

How did the EU grow?

Worksheet 2

Read the texts and draw a line to the year it happened

After the end of the division of Europe in East and West, ten more countries were able to join the EU.

The six become nine when Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom formally enter the EU.

The British statesman Winston Churchill declared that Europe could not afford to drag forward the hatred and revenge which sprung from the injuries of the past, and that the first step to recreate the 'European family' of justice, mercy and freedom should be the creation of 'a kind of United States of Europe'.

Eleven countries of the EU introduced a common currency, the euro. Eventually, all Europeans in the 'euro zone' began to use the same coins and banknotes.

Six countries signed the Treaty of Rome, which was to lay the 'foundations of an ever closer union among the peoples of Europe'. They founded a common market and a customs union, which should bring economic prosperity and social progress to all regions. Common policies should help secure peace and liberty for all Europeans. Other European countries were invited to join.

The French Foreign Minister Robert Schuman proposed the joint control of coal and steel production. This cooperation was open to other countries and should lead to a step-by-step political integration as the basis for peace in Europe:

"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".

Spain and Portugal enter the EU, bringing membership to 12.

Membership of the EU reaches double figures when Greece joins. This was possible after it had become a democracy in 1974.

The European Union welcomes two more members: Romania and Bulgaria.

After the fall of the Berlin Wall and German reunification Austria, Finland and Sweden join the "European Union", which had been formally established by a new 'Treaty of Maastricht' three years before.

Croatia becomes the 28th member state of the European Union.

1946

1950

1957

1973

1981

1986

1989/1995

1999/2002

2004

2007

2013



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Teacher's Sheet (Correct Order)

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