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The Treaty of European Union (TEU)

The Maastricht Treaty

FlipEU Jean Monnet Module
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Objectives and Concepts

- **Objectives:** understanding what happened after the end of the Cold War and how the EU came about.
- **Concepts:** EU, CEEC, enlargement, monetary union, political union

The 1992 project

- The SEA was a success story. Very quickly 260 out of 279 measures were agreed in the Council of Ministers.
- Thus the Commission President Delors aimed to extend this project:
 - Adding a social dimension to the SEA
 - Agreeing on a monetary unionBoth proposals were opposed by UK's Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

German Reunification

Collapse of communism in 1989-90 and German unification paved the way for political integration:

- Member states had to reconsider the political aspects of EC.
- The Commission President Delors supported it, but was not part of his plan

The TEU (Maastricht Treaty)

- Two intergovernmental conferences met throughout 1991 working on a new treaty.
- The TEU was signed in 1992 and entered into force in 1993.
- The biggest achievements of the treaty were:
 - A commitment by most of the member states to adopt a single currency
 - Creation of a three-pillar structure known as the European Union (EU)
 - Incorporation of new areas of co-operation in the fields of foreign and security policy, and justice and home affairs
 - Introduction of the concept of European citizenship

The Single Currency

- Despite British opposition, in 1988 heads of government set out a committee of bankers and technical experts under the chairmanship of Delors.
- The Delors report proposed a three-stage process leading to single currency in 1999.
- The report was presented in European Council meeting in Madrid in 1989
 - All but one agreed to convene an IGC.

The Social Protocol

The Protocol was annexed to TEU, its principles are:

- Promotion of employment
- Improvement of living and working conditions
- Adequate social protection
- Social dialogue
- The development of human resources to ensure high and sustainable level of employment
- The integration of persons excluded from the labour market

The European citizenship

European citizenship was first defined in the TEU. Any national of an EU country is considered to be a citizen of the EU. EU citizenship does not replace national citizenship: it is an addition to it. Citizenship gives them the right to:

- move and take up residence anywhere in the EU;
- vote and stand in local government and European Parliament elections in their country of residence;
- diplomatic and consular protection outside the EU from the authorities of any EU country if their country of nationality is not represented;
- petition the European Parliament and appeal to the European Ombudsman;
- address the European institutions in any of its official languages and to receive a reply in the same language;
- non-discrimination on the basis of nationality, gender, race, religion, handicap, age or sexual orientation;
- invite the Commission to submit a legislative proposal (citizens' initiative);
- access EU institutions' and bodies' documents, subject to certain conditions.

The CFSP

- A Common Foreign and Security Policy was established with the TEU.
- It has been progressively reinforced by subsequent treaties, particularly the Lisbon Treaty.
- The CFSP is guided by the following principles: seeks to preserve peace, reinforce international security and promote international cooperation, democracy, the rule of law, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.
- The Union also aimed to establish a European Security and Defence Policy to strengthen the EU's external ability to act through the development of civilian and military capabilities in Conflict Prevention and Crisis Management.

The EFTA enlargement

The EFTA Enlargement took place in 1995. Compared to other enlargements, this was easy as the countries politically and economically were ready to integrate.

- Sweden
- Austria

Finland

Readings and Videos

- Read this booklet on enlargement. https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/pdf/publication/20110725_understanding_enlargement_en.pdf
- Look at this website to understand EMU. http://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/money/euro_en
- Analyse this website to understand CFSP. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/area/security-and-defence_en
- Read about EU citizenship. http://europa.eu/european-union/topics/eu-citizenship_en
- The History of the European Central Bank – The European Central Bank Official Channel https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Aijn_4TFF_8
- Maastricht: a blueprint for a new Europe - EPP Group Official Channel https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jEKp_hlr8eYs