

HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT: EUROPE

The European Union



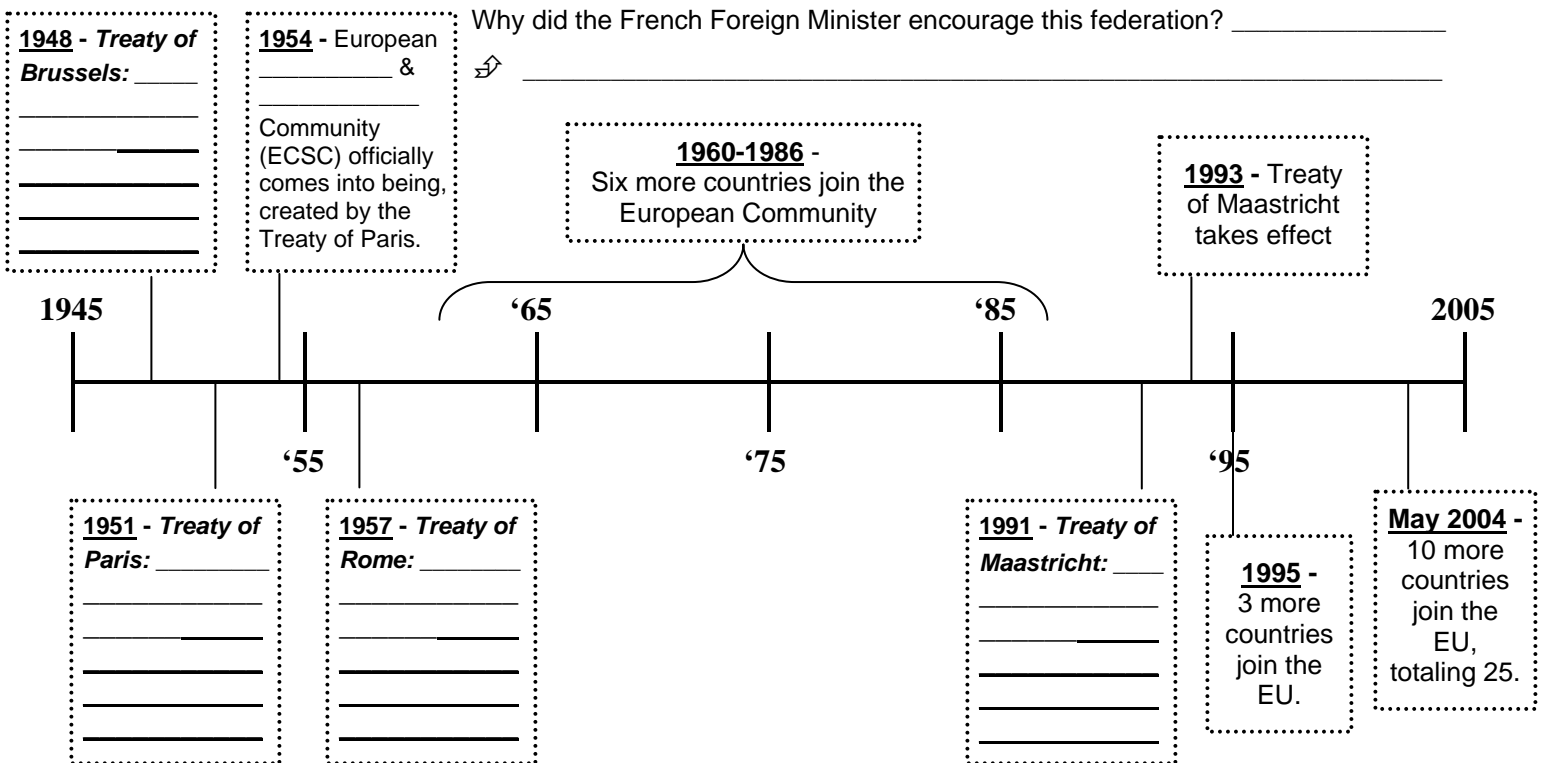
Directions: Answer the questions in the order below using the embedded links, and write your answers on the printed version. **You may find the “click-able” document by doing the following:** 1) go to tinyurl.com/mrlofting, 2) click on “WG Class Materials,” 3) click on the “EU WebQuest” link, 4) click the “Save” button, save it to your H: drive, and click “Open” when prompted. Click on the hyperlinks (blue words) as you go through the activity.

HISTORY OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

- 1) To start off, [what exactly is the European Union?](#) _____

- 2) What was the reasoning for laying the foundation for the EU “over half a century earlier?” (See paragraph 1 of the “History” section of this website.) _____

- 3) Use [this timeline website](#) to go through the following years. Summarize the significant events that occurred during those years.



EUROPEAN UNION MEMBER NATIONS

- 4) The EU is a [customs union](#). What does this mean? _____

- 5) According to the maps on this site, 10 countries joined in May of 2004. How would you describe the location of most of these countries? (e.g. What sub-region of Europe?) _____

EUROPEAN UNION MEMBER NATIONS *(cont'd)*

- 6) Using the same website, which countries were "Applicant Status Countries" as of May 2004:
a) _____, b) _____, c) _____, d) _____, e) _____
- 7) These numbers are as of 2004. Two of the applicant status countries have since become members. Which two are they? *(Do a Google search for each of the five countries to see if they are now members.)*
a) _____ and b) _____ are now EU member nations
- 8) How does a country become a member? It must meet the three criteria (aka [Copenhagen Criteria](#)):
- 1) Political: stability of institutions guaranteeing _____
 - 2) Economic: existence of _____
 - 3) Acceptance of the European Community *acquis* (body of law): ability to take on the obligations of membership, including _____
- 9) We know what countries ARE members of the EU. But, what 14 European countries are not yet members? *(See the map on pg. 327 in your textbook.)*
- Non-Members:** a) _____, b) _____, c) _____, d) _____,
d) _____, e) _____, f) _____, g) _____,
i) _____, j) _____, k) _____, l) _____,
m) _____, n) _____
- 10) Look over the maps on pgs. 314 & 327 of your textbook AND read paragraph 3 under "Conflict, Union, & Division" on pg. 315.
- a) Using the maps and the excerpt, explain what Bosnia & Herzegovina, Serbia, and Montenegro all have in common. _____
 - b) Based on what you know about the Copenhagen Criteria, why do you think they have not yet been allowed to join the EU? _____

GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURE

The EU has a similar governmental structure as the U.S. Use the links "connected to" each branch of government to answer the following questions. *(Or, you may use the general websites directly below; however, on the Wikipedia website below, ignore the section entitled "European Council.")*

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/European_Union#Governance

<http://www.bized.co.uk/learn/economics/international/eu/notes/eu1.htm#Heading285>

- 11) [Executive](#) Branch: _____
- a) What is it responsible for? _____
 - b) Who makes up this body? _____
 - c) In whose interest does this body act? _____
 - d) To what U.S. political office can this EU branch be compared? _____
 - e) In what ways is it similar to this U.S. office? _____

CONTINUE ON NEXT PAGE

GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURE (cont'd)

12) Legislative Branch:

1st half: _____ of the EU

- a) What is it responsible for? _____
- b) Who makes up this body? _____

2nd half: _____

- a) What is it responsible for? _____
- b) Who composes (or makes up) this body? _____
- c) Members are elected by universal suffrage. What does this mean? _____
- d) How many years do members serve each term? _____

13) To what U.S. political institution can this EU branch be compared? _____

In what ways is it similar to this U.S. institution? _____

14) What powers of accountability does the executive branch have over the legislative branch and vice versa?

(See last sentence of paragraph 2.) _____

What do we call this relationship between the branches in the U.S. government? _____

15) Judicial Branch: _____

- a) What are the three courts together responsible for? _____
- b) Which of the three most closely matches the U.S. Supreme Court? _____

Explain: _____