

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
- 2001** Nice Treaty agreed
Greece joins euro zone
IRL vote against Nice Treaty

2002 Euro notes and coins introduced

European Convention starts work on European Constitution (President: Valéry Giscard d'Estaing)

IRL ratify Nice Treaty in second referendum

2004 Accession of Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia

European Constitution ratified by all EU institutions

New Commission, presided by José Manuel Barroso

2005 Accession negotiations to start with Croatia and Turkey

Start of referenda on European Constitution

2007 Envisaged accession of Bulgaria and Romania