

# EUROPEAN UNION



Update: 17th July 2020



## Geography

**Surface Area:** 3,989,180 km<sup>2</sup>  
**Coastline:** around 80,000 km (EU), 42,673 km (Schengen Area)



## Population

**Population:** 446,834,578 (2018)  
**Population under 15 years of age:** 15,5% (2019)  
**Population over 65 years of age:** 20% (2019)  
**Gross natural rate of increase:** -0.8‰ (2019)  
**Migratory Balance:** 3.2‰ (2019)  
**Total Demographic Growth:** 2.5 ‰ (2019)  
**Gross Birth Rate:** 9.5‰ (2019)  
**Gross death rate:** 10.2‰ (2019)  
**Life expectancy:** men 78.3 years, women 83.6 years (2019)  
**Total foreign citizens:** 41,329,537 (2019)  
**% of foreign citizens:** 8% (2019)  
**% of people born outside of the EU:** 4.4% (2018)  
**Number of asylum seekers:** 66,885 (January 2020)  
**Number of asylum requests accepted:** 53,430 (March 2019)

Source : Eurostat  
*Nota bene:* Demographic and economic data include UK until end of transition period



## Economy

**Annual Inflation:** 0.8% (June 2020)  
**Unemployment:** 6.7% (May 2020)  
**Employment rate 15-64 years:** 68.6% (Q2 2018)  
**Employment rate 20-64 years:** 73.2% (Q2 2018)  
**Household Savings rate:** 10.7% (2019)  
**Public debt:** 77.8% of GDP (April 2020)  
**GDP:** €313 923 347.3 million (2019)  
**GDP per capita (€ PPP):** €31 090 (2019)  
**Real GDP growth:** -3.6% (T1 2020)  
**Government spending (in % of the GDP):** 45.8 (T4 2019)  
**Government revenues (in % of the GDP):** 45.1 (2019)  
**Exports outside of the EU:** 133,984.1 million € (May 2020)  
**Imports outside of the EU:** 127,877.9 million € (May 2020)  
**Trade balance:** 6,106.2 million € (May 2020)  
**Current account balance:** 1.7% of GDP (Q1 2020)  
**Foreign Direct Stock Investments from the world over:** 59% of GDP (2019)

Source : Eurostat and DG Commerce

UNION EUROPÉENNE



<b>UNION EUROPÉENNE</b> (Allemagne, Autriche, Belgique, Bulgarie, Chypre, Croatie, Danemark, Espagne, Estonie, Finlande, France, Grèce, Hongrie, Irlande, Italie, Lettonie, Lituanie, Luxembourg, Malte, Pays-Bas, Pologne, Portugal, Roumanie, Royaume-Uni, Slovaquie, Slovénie, Suède, République tchèque)	<b>ADHÉSION AUX COMMUNAUTÉS EUROPÉENNES, PUIS À L'UNION EUROPÉENNE :</b> 1957 : Allemagne, Belgique, France, Italie, Luxembourg, Pays-Bas (Etats fondateurs) 1973 : Danemark, Irlande, Royaume-Uni 1981 : Grèce 1986 : Espagne, Portugal 1995 : Autriche, Finlande, Suède 2004 : Chypre, Estonie, Hongrie, Lettonie, Lituanie, Malte, Pologne, Slovaquie, Slovénie, République tchèque 2007 : Bulgarie, Roumanie 2013 : Croatie
<b>ÉTATS DE L'A.E.L.E. MEMBRES DE L'ESPACE ÉCONOMIQUE EUROPÉEN</b> (Islande, Liechtenstein, Norvège)	<b>SUCCESION DES PRÉSIDENTS :</b> ALLEMAGNE 1- 6 2007   POLOGNE 7-12 2011   PAYS-BAS 1- 6 2016 PORTUGAL 7-12 2007   DANEMARK 1- 6 2012   SLOVAQUIE 7-12 2016 SLOVÉNIE 1- 6 2008   CHYPRE 7-12 2012   MALTE 1- 6 2017 FRANCE 7-12 2008   IRLANDE 1- 6 2013   ROYAUME-UNI 7-12 2017 REP. TCHÈQUE 1- 6 2009   LITUANIE 7-12 2013   ESTONIE 1- 6 2016 SUÈDE 7-12 2006   GRÈCE 1- 6 2014   BULGARIE 7-12 2016 ESPAGNE 1- 6 2010   ITALIE 7-12 2014   AUTRICHE 1- 6 2016 BELGIQUE 7-12 2010   LETTONIE 1- 6 2015   ROUMANIE 7-12 2016 HONGRIE 1- 6 2011   LUXEMBOURG 7-12 2015   FINLANDE 1- 6 2020
<b>ÉTATS CANDIDATS EN NÉGOCIATIONS</b> (Islande, Monténégro, Serbie, Turquie)	
<b>ÉTATS CANDIDATS</b> (Albanie, Ancienne République yougoslave de Macédoine)	
<b>ÉTATS QUI SE SONT VU RECONNAÎTRE UNE PERSPECTIVE EUROPÉENNE</b> (Bosnie-Herzégovine, Kosovo)	

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## Member States

### Countries outside of the Euro Area:

Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Sweden are EU members, but are not part of the euro area for the time being. Denmark takes part in the European Exchange Rate Mechanism II (ERM II), which means that the Crown is pegged to the euro. In the future other countries should integrate the ERMII.

### Political systems in the Member States:

#### Parliamentary Republics:

- Bulgaria
- Cyprus
- Croatia
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Greece
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Italy
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Malta
- Poland
- Portugal
- Czech Republic
- Romania
- Slovakia
- Slovenia

#### Federal and Parliamentary Republics:

- Germany
- Austria

#### Parliamentary Monarchies:

- Belgium
- Denmark
- Spain
- Luxembourg
- Netherlands
- Sweden

### Euro Area Member Countries: 19 Member States of the European Union take part in the Single Currency:

- Austria
- Belgium
- Cyprus
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Ireland
- Italy
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Netherlands
- Portugal
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Spain



## Institutions

The legislative branch of the European Union has two institutional bodies:

the **Council of Ministers** (also called Council of the European Union) and the **European Parliament**.

### The Council of the European Union

It comprises the ministers of the Member States of the European Union, who meet in ten groups according to the subject being addressed:

- Foreign Affairs
- General Affairs
- Economic and Financial Affairs
- Justice and Internal Affairs
- Employment, social policy, healthcare and consumers
- Competitiveness
- Transport, telecommunications and energy
- Agriculture and fisheries
- Environment
- Education, youth, culture and sport

The Presidency of the Council of the European Union changes every six months according to a predefined order of rotation:

- July – December 2020: Germany
- January-June 2021: Portugal
- July-December 2021: Slovenia
- January-June 2022: France
- July-December 2022: Czech Republic
- January-June 2023: Sweden

The number of votes held by each Member State is set by the Treaties, which also define the cases in which the simple (15 out of 27 member states), qualified majority (55% of member states, representing at least 65% of the EU population) or unanimity are required.

### The European Parliament

It sits in Strasbourg in plenary session once a month, its committees, as well as some additional plenary sessions are held in Brussels; its Secretariat General is in Luxembourg. The Lisbon Treaty that entered into force on 1st December 2009 provides that the Parliament has 751 MEPs. Since Brexit, there are 705 MEPs for the time of the legislature 2019-2024.

### MEPs per country:

Member States	No of Seats
Germany	96
France	79
Italy	76
Spain	59
Poland	52
Romania	33
Netherlands	29
Belgium	21
Czech Republic	21
Greece	21
Hungary	21
Portugal	21
Sweden	21
Austria	19
Bulgaria	17
Denmark	14
Finland	14
Slovakia	14
Croatia	12
Ireland	13
Lithuania	11
Latvia	8
Slovenia	8
Cyprus	6
Estonia	6
Luxembourg	6
Malta	6

Female representation in the European Parliament: 278/705