

Timeline

- May 1950 *Schuman* reveals plan for fusion of coal & steel industries of France and Germany with invitation to other countries to join
- July 1952 entry into force of *Treaty of Paris* (ECSC) for Fr, De, Be, NI, Lu, It (signed in May 1951)
- 1952 European Defence Community: signed, not ratified
- 1955 Conference of *Messina*: prepare the ground for a broad economic integration (inter-governmental committee chaired by *Paul-Henri Spaak*, report in April 1956)
- January 1958 entry into force of the *Treaties of Rome* (signed July 1957): EEC and AEC (Euratom)
- 1959 *European Free Trade Area*: UK, CH, No, Is, Li (Au, Fn, Sv)
- April 1965 *Merger Treaty*
- 1973 UK, Ir, Dk join (Norway withdraws due to a negative referendum)
- 1979 first direct elections of the *Assembly*
- 1981 Gr joins
- January 1986 Es, Pt join
- July 1987 entry into force of *Single European Act* (signed February 1986 on the basis of a Commission proposal from 1985, *Jaques Delors*): remove barriers to single internal market until 31.12.1992 (*Harmonisation*); *Assembly* is renamed *European Parliament*
- October 1990 then G.D.R. joins De (no enlargement in the formal sense)
- November 1993 entry into force of *Treaty of Maastricht* (signed in February 1992, Dk negative referendum, UK politically difficult ratification, De challenge in the Supreme Court of Germany)
- January 1994 *European Economic Area*: EC and EFTA member states (signed in February 1992)
- January 1995 Au, Fn, Sv join
- May 1999 entry into force of *Treaty of Amsterdam* (signed October 1997)
- February 2003 entry into force of *Treaty of Nice* (signed in February 2001, Ir negative referendum)
- May 2004? Pl, Cz, Sl, Sw, Ma, Cy, Hu, Et, Lt, La
- 2007? Ro, Bu, Tk

Literature

- WEATHERILL, STEPHEN/BEAUMONT, PAUL, EU Law. 3rd edition. London, 1999
- STEINER, JOSEPHINE/WOODS, LORNA, Textbook on EC Law. 8th edition. Oxford, 2003
- information on the europe server at europe.eu.int
- loads of decisions available at curia.eu.int