European Court of Justice

The Court of Justice of the European Union, based in Luxembourg, is established.

Treaty of Paris

The European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC), also known as “Montanunion”, enters into force.

European Political Cooperation

The EC countries set up the European Political Cooperation (EPC) to better represent their foreign policy interests.

Greenland

Greenland withdraws from the EU after a referendum and decides to remain associated with the EU.

Europe's Flag and Anthem

The European flag is hoisted for the first time and the song "Ode to Joy" becomes the European anthem.

Erasmus

The Erasmus programme is launched.

Single European Act (Treaty of Luxembourg)

Entry into force of the Single European Act (SEA) with the aim of completing the internal market on 1st January 1993.

EU Ecolabel

The EU Ecolabel becomes the official ecolabel of the European Union.

EUROPOL

Founding of EUROPOL, EU's central coordinating body in the fight against large-scale crime and terrorism.

EURO - Virtual Currency Unit

Introduction of a common currency (EURO) in the EU. First as a virtual currency unit that replaces the ECU.

Charter of Fundamental Rights

The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union is adopted.

EU Motto - United in Diversity

The Commission chooses "United in Diversity" as the motto for the EU.

AGE Platform Europe - the European Umbrella Organisation of Senior Citizens' Organisations

The platform is founded to represent the interests of elder people in the European Union.

Treaty of Nice

The Treaty of Nice strengthens the European Parliament. Institutional reforms are set in motion.

Treaty of Lisbon

The structure and working methods of the EU are being reformed. (Further development of the Maastricht Treaty) The Treaty of Lisbon is the current contractual basis of the EU.

Euro Sovereign Debt Crisis

High national debt and falling tax revenues are leading to a slump in the economy in some EU countries; some countries are threatened with national bankruptcy.

EU Recovery Package

Several EU member states that are financially threatened with national bankruptcy must be supported by measures and instruments from the Euro Rescue Package.

Nobel Peace Prize

The Nobel Peace Prize is awarded to the European Union (EU) "for over six decades contributed to the advancement of peace and reconciliation, democracy and human rights in Europe".

Peak of the Refugee Crisis

More than a million people come to Europe. The EU countries with EU's external borders are overstrained. The Dublin Procedure only works to a limited extent.

Brexit - Withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the EU

In 2016, a referendum in the United Kingdom leads to the UK's withdrawal from the EU after several years of negotiations. - The EU has only 27 members.

Corona (Covid) Pandemic

The health systems in the EU countries are overburdened and the economy and social life are in crisis due to numerous lockdown phases.