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THE EU
ENLARGEMENT
PROCESS TOWARDS
THE WESTERN BALKAN
STATES: **OPEN YOUR
MIND AND GET INVOLVED!**

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EUROPE: A HISTORY OF ENLARGEMENT



agnieszka_mucha
Especially for Balkan countries the EU-membership could help to improve and stabilise the conditions that exist in the region.
Gliwice, PL

ted Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland became members. The most powerful impulse was the economic development in the common market of the EC with a customs union and a stable system of commercial laws. In addition, by the late 1960s de-colonization was largely complete and the European states had lost the most: both their status as world powers and the antagonistic world interests.

The accession of Greece in 1981 and then Spain and Portugal in 1986 were accomplished under similar circumstances. All three came out of right-wing or military authoritarian regimes with poorly developed market economies. For their democratic stabilization they need the stable democratic support of a group of partners. In retrospect this experiment seems to have worked out well and gave, in fact still gives, a strong impetus in later and ongoing enlargements.

the first enlargement of the EU by integrating a territory of the former German Democratic Republic and thus of the former Eastern Bloc.

In 1995 Austria, Finland and Sweden became the first new member states of the European Union, which had been founded two years earlier. During the Cold War they remained true to their declaration of neutrality and stayed outside the Community until the collapse of the communist bloc.

A Small Beginning

The European integration process started with a small group of central-western states of the continent. Belgium, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Luxemburg and the Netherlands held an international conference in Paris in 1951. The Coal and Steel Community with supranational principals and an early form of the European Commission with a court, a council and a parliament ensured peace between the members. The Six therefore moved beyond those intergovernmental principles of international relations that had ruled Europe since the 17th century. In 1957 they founded the European Economic Community (EC), the nucleus of today's European Union, on these same principles.¹

The Great Enlargement

The biggest enlargement took place in 2004 with ten states – Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia – joining the EU on May 1st.² Bulgaria and Romania followed in 2007. In 2011 the European Union unites 27 member states.

Reasons to Join the European Union

// 02|05|1991

Borovo-Selo-incidents near Vukovar (East Croatia). Beginning of Yugoslavia's collapse and initial phase of the so-called "Yugoslav wars."

// 27|05|1991

Start of the 10-day-war between Slovenia and Yugoslav People's Army (JNA).

// 29|04|1991

Albania introduces the first constitution in accordance with the rule of law and democratic principles after the protests of students in December 1990 and February 1991.

// 25|06|1991

Croatia and Slovenia declare their independence from the Yugoslav federation.

First Accession

It took sixteen years until in 1973 the first enlargement was implemented and the Republic of Ireland, Denmark and the Uni-

Beyond Bloc Confrontation

The European revolution at the end of the 1980s and early 1990s enabled the German re-unification and as such led to

After nearly 40 years of accessions some reasons to become a member state can be seen quite clearly.

It is a triad of targets: democracy, market economy and the way back to Europe.³

European integration, is also an important consideration in the general interest of both the Union and the candidate countries.”⁵

take on the obligations of membership including adherence to the aims of political, economic and monetary union.”⁴

Lessons Learned?

In times of economic struggles, social incoherence and nationalistic populism it seems necessary to memorize the values of the European Union. Even though the European integration process is not a straight line of success, the peaceful, democratic and free development are still magnets for European states and people who want to obtain membership to the Union. But the accessions themselves are not a guarantee for the humanistic values. They are merely hopeful signs.

¹ Stirk, P.M. / Weigall, D. (eds.) 1999: The Origins and Development of European Integration. A Reader and Commentary, London: Pinter, p. 126.

² Pollak, J. / Slominski, P. 2006, Das politische System der EU, Wien: Facultas, pp. 17-51.

³ Lippert, B. 2004, Glanzloser Arbeitserfolg von epochaler Bedeutung, in: idem, Bilanz und Folgeprobleme der EU-Erweiterung, Baden-Baden: Nomos, p.21.

⁴ http://www.europarl.europa.eu/enlargement/ec/pdf/cop_en.pdf (last call: January 2011)

⁵ Ibid.

In the wider view European integration can be characterized in the stages post-nationalism, post-imperialism, post-Bloc confrontation and post-communism. The individual circumstances can differ greatly. But the main driving factors – securing independence, stabilizing democracy and producing economic wealth – are all commonly shared values of the member states and the people of the European Union.

Criteria for Membership

Since 1993 the EU has operated under established criteria for the accession of new member states. In that year the heads of states and governments - the so called European Council - compiled the previously implicit, existing requirements for membership into the Copenhagen Criteria. It is essential to understand that those criteria are in fact also binding upon those states which were already EU-members. For new applicant countries the Commission made the criteria more and more concrete by developing benchmarks to fulfill.

“Membership requires that the candidate country has achieved a stability of institutions guaranteeing democracy, the rule of law, human rights and respect for and

„Peaceful, democratic and free development are magnets for people in Europe.“

Together these obligations for the candidate countries are called the three criteria: politics, economics and the *acquis communautaire* (the entire and evolving system of law). These are in addition to the stated will to take further steps toward integration.

But the fourth Copenhagen criterium is often forgotten, which obligates the enlarging EU and its member states to make the necessary reform



// 08|09|1991

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia declares independence from the Yugoslav Republic under the constitutional name *Republic of Macedonia*.

// 05|03|1992

Bosnia and Herzegovina declare their independence from the Yugoslav federation.

// 25|08|1991

Beginning of the campaign for Vukovar and first ethnic cleansing on Non-Serbs.

// 19|12|1991

As a reaction to Croatia's declaration of independence, the Krajina region declares its sovereignty. Knin was named the capital of the Republika Srpska. In 1996 this became a part of Croatia once again.

protection of minorities, the existence of a functioning market economy as well as the capacity to cope with competitive pressure and market forces within the Union. Membership presupposes the candidate's ability to

steps to ensure that the enlarged Union will be both efficient and democratic.

“The Union's capacity to absorb new members, while maintaining the momentum of

THE BALKANS - SOME

Balkans in the Struggles of European History

„Twentieth Century European history began in the Balkans. Poverty and ethnic rivalries isolated people and inflamed hatred.“¹



tijtske_jongma
I would say: If they fulfill the conditions, they have to get a chance.
Burdaard (Friesland), NL

It is rare that someone relates the term “Balkans” to its namesake the Balkan Mountains when using it for the area in southeastern Europe which stretches from the Black Sea to the Adriatic Sea. Usually one means a region including former Yugoslavia (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo under UN Security Council Resolution 1244, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovenia), Albania and maybe Greece, Romania and Bulgaria. Chancellor Metternich remarked that “The Balkans begin at

and melting pot was of great impact throughout the centuries. Meeting point as a political dimension: where the Austro-Hungarian, Ottoman and Russian empires were expanding their forces at each other’s expense. Political dynamics evoked processes and influenced culture and identity in different directions in the Balkans. In this regard, the role of different confessions in this region is often underestimated. Once labeled as „Europe’s Jerusalem“, Sarajevo is an impressive example reflecting the rather difficult coexistence of confessions that are neither clearly separated nor always willing to cooperate with each other.“⁴

Unification as Start into a Common Future?

„The main problem was the inability to find the right mixture of real differences and common positions.“⁵

In 1918, the collapse of competing empires led to an overwhelming enthusiasm and resulted in the first Balkan unification process of the South-Slavic peoples. This

German armed forces attacked the country and divided it into several parts. A Croatian State with Bosnia and Herzegovina became a German satellite state, the other parts fell under Italian, German, Hungarian and Bulgarian rules. These divisions had already found another expression in the creation of paramilitary formations as Ustašas on the Croatian side and Chetniks on the Serbian.

„The Balkans are both, meeting point and melting pot.“

With its independence in 1912, Albania, which had been as Ottoman province for four centuries, was now facing sever-

// 08|04|1993

UN admits as its member the state provisionally referred to as „The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia pending settlement of the difference that had arisen over its name.

// 17|11|1993

The International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) starts its work. Carla del Ponte becomes the first chief prosecutor.

// 05|04|1992

Beginning of the 1425-day long siege of Sarajevo. Serious battles break out over the whole territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

// 09|11|1993

The “Old Bridge” of Mostar is being destroyed by heavy shelling of Croats. The rebuilding was not completed until 2004.

the Rennweg” - a road to the southeast of Vienna.² Another note - Winston Churchill is said to have called the Balkans the “soft underbelly of Europe”.³ But what is it that makes the Balkans so specific? The dual role of meeting point

first state formed by Slovenes, Croats and Serbs did not mention several other ethnicities in its name. Some years later, in 1929, it was transformed into the Kingdom of Yugoslavia (also known as the January 6 Dictatorship). In April 1941

al phases of occupation and annexion by its neighbours. In 1944 a communist dictatorship by Enver Hoxha was installed, which cooperated alternately with Yugoslavia, the Soviet Union and China. Several years later even a confederation with

E NOTES ON HISTORY

Yugoslavia was discussed. Economic and political struggles were signs of an increasingly internationally-isolated Albania, during its communist decades. Only in late 1980s, after Hoxhas death, did relations to neighbouring and also Western States begin to normalise step by step. In 1991 the first multi-party elections were held.

Democratic Federal Yugoslavia was proclaimed in 1943 by Yugoslav partisans, a

re-install a Yugoslavian state after World War II.

The central figure was Marshal Josip Broz Tito. He not only headed the partisans but was elected by referendum as prime-minister and later became president. Yugoslavia followed its own path although administrated similarly to the Soviet Union. In 1948 Tito broke from Stalin favouring the concept of non-aligned policy which

demanding the status of a republic instead of an autonomous province, in 1986

Slobodan Milošević took power



monika_stadler

Venetians are particularly skeptical to the entrance of the Balkans in the European Union, but they are also aware of the advantages for both sides.

Bassano, I

INFO The War in Croatia

After peaceful reintegration and complete sovereignty within its borders, in 1998 Croatia was able to proceed in its enduring European idea. The result of five years of war against a greater opponent was a large number of victims the destruction of one-quarter of the economy and infrastructure. Despite the fact that main goal of Croatian policy was to become a part of European community, with this backdrop Croatia needed much greater time and effort to come through the period of transition, compared to other candidate countries. Today, 15 years later, there is great regional cooperation at all levels. One example is Croatia's support of all its neighbouring countries on their way to the EU by supplying them with fully translated documents such as Aquis communautaire, experiences and best practices.

name which remained until 1963, when the country was renamed in Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. The role of pan-yugoslavian partisans and royal ori-

brought Yugoslavia a broad international reputation and acceptance.

However, many problems remained unresolved: equality and compensation bet-

in Serbia. In the early 90s the first free and pluralistic elections were held in Yugoslavia. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, in Croatia and in Serbia nationalistic orientated political parties took power.⁶

¹ Kaplan, Robert D., „Die Geister des Balkans. Eine Reise durch die Geschichte und Politik eines Krisengebiets“, Hamburg 1993, S.22.

² Slavko Ninić im Gespräch mit Robert Sommer, in: Augustin. Die erste österreichische Boulevardzeitung, 4.2005.

³ Herm, Gerhard, „Der Balkan. Das Pulverfass Europas“, Düsseldorf, Wien, Moskau 1993, S.320.

⁴ „Sarajevo. Risse im Asphalt“, in; Ihlau, Olaf; Mayr, Walter, „Minenfeld Balkan. Der unruhige Hinterhof Europas“, Bonn 2009, S.111.

// 13|09|1995

Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia sign the "Interim Accord" resolving most bilateral issues. As a result, the latter adopts a new national flag on October 5. A sun with eight rays replaces the Star of Vergina.

// 04|08|1995

In the framework of the military operation "Oluja", thousands of Serbian civilians flee from Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina to Serbia.

// 11|07|1995

Srebrenica massacre under the command of Ratko Mladić. The Army of the Republika Srpska kills around 8000 Bosnian men and boys during the presence of UN-soldiers.

// 30|08|1995

Massive NATO air strikes against the Bosnian Serb positions. Their aim was to push the Serbians to pull out their forces.

entated Chetniks was most significant in liberating the country from Italian and German occupation. Except for some support from the Red Army to liberate Belgrade, no allied help was needed to

ween ethnic groups, economic differences between south and north, dominating groups versus patronized minorities. Reforms were deemed insufficient when Tito died in 1980. Shortly after Kosovo

⁵ Banać, Ivo, „Jugoslawien 1918-1941“, in: Melčić, Dunja (Hg.), „Der Jugoslawienkrieg. Handbuch zu Vorgeschichte“, Verlauf und Konsequenzen, 2. Aufl., Wiesbaden 2007, S.166.

⁶ Džihčić, Vedran, „Newcomer Balkan. Historischer Hintergrund.“ Vortrag Wiesbaden 9.12.2009.

Albania



Rozafa Castle.

There are 14 national parks in Albania that serve as sanctuaries for numerous plants and animals, and are home to pristine landscapes that draw many tourists. The largest are the Prespa National Park and the Shebenik-Jabllanice National Park near the border of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The city of Berat, in the heart of Albania, is one of the country's oldest. It is located on the Osum River and is referred to as the Town of the Thousand Windows. The Franciscan friar Gjergj Fishta (1871 – 1940) is one of the country's most famous writers. With *Lahuta e Malcís* (The Highland Lute), he created North Albania's biggest heroic epic.

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Located in mountains and forests, Bosnia and Herzegovina and especially the capital Sarajevo are famous for their many different influences, from Turks to Austrians. Some define Bosnia and Herzegovina as a fusion of Orient and Occident cultures, representing nothing more than a multilingual, multiethnic, and multi-

others are internationally famous. Or the singer, Dino Merlin, heard far beyond the borders of his country.



The President's building in Sarajevo.

Croatia

The cravat – the necktie – has its name from the French 17th century admiration towards the tie bounded “à la croate”. In the same way that Croatia introduced the cravat to the European male, the Austro-Hungarian Empire in the central and eastern parts and Renaissance Venice both brought the lovely architectural style to Croatian cities. Just one example is the world heritage city Dubrovnik. In 2010

// 06|02|1999

Beginning of the Rambouillet talks on a framework for a peace treaty between the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Kosovo-Albanians.

DID YOU

like Kaolin but also brilliant football players to major European clubs.



City life in Varaždin.

Kosovo (under UN Security Council Resolution 1244)

In Serbo-Croatian, “kos” denotes a blackbird. The state of Kosovo is named after the Field of Blackbirds (Serbian: Kosovo Polje, Albanian: Fushë Kosovë) near Pristina. Geologically, Kosovo is a depression surrounded by mountains and has always been an important agricultural region. Kosovo's wine is well-known all over the

// 22|01|2001

In the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the conflict between the UCK of the Albanian minority in the country and the state security forces escalates with the shelling of the police station in Tearce.

// 21|11|1995

The war in Bosnia is being ceased by the acceptance of the Dayton treaty.

// 24|03|1999

Start of the so-called Kosovo war. NATO air forces attack Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. (End: 10 June 1999)

confessional history. The internationally-renowned Bosnian Ivo Andrić, who wrote „Bridge on the Drina“, was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1961. Not to mention the poet Abdulah Sidran, whose film scenarios for Emir Kosturica and

Split was the proud venue for the international athletics competition, the IAAF, but for Croatian sports fans probably more important was to be the 3rd in the 1998 FIFA World Cup in France. So Croatia is not only exporting its treasures of the soil

world. Anton Pashku (1937 – 1995) was a pivotal figure in Albanian literature in 20th-century Kosovo. He is considered an avant-gardist and left a lasting influence on future generation of writers. The Sinan Pasha Mosque in Prizren, Kosovo's second-

KNOW ?

largest city, is a cultural monument from the Ottoman Era. In addition, it is the country's largest Islamic mosque. At 43.5 meters, its minaret is second to none in the entire Balkan region.



Prizren, Kosovo's second-largest city.

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

There is a new supreme achievement to proclaim in the World of Records. The inhabitants of the village of Sarchievo have cooked 3.15 tonnes of beans in a huge pot, thus surpassing the current record of 1.35 tonnes held by the US state of Sou-



Ohrid has become an UNESCO World Heritage site in 1979.

singer and songwriter. The city of Ohrid, located at Lake Ohrid and known for its old town declared a World Heritage site by the UNESCO, becomes the country's secret capital every summer. Extensive mountain ranges with a total of seven mountains over 2,500 m high make winter sports particularly attractive.

Montenegro

Petar II. Petrović-Njegoš was the ruler and Prince-Bishop of the Serbian Orthodox Church of Montenegro in the first half of the 19th century. However, more impor-



Modern Centre of Podgorica.

to create poets such as Petar. But it is still the country's beautiful coast that attracts thousands of tourists leading to a high income in this sector. The country's natural resources such as bauxite and iron ore are another important factor for the economy of Montenegro.

Serbia

Today's Serbia with circa 7,4 million inhabitants dates back to a rich medieval history. Beautiful monasteries remind the visitors of ancient Byzantine and Orthodox traditions. After having regained indepen-



The inner city of Belgrade.

dence from the Ottoman Empire in the 19th century, Serbia installed the first constitutional monarchy in the Balkan region. Thanks to the authors like Danilo Kis, Bogdan Bogdanovic or Milo Dor, Serbian lite-

// 12|03|2003

Assassins kill the Serbian prime minister in the public. During his government, Slobodan Milosevic was extradited to the International Criminal Tribunal (ICTY).

// 15|03|2004

After a false report by the press that Serbians had drowned Albanian children in a river, pogroms took place against the Serbian minority living in Kosovo.

// 13|08|2001

The Framework Agreement of Ohrid is concluded. The ethnic minorities in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia are granted far-reaching rights.

// 26|02|2004





The president of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Boris Trajkovski, dies at an air crash nearby Mostar (Bosnia and Herzegovina). The causes of the air crash remain unknown.

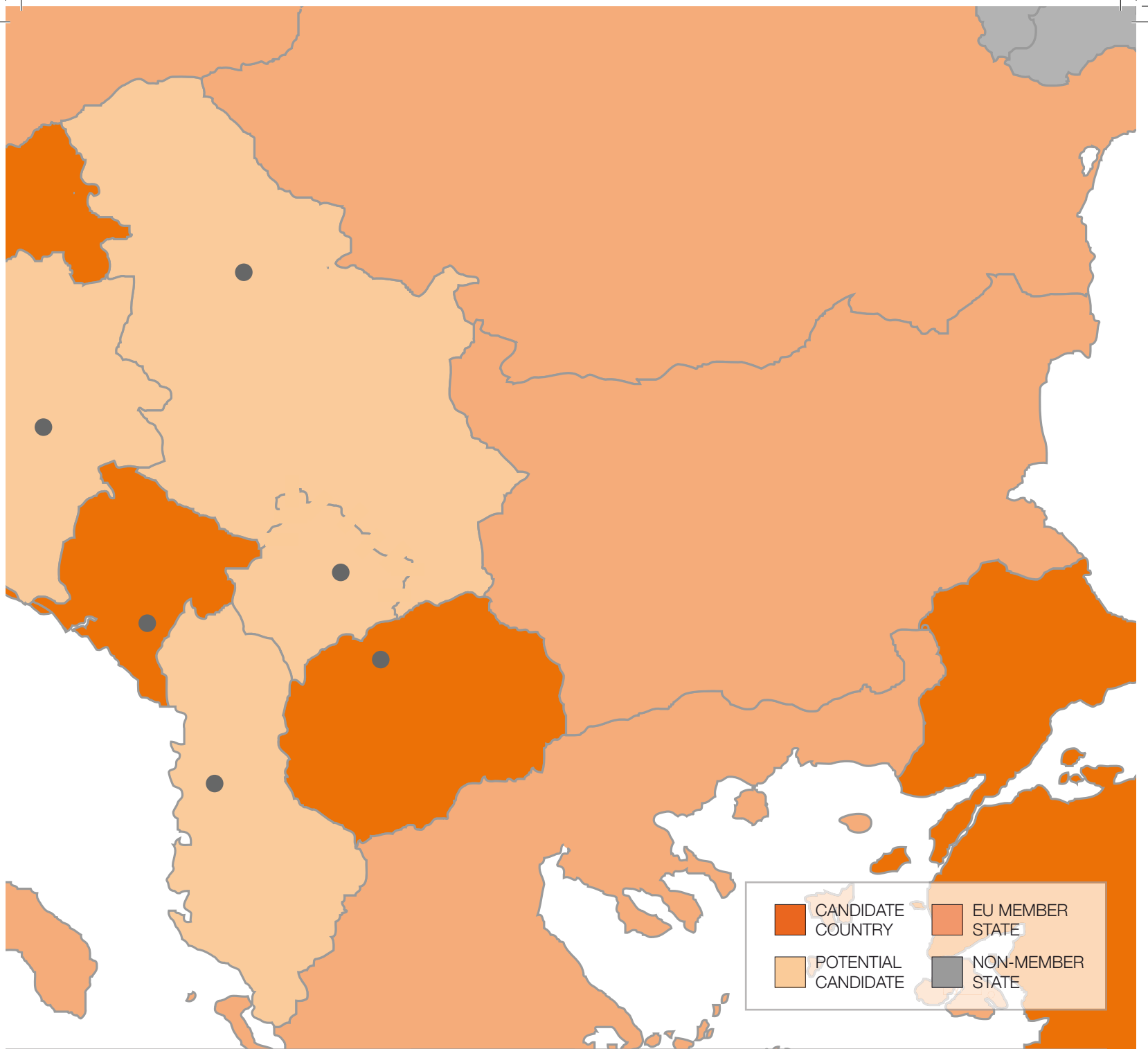
th Dakota. Traces of the first observatory in mainland Europe go back more than 3,800 years. The facility is known as Kokino. At only 26, the most popular star of recent decades died in a car accident: Tose Proeski was an internationally known





tant than his efforts for the defense of the country is his role as one of the most important poets in Serbian language. It seems that Montenegro's enormous natural fortune in forested mountain ranges - which give the country its name! - was meant




ature has gained international attention. The contemporary music scene is associated with such singers as Marija Šefirovic who won the European Song Contest in 2007 or Željko Joksimovic who made a career throughout the Balkan Region.

WESTERN BALKAN STATES IN THE HEART OF EUROPE

 ALBANIA	 BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	 CROATIA	 KOSOVO (UNDER COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1244)				
capital	Tirana	capital	Sarajevo	capital	Zagreb	capital	Prishtine
form of government	republic	form of government	republic	form of government	republic	form of government	UN administered
population	3.14 million	population	3.77 million	population	4.43 million	population	1.76 million
area	28,748 km ²	area	51,129 km ²	area	56,542 km ²	area	10,887 km ²
GDP (per capita)	4,520 USD	GDP (per capita)	4,520 USD	GDP (per capita)	13,580 USD	GDP (per capita)	(no data)
economic growth rate	5.4 %	economic growth rate	5.4 %	economic growth rate	- 5.8 %	economic growth rate	5.4%
unemployment rate	13.0 %	unemployment rate	(no data)	unemployment rate	9.1 %	unemployment rate	45 %
religions	Muslims (70%), Orthodox Christians (20%), Catholics (10%)	religions	Muslims, Orthodox Christians, Catholics	religions	Catholics (90 %), Serbian-Orthodox (4%), Muslims (1%)	religions	Muslim, Christian
head of state	Bamir Topi	head of state	Chairman of the Presidency + 2 members of 3-member rotating presidency	head of state	Ivo Josipović	head of state	current
head of government	Sali Berisha	head of government	Nikola Špirić	head of government	Jadranka Kosor	head of government	Hashim Thaçi



	CANDIDATE COUNTRY		EU MEMBER STATE
	POTENTIAL CANDIDATE		NON-MEMBER STATE

SEVERE UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1244	 THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA	 MONTENEGRO	 SERBIA				
population	2.76 million	population	0.6 million	population	7.35 million	population	7.35 million
area	20,887 km ²	area	13,812 km ²	area	77,474 km ²	area	77,474 km ²
GDP (per capita)	4,130 USD	GDP (per capita)	6,000 USD	GDP (per capita)	5,590 USD	GDP (per capita)	5,590 USD
economic growth rate	-0.7%	economic growth rate	8.1%	economic growth rate	-3.0%	economic growth rate	-3.0%
unemployment rate	32.2%	unemployment rate	9.0%	unemployment rate	13.6%	unemployment rate	13.6%
religions	Orthodox Christians (70%), Muslims (25%), Catholics	religions	Orthodox Christians, Catholics, Muslims	religions	Orthodox Christians, Catholics, Muslims, Protestants, Jews	religions	Orthodox Christians, Catholics, Muslims, Protestants, Jews
head of state	Gjorge Ivanov	head of state	Filip Vujanović	head of state	Boris Tadić	head of state	Boris Tadić
head of government	Nikola Gruevski	head of government	Igor Lukšić (incumbent)	head of government	Mirko Cvetković	head of government	Mirko Cvetković

Source: „Der Fischer Weltatlas 2011“, Frankfurt/Main, 2010, pp. 50, 84, 298, 300, 331,340, 432.



COSTS AND BENEFITS OF JOIN

INFO Useful links and addresses

Croatian Statehood Foundation
www.zhdz.hr

Konrad Adenauer Foundation
www.kas.hr

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and EU Institutions
www.mvpei.hr

Delegation of European Union to the Republic of Croatia
www.delhrv.ec.europa.eu

EU Funds
http://eufondovi.eu
www.strategija.hr

Ministry of Finance
www.mfin.hr/hr/eu-fondovi

CIVIC Institute
www.civic-institute.eu

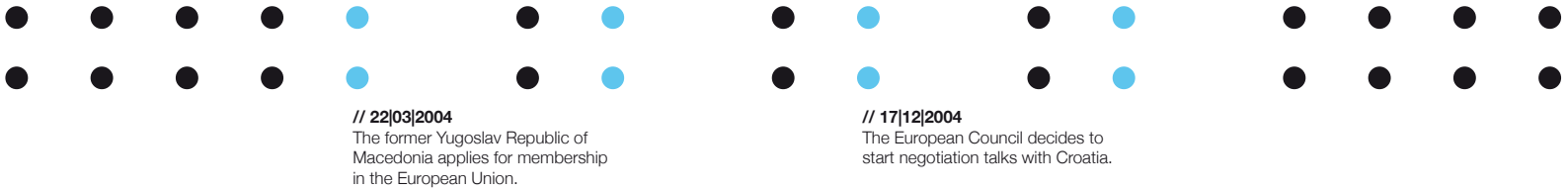
Given its geo-political position, Croatia is a part of all international and European developments and changes. As a full EU member state, Croatia will have the opportunity not only to be a part of, but to play an active role in those developments through decision making processes, and short and long-term plans of the EU, etc. That fact will allow Croatia to incorporate its aims into the legislation procedures and therefore more strategic planning in order to preserve national interests and resources. Furthermore, Croatia will become a part of a community built on human rights and democracy. The accession will guarantee further regional peace and stability while seen on the time scale EU secured the longest peace period in Europe in history. By participating in EU foreign policy Croatia will be much more involved in the global events and issues.

Opening the door to more than 500 million citizens will also open a door of great possibilities for Croatian companies and entrepreneurs. Financial support is very important for small and still partly financially unstable countries such as Croatia is. There are numbers of examples especially connected to the present financial crisis showing that one of the basic values

vatization process and potential strategic partners for restructured state-owned companies, but also for the entire private sector. Educational possibilities will allow the free mobility of students and exchange of views with their European colleagues. That will improve and build current knowledge and experience, which will ensure sustainable prosperity by forming generations of new, knowledge-based students. The same mobility will be available to the labour force as well.

„EU accession will guarantee further regional peace and stability.“

On the other hand, the Croatian market will open and there are a number of international companies which will penetrate and try to overtake a part of market niches.



in EU is solidarity. As a member state Croatia will be regarded a “safer” country for foreign investment. This is seen as a great opportunity for finalizing the pri- For some Croatian entrepreneurs it will be hard to compete with these, financially stronger companies. That can result with many bankrupts and higher unemploy-

ENLARGING THE EUROPEAN UNION?

ment rate. But, international companies will provide new positions, so fluctuations in the private sector are to be expected, but are not significant. Seen from another perspective, Croatia will have the opportunity to be a link to the rest of the regional, non-EU countries by providing possible investors with logistical help and support close to the area of investment, but still with the EU borders.



The old city of Dubrovnik.

Much bigger problems are expected in the state-owned and subsidized giants such as the Croatian Railways (HZ), shipyards, and so on. They employ several tens of thousands of workers and are the only employers in the regions and cities. By abolishing the subsidies, they will have to be competitive on the international market. International experiences indicate that that is not a realistic scenario, and so they will be forced to reposition within their markets. The same forces will affect agriculture and farming as well.

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Costs	The expansion of the EU is expensive for the Member States. Efficient countries will have to become the paymaster of Europe to an even greater degree.	Substantial resources from the Structural and Agricultural Funds flow back to all EU countries. Member States with a high export share profit from the purchasing power of the subsidized countries.
Labour Market	Due to the migration of companies to Central and Eastern Europe, jobs are being cut in the present locations.	Due to cost considerations, many companies already produce or assemble products in countries that aspire to EU membership. The international division of labor increases the companies' competitiveness, thus creating more jobs.
Crime	The expansion of the EU leads to an increase in organized crime.	The cross-border cooperation of the police and a judicial system committed to the same principles all over Europe makes fighting (organized) crime more effective. This applies to drug trafficking, trafficking in human beings, money laundering, car theft and combating terrorism.
Protection Of The Environment	Environmental protection in the enlargement countries lags far behind the standards in the European Union.	Environmental pollution does not respect national borders. Therefore, all Europeans benefit from environmental investments in the enlargement countries. The EU Member States can deliver the required technologies .
Migration	The gap in prosperity in Europe will lead to high immigration from new Member States that will jeopardize jobs, health care and social systems, as well as social peace in the present EU countries.	Every EU enlargement round was accompanied by similar fears. However, the improved economic situation resulting from the accession created many new jobs in the enlargement countries. The feared wave of immigration did not occur.

// 16|12|2005

The European Council decides to grant candidate country status to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

// 16|10|2007

Croatia is elected as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council for two years.

// 04|10|2005

Croatia starts negotiation talks with the European Union for full membership only after a decision of the EU foreign ministers.

// 03|06|2006

Montenegro declares its independence.

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DESIGN AND LAYOUT EDITING: Lazar Backovic

AN EVER GROW

Unity as a Self-Given Obligation

The European integration began in the years following the Second World War. The founders understood that the European form of nation states had brought the catastrophes of two World Wars in the first half of the 20th century. Only the implementation of integration, the acceptance of existing borders and the respect for different ways of democratic living within neighbouring countries guaranteed peace between the states.



brigitte_macaria
South East Europe offers a view on a vantage of Balkan region touching mediterranean areas meeting and merging to a specific culture.
Vienna, A

After the end of the Cold War the same awareness led to the integration of Eastern Europe. The principle of the unification of Europe is to be found among the most powerful guidelines for the European Union.

cultural, religious and humanist inheritance of Europe, from which have developed the universal values of the inviolable and inalienable rights of the human person, freedom, democracy, equality and the rule of law, RECALLING the historic importance of the ending of the division of the European continent and the need to create firm bases for the construction of the future Europe.“¹

With the end of the wars among the western Balkan peoples, the unification into the EU is a fundamental self-given obligation of the Union.

The principle of unification, to guarantee peace among members, is not a question of force – as historical “unifications” were – but of a free decision of a people and its elected government. The invitation to ask for EU membership is therefore clearly stated in the Treaty of the European Union:

„Article 49

Any European State which respects the values referred to in Article 2 and is committed to promoting them may apply to become a member of the Union. The European Parliament and national Parliaments shall be notified of this application. The applicant State shall address its application to the Council, which shall act unanimously

bility agreed upon by the European Council shall be taken into account.

The conditions of admission and the adjustments to the Treaties on which the Union is founded, which such admission entails, shall be the subject of an agreement between the Member States and the applicant State. This agreement shall be submitted for ratification by all the contracting States in accordance with their respective constitutional requirements.“

Imperial Overstretch

Many forms of wide ranging multicultural empires belong to history. From the theoretical perspective, the central body of power could not prevent the breaking away of its periphery due to the limited resources. Especially military force was proven a weak weapon to hold the entire empire together. Cultural, economic or moral dominance – real or believable – are more useful powers for longevity. But does this hold true for the European Union?

The European Union is not an empire. It has no strong central power dominating peripheral vassals. All member states are equal in their rights and duties. The cultural basis of the European Union is respect

// 17|02|2008

Kosovo self-proclaims its independence. So far, twenty two EU members have recognized its statehood.

// 15|12|2008

Montenegro applies for full membership in the European Union.

// 01|01|2008

Slovenia takes over the Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

// 09|09|2008

Serbia signs the Stabilisation and Association Agreement with the EU for further evaluation.

The Preamble of the Treaty of the European Union declares:

„DRAWING INSPIRATION from the

after consulting the Commission and after receiving the consent of the European Parliament, which shall act by a majority of its component members. The conditions of eligi-

for differences. Humanity, civil rights, rule of law, democratic participation and rights of minorities are universal principals. All people and European states willing to bind themselves to these principals are able to be

DRIVING UNION?

a part of the EU and as such are responsible for their realization and maintenance.

Harmony and Everlasting Peace?

This could mean the end of all disputes, struggles and wars as the philosophers of enlightening were “predicting”. But it is not – except for the abolition of war! Disputes and struggles are necessary for democratic societies and so they are part of the European Union. Civilian forms of dispute are even more important; they are the foundation for peaceful development.

„All member states are equal in their rights and duties.“

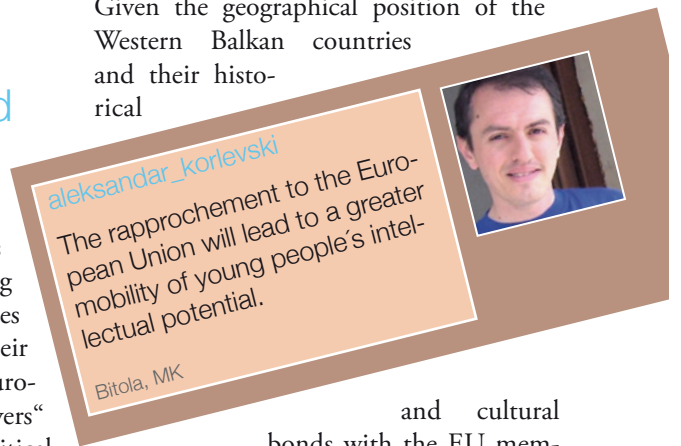
the eyes of the public, with the respect of minority rights and under legal conditions. It is neither harmony nor the abstinence of interests. And this is not only a principle but also an obligation for the participating, self-governing societies and democratic leadership.

A Voice in the Globalized World

A comparison of world powers in the early decades of the 21st century shows that some European states are still remaining among the leading economies. But the size of the states – expressed as the number of their inhabitants – shows that these European nations are not the „big players“ there were a hundred years ago. Political influence, however, is still connected to both factors: economic power and the size of nations. By uniting the European states, the EU can act as an influential global player. To be successful, the member states have to ensure that the European Union has a common will, a common policy and a common voice.

According to Article 49 in conjunction with Article 6 of the Treaty on European Union, any European State which respects the principles of liberty, democracy, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and the rule of law may apply to become a member of the Union.

Given the geographical position of the Western Balkan countries and their historical



Aleksandar_Korlevski
The rapprochement to the European Union will lead to a greater mobility of young people's intellectual potential.
Bitola, MK

and cultural bonds with the EU member states, it is obvious why the future of the region is within the European Union. However, a definition of a “European state” is not always easy as it goes beyond geographical boundaries to the idea of common values. In the end it comes down to the self-construction of the Europeans themselves. There is no external power in democratic societies to tell “Who is who”.



The European way of dealing with controversial interests is to decide upon them in legitimate electoral institutions, under

Where Are the Boundaries of the EU?

[1] Preamble to the Treaty on European Union (version of Lisbon)

WHAT TO DO IN CLASS

Europe as Active Learning

The Western Balkan region is something special for Europe. Nevertheless, it can be an entrance into a debate about the values and structures of the EU. And it can also serve as the basis for a discussion about chances and obstacles young Europeans are facing. This is important for school education and non-formal education.

Many of the texts presented in this brochure can be used for analysing the EU as well as potential candidate countries and candidate countries. You are welcome to make copies of the brochure and use them for educational purposes. Some of the tasks and a lesson based on the “activity page” require this text. Different types of text analysis are a well-known outcome orientated method for civic education as well as other subjects.

Learning about the European Union and its members is also a way to let European students use their own minds and communication skills. This could mean encouraging the students to get themselves involved. They can experience what it means to self-define some steps of the learning process and to choose their own

about the European Union and the Western Balkans.

As a starter teachers could work with the “activity page” on page 15. You will find prepared tasks, which can be copied. Some hints for the procedure are listed in the following columns.

How to Work With the “Activity Page”?

You can copy page 15 entirely and let your students work with it or on selected parts. The first task needs to be prepared in advance. The copy of page 15 should be handed to the class only after the first task has been completed. For the third task please copy pages 2 and 3. The students work in three groups on the text: one on the topic of peace, one on democracy, and one on wealth. They have to make a poster Mind Map and show it to the others. Task 5 needs copies of pages 6 and 7. The grey letters are answers to task 2 but will not appear on copies created using a low calibration.

First task: “COPY with Challenges”

on his desk to show it to the students.

The students sit in groups of four around a table. Only a blank sheet of paper and a pen lie on it. The teacher describes the task and gives the start for each step:

- One student from each group comes to the teacher’s desk.
- Those students look at the copy which is lying on the teacher’s desk for 30 seconds.
- The students go back to their groups.
- They talk about and draw for two minutes what they saw on the paper.
- Then the second person of each group comes to the teacher’s desk and looks for 30 seconds at the copy.
- They go back, talk about and draw what they saw for another two minutes.
- The others can give tasks for the next student to concentrate on.

The task ends when the fourth student comes back and the results of what he/she has seen are integrated into the drawn map. Afterwards the teacher disseminates the prepared copies and students compare their group results with the original map. The

// 01|03|2010
The Bosnian Foreign Minister announces the application for membership of his country by the end of the year.

// 22|07|2010
The International Court of Justice concluded in its expertise, that the declaration of independence by the Kosovo did not break international law.

// 22|12|2009
Serbia applies for membership in the European Union.

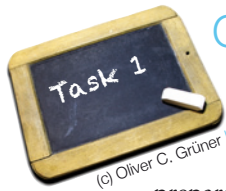
// 30|06|2010
The last three acquis chapters are opened in the negotiation process between Croatia and the EU.

discussion topics related to the given task. The teacher should only give ideas and assist as a moderator. Please approach this brochure as an invitation to learn more

To prepare this task, the teacher needs to make copies of the map on pages 8 and 9 without the information on the countries. The teacher keeps all copies and puts one

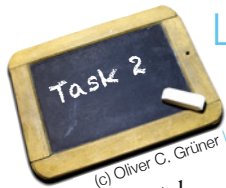
teacher should ask the students whether the task was easy or not; what was surprising and what was challenging.

ROOMS AND BEYOND?



COPY with Challenges

The Copy you have prepared in your group probably had some mistakes. Compare the original with your working group results and make some notes. Discuss why you have made those mistakes.



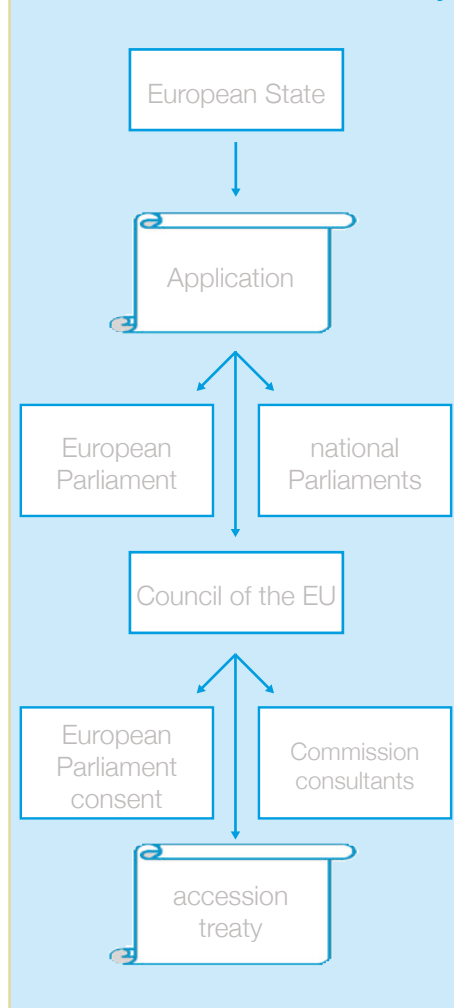
Legal Accession Procedure

The following text is taken from the EU-Treaty. It gives the legal guidelines for the accession of a candidate country. Put the key words into the prepared figure.

Article 49 of the Lisbon Treaty

“Any European State [...] may apply to become a member of the Union. The European Parliament and national Parliaments shall be notified of this application. The applicant State shall address its application to the Council, which shall act unanimously after consulting the Commission and after receiving the consent of the European Parliament, which shall act by a majority of its component members. The conditions of eligibility agreed upon by the European Council shall be taken into account.”

FIGURE Art. 49, Lisbon Treaty



// 12|12|2010

First parliamentary elections take place since Kosovo proclaimed its independence. EU observers remarked that serious allegations of fraud were made and elections re-runs were organized in five municipalities.

// 17|12|2010

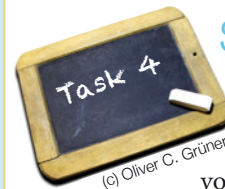
Montenegro becomes an official candidate country for membership in the EU.

// 09|09|2010

Serbia expressed its readiness to enter into talks with Kosovo.

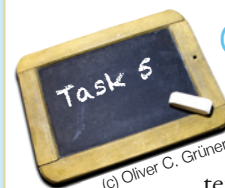
// 15|12|2010

Visa liberation for the citizens of Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina for the so-called Schengen-countries.



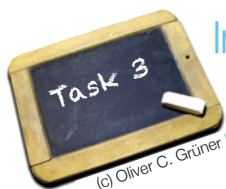
Schengen area

In the “timeline of events” on this page you will find the expression: “so-called Schengen area”. Find on the pages of the European Union (http://europa.eu/travel/doc/index_en.htm) why it is important for a Western Balkan state to be a member of this area. Write down a short story about someone of your age from one of the states mentioned in the “timeline of events”. Write about how they feel being a person “inside the Schengen area”.



Check a Country

Describe the path of one of the seven Western Balkan countries into the European Union. What are the specific obstacles? What are the benefits for the country of your choice? When can it become an EU member state? Compare



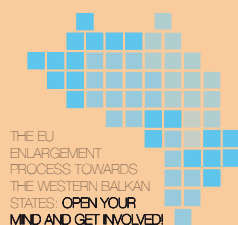
Inside the EU

The text handed out to you gives answers to the

question: What are the reasons to be or to become an EU member state? Analyse in your group one of the reasons – peace, democracy or wealth – and make a Mind Map poster.

your country with someone else’s in your class.

This publication has been developed in the framework of the PRINCE project „The EU-Enlargement process: Open your mind and get involved! Awareness raising events in the area of future enlargement towards the Western Balkan states in eight European countries.“ It provides the reader with interesting insights into the history of the Western Balkan countries, their path towards the European Union as well as their social, cultural and religious diversity. It also helps to understand what EU enlargement policy is about and how it works.



The project addresses teachers and civil society organizations dealing with local civic education, local authorities and political actors, as well as journalists. It is being implemented by members of the *European Network of Political Foundations (ENoP)* in eight European countries. The *PRogramme d'INformation du Citoyen Européen - PRINCE* has been designed by the European Union to provide the European public with information on the enlargement of the European Union.

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WESTERNBALKAN.BLOGSPOT.COM | FACEBOOK: THE EU ENLARGEMENT PROCESS TOWARDS THE WESTERN BALKAN STATES

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Freedom, justice and solidarity are the basic principles underlying the work of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS). The KAS is a political foundation, closely associated with the Christian Democratic Union of Germany (CDU). As co-founder of the CDU and the first Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, Konrad Adenauer (1876-1967) united Christian-social, conservative and liberal traditions. In our European and international cooperation efforts we work for people to be able to live self-determined lives in freedom and dignity. We make a contribution underpinned by values to helping Germany meet its growing responsibilities throughout the world.



The Croatian Statehood Foundation's mission is to become a centre of excellence for political education and political consultation, operating on the basis of Christian democratic principles. Since the political doctrine of Christian democracy largely centres on Christian social teaching, our principles focus on the individual and the dignity of all individuals. With reference to Christian social teaching, the fundamental values of the Croatian Statehood Foundation rest on social justice for the political community, which ultimately exists on behalf of the greater good, so the Foundation's core task is to engender political education with a commitment to peace, freedom and justice both at home and abroad.