

KEY DATES OF POST-WAR ECONOMIC INTEGRATION IN WESTERN EUROPE

- 1945** End of World-War II
Bretton Woods agreement
- 1947** Churchill speech in Zurich (“recreation of the European family”, “F and D must take the lead”)
Benelux customs union (first exercise in supranationalism)
First GATT Round (intergovernmental)
- 1949** End of post-War reconstruction
- 1952** ECSC comes into force (masterminded by Jean Monnet and pushed through by Robert Schuman, unique by its supranational aspect)
- 1955** Messina conference on future European integration
- 1957** Treaty of Rome agreed: customs union; free markets for labour and capital; common policies on agriculture, social fund, transport policy, EIB (all to be phased in gradually); 4 major institutions: Parliament, Court, Commission and Council of Ministers
- 1958** EEC and EURATOM come into force
- 1960** EFTA comes into force (A, DK, N, P, S, CH, UK)
- 1962** CAP established
- 1963** De Gaulle rejects UK, DK, IRL and N entry to EEC
- 1966** Luxembourg compromise: unanimous voting in Council
- 1967** Merger Treaty comes into force: ECSC, EEC and EURATOM form EC
- 1968** Customs union completed
- 1970** Werner Report
CAP completed to cover all agricultural goods
- 1972** Paris summit (with 3 newcomers): climax of optimism, agreed on EMU by end of decade

“Snake” monetary system set up

N referendum against EEC membership

1973 UK, P, IRL join

First oil crisis, recession, collapse of Bretton Woods

1974 FF leaves snake, leaves it as ‘DM zone’

Free-trade agreement between EC and EFTA for industrial goods comes into force

1979 EMS introduced (ECU and ERM, brainchild of Roy Jenkins and Helmut Schmidt)

First direct election of European Parliament

Second oil shock, recession

1981 Greece joins

1985 White Paper on Single Market (Lord Arthur Cockfield)

1986 E and P join

Single European Act agreed: qualified majority voting for SM measures, amendment of Treaty of Rome

1988 Cecchini Report: Single Market to increase EC GDP by 4.5% in lt., lower inflation by 6.1%, create 2-6 mn jobs

1989 Delors report proposes 3-stage move to EMU

Berlin Wall falls

1990 Re-unification of Germany (implicit enlargement of EC)

1991 Maastricht Treaty agreed to replace Treaty of Rome (3 pillars forming EU: EC (EMU, Cohesion Fund), foreign and defence policy, interior and justice policy)

1992 IRL and F vote for Maastricht, DK against

EEA agreement signed (extension of Single Market to EFTA), Swiss say no

- ERM crisis: UK and I leave; P, E and IRL devalue
- 1993** Official completion deadline for Single Market
Widening of ERM fluctuation bands to 15%
- 1994** Second stage of EMU into force (EMI, monitoring of convergence)
EEA into force with FL, S, N, ISL, SF and A
N say no to full membership
- 1995** S, SF and A join
Schengen Agreement enters into force (no more passport controls between Benelux, F, D, P and E)
- 1996** Intergovernmental conference on revision of Maastricht Treaty
Commission report on ex-post evidence of Single-Market effects
Stability and Growth Pact agreed in Dublin
- 1997** Amsterdam Treaty agreed
- 1998** Decision on EMU participants: 11 countries
- 1999** 11 countries adopt euro
Santer Commission resigns, replaced by Romano Prodi
- 2000** DK say no to euro
Nice Treaty agreed
- 2001** Greece joins euro zone
IRL vote against Nice Treaty
- 2002** Euro notes and coins introduced
“Convention on the Future of Europe” starts work on “new framework and structures for the European Union” (President: Valéry Giscard d’Estaing)
IRL ratify Nice Treaty in second referendum
- 2003** Draft constitution presented by European Convention
S say no to euro
- 2004** Accession of Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia
- 2007** Envisaged accession of Bulgaria and Romania