

## Annex A: Chronology from 1948 to 2002

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Explanation</i>
1948 16 Apr	OEEC	Organization for European Economic Co-operation (OEEC) established
1950 9 May	Schuman Plan	French Foreign Minister Robert Schuman proposes the establishment of the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC). Schuman was inspired by Jean Monnet's vision of building Europe step by step. 9 May is celebrated as the Day of Europe
1952 1 Jan.	ECSC	The ECSC is established for 50 years; expired 23 Jul. 2002
1952 27 May	EDC	'The Six' sign the Treaty establishing the European Defence Community (EDC) The project falls down as the French National Assembly refuses to ratify the Treaty in 1954
1953 9 Mar.	EPC	A plan for the European Political Community (EPC) is published
1957 25 Mar.	EEC	The Six sign Treaties in Rome establishing the European Economic Community (EEC) and the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom). EEC begins 1 Jan. 1958.
1959 21 Jul.	EFTA	European Free Trade Association (EFTA) is established by the Stockholm Convention among Austria, Denmark, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. EFTA begins 3 May 1960
1968 1 Jul.	CU completed	Customs Union is completed within the EEC and a common external tariff is established
1969 1–2 Dec.	Failed monetary integration launched	At the Hague Summit, EC leaders agree to establish a single market, to accelerate integration, and to introduce Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) by 1980
1972 22 Jan.	First enlargement, signed	Accession Treaties of Denmark, Ireland, Norway and the United Kingdom are signed. Norway withdraws after a negative referendum result
1972 22 Jul.	EC–EFTA FTAs	Free trade agreements (FTAs) signed with Austria, Iceland, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland
1973 1 Jan.	First enlargement	The Six become the Nine as Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom join the EC. Accession Treaties were signed 22 Jan. 1972.
1973 14 May		Norway signs a free trade agreement with the EEC
1973 5 Oct.		Finland signs a free trade agreement with the EEC
1974 9–10 Dec.	European Council formalized	At Paris Summit, EC leaders agree to meet regularly as a European Council

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Explanation</i>
1978	6–7 Jul.	EMS founded Bremen European Council establishes the European Monetary System (EMS) and the European Currency Unit (ECU)
1981	1 Jan.	Second enlargement Greece becomes the tenth EC Member State
1985	14 Jun.	EC92 White Paper Commission presents the Cockfield White Paper on the completion of the single market
1986	1 Jan.	Third enlargement Accession of Spain and Portugal
1986	17, 28 Feb.	Single European Act is signed. Treaty enters into force on 1 Jul. 1987.
1990	1 Jul.	EMU stage 1 First stage of EMU begins
1990	10 Oct.	Germany unites Germany is united and the former German Democratic Republic joins the EEC
1992	7 Feb.	Treaty on European Union is signed in Maastricht, creating the EU
1992	2 May	EC and EFTA sign an Agreement establishing the European Economic Area (EEA)
1993	1 Nov.	Maastricht Treaty Maastricht Treaty enters into force after a difficult ratification process in Denmark and France
1994	1 Jan.	EMU stage 2 The second stage of EMU begins
1994	9–10 Dec.	Essen European Council agrees strategy on eastern enlargement
1995	1 Jan.	Fourth enlargement Austria, Finland and Sweden join the EU, thus increasing the number of Member States to 15
1997	2 Oct.	Amsterdam Treaty Treaty of Amsterdam is signed; comes into force on 1 May 1999
1998	1–2 May	EMU launched EU leaders decide to join EMU (Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal and Spain)
1998	1 Jun.	ECB launched The European Central Bank (ECB) is established
1999	1 Jan.	EMU stage 3 The euro becomes a currency in its own right
2000	7–9 Dec.	Nice Treaty Treaty of Nice is signed; comes into force on 1 Feb. 2003 after a difficult ratification process in Ireland
2002	1 Jan.	Euro cash Euro notes and coins circulate>

Note: These chronologies are based on the excellent and succinct chronology on the website of the 1999 Finnish Presidency of the EU ([http://presidency.finland.fi/doc/eu/eu\\_5chro.htm](http://presidency.finland.fi/doc/eu/eu_5chro.htm)), and the extremely detailed chronology on the European Commission's website ([http://europa.eu.int/abc/history/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/abc/history/index_en.htm)); also see the thematic chronologies on <http://europa.eu.int/abc/obj/chrono/en/themhome.htm> that trace developments in, e.g., EU institutions.