

EUROPEAN UNION

Update: 16th July 2024



Geography

Surface Area: 3,989,180 km²
Coastline: around 80,000 km (EU), 42,673 km (Schengen Area)



Population

Population: 448,387,872 (2023)
Population under 15 years of age: 14.9% (2023)
Population over 65 years of age: 21.3% (2023)
Gross natural rate of increase: -2.6‰ (2023)
Migratory Balance: 6.3‰ (2023)
Total Demographic Growth: -0.4% (2021)
Gross Birth Rate: 8.2‰ (2023)
Gross Death rate: 10.8‰ (2023)
Life expectancy: men 78.9 years, women 84.2 years (2023)
Total foreign citizens: 37.5 million (2021) % of foreign citizens: 8.4 (2021)
% of people born outside of the EU: 12.4 (2021)
Number of asylum seekers: 1,129,800 (2023)
% of asylum requests accepted: 38% (Q3 2020)

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



Economy

Inflation: 2.6% (March 2024)
Unemployment: 6% (May 2024)
Employment rate 15-64 years: 70.4% (2023)
Employment rate 20-64 years: 75.4% (2023)
Household Savings rate: 14.6% (Q3 2023)
Public debt: €13,862,584.5 (Q4 2023)
GDP: €16,962,390.6 million (2023)
GDP per capita (PPP): €37,610 (2023)
Real GDP growth: 0.4% (2023)
Government spending (of GDP): 49.8% (2023)
Government revenues: (of GDP): 46% (2023)
Exports outside of the EU: €241,5 million (January 2023 est.)
Imports outside of the EU: €252,9 million (January 2023 est.)
Trade balance: €-13,989.4 million (Q1 2023)
Current account balance: 2% of GDP (2023)
Foreign Direct Stock Investments from the world over: 62.8% of GDP (2021)

Source : Eurostat and OECD, Trading Economics, Access2Market statistics

UNION EUROPÉENNE



UNION EUROPÉENNE (Allemagne, Autriche, Belgique, Bulgarie, Chypre, Croatie, Danemark, Espagne, Estonie, Finlande, France, Grèce, Hongrie, Irlande, Italie, Lettonie, Lituanie, Luxembourg, Malte, Pays-Bas, Pologne, Portugal, Roumanie, Slovaquie, Slovénie, Suède, Tchéquie)	ADHÉSION AUX COMMUNAUTÉS EUROPÉENNES, PUIS À L'UNION EUROPÉENNE : 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 2020 : sortie du Royaume-Uni
ÉTATS DE L'A.E.L.E. MEMBRES DE L'ESPACE ÉCONOMIQUE EUROPÉEN (Islande, Liechtenstein, Norvège, Suisse)	SUCCESION DES PRÉSIDENTS : ALLEMAGNE 1-8-2007 DANEMARK 1-8-2012 MALTE 1-8-2017 PORTUGAL 1-12-2007 CHYPRE 7-12-2012 ESTONIE 7-12-2017 SLOVÉNIE 1-8-2008 IRLANDE 1-8-2015 BULGARIE 1-8-2018 FRANCE 1-12-2009 LITUANIE 7-12-2015 AUTRICHE 7-12-2018 REP. TCHÈQUE 1-8-2009 GRÈCE 1-8-2014 ROUMANIE 1-8-2018 SUÈDE 7-12-2009 ITALIE 7-12-2014 FINLANDE 7-12-2018 ESPAGNE 1-8-2010 LETONIE 1-8-2015 CROATIE 1-8-2020 BELGIQUE 1-12-2010 LUXEMBOURG 7-12-2016 ALLEMAGNE 7-12-2020 HONGRIE 1-8-2011 PAYS-BAS 1-8-2018 PORTUGAL 1-8-2021 POLOGNE 7-12-2011 SLOVAQUIE 7-12-2018 SLOVÉNIE 7-12-2021
ÉTATS CANDIDATS RECONNUS (Albanie, Macédoine du Nord, Monténégro, Serbie, Turquie)	
ÉTAT CANDIDAT (Bosnie-Herzégovine)	
ÉTATS RECONNUS COMME CANDIDATS POTENTIELS (Kosovo, Moldavie)	
ANCIEN ÉTAT DE L'UNION EUROPÉENNE (Royaume-Uni)	



Member States

Countries outside of the Euro Area:

Bulgaria (will join in 2025), 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.

Euro Area Member Countries: 20 Member States of the European Union take part in the Single Currency:

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

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



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 2024: Hungary
- January-June 2025: Poland
- July-December 2025: Denmark
- January-June 2026: Cyprus
- July-December 2026: Ireland
- January-June 2027: Lithuania

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 the European elections in 2024, there are 720 MEPs for the time of the legislature 2024-2029.

MEPs per country:

Member States	No of Seats
Germany	96
France	81
Italy	76
Spain	61
Poland	53
Romania	33
Netherlands	31
Belgium	22
Czech Republic	21
Greece	21
Hungary	21
Portugal	21
Sweden	21
Austria	20
Bulgaria	17
Denmark	15
Finland	15
Slovakia	15
Croatia	12
Ireland	14
Lithuania	11
Latvia	9
Slovenia	9
Cyprus	6
Estonia	7
Luxembourg	6
Malta	6

Female representation in the European Parliament: 278/720 (July 2024)