

Session 2: Presentations

- 1) Overview of the main institutions of the EU.
- 2) The development of SPS in the EU: Establishment of a food safety control system.
- 3) Regulation (EC) 882/2004 on Official Food and Feed Controls.

Overview of the main institutions of the EU

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What is the European Union?

27 Member States

Combined population of EU Member States: 490 million

7 Percent of world's population

30 Percent of global GDP

55 Percent of combined worldwide Official Development Assistance



Member States voluntarily cede national sovereignty in certain areas to carry out common policies and governance.

World's most open market for goods and commodities.

EU Institutions



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European Commission

27 Commissioners, representing the European perspective, each responsible for a specific policy area.

EU's executive branch, proposes legislation, manages EU's day-to-day business and budget, and enforces rules.

Negotiates trade agreements and manages Europe's multilateral development cooperation.

Council of the European Union

EU's main decision-making body, comprised of ministers of 27 Member States, representing Member State's point of view.

Council presidency rotates among Member States every six months.

EU Institutions



European Parliament in session

European Parliament

Voice of European citizens – members elected for five-year terms.

With the Council, passes EU laws and adopts EU budgets.

Approves EU Commissioners.

European Court of Justice

Highest EU judicial authority.

Ensures all EU laws are interpreted and applied correctly and uniformly.

European Central Bank and the Euro



The euro was introduced in 1999



The European Central Bank (ECB) is the central bank for Europe's single currency, the euro.

In 1999, the euro area was established as a currency in eleven of the then fifteen EU Member States.

Of the 27 EU Member States today, fifteen have adopted the euro.



1951: European Coal and Steel Community



Jean Monnet and other leaders with the first "European" ingot of steel

Six founding countries – Belgium, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands – signed a treaty to run heavy industries (coal and steel) under common management.

1957: Treaty of Rome



Signing of the Treaty of Rome

The six founding countries expanded cooperation to other economic sectors, creating the European Economic Community (EEC) – or "Common Market."

EU members

1951

Founding Members

Belgium
France
Germany
Italy
Luxembourg
Netherlands



EU enlargement

1973

Denmark
Ireland
United Kingdom



EU enlargement

1981

Greece



EU enlargement

1986

Portugal
Spain



EU enlargement

1995

Austria
Finland
Sweden



EU enlargement

2004

Cyprus
Czech Republic
Estonia
Hungary
Latvia
Lithuania
Malta
Poland
Slovakia
Slovenia



EU enlargement

2007

Bulgaria
Romania



EU Today

27 Member States
493 million citizens
23 languages



EU Tomorrow?

Candidate Countries

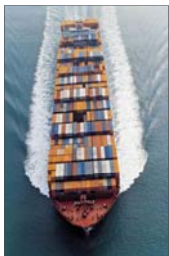
Croatia
Former Yugoslav
Republic of Macedonia
Turkey

Potential Candidate Countries

Albania
Bosnia & Herzegovina
Montenegro
Serbia including Kosovo



EU Trade



European Commission represents all 27 EU Member States before the World Trade Organisation.

Supports free trade and open markets, within the rules-based structure of the WTO, to promote growth and jobs in both industrialised and developing countries.

The world's most open market for products and commodities from developing countries – 40% of all EU imports are from developing countries.

The single market

27 Independent Member States

- One Community
- One Food Safety Policy
- Common Legislation
- People, goods, services, and capital move freely across the Union

Recap

The Council, represents the Member States. Is the EU's main decision-taking body. When it meets at Heads of State or Government level, it becomes the European Council whose role is to provide the EU with political impetus on key issues

The European Parliament, which represents the people, shares legislative and budgetary power with the Council of the European Union

The European Commission, which represents the common interest of the EU, is the main executive body. It has the right to propose legislation and ensures that EU policies are properly implemented

European Commission DGs

The European Commission is divided into a number of different departments known as Directorates-General, or DGs.

Each DG is responsible for a particular policy area or service and prepare proposals for their Commissioners.

The DGs are split into four groupings:

- Policy
- External relations
- General Service
- Internal Service

Legal instruments

Directives give rules and objectives that EU Member States have to include in their national legislation (transposed into national law).

Legal instruments

Regulations are general and mandatory acts in all their elements. They are addressed to all. Not like Directives which are addressed to Member States or Decisions which have specific recipients. They apply directly in all Member States exactly as national legislation, as such and with no intervention of national authorities.

Legal instruments

Decisions are acts of law fully binding on those to whom they are addressed. Through a decision a Member State or a person/enterprise in a Member State may be requested to act; a decision can give rights or impose obligations.

Other acts: recommendation, advice, common action, legislative proposals.

Risk Analysis in the EU	
<p>Risk Assessment</p> <p>European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)</p> <p>Provides scientific advice and scientific and technical support to the Community's legislation and policies</p>	<p>Risk Management</p> <p>Health & Consumers Directorate General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepares the EU food legislation in consultation with Member States and the Parliament • Verifies the application of the legislation (Food & Veterinary Office) <p>Competent Authorities of Member States</p> <p>Enforce the legislation</p>
