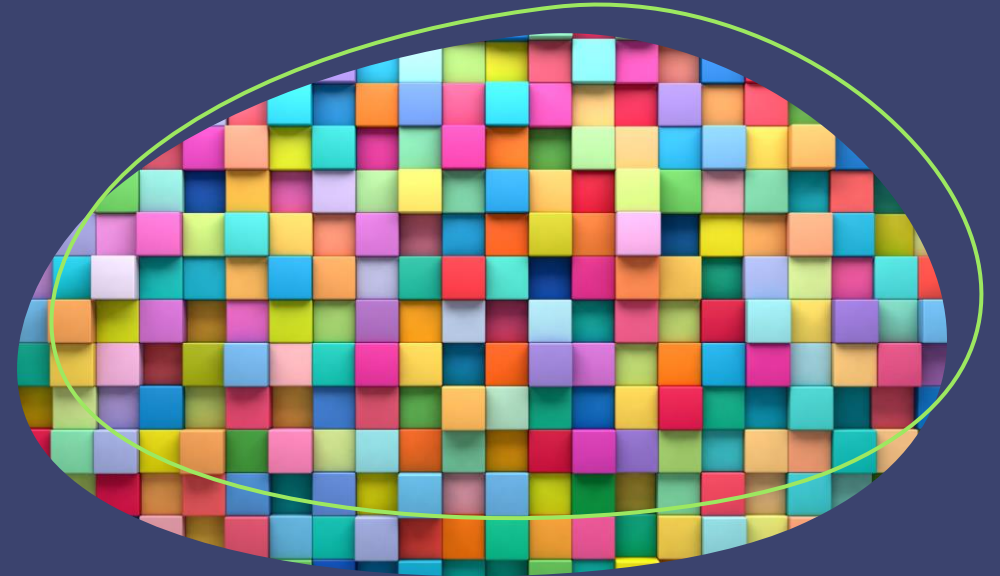


European Union Politics

Session 1:

Integration Milestones
and Enduring Dilemmas



What is the European Union?

- International organization
- International regime
- System of multi-level governance
- Supranational "polity"
- A federation/state-in-the-making
- Embryonic federation
- Post-national union
- Medieval polity (Zielonka)
- Unidentified Political Object (Delors)



...a sui generis entity

Q: How can we define a modern state?

European Union Integration Milestones

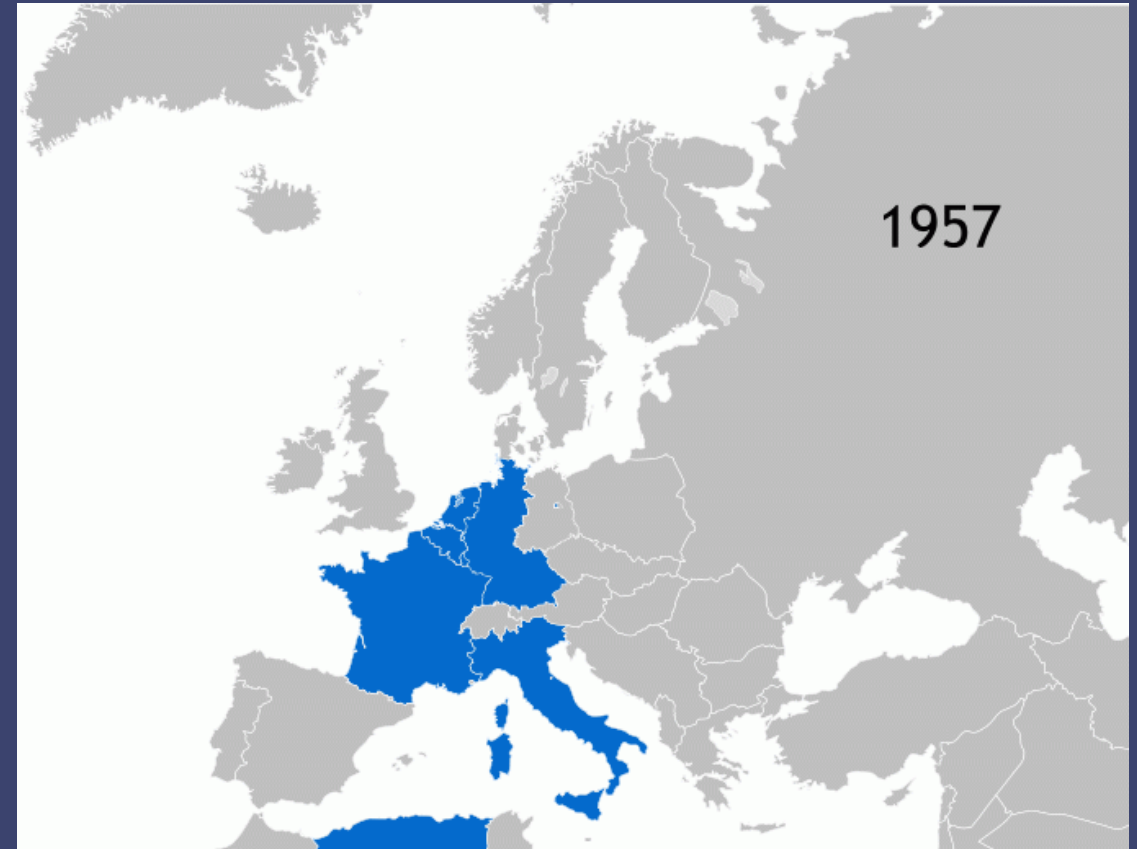
- 1950 - Schuman Declaration
- 1952 - *Paris Treaty* - ECSC
- 1958 - *Rome Treaties* - EurAtom and **European Economic Community**
- 1962 - launch of Common Agricultural Policy
- 1966 - Luxembourg compromise
- 1968 - Customs union complete
- 1970 - launch of European Political Cooperation
- 1975 - creation of European Council
- 1979 - European Monetary System
 - first direct elections to EP
- 1986 - *Single European Act* (launch common market, enviro, social cohesion, research...)
- 1993 - *Maastricht Treaty* - **European Union** (launch EMU, CFSP, JHA; pillar structure)

European Union Integration Milestones

- 1995 - Schengen Area
- 1999 - *Amsterdam Treaty* (Area of Freedom Security and Justice)
 - launch of the €uro
- 2002 - Convention on the Future of Europe
- 2003 - *Nice Treaty* institutional reform
- 2004 - Constitutional Treaty signed ...but never ratified
- 2009 - **Lisbon Treaty** (abolishes pillar structure, institutional reform, legal personality, *Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU*)
- 2010s - Integration fatigue ..
 - "Extra-EU" integration
 - 2012 - European Stability Mechanism
 - 2013 - Fiscal Compact
- 2020 - Next Generation EU fund

EU Enlargements

- 1957 - France, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg
- 1973 - United Kingdom, Denmark and Ireland
- 1981 - Greece
- 1986 - Portugal and Spain
- 1995 - Austria, Finland, Sweden
- 2004 - Poland, Hungary, Czech Rep., Slovakia, Slovenia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Cyprus and Malta
- 2007 - Romania and Bulgaria
- 2013 - Croatia
- 2020 - United Kingdom EXIT

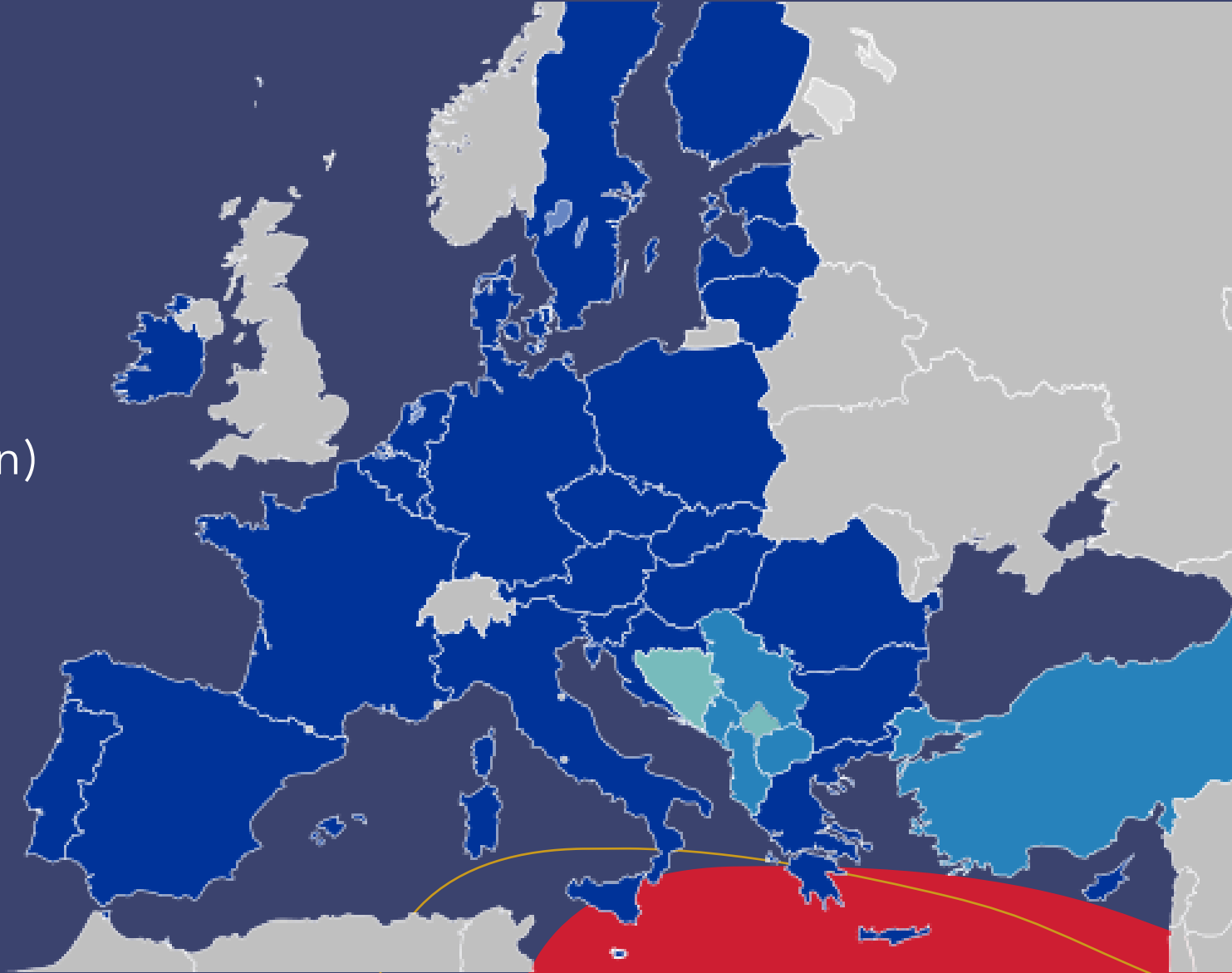


EU Enlargement Candidate Countries

- Albania
- North Macedonia
- Montenegro
- Serbia
- Turkey (application process frozen)

Potential candidates

- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Kosovo (disputed country status)





European Union facts and figures

- **27** member states
- **446** mil. Citizens
- **4** mil. km²
- **€uro**: common currency used in 19 MS + microstates (Vatican, Andorra, Monaco..)
- **16%** of global GDP in PPS*

Eurostat 2020: China 16.4%, US 16.3%, EU 27 16%, India 6.7% (2017 data)

Why is the EU integrating?

- To maintain peace through economic interdependence?
- To maintain economic prosperity?
- To compete against "big players" in the global market?
- To be a voice in global political affairs?
- To follow through on Immanuel Kant's ideas
of *Perpetual Peace*?
- Is it an elite-driven project to dissolve the nation states?





EU Dividing lines

- West / East (alternatively old/new)
- North / South (public finances)
- Eurozone: members / non-members (core / periphery)
- Budgetary net contributors / recipients (rich / poor)
- Big states / small states (power)
- Franco-German motor / the rest
- ...many more opt-ins and opt-outs

Integration tensions

- **Governing principles:** supranationalism vs. intergovernmentalism
- **Future:** Deepening vs. widening
- European government or governance?
- **Direction:** unified vs. flexible integration

(core-periphery, multi-speed Europe, variable geometry, Europe à la carte, concentric circles integration)

- Tensions *between* EU Institutions and Member States
- Tensions *among* EU Institutions themselves
- Relationship of citizens to MS and EU





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Is it possible to govern the European Union? Democratically?

Democracy = rule of the people!

- Does the EU have "a people"?

Democracy = elections!

- EP elections are second-order elections

Democracy = representation!

- EU = a mixed bag of interests yearning to be represented: **member states, citizens** ...but also companies and institutions themselves

Democracy = accountability to the voters

- Can German chancellor be accountable to a Greek pensioner?

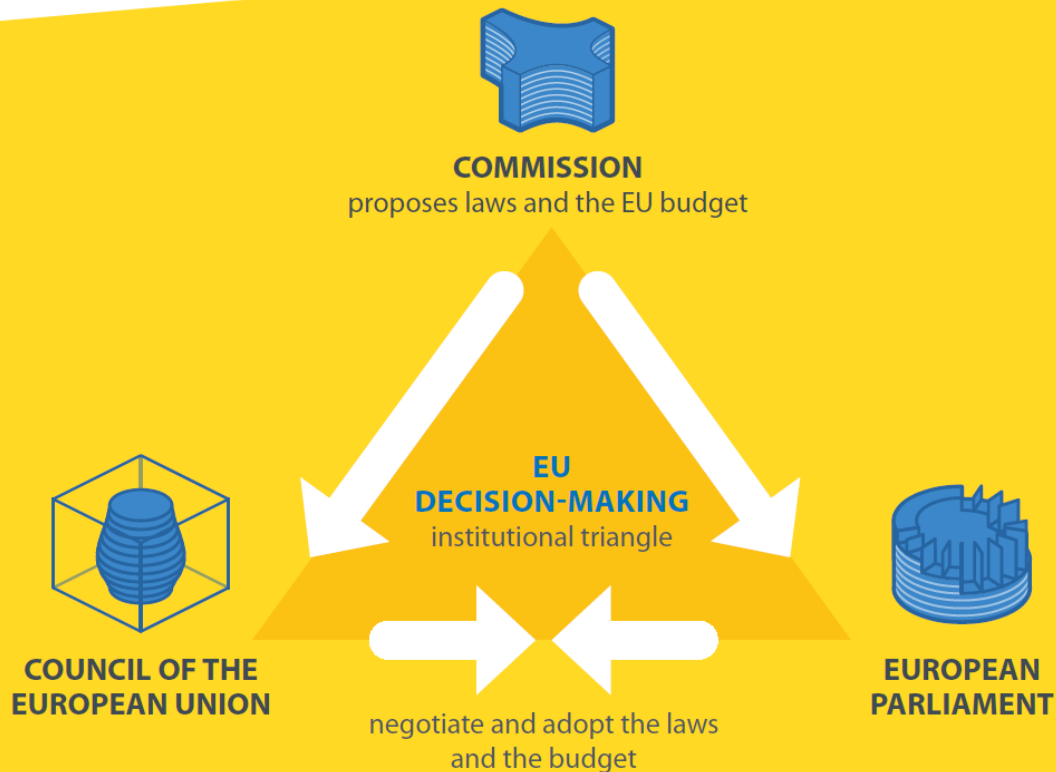
How is the European Union governed?

It's a hybrid regime...

It depends on:

- **policy area** (exclusive, shared or supporting role for EU)
- **custom, institutional history**
- **urgency** (crisis)
- **existing institutional framework**

...more about that --> next week



Homework

- Check the student presentation topics --> find your teammates
- Get in touch with me: 41630906@fsv.cuni.cz and I'll update the Moodle table
- Answer a **quick quiz** question (by Friday noon)