

Structures of the European Union



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Structures of the EU

The institutions of the European Union are the seven principal decision-making bodies. They are, as listed in Article 13 of the Treaty on European Union:

- the European Parliament,
- the European Council,
- the Council of the European Union (of national Ministers, a Council for each area of responsibility),
- the European Commission,
- the Court of Justice of the European Union,
- the European Central Bank,
- the Court of Auditors.



Institutions are distinct from advisory bodies to the European Union, and agencies of the European Union.

The European Parliament



The Parliament is composed of 705 members. It shall be composed of representatives of the Union's citizens. They shall not exceed 750 in number, plus the President. Representation of citizens shall be digressively proportional, with a minimum threshold of six members per Member State.

The European Parliament has 3 roles: It debates legislation. It can pass or reject laws, and it can also make amendments (but not in all cases). Laws must also be passed by the Council of the EU in order to become law.

The European Council



Their role is to define the general political direction and priorities of the European Union. It consists of Heads of state or government of EU countries, European Council President, European Commission President. The President of the European Council is Charles Michel. Its Established informally in 1974, formally in 1992 and officially in 2009.

The Council of the European Union

The Council of the European Union is the voice of EU member governments. They are adopting EU laws and they are coordinating EU policies. The members are government ministers from each EU country, according to the policy area to be discussed. Each EU country holds the presidency on a 6-month rotating basis. It is established in 1958.



European Council
Council of the European Union

The European Commission

They promote the general interest of the EU by proposing and enforcing legislation as well as by implementing policies and the EU budget. The European Commission is a team or 'College' of Commissioners, one from each EU country. The President of the Commission is Ursula von der Leyen. Year of establishment is 1958.



The Court of Justice of the European Union



The Court of Justice of the European Union is ensuring EU law is interpreted and applied the same in every EU country; ensuring countries and EU institutions abide by EU law. There are two types of courts. First one is court of Justice: 1 judge from each EU country, plus 11 advocates general and the second one is General Court: 2 judges from each EU country. It is established in 1952.

The European Central Bank

Its job is to manage the euro, keep prices stable and conduct EU economic and monetary policy. The members are the ECB President and Vice-President and governors of national central banks from all EU countries. The president is Christine Lagarde. The European Central Bank is Established in 1998. Unlike the previous institutions this one is located in Frankfurt, Germany.



EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

EUROSYSTEM

The Court of Auditors

Its Role is to check EU funds are collected and used correctly, and help improve EU financial management. One person from each EU country participates in it. The president is Klaus-Heiner Lehne. Its Established in 1977. The Location of the Court of Auditors is Luxembourg.



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Sources:

- https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies_en
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/European Parliament](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/European_Parliament)
- https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/government_in_ireland/european_government/eu_institutions/european_parliament.html

Thank you for your attention!

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