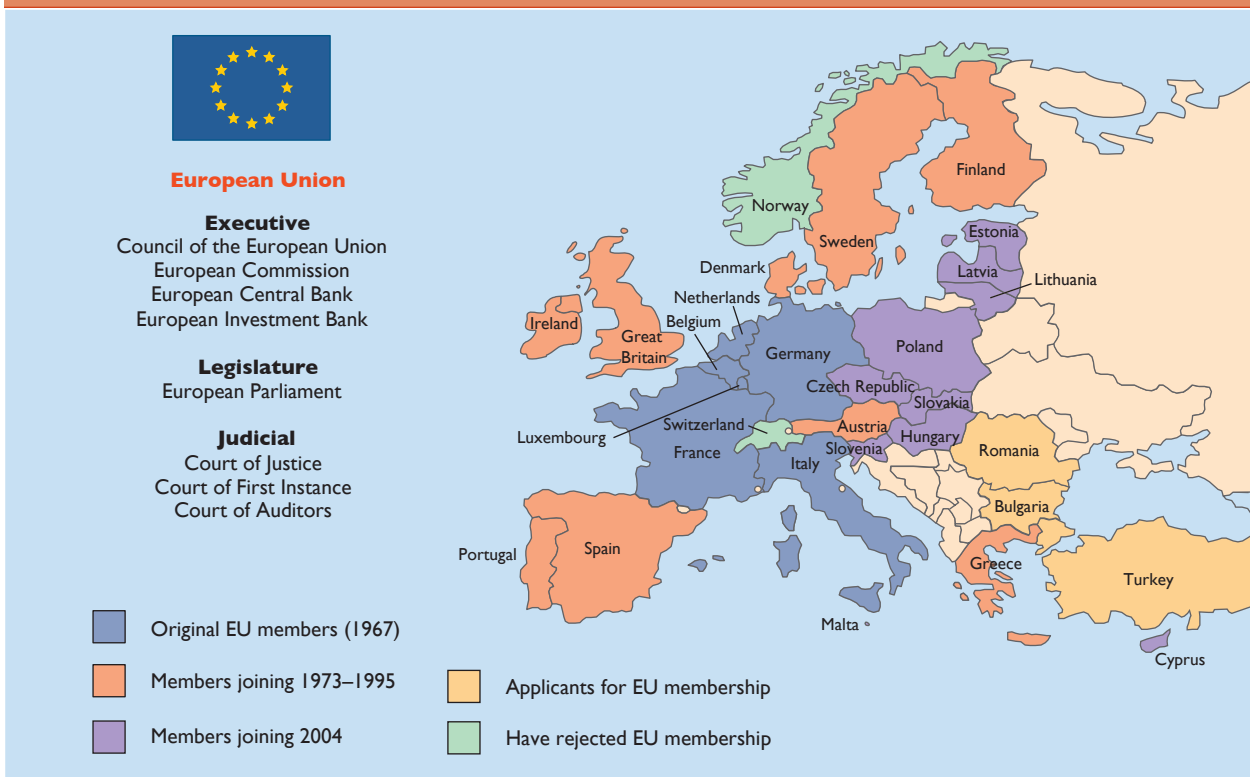


FIGURE 7.2 Membership and Organizational Structure of the European Union



The world's most integrated regional organization is the European Union. It has expanded from the six original countries that established the European Economic Community in 1958 to 25 countries today. The EU's focus is primarily economic, but it has become increasingly integrated on matters of the environment, human rights, and other policy areas.