

Lesson 6 – Introduction to the Law of the European Union

I. Organization and Structure of the EU

A. Brainstorming + Discussion

Discuss the questions below with your partner.

- What kind of organization is the European Union?
- What are the institutions of the European Union?
- What do you know about each of the institutions?

B. Institutions of the EU and their functions

Look at the table below and put the following pieces of information into the right boxes in the table.

- composed of national ministers
- appointed for 5 years
- elected every five years directly by EU citizens
- 27 judges serve 6 year renewable term
- sit in political parties, not according to nationalities
- adopts new laws with the Council
- main decision-making body
- settles disputes between member states, between EU and MS, between individuals and EU
- decides budget with the Council
- adopts new laws with the Parliament
- executive branch of EU
- proposes new laws to the Parliament and Council
- decides budget with the Parliament
- concludes international agreements
- coordinates economic policies of MS
- negotiates treaties with other countries
- coordinates police and court efforts on criminal matters
- has the right to censure the Commission
- ensures EU law is applied properly by MS
- appoints an Ombudsman

Institution	Structure	Function
European Parliament		
Council of the Union		
European Commission		
European Court of Justice		

