Jean Monnet Seminar

Europe Day 2024



**Jean Monnet Module** 

**European Union Environmental Law in Times of Transitioons** 

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#### **EUROPE DAY**

 EUROPE DAY, May 9, marks the anniversary of the day in 1950 when the current European Union was "born".

## Schuman's speech

 French Foreign Minister **Robert Schuman** gave a speech calling for European countries to combine their coal and steel production under a single European institution, paving the way to our current European Union.



#### Schuman Declaration

The proposal
 on the creation of an organised Europe,
 indispensable to the maintenance of peaceful

relations

Schuman Declaration.

#### Schuman declaration

 The "Schuman declaration", is considered to be the beginning of the creation of what is now the European Union.

### Europe Day

The 9th of May has become a European symbol (Europe Day) which, along with the flag, the anthem, the **motto** and the single currency (the EURO), identifies the European Union.

### Europe Day

Europe Day is the occasion for activities and festivities that are aimed at bringing Europe closer to its citizens and peoples of the Union closer to one another.

## Other EU Symbols

- European flag
- Anthem
- Motto
- Euro





 It is the symbol not only of the European Union but also of Europe's unity and identity in a wider sense.

 The circle of gold stars represents solidarity and harmony between the peoples of Europe.

 The number of stars has nothing to do with the number of Member States.

 There are twelve stars because the number twelve is traditionally the symbol of perfection, completeness and unity.

 The flag therefore remained unchanged regardless of EU enlargements.

Since its birth the EU has **enlarged** 7 times (1973, 1981, 1986, 1995, 2004, 2007, 2013) going from 6 to currently 27 member states

- There are also 8 accession negotiations going on with officially recognized candidates: Albania (2014), Bosnia Herzegovina (2022), Moldova (2022), Montenegro (2010), North Macedonia (2005), Serbia (2012), Turkey (1999), Ukraine (2022)
- Other applicants: Kosovo, Georgia

#### **EU Anthem**

- The EU anthem
- is the anthem of not only the European Union
- but also of Europe in a wider sense.

- The melody comes from
- the Ninth Symphony
- composed in 1823 by Ludwig Van Beethoven.

#### The EU Anthem

For the final movement of this symphony,
 Beethoven set to music

the "Ode to Joy" written in 1785 by Friedrich von Schiller.

- This poem expresses
- Schiller's idealistic vision of
- the human race becoming brothers
- a vision Beethoven shared.

#### **EU** Anthem

Listen to it at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jo\_-KoBiBG0

#### **EU Motto**

- "United in diversity"
- is the **motto** of the European Union.

### The EU Motto



Unida en la diversidad

#### **EU Motto**

- The motto means that,
- via the EU,
- Europeans are united in working together for peace and prosperity,
- and that the many different cultures, traditions and languages in Europe are deemed to be a **positive asset** for the continent.

## The EURO



#### The EURO

- The euro is the most tangible proof of European integration
- It is the common currency in 20 out of 27
  EU Member States
- and used as legal tender by more than
  350 million people every day
- The symbol for the euro is €.

#### The Euro

- The euro bills are identical in all countries
- but each country issues its own coins
- with one common side and one side displaying a distinctive national emblem.

#### **EURO**

• All the notes and coins can be used in all EU countries that have adopted the Euro, including many of their overseas entities, such as the Ceuta and Melilla, French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Mayotte, Réunion, and Saint Pierre and Miquelon.

#### The EURO

- Andorra, Monaco, San Marino and Vatican
   City have adopted the Euro as their
   national currency which also gives them
   the right to issue a certain number of euro
   coins with their own national sides.
- A number of countries and territories use the euro as their de facto currency such as Kosovo and Montenegro.

#### The Euro

Denmark, Sweden do not currently use the euro.

• Other States are outside the Eurozone but that there is a pledge to enter it once ready (convergence criteria).

### Legal Status

 The European Constitution would have legally enshrined all the European symbols in the EU treaties.

However,
 the Constitutional Treaty
 was not adopted.

### Legal Status

The Constitution's replacement,

- the Treaty of Lisbon,
- contains a declaration by sixteen members supporting the symbols.
- The European Parliament formally recognised the May 9 holiday in October 2008.

