Europe Moves Toward Unity
History of Conflict

• Each country had its own government, language, money, laws & traditions

• Various wars have occurred over territory & several have had tariff wars

  –Two rulers have tried to unite Europe by force

  • Napoleon (1804-1815)
  • Hitler (1930s-1945)
Europe had a history of conflict from 1870-1945. France & Germany fought 3 different wars.
Since WWII

• Europe was in ruins at the end of WWII
  – Cities & transportation systems were destroyed
  – Most mines & factories had stopped production
  – They had to rebuild
Europe Rebuilds

- Rebuilding Europe was essential
- 1st step in this process was to unify W. Europe through economic organizations
Economic Organizations: OEEC

- OEEC - Organization for European Economic Cooperation
  - Est. 1948, 17 European countries, countries worked together to plan recovery

- The United States gave $13 billion under the Marshall Plan to Western Europe to help rebuild their industries

- By 1952 they had surpassed their pre-war industrial output
Economic Organizations: ECSC

- ECSC: European Coal & Steel Community
  - Est. 1951—6 members (France, W. Germany, Italy, Belgium, Netherlands & Luxembourg)
- Did away with trade barriers on coal, steel, iron ore & scrap metal
- Allowed coal & steel workers to travel freely between countries
- Set up an international governing with powers to make laws
- Was A SUCCESS
Economic Organizations: EURATOM

- EURATOM—European Atomic Energy Community
  - Est. 1957
  - Purpose —create a market for atomic energy and distribute it to cooperating nations
  - Surplus energy to be sold
Economic Organizations: EEC

• EEC-European Economic Community
  – Est 1957
  – Founding nations—France, W. Germany, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands & Luxembourg
  – Provided a free movement of labor & capital for all markets to promote industrial growth throughout the partnership nations
From 3 to 1

• The three (ECSC, EEC, & EURATOM) were united to form the (EC) European Community.
• This created a single parliament & commission

Signing of the treaty to form the European Union
The treaty of Maastricht (1992)

- The treaty laid the basis for further cooperation in Europe.
  - EX. Foreign & defense policies, judicial & internal affairs, economic & monetary unions with a common currency
- The European Union was formally created
European Union’s Purpose

• The EU is a family of democratic European countries committed to working for peace & prosperity

• How was Unity Established?
  – Single Market—common trade laws, free trade with cooperating nations, common agriculture & fishing policies
  – Single currency-Euro—13 of 27 member states use the Euro
  – Political union-commission, parliament, court of justice, EU military since 2004, common security policies
**EU Members**

- **1957** - France, W. Germany, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands & Luxembourg
- **1973** - Ireland, UK & Denmark
- **1981** - Greece
- **1986** - Portugal & Spain
- **1995** - Austria, Sweden & Finland (Norway opted out)
- **2004** - Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Slovenia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta & Cyprus
- **2007** - Romania & Bulgaria
- **3 candidates** - Croatia, Macedonia, Turkey
There are at present no plans to cease enlargement; according to the Copenhagen criteria, membership of the European Union is open to any European country that is a stable, free market liberal democracy that respects the rule of law and human rights. Furthermore, it has to be willing to accept all the obligations of membership such as adopting all previously agreed law and joining the euro.
EU’s Economy

- Collectively the world’s largest economy
- World’s largest exporter
- 2nd largest importer
- Labor Force: 222 million people
  - 4.3% Agriculture
  - 27.2% Industry
  - 67.1% Services

Successful?????
EFTA: European Free Trade Association

- Members: Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, & Switzerland
- Free trade among its members since 1960
- Made joint free trade agreements with many countries worldwide
- Has the Secretariat, surveillance authority & court
COMECON: Council for Mutual Economic Assistance

- Economic organization from 1949-1991
- Linked the USSR to several European countries Ex. Romania, Poland & Eastern Germany etc.
- Prompted by the Marshall Plan
- Disbanded in 1991
CIS: Commonwealth of Independent States

- 10 former Soviet Republics
- The CIS charter stated that all members were sovereign, independent nations and thereby abolished the Soviet Union
- Signaled the dissolution of the Soviet Union
- Some say it was a “civilized divorce” others say it allowed Russia to maintain influence
- Goals are free trade, economic unions, democratization, cross border crime prevention, security, lawmaking, & financing