

# The Past is Important

Let us raise a standard to which the wise and honest can repair.

George Washington

We have a great dream. It started way back in 1776, and God grant that America will be true to her dream.

- Martin Luther King, Jr.

Whatever America hopes to bring to pass in the world must first come to pass in the heart of America.

- Dwight D. Eisenhower

The background of the slide is the European Union flag, featuring a blue field with twelve yellow five-pointed stars arranged in a circle. The flag is shown with a slight texture and folds.

# ***The European Union***

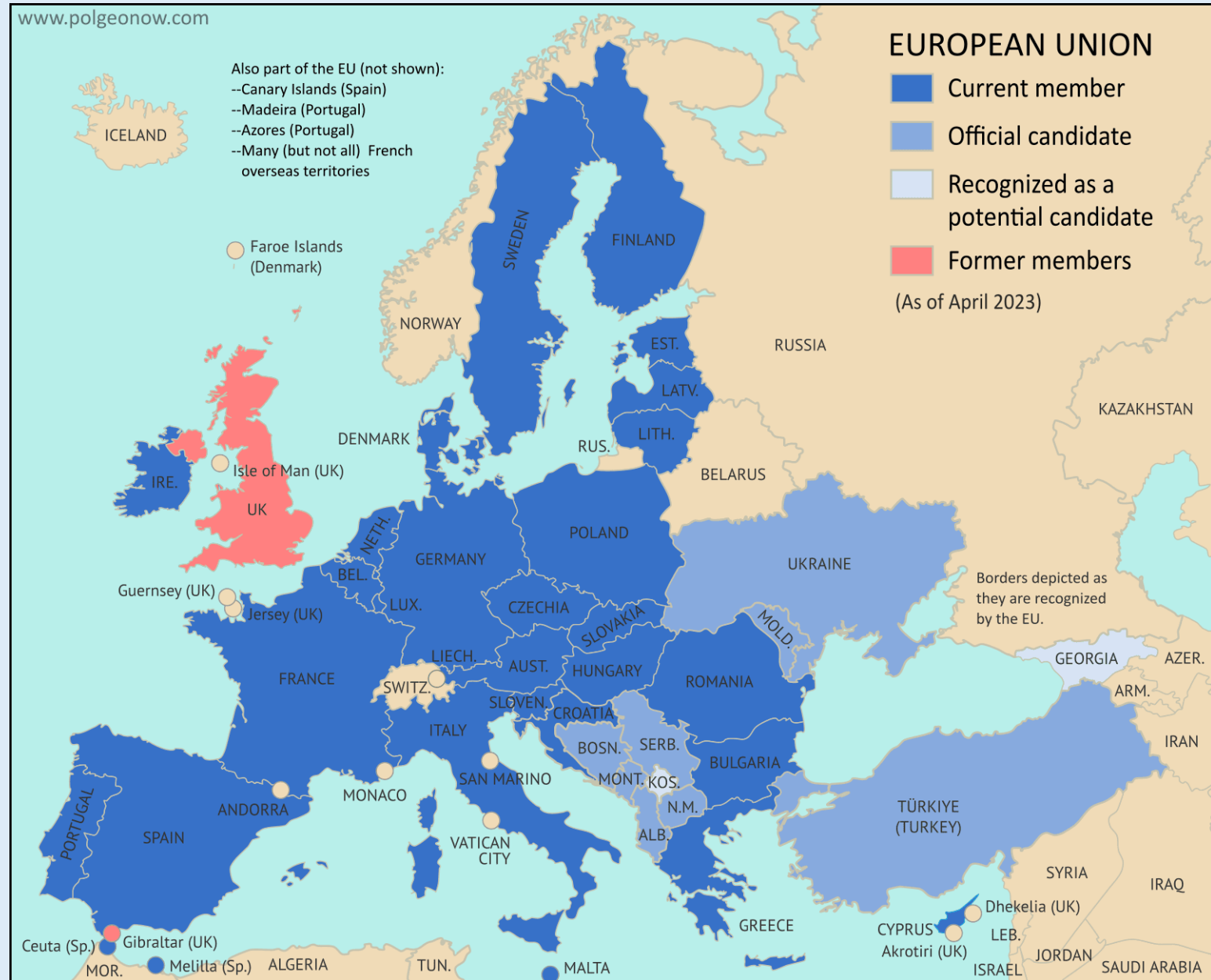
***Europe's Not What It Used To Be***





# The European Union May 2023

- 27 countries
- 24 official languages
- 448 m. population









54% NO, 46% YES, APRIL 2023





# A BIT OF HISTORY

BE, FR, GE,  
IT, LU, NL  
EURO COAL  
AND STEEL  
COMMU-  
NITY

1951

NAME  
BECOMES  
EUROPEAN  
ECONOMIC  
COMMUNITY

1958

EUROPEAN  
ANTHEM  
ADOPTED

•[https://www.coe.int/02/\\_lfr/dc/audio/piano\\_hymne.mp3](https://www.coe.int/02/_lfr/dc/audio/piano_hymne.mp3)

1972

NAME  
CHANGE  
  
EURO-  
PEAN  
UNION

1993

LAUNCH  
OF THE  
EURO


2002

UK LEAVES  
THE EU =  
BREXIT

2020

## Turkish and Spanish elections among key votes to watch in 2023

(scheduled national elections in Europe in 2023)

 Potential change of government or policy direction

**January**

Czech presidential election

**February** 

Cyprus presidential election

**April**

Montenegro presidential election

**June** 

Turkey presidential and parliamentary elections

**July**

Greece parliamentary election

**October**

Luxembourg parliamentary election

**November** 

Poland parliamentary election

2023

**April**

Finland parliamentary election

**March**

Estonia parliamentary election

 **December**

Spain parliamentary election

**October**

Switzerland parliamentary election

Note. Snap parliamentary elections are likely in Bulgaria and Montenegro, and an increasing risk in Slovakia.

Source: EIU.





# Freedom of Movement

- No police or customs checks at borders between most EU countries
- Controls strengthened at the EU's external borders
- More cooperation between police from different EU countries
- Buy and bring back any goods for personal use when you travel between EU countries

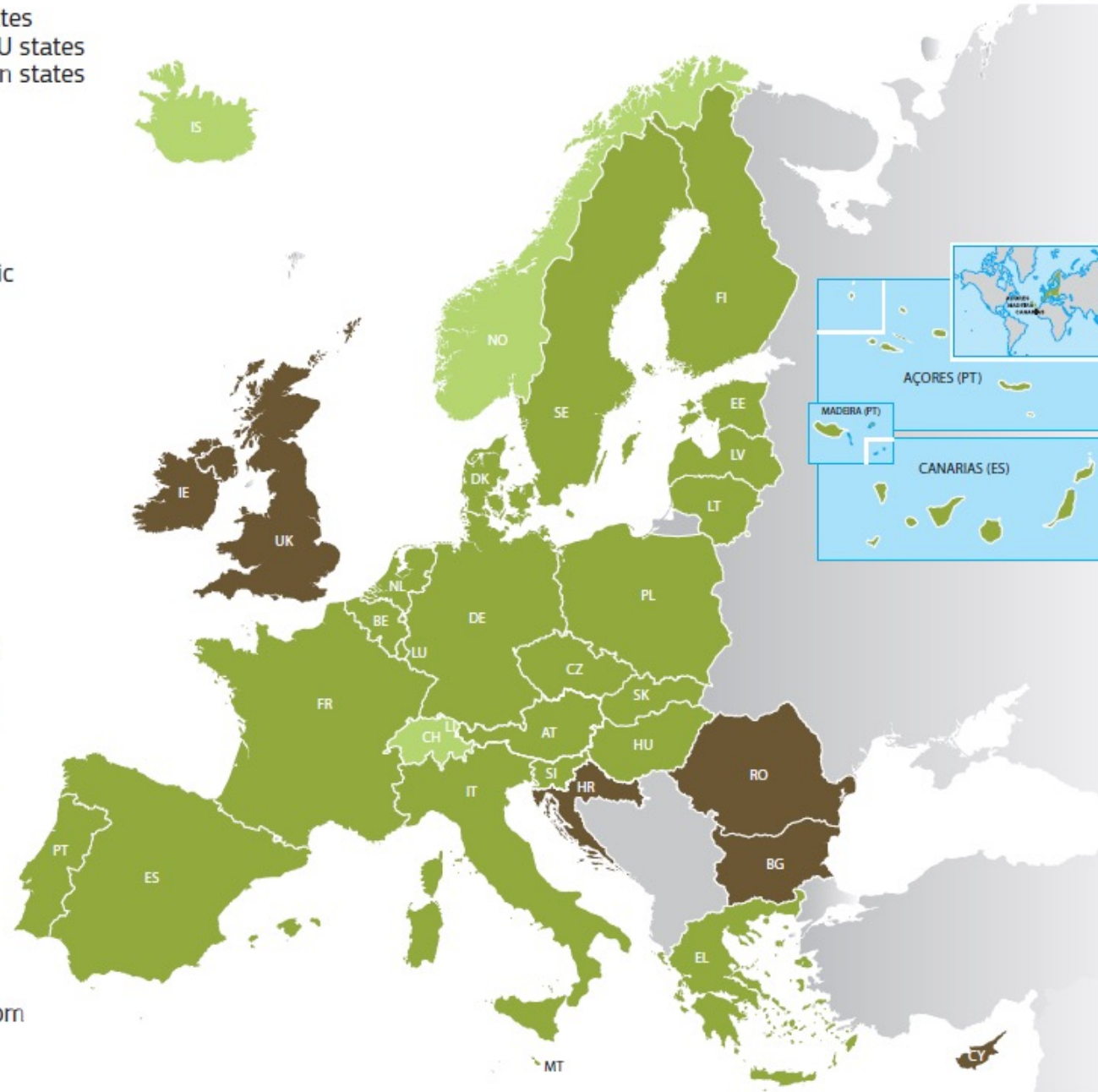
## Schengen



# The Schengen area

- EU Schengen states
- Non-Schengen EU states
- Non-EU Schengen states

AT	Austria
BE	Belgium
BG	Bulgaria
CH	Switzerland
CY	Cyprus
CZ	Czech Republic
DE	Germany
DK	Denmark
EE	Estonia
EL	Greece
ES	Spain
FI	Finland
FR	France
HR	Croatia
HU	Hungary
IE	Ireland
IS	Iceland
IT	Italy
LI	Liechtenstein
LT	Lithuania
LU	Luxembourg
LV	Latvia
MT	Malta
NL	Netherlands
NO	Norway
PL	Poland
PT	Portugal
RO	Romania
SE	Sweden
SI	Slovenia
SK	Slovakia
UK	United Kingdom





## **Five Points to Remember About the EU**

1. The member states rule.
2. The EU does NOT want to be NATO.
3. EU bodies, procedures, and law are labyrinthine.
4. The EU does not always speak with one voice
5. The EU does not do democracy well

# Three Key Actors and Voices



## *The European Parliament*

- Voice of the People

**ROBERTA MITSOULA**, President of the European Parliament

## *The European Council*

- Voice of the Member States

**CHARLES MICHEL**, President of the European Council



## *The European Commission*

- Promoting the common interest

**URSULA VAN DER LEYEN**, President of the European Commission,





# High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security

## Josep Borrell Fontelles

- **Manages Common Foreign and Security Policy**
- **VP of European Commission**
- **Chairs Foreign Affairs Council**
- **Heads EU External Action Service**

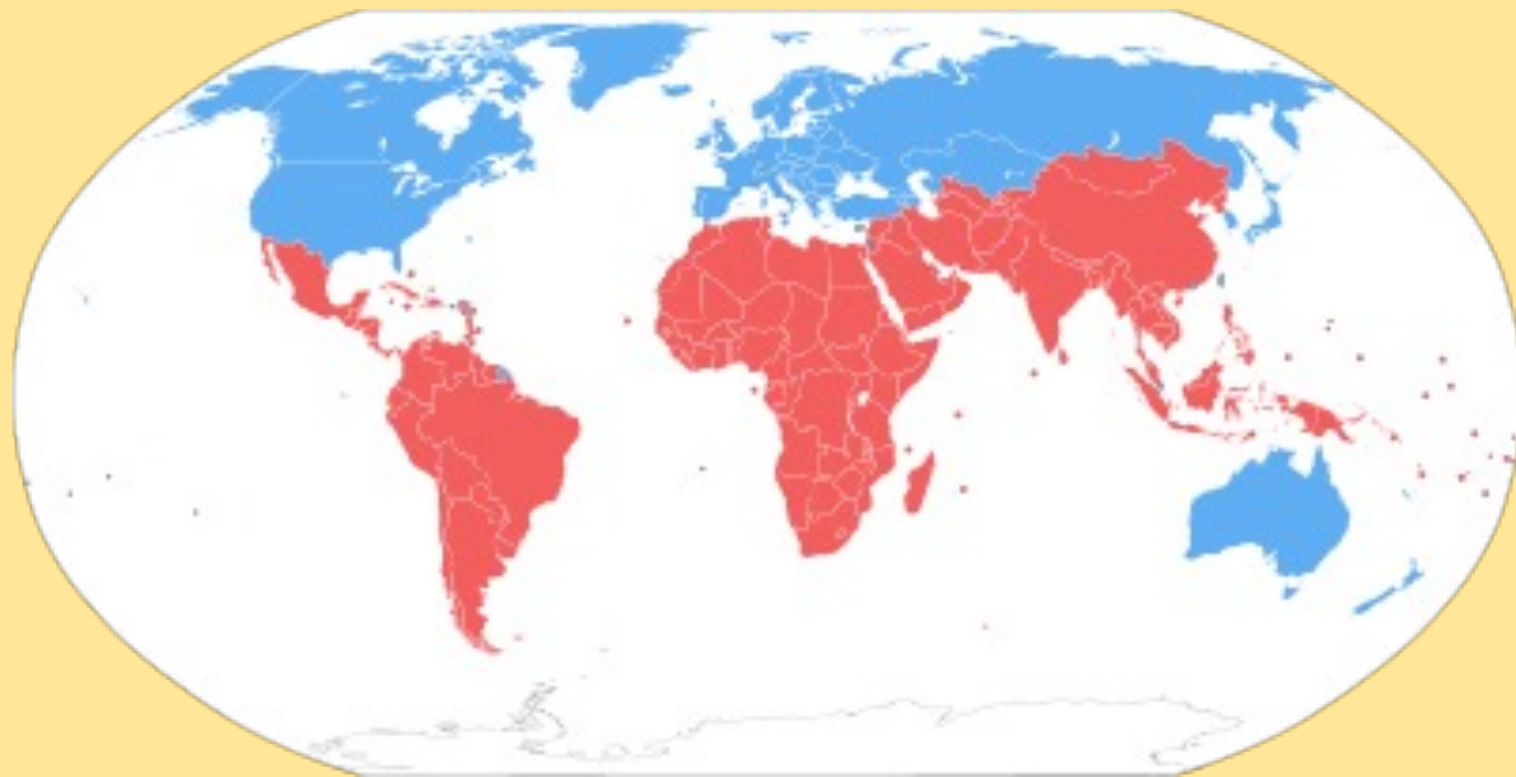


# WHO APPOINTS THE HIGH REPRESENTATIVE / VICE-PRESIDENT?

- The **European Council**, which comprises the heads of state or government of all EU member states, appoints the HR/VP through a 'qualified majority' vote.
- The President of the **Commission** must be in agreement with the decision.
- The High Representative also holds the role of Vice-President of the European Commission, a body voted on by the **European Parliament** before taking office.
- The Commissioners are appointed for a five-year term, which is renewable and which coincides with the five-year mandate of the European Commission.

## **JOSEP BORELL in remarks to the MUNICH SECURITY CONFERENCE, FEB 19, 2023**

- I think that we face three major challenges:
- First, our credibility as a global player: this is what we call geopolitical Europe;
- Second, our strategic responsibility as security and defence provider;
- And third our engagement with partners around the world and to preserve or even to re-build trustful cooperation with many of the so-called Global South.





# Three Key Actors



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**ROBERTA MITSOULA**, President of the European Parliament

## *The European Council*

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# European Parliament

705 Members of European Parliament (MEPs)

- Sit by party, not nationality
- Only directly elected part of EU
- Elected to 5 year terms
- Seats appointed by MS' population

Political powers

- Approves appointment of Commission
- Censure/fire Commission

Legislative powers

- Shares power with Council on some issues

Budgetary powers

- Must approve EU budget
- Modify certain EU expenditures
- 2 BN Euro budget (ca. 2.18 BN US\$)

Voting age: 18 (AUSTRIA, MALTA 16)



Brussels



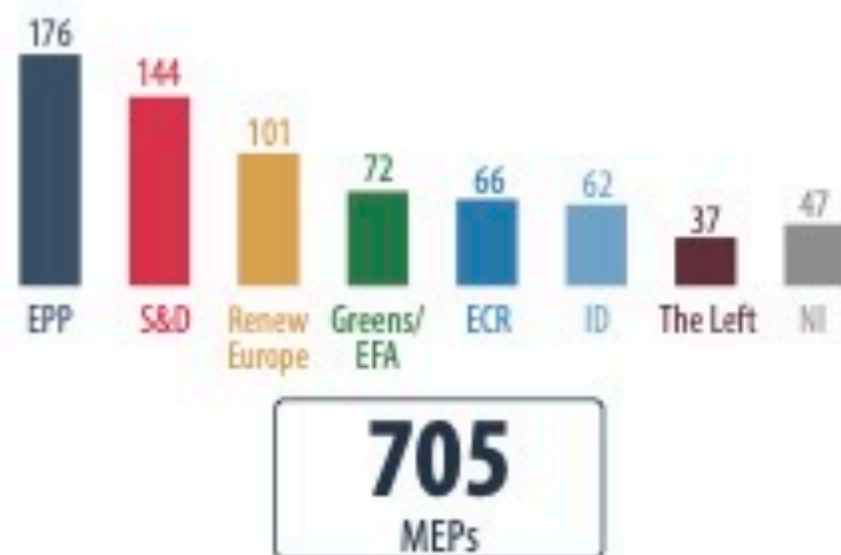
Strasbourg

This briefing, published by the European Parliamentary Research Service, aims to provide a broad range of key facts and figures about the European Parliament. Its many graphics offer a picture of the Parliament's Members and the institution's structures and activity in the current parliamentary term (July 2019 to June 2024) and in previous 5-year terms since direct elections were introduced in June 1979.

## European Parliament, 2019-2024

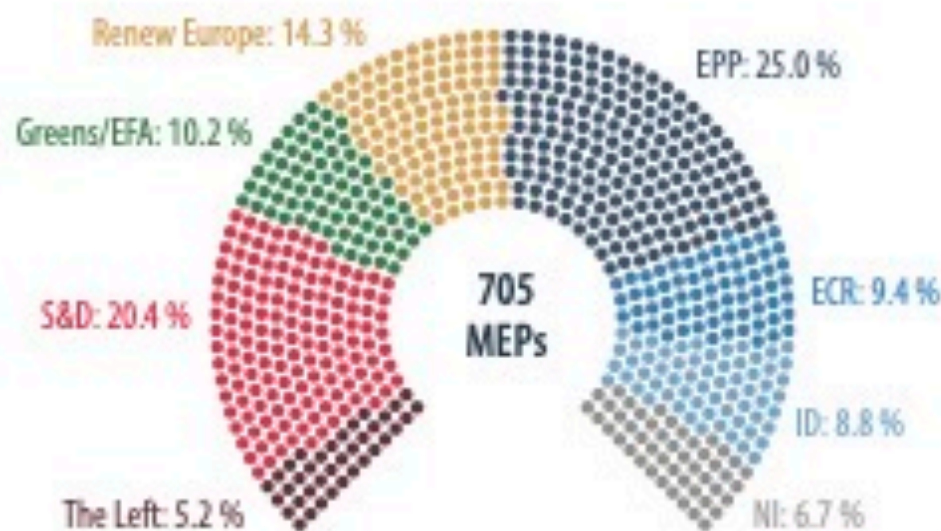
### Size of the political groups

Number of Members in each political group as of 1 May 2023



### Proportion of Members in each political group

Share of the total 705 Members in the Parliament by political group.







## Members of the European Council

The members of the European Council are the heads of state or government of the 27 EU member states, the European Council President and the President of the European Commission.





The European Council defines the EU's overall political direction and priorities and sets the EU's policy agenda. It usually adopts conclusions during European Council meetings which identify issues of concern and actions to take. It does not negotiate or adopt EU laws.

# The European Commission

Commission is the EU's executive arm and **runs the Union day-to-day**

- 27 Members (one per MS) – 5 year term
- **Has power of the purse**
- “Guardian of the treaties”
- **Significant power player internationally**
  - **Actions binding abroad (esp. in US)**
- **Will enforce any new Euro regulations**
- Commissioners are appointed by EU members, do not represent member states' views
- **Can negotiate and act on its own**



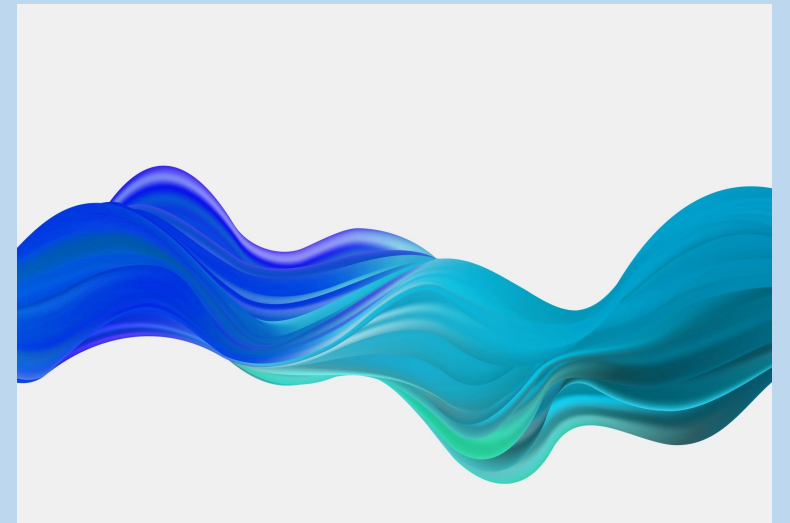
# 6 EU Commission priorities for 2019-24

1. Europe aims to be the first climate-neutral continent.
2. The EU's digital strategy will empower people with a new generation of technologies.
3. The EU must create a more attractive investment environment, and growth that creates quality jobs, especially for young people and small businesses.
4. The EU will strengthen its voice in the world by championing multilateralism and a rules-based global order.
5. *Europe* must protect the rule of law if it is to stand up for justice and the EU's core values.
6. We need to give Europeans a bigger say and protect our democracy from external interference such as disinformation and online hate messages.

# EU BUDGET 2023\*

€186 BN EUROS  
(204 BN US \$)

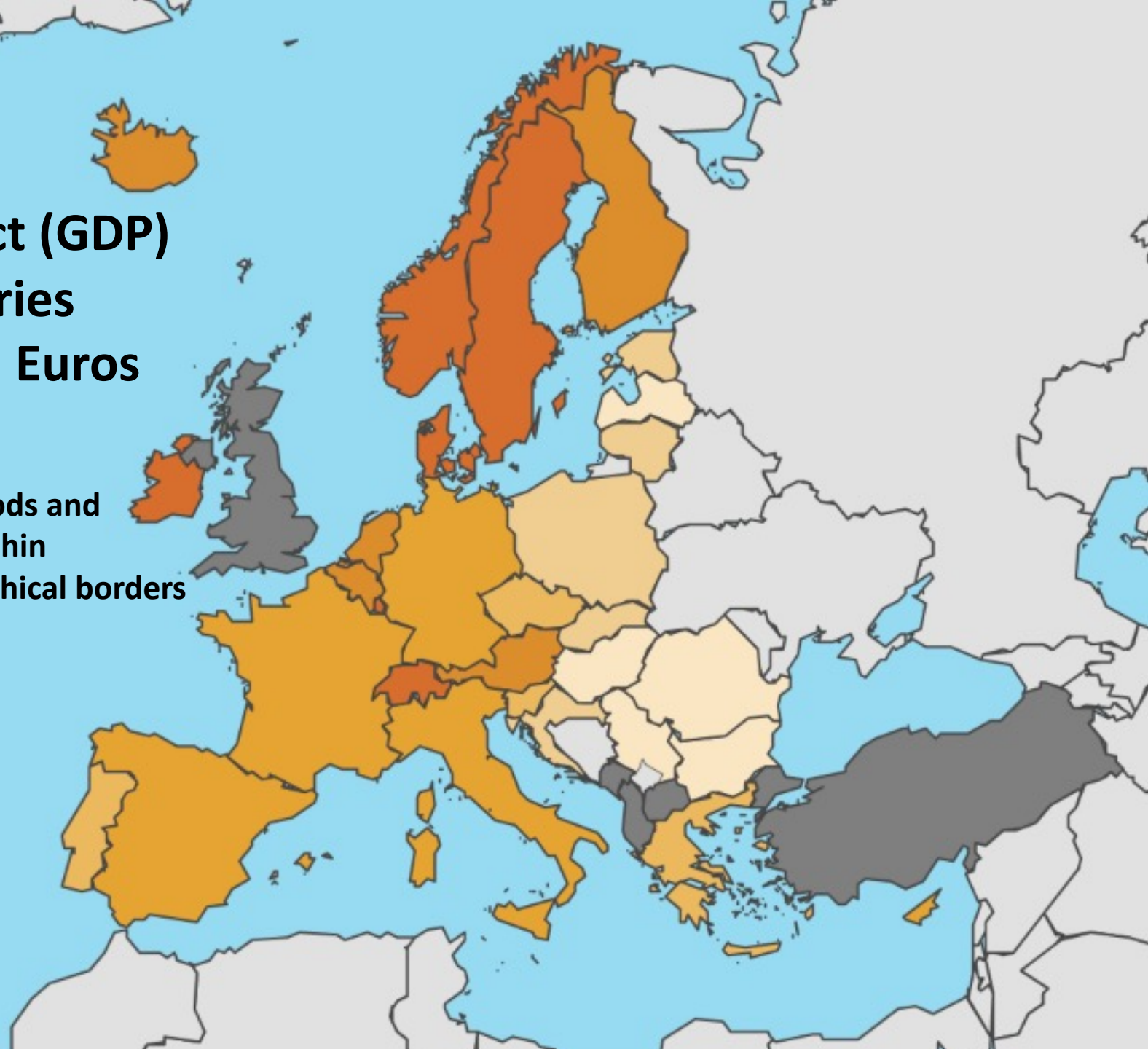
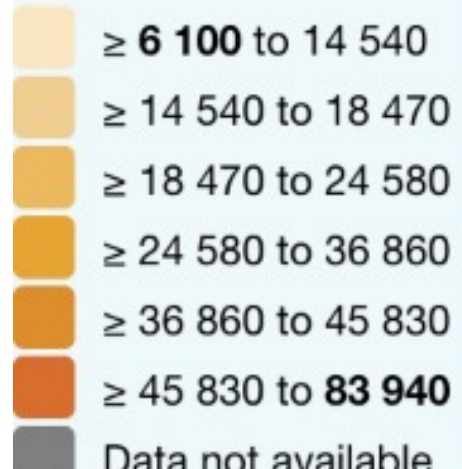
**\*NOT A SUMMATION OF 28 COUNTRIES' BUDGETS**



**Gross Domestic Product (GDP)**  
**European Union countries**  
**Real GDP per capita, in Euros**  
**100 Euros = US \$110**

GDP measures the goods and  
services produced within  
the country's geographical borders

**Legend**

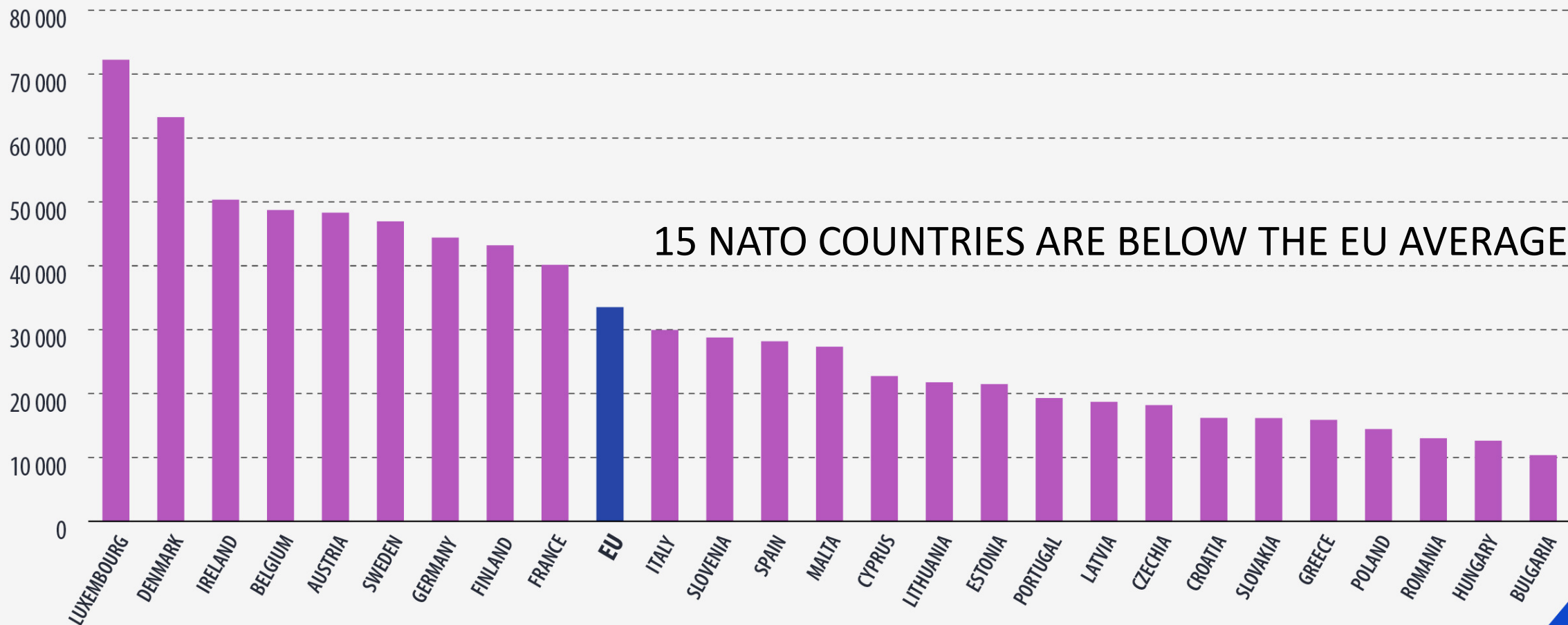




# Average annual full-time adjusted salary per employee, 2021

EU COUNTRIES, ABSENT THE NL

(in €)



Netherlands: data are available via a link in the metadata file (different methodology).



## **Summit of EU Heads of State and Governments**

- Held at least 4 times a year, Mar, Jun, Oct, Dec in Brussel – 6 per year since 2008
- Sets the overall guidelines for EU policies



Summits of Heads of  
State and Government  
of the Council of  
Europe

May 16-17, 2023

REYKJAVIK, ICELAND



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SOM  
REY  
Conseil

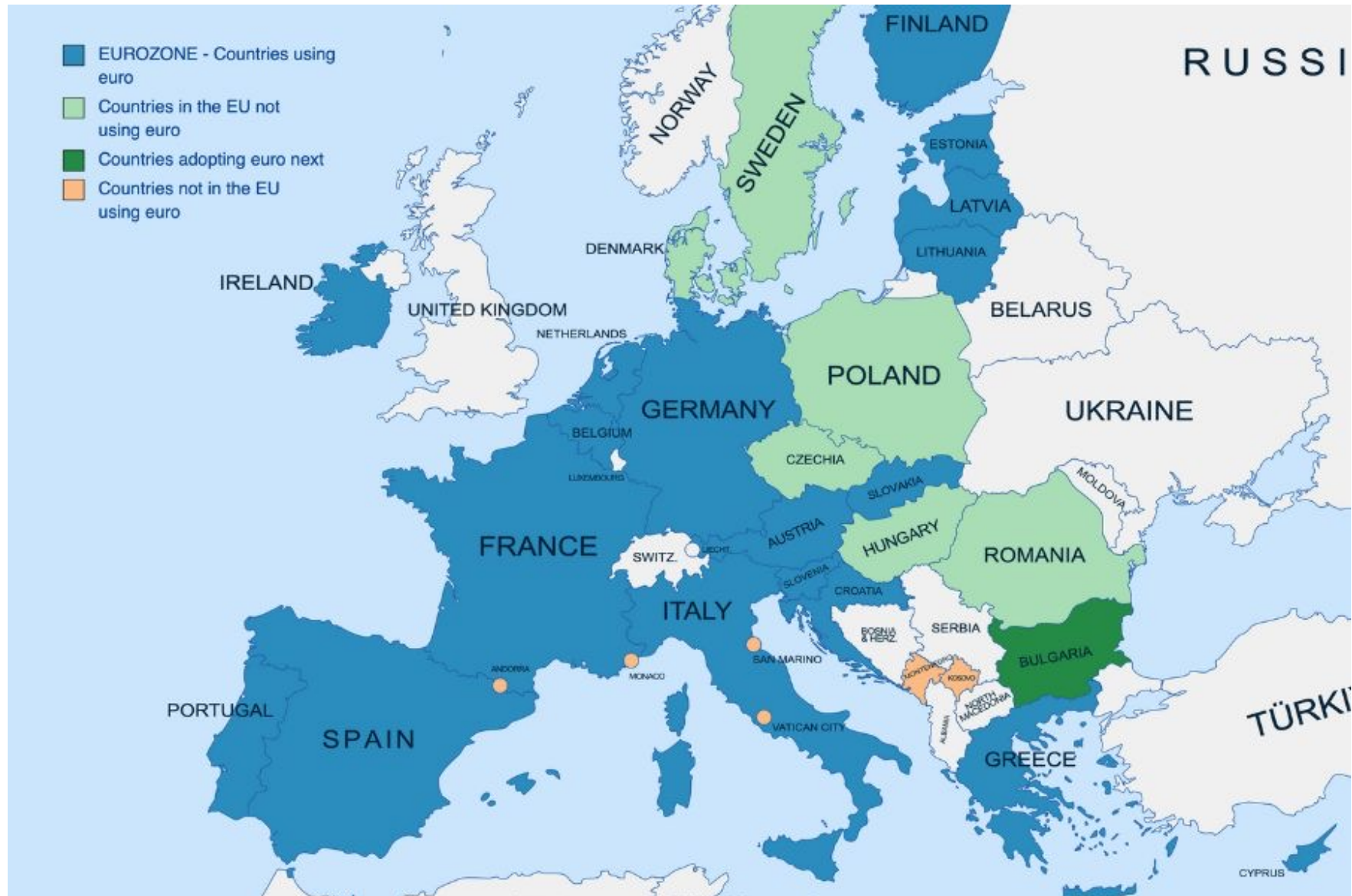


# The Euro – a single European currency

1 Euro = US \$ 1.09

May 11, 2023

- No fluctuation risk and foreign exchange cost
- More choice and stable prices for consumers
- Closer economic cooperation between EU countries
- Coins: one side with national symbols, one side common
- Notes: no national side





# THE EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

- Ensures price stability
- Controls money supply and decides interest rates
- Supervises that banks are safe
- Works independently from governments

**CHRISTINE LAGARDE PRES., ECB**







The U.S. and European economies are deeply intertwined. According to U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis data, the transatlantic economy—including the 27 EU member states and non-EU countries such as the United Kingdom (UK), Norway, and Switzerland—typically generates close to \$6 trillion per year in foreign affiliate sales and directly employs around 10 million workers on both sides of the Atlantic. The United States and the EU are each other's largest overall trade and investment partners.

CRS, Archick, Feb 2023





IS THE EUROPEAN HOUSE ON FIRE?

# EU Challenges

- *Brexit – what?, Still?, Yup.*
- *Migration*
- *Russia*
- *Turkey*
- *Illiberalism*
- *Climate change*



# Challenges Facing the EU

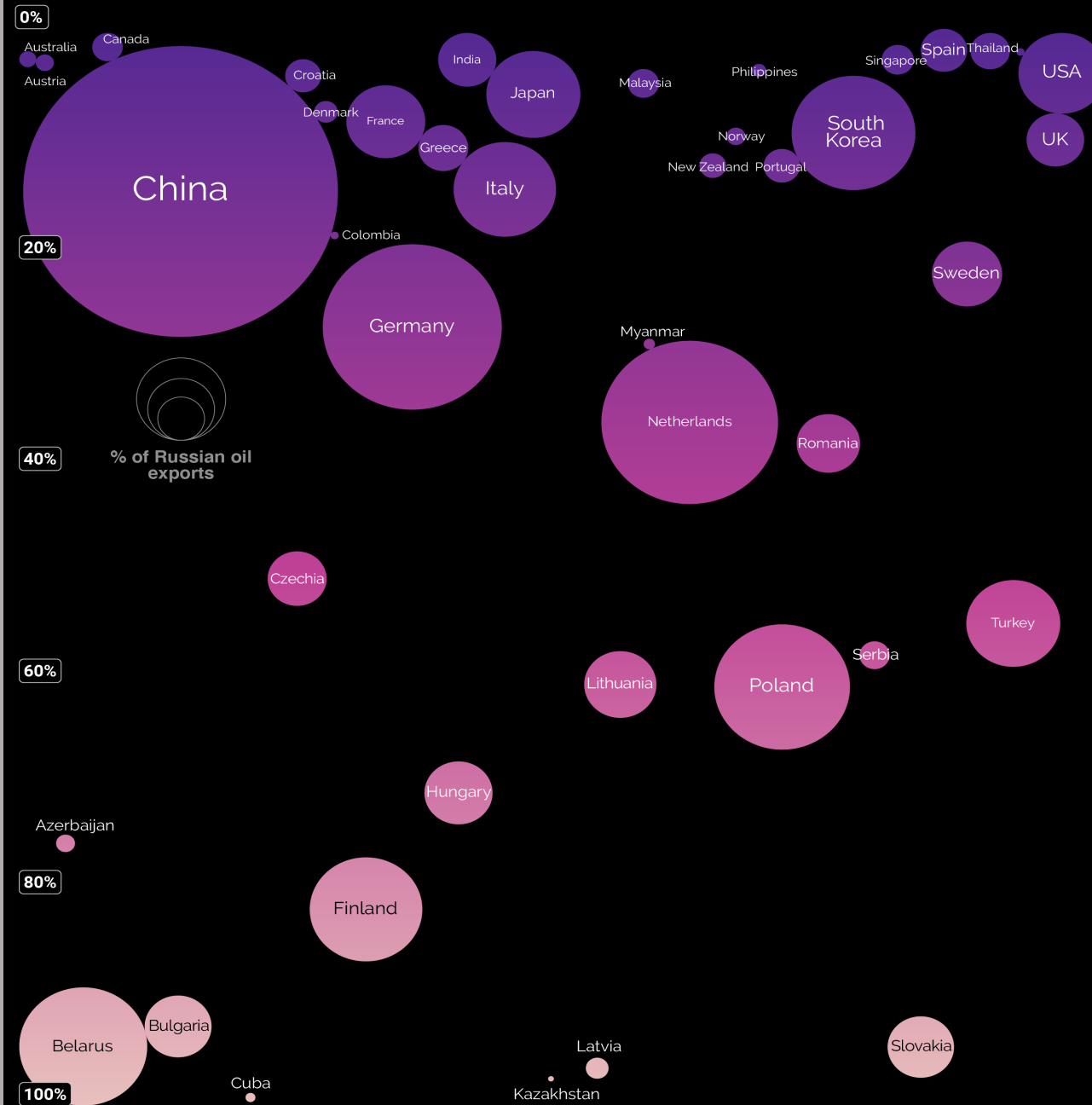
The EU has demonstrated solidarity in responding to Russia's war against Ukraine (launched in February 2022), although the conflict has contributed to rising energy prices and inflation in the EU; the war also has galvanized debate on several long-standing EU initiatives, including related to EU defense, energy, and climate policies, and EU enlargement.

Other key issues facing the EU include the lingering effects of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, democratic backsliding in some member states, the presence of populist and to some extent anti-EU political parties throughout the bloc, tensions with the United Kingdom (UK) following its exit from the EU in January 2020 (Brexit), ongoing migration concerns, and complex relations with China.

Congressional Research Service, (CRS) Feb 2023



# % Dependency on Russian Oil Exports





# Russia



- Kaliningrad (larger than Conn.)
- Ukraine
- Syria
- Gas production and distribution
- Election / media attacks

- 
- A protest against the right-wing government of Prime Minister Viktor Orban in Budapest, Hungary.

Laszlo Balogh/Getty Images









# CHINA'S PROPOSED NEW SILK ROADS



—●— SILK ROAD ECONOMIC BELT

—●— MARITIME SILK ROAD

—●— CHINA-PAKISTAN ECONOMIC CORRIDOR

Source: Xinhua

Credits: James McBride, Julia Ro

COUNCIL on  
FOREIGN  
RELATIONS

# US – EU Relations

- President Biden has committed to partnering with the EU on a wide range of global concerns, and the conflict in Ukraine has bolstered U.S.-EU ties.
  - The United States and the EU have demonstrated steadfast support for Ukraine's territorial integrity and have cooperated extensively in imposing sanctions on Russia and other responses.
  - Resolving U.S.-EU trade disputes and promoting technological cooperation have been priorities for the Biden Administration, as well. U.S. tax subsidies for clean energy technologies (in P.L. 117-169, commonly referred to as the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022), however, have generated new tensions with the EU.
  - Other issues, including managing relations with Russia and China in the years ahead, also may test the U.S.-EU partnership. EU concerns persist about ongoing U.S. political polarization and whether a future U.S. Administration would maintain current U.S. policies toward Russia, Ukraine, and the EU.
- 
- CRS, Feb 2023

FOR MORE  
INFORMATION

[WWW.NATO.INT](http://WWW.NATO.INT)

[WWW.EUROPA.EU](http://WWW.EUROPA.EU)





**We do not see things as they are,  
we see things as we are.**

Talmud – 200CE