



EU in the global economy: top-10 positive factors

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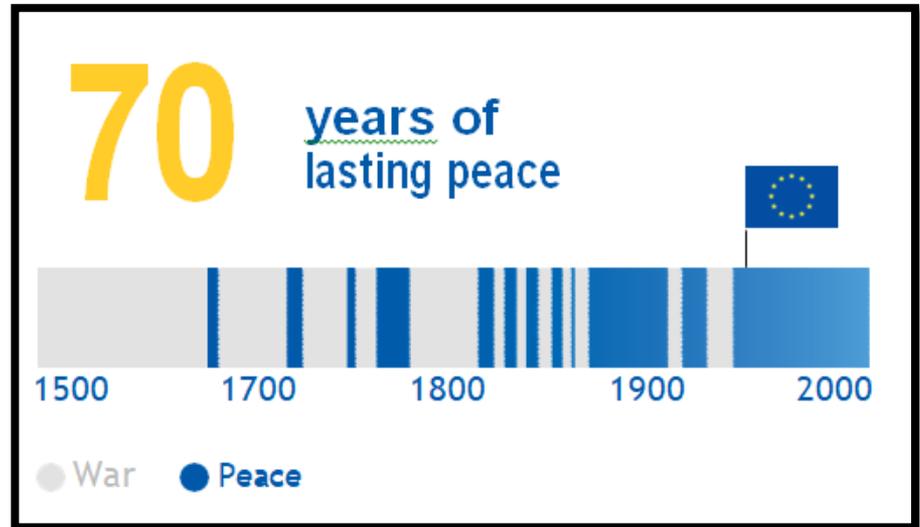
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The EU has been keeping the peace for 70 years

Our fathers and grandfathers went to war . Today we have the luxury of being able to trust our European neighbours . War within the EU is unthinkable; eastern and western Europe are united . Our common Europe an home safeguards peace . We should be extremely thankful.

The aim was to bind European nations together with such strong economic ties in the service of peace that war between them would no longer be possible. In 2012 the EU was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for spreading peace, reconciliation, democracy and human rights.





Only together can Europe be a force in a globalised world

In a globalised world with its myriad challenges no EU country is now big enough on its own to make its influence felt and assert our values. Only the EU as a whole can do that.

Today's EU covers a Europe stretching from Lisbon to Helsinki, from Dublin to Sofia, from the Atlantic to the Black Sea, from the North Sea and the Baltic to the Mediterranean. It has monarchies and republics, members and non-members of NATO. The EU can offer protection to its citizens — from external threats or the consequences of globalisation, for example — where the nation state is no longer able to. No better alternative to European cooperation in the EU is on the horizon.



The biggest internal market in the world

30 million businesses generate the EU's GDP of €14 trillion

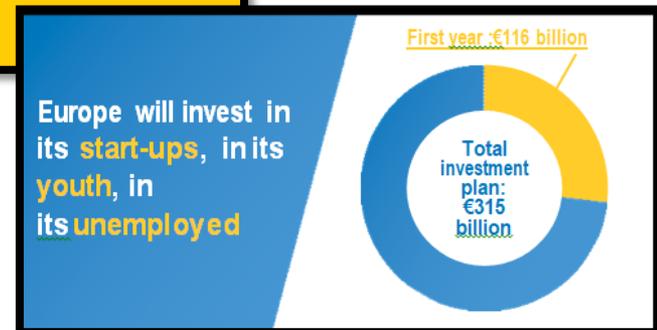




The EU fosters growth, employment and prosperity

The underlying principle is this: the EU provides credit for the modernisation of SMEs, or for major, often cross-border, projects such as the development of road, data and energy networks. The ideal beneficiaries are firms that would like to invest in the future, but find it hard to raise the money. The EU takes on part of the investment risk, including by means of guarantees, and so makes it easier for private investors to put money into projects.

At the same time, the EU single market is itself a giant stimulus package. Duty-free cross-border trade saves firms money and makes goods cheaper for consumers. It is easy for businesses to invest in other EU countries. People can look for work in whatever EU country they choose. Over the last few decades all this has increased competitiveness, helped the economy grow and created prosperity.





The EU promotes fair trade with other parts of the world

Prosperity in the European Union is based on free and open global trade. In the EU alone, 31 million jobs — almost every seventh job in Europe — depend on ex- ports . Our trade agreements lay the foundations for fair trade relations with other parts of the world .

Trade agreements help businesses to find new markets, in- crease profits and create jobs. Consumers benefit too. Being able to buy cheap goods online from all over the world from the comfort of our sofas and choose from a wide range of goods in shopping centres.





The euro is a stable currency that offers many advantages

Every day, around 338 million Europeans use this common currency. The euro has made travelling easier for Europeans, as they no longer have to exchange their money. This saves over EUR 30 billion a year in currency exchange fees. Now that prices can be compared directly, many purchases abroad are cheaper for consumers.

The euro has by now established itself as the second most important reserve currency in the world after the US dollar. This gives the euro-area countries and the EU as a whole more political and economic weight on the international stage.

**Euro-area countries saved
€50 billion this year**



thanks to
the European Central
Bank's **monetary policy**



Europe protects the savings of its citizens

EU proposed that a Europe-wide guarantee system for savings be developed by 2024. The European deposit guarantee system is intended to be a sort of common insurance fund into which the national deposit systems will gradually merge. This fund is financed by contributions from the banks, which pay in the money over a number of years, and it is intended to grow to EUR 55 billion. This fund would then guarantee deposits throughout Europe of up to EUR 100 000 per customer, but only if the national guarantee fund of a country is not sufficient.

The guarantee is also intended to prevent bank runs if customers fear that a financial institution is about to collapse and their deposits will be lost. The European deposit guarantee is the third and final pillar of the banking union, which is intended to make the banking sector more secure.

A European deposit
insurance scheme: an
additional safety net
for savers across
Europe



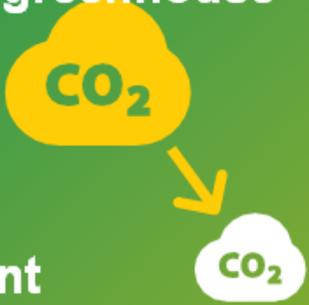


The EU ensures cleaner air and is a world leader in environmental protection

The EU exerts pressure worldwide with regard to environmental protection and has set ambitious targets for reducing CO₂ greenhouse gas emissions, which are partly responsible for global warming.

Under the agreement, the various states undertake to limit dangerous global warming to «well below 2 degrees Celsius» above preindustrial levels. The target is to limit it even further to 1.5 degrees. Many scientists consider that if this figure is achieved, the impact of climate change is just about controllable.

Leading the way to a low-carbon economy by reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 40% by 2030 and implementing the UN Paris Agreement





The EU sends young people abroad to study

The programme began in 1987 with 3 244 students; by 2015 the Erasmus+ Programme was providing assistance for 640 000 students, trainees, volunteers, teachers, trainers and youth workers. The programme stands for a particular approach to life: the Erasmus generation experiences and appreciates the diversity and beauty of the continent, it casts its net Europe-wide and feels European.

Since 2014, the Erasmus Programme has been combined with other programmes as Erasmus+, which includes a Master's and Doctorates programme and Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs, for example. Erasmus funded projects encourage apprentices who are about to break off their studies to stay on for a spell abroad and finish their training.

1 out of **3**
Erasmus+ students
gets a job offer
from the company
that they trained in





The EU provides work for young people

Although labour market policy is primarily a matter for the Member States, the European Union nonetheless supports its members in the battle against unemployment. The economic crisis has meant that a reduction in youth unemployment is now one of the Commission's top 10 priorities.

Anyone who has completed their training or has just become unemployed should be in a job, education, further training or an apprenticeship within 4 months. By 2018 the EU will be providing in the region of EUR 6.4 billion for programmes in this area, and by 2020 this amount should have risen by a further EUR 2 billion.

More than **9 million young people**

got a job, traineeship or apprenticeship thanks to **Europe's youth guarantee**

The infographic features five white icons on a yellow background: a woman, a woman pointing to a line graph on a screen, a man holding a diploma, a man in a suit, and a man assisting a woman with a child.



The EU creates a European Science Cloud

The Commission wants to create a European Science Cloud by 2020. This idea is geared to the future: starting as early as this year, all scientific data produced by projects under the EU's Horizon 2020 science programme are to be freely available via the European scientific community's new data cloud.

Researchers from universities and research institutes across Europe and their fellow scientists from across the world can link up via the cloud to share and evaluate the huge amount of research data and scientific knowledge available. By 2020, around 1.7 million researchers and 70 million science and technology professionals in Europe will be able to share a virtual environment.

A European cloud
for
1.7 million
researchers
and 70 million science
and technology professionals

The infographic features a central cloud icon connected by dotted lines to three scientific icons: a microscope, a flask on a stand, and a beaker. The text is in orange and black, with the numbers 1.7 million and 70 million underlined.

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



Thank you for your attention!