




 SUBJECT	History
 LESSON TOPIC	History of the EU
 GRADE	17-18 years old
 LEARNING OBJECTIVES	<p>Students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about important historical events in Europe in the XX century that shaped the continent and led to the creation of the EU. • Discover the events that have shaped the EU and its role nowadays.
 TIME REQUIRED	2h (2 lessons) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesson 1 - 1h: Introduction about the history of the EU and explanation of key events. • Lesson 2 – 1h: Expanding the knowledge through additional resources (links and videos) and doing exercises to review the content studied.
 PREPARATION	2h



MATERIALS

- Interactive board or projector
- Account in [Historiana](#)(only the teacher)
- Account in [Mindomo](#) (only the teacher)
- Handout
- Information about the history and the creation of the EU
- Timeline: important dates and events during the history of the EU
- Video: the origins and the creation of the EU
- Activities – interactive and printed documents: How much do you know about the EU?
- Debate: questions about the institution and its actions
- Resources:
 - [History of the EU](#)
 - [Britannica – European Union](#)
 - [History of the European Union – cooperation and integration](#)
 - [What is the European Union? A short history](#)
 - [European Union – What is the EU?](#)
 - [How does the EU work \(and why is it so complex\)?](#)



TECHNIQUES

- General discussion with students.

 **FORM OF WORK**

- Group activity: a collaborative activity where all students are invited to debate and share their views.

 **LESSON PLAN OVERVIEW****Preparation:**

- Select the content to be discussed and relevant material about the history of the EU (include important dates and events as well as pictures to illustrate the information).
- Establish a list of dates and events to be developed and discussed in class and find more details about them.
- Set up an account on [Mindomo](#) and create a timeline (see explanatory tool sheet n°17).
- Set up an account on [Historiana](#) and prepare a summary with the information, add links to videos or websites and upload the worksheets prepared (see explanatory tool sheet n°13).
- Prepare handouts.
- Timeline:
 - Teacher discusses with students the content of the lesson .
 - Teacher presents a timeline with specific dates and events with the support of images, text and videos.
 - Students do activities to review what they have learned.
 - Conclusion.

Introduction:

The European Union (EU) is an international organisation comprising 27 European countries and governing common economic, social, and security policies. The EU was created by the Maastricht Treaty, which entered into force on November 1, 1993. Before that, in 1951 the leaders of six countries—Belgium, France, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, and West Germany—signed the Treaty of Paris, and, when it took effect in 1952, they founded the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC). Since then, other countries gradually joined the association that became the European Economic Community (EEC) in 1957. It was subsequently renamed the European Community (EC) upon becoming integrated into the first pillar of the newly formed European Union in 1993.

The most important milestones in the history of the European Union are:

- 1950 – Schuman Declaration
- 1951 – Coal and Steel Community
- 1957 – Treaty of Rome
- 1973 – First enlargement
- 1979 – Direct elections
- 1985 – Schengen Agreement
- 1986 – European Community
- 1992 – Maastricht Treaty
- 1999 – Single currency
- 2004 – Eastern and Southern enlargement
- 2007 – Treaty of Lisbon
- 2020 – Brexit

Implementation:

Lesson 1:

- Introduce students to the EU and present key events:
 - Engage students in the topic by showing a timeline in Mindomowith pictures and explanatory videos.
 - Ask a set of questions to debate with the students: What do you know about the EU? Do you know how does it impact your daily life? Do you know what are its advantages and disadvantages?

Lesson 2:

- Present additional resources and provide exercises to review the content previously studied
 - Present the materials included in Historiana and review the information previously studied.
 - Discuss with them: How much do you know about the EU now? Is there something that has surprised you? Would you like to work in the institutions one day?

Summary:

- Summarize the content of the lesson.
- Point out the most relevant events that have shaped the EU.
- Highlight the work that the different European institutions do and their impact on our lives.

Homework:

As part of their homework, ask students to revise the names of key actors of the EU and key events to do the exercises in lesson 2.