

# External relations of the EU (CFSP)

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- Development of the CFSP :
  - History of EU Idea
  - The Single European Act (SEA)
  - Maastricht
  - Amsterdam
  - Nice
- Lisbon Treaty
  - **European Council**
  - **The Council of the European Union**
  - The High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
  - European External Action Service
- Case study

# History of EU Idea

- 1948 Brussels Pact –  
Brussels Union
  - 1954 – Germany and Italy are joining - Western European Union (WEU)
- 1949 - Washington Treaty (NATO)

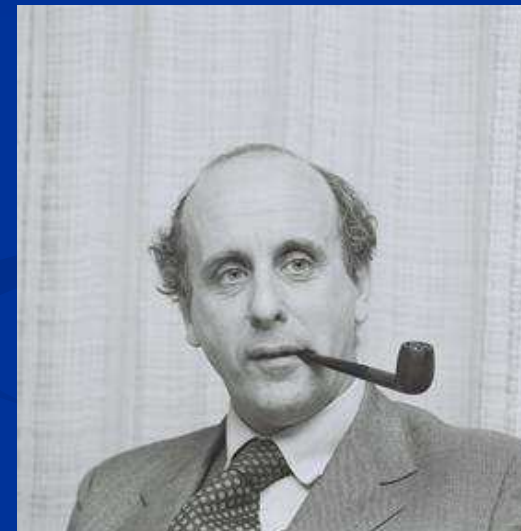


# History of economic integration

- 1952 European Coal and Steel Community (Benelux, France, Italy, Germany)
- 1952 Pleven plan
  - the plan to form a European Defence Community
  - integrated military force that are financed by common budget



- 1958 Treaties of Rome
  - the European Economic Community (EEC)
  - the Euratom
- 1961 The Fouchet plan
- 1970 Davignon report
  - exchange information and policy consultation – common position
  - the informal European Political Cooperation
  - intergovernmental forum (summit)



# The Single European Act (SEA)

- 1986
- formally institutionalised European Council (EU council)
- institutionalized European political cooperation

# Maastricht Treaty

## EU institutions

European  
Communities

I pillar

Common  
Foreign  
And  
Security  
Policy  
(CFSP)

II pillar

Police  
And  
Judicial  
Co-operation  
in  
Criminal  
Matters  
(PJCC)

III pillar

# The objectives of the common foreign and security policy

- to safeguard the common values
- to strengthen the security of the Union
- to preserve peace and strengthen international security
- to promote international co-operation
- to develop and consolidate democracy and the rule of law, and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

# The actors of the CFSP

- **The Council of Ministers**
  - a crucial role in the implementation of the CFSP
  - takes the decisions necessary for defining and implementing the CFSP
  - Unanimity
- **The European Council :**
  - defines the principles of and general guidelines for the common foreign and security policy
- **The Presidency**
  - represents the Union in matters coming within the common foreign and security policy
  - responsible for the implementation of decisions

# The CFSP instruments

- The Union shall pursue the objectives set out in Article 11 by:
  - defining the **principles of and general guidelines** for the common foreign and security policy, - European Council
  - adopting *joint actions*,
  - adopting *common positions*,
  - strengthening **systematic cooperation** between Member States in the conduct of policy.

## ■ The CFSP Common Positions

- defines the approach of the Union to a particular matter of a **geographical or thematic nature**

## ■ The CFSP joint actions

- address **specific situations where operational action by the Union is deemed to be required**

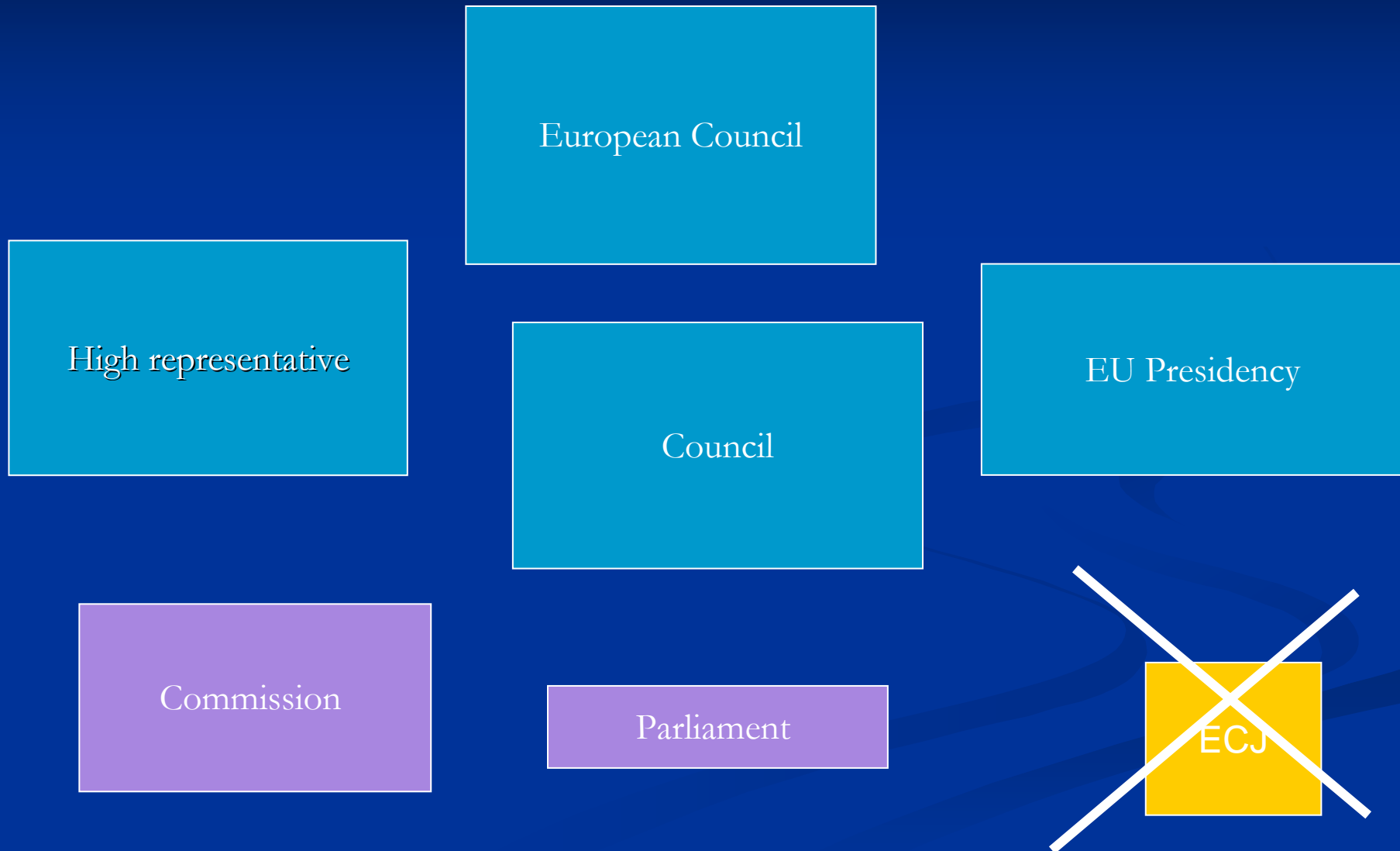
# Amsterdam Treaty

- Changes in decision-making in the Council :
  - The general rule remains that CFSP decisions always require a unanimous vote
  - **Member States can exercise “constructive abstention”**
    - an abstention which does not block the adoption of the decision
- New instrument :
  - The CFSP common strategies
    - long term policy instruments used where Member States have “important interests in common”

- New institution:
  - **The High representative for the CFSP**
    - The Secretary-General of the Council
    - assist the Council
    - formulation, preparation and implementation of policy decisions
    - Helps the EU Presidency
      - conducting political dialogue with third parties
  - Javier Solana



# Institutional influence in the CFSP



# Nice Treaty

- Creating the military structures
  - The Political and Security Committee ( CPS)
  - The Standing Military Committee of the European Union ( EUMC)
  - The Military Staff of the European Union

# Lisbon Treaty

# European Council

- consists of the Heads of State or Government of the Member States, together with its President and the President of the Commission
- meets twice every six months - 4 times in a year
- The question of location
- unanimity
  - Decisions of the European Council are taken by consensus
- defines the general political directions and priorities

# Powers of the European Council

- Powers in the field of CFSP
- Powers in the field of defence policy
- Powers in the area of freedom, security and justice

# The President of the European Council

- Elected by the European Council
- serve two-and-a-half-year term
- Herman Van Rompuy
- **Duties**
  - chairs the European Council
  - ensures the external representation of the Union on issues concerning its common foreign and security policy



# The Council of the European Union

- consist of each MS representative at ministerial level
- power to commit their government
- responsible to their national parliaments
- sits in ten different configurations
  - Treaty refers to two Council configurations: the General Affairs Council and Foreign Affairs Council
  - complete list of Council configurations is adopted by European Council

# List of Council configurations

- General affairs
- Foreign affairs
- Economic and financial affairs
- Justice and home affairs
- Employment, social policy, health and consumer affairs
- Competitiveness (internal market, industry and research)
- Transport, telecommunications and energy
- Agriculture and fisheries
- Environment
- Education, youth and culture

# Bodies of the Council

- **The Presidency of the Council (configurations)**
  - held by Member State representatives in the Council on the basis of equal rotation
  - period of 6 months
  - The country holding the Presidency from January till June 2012 : Denmark
- **The General Secretariat of the Council**
- **Permanent representative committee (The COREPER)**
- **Council preparatory bodies**

# Powers of the Council

- legislative powers
- budgetary powers
- powers in the field of human rights
- power to nominate and determine the salaries, allowances and pensions of members of the main European institutions
- powers in the field of Common foreign and security policy

# The High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

- Appointed by the European Council, acting by a qualified majority, with the agreement of the President of the Commission
- duties :
  - speaks for the EU in the area of CFSP
  - head of the External Action Service and the EU delegations
  - ensures consistency of the EU external political
  - authorized to present any question regarding the CFSP to the Council, if it is urgent the Council must respond in 48 hours
  - regularly consulting with the European Parliament

- “double hat” arrangement
  - Vice President of the European Commission
  - presides over the Foreign Affairs Council
- Catherine Margaret Ashton



# European External Action Service

- established by the Treaty of Lisbon - Article 27(3)
- composition :
  - the staff of the Council, the Commission and diplomatic staff from the Member States
- under the authority of the High Representative
- five managing directors for geographic desks and one managing director for thematic/multilateral desk
- The Union Delegations :
  - placed under the authority of the High Representative

## ■ Commission

- Lost power in the CFSP
- entitled only to support the proposals instructed by the High Representative
- President of the Commission: provides guidelines for the Commission's work in the field of foreign policy

## ■ Parliament

- strengthens the role
- instead of the one, Lisbon introduces the two annual meetings on CFSP matters
- empowered to ask questions and make recommendations to the Council and High Representative

# Instruments

## Nice

- The Union shall pursue the objectives set out in Article 11 by:
  - - defining the principles of and **general guidelines** for the common foreign and security policy,
  - deciding on common strategies,
  - adopting joint actions,
  - adopting common positions,
  - strengthening **systematic cooperation** between Member States in the conduct of policy

## Lisbon

- The Union shall conduct the common foreign and security policy by:
  - defining the **general guidelines;**
  - adopting **decisions** defining:
    - **actions** to be undertaken by the Union;
    - **positions** to be taken by the Union;
    - arrangements for the implementation
  - strengthening **systematic cooperation** between Member States in the conduct of policy.

# Specialized agencies

- European defence agency
- The European Foreign and Security Policy Institute
- European Union Satellite Centre

