

History of European Integration
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Classes will be held from 27 of January to 10 February 2020

During the second half of the twentieth century the European project allowed to reconcile old enemies and overcome the legacy of the Second World War.

The Six founding members through this supranational project promoted the reconstruction of the old continent, reinforced the already established transatlantic relationship and relaunched the economic sector.

The single market and the common currency deepened the goals established with the signature of the Treaties of Rome. The enlargements -especially since the Eighties - made the Southern, Central and Eastern countries to strengthen the symbolic association between their internal democratization and modernization with their European accession.

In more than half century EU has doubled its members and proposed new institutional models to better comply with the governance of a larger Europe.

Since 1957 the rising standard of living and the redistribution mechanism indirectly increased the association between membership and welfare.

In 2017 we, Europeans, celebrated the Sixty anniversary of the beginning of this journey. The ongoing economic crisis has changed the overall picture and Europe is not perceived as a model so far.

Public opinion and national governments do not associate Europe to welfare but to a long and deep recession, unemployment and raise of social inequalities among the member states are the key aspects of the state of the Union today.

Euroscepticism is gaining more ground both inside old and new members.

Is Europe really disintegrating? Which is the today perception of the long journey made together since the EEC creation? Have we developed a European identity?

Is it still possible to save the European project today?

The course will try to answer to these questions. Together we will remember the main aspect of the European project, focusing on the major crisis the project has undergone since the end of the Second World War until the ongoing economic crisis.

Classes lessons

It consists in frontal lectures and class discussions.

COURSE STRUCTURE

1. The European unification from the outbreak of the Cold War to the signature of the Treaty of Rome
2. The creation of the Franco- German axis
3. The first enlargement: general features and Great Britain as a case study.
4. Europe from the Aja Conference to the signature of the ESA
5. The impact of European Single Act and the road to Maastricht
6. The enlargement to Southern Europe: general features and Spain as a case study
7. The end of the Cold War and the challenge of the Central and Eastern enlargements.
8. **Written text** (short answers on three major issues raised during the classes)

Reference Book:

- Gilbert M., *European Integration. A concise history*, Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2011

The evaluation procedure is as follows: a written text (1 hour) based in three questions to be developed