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2025 - 2026, European Union Democracy and Security (EUDS)

Curriculum Resource Guide for Educators

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OVERVIEW

The European Union Democracy and Security (EUDS) Supplemental Resource Guide is designed to deepen understanding of the historical foundations, contemporary challenges, and future directions of democracy and security in Europe. Developed to accompany the EUDS lecture series, this guide provides educators, students, and lifelong learners with curated resources that expand upon the themes explored by scholars and practitioners throughout the program.

Democracy in Europe is the product of centuries of political evolution. From the democratic experiments of Ancient Greece, the republican institutions of Rome, and Iceland's early parliamentary traditions to the constitutional transformations of modern European states, the continent has continually reimagined how citizens participate in governance and how power is organized and constrained. These historical developments laid the foundation for modern democratic systems and continue to influence political institutions around the world.

Today, democracy faces both opportunities and challenges. The European Union serves as one of the world's most ambitious experiments in supranational governance, bringing together 27 member states to promote peace, cooperation, prosperity, and shared democratic values. At the same time, European democracies must navigate complex issues such as disinformation, cyber threats, political polarization, migration, climate change, technological transformation, and geopolitical conflict. Understanding these challenges requires examining not only how democratic institutions function, but also how they adapt to changing social, economic, and security realities.

This guide is organized around three lectures and several thematic sections that explore the evolution of democracy, the relationship between democratic governance and security, the development of constitutional systems, and the ongoing balance between national sovereignty and regional cooperation. Resources include articles, videos, lesson plans, reports, podcasts, and primary source documents that encourage critical thinking, historical analysis, and civic engagement.

Through these materials, learners will investigate how democratic institutions emerged, how they have been challenged and strengthened over time, and how European nations and institutions continue working to safeguard democracy in the twenty-first century. By connecting historical perspectives with contemporary issues, the guide aims to foster a deeper understanding of democracy as both a political system and an ongoing civic responsibility.

Whether exploring the origins of democratic governance, the European Union's role as a peace project, modern threats to democratic societies, or the future of civic participation, this resource guide invites learners to examine how democracy shapes the lives of citizens and why its preservation remains essential to peace, security, and human dignity.

DISCLAIMER

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CENTER FOR GLOBAL STUDIES

UNIVERSITY *of* WASHINGTON

The Henry M. Jackson
School of International Studies



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Navigating This Resource Guide



This interactive guide is designed to move educators and students from foundational understanding to meaningful, action-oriented learning. While the sections are organized to build upon one another, each can also be explored independently to meet diverse classroom needs. Throughout the guide, hyperlinked terms, images, and resources invite deeper exploration and encourage inquiry into this critical topic.

Lecture 1: EU Democracy and Security: Past, Present, Future; *Professor Markku Jokisipilä, University of Turku (December 4, 2025)*

Section 1: The Evolution of European Democracy

Explores how democratic systems in Europe developed over time and adapted to political, social, and economic change.

Section 2: Democracy and Collective Security

Examines the role of democratic governance, international alliances, and collective defense in promoting peace, cooperation, and regional stability across Europe.

Section 3: The European Union as a Peace Project

Highlights the European Union's emergence after World War II as a means of preventing conflict, strengthening cooperation, and promoting lasting peace across Europe.

Section 4: Modern Threats to Democracy

Examines the growing challenges posed by disinformation, political polarization, cyber threats, authoritarian movements, and foreign influence.

Section 5: Balancing National Identity and European Unity

Focuses on the balance between national sovereignty and participation in shared European institutions and decision-making.

Section 6: The Future of Democratic Participation

Highlights youth engagement, digital democracy, civic responsibility, and public trust as key forces shaping the future of democratic participation.

Section 7: Security in a Changing Global Landscape

Examines Europe's responses to war, migration, climate change, economic instability, and growing geopolitical competition.

Lecture 2: Cradle of Democracy; *Alex Hollmann (UW Hellenic Studies) About Democracy in Ancient Greece; Ray Lahiri (UW Classics) On the Republic in Ancient Rome; and Tim Bourns on Iceland's Parliament, Althing, in the Viking Age (February 10, 2026)*

Section 1: Origins of Democratic Governance

Traces the foundational political ideas developed in Ancient Greece, Rome, and Iceland and their influence on later democratic systems.

Section 2: Citizenship and Civic Participation

Traces the foundational political ideas developed in Ancient Greece, Rome, and Iceland and their influence on later democratic systems.

Section 3: Republics, Assemblies, and Parliaments

Compares early systems of representation and governance, including republics, popular assemblies, and emerging parliamentary institutions

Section 4: Law, Debate, and Public Decision-Making

Highlights the role of public debate, legal systems, and civic institutions in shaping democratic decision-making.

Section 5: The Legacy of Classical Democracies

Connects ancient political systems with the institutions, constitutions, and democratic principles that continue to influence modern governments.

Section 6: Power and Political Responsibility

Examines leadership, accountability, and the responsibilities shared by political leaders and citizens within democratic systems.

Section 7: Democracy Across Cultures and Time Periods

Compares the diverse ways democratic principles and practices developed across different cultures, regions, and historical periods.

Lecture 3: Monarchies to Constitutional Democracies; *Ray Jonas on France's Five Republics; Terje Leiden on The Constitutions of Norway, Denmark, Finland and Sweden; and James Felak on the 1920s Constitutions of Poland, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia*

Section 1: The Transition from Absolute Rule to Constitutional Government

Traces Europe's shift from absolute monarchy toward constitutional government and representative democracy.

Section 2: Constitutions as Foundations of Democracy

Highlights the role of constitutions in protecting rights, limiting political power, and shaping national identity.

Section 3: Revolution, Reform, and Political Change

Examines the influence of wars, revolutions, reforms, and social movements on the development of European governance.

Section 4: Comparing Democratic Systems Across Europe

Compares the key features of Nordic, Western, and Eastern European democratic systems.

Section 5: Nationalism and State-Building in Europe

Explores the relationship between national unity, collective identity, state-building, and democratic ideals.

Section 6: Democracy in Times of Crisis

Considers the challenges democracies face during periods of conflict, instability, and major social change.

Section 7: Historical Lessons for Modern Democracies

Connects Europe's democratic transformations and constitutional experiments to the challenges facing contemporary societies.

Lecture 4: Europe's Strategy in the Ukraine War *Phillips OBrien on European Strategy and the Ukraine War: A Look at How Europe has Reacted Strategically to the Russian Full-Scale Invasion of Ukraine*

Section 1: The Russia-Ukraine War: Origins and Timeline

Traces the historical origins, key events, and major turning points of the Russia–Ukraine War while examining its impact on Ukraine, Europe, and the international community.

Section 2: Impact of Geography

Explores how geography, natural resources, strategic borders, and regional landscapes have shaped military strategy, security priorities, and the course of the Russia-Ukraine War.

Section 3: NATO and U.S. Response

Examines how NATO, the United States, and European allies have responded to Russia's invasion of Ukraine through collective defense, military assistance, diplomacy, sanctions, and transatlantic cooperation.

Lecture 5: Security of EU Democracy Institutions: Past, Present, Future with Julio Guinea Bonillo, Jose Miguel Roncero Martin

Section 1: Treaties: Maastricht and Lisbon

Examines how the Maastricht and Lisbon Treaties shaped the European Union's institutions, decision-making processes, and political integration.

Section 2: Common Foreign and Security Policy

Explores how the European Union coordinates foreign policy, diplomacy, crisis response, and security cooperation among its member states.

Section 3: Balance of Power Between EU and Member States

Analyzes how authority and decision-making are shared between EU institutions and national governments across different policy areas.

Section 4: EU Enlargement

Traces the expansion of the European Union and examines its political, economic, and security implications for Europe and candidate countries.

Section 5: Security and Geopolitics

Investigates how the European Union responds to evolving geopolitical challenges, including regional conflicts, strategic competition, cybersecurity, and energy security.

Photography and Media Credits

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Outlining Standards



A Note on Learning Standards Presented in this Guide

Three sets of standards have been linked to each of the learning objectives in this packet. The **Washington State K-12 Social Studies Learning Standards** and the accompanying Grade Level Requirements are the social studies standards for WA State.

The College, Career,& Civic Life C3 Framework for Social Studies State Standards are the standards published by the National Council for the Social Studies. Guiding the packet as a whole is the Framework for Global Learning created by the Asia Society and the Council of Chief State School Officers titled *Educating for Global Competence: Preparing Our Youth to Engage the World (2011)*.

Cross-objective standards are listed at the beginning of the packet, and content-specific standards can be found after each learning objective. The standards provided have been selected for relevance, but are not exclusive: many other standards, such as Common Core, may be applicable to the resources and learning objectives identified in this packet. The intention for this packet's organization is to provide educators with an idea of resources available and possible uses for resources. Users should feel free to create their own learning objectives and to select resources according to the specific needs of their classrooms.

WASHINGTON STATE K-12 SOCIAL STUDIES LEARNING STANDARDS

There are five EALRs in Social Studies, one for each of the discipline areas: civics, economics, geography, and history, and a fifth for social studies skills.

(1) Social Studies EALR 1: CIVICS

The student understands and applies knowledge of government, law, politics, and the nation's fundamental documents to make decisions about local, national, and international issues and to demonstrate thoughtful, participatory citizenship.

(2) Social Studies EALR 2: ECONOMICS

The student applies understanding of economic concepts and systems to analyze decision-making and the interactions between individuals, households, businesses, governments, and societies.

(3) Social Studies EALR 3: GEOGRAPHY

The student uses a spatial perspective to make reasoned decisions by applying the concepts of location, region, and movement and demonstrating knowledge of how geographic features and human cultures impact environments.

(4) Social Studies EALR 4: HISTORY

The student understands and applies knowledge of historical thinking, chronology, eras, turning points, major ideas, individuals, and themes on local, Washington State, tribal, United States, and world history in order to evaluate how history shapes the present and future.

(5) Social Studies EALR 5: SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS

The student understands and applies reasoning skills to conduct research, deliberate, and form and evaluate positions through the processes of reading, writing, and communicating.

COLLEGE, CAREER, & CIVIC LIFE C3 FRAMEWORK FOR SOCIAL STUDIES STATE STANDARDS

The C3 Framework is organized into the four Dimensions, which support a robust social studies program rooted in inquiry.

The four Dimensions are as follows:

(1) Developing questions and planning inquiries;

(2) Applying disciplinary concepts and tools;

(3) Evaluating sources and using evidence;

(4) Communicating conclusions and taking informed action

DIMENSION 1: DEVELOPING QUESTIONS AND PLANNING INQUIRIES	DIMENSION 2: APPLYING DISCIPLINARY TOOLS AND CONCEPTS	DIMENSION 3: EVALUATING SOURCES AND USING EVIDENCE	DIMENSION 4: COMMUNICATING CONCLUSIONS AND TAKING INFORMED ACTION
Developing Questions and Planning Inquiries	Civics Economics Geography History	Gathering and Evaluating Sources Developing Claims and Using Evidence	Communicating and Critiquing Conclusions Taking Informed Action

1 - Dimension 2 has four disciplinary subsections: (1) Civics; (2) Economics; (3) Geography; (4) History. Each disciplinary subsection has three to four additional categories, which provide an organizing mechanism for the foundational content and skills within each discipline.

https://www.researchgate.net/figure/C3-Framework-Applying-Disciplinary-Tools-and-Concepts-Reprinted-from-The-College_fig2_333610103

CIVICS	ECONOMICS	GEOGRAPHY	HISTORY
Civic and Political Institutions	Economic Decision Making	Geographic Representations: Spatial Views of the World	Change, Continuity, and Context
Participation and Deliberation: Applying Civic Virtues and Democratic Principles	Exchange and Markets	Human-Environment Interaction: Place, Regions, and Culture	Perspectives
Processes, Rules, and Laws	The National Economy	Human Population: Spatial Patterns and Movements	Historical Sources and Evidence
	The Global Economy	Global Interconnections: Changing Spatial Patterns	Causation and Argumentation

2 - C3 Framework Organization

https://www.researchgate.net/figure/C3-Framework-Applying-Disciplinary-Tools-and-Concepts-Reprinted-from-The-College_fig2_333610103

EDUCATING FOR GLOBAL COMPETENCE

Frameworks taken from *Educating for Global Competence: Preparing Our Youth to Engage the World* (Asia Society and the Council of Chief State School Officers 2011).

“Global competence is the capacity and disposition to understand and act on issues of global significance.” (Chapter 2).

Globally competent students are able to perform the following four competences:

1. **Investigate the world** beyond their immediate environment, framing significant problems and conducting well-crafted and age-appropriate research.
2. **Recognize perspectives** others’ and their own, articulating and explaining such perspectives thoughtfully and respectfully.
3. **Communicate ideas** effectively with diverse audiences, bridging geographic, linguistic, ideological, and cultural barriers.
4. **Take action** to improve conditions, viewing themselves as players in the world and participating reflectively.



Framework for Global Competence by Mansilla and Jackson (2013)

3 - <https://pressbooks.pub/drrashijain/chapter/unit-1-global-competence/>

Key Terms

- **Democracy:** “Democracy is a system of government in which laws, policies, leadership, and major undertakings of a state or other polity are directly or indirectly decided by the “people,” a group historically constituted by only a minority of the population (e.g., all free adult males in ancient Athens or all sufficiently propertied adult males in 19th-century Britain) but generally understood since the mid-20th century to include all (or nearly all) adult citizens.”
- **Democratic Security:** The protection of peace and stability through democratic institutions, human rights, the rule of law, and accountable government, rather than through military power alone.
- **Sovereignty:** “In political theory, the ultimate power or authority exercised in the decision-making process of the state and in the maintenance of order. The concept of sovereignty—one of the most controversial ideas in political science and international law—is closely related to the difficult concepts of state and government and of independence and democracy.”
- **Institutional Trust:** The confidence citizens have in public institutions to act fairly, transparently, reliably, and in the public interest.
- **New Democratic Pact for Europe:** A Council of Europe initiative that aims to renew and strengthen democracy by protecting democratic institutions, fighting disinformation and authoritarianism, and making democracy more inclusive, resilient, and meaningful for citizens.

- **Hybrid Warfare:** A strategy that combines military and non-military tools, such as cyberattacks, disinformation, economic pressure, sabotage, and political interference, to destabilize an opponent while blurring the line between war and peace.
- **Cyber Attacks:** “Deliberate and malicious attempt to gain unauthorized access to a digital system. Cyberattacks can affect computers, smartphones, or other Internet-connected devices. Cybercriminals’ main goal is often to steal money, personal information, credentials, intellectual property, or otherwise valuable information.”
- **Digital Fluency:** Digital Fluency is the ability to discover, evaluate, and use information and technology effectively and ethically.
- **European Union:** “International organization comprising 27 European countries and governing common economic, social, and security policies. Originally confined to western Europe, the EU undertook a robust expansion into central and eastern Europe in the early 21st century.”
- **Republic:** “A country that is governed by elected representatives and by an elected leader (such as a president) rather than by a king or queen.”
- **Forum:** “A place or opportunity for discussing a subject” “a large public place in an ancient Roman city that was used as the center of business”
- **Senate:** “Smaller group of the two groups of people who meet to discuss and make the laws of a country, state, etc.”
- **Plebeians:** “Member of the common people of ancient Rome.”
- **Comitia Curiata:** The oldest Roman assembly, organized by curiae. It originated during the Roman Kingdom, but its political power gradually declined during the Republic.
- **Comitia Centuriata:** A military-based assembly organized into *centuriae*, with citizens classified partly according to wealth and military obligations. It elected consuls, praetors, and censors, passed legislation, and decided questions of war and peace.
- **Comitia Tributa:** A civilian assembly organized according to Rome’s territorial tribes. It passed much of Rome’s legislation and elected lower-ranking magistrates who did not possess *imperium*, including quaestors and curule aediles.
- **Nobility:** “The group of people who are members of the highest social class in some countries”
- **Oligarchy:** “A country, business, etc., that is controlled by a small group of people”

- **Althing**: Iceland's national parliament, founded at Þingvellir around 930 CE and recognized as one of the world's oldest parliamentary institutions.
- **Norsemen**: The Scandinavian peoples of the Viking Age, particularly those from present-day Denmark, Norway, and Sweden, who traveled as traders, explorers, settlers, and raiders.
- **Tennis Court Oath**: "(June 20, 1789), dramatic act of defiance by representatives of the nonprivileged classes of the French nation (the Third Estate) during the meeting of the Estates-General (traditional assembly) at the beginning of the French Revolution."
- **National Assembly**: "Any of various historical French parliaments or houses of parliament." Note that today, the National Assembly is also the lower house of the French Parliament."
- **Declaration of the Rights of Man**: "One of the basic charters of human liberties, containing the principles that inspired the French Revolution. Its 17 articles, adopted between August 20 and August 26, 1789, by France's National Assembly, served as the preamble to the Constitution of 1791."
- **Bicameral Legislature**: "A legislative system composed of two separate houses or chambers."
- **Monarchy**: "A political system in which sovereignty or supreme authority is vested in a single ruler, known as a monarch."
- **Parliament**: In some countries, the group of elected politicians or other representatives responsible for making the country's laws.

Learning Objectives (I Can Statements)

At the conclusion of interacting with these resources, students will be able to do the following:

- 1). I can identify and explain why the European Union was created.
- 2). I can identify and explain basic elements of how the EU is structured (institutions, etc.)
- 3). I can identify and explain current and future security challenges facing the EU (and individual member states) and analyze policy options to address them.
- 4). I can analyze perspectives on the development of democracy within and across EU member states.
- 5). I can identify and analyze EU strategies in the Ukraine war.

Lecture 1: EU Democracy and Security: Past, Present, Future; *Professor Markku Jokisipilä, University of Turku (December 4, 2025)*



The Evolution of European Democracy



(Lesson Plan) [Democracy Toolkit](#)

"There are cool activities like puzzles, doodles, and detective work—to help you become a Democracy Champion! Ready to take action? Let's turn democracy into your superpower!"

(Lesson Plan) [The Timeline of The European Union](#)

"This module takes students on a journey to discover the highs and lows of European Integration. A short six-minute video uncovers the most significant milestones of European Integration from the Congress of Europe to the present day. A quiz concludes the module. To learn how to get started on the learning platform, please refer to the "Teacher Manual: Getting Started" at the beginning of the module."

[Seeking to Embed Democracy: Tracing the Substantial Evolution of the European Union's Democracy Promotion: \(July 18th, 2025\)](#)

"The European Union (EU) is one of the most active promoters of democracy in the world. Stakeholders of democracy promotion frequently criticize the Union for its lack of sensitivity to country-specific contexts. This critique concerns both the concept of democracy and the means through which democratic development ought to be supported from the outside. We examine

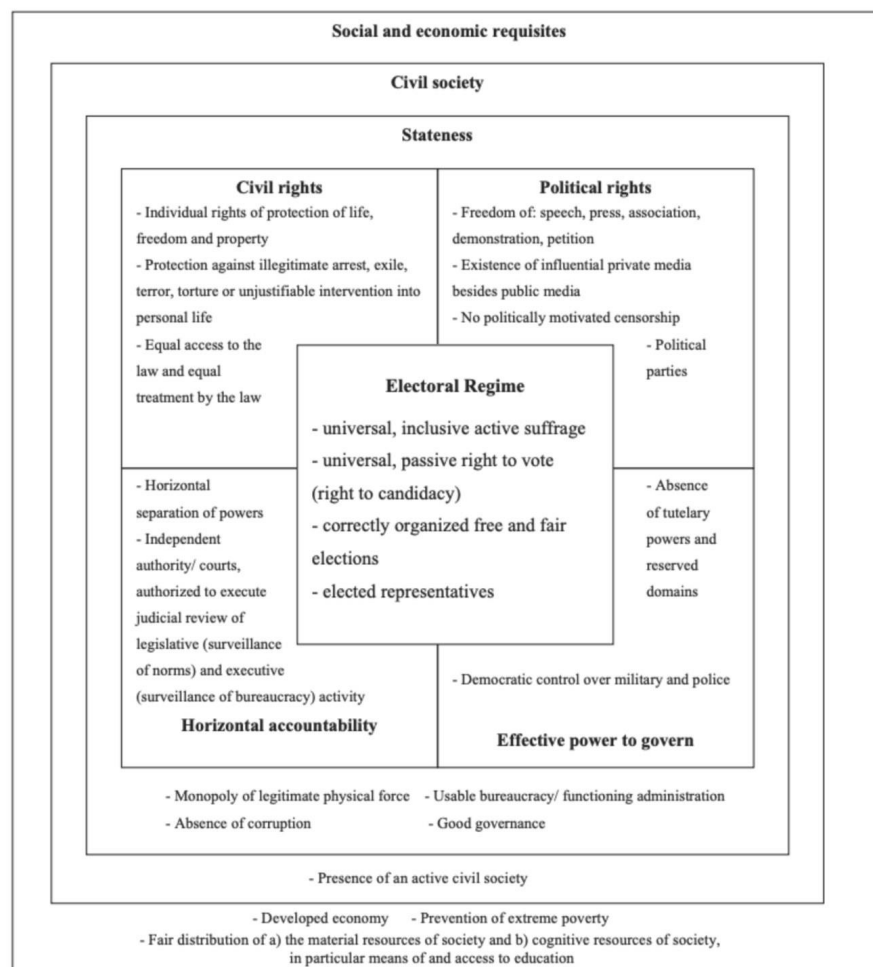
the validity of this claim by exploring whether the substance of the EU's democracy promotion efforts is sensitive to contextual factors in third countries."

[A History of Democracy in Europe: From Ancient Greece to the European Union](#) (May 28th, 2024)

"In this blog, we explore from an educational perspective the history of democracy in Europe with its lights and shadows, the values that make us Europeans and the European institutions that represent the citizens."

[The European Parliament and EU Democracy](#) (April 2023)

"Against this background, this briefing explores in historical perspective how the EP has pushed for democratic reform of the EU in the past. Focusing on three major constitutional moments – the 1953 European Political Community draft treaty, the 1984 Draft Treaty on European Union, and the 2004 Constitutional Treaty – it demonstrates how even ostensibly failed reform initiatives have repeatedly created long-term impact."



4 - <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1057/s41295-025-00430-x/figures/2>

Simone Veil, President of the European Parliament, and Altiero Spinelli



Source: EP Multimedia Centre.

5 -

[https://www.europarl.europa.eu/cmsdata/281674/The%20European%20Parliament%20and%20EU%20democracy%20Lessons%20from%2070%20years%20of%20reforms%20EPRS_BRI\(2023\)747121_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/cmsdata/281674/The%20European%20Parliament%20and%20EU%20democracy%20Lessons%20from%2070%20years%20of%20reforms%20EPRS_BRI(2023)747121_EN.pdf)

Paul-Henri Spaak speaking at the Common Assembly of the European Coal and Steel Community



Source: EP Multimedia Centre.

6 -

[https://www.europarl.europa.eu/cmsdata/281674/The%20European%20Parliament%20and%20EU%20democracy%20Lessons%20from%2070%20years%20of%20reforms%20EPRS_BRI\(2023\)747121_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/cmsdata/281674/The%20European%20Parliament%20and%20EU%20democracy%20Lessons%20from%2070%20years%20of%20reforms%20EPRS_BRI(2023)747121_EN.pdf)

Democracy and Collective Security



[Europe's Security Starts with Democracy: Council of Europe Secretary General's 2026 Annual Report](#) (May 15th, 2026)

“The Secretary General’s 2026 annual report is structured around six chapters, each devoted to a strategic transversal area selected for its critical relevance to strengthening democratic resilience:

- Countering information manipulation, disinformation, and strengthening resilience
- Promoting social rights as a factor of democratic resilience
- Defending equal rights and promoting gender equality and inclusion
- Safeguarding elections and democratic processes
- Inclusive participation, civic space and fundamental freedoms
- Positive use of digital technology and artificial intelligence, including countering cyber-enabled threats.

Each chapter combines an overview of ongoing work with emerging orientations and concrete initiatives, connecting analysis, policy directions and implementation. The report highlights the relevance of ongoing Council of Europe work and emerging directions for reflection and possible future action, introducing new ideas and initiatives emerging from the pact consultation process.”

[Collective Defence and Article 5](#) *(November 12th, 2025)*

“Collective defence is NATO’s most fundamental principle. Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty states that an armed attack against one NATO member shall be considered an attack against them all. Since 1949, this unwavering pledge has bound together a group of like-minded countries from Europe and North America, which have committed themselves to protecting each other in a spirit of solidarity.”

(Video) [What Is NATO, Why Does it Still Exist, and How Does it Work?](#) *(December 16th, 2020)*

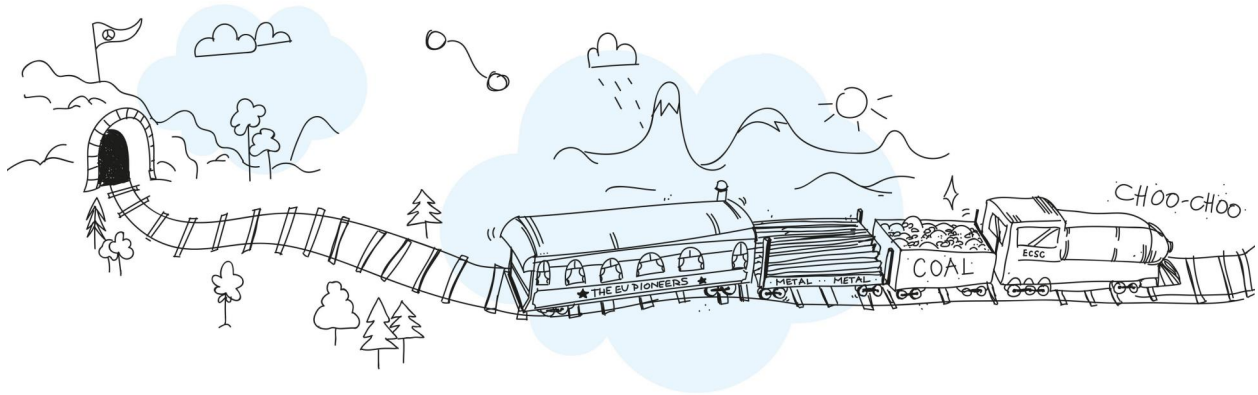
“Importantly, the treaty sets out the idea of collective defence, meaning that an attack against one Ally is considered as an attack against all Allies. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization – or NATO – ensures that the security of its European member countries is inseparably linked to that of its North American member countries. The Organization also provides a unique forum for dialogue and cooperation across the Atlantic.”

[The North Atlantic Treaty](#) *(April 4th, 1949)*

“The Parties to this Treaty reaffirm their faith in the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and their desire to live in peace with all peoples and all governments. They are determined to safeguard the freedom, common heritage and civilisation of their peoples, founded on the principles of democracy, individual liberty and the rule of law. They seek to promote stability and well-being in the North Atlantic area. They are resolved to unite their efforts for collective defence and for the preservation of peace and security.”



The European Union as a Peace Project



[History of European Integration: Remembering our Roots](#) (2026)

"How did people live peacefully in the West in spite of everything? And what does this have to do with the European Union, you might ask? On 9 May 1950 a French statesman, Robert Schuman, had an ingenious idea: West Germany and France would work together in the coal and steel industries. That meant that they would never again think of going to war against each other. Western Europe began to rebuild itself in peace."

(Video) [Communication Campaign on the Rule of Law](#) (October 15th, 2024)

"The European Commission is launching an EU-wide social media campaign on the rule of law. Through this communication campaign, the Commission aims to bring the idea of the rule of law closer to EU citizens and to raise awareness of its impact on people's everyday lives. The campaign focuses on the six core principles defining the rule of law through animations by renowned artist and illustrator Christoph Niemann."

[Nobel Peace Prize](#) (2012)

"Since 1945, that reconciliation has become a reality. The dreadful suffering in World War II demonstrated the need for a new Europe. Over a seventy-year period, Germany and France had fought three wars. Today war between Germany and France is unthinkable. This shows how, through well-aimed efforts and by building up mutual confidence, historical enemies can become close partners."

In the 1980s, Greece, Spain and Portugal joined the EU. The introduction of democracy was a condition for their membership. The fall of the Berlin Wall made EU membership possible for

several Central and Eastern European countries, thereby opening a new era in European history. The division between East and West has to a large extent been brought to an end; democracy has been strengthened; many ethnically-based national conflicts have been settled.

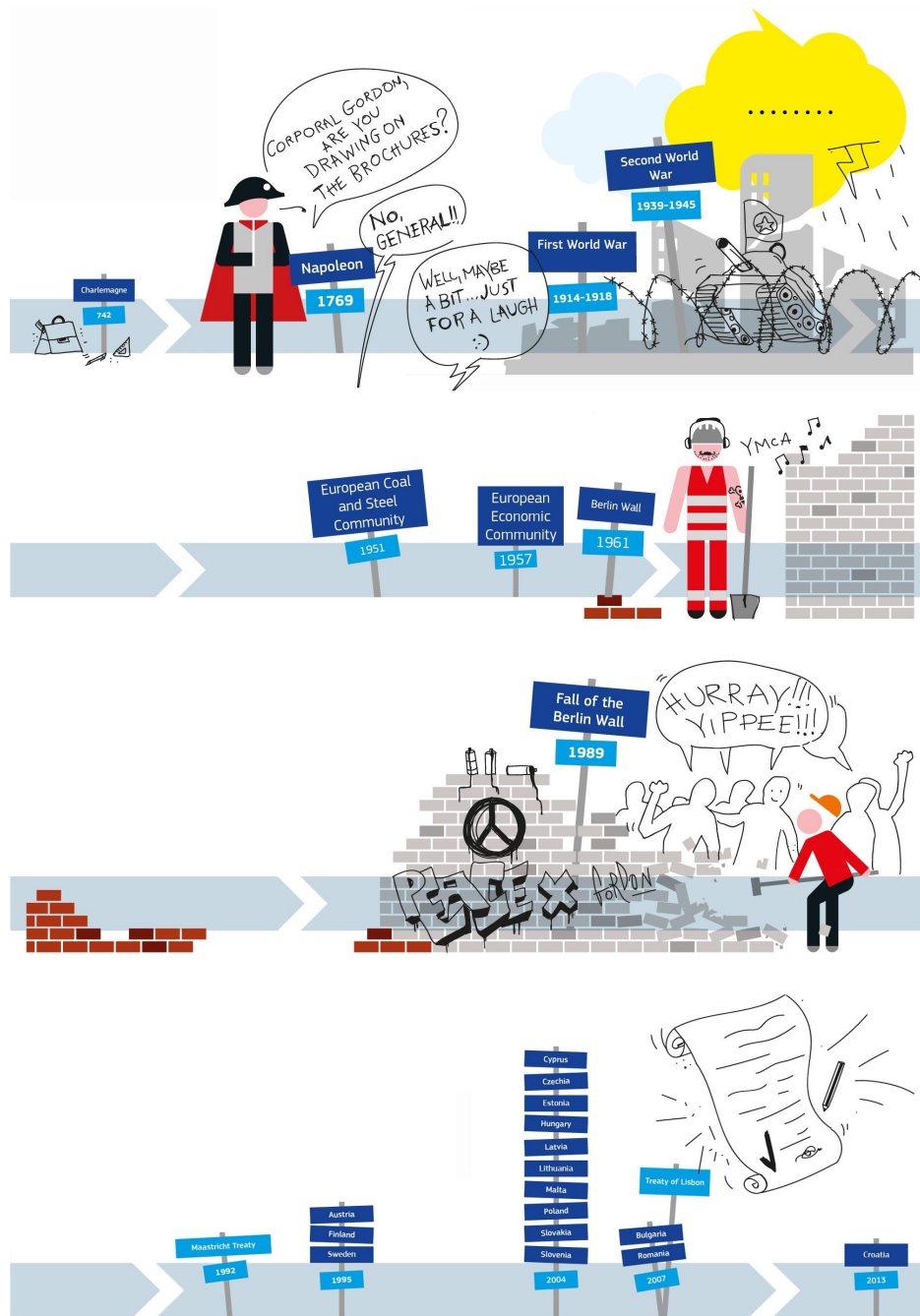
The admission of Croatia as a member next year, the opening of membership negotiations with Montenegro, and the granting of candidate status to Serbia all strengthen the process of reconciliation in the Balkans. In the past decade, the possibility of EU membership for Turkey has also advanced democracy and human rights in that country.

The EU is currently undergoing grave economic difficulties and considerable social unrest. The Norwegian Nobel Committee wishes to focus on what it sees as the EU's most important result: the successful struggle for peace and reconciliation and for democracy and human rights. The stabilizing part played by the EU has helped to transform most of Europe from a continent of war to a continent of peace.

The work of the EU represents "fraternity between nations", and amounts to a form of the "peace congresses" to which Alfred Nobel refers as criteria for the Peace Prize in his 1895 will."

[From War to Peace: An European Tale](#) (2012)

Acceptance speech of the Nobel Peace Prize® Award to the European Union.



Modern Threats to Democracy



(Lesson Plan) [Understanding Authoritarianism](#)

"Help students explore how authoritarian regimes rise and maintain power with this two-day, standards-aligned lesson for grades 10–12."

[Protecting Democracy](#)

"In a healthy and thriving democracy, citizens can freely express their views, choose their political leaders, and have a say about their future. Democracy in the EU faces challenges from rising extremism, election interference, the spread of manipulative information and threats against journalists. Citizens should be able to make electoral choices in a public space where different views can be expressed freely. Free media, academia and civil society should be able to play their role in stimulating open debate, free from interference, either foreign or domestic. That is why the EU put forward the European Democracy Action Plan in 2020 and why, to complement and deepen this action, the Commission put forward the Defence of Democracy package in December 2023."

[European Democracy Shield and EU Strategy for Civil Society Pave the Way for Stronger and More Resilient Democracies](#) (November 11th, 2025)

“The Commission has presented today the European Democracy Shield, setting out a series of concrete measures to empower, protect, and promote strong and resilient democracies across the EU. An open civic space is at the core of our democracies, and this is why the Commission has also put forward an EU Strategy for Civil Society, for stronger engagement, protection and support to civil society organisations who play essential roles in our societies. Both initiatives had been outlined in the political guidelines and this year's State of the Union address by President von der Leyen. The European Democracy Shield and the EU Strategy for Civil Society present measures to protect the key pillars of our democratic systems: free people, free and fair elections, free and independent media, a vibrant civil society and strong democratic institutions.”

[Facts Not Fakes: Tackling Disinformation, Strengthening Information Integrity](#) (March 4th, 2024)

"Informed individuals are the foundation of democratic debate and society. The accelerated spread of false or misleading information, often through deliberate disinformation campaigns by domestic or foreign actors, creates confusion and exacerbates polarisation, distorts public policy debates, and further deteriorates trust in government. In a fast-moving information landscape re-shaped by digitalisation, strengthening the integrity of information spaces and combating disinformation are thus urgent to strengthen the social fabric of open societies and reinforce democracy."

[Systemic Vulnerabilities, MIL, Disinformation Threats: Preliminary Risk Assessment Ahead of the 2024 European Elections](#) (2024)

In January 2023, the European Digital Media Observatory (EDMO) established a Task Force ahead of the 2024 European elections, in order to monitor and counter any attempts to condition and undermine public confidence in the democratic process. The aim is to provide useful information and tools in the effort to promote an honest European debate in the run-up to the elections.

(Video) [Authoritarianism Explained | What is Authoritarianism? | Examples of Authoritarian governments](#) (November 21st, 2023)

"Have you ever wonder what exactly is Authoritarianism? Hey, it's Dan Zimmerman, welcome back to Illustrate to Educate. In this video we'll take a simple and informative look at the characteristics of Authoritarianism, examples of Authoritarianism, as well as the pros and cons of Authoritarianism. Authoritarianism is a form of government characterized by a high concentration of power in the hands of a single authority or a small group of individuals, often without meaningful checks and balances, limited political pluralism, and restricted civil liberties. It stands in contrast to democratic systems, which emphasize principles such as popular

sovereignty, rule of law, and protection of individual rights. Authoritarian regimes can vary in their severity, from soft or semi-authoritarian systems that allow some political opposition and limited freedoms to hard or full-blown authoritarian systems with virtually no political opposition or civil liberties."



9 - https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_2660

Balancing National Identity and European Unity



(Video) [What is the European Union?](#) (December 10th, 2025)

"The European Union (EU) is an economic and political union of twenty-seven member countries. It was created with the goal of promoting peace, security, and prosperity in Europe. The EU operates a single market where workers, goods, capital, and services can move freely within its borders, and the EU enhances foreign policy coordination amongst its members, for example by negotiating trade deals as a bloc. In this video, Liana Fix, senior fellow for Europe at the Council on Foreign Relations, details the history of the EU and explains the political, economic, and security challenges it faces moving forward."

[The European Union and National Sovereignty: A New Democratic Challenge?](#) (May 6th, 2025)

"In light of the growing appeal of this reductive conception of democracy, a pressing question emerges: does the European Union retain the normative and institutional capacity to assert itself as a credible, distinct, and potentially restorative model of democratic governance? While a definitive answer remains elusive, it is evident that the European Union must undertake more concerted and strategic efforts to articulate, defend, and promote its democratic values and institutional frameworks—both within its borders and on the global stage."

[The European Union: The World's Biggest Sovereignty Experiment](#) (February 14th, 2023)

"Sovereignty is considered to be a country's fundamental principle. It means that countries get to control what happens within their borders. Sovereignty also establishes the [norm](#) that countries can't interfere in other countries' domestic affairs. When a country is recognized as sovereign, it can create its own laws and political infrastructure. A sovereign nation also has the power to develop education and health-care systems, and religious and social norms."

(Video) [Sovereignty Explained](#) (October 26th, 2020)

"For centuries, the idea of sovereignty is shaped the world. It has important domestic and international implications. Within a country, sovereignty guarantees that governments have the ultimate authority over what's going on. This authority applies to everyone who lives within a country's borders."

Four Freedoms of the EU Single Market



Workers

People can move to other member countries for work



Goods

People can buy and sell goods in other member countries



Capital

People can make investments and loans in other member countries



Services

People can sell their services in other member countries

Source: European Parliament.

CFR Education
Global Matters

10 - <https://education.cfr.org/learn/reading/european-union-worlds-biggest-sovereignty-experiment>

The Future of Democratic Participation



(Video) [EU Youth Strategy](#)

“The EU developed an EU Youth Strategy and wants young people to engage and become an active citizen involved in democracy and society. We want young people to tell us what is important to them by taking part in the EU.”

[Use of internet: Civic and Political Participation](#) (2025)

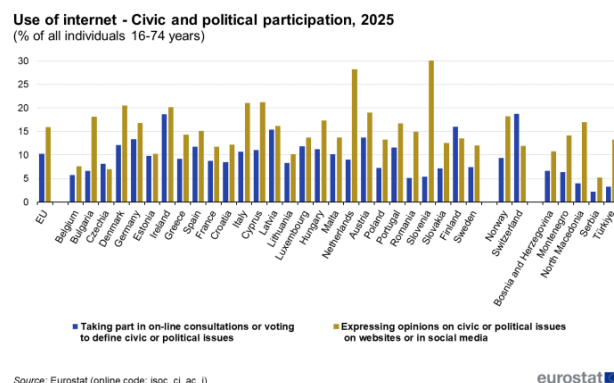
"The European Declaration on Digital Rights and Principles for the Digital Decade puts people at the centre of digital transformation of the EU. Digital transformation should contribute to a fair and inclusive society and economy in the EU. Widespread access to the internet is one of the means to measure this digital transformation and should be possible regardless of social status or geographical location. Access in the context of the ICT survey does not refer to connectability (i.e. can connections be provided in the household's area or street), but to whether anyone in the household is able to use the internet at home if desired (connectivity). Connectivity can be measured at household level as well as at individual level."

(Video) [Youth and Democracy's Future](#) (November 13th, 2025)

"Democracy is in crisis in the United States and around the globe. Young people—their voices and their actions—are critical to the future of democracy, as the future of democracy is critically important to young people. Join the Georgetown Democracy Initiative for our second event, which will focus on youth engagement with—and disengagement from—democracy and the political process. How and why, when and where do youth participate in and fight for democracy? How can young people be political change agents?"

(Video) [How AI and Democracy Can Fix Each Other](#) | [Divya Siddarth](#) | [TED](#) (November 2023)

“We don't have to sacrifice our freedom for the sake of technological progress, says social technologist Divya Siddarth. She shares how a group of people helped retrain one of the world's most powerful AI models on a constitution they wrote — and offers a vision of technology that aligns with the principles of democracy, rather than conflicting with them.



Security in a Changing Global Landscape



(Video) [EU Climate Action Playlist](#)

"These 2-4 minutes videos invite you to discover various climate-related topics, such as causes and consequences of climate change, EU climate action, Paris Agreement, climate neutrality by 2050, etc."

[High-Level Roundtable Explores Intertwined Challenges of Climate Resilience, Defence and Security](#) (May 28th, 2026)

"On 26 May, the European Commission and the European External Action Service hosted a high-level meeting to discuss the links between climate resilience, security and defence...The current geopolitical situation, with rising tensions, conflicts, and disruptions to global supply chains, has made defence and security a top priority for Europe. At the same time, climate change is physically impacting the EU's defence and security landscape and increasing demands on the military for disaster relief operations at home. Proactively managing the risks that climate change poses are essential to ensure resilience and preparedness, both civilian and military. Therefore, the meeting brought together senior representatives from EU institutions, national authorities, the military, industry, and research to share ideas and experiences. The discussion was divided into two parts: how climate change affects the defence sector and how

to enhance its resilience, and how climate change impacts European security and what can be done to manage related risks.”

[Russia’s War Against Ukraine](#) (May 8th, 2026)

“The European Union has from the very beginning stood by Ukraine as it exercises its inherent right to self-defense against Russia's full-scale war of aggression. The EU has adopted unprecedented sanctions against Russia, while supporting Ukraine's economy, armed forces and society...The European Union has repeatedly affirmed its continued and unwavering support for Ukraine's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognised borders. The EU welcomes the ongoing diplomatic efforts to put an end to the war and urges Russia to agree to a full, unconditional and immediate ceasefire and to engage in meaningful negotiations. The EU is committed to a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in Ukraine and will continue to actively participate in peace efforts. It is ready to contribute to security guarantees, in particular by supporting Ukraine's ability to defend itself effectively.”

[European Security in Changing. Geopolitical Perspectives](#) (November 20-21th, 2025)

“European security is undergoing an accelerated transformation process, driven by changes in the global geopolitical environment, technological developments and the reconfiguration of relations between great powers. In the context of intensifying strategic competition, pressures on the international order and the proliferation of hybrid threats, the European space is faced with the need to redefine its instruments and mechanisms for defense and cooperation. The article analyzes the main trends that are reshaping Europe's security architecture, highlighting the role of regional and global actors, the dynamics of Euro-Atlantic institutions and the implications for medium-term stability. The study offers an integrated perspective on emerging challenges and possible directions for strategic adaptation to strengthen European resilience.”



Lecture 2: Cradle of Democracy; Alex Hollmann (UW Hellenic Studies)
About Democracy in Ancient Greece; Ray Lahiri (UW Classics) On the
Republic in Ancient Rome; and Tim Bourns on Iceland's Parliament,
Althing, in the Viking Age (February 10, 2026)



Origins of Democratic Governance



[Rome's Transition from Republic to Empire](#) *(December 17th, 2025)*

“The Roman Republic was founded in 509 B.C.E. after the last Etruscan king that ruled Rome was overthrown. Rome’s next government served as a representative democracy in the form of a republic. Initially, Rome’s wealthiest families, the patricians, held power and only they could hold political or religious offices. Everyone else was considered plebeian, and no member of this group could hold office. Over a period of nearly 200 years, however, the plebeians fought for and gained power within the government.”

[What the Ancient Greeks Can Teach us about Democracy](#) *(March 31st, 2024)*

“To illuminate political and philosophical questions of today, students examine how the ancient Athenians first put self government into practice.”



13 - <https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/romes-transition-republic-empire/?>

Photograph by Peter Phipp/Travelshots.com



14 - <https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/democracy-ancient-greece/?>

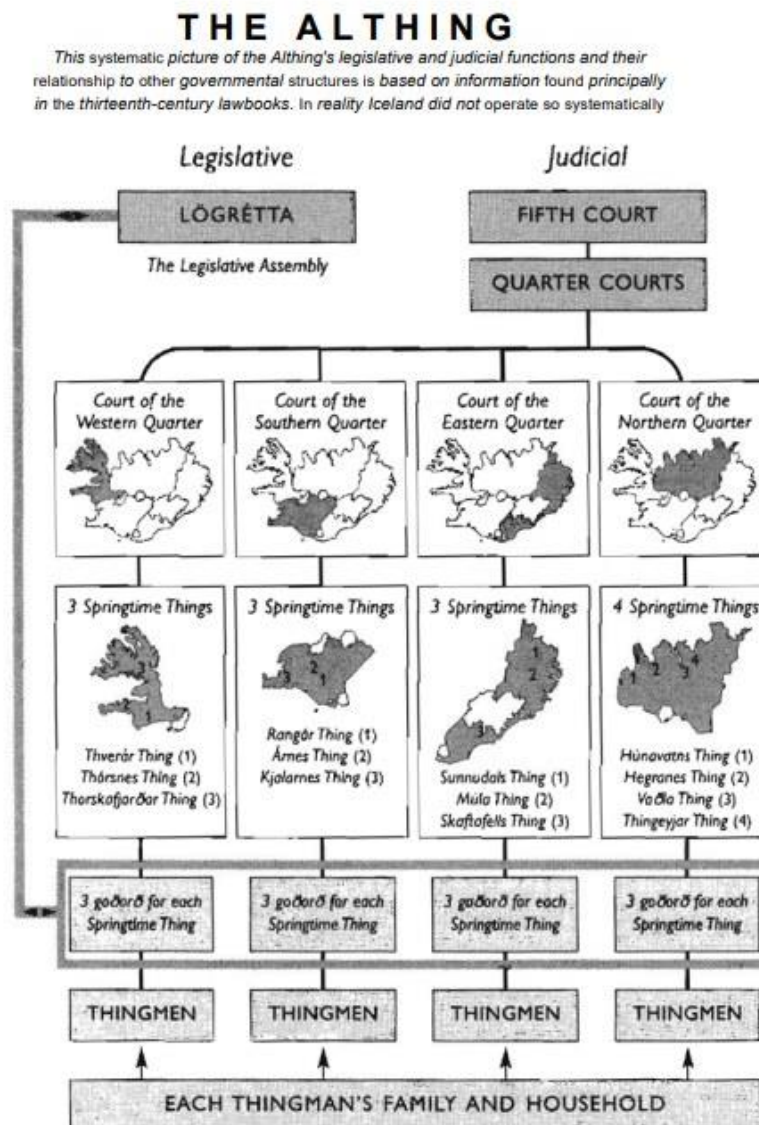
Album/Alamy Stock Photo

(Video) [Ten Things You Really Should Know about Ancient Greek Democracy](#) (September 27th, 2016)

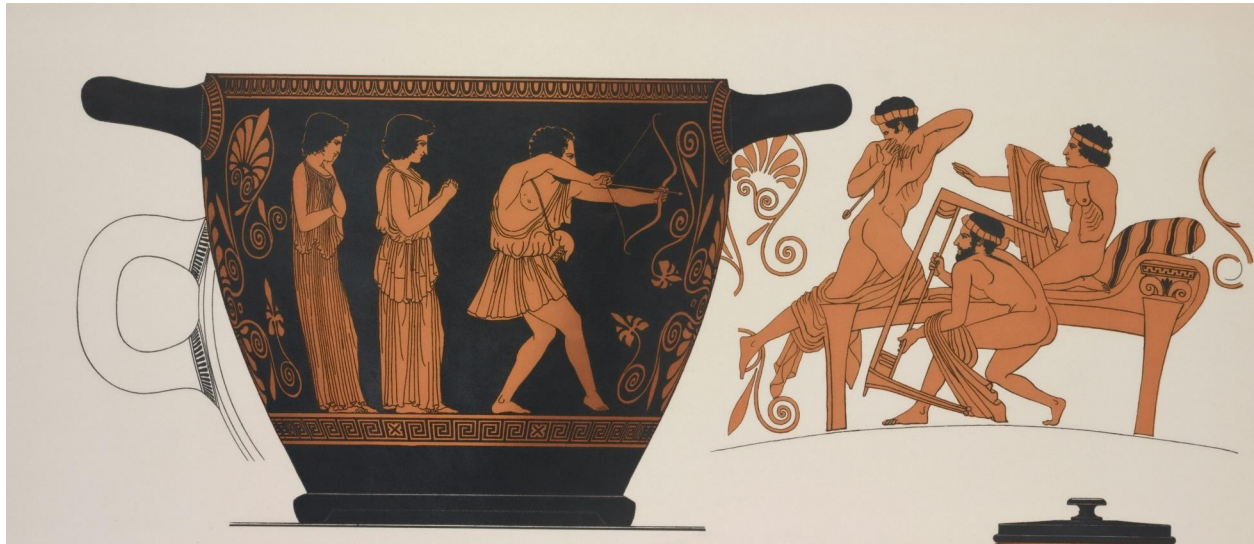
"Myths abound about ancient Greek democracy – actually, there was no such thing. That is, there was no such one thing. Even Athens, which invented both the thing and the name, had at least three versions over a span of about 150 years. But although the ancient Greeks have given the world ‘democracy’, ancient Greek democracy was in several crucial and fundamental respects very different indeed from, if not opposite to, what passes for ‘democracy’ today."

[The Icelandic Althing: Dawn of Parliamentary Democracy \(2002\)](#)

"It is an old idea, and one that reaches as far back as the nineteenth century, that Viking Age Iceland was democratic and much like an early republic."



Citizenship and Civic Participation



[Democracy \(Ancient Greece\)](#) (May 30th, 2025)

“The Athenian definition of “citizens” was also different from modern-day citizens: only free men were considered citizens in Athens. Women, children, and slaves were not considered citizens and therefore could not vote.”

(Video) [Ancient Democracy: What is Democracy and Where Did it Start?](#) (September 13th, 2021)

“Ancient democracy was invented at the beginning of the 5th century BCE at almost the same time in both Athens and Rome. The word democracy comes from the Greek word *demokratia* with *demos* meaning the people and *kratos* meaning power or rule. So put that together and you essentially get the rule of the people. Today’s idea of democracy is a representative democracy, which means the people have the power to choose their representative, whereas the democracy of Athens was a direct democracy.”

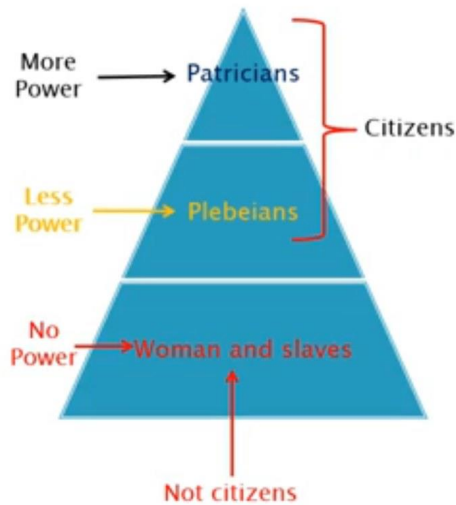
Roman citizenship

→ Citizenship was held by all patrician and plebeian men and extended to a few privileged foreigners (usually local leaders and aristocrats of a conquered people)

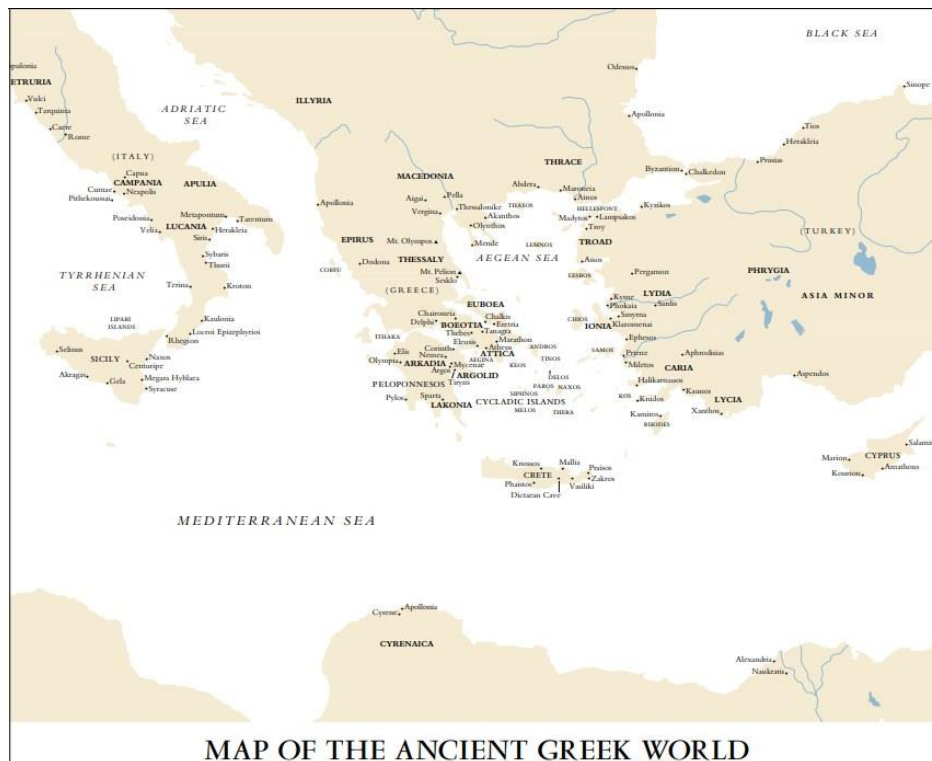
→ Women and slaves were not citizens

→ Citizens could vote, but were required to pay taxes and serve in the military.

→ Patricians and plebeians held different levels of citizenship, which allowed patricians to hold more power in society



16 - https://youtu.be/MryC6KrUY4?si=qa1B_sy51JGzc01h



MAP OF THE ANCIENT GREEK WORLD

17 - <https://www.metmuseum.org/fr/-/media/files/learn/for-educators/publications-for-educators/greek.pdf>

Republics, Assemblies, and Parliaments



DID YOU KNOW?

"The name 'Europe' comes from Greek mythology? Europa was a beautiful princess who lived in Tyre, on the Asian coast of the Mediterranean (Lebanon). Zeus, the king of the gods, fell in love with her. He seduced her and took her to Greece. They had three children and it was from the princess that the continent got its name: Europe."

https://op.europa.eu/webpub/com/europe-better-together/en/EUROPE_Building_together.html

(Lesson Plan) [The Road to the Convention](#)

"In this module, students will learn about the early national government established by the Articles of Confederation and about the state constitutions written before the U.S. Constitution. Students will explore what life was like for Americans after the Declaration of Independence and figure out why some Americans chose to participate in mob violence. They will also analyze important primary sources to uncover why the founders wanted to create a new constitution."

[Council of Europe-Democracy](#)

"The Greek model was established in the 5th century BC, in the city of Athens. Among a sea of autocracies and oligarchies – which were the normal forms of government at the time – Athenian democracy stood out. However, compared to how we understand democracy today, the Athenian model had two important differences:

1. Theirs was a form of direct democracy – in other words, instead of electing representatives to govern on the people's behalf, "the people" themselves met, discussed questions of government, and then implemented policy.
2. Such a system was possible partly because "the people" was a very limited category. Those who could participate directly were a small part of the population, since women, slaves, aliens – and of course, children – were excluded. The numbers who participated were still far more than in a modern democracy: perhaps 50,000 males engaged directly in politics, out of a population of around 300,000 people."

(Video) [An Introduction to Parliament \(Primary\)](#) (October 3th, 2014)

"A teaching resource for primary students, explaining what Parliament is and how it works. This animation is an ideal starting point for introducing Parliament to primary students."

(Video) [Simon de Montfort and the Emergence of Parliament](#) (May 9th, 2014)

"Follow the story of the emergence of Parliament and UK democracy. This film shows how Simon de Montfort brings together representatives from across the country at the 1265 Parliament."

Law, Debate, and Public Decision-Making



Addressing Controversial Issues

"Schools must be places where students feel safe to engage in debates with people who have different opinions. Through the careful management of discussions on controversial issues, schools can promote freedom of expression, as well as inclusion, tolerance, and human rights and prevent, or counter, the use of hate speech by students. To achieve this, a school action plan on managing controversial issues – which provides staff training – should be adopted as a priority."

[Making Children's and Students' Voices Heard](#)

"Student voice is the right of students to have a say in matters that affect them in their schools, and to have their views and opinions taken seriously. It encompasses all aspects of school life and decision-making where young learners are able to make a meaningful contribution, adapted to their age and stage of development. It stretches from informal situations in which students express an opinion to their peers or staff members to participation in democratic structures or mechanisms, such as student parliaments and consultations."

(Lesson Plan) [Rule of Law: High School Level](#)

"The Rule of Law is an important concept in understanding the Constitution; however, it is difficult for many people to define. Documents from the era of the drafting and ratification of the Constitution have been debated throughout history, as scholars and leaders have grappled over the proper relationship between the government and the governed."

(Video) [How Laws Are Made](#) *(September 4th, 2026)*

"Follow the stages of a bill from a proposal for a new law to becoming an Act of Parliament. If you are a teacher, this animation is ideal as an overview to law making in Parliament for secondary students studying subjects such as Law or Government & Politics."

The Legacy of Classical Democracies



Roman Law (April 14th, 2026)

"As a legal system, Roman law has affected the development of law in most of Western civilization as well as in parts of the East. It forms the basis for the law codes of most countries of continental Europe (see civil law) and derivative systems elsewhere."

(Video) What Did Democracy Really Mean in Athens? Melissa Schwartzberg (March 24th, 2015)

"While we might consider elections to be the cornerstone of democracy, the Athenians who coined the term actually employed a lottery system to choose most of their politicians. Melissa Schwartzberg describes the ins and outs of the Athenian democracy, and addresses some ways in which a lottery system might benefit us today."

WORLD HISTORY ENCYCLOPEDIA

THE ROMAN LAWS OF THE TWELVE TABLES, c.449 BCE
(a representative selection)

I PROCEEDINGS BEFORE TRIAL Accused must attend court In case of age/sickness accuser shall grant transportation A witness can stand in for the accused Evading court can lead to forced appearance. If both parties are present proceedings end at sunset.	II TRIAL PROCEDURES Severe illness of any party may delay trial Party needing witness or evidence may call the home of the witness every 3rd day.	III JUDGMENT ON DEBT 30 days allowed for confessed debt payment If unpaid, creditor can keep debtor in chains (no lighter than 15 pounds) 60 days allowed to reach compromise Unresolved debt leads to debtor's execution or sale into slavery across the Tiber	IV PATRIARCHAL POWERS Deformed child shall be killed at birth Father has authority over children's lives Son becomes free if sold into slavery 3 times by the father Husband can divorce wife by instructing her to take her belongings and leave.	V GUARDIANSHIP Women (excl. Vestal Virgins) always under guardianship due to frivolity of character Reckless spenders can't manage his possessions. Nearest male relative has authority over insane individuals Estate of one without direct male heir goes to nearest male relative in the male lineage.	VI OWNERSHIP & POSSESSION Verbal promises are binding Continuous cohabitation for 1 year is considered marriage Open and continuous land use for 2 years grants ownership claim (1 year for other things)
VII LAND RIGHTS Disrepair allows travelers to choose alternate route on road built by someone on his land Fallen tree from neighbor's farm can be rightfully removed Fruits falling from one's trees onto neighbor's land can be kept by the neighbor	VIII LAWS OF INJURY Singing or creating harmful incantations leads to execution Injuring another results in reciprocal injury or compensation False testimony leads to being thrown from the Tarpeian Rock Nighttime gatherings within the city are prohibited	IX PUBLIC LAW Laws must not be made or decided secretly or exclusively. Laws of personal exceptions and privileges are forbidden Judges accepting bribes for decisions face execution No one should be executed without proven guilt in court.	X FUNERAL RITES No burial or burning of dead in the city No gathering of bones for second funeral, except for death in battle or abroad Prohibition on excessive drinking and displays of wealth Adorning corpse with gold is forbidden, excluding existing gold dental work	XI SUPPLEMENT: MARRIAGE Intermarriage of plebeians and patricians prohibited Soldiers must delay marriage until completing training Regulations set for permissible days of legal proceedings and judgments	XII SUPPLEMENT: PUNISHMENTS Decisions and enactments by the Roman people are legally binding False accusers face double penalty or death Eight forms of punishment: fires, shackles, flogging, Lex talionis (reciprocal injury), public humiliation, exile, enslavement and execution

worldhistory.org

Power and Political Responsibility



(Podcast) [Local and Regional Government: A Key Pillar of Democracy in Europe](#) (January 30th, 2025)

"In this episode we explore the vitally important role played by local and regional authorities in the Council of Europe's 46 member states, and how the organisation is helping to improve the quality of local democracy in Europe. Our guest expert is Mathieu Mori, the Secretary General of the Council of Europe's Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, who guides us through the challenges currently facing local democracy on our continent, including the war in Ukraine and the aftermath of the Covid pandemic, which in some places has led to the re-centralisation of powers previously exercised by local authorities."

[Leadership for Democracy, General Education and the Common Good](#) (June 14th, 2023)

"How to direct and lead education? This question seems relevant for country leaders as well as for children who begin to explore and learn about their immediate environment. Directing others, directing objects around us, directing ourselves. Moving beyond an instrumental and managerial vision that makes us believe that people can be led more as objects than as subjects, leadership needs to raise the issue of culture and ethics involved in leading others in their own education. Any discussion on the future of education systems must consider the issue of

establishing proper structures and cultures for local school leadership and for training tomorrow's leaders."

(Podcast) [To Create a Sustainable Participatory Culture, You Need to Start with Young People](#)
(June 15th, 2022)

"Participative democracy is one core element in active democratic processes, which enables citizens to participate in and influence decision-making processes in their communities. We witness an increasing number of participation initiatives and forms of engagement of citizens in political decision-making, especially the deliberative format."

Democracy Across Cultures and Time Periods



DID YOU KNOW?

"Today the European Union has around 450 million inhabitants, about the same population as the United States and Japan combined!"

https://op.europa.eu/webpub/com/europe-better-together/en/EUROPE_Building_together.html

[In Most Countries, Democracy Is a Recent Achievement. Dictatorship is Far from a Distant Memory](#) (April, 2026)

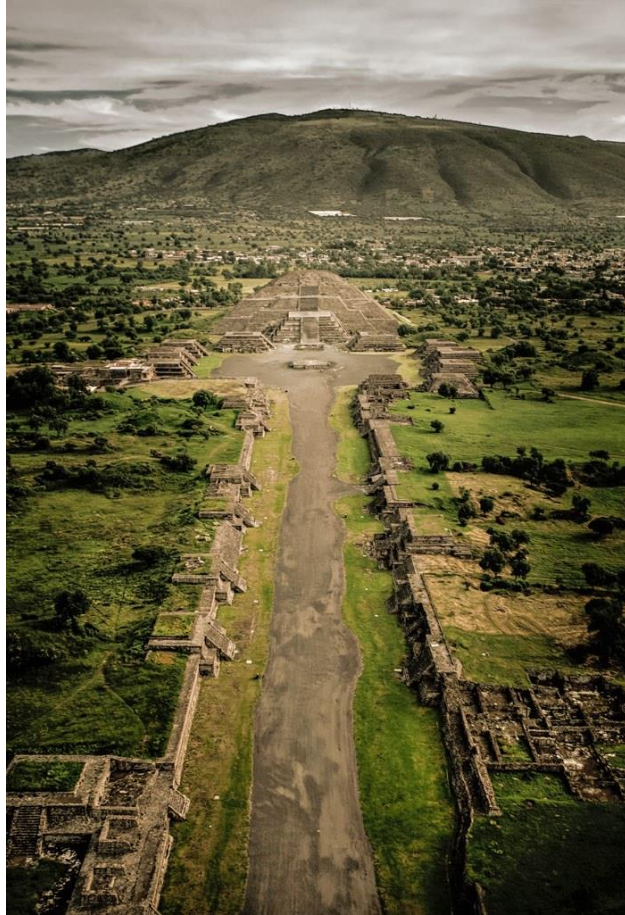
"Identifying which countries are democracies comes with many challenges. People disagree about what characterizes a democracy, and whether actual political systems can even come close to such an ideal. If they agree on what democracy is and that countries can come meaningfully close to it, its characteristics — such as whether an election is free and fair — still are difficult to assess. If knowledgeable researchers can be found, their assessments are still to some degree subjective, and they may disagree with others. Even if researchers align in their assessment of specific characteristics of a political system, they may disagree about how to reduce the complexity of these many characteristics into a single variable: a binary measure that says whether a country is a 'democracy' or not."

[New Study Shows Democracy has Deep Global Roots, not just Greece and Rome](#) (March 18th, 2026)

"A new study on ancient societies from around the world is rewriting what we thought we knew about democracy. A team of researchers analyzed archaeological and historical evidence from 31 ancient societies across Europe, Asia, and the Americas and found that shared, inclusive governance was far more common than was once believed. 'People often assume that democratic practices started in Greece and Rome,' said Gary Feinman, the study's lead author and the MacArthur Curator of Mesoamerican and Central American Anthropology at the Field Museum's Negaunee Integrative Research Center. But our research shows that many societies around the world developed ways to limit the power of rulers and give ordinary people a voice."

[It Wasn't Just Greece: Archeologists Find Early Democratic Societies in the Americas](#) (March 17th, 2017)

"These societies were not necessarily full democracies in which citizens cast votes, but they were radically different from the autocratic, inherited rule found—or assumed—in most early societies. Building on Blanton's originally theoretical ideas, archaeologists now say these "collective societies" left telltale traces in their material culture, such as repetitive architecture, an emphasis on public space over palaces, reliance on local production over exotic trade goods, and a narrowing of wealth gaps between elites and commoners."



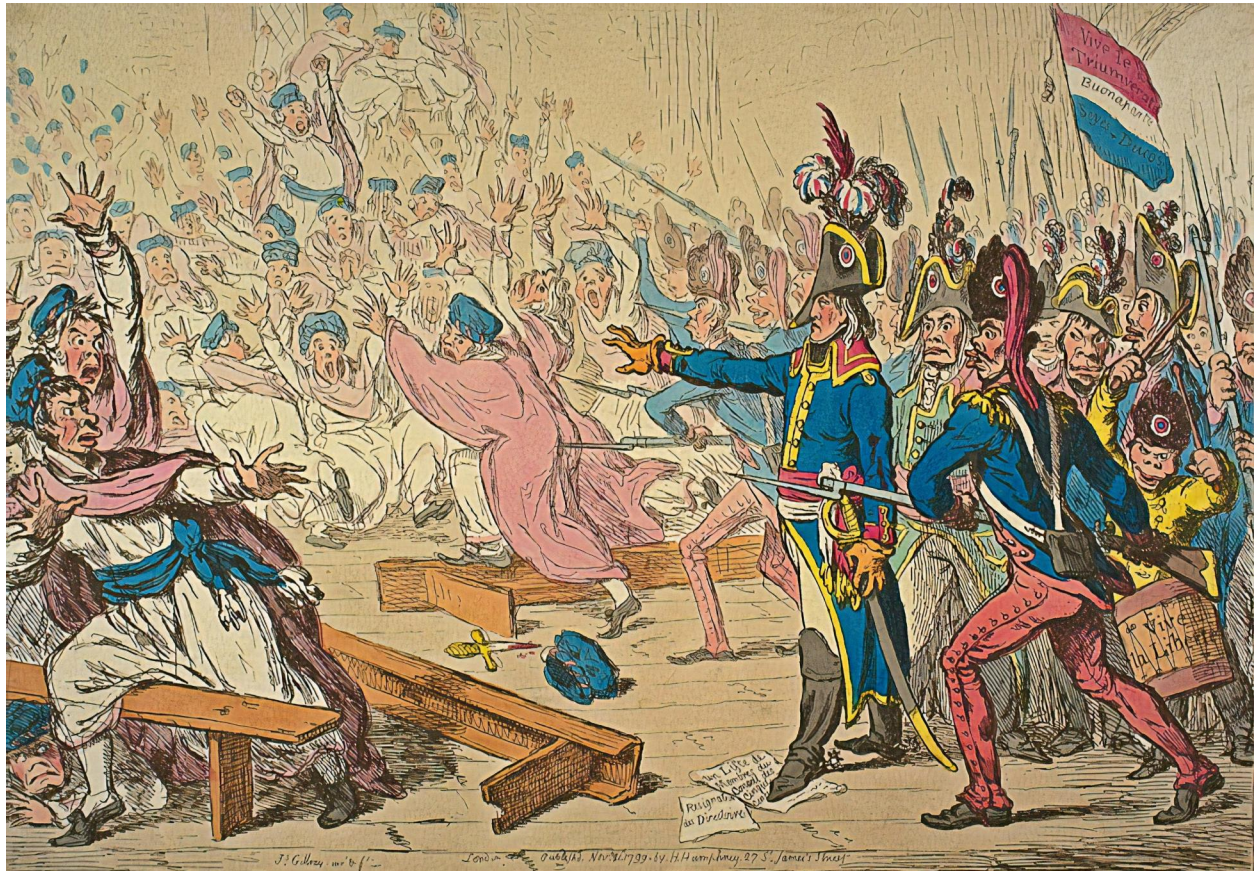
19 - Teotihuacan puzzles archaeologists: It shows signs of both autocratic rule (this grand avenue and pyramids) and collectivity (a grid of roads and no depictions of kings).

<https://www.science.org/content/article/it-wasnt-just-greece-archaeologists-find-early-democratic-societies-americas>

Lecture 3: Monarchies to Constitutional Democracies; *Ray Jonas on France's Five Republics; Terje Leiden on The Constitutions of Norway, Denmark, Finland and Sweden; and James Felak on the 1920s Constitutions of Poland, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia*



The Transition from Absolute Rule to Constitutional Government



The Age of Revolution

“During the decades of economic and social transformation, western Europe also experienced massive political change. The central event throughout much of the Continent was the French Revolution (1789–99) and its aftermath. This was followed by a concerted effort at political reaction and a renewed series of revolutions from 1820 through 1848.”

French Revolution Summary

“Causes of the French Revolution included the loss of peasant support for the feudal system, broad acceptance of the reformist writings of the philosophes, an expanding bourgeoisie that was excluded from political power, a fiscal crisis worsened by participation in the American Revolution, and crop failures in 1788. The efforts of the regime in 1787 to increase taxes levied on the privileged classes initiated a crisis.”

How Monarchies End (May 2023)

“During the Middle Ages, it was European kings and queens who further developed and formalized the institution of the monarchy. They created an extensive administrative structure

for managing the affairs of the realm, along with an elaborate feudal chain of vertical obligations and prerogatives between the king or queen, barons and knights, and peasants and serfs. Their royal courts became centers for entertainment and the arts. During this period, European monarchs made the shift from ruling over a defined group of people to a defined territory—a change that laid the groundwork for the modern nation-state.”

[Bill of Rights 1689](#)

Parliament gaining power over monarchy in England.

Political regime, 1800

Based on the criteria of the classification by Lühmann et al. (2018) and the assessment by V-Dem's experts.



Source: OWID based on Lühmann et al. (2018); V-Dem (v13)

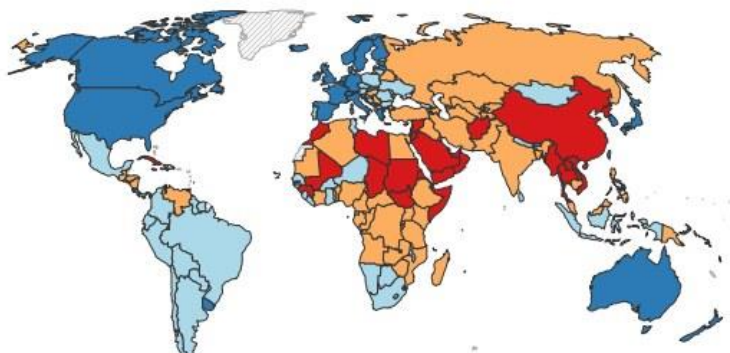
Note: The Chart tab uses numeric values, ranging from 0 for closed autocracies to 3 for liberal democracies.

OurWorldInData.org/democracy • CC BY

20 - https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/How_Monarchies_End.pdf?

Political regime, 2021

Based on the criteria of the classification by Lühmann et al. (2018) and the assessment by V-Dem's experts.



Source: OWID based on Lühmann et al. (2018); V-Dem (v13)

Note: The Chart tab uses numeric values, ranging from 0 for closed autocracies to 3 for liberal democracies.

OurWorldInData.org/democracy • CC BY

21 - https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/How_Monarchies_End.pdf?

[The Glorious Revolution](#) *(August 2010)*

“The term Glorious Revolution refers to the series of events in 1688-89 which culminated in the exile of King James II and the accession to the throne of William and Mary. It has also been seen as a watershed in the development of the constitution and especially of the role of Parliament. This Factsheet is an attempt to explain why.”

Constitutions as Foundations of Democracy

Article 1

Grüße. VI.

Article. vii.

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In witness:

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[The Notion of Constitutional Identity and its Role in European Integration](#) (March 2024)

“This study, commissioned by the European Parliament’s Policy Department for Citizens’ Rights and Constitutional Affairs at the request of the AFCO Committee, examines what the concept of constitutional identity means and how it has been understood in various EU Member States. It assesses the impact of this concept on the relations between the EU and its Member States.”

[What is a Constitution? Principles and Concepts](#) (2017)

“Nevertheless, any broadly accepted working definition of a constitution would likely describe it as a set of fundamental legal-political rules that: 1. are binding on everyone in the state, including ordinary law-making institutions; 2. concern the structure and operation of the institutions of government, political principles and the rights of citizens; 3. are based on widespread public legitimacy; 4. are harder to change than ordinary laws (e.g. a two-thirds majority vote or a referendum is needed); and 5. as a minimum, meet the internationally recognized criteria for a democratic system in terms of representation and human rights.”

Revolution, Reform, and Political Change



[Protecting our Democracy, Upholding our Values](#)

"Democracy and our rights cannot be taken for granted. They must be promoted and vindicated every day. Moreover, citizens must play a central role in the democratic process. They must be included in the functioning of institutions they trust. This is why the EU commits to : Protect and defend democracy and increase societal resilience and preparedness. Strengthen the rule of law for a fair and well-functioning society. Champion civic engagement and participation to bring citizens' ideas at the heart of policy-making."

[Comparing Democratic Systems Across Europe](#)



[Hungary has Chosen Europe](#) (April 15th, 2026)

"The general election on Sunday 12 April 2026 marks a historic turning point for Hungary, with [the downfall of Viktor Orbán](#) after 16 years of illiberal, authoritarian rule – and, moreover, one that was complicit with the Kremlin. JD Vance's endorsement, just days before the vote, did him no favours. Buoyed by a record turnout of 80% (particularly among young people), Peter Magyar's opposition Tisza party won 53% of the vote, securing nearly two-thirds of the seats in Parliament. A former establishment figure and pro-European conservative, Magyar built his success on a promise of change, economic recovery and the fight against corruption. Whilst

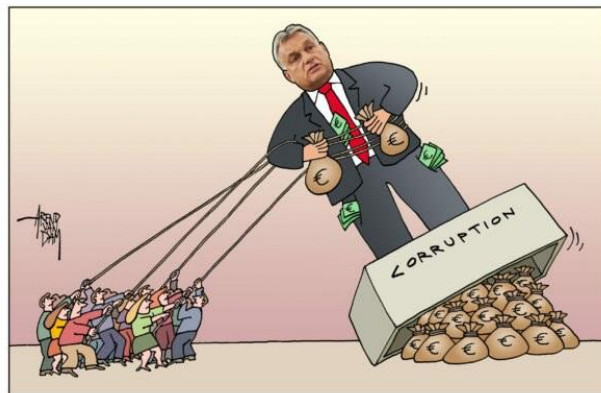
maintaining Hungary's refusal to send weapons to Ukraine, he has pledged – unlike his predecessor – to be a “loyal member” of the European Union and to support the “attacked” Ukrainian people. He also stated on Wednesday that his country would lift its veto to unblock the €90 billion European loan to Kyiv. EU leaders have unanimously hailed this as a victory for democracy and European values."

[Democracy Report 2026](#) (March 2026)

“Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem) produces the largest global dataset on democracy with over 32 million data points for 202 countries and territories from 1789 to 2025. Involving over 4,200 scholars and other country experts, V-Dem measures over 600 different attributes of democracy.”

[Institutional Trust in Europe: Dimensions, Levels and Dynamics from a Latent Class Perspective](#) (October 31st, 2024)

“Since this report focuses on an EU sample, the perspective of authoritarian trust is negligible here. Instead, we focus on trust in institutions in democratic settings. One of the presumed main drivers of the widely suggested decline in European citizens’ institutional trust is the 2007-2008 financial crisis.”



Nationalism and State-Building in Europe



(Video) [Nationalism](#)

"Nationalism is the most impactful ideology in modern history. It is a cultural and political concept that argues that nations exist and have a right to govern themselves. That might not seem controversial, but it has been an incredibly disruptive force over the last 200 years. From the Atlantic Revolutions, the concept of nationalism spread around the world, sometimes liberating people from empires, and sometimes warping into new, destructive ideologies like fascism. Nationalists make historical claims that help them achieve their political goals. It's time for you to test those claims. Is nationalism good or bad?"

[The European Experience: State-Building and Nationalism](#)

"The period of transition known as the Age of Revolution (ca. 1789-1848) is a crucial moment both for the history of the nation and that of the state. For some historians, such as Eric Hobsbawm or Ernest Gellner, modern states and nations emerged as new entities during liberal revolutions, and in connection with the parallel rise of modern capitalism. From this point of view, declarations of national sovereignty became a common feature of European liberal revolutions after 1789."

3.1.2 State-Building and Nationalism in Modern History (ca. 1800-1900) (2023)

“The nineteenth century saw the consecration of the nation-state as a model for political and territorial organisation in Europe. It emerged out of long-term, structural developments, commonly known as nation and state-building processes. But what came first in historical terms: the nation or the state?”

Democracy in Times of Crisis



Citizens' Attitudes Towards Corruption in the EU in 2026 (June 2026)

"Just over seven in ten Europeans (71%) consider that corruption is widespread in their country. Almost seven in ten Europeans (69%) agree that high-level corruption cases are not pursued sufficiently in their country and 35% agree that their national government's efforts to combat corruption are effective (vs 54% who do not agree that their government's efforts are effective). Just over three quarters of respondents (76%) agree that there is corruption in national public institutions, while just under three quarters (74%) agree there is corruption in the local or regional public institutions in their country. More than six in ten respondents (63%) agree that corruption is part of the business culture in their country and 54% say they would not know where to report corruption if they experienced or witnessed it."

A New Era for European Defence and Security (March 2026)

"The European Commission will work to ensure that European citizens are safer and more secure, and that Europe has the means to maintain peace through credible deterrence. These

last few years have been a sharp reminder about how fragile peace is. They have also been a wakeup call for Europe to give itself the means to protect itself and deter potential adversaries."

Democracy in Crisis (2018)

"Political rights and civil liberties around the world deteriorated to their lowest point in more than a decade in 2017, extending a period characterized by emboldened autocrats, beleaguered democracies, and the United States' withdrawal from its leadership role in the global struggle for human freedom."



Historical Lessons for Modern Democracies



Constitutional Governance and Rule of Law

“Strengthening Constitutional Governance for Peace and the Rule of Law. Constitutions are foundational to democracy, the rule of law, human rights and good governance, but poorly designed constitutions can increase discord and conflict. Because of the important roles that constitutions play, constitutional change is a central feature of democratic transition, democratic consolidation and conflict management. International IDEA believes that people everywhere yearn for a social contract that respects and advances their dignity and equality. To further these aspirations, International IDEA provides request-based support to strengthen constitutional governance and rule of law.”

(Video) [What Is a Constitution?](#) (October 30th, 2014)

Lecture 4: Europe's Strategy in the Ukraine War *Phillips OBrien on*
European Strategy and the Ukraine War: A Look at How Europe has
Reacted Strategically to the Russian Full-Scale Invasion of Ukraine



The Russia-Ukraine War: Origins and Timeline



DID YOU KNOW?

Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022, became the largest war in Europe since World War II.

Millions of Ukrainians were forced to flee their homes, creating one of Europe's largest refugee crises in decades.

<https://www.cfr.org/global-conflict-tracker/conflict/conflict-ukraine>

Resources on the War in Ukraine

"Learn about the war in Ukraine and its history with educational resources from the Council on Foreign Relations."

(Lesson Plan) [Ukraine War Lesson Plan](#) (April 2026)

"This classroom-ready resource includes:

- Concise background reading on the origins, stakes, and current status of the Ukraine war
- Clear explanations of key concepts such as NATO, sanctions, and geopolitical strategy
- Structured classroom debates on major policy questions, including U.S. support for Ukraine
- Discussion questions and critical thinking prompts to drive student engagement
- Real-world context and case studies that connect global events to student understanding
- Teacher guidance and extension activities for deeper exploration."

(Video) [The Russo-Ukrainian War Explained on a Map](#) (May 30th, 2025)

"In this video, we'll retrace the origins, development, and consequences of the Russo-Ukrainian War, from the fall of the USSR in 1991 to the present day."

Impact of Geography



[Human Rights Watch - A City Devasted: Mariupol Damage Assessment](#)

"Human Rights Watch, SITU Research, and Truth Hounds conducted a damage assessment of the city of Mariupol using satellite imagery taken between October 2021 and May 2022. We assessed damage to houses and apartment blocks, to public infrastructure such as hospitals and schools, as well as to water and electricity infrastructure. The destruction left parts of the city uninhabitable.

We combined geospatial analysis with audiovisual analysis of videos and photographs, shared directly with us or posted to social media by witnesses of destruction, which we then verified, as well as other third-party reports of damage."



24 - Photo: Fabio Murgia/CSIS, Getty Images

<https://www.csis.org/analysis/russia-ukraine-war-10-charts>

[Twenty-One Strategic Lessons of the Ukraine War](#) (February 16th, 2026)

"Geography still matters: threat perceptions, assistance to Ukraine and defense spending correlate with proximity to Russia."

Unsurprisingly, the Alliance's unity masks different perceptions of the Russian threat and of the reactions it requires. Before the attack, only the "Five Eyes" community and the governments of those European states in close geographical proximity to Russia considered a full-scale Russian invasion to be likely. In contrast, many other European states and those with closer ties to Russia did not."

(Video) [Can Ukraine Take Back Crimea?](#) (January 31th, 2023)

(Video) [Geopolitics of the Black Sea](#) (April 15th, 2020)

"Turkey and Russia spent most of their histories in a bitter rivalry, fighting no less than twelve wars. Each conflict was driven by the prizes in and around the Black Sea."

NATO and U.S. Response



[Relations with Ukraine](#) *(July 9th, 2026)*

NATO and Ukraine share a deep and enduring partnership. Since the early 1990s, the Alliance and Ukraine have steadily built a strong, mutually beneficial relationship based on close cooperation and shared values. Today, NATO Allies are providing unprecedented levels of military assistance to Ukraine, supporting its ability defend itself against Russia's war of aggression. NATO fully supports Ukraine's inherent right to self-defence, and its right to choose its own security arrangements.



25 - NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in Kyiv on 3 February 2026.

<https://www.nato.int/en/what-we-do/partnerships-and-cooperation/relations-with-ukraine>

(Podcast) [Phillips O'Brien | European Strategy and the Ukraine War | REECAS Northwest](#)
[Keynote by The Center for European Studies and EU Center](#) (April 16th, 2026)

"On April 16, 2026, Phillips O'Brien delivered his keynote speech of the 32nd Annual REECAS Northwest, an official regional conference of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES). Phillips OBrien gave a lecture on European Strategy and the Ukraine War, a look at how Europe has reacted strategically to the Russian full-scale invasion of Ukraine."

[Navigating the US-EN-Ukraine Triangle](#) (March 16th, 2026)

"This policy report examines how shifting U.S. foreign policy priorities are reshaping cooperation between the United States, the European Union, and Ukraine. It explores opportunities for collaboration in defense, reconstruction, critical minerals, supply chains, China policy, and Arctic security while analyzing how the war in Ukraine is transforming transatlantic relations."

(Video) [NATO Commemorates the Fourth Anniversary of Russia's Full-Scale Invasion of Ukraine](#)
(February 24th, 2026)

"Remarks by the NATO Secretary General, Mr Mark Rutte, followed by remarks by the Head of Mission of Ukraine to NATO at the ceremony to commemorate the fourth anniversary of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, 24 February 2026."

[Where Does Western Europe stand on Ukraine, Donald Trump and National Defence?](#) (March 6th, 2025)

"The Ukraine conflict has dominated headlines in recent weeks, topped by a fiery exchange between Donald Trump and Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelenskyy at the White House this

weekend. With the US looking increasingly likely to disengage from the conflict, European countries will need to decide if they want to increase their involvement, or leave Ukraine to its fate.

Keir Starmer and Emmanuel Macron have been pushing for greater commitments to Ukraine, but what is the mood in Europe? Now a new YouGov study looks at opinion in Britain, France, Germany, Italy and Spain, regarding both the Ukraine conflict and defence matters more generally."

Lecture 5: Security of EU Democracy Institutions: Past, Present, Future
with Julio Guinea Bonillo, Jose Miguel Roncero Martin



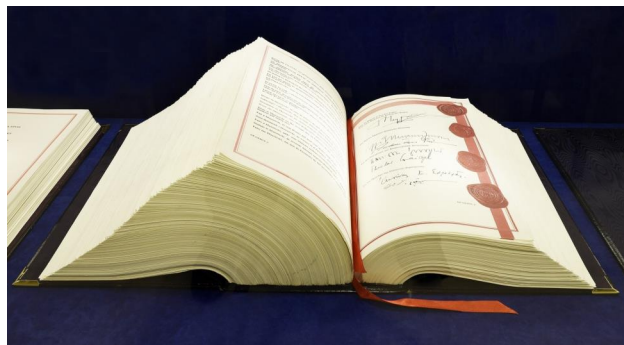
Treaties: Maastricht and Lisbon



Maastricht Treaty

"The [Treaty on European Union](#) was signed in Maastricht in the presence of the President of the European Parliament, Egon Klepsch.

In accordance with that Treaty, the Union was founded on the basis of the European Communities (first pillar), with two additional areas of cooperation (second and third pillars): the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CSFP) and Justice and Home Affairs (JHA)."



5 Things You Should Know About the Maastricht Treaty

"Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and the United Kingdom

The parliaments in each country then ratified the Treaty, in some cases holding referendums. The Maastricht Treaty officially came into force on 1 November 1993 and the European Union was officially established.

Since then, a further 16 countries have joined the EU* and adopted the rules set out in the Maastricht Treaty or in the treaties that followed later."

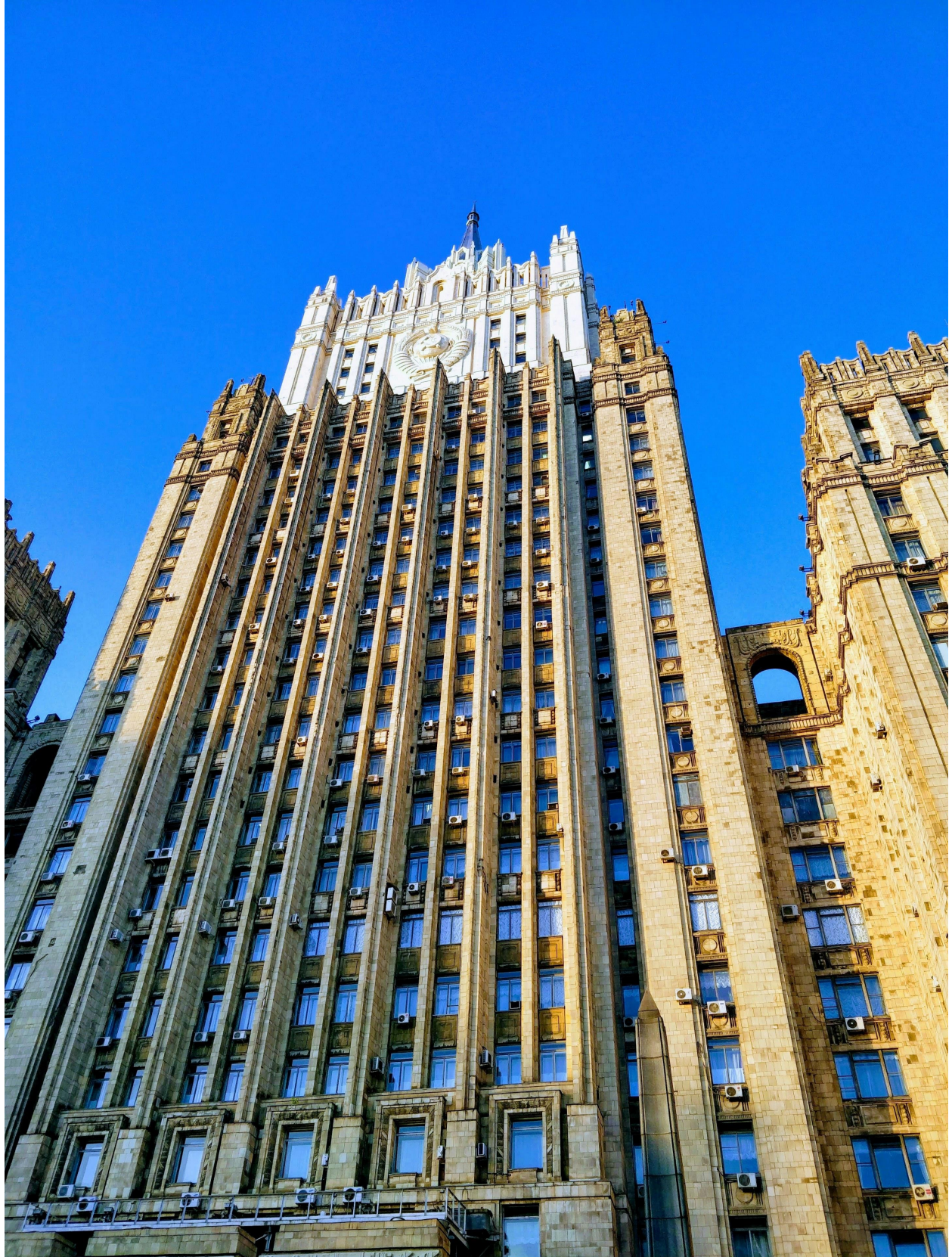
The Treaty of Lisbon

"The Treaty of Lisbon started as a constitutional project at the end of 2001 (European Council declaration on the future of the European Union, or Laeken Declaration) and was followed up in 2002 and 2003 by the European Convention which drafted the Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe (Constitutional Treaty) (1.1.4). The process leading to the Treaty of Lisbon is a result of the negative outcome of two referendums on the Constitutional Treaty in May and June 2005, in response to which the European Council decided to have a two-year 'period of reflection'. Finally, on the basis of the Berlin Declaration of March 2007, the European Council of 21 to 23 June 2007 adopted a detailed mandate for a subsequent Intergovernmental Conference (IGC), under the Portuguese Presidency. The IGC concluded its work in October 2007. The Treaty was signed by the European Council in Lisbon on 13 December 2007 and has been ratified by all Member States."



27 - Supporters of the EU's Lisbon Treaty celebrating in Dublin after Irish voters overwhelming approved.
<https://www.britannica.com/event/Lisbon-Treaty>

Common Foreign and Security Policy



[EP Spring 2026 Survey](#) (July 2026)

Europeans regard the European Union as a place of stability in a troubled world, according to the Spring 2026 Eurobarometer. They value its peaceful, protective and cooperative nature, and recognise the quality of life it enables. However, economic concerns, particularly regarding the cost of living, have increased over recent years, and the overall mood of citizens fluctuates between uncertainty and hope. The Eurobarometer shows many trends already present in past surveys. However, some indicators reflect the immediate reactions of Europeans to recent disruptions in the global political and economic climate.



28 - https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/eu-arctic_en

[EU Arctic Policy Update](#) (June 2026)

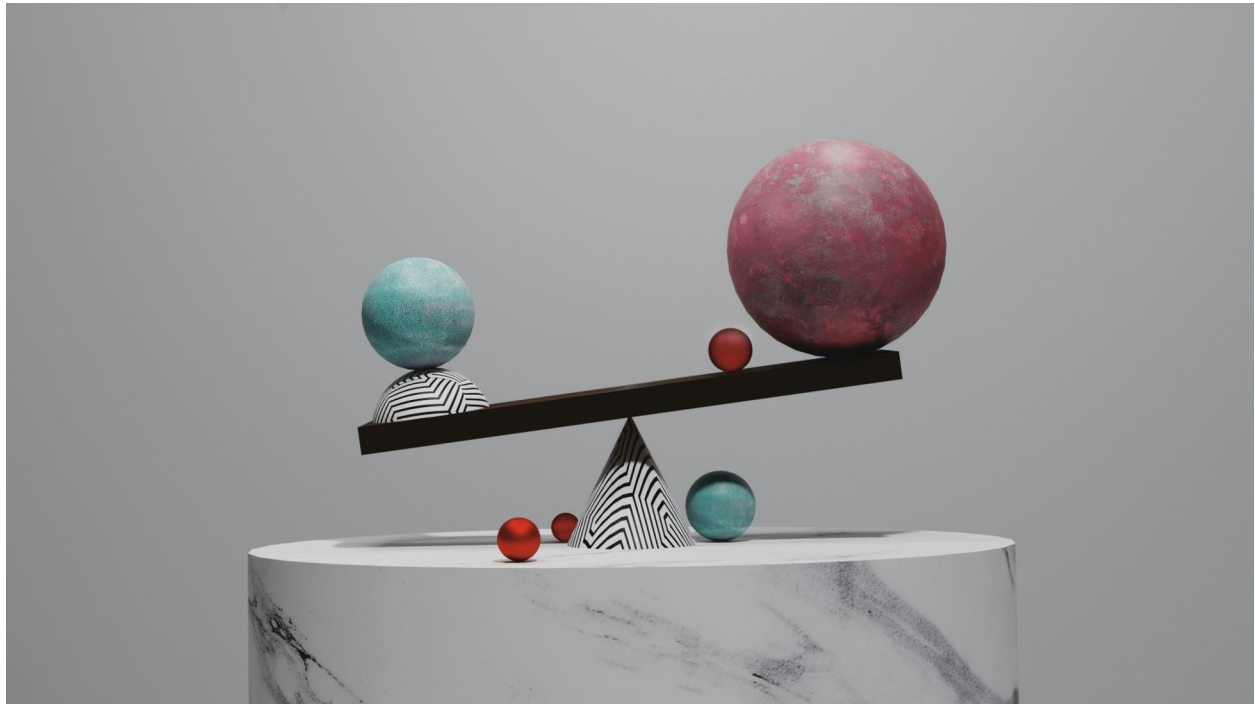
"The security situation in the region has shifted. Most significantly, Russia's full-scale war on Ukraine has had broad implications for Arctic security, rendering the 'High North, low tensions' slogan obsolete. New realities, including growing militarisation in the region, increasing hybrid threats and rising tensions, demand a sharper focus on security and defence than in previous EU Arctic policy documents.

The geo-economic competition in the Arctic is increasingly tense. The melting of sea ice is opening up new shipping lanes and making natural resource extraction in the region more feasible and cost-effective. This motivates not only regional but also non-regional actors to participate in the 'Arctic race'. China is one of the main interested parties. The update to EU Arctic policy could therefore encourage the EU and its Member States to defend their own interests and ensure that activities in the region are carried out in a fair, sustainable and lawful manner."

[Common Foreign and Security Policy](#) (April 2026)

"The [Foreign Affairs Council](#) (FAC) is the primary decision-making body, developing and implementing the CFSP under the guidance of the European Council. The FAC's work involves strategic planning, taking legal decisions and sanction-setting, with regard to international cooperation and peace and security. The FAC is composed of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and the foreign ministers of the EU countries."

Balance of Power Between EU and Member States



DID YOU KNOW?

Young people– between 15 and 30 years old – are the most pro-European of all the generations. In 2019, over 70 % of them said they had a positive view of the EU.

https://op.europa.eu/webpub/com/eu-and-me/en/HOW_DOES_THE_EU_WORK

How Does the EU Work?

"You often hear in the news that 'Brussels' has decided this and that. But what does that actually mean? Exactly who or what is 'Brussels'? This chapter will provide a short overview of the structure of the EU. You will learn about the main EU institutions, what responsibilities they

have and what they are allowed to do. You will also learn how you can change influence their work."

(Lesson Plan) [The European Union and the Canadian Federation: Can They Be Compared?](#)

"In this lesson, students examine the European Union as a unique form of political organization, and compare its structure and function to the Canadian Federation. In learning about the European Union, students examine six key EU institutions (the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union, the European Commission, the European Court of Justice, the European Court of Auditors, and the European Central Bank). By comparing these to similar Canadian institutions, students are able to draw conclusions about how the political organization of the EU differs from that of a federation like Canada."

(Podcast) [EU Course: History, Institutions, Procedures](#) (December 11th, 2024)

"Comprehensive 14-hour course on the European Union's history, institutions, bodies, and decision-making procedures, created by EU Training."

EU Enlargement



(Lesson Plan) [Expansion of the European Union \(E.U.\) - Members and Candidate Countries](#)

"This lesson is to introduce the European Union member nations and candidate nations to 10th grade World History, Culture and Geography students. The majority of students are ELL/RSP. Students will work independently or in small groups, researching current issues with both a current EU member and a candidate country- Turkey. " (*Grade level: 10*)

[EU Enlargement](#) (*July 9th, 2026*)

"Enlargement happens when new countries join the European Union. So far, this has taken place seven times in the EU's history, each time transforming both the EU and the new member states.

Accession to the EU is a merit-based process. To become a member state, each country needs to fulfil the same conditions and complete the same steps."

(Video) [Strategic Priorities for the EU's Enlargement Policy: A Conversation with Ambassadors](#) (October 23th, 2025)

"Strategic priorities for the EU's enlargement policy: a conversation with Ambassadors from candidate countries."

(Video) [A Road to Unity: the EU's History](#) (June 17th, 2024)

"From its early beginnings as a response to the catastrophe of war in Europe, the European Union has evolved many times, responding to world events, challenges at home, and the demands of its citizens. It remains a work in progress and there is still plenty to do. This video covers the highlights, including the formation of the European Economic Community, the Maastricht Treaty, the introduction of the Euro, and the significant milestones leading to the Lisbon Treaty. Discover how the EU has expanded and evolved over the decades, focusing on key events that have shaped its path towards unity and integration."

[Geopolitical Change and EU Enlargement: Learning from the Past](#) (December 11th, 2023)

"The future of the European Union's (EU) enlargement will be shaped both by its ability to learn from history and to adapt to a new political and economic reality in which policymakers and politicians are rediscovering the economy as a battleground for geopolitical competition. The "geopolitical" European Commission is also central to this new momentum. The Helsinki Final Act of 1975 suggested that security has many domestic, social, and economic facets and therefore cannot be reduced to external and basically military matters. The EU and transatlantic relations, once again, will be shaped by this broader understanding of the concept of security, which brings opportunities and also difficult challenges. In this regard, the liberal international economic order compels a re-examination of past choices and the adoption of new attitudes toward geo-economic relations, as part of a broader security strategy."

Security and Geopolitics



[A Strategic Compass for Security and Defence](#)

"The Strategic Compass is an ambitious plan of action for strengthening the EU's security and defence policy by 2030. It's an EU security and defence strategy to advance towards a common forward-looking strategic culture as well.

The strength of our Union lies in unity, solidarity and determination. The objective of the Strategic Compass is to make the EU a stronger and more capable security provider. The EU needs to be able to protect its citizens and to contribute to international peace and security. This is all the more important at a time when war has returned to Europe, following the unjustified and unprovoked Russian aggression against Ukraine, as well as of major geopolitical shifts. This Strategic Compass enhances the EU's strategic autonomy and its ability to work with partners to safeguard its values and interests."

[Strengthening Security and Defence at a Time of Geopolitical Instability](#)

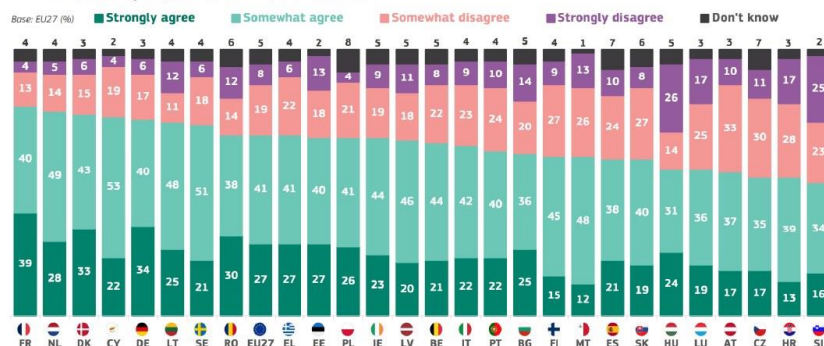
"The European Defence Union (EDU) should stand as a testament to the EU's commitment to enhancing its strategic resilience and collective defence capabilities and underscore the EU's commitment to regional stability and security, exemplified through continued support for Ukraine. As the EDU evolves, it is imperative to strike a delicate balance between political considerations and operational effectiveness in its decision-making process while ensuring coherence and unity among Member States."

[The European Union in Defence and Space](#) (February 2026)

"The most notable result is that more than two thirds of Europeans (68%) believe their country is under threat. Member States with the highest threat perception are France (80%), followed by Netherlands and Denmark (77%), and Cyprus and Germany (75%). At the same time, 42% of citizens believe their personal safety is at risk."

A majority in almost all EU countries perceive their country's security as being under threat

Q1a Given the current international context, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statement?
The security of (OUR COUNTRY) is threatened



Photography and Media Credits



Cover Image

Raphael Garcin/Unsplash

Navigating This Resource Guide

Olivier Cole/Unsplash

Outlining Standards

paws and prints/Unsplash

Lecture 1: Dec 4, University of Turku Professor Markku Jokisipilä's lecture, "EU Democracy and Security: Past, Present, Future".

Thomas Lohmann/Unsplash

The Evolution of European Democracy

Fer Troulik/Unsplash

© European Communities / European Union

Wetzel and Orbie

Democracy and Collective Security

Edoardo Bortoli/Unsplash

The European Union as a Peace Project

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Modern Threats to Democracy

KOBU Agency/unsplash

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Balancing National Identity and European Unity

Jenny Matthews/In Pictures via Getty Images

European Parliament

The Future of Democratic Participation

Markus Spiske/Unsplash

Eurostat

Security in a Changing Global Landscape

Hector John Periquin/Unsplash

Lecture 2: Feb 10, “Cradle of Democracy”, with three speakers, Alex Hollmann (UW Hellenic Studies) about democracy in Ancient Greece; Ray Lahiri (UW Classics) on the republic in Ancient Rome; and Tim Bourns on Iceland’s parliament, Althing, in the Viking Age.

Unma Desai/Unsplash

Origins of Democratic Governance

Skyler Smith/Unsplash

Peter Phipp/Travelshots.com

Album/Alamy Stock Photo

Citizenship and Civic Participation

The New York Public Library/Unsplash

Republics, Assemblies, and Parliaments

Ian Stauffer/Unsplash

Law, Debate, and Public Decision-Making

Alejandro Pohlenz/Unsplash

The Legacy of Classical Democracies

Gina/Unsplash

Simeon Netchev/worldhistory.org

Power and Political Responsibility

Pixabay

Democracy Across Cultures and Time Periods

Vincenzo Lullo/Shutterstock.com

Lecture 3: May 7 (celebrating Europe Day), “Monarchies to Constitutional Democracies”, three speakers from UW History: Ray Jonas on France’s Five Republics; Terje Leiden on the constitutions of Norway, Denmark, Finland and Sweden; and James Felak on the 1920s constitutions of Poland, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia.

Maximalfocus/Unsplash

The Transition from Absolute Rule to Constitutional Government

McGill Library/Unsplash

OWID based on Lührmann et al. (2018); V-Dem (v13)

Constitutions as Foundations of Democracy

Anthony Roberts/Unsplash

Revolution, Reform, and Political Change

Logan Weaver/Unsplash

Comparing Democratic Systems Across Europe

Christian Lue/Unsplash

Nationalism and State-Building in Europe

Bozhin Karaivanov/Unsplash

Democracy in Times of Crisis

Desiray Green/Unsplash

Historical Lessons for Modern Democracies

Research Retold

Lecture 4: Europe's Strategy in the Ukraine War

Zulfugar Karimov/Unsplash

The Russia-Ukraine War: Origins and Timeline

Max Kukurudziak/Unsplash

Impact of Geography

Kyle Glenn/Unsplash

NATO and U.S Response

Brandon Mowinkel/Unsplash

Lecture 5: Security of EU Democracy Institutions: Past, Present, Future with Julio Guinea Bonillo, Jose Miguel Roncero Martin

Markus Spiske/Unsplash

Treaties: Maastricht and Lisbon

Bo Ummels/Unsplash

Common Foreign and Security Policy

Michael Green/Unsplash

Balance of Power Between EU and Member States

Myles Bloomfield/Unsplash

EU Enlargement

USGS/Unsplash

Security and Geopolitics

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