



JEAN MONNET European Module

04. The Member States of the European Union

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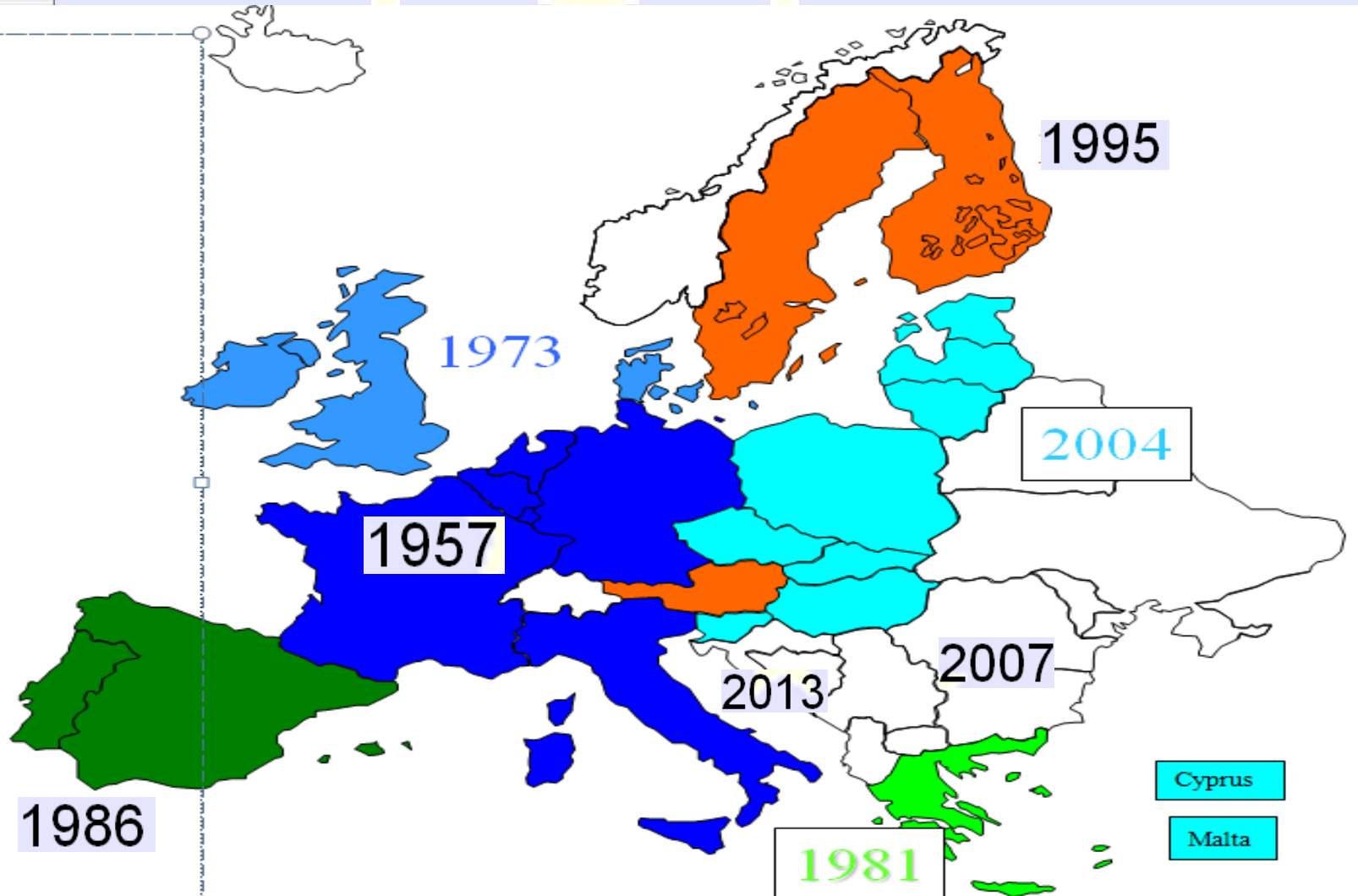
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Membership of the EU

<u>1951/1957</u>	<u>1973</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2007</u>
6 Founding members	+ 3	+1	+2	+3	+10	+2
1. FRANCE	7. DENMARK	10. GREECE	11. PORTUGAL	13. AUSTRIA	16. CZECHIA	26. BULGARIA
2. GERMANY	8. IRELAND		12. SPAIN	14. FINLAND	17. HUNGARY	27. ROMANIA
3. ITALY	9. UK			15. SWEDEN	18. ESTONIA	
4. BELGIUM					19. LATVIA	
5. NETHERLANDS					20. LITHUANIA	<u>2013</u>
6. LUXEMBOURG					21. POLAND	+1
					22. SLOVAKIA	28. CROATIA
					23. SLOVENIA	
					24. MALTA	
					25. CYPRUS	
	Minus UK!	(2020)				
	Total = 27	countries				

Enlargement





Enlargement: generally

- Increase in number of countries – Impact:
 - Greater opportunities
 - Greater diversity
 - But also: Greater challenges (!)
 - Enlargement brings new countries with new problems
 - Possible poverty, unemployment, regional economic problems, different cultures and different employment regimes present problems to EU policy makers



First enlargement: 1973

- **United Kingdom**

- Entry was determined by the reduced political influence and the progress of the EEC
- Out of the EFTA (!) and into the EC
- First accession try (1961) was hindered by France (President Charles de Gaulle, 2 times)
- During negotiations, the UK has sought many exemptions, but has received only in a few sectors
- Changes to the contribution of Member States to GDP, preferential trade agreement with “former colonies” (ACP states)
- Has always sought to maintain its sovereignty, wherever possible



First enlargement: 1973

- **Ireland**

- Political motivation: out of the dominance of the British (!)
- The lure of structural funds: Irish = “beggars of Europe”

- **Denmark**

- Interest for liberalized access of products on the European market, especially in the food industry
- ***Norway:** entry rejected by referendum*



Second enlargement : 1981

- **Greece**

- Accession happened in “the worst possible moment” (stagnation of integration)
- The Greek economy was struggling hard (large subsidies, high inflation, tax evasion)
- Focus of economy on agriculture, tourism (as compared to some technological branches)
- In the first 10 years after accession, GDP per capita has dropped compared to EU-average (!)



Third enlargement : 1986

- **Spain**

- Out of dictatorship
- A major challenge for the other Member States (and also for the USA)
- Large surface, agricultural & fisheries sector
- Third largest exporter of agricultural and fisheries produce to the EC
- Spain's economy has grown after integration
- High rate of unemployment (frequently 15%)



Third enlargement : 1986

- **Portugal**

- Out of dictatorship
- Accession negotiations have lasted 7 years
- “Launch basis with low costs” (automotive)
- Exports have increased more than double the rate of the EU
- Orientation towards technological fields
- Regional disparities
- Has put the last position behind, leaving Greece at the end of the chart, by GDP/capita



Fourth enlargement: 1995

- **Austria, Finland, Sweden**
 - Accession determined by companies
 - Interest to gain access on the Single European Market
 - States with a small population and a higher GDP / capita compared to the EU-average
 - Integration has proceeded fast
 - For the first and only time in any enlargement, the GDP/capita has increased (by 0.2%)



Fifth, sixth and seventh enlargement

Eastern Enlargement of the EU

- 1 May 2004: Slovenia, Poland, Hungary, Czechia, Slovakia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Cyprus, Malta
- 1 January 2007: Romania, Bulgaria
- 1 July 2013: Croatia



Eastern Enlargement of the EU

Difficulties:

- Structural Funds
- CAP Spending
- Voting Problems
- Bad Administration
- Migration and Unemployment Problems
- Defence and Security Issues
- Deepeners vs. Wideners
- Greater Bureaucracy (language usage)



Eastern Enlargement of the EU

Impact of Eastern Enlargement on the EU

	Population (mil.)	Surface (thou. of sq km)	GDP (bn. \$)	GDP / capita (\$)
1. EU –15	376.5	3,246	8,433	22,398
2. Applicants - 12	105.7	1,097	385.3	3,645
3. Total EU - 27	482.2	4,344	8,818.3	18,288
4. Change (%)	28.1	33.8	4.6	- 18.3



Eastern Enlargement of the EU

Benefits:

- United Europe
- Enhanced Competition
- Better Allocation of Resources (Economic Gains)
- Economies of Scale (Biggest Common Market)
- Foreign Investment
- Strengthening of Single Currency
- Political, Social and Environmental Stability
- Greater Negotiation Power



Eastern Enlargement of the EU

Steps of Eastern Enlargement (1)

- **1991** Europe agreement signed with Hungary and Poland
- **1993 Copenhagen European Council:** the „three Copenhagen criteria“ (political, economic, legislative)

Europe agreement signed with Czech Republic, Slovakia, Romania, Bulgaria



Eastern Enlargement of the EU

Steps of Eastern Enlargement (2)

- **1994** Hungary and Poland apply for membership
Essen European Council: „pre-accession strategy“ designed to narrow the gap between the EU and the CEE associated countries.
Financial aid is to be provided through 3 instruments: PHARE, ISPA, SAPARD
- **1995 Madrid European Council** adds a fourth criterion (administrative)
Europe agreement signed with the three Baltic nations
Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Bulgaria and Slovakia apply for membership, followed by the Czech Republic and Slovenia



Eastern Enlargement of the EU

Criteria of accession to the EU

Copenhagen, 1993

- *Political criterion:* stability of institutions that guarantee democracy and the rule of law, respect for human rights and protection of minorities
- *Economic criterion:* existence of a functional market economy and ability to face competitive pressure inside the EU
- *Legislative criterion:* ability to fulfill all obligations arising from the member status, including adhering to the aims of the EU (adopting the *acquis*)

Madrid, 1995

- *Administrative criterion:* administrative ability to implement the *acquis* and to ensure its just application through the organizational structures created



Eastern Enlargement of the EU

Steps of Eastern Enlargement (3)

- **1996** Europe agreement signed with Slovenia
- **1997 Agenda 2000** – document for EU enlargement: impact of enlargement, preparatory strategy, financial framework
Luxemburg European Council: initiation of the enlargement process with 6 applicant countries: Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Poland, Slovenia
- **1998** Launching of the accession partnerships: Comission monitors the progress made; each applicant country runs a „national programme for the adoption of the „acquis communautaire“
Individual membership negotiations opened with the first 6 countries



Eastern Enlargement of the EU

Steps of Eastern Enlargement (4)

- **1999 Helsinki European Council** includes the other 6 applicant countries: Malta, Romania, Bulgaria, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovakia
Accession partnership with Turkey established
Berlin European Council sets an overall sum for 2000-2006 budgets (670 bn. euro) out of which current applicant countries receive as pre-accession aid plus regional policy 70-80 bn. euro



Eastern Enlargement of the EU

Steps of Eastern Enlargement (5)

- **2000** Start of individual membership negotiations with the second group of 6 countries and initiation of „screening“ process with applicant countries
All western Balkan countries are declared „potential candidates“ for membership
European Parliament approves enlargement of the EU
Treaty of Nice: Reform of EU institutions with regard to eastern enlargement
EU financial assistance to CEE applicant countries reaches a level of 3.2 bn. euro per annum (3,4% out of a total budget of 96 bn. euro in 2001)



Eastern Enlargement of the EU

Steps of Eastern Enlargement (6)

- **2001 Gothenburg European Council** – „enlargement process is irreversible“
 - **2002 Copenhagen Summit** sets as dates for enlargement 1 may 2004 for ten countries (Cyprus, Malta, Hungary, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovenia) and 1 January 2007 for Romania and Bulgaria
- Costs of enlargement set at approximately 40bn. euro (2004-2006)



Eastern Enlargement of the EU

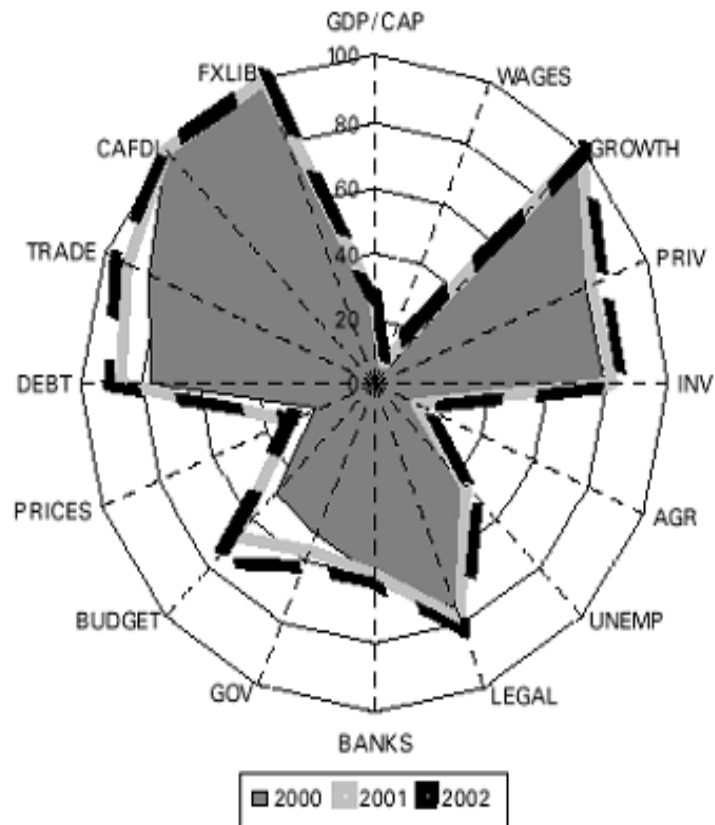
State of Fulfilment of Economic Criterium (as of Feb. 2002)

	Market economy is functional	Economy able to face competitive pressure
Cyprus and Malta	Yes	Yes
Cze, Est, Let, Lat, Pol, Slk, Slo, Hun	Yes	Near future
Bulgaria	Near future	Medium term
Romania	No	Short term

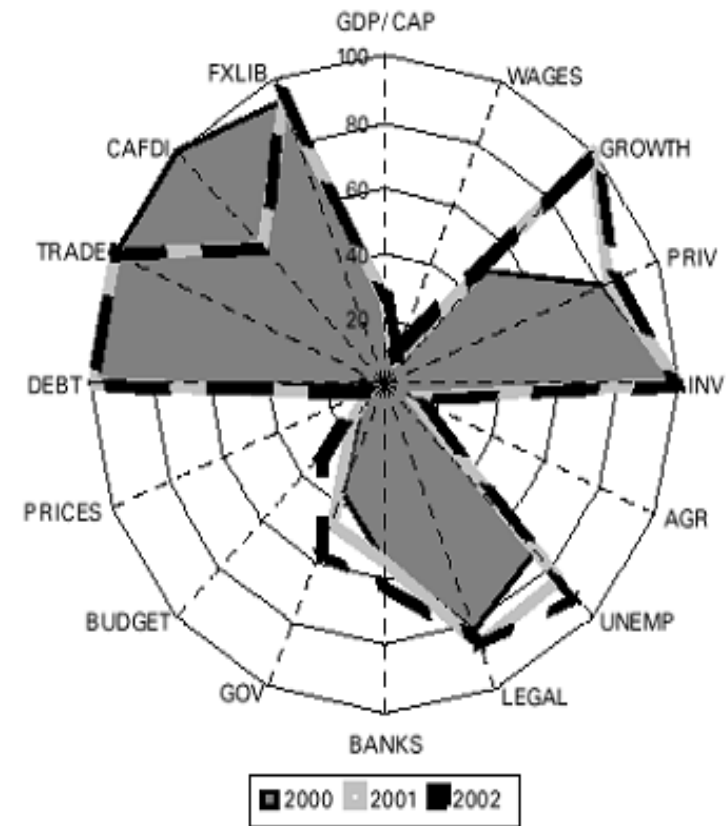


Monitoring of progress

Bulgaria



Romania





Romania's accession to the EU

Key Events in Romania's Accession

- 1993: signing of the Europe Agreement
- 1995: application for EU membership
- 1999: initiation of the process of enlargement, which included Romania as well
- 2000: start of accession negotiations
- 2002: fixing the date of integration
- 2004: closure of negotiations
- 2005: signing of the Accession Treaty
- 2007: entry into the EU



EU assistance to Romania (1)

The absorption rate of funds in terms of commitments has been stable at 97% in the years 2000 - 2003, dropped to approximately 90% in 2004, but recovered to 98% in 2005 again. The government introduced a Single Action Plan in summer 2005, enhancing the administrative capacity for the sound financial and program management of EU funds, which was continuously updated and subject to monitoring. Adequate absorption capacity of the EU funds is of paramount importance to fully benefit from even bigger EU funds after accession.



EU assistance to Romania (2)

The management capacity for the increased pre-accession funds was carefully monitored by the Joint Monitoring Committee with the help of a benchmarking system. As an EU Member State, Romania received almost €10.5 billion in the three years following accession, principally from the Structural Funds and Common Agricultural Policy, and mainly for structural operations, rural development, agriculture market measures and direct payments to farmers. This means some €483 for every Romanian.



EU assistance to Romania (3)

Furthermore, according to the Accession treaty, Romania benefitted, for the first year of its accession from temporary financial assistance, the Transition facility (€50 million) to strengthen the capacity to enforce EU rules. It also benefitted from another temporary instrument, the Schengen facility, to help Romania to finance actions at the new external borders of the EU for the implementation of the Schengen acquis and external border control.



Future enlargement

- There are 8 recognized candidate countries for membership of the EU:
Albania
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Moldova
Montenegro
North Macedonia
Serbia
Türkiye
Ukraine
- Kosovo and Georgia formally submitted applications for membership in 2022 and are considered potential candidates by the EU.



CARDS (2000)

- Financial assistance (€4.6 billion in total) concentrated at a wide range of issues
 - integrated border management,
 - public administration reform,
 - taxation,
 - local infrastructure development,
 - civil society development,
 - media reform,
 - strengthened environment policies and
 - economic reforms.



Phases of negotiations

- ☐ Opening of negotiations
- ☐ Screening process
- ☐ Substantive negotiations in each chapter
- ☐ Temporary closure of chapters
- ☐ Completion of negotiations
- ☐ Drafting of the Accession Treaty
- ☐ The signing of the Accession Treaty
- ☐ The referendum and the ratification of the Accession Treaty
- ☐ Entry into force of the Treaty
- ☐ Membership in the EU - on the agreed date



Accession treaty

- the document that cements the country's membership of the EU
- To be binding, it has to;
 - win the **support** of the EU Council, the Commission, and the European Parliament
 - be **signed** by the candidate country and representatives of all existing EU countries
 - be **ratified** by the candidate country and every individual EU country, according to their constitutional rules (parliamentary vote, referendum, etc.).



The case of Türkiye

- "The eternal candidate" (applied 1987!)
- Candidate status (2000)
- Negotiations started 2004
- Pros and cons of Türkiye's access
- The challenge of integrating new, diverse cultures, social systems and economies into the EU.







Thank you for your attention!

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