

TIMELINE	EVOLUTION OF THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK	MEMBERSHIP (ENLARGEMENT PROCESS)
1950	Schuman Declaration (Paris, 9 May 1950)	
1951	European Coal and Steel Community Treaty (Paris, 18 April 1951; applied from 1952 until 2002)	<u>6 States:</u> France, West Germany, Italy, Belgium, The Netherlands, Luxembourg
1952-1954	European Defence Community Treaty (signed in 1952 by the 6 ECSC States, but <u>failed in 1954</u> when the French National Assembly refused to ratify it) Draft Statute of the European Political Community (never signed)	(6 ECSC States)
1957	Treaties of Rome, 25 March 1957: European Economic Community Treaty (EEC Treaty; in force since 1st January 1958) & European Atomic Energy Community Treaty (EURATOM)	6 ECSC States: the founding States of the Union
1973		Denmark, the UK and Ireland (9 MSs)
1981		Greece (10 MSs)
1986		Portugal and Spain (12 MSs)
	<i>Developments <u>outside</u> the framework of the European Communities, but in close connection with the process of European integration</i> European Political Cooperation 1974 (Paris Summit): institutionalization of the meeting of the European Council 1985 Schengen Agreement: creation of the Schengen Area	
1986	Single European Act	
1992	Treaty on European Union, or Maastricht Treaty (signed in February 1992, entered into force in November 1993)	
1995		Austria, Finland, Sweden join (15 MSs)
1997	Treaty of Amsterdam (entered in force in 1999)	
2001	Treaty of Nice (entered in force in 2003)	
2004-2005	(Failed) Constitutional Treaty	
2004		The big enlargement towards East: Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, Hungary, Slovenia, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Malta, Cyprus (25 MSs)

2007	Lisbon Treaty (signed in December 2007; entered in force on 1 st December 2009; <i>see pictures 2 and 3 below</i>)	
2007		Romania and Bulgaria joins the EU (27 MSs)
2013		Croatia joins the EU (28 MSs)
26 June 2016	Brexit referendum	
29 March 2017	UK notifies intention to withdraw under Article 50 TEU	
1 January 2020	Agreement on the Withdrawal of the UK from the EU (entry in force)	Back to 27 Member States
.....	To be continued...	