



Defines overall **political direction**  
and **priorities**



**Mostly decides by consensus**,  
but by qualified majority for a limited  
number of decisions e.g. in:

- Electing its President
- Appointing the High Representative
- Establishing the list of Council configurations



Exercises **no legislative functions**





**The Council  
of the EU  
is made up  
of ministers**



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## Role of the Council of the EU

**Negotiate and adopt EU laws,**  
*in most cases with the European Parliament*

**Adopt the EU budget,** *with the European Parliament*

### **Coordinate member states' policies**

- economic and fiscal policies
- education, culture, youth and sport
- employment policy

### **Develop the EU's common foreign and security policy**

*Guidelines set by the European Council*

**Conclude international agreements**



## One Council – Ten configurations



The Council  
of the European  
Union



General Affairs



Foreign Affairs



Transport,  
Telecommunications  
and Energy



Economic and  
Financial Affairs



Competitiveness



Environment



Employment, Social  
Policy, Health and  
Consumer Affairs



Justice and Home Affairs



Education, Youth,  
Culture and Sport



Agriculture and Fisheries

## National experts meet in the Council working parties

**150+** working parties, for example:



Atomic Questions



Law of the Sea



Transatlantic Relations



Financial Services



Terrorism



Agricultural Products



Company Law



Research



Aviation



Environment



# The rotating presidency of the Council

## Each member state in turn every 6 months

18-month rolling programme of **three** successive presidencies

currently: **FR, CZ, SE** until 30 June 2023  
followed by **ES, BE, HU**



## ROLE OF THE ROTATING PRESIDENCY

### Three core functions:

- Organises, prioritises and plans
- Negotiates
- Communicates

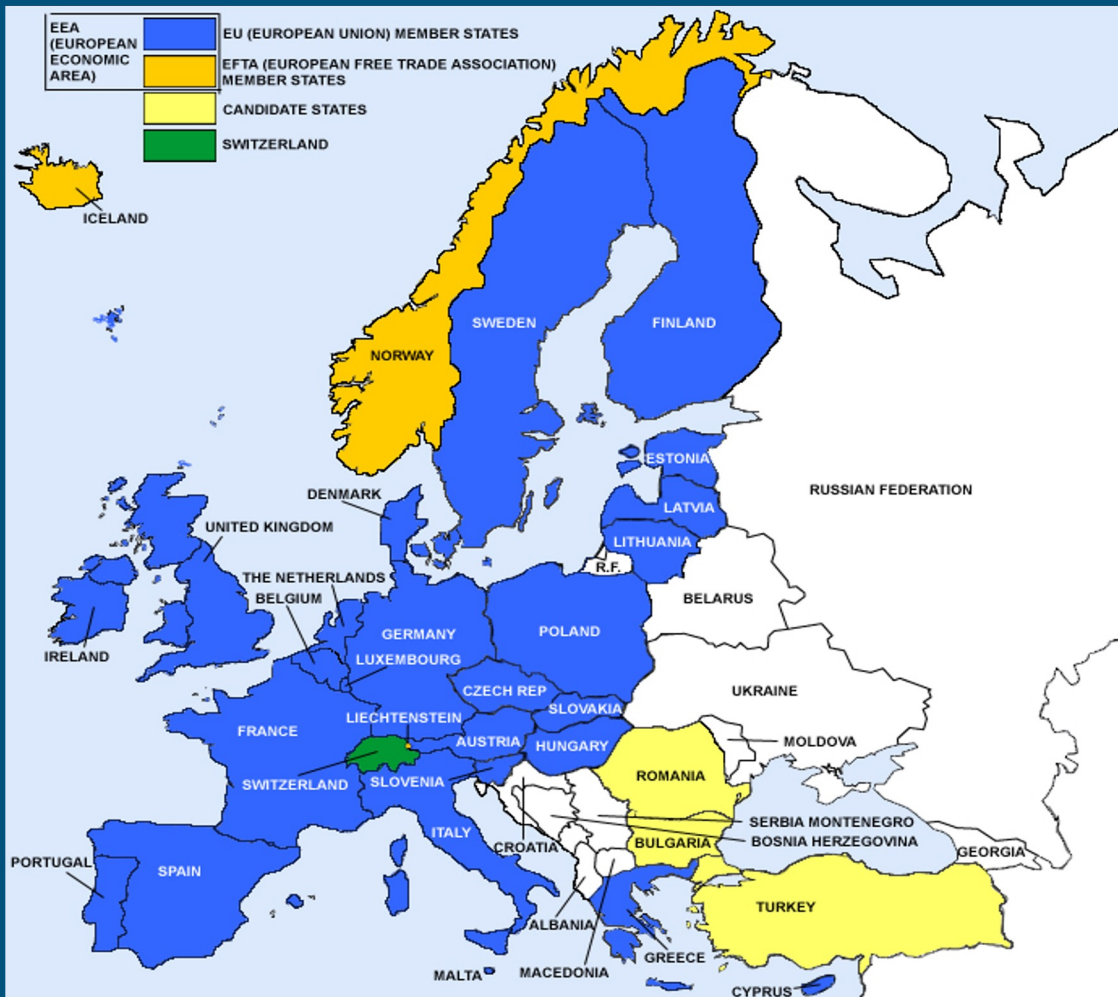
### Chairs:

- Council configurations except Foreign Affairs
- Coreper I and II
- Committees and working groups, with some exceptions

*Framed by plans, rules and previous actions*



Different levels of economic participation within the EU.



# THE SCHENGEN AREA

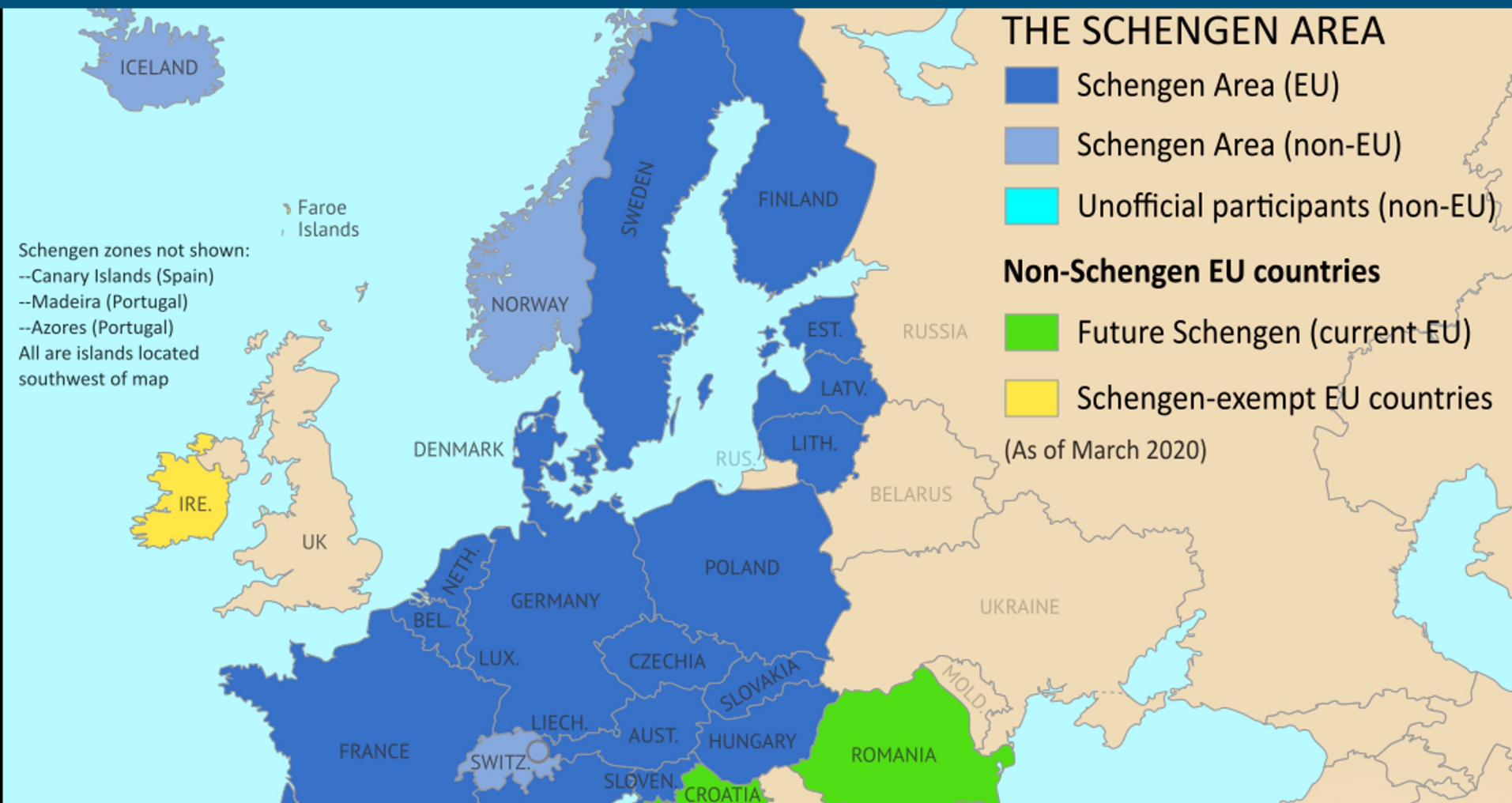
- Schengen Area (EU)
- Schengen Area (non-EU)
- Unofficial participants (non-EU)

## Non-Schengen EU countries

- Future Schengen (current EU)
- Schengen-exempt EU countries

(As of March 2020)

Schengen zones not shown:  
--Canary Islands (Spain)  
--Madeira (Portugal)  
--Azores (Portugal)  
All are islands located southwest of map



# Multilingualism in the EU.

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Speeches are interpreted  
in **real time** during plenary  
and meetings.



# Number of native speakers in millions

Estimates based on various publicly available sources

("L2" figures show rough estimates of the number of non-native speakers)



# Summarization:

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The 27 EU countries together adopt common rules and legislation that affect all EU citizens. The 27 member states have shared values they act upon. Even though countries may have different opinions on how to solve problems, they want to solve them together. Most of the time they work on issues that cross borders and that we all have to deal with.

- The **Council of the European Union** is the institution where all EU countries are represented and work together to make decisions, together with the European Parliament.
- At the **European Council** the leaders of all EU countries define the EU's overall political direction and priorities together.

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EUROPEAN UNION