

# The history of European integration (overview)

- 1946 WINSTON CHURCHILL speaks at the University of Zürich
- 1949 foundation of the Council of Europe
- 1952 start of the *European Coal and Steel Community* (ECSC)
- 1958 start of the *European Economic Community* (EEC) and the *European Atomic Energy Community* (EURATOM)
- 1967 connection of the three *European Communities* to one acting unit with common institutions
- 1968 completion of the Customs Union
- 1978 establishment of a European Monetary System (EMS)
- 1987 entry into force of the *Single European Act* (SEA)  
- first major reform; in particular agreement to establish a European internal market
- 1992 establishment of the *internal market* almost completed
- 1993 entry into force of the *Treaty of Maastricht* (EU Treaty)  
- second major reform  
- emergence of the *European Union* (EU), which comprises the European Communities  
- "EEC" renamed "EC"  
- introduction of a Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and a cooperation in the field of justice and home affairs  
- binding agreement to introduce a common currency
- 1999 introduction of the *euro* (€); entry into force of the *Treaty of Amsterdam*  
- third major reform
- 2000 proclamation of the *Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union* (as non-binding soft law)
- 2002 introduction of euro coins and notes; ECSC Treaty expires (missions taken over by EC)
- 2002/03 preparation of a Draft constitution by the European Convention
- 2003 entry into force of the *Treaty of Nice*  
- fourth major reform
- 2004 signing of the *Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe*
- 2004/07 Eastern enlargement of the European Union (10 + 2 new member states)
- 2005 Failure of the Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe
- 2009 entry into force of the *Treaty of Lisbon*  
- last major reform  
- simplification of the structure of the EU; liquidation of the EC  
- Charter of Fundamental Rights becomes binding primary law
- Since 2010 Fight against the financial crisis in some euro area member states  
- 2012: entry into force of the Treaty establishing the European Stability Mechanism  
- 2013: entry into force of the Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the Economic and Monetary Union (Fiscal Pact)