Content

FREE FLOW OF GOODS  54
FREE FLOW OF PEOPLE/WORKERS  56
FREEDOM OF ESTABLISHMENT AND PROVISION OF SERVICES  57
FREE MOVEMENT OF CAPITAL  57
EURO  59
SWEDEN  66
SPAIN  67
BELGIUM  68
HUNGARY  69

MYTHS ABOUT THE EUROPEAN UNION  71
POLAND  76
DENMARK  77

HUMAN RIGHTS  83
PROMOTING AND PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS  83
THE FIGHT AGAINST DISCRIMINATION  85
PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION  85
EUROPEAN PILAR OF SOCIAL RIGHTS #socialrights  86
GENDER EQUALITY  86
RIGHTS PROTECTION – THE EUROPEAN OMBUDSMAN  87
EXCERCISE YOUR RIGHTS – THE EUROPEAN CITIZENS' INITIATIVE  87
EUROPEAN YOUTH PARLIAMENT  88
WHERE IS SERBIA?  89
CYPRUS  90
IRELAND  91
LITHUANIA  98
GREECE  99

EDUCATION AND SPORT THROUGH THE ERASMUS+ PROGRAMME  101
ABOUT THE PROGRAMME  101
WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THE ERASMUS+ PROGRAMME FOR STUDENTS?  103
JUBILEE  103
VOLUNTEERING PROJECTS  104
EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS  104
HOW DOES THE EUROPEAN UNION SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE SPORTS?  105
ITALY  106
LATVIA  107
A GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE EUROPE  113

THE ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE  113
CLIMATE CHANGE  115
SAY ‘NO, THANKS’ TO PLASTIC  117
THE EUROPEAN UNION PROGRAMME FOR ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE ACTION – "LIFE"  117
WHERE IS SERBIA?  118
LUXEMBOURG  120
NETHERLANDS  121
DIGITAL LITERACY  127

INNOVATIONS AND THE DIGITAL WORLD  127
INTERNET SAFETY  128
THE DIGITAL SINGLE MARKET  129
INNOVATION  130
PROGRAMME HORIZON 2020  130
WHERE IS SERBIA?  131

SLOVAKIA  132
MALTA  133

CULTURE  139
CREATIVE EUROPE  140
DISCOVER AND EXPLORE EUROPE!  141
EUROPEANA  142
WHERE IS SERBIA?  142
ESTONIA  144
BULGARIA  145

THE EUROPEAN SINGLE MARKET AND CONSUMER PROTECTION  151
THE EUROPEAN UNION SINGLE INTERNAL MARKET  151
THE GREATEST ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE SINGLE MARKET  152
CONSUMER PROTECTION IN THE EUROPEAN UNION  153
When travelling around Europe, all EU citizens in all EU countries are:  154
AUSTRIA  156
ROMANIA  157
TRAVEL  159

BE PROACTIVE  159
VOLUNTEER  162
UNITED KINGDOM  165
EUINFONET - EU INFO NETWORK IN SERBIA  166
EUTEKA – The EU in your library network  167
DEAR STUDENTS,

every anniversary should be celebrated because jubilees in their constancy measure the value of things, endeavours and relations. And a decade of Europa Diary's existence and survival speaks about the continuity and the importance of the process of Serbia’s European integration for all our citizens, but especially for you who, in the future, will be not only Serbian citizens but also citizens of the European Union. The need to learn about the historical, cultural, economic and political background, as well as the procedural and institutional framework of the European Union will not cease even when Serbia becomes a full member because the European Union is an ever-changing format of active cooperation between the Member States and the citizens of the European Union.

I am certain that, despite your diverse attitudes on topics about social life, you all have a strong motivation to learn more about what it is that makes up our everyday lives, and what, as a process, should bring more possibilities for education, travel, employment and, all in all, more equal chances for all citizens especially for you as the young generation.

DEAR STUDENTS,

with each reform step we have recently taken, we have been getting closer to the quality of standards in education that all countries of the European Union possess. Through the reforms we have initiated, we are striving to equip new generations with the necessary skills, knowledge and attitudes to make them functional and engaged citizens, capable of using their capacities to secure their own personal and professional well-being and also to contribute to the prosperity of the communities they live in!

As well as our traditional and national values, we endeavour every day to bring the European system of values closer to you and to strengthen your competencies for a democratic society. It is our desire for you to develop your potential and we wish to create possibilities for continued education, and professional and personal growth through the education processes of the Republic of Serbia.

We hope that this guide will help you to understand the social context in which your peers in Europe are growing up as well as the possibilities offered to you as future citizens of the European Union!

DEAR STUDENTS,

the Europa Diary is now in its 10th year. For your 2019/2020 school year a special jubilee edition has been written to bring the European Union closer to your interests and opportunities. Besides being a daily planner, the Diary will enable you to explore, understand and become more familiar with goals and values of the European Union.

This Diary, drafted by the EU in cooperation with the Serbian government, will also inform you about the accession process of Serbia towards membership in the EU.

Ana and Marko, our guides in this Diary, will share with you many interesting facts and opportunities that the EU is already offering you.

I encourage you to take part in the competition that we have launched. You can read more about it in the diary and clicking on the dedicated website www.evropskidnevnik.rs. The best 15 creative and innovative works will be awarded by a 7 day trip to the EU!

Let's make this journey innovative, educative and fun. I hope that this 10th jubilee edition of Europa Diary will inspire you to be a more active European wishing to learn, experience and develop our wonderful continent.

I am looking forward meeting the competition winners personally!!
10th CALL FOR PARTICIPATION
‘EUROPE AND ME’

After successfully holding its 9th contest last year, as part of the Europa Diary, the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Serbia is inviting you, high school students, to take part in this year’s contest of creative and innovative works.

#EU ЗА ТЕБЕ

10th JUBILEE CONTEST FOR CREATIVE AND INDIVIDUAL WORKS

Works can be created individually or as a team, in the following categories:

1. **Photo works** (individual);
2. **Proposal for the design of the 2020/2021 diary** – front and back covers and the design of all 10 chapters of this year’s edition (team);
3. **Video formats** – up to three minutes in length (team);
4. **Cartoon/caricature** – format B2 (individual);
5. **Multimedia formats** – creating a web page or mobile app (team).

**THIS YEAR’S TOPICS ARE:**
- The EU and Serbia
- The EU in your everyday life
- Myths about the EU
- Human rights
- Environment and climate change
- The prevention of violence
- Europe – united in diversity.

15 WORKS TO BE AWARDED

THE WINNERS WILL WIN A 7-DAY PRIZE TRIP TO ONE OR SEVERAL EU MEMBER STATES IN MAY 2020.

Participation rules in the 2019/2020 contest:

- Students in the second and third grades of high school are eligible to take part.
- Several teams from the same school may participate (three students per team). Each team must have its own mentor. Team members must not be part of any formal school club or extracurricular activity.
- Students who have been awarded in previous Europa Diary contest rounds may not take part in this year’s contest.
- Schools which have taken part in previous Europa Diary contest rounds are allowed to participate.
- The mentor must be a teacher at school.
- Teachers may be mentors of only one team.
- A total of 15 works will be awarded, three winners in each category.
- A minimum number of works in each category is 10.
- If an insufficient number of works is submitted in a certain category, the EU Delegation reserves the right to present additional awards in one of the other categories.

THE WINNERS WILL BE GIVEN THE UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO GO ON A SEVEN-DAY TRIP TO ONE OR SEVERAL EU MEMBER STATES IN MAY 2020.

To apply, you must fill in an application form, which is available on the website [www.evropskidnevnik.rs](http://www.evropskidnevnik.rs).

Works submitted after the deadline will not be taken into consideration. All works, except those in the category Comic/caricature, are to be submitted electronically, to evropskidnevnik@euinfo.rs.

EU Info Centre
for the Europa Diary 2019/2020 contest
Kralja Milana 7
11 000 Belgrade

Instructions for submitting works, which also include detailed information on the role of mentors, can be found on the same website. The submitted works will be assessed by an expert jury, and the results will be announced in March 2020, on the website [www.evropskidnevnik.rs](http://www.evropskidnevnik.rs). Contestants who have won will be e-mailed.

If you have any questions, please check whether the answers can be found in the FAQ section on the website [www.evropskidnevnik.rs](http://www.evropskidnevnik.rs) or alternatively, send your questions via email to evropskidnevnik@euinfo.rs.

GOOD LUCK TO ALL THE CONTESTANTS!!

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING WORKS IS 31st JANUARY 2020.
The Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Serbia has published the Europa Diary since 2009. An integral part of each issue has been a competition for creative and innovative works by high school students. In December 2018 the call for participation was published as part of the ninth issue of the Europa Diary 2018/2019.

The deadline for submitting works was 21st February 2019. Over the course of three months, 373 works were submitted, which were authored by 1000 students and their mentors from all over Serbia. The topics of last year’s contest were: ‘The EU and Me’, ‘The EU and Serbia’, ‘Let’s Preserve our Environment’, ‘Healthy Lifestyles’, ‘Active Citizenship’ and ‘Violence Prevention’.

Three works from each category, literary, photo and multimedia, were chosen, while a total of 12 works were awarded, including those submitted by individuals as well as teams.

The winners of the contest were also given the opportunity to travel to the EU states. Nineteen students, from the fourth grades of high school, went on the trip together with eleven high school teachers from cities and towns all over Serbia:

Subotica, Veliko Gradiste, Cacak, Belgrade, Senta, Novi Sad, Nis, Bor and Leskovac. Between 7th and 14th July 2019 the award winners visited three European Union Member States: Croatia (Pula); Italy (Venice, Padua, Verona and Ferrara) and Slovenia (Ljubljana and Bled). The trip gave them the unique opportunity to get better acquainted with these country’s cultures.

The students returned from their trip with lots of impressions. Sara Mladenovic, one of the award winners from the Nis Art School, said that this had been an unforgettable journey for her, which also coincided with her eighteenth birthday. She was satisfied with the rich and diverse activities and the opportunities to learn about European heritage: ranging from art, astrology and science to religion. She was most excited about visiting part of Slovenia and the fact that she learned a great deal about this country and its ways of protecting the environment.

All the awarded works can be found on the website http://www.evropskidnevnik.rs/nagradjeni-radovi/, where you can also apply to take part in this year’s competition.

AWARDED STUDENTS AT THE PULA ARENA

The winners of the contest were also given the opportunity to travel to the EU states. Nineteen students, from the fourth grades of high school, went on the trip together with eleven high school teachers from cities and towns all over Serbia:

157 local education centres cooperated on the project
267 awarded high school students and teachers since 2012
550 THOUSAND students reached through the Evropa Diary
124 awarded works since 2012
550+ works received in the last two competitions
9 contest rounds
## Finland

### Area
- **Area**: 338,441 km²
- **Share in total EU area**: 7.6%

### Population
- **Population**: 5,517,919
- **Share in total EU population**: 1.1%

### Capital
- **Capital**: Helsinki

### EU Member State since
- **1st January 1995**

### Youth Centre Networking in Finland

More than two-thirds of Finnish territory is forested. In 2018, 89% of the Finnish population used e-banking, which is one of the highest percentages in the EU.

Finland is in second place for using renewable sources of energy - as much as 41% of the energy used comes from renewable sources. Finland is the Member State with the highest percentage of highly educated women, 51.4% of the female population aged 25-64.

### Embassy of Finland

### Finnish Tourism Organisation
Marko and Ana will take us on a short journey through the creation and growth of the European Union. During the last few years, together with their friends and with the help of the Europa Diary, they have learnt a lot about this topic and now they want to share their knowledge with you in this 10th jubilee edition of the Europa Diary.

**WHAT IS THE EUROPEAN UNION?**

Although it stretches over a large part of the European continent, not all European countries are part of the European Union.

The European Union is not a country in the sense that Germany, Italy or Serbia are, but a union currently made up of 28 Member States, which through partnership and cooperation improve the lives of more than 513.5 million people who live throughout the EU. Since the creation of the European Union in 1957, the number of Member States has been constantly growing, thus from the initial six to a family of 28 Member States.

Ana, did you know that once Serbia becomes an EU Member State, Serbian language too will become a language of the European Union?

Of course. Serbian will be an EU language, and Cyrillic is already a language since Bulgaria became a Member State in 2007.

The European Union has

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEMBER STATES</th>
<th>EU (OFFICIAL) LANGUAGES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

513.5 MILLION EU POPULATION

### UNITED IN DIVERSITY

This motto of the European Union reflects the respect of underlying principles and values established and adopted by Member States as the necessary condition for further progress and development to which the EU is committed. The most important among them are: democracy, freedom, equality, rule of law, and respect for human and minority rights.

### The EU Enlargement Process

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>New Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1957</td>
<td>The Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, France, Germany and Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>The United Kingdom, Ireland and Denmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>Greece</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>Spain and Portugal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Sweden, Finland and Austria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Slovenia, Cyprus and Malta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Bulgaria and Romania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Croatia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### The European Union Anthem

The European Union anthem is the "Ode to Joy" theme from Beethoven's Symphony No. 9. The anthem can usually be heard during official ceremonies organized by the European Union or events with EU guest representatives and those that have a European character.

"We are sure that you have heard it at least once."
We celebrate Europe day on 9 May.

On that day in 1950, Robert Schumann, the French Foreign Minister, presented a unique document that we celebrate today as the initiation of a union, which we now know as the European Union.

It was then that he presented the Schumann Declaration—a brave and daring proposal for cooperation between the countries of Europe—only five years after the end of the Second World War. This declaration proposed mutual cooperation in the production of coal and steel, which were important energy sources at that time. Later in 1952, six European countries—Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, France, Germany and Italy founded the European Coal and Steel Community, where coal and steel production management was placed under the authority of institutions that were outside the jurisdiction of single countries.

Today’s European Union was conceived on the foundations of this European community. From coal and steel, this fruitful cooperation has spread to other areas, such as trade, agriculture, energy, etc.

THE EUROPEAN UNION BECAME THE FIRST EVER UNION OF STATES TO WIN THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE IN 2012 FOR ITS COMMITMENT AND EFFORTS TO PROMOTE PEACE, DEMOCRACY AND RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN EUROPE AND THE REST OF THE WORLD.

HOW DOES THE EUROPEAN UNION FUNCTION?

That is why there are a number of EU institutions that have their jurisdiction and ensure that every idea provides a result at the EU level.

We have already explained how the EU was created and what its fundamental values, symbols and Member States are. You have seen how, despite being so diverse, it still is a Union of countries, values, results and ideals. You probably think that it can’t be easy to have everything run smoothly. You’re right—it isn’t easy at all.

THE MAIN INSTITUTIONS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION ARE:

European Council

Court of Justice of the European Union

Council of the European Union

European Parliament

European Commission
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

The European Parliament is the voice of EU citizens because its representatives are elected by direct universal suffrage in all Member States. Direct elections for the European Parliament were held in 1979 and the most recent in May 2019, when the citizens of Europe elected 751 members who would represent them in the European Parliament for the next five years. The European Parliament are Strasbourg where its members gather 12 times a year and Brussels where they gather five times a year. The General Secretariat of the European Parliament is located in Luxembourg. The MEPs (Members of the European Parliament) are not organized according to their nationality but sit and work within political groupings, based on the political and ideologies they represent.

The current assembly of the European Parliament (2019-2024) there are seven political groups.

We have already mentioned that the European Parliament has 751 seats, but not all Member States delegate the same number of members of Parliament (MEPs). The number of seats assigned to each Member State is proportionate to its size and population.

Germany has the most seats (96), followed by France with 74, Spain with 54, whereas Poland has 51 seats, Slovenia 8, and Croatia 11. The fewest number of MEPs is set aside for Estonia, Luxembourg, Cyprus and Malta, each assigned with 6 seats. If the United Kingdom leaves the European Union, there will be 705 seats in the European Parliament. A portion of those seats in the case of the UK’s departure will be distributed among the remaining Member States, while the rest of 46 will be given to new Member States.

EUROPEAN COUNCIL

THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL is made up of representatives and the prime ministers of all 28 Member States who meet at least four times a year. During these meetings, also known as the “EU Summits”, the national state leaders discuss and determine the priorities of the European Union for the following period and offer guidelines for the further development of various policies, such as economic policies, safety and defence issues, the status of the EU in the world, international relations etc. The President of the European Council presides over the European Council. He chairs the meetings and facilitates reaching a consensus for the leaders. The President is elected every two and a half years.

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION is the voice of the governments of the EU Member States. National ministers from the EU Member States participate in its work by discussing important questions regarding the future of the EU integration process and by making decisions and adopting EU legislative acts. However, since the European Union deals with many topics and areas, the ministers from respective government portfolio from the Member States participate in the meetings of the EU Council, depending on the issue that is currently on the agenda. If a meeting on educational issues were scheduled for the following day, the ministers of education and youth from all 28 EU Member States would attend.

On the other hand, if incentives for young farmers were to be discussed, then the ministers of agriculture from the EU Member States would be present. The EU Council is a very important body within the institutional structure of the EU since it is one of the two bodies that make decisions and adopt legislation. In the EU Council, decisions are made by a majority vote (in cases when the majority of members must vote for a decision) or unanimously (in cases when all members must vote for a decision). It is important to state that each State has one vote and that every vote counts, regardless of the territory, power or the population of a Member State.

For the purpose of ensuring a smooth operation of the EU Council and setting out agenda priorities, the presidency of the EU Council works on a six-month basis. On 1st Jul, Finland took over the presidency, following Romania in the 019.

As of 1st January 2020, Croatia will be in charge of the EU Council, followed by Germany, which is scheduled to take over the presidency from 1st July 2020.
EUROPEAN COMMISSION

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION is an institution that represents the interests of the European Union as a whole. The European Commission is made up of 28 commissioners from the 28 Member States. The commission has one president, while the other 27 commissioners have their own departments and areas, they are responsible for a five-year period, which is the duration of a single European Commission and its commissioners’ term in office. Although commissioners come from different Member States whose national governments nominate them, they are elected by the European Parliament and they represent the common interest of the European Union rather than the interest of their own Member States.

The European Commission is the institution that initiates EU laws and ensures that they are correctly and consistently implemented. While formulating proposals for EU laws, the European Commission consults an extensive circle of participants at national and EU level – from national parliaments to governments, local authorities and entrepreneurs – all of them evaluating the proposed laws.

Further, there is also the possibility of not fully understanding the legislation when it comes to applying it. In that case, the national court of a Member State can refer the matter to the Court of Justice of the EU for clarification of the legislation they are having trouble with. This is in order to eliminate problems and ensure citizens of that Member State the same degree of the protection of rights and obligations as the citizens of the other Member States.


THE COURT OF JUSTICE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION is the European Union institution which oversees the uniform application and interpretation of European law and legislation, passed by the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament, in every Member State. The court is made up in Luxembourg. Even though each Member State participates in the passing of a legislative act, sometimes this act is not implemented in the same way in every country. If that happens, the European Commission, which oversees the application of EU laws, or some other Member State, may point out such cases and bring the issue before the court.

Furthermore, there is also the possibility of not fully understanding the legislation when it comes to applying it. In that case, the national court of a Member State can refer the matter to the Court of Justice of the EU for clarification of the legislation they are having trouble with. This is in order to eliminate problems and ensure citizens of that Member State the same degree of the protection of rights and obligations as the citizens of the other Member States.

European External Action Service
European Central Bank
Committee of the Regions
European Economic and Social Committee
European Court of Auditors
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**November 2019.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Armistice Day

11 MONDAY

12 TUESDAY

13 WEDNESDAY

14 THURSDAY

15 FRIDAY

16 SATURDAY

17 SUNDAY

18 MONDAY

19 TUESDAY

20 WEDNESDAY

21 THURSDAY

22 FRIDAY

23 SATURDAY

24 SUNDAY
CROATIA

AREA 56,594 km²
Share in total EU area 1.3%

POPULATION 4,076,246
Share in total EU population 0.8%

CAPITAL Zagreb
EU Member State since 1st July 2013

Youth Centre Networking in Croatia

In 2017, Croatia had the highest number of registered companies selling products online or through applications in the EU. In Croatia, as much as 64% of the energy supply comes from renewable sources.

The Croatian city of Rijeka, together with Galway in Ireland, will be the European capital of culture in 2020.

Croatia has seven national parks and 1,244 islands.

Embassy of the Republic of Croatia
Croatian Tourism Organisation

GERMANY

AREA 357,568 km²
Share in total EU area 8%

POPULATION 83,019,214
Share in total EU population 16.2%

CAPITAL Berlin
Germany is one of the EU founding members 1st January 1958

German Federal Youth Council (Deutscher Bundesjugendring)

In 2018 Germany was the biggest car exporter in the EU, with 55% of European car exports, with a value of EUR 70 billion.

Ursula von der Leyen from Germany was elected President of the European Commission for 2019 - 2024. She is the woman to hold this position in the history of the EU.

In 2017 Germany produced 1.3 million tons of chocolate, representing 32% of the entire EU production.

In 2017 Germany exported one third of the total number of musical instruments exported in Europe, worth EUR 607 million.

Embassy of The Federal Republic of Germany
Goethe Institute in Belgrade
DAAD - Information Centre
German Tourism Organisation
Would you like to understand where Serbia is on its path to EU membership and what this membership will bring us?

If you want to find out what Ana means, as well as what Serbia is negotiating, what the negotiation chapters are and why the negotiations take so long - stay with us on the following pages where we will explain everything.

In the 60 years of its existence the EU has grown in number from the initial six members to a union of 28 Member States, with seven countries currently on their way to joining the European Union.

As the six decades of the EU's existence have enlargement is its most successful policy, which has contributed to improved cooperation and better understanding between the states as well as bringing together of cultures, promoting diversity, dynamism and the unity among all Member States.

However, EU membership calls for political and economic reforms which a country must adopt in order to enable the transformation of society so that it becomes more open and ready to accept the rights, as well as the obligations arising from membership in this prestigious club.

If it wishes to join the European Union, any European country can apply for membership, while implementing certain criteria and respecting the principles and values we have in mind the respect of democracy, freedom, the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms, including minority rights.
If a country wishes to become a member of the European Union it must meet the criteria by the European Union in Copenhagen in 1993.

- Political: stability of institutions upholding fundamental EU values – democracy, rule of law, respect of human and minority rights;
- Economic: functional market economy governed by free competition;
- Legal: capacity of the country to assume all obligations arising from membership, such as respect and enforcement of adopted legislation in different areas such as environment, food quality standards, movement of goods and other.

Until it becomes a member and signs the EU Accession Treaty, relations between the European Union and Serbia are regulated by a Stabilisation and Association Agreement, which comprehensively regulates the relations between the EU and Serbia, primarily in the economic sector. This includes measures such as lower customs duties for goods imported from the EU, clearer regulations for foreign investors in our country or the improvement of business standard in Serbia and local companies are being prepared for competition within the single market with companies from the EU.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

- Exports of Serbian products to the EU have more than tripled: from EUR3.2 billion in 2009, the year of coming into force of the Stability and Association Agreement, to EUR 9.9 billion in 2017.
- Over 62% of Serbia’s total imports come from the EU.

Data retrieved from the website of the EU Delegation to the Republic of Serbia: www.europa.rs

**MARKO**

All these opportunities that are at our disposal when trading with the European Union demonstrate that the Serbian citizens enjoy a number of benefits from a varied offer of products and lower prices.

**SERBIA EXPRESSED ITS WISH TO BECOME A EUROPEAN UNION MEMBER IN 2000, AND SINCE THEN IT HAS TAKEN MANY STEPS ALONG THIS PATH.**
WHICH ACTS OF LAW WILL WE HAVE TO ADOPT FROM EACH OF THE CHAPTERS IN THE FORTHCOMING PERIOD AND START TO IMPLEMENT IN SERBIA?

For example, in Chapter 7 we are negotiating the issue of improving rights in the field of intellectual property – the protection of the patents and copyrights of innovators, creators, as well as the protection of specific products geographically labelled from Serbia. In Chapter 11 we negotiate with the European Union on the adoption of standards in the sector of agriculture and rural development, as well as the enhancement of initiatives and financial support for young farmers, while in Chapter 12 we are negotiating standards for production and food safety – for example, ensuring that the labelling of foodstuffs accurately describes the ingredients and warns of any ingredient in the product that may cause allergies. Chapter 20 deals with entrepreneurship and industry, where issues important for young people are also negotiated: the development of entrepreneurship, especially for young people, the development of the small and medium enterprise (SME) sector in Serbia, and consequently how to make use of the EU Programme for the Competitiveness of Companies and Small and Medium Enterprises (COSME), within which there is a programme for young entrepreneurs known as Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs.

A separate chapter is dedicated to meeting the key European values upon which the European Union is founded. This is Chapter 23 - Judiciary and Fundamental Rights, where we negotiate how the judicial system can become more effective, how to eliminate corruption and how to improve the protection of human rights.

One of the chapters most publicly discussed is Chapter 27, which includes legislation in the field of environmental protection and climate change. Why is this chapter important for us? Because the European Union takes care of the quality of the water we drink and the air we breathe. A new road is being built past your house and the forest which once stood there has been cut down. You don't know if and how this will affect your health, the quality of the water and air. These are the questions Chapter 27 deals with.

For more about negotiation chapters:

When we fulfill all the requirements placed before us in every single chapter, so that the adoption of regulations and their application in Serbia are identical to those in the EU only then are they temporarily closed. Not until all questions from the last chapter are closed with a friendly handshake is our job finished.

WHERE IS SERBIA NOW?

On 27 June 2019, as part of its negotiations with the European Union, Serbia opened Chapter 9 which covers services. With this chapter included, Serbia has so far opened 17 out of 35 chapters, two of which have been provisionally closed: Chapter 25 (Science and Research) and Chapter 26 (Education and Culture).

See the full timeline of the accession negotiations at:

Ana don’t forget that we have also opened Chapter 31, which refers to our cross-border economic cooperation, as well as Chapter 6, which includes a set of rules about the rights of companies. Through negotiations with the European Union in Chapter 13, we coordinate the regulations referring to customs policy and integration with the European Union, has also been opened.

And statistics, Marko, in Chapter 18! We have also opened Chapter 17 which regulates the issues and goals of the economic and monetary union. Shortly after the summer holidays began, we opened Chapter 9, which deals with various questions in the sphere. That’s a total of 17 opened chapters, Marko, in the negotiations between Serbia and the European Union.

Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs is a cross-border exchange programme aimed at supporting new and aspiring entrepreneurs to acquire relevant skills necessary to manage a business and its growth in cooperation with experienced entrepreneurs from other countries over a period of up to six months.
EU ASSISTANCE TO SERBIA

Have you ever noticed the European Union logo in a library, in your school, in a public city bus, or on city and local government

Did you perhaps wonder why the EU logo is placed there and what it means?

The European Union is the biggest donor in Serbia in the 2000-2018 period (I know, some of us weren’t even born back then) and has provided resources to the tune of EUR3.6 billion, used to implement the necessary reforms in the areas such as the rule of law, public administration reform, improving the standards in environmental protection and agriculture.

https://europa.rs/pomoc-eu-republici-srbiji/

The European Union has launched a special programme of support called the EU Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) for countries which are in the accession process, including Serbia.

Serbia is one of the largest recipients of EU funds worldwide, and the largest recipient in the Western Balkans region, with around 200 million euros per year.

SECTORS SUPPORTED BY EU IN SERBIA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Support</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Environment protection</td>
<td>Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refurbishment of schools and universities</td>
<td>Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing solutions for vulnerable groups</td>
<td>Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renewal of cultural heritage</td>
<td>Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support to development of municipalities</td>
<td>Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarships for students and professors</td>
<td>Support</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EUROPA DIARY

ADO

Do you know that the funds the European Union has secured helped renovate the Freedom Bridge and Žeželj Bridge in Novi Sad, as well as the Gazelle Bridge in Belgrade, which I cross daily on my way to school?

MARKO

I know Ana! And not just that! EU funds equipped several hospitals in Serbia, secured equipment for improving the quality of drinking water, and regulated the way we collect and store waste – especially in Subotica, Sremska Mitrovica, Užice and Požarevac.
VISA-FREE TRAVEL

Do you know that you can travel to the European Union without visas?

Do you know that this wasn’t always that easy?

Up until 19th December 2009, Serbian citizens required visas to travel to the European Union. Beside the necessary paperwork, issuing a visa also required certain financial expenses as well as taking time to wait in the long queues outside the EU Member States’ embassies.

In 2019 it will be ten years since this has no longer been the case. If you decide to spend a weekend with your parents or friends in one of the neighbouring countries which are also EU Member States or go to the seaside, you no longer need to plan a long time in advance in order to have a visa in your passport.

To make this happen, the Republic of Serbia had to implement numerous reforms to make visa-free travel possible for its citizens. With the support of the European Union, biometric passports for our citizens were introduced, state border crossings were modernized, activities for securing public order and security were improved and the capacity of state services and their employees were strengthened. This allowed Serbia to complete all the tasks on the map, which consisted of 42 milestones which Serbia had to achieve to have visa-free travel.

In addition, Serbia also signed two additional agreements with the European Union – an Agreement on Visa Facilitation and an Agreement on Readmission.

In order to travel to any of the 28 EU Member States, excluding the United Kingdom and Ireland, as well as to four countries which are not EU members but are signatories of the Schengen Agreement (Iceland, Switzerland, Norway and Liechtenstein), all you need is your passport.

Out of 28 EU Member States, 23 are part of the Schengen Area. The United Kingdom and Ireland opted out of this type of cooperation, while Croatia, Romania, Bulgaria and Cyprus are yet to meet certain requirements in order to gain access to the Schengen Area. Regardless of their current status, one can still travel visa-free to these four EU Member States, with the exception of the United Kingdom and Ireland.

Citizens of Serbia can travel to countries in the Schengen Area, where they are free to stay for up to 90 days, every six months (180 days), regardless of whether they are travelling for business purposes, professional development or a tourist visit. This period counts from the moment you enter the territory, within the 180 days. For example, if you entered a Schengen country on 1st January, the next six months period starts from 1st July. If you travel to Schengen countries frequently, you are responsible for calculating how many days you have left within the current six-month period.
### Portugal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AREA</th>
<th>92,226 km²</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Share in total EU area</td>
<td>2,1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPULATION</td>
<td>10,276,617</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share in total EU population</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAPITAL</td>
<td>Lisbon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU Member State since</td>
<td>1st January 1986</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

National Youth Council (Conselho Nacional de Juventude – CNJ)

Portugal is the European Union in the use of renewable sources of energy for heating homes - 73%. In 2020, Lisbon, the capital of Portugal, will be the European Green Capital.

10% of the entire EU territory planted with pear trees is in Portugal. Portugal is the leader in the production of cork in the EU - in 2016 the value of this output was EUR 261 million.²

Embassy of Portugal

Portuguese Tourism Organisation

---

² Source: Eurostat

### Slovenia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AREA</th>
<th>20,273 km²</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Share in total EU area</td>
<td>0,5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPULATION</td>
<td>2,080,908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share in total EU population</td>
<td>0,4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAPITAL</td>
<td>Ljubljana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU Member State since</td>
<td>1st May 2004</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Slovenian National Youth Council (Mladinski svet Slovenije – MSS)

Ljubljana, the capital of Slovenia, was Europe’s Green Capital in 2016. As much as 63% of Slovenia’s territory is covered in forest.

Secondary school children in Slovenia learn, on average, two or even three foreign languages at school. During the three summer months in 2017 (June, July and August), 1.3 million babies were born in the EU. Of all the babies born in this period, the largest number were born in Slovenia – 5,528

Embassy of Slovenia

Slovenian Tourism Organisation
## DECEMBER 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>25</th>
<th>26</th>
<th>27</th>
<th>28</th>
<th>29</th>
<th>30</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MONDAY</td>
<td>TUESDAY</td>
<td>WEDNESDAY</td>
<td>THURSDAY</td>
<td>FRIDAY</td>
<td>SATURDAY</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>02</th>
<th>03</th>
<th>04</th>
<th>05</th>
<th>06</th>
<th>07</th>
<th>08</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MONDAY</td>
<td>TUESDAY</td>
<td>WEDNESDAY</td>
<td>THURSDAY</td>
<td>FRIDAY</td>
<td>SATURDAY</td>
<td>SUNDAY</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### EUROPA DIARY 2019/2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
<th>SATURDAY</th>
<th>SUNDAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MO</td>
<td>TU</td>
<td>WE</td>
<td>TH</td>
<td>FR</td>
<td>SA</td>
<td>SU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MO</td>
<td>TU</td>
<td>WE</td>
<td>TH</td>
<td>FR</td>
<td>SA</td>
<td>SU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY
FRANCE

AREA: 638,474 km²
Share in total EU area: 14,3%
POPULATION: 67,028,048
Share in total EU population: 13,1%
CAPITAL: Paris

France is one of the founding members of the European Union: 1st January 1958
Committee for National and international Relations of Youth Associations and Informal Educational Organisations (Comité pour les relations nationales et internationales des associations de jeunesse et d'éducation populaire)

French citizens are ranked third in Europe for household energy consumption per capita; they spend 4,1 MW, the average in Europe being 1.6 MW.

In 2017 France produced 1.9 million tons of cheese, which accounts for 19% of the total production.

France is the Member State which had the largest network of protected areas for nature in 2018 - Natura 2000 - 549,192 km².

In 2017, with production of 96 million tons, France was one of the EU's biggest pumpkin producers. 3

Embassy of France
French Institute in Serbia
French Department of Economy in Serbia
French-Serbian Chamber of Economy
French Tourism Organisation

3 Source: Eurostat

CZECH REPUBLIC

AREA: 78,870 km²
Share in total EU area: 1,8%
POPULATION: 10,649,800
Share in total EU population: 2,1%
CAPITAL: Prague

EU Member State since: 1st May 2004
The Czech Committee for Children and Youth (Česká rada dětí a mládeže – ČRDM)

97% of young Czech people aged 16 to 24 use social networks.

Czech Republic, together with Poland, is the leading EU Member State in the production of cultivated freshwater common carp.

In 2017, Czech Republic was the biggest exporter of toys in the European Union. 4

Embassy of the Czech Republic
Czech Tourism Portal

4 Source: Eurostat
We all know that we can travel without any problems and additional border crossings once inside the EU or that we can choose where we want to continue our studies or schooling. However, did you know that in the EU you can, for example, buy a bicycle in one Member State and take it home without paying customs duties or filling out additional paperwork?

But this does not just apply to goods or freedom of movement of people.

That’s right. Apart from goods and people, the European Union has also worked on the adjustment and improvement of the frameworks which now make the free movement of services and capital possible within the Member States.

This is also the case when you order something on the Internet from another EU country. Also, this ensures everyday lives and makes many products accessible to citizens throughout the EU.
The four freedoms of the European Union form the foundations of a single, Internal European Union Market in the Member States, i.e. it guarantees their citizens the application of freedoms which refer to the free flow of: goods, people/workers, services, capital.

From the very beginnings of the development and the process of European integration, attempts were made to eradicate different impediments in production, trade and business, and to contribute to the realisation of visible citizens within the European Union Member States. The formation of a single, internal market, whose foundations lie on the four basic freedoms brings to the citizens of the European Union which they enjoy to a certain degree and was made possible by this improvement in cooperation:

- easy access to a wide range of products throughout the EU
- the ability to move for travelling, schooling, professional development or job seeking
- offer of different services by numerous companies to markets outside their home country
- unimpeded movement of capital which does not restrict itself only in the free money, but also in the movement of investments and credits.

A PRODUCT COMING FROM ONE MEMBER STATE CAN BE FOUND ON THE MARKETS OF ALL OTHER EU MEMBER STATES WITHOUT ANY ADDITIONAL LIMITATIONS AND UNDER THE SAME CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO EITHER SAME, OR SIMILAR PRODUCT OF THAT EU COUNTRY.

The European Union contributes to the adjustment of production standards in the Member States or introduces common rules for the production of certain goods which are valid across its whole territory so that everyone within the EU market can have access to goods of the same quality.

The removal of barriers in the production process and the commercial exchange of goods and products contributes to a higher degree of product safety and quality control, as well as to the improvement of the health and quality of life of the citizens in all Member States. This means that whether you live in Warsaw or Paris, the standards of manufacture and the installation of lifts in buildings are the same in Poland and France, as well as the standards for the manufacturing of toys, machines or medicines.

The Ministry of trade, tourism and telecommunications of Serbia has put in place a rapid alert system for dangerous products called NEPRO modelled on the EU model.
Travelling across the European Union without any additional border controls between Member States is certainly one of the greatest achievements of the European Union.

As a citizen of the EU, besides travelling, you can also continue your schooling and professional development in other Member States under the same conditions as the citizens of these states.

See some advice for travelling around Europe:

However, this freedom does not only include the possibility to change places when travelling or for schooling, but it also refers to some other possibilities in EU countries other than your own, such as looking for a job or residing in a place for work, under the same circumstances and sharing the same rights as the citizens of that Member State, with the exception of jobs in the government sector.

All in the same place:

EUROPEAN JOB MOBILITY PORTAL - EURES

The rights contained in this freedom are the rights of workers to move and reside in another Member State, but also the rights of their family members to reside in this same Member State. To boost the mobility of workers, the European Union implements numerous measures to improve this freedom, such as the mutual acknowledgement of workers' prof obtained in other Member States.

SOLVIT

As much as the European Union seeks to provide a favourable environment for development and promotion of rights and freedoms, it can often happen in practice that some regulations, decisions or simply, bureaucracy, can prevent exercising of guaranteed rights. The European Union has developed a network, entitled SOLVIT, through which an EU citizen, or company, can turn to if a Member State administration does not respect EU law. Services of this network are free of charge and provided by a State administration in all Member States, but also in Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein. The goal of SOLVIT is to resolve any problem in a period of 10 weeks. When we are talking about the free movement of people and workers, SOLVIT helps with recognition of professional qualifications, obtaining visa and residence rights, on the questions of vehicle and driving licenses, fee for family, retirement and unemployment benefits, health insurance and access to education.


FREE FLOW OF PEOPLE/WORKERS

FREE MOVEMENT OF CAPITAL

Do you want to use your credit card in Vienna, Madrid or Bratislava? Transaction expenses within the European Union, both online and off-line, are the same as in your own home. We have already mentioned before that this freedom does not only include the free movement of capital, but also the free movement of investments, various loans and credits within the European Union Member States.

In addition to the free movement of capital, this freedom also includes the prohibition of any kind of restriction on capital transactions and payments within the Member States, as well as between Member States and third countries. In practice, this means that as a citizen of an EU Member State you can open a bank account, buy real estate or invest in a business in another Member State. This freedom is the latest of the four freedoms within the single, internal market and it is still being improved, although with the acceptance of the euro as a common currency and the creation of the eurozone it has remarkably progressed. This freedom is also considered to be a supplementary element of the three mentioned earlier and makes many products accessible to citizens throughout the EU.

FREEDOM OF ESTABLISHMENT AND PROVISION OF SERVICES

It’s not only workers who can move freely within the EU, but also companies and individuals who want to start work somewhere outside their own country.

The freedom to provide services means that the citizens of all EU Member States, as well as one of the Member States, can stay on the territory of another Member State - permanently or temporarily - to provide or obtain a certain service. They can provide services in the Member State where they are without any additional restrictions or prohibitions.

COMPANIES, FIRMS AND BUSINESS ENTERPRISES CAN NOT ONLY PROVIDE CERTAIN SERVICES TEMPORARILY OR PERMANENTLY IN OTHER MEMBER STATES, BUT CAN ALSO ESTABLISH THEIR AFFILIATES AND BRANCH OFFICES IN OTHER MEMBER STATES. Moreover, citizens from other Member States can choose any Member State in which to open their first company, start a business and begin work.
EU Member States have €uro for official currency.

DID YOU KNOW?

All euro coins have the same reverse - a map of Europe, while each Member State has its own design used for the obverse of coins.

Because money circulates freely through the EU, you can get different coins everywhere, but next time pay attention and try to figure out what is the symbol on the obverse and which Member State it belongs to.

The euro is the official currency of 19 Member States of the European Union. As thus, it was introduced in 2002, when it replaced national currencies of 12 Member States at the time. There are numerous advantages of having a single currency. For example, you don’t have to constantly recalculate in your head the cost of lunch, coffee or ice cream when you are on vacation. Also, you don’t have to constantly make sure you have enough money with you and whether the working hours of currency exchange are over.

Also, a large number of business people and companies do not have to worry about transaction costs or exchange rates on the stock market, which certainly affects the stability of prices of products and services offered to citizens.

Learn more about how the European Central Bank with Headquarters in Frankfurt works.

What is the Eurozone and how it works.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>06</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>13</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>07</td>
<td>TUESDAY</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>TUESDAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08</td>
<td>WEDNESDAY</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>WEDNESDAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09</td>
<td>THURSDAY</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>THURSDAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>FRIDAY</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>FRIDAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>SATURDAY</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>SATURDAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>SUNDAY</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>SUNDAY</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EUROPA DIARY 2019/2020.**
### SWEDEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>AREA</strong></th>
<th>447.424 km²</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Share in total EU area</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>POPULATION</strong></td>
<td>10.230.185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share in total EU population</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CAPITAL</strong></td>
<td>Stockholm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU Member State since</td>
<td>1st January 1995</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Swedish National Council of Youth Organisations (LSU – Sveriges ungdomsorganisationer)

53% of the total energy consumption in Sweden comes from renewable energy sources.

Out of the total number of registered cars in Sweden in 2017, almost 2.4% were electric and hybrid vehicles, which is the highest percentage in the EU.

Sweden is the Member State with the highest percentage of young people aged 15-24 who live independently of whom 38.3% are female and 49.8% male.

Up to 86% of Swedish residents agree that their vote matters in the EU, and this is the highest percentage of all Member States.

#### Embassy of Sweden in Belgrade

#### Swedish Tourism Organisation

---

### SPAIN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>AREA</strong></th>
<th>505.983 km²</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Share in total EU area</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>POPULATION</strong></td>
<td>46.934.632</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share in total EU population</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CAPITAL</strong></td>
<td>Madrid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU Member State since</td>
<td>1st January 1986</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Spanish Youth Council (Consejo de la Juventud de España – CJE)

Spain is the most visited tourist destination in the EU.

Half of the 2017 entire production of oranges in the European Union was from Spain.

In 2018, 86% of the households in Spain had access to the Internet, which is equal to the European average.

In Spain, in 2017, six million tons of olives were produced, which represented 59% of olive production across the entire EU.5

#### Embassy of the Kingdom of Spain

#### Cervantes Institute in Belgrade

#### Spanish Tourism Organisation

---

5 Source: Eurostat
Belgium

**Area**: 30,665 km²

Share in total EU area: 0.7%

**Population**: 11,467,923

Share in total EU population: 2.2%

**Capital**: Brussels

Belgium is one of the EU founding members - 1st January 1958

Flemish Youth Council (Vlaamse Jeugdraad)

French Community Youth Council (Conseil de la Jeunesse)

In 2015, Belgium had the highest percentage of recycled waste, with over 80% of the waste being recycled.

In Belgium, 73% of the residents aged 16 to 74 use social networks, which is the second largest percentage in the EU.

In 2017 Belgium allocated 2.58% of its gross domestic product (GDP) to research and development, which is higher than the European average (2.06%) and takes sixth place, behind Sweden, Austria, Denmark, Germany and Finland.

Antwerp in Belgium is the second largest port in the European Union.

Embassy of the Kingdom of Belgium

Belgian Tourism Organisation

---

Hungary

**Area**: 93,013 km²

Share in total EU area: 2.1%

**Population**: 9,772,756

Share in total EU population: 1.9%

**Capital**: Budapest

EU Member State since - 1st May 2004

National Youth Council (Nemzeti Ifjúsági Tanács – NIT)

83% of Hungarian households had access to the Internet in 2018.

The Hungarian alphabet has 44 letters.

83% of Hungarian households had access to the Internet in 2018.

Hungary, together with Denmark, are Member States where the residents would choose a bicycle as their primary means of transport - 40.4%.

Hungary is the biggest exporter of honey in the European Union. In 2018 alone, Hungary exported 20,000 tons of honey to other Member States, i.e. 14% of the entire export within the EU.

Hungarian Embassy

Hungarian Tourism Organisation

---

Source: Eurostat

Source: Eurostat
I am sure that you’ve read somewhere that the European Union has a regulation that bans knobbly carrots.

I know, but it’s not just bananas and carrots. We can often read and hear stories about the European Union always over-regulating and even prohibiting different things.

Hey, but they say the same thing about bananas!

I’ve read, but also heard a few times that the European Union will ban the use of the Cyrillic alphabet when we become a Member State.

But Marko, Cyrillic is already one of the official alphabets of the European Union.

I know this is not true now. From now on, I’ll check everything I hear because I know where...
These stories are not just common for Serbia, but they can also be heard in other countries all over Europe. To better understand and familiarise yourself with these or similar stories about the European Union, we will present you with a few short stories that have been documented. We believe that this brief overview of the most common and popular myths will help you to better understand the functioning of the EU and what awaits us in the process of Serbia’s accession to the EU. We also hope that it will encourage you and your school friends and peers to further discuss these issues, which will no doubt have an impact on the lives of the citizens of our country.

The European Union keeps a record of EU myths and clarifies these and similar stories by offering adequate, correct and up-to-date information.

We present you with the seven most interesting misconceptions that we have heard or read and invite you to join us, by sharing those that you have heard or by helping us discover new ones that we will publish and elaborate on in the next issue of the Diary.

You can read the stories that the EU has managed to collect on the following:

You can also read stories about EU misconceptions in the Myths about the EU publication in Serbian, published by the Ministry of European Integration of the Republic of Serbia:

1. WE WON’T BE ALLOWED TO PRODUCE CHEESE, KAJMAK AND RAKIJA IN THE EU

The EU does not prohibit cheese and kajmak production, nor the custom of pork roasting and rakija producing. When we become an EU Member State, we can continue producing our authentic local products and sell them on the market.

Cheese and kajmak manufacturers will have to meet minimal requirements that are necessary for their production, while testing for contagious diseases will be reinforced. It is also necessary to continue investing in the equipment for producing these authentic products and building facilities where it will be possible to safely store foods that spoil easily, especially in hot weather.

If we wish to sell the best family rakija, we have to meet certain food safety requirements that apply in all the EU Member States.

In the EU accession process, Serbia will be able to protect its plum brandy under the name Serbian Sljivovica, like the Czech Republic did in 2007.

IF THESE AUTHENTIC, TRADITIONAL PRODUCTS ARE PREPARED ONLY FOR ONE’S HOUSEHOLD AND NOT FOR THE MARKET, THE EUROPEAN UNION DOES NOT PRESCRIBE ANY RESTRICTIONS OR PROHIBITIONS.

2. THE EU SAYS: “NO MORE KNOBBLY CARROTS AND BANANAS HAVE TO BE BENT AT A CERTAIN ANGLE”

Fruits and vegetables that are available on the EU market are according to their quality and some of the quality criteria refer to a product’s size and shape.

However, even though there are certain regulations in the countries of the EU, you can still buy differently curved bananas, along with knobbly carrots of different sizes.

The EU does not prohibit selling geometrically imperfect fruits and vegetables, but they exist to provide those of use who buy fruits and vegetables on the EU market with correct, reliable and verifiable information.

The European Union funds from its budget annually to support programmes and campaigns to increase consumer awareness of how important the safety of the food we buy and consume every day is.

4. THE EU BANS NOISY TOYS

This myth suggests that the EU will ban all toys that make any kind of noise so very soon we will be able to say goodbye to whistles or football rattles. However, this is not true, because in 1988, the EU adopted a regulation under which all cheering equipment has to be manufactured in such a way that the sound is below a certain level of noise intensity.
6. YOU CAN FIND THE SAME PRODUCTS OF DIFFERENT QUALITY ON THE EU MARKET

If we speak about the difference in quality and composition of certain products between the Serbian and the EU market, for example, chocolate or cream, we need to know that the difference in the results comes from the fact that local production regulations don’t impose standards as high as the European Union ones. Serbia is adopting a large number of regulations that demand higher standards in the production and distribution of different products such as sweets, electrical appliances, cosmetics and toys.

A high degree of food safety in all phases of production and distribution is guaranteed to citizens across the EU by food safety regulations. Also, in order for all citizens, both in eastern and western EU Member States, to have access to food and products of the same quality, the “New Deal for Consumers” was proposed in 2018. This proposal also amends the Unfair Commercial Practices Directive in the part that refers to dual product quality.

IN THE FUTURE, DIFFERENT INSTITUTIONS AND EU BODIES WILL WORK ON IMPROVING THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK, AS WELL AS ON SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES FOR IMPROVING CONSUMER PROTECTION AND THEIR RIGHTS ON THE EU TERRITORY.

7. BY JOINING THE EU WE WILL loose OUR TRADITIONS AND CUSTOMS

One of the biggest myths about the European Union states that by joining the EU we will lose our identity, culture, customs and tradition. The EU is a union of countries that work together on strengthening the Union and its goals, as well as on achieving results through various policies.

EU membership is voluntary. Becoming an EU state doesn’t imply losing our identity or citizenship, but getting another one – the citizenship of the EU.

EU membership will also allow us to create the rules that concern and affect us. We will gain the opportunity to choose our own representatives in the EU Parliament and to speak Serbian in the EU institutions, since it is going to become one of the EU languages – currently there are 24 of them.

The EU Member States are already working on improving cooperation, because they have realized that by working together, they have pursued interests and accomplished goals better and more efficiently than the countries outside the Union are able to.
**Poland**

**Area** 311,928 km²

Share in total EU area: 7%

**Population** 37,972,812

Share in total EU population: 7.4%

**Capital** Warsaw

EU Member State since 1st May 2004

Polish Council of Youth Organisations (Polska Rada Organizacji Młodzieżowych – PROM)

Every fourth apple in the EU in 2017 was grown in Poland.

Up to 44% of the population of Poland uses the Internet for bank transactions.

Thanks to the European Union programme, Erasmus +, 43,000 foreign students have studied in Poland.

On a scale of 0 to 10 - 7.3 is how the men and women in Poland rated the quality of life, which is higher than the average in the EU.

Embassy of Poland

Polish Tourism Organisation

**Denmark**

**Area** 42,926 km²

Share in total EU area: 1%

**Population** 5,806,081

Share in total EU population: 1.1%

**Capital** Copenhagen

EU Member State since 1st January 1973

Danish Youth Council (Dansk Ungdoms Fællesråd – DUF)

Denmark is the Member State with the largest number of companies producing electric energy - in 2016 there were 1,350.

In Denmark, 79% of the population aged 16 to 74 uses social networks, which makes it the highest percentage in the EU.

Denmark, alongside Finland, is a Member State where women are very happy with their lives: on a scale 0 to 10 they rated it 8.1.

In Denmark, 32.2% of the total energy spending comes from renewable sources.

Embassy of Denmark

Danish Tourism Organisation

---

Source: Eurostat
National Day of the Republic of Serbia

EUROPA DIARY
ANA
Yes, I do know that. We talked about it during our trip to European Union Member States last year. When you are a citizen of the European Union, along with the rights you already have, you also gain new rights that allow you to decide what the EU of tomorrow is going to look like.

MARKO
Ana, do you know that when Serbia becomes a Member State of the European Union, apart from Serbian citizenship we will also have another one – citizenship of the European Union? This means that along with the name Serbia, our passports will also read ‘European Union’.

That’s right. You can vote in European Parliament elections, which are held every five years, and you can choose who will represent you in this EU institution. You can vote in national elections, but you can also run for election yourself and advocate your ideas in the European Parliament.

PROMOTING AND PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS

The European Union works towards promoting and protecting human rights in two main directions. The first relates to protecting the basic human rights of European Union citizens. In addition, the European Union also organizes activities which are aimed at promoting human rights across the world. The European Union does not represent only a common market of goods and services. It also promotes, advocates, improves and respects the values and rights which have been established by the agreements which the EU was founded on, as well as those listed in a separate document, which the EU has accepted, and which is called the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.
EU CHARTER OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union is a European Union document setting out fundamental rights the European Union and its Member States must uphold. It covers personal, civic, political, economic and social rights enjoyed by EU citizens. The Charter is valid throughout the EU's territory. It must be respected not only by Member States, but also by all EU institutions and bodies. The European Union carries out its activities and adopts regulations with respect to the Charter, while EU courts prevent the enforcement of regulations that violate it.

By improving respect for human rights across its territory, the European Union makes life easier for Europeans who study, work, start their businesses and do business inside the EU, or helps them to exercise their rights once they retire or marry.

In the international sphere, the European Union works towards improving and promoting democracy and human rights in line with the values it is founded on – respect for freedom, democracy, human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law. When devising the measures, programmes and activities which are to be conducted in the following period, the European Union sets respect for and the improvement of human rights as the foundation of all activities which are implemented.

EUROPEAN UNION AGENCY FOR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

The European Union also has an Agency for Fundamental Rights with headquarters in Vienna, Austria. The Agency works towards promoting and protecting fundamental rights within the European Union, particularly in areas related to discrimination, access to justice, the acrim and xenophobia, data protection, the rights of victims and children's rights.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT CHARTERPEDIA IS?

It’s an online tool for your mobile phone that provides a browser for you to learn more about the Charter’s 54 articles and your rights as a future EU citizen in a simple, easy and compelling way.

PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION

The protection of personal data in the European Union is a fundamental right, which ensures that your personal data is handled carefully and responsibly. From May 2018, a new legal framework for the protection of personal data has been implemented in the European Union. Anyone who collects your personal data on any occasion is obliged to do so in accordance with the rules, for a purpose, and any data or information which is gathered must be limited to what is necessary and must not be kept longer than is necessary and allowed. All institutions and organizations which collect information in the European Union are obliged to secure it against loss, destruction or theft. If, as a citizen of the EU, you way your personal data is being processed, you may complaint to the person, institution or organization handling it, or you can approach the national bodies responsible for protecting personal data which exist across the EU.
The European Union has recognized areas which require special attention in order to ensure improvement. These are:

- increasing the share women hold in the labour market and the equal economic participation of women and men;
- reducing gender pay and pension gaps;
- promoting gender equality in decision making;
- preventing violence and supporting victims;
- promoting women’s rights in all areas.

Learn more about the work and activities of the European Institute for Gender Equality, located in the capital city of Lithuania – Vilnius.

EUROPEAN PILLAR OF SOCIAL RIGHTS
#socialrights

The European Pillar of Social Rights builds on 20 principles for a more righteous and inclusive Europe. It represents the driving force of social Europe, for all its citizens. Within the pillar, the Member States of the European Union seek to unite in all activities which lead to the development and improvement of citizens’ everyday lives, employment, as well as increasing economic growth.

The principles and rights determined in the pillar are split into three main categories:
- equal opportunities and access to the labour market;
- fair working conditions;
- social protection and inclusion.

RIGHTS PROTECTION – THE EUROPEAN OMBUDSMAN

The Ombudsman is an independent body of the European Union which investigates complaints of poor administration by EU institutions or other bodies. The European Ombudsman reacts to irregularities in the work of EU institutions – disregard of basic human rights, legal norms or good governance principles. These irregularities might relate to the work of the administration, discrimination, unfair conduct, abuse of power, lack of information or refusal to provide it, unnecessary delays, other.

EXCERCISE YOUR RIGHTS – THE EUROPEAN CITIZENS’ INITIATIVE

If they are worried about a certain issue or believe that the EU ought to take action in a certain matter all EU citizens can start collecting signatures for the European Citizen’s Initiative. If a million other citizens, from at least seven EU Member States agree with them, the European Commission will consider proposing new regulations to resolve the issue raised by the citizens who signed the initiative.

The first citizens’ initiative which was submitted to the European Commission was ‘Right2Water, during which 1.6 million signatures were collected from citizens across the EU.

LEARN MORE:

CHECK OUT OPEN INITIATIVES:
The European Youth Parliament (EYP) was founded in France in 1987 in order to develop a political debate and nurture intercultural dialogue and the exchange of different ideas. The European Youth Parliament has members in 40 states including those which are not EU Member States; and includes over 20,000 young Europeans. One of its key aims is to encourage young people to take the initiative and actively participate in decision making processes.

**EUROPEAN YOUTH PARLIAMENT**

Become part of the European Youth Parliament Serbia

The main activities of the European Youth Parliament Serbia are organizing conferences and sessions which simulate the decision making process of the European Parliament. At these events, the participants are split into working groups (committees), where they discuss socially relevant topics, identify problematic issues and propose solutions which are presented in a formal document – resolution. Each segment of each session is a debate of the General Assembly, where each committee presents their solutions to the problems which have been discussed.

**WHERE IS SERBIA?**

As part of the accession process negotiations, Serbia is negotiating with the European Union issues related to the protection and improvement of human rights as part of Chapter 23 - Judiciary and Fundamental Rights. Serbia has an established legal and institutional framework for protecting fundamental rights. Respect for human rights is also guaranteed through the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia. The findings of the European Commission presented in the Annual Report on Serbia for 2019 show that Serbia has improved its legislative framework related to national minorities, and the budget for national minorities has been increased. Further progress has been made in the field of education, and a new Law on Textbooks has been adopted, which simplifies the process of the import and approval of textbooks in the languages of national minorities.

In addition, a new Law on the Protection of Personal Data has been adopted, for the purpose of harmonization with the new legal framework in the EU in this area. When it comes to combating discrimination, the legal framework in Serbia is largely in line with that of the EU, and the Commissioner for the Protection of Equality is part of the European Network of Bodies Responsible for Equality.
**CYPRUS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>9253 km²</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Share in total EU area</td>
<td>0,2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>875,898</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share in total EU population</td>
<td>0,2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital</td>
<td>Nicosia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU Member State since</td>
<td>1st May 2004</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cyprus Youth Council (Συμβούλιο Νεολαίας Κύπρου – ΣυΝΚ)

Apart from Malta, Cyprus is the only EU Member State that doesn't have a single kilometre of railroad. Cyprus is among the three Member States with the greatest number of dentists – 104 dentists for 100,000 residents.

In 2015, 64% of plastic packaging waste was recycled in Cyprus, which is above the EU average (42.4 per cent). 69% of Cyprus residents aged 16 to 74 use social networks, which is one of the highest percentages in the EU.

**Embassy of the Republic of Cyprus**

**Cyprus Tourism Organisation**

---

**IRELAND**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>69,946 km²</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Share in total EU area</td>
<td>1,6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>4,904,226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share in total EU population</td>
<td>0,9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital</td>
<td>Dublin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU Member State since</td>
<td>1st January 1973</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

National Youth Council of Ireland – NYCI)

During 2017, 17.2% of Irish residents named Spain as their favourite tourist destination. Ireland is the Member State with the highest percentage of men aged 25-64 with higher education. A total of 42.8% of men have higher education.

85% of Ireland's residents are optimistic about the future of the European Union, which is the highest percentage between all Member States. According to data from 2018, 16 per cent of Ireland's residents aged 16-74 have never used the Internet.

**Honorary Consulate of Ireland**

**Irish Tourism Organisation**
MARCH 2020.

24 MONDAY

25 TUESDAY

26 WEDNESDAY

27 THURSDAY

28 FRIDAY

29 SATURDAY

SUNDAY

02 MONDAY

03 TUESDAY

04 WEDNESDAY

05 THURSDAY

06 FRIDAY

07 SATURDAY

08 SUNDAY
## EUROPA DIARY 2019/2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23/30</td>
<td>MONDAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24/31</td>
<td>TUESDAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>WEDNESDAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>THURSDAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>FRIDAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>SATURDAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>SUNDAY</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Lithuania

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AREA</th>
<th>65,286 km²</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Share in total EU area</td>
<td>1,5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPULATION</td>
<td>2,794,184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share in total EU population</td>
<td>0,5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAPITAL</td>
<td>Vilnius</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU Member State since</td>
<td>1st May 2004</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lithuanian Youth Council (Lietuvos jaunimo organizacijų taryba – LiJOT)

Lithuania is the Member State with the highest percentage of residents with higher education aged 30 to 34 – 58%.

In 2018 Lithuania was one of the two Member States with the highest share of female experts in the IT industry – 25%.

Over two thirds of doctors in Lithuania are women.

61% of Lithuania’s residents use the Internet for bank transactions, which is above the EU average (54%).

Embassy of Lithuania to Hungary

Lithuanian Tourism Organisation

### Greece

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AREA</th>
<th>131,692 km²</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Share in total EU area</td>
<td>2,9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPULATION</td>
<td>10,722,287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share in total EU population</td>
<td>2,1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAPITAL</td>
<td>Athens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU Member State since</td>
<td>1st January 1981</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Hellenic National Youth Council (Εθνικό Συμβούλιο Νεολαίας – Ε.ΣΥ.Ν.)

Greece was, together with Spain and France, the largest producer of goat's milk in the European Union in 2017.

96% of young people aged 16-24 in Greece use social networks.

Greece has the highest percentage of self-employed people at European Union level – 30%.

Greece is the Member State with the greatest number of doctors in the European Union – 699 doctors to 100,000 residents.

Embassy of Greece

Hellenic Foundation for Culture in Belgrade

Greek Tourism Organisation
EDUCATION AND SPORT THROUGH THE ERASMUS+ PROGRAMME

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

Erasmus+ is a European Union programme that provides funding for projects in the following areas:

- education
- youth
- sport.

In the area of education, through the Erasmus+ programme, the European Union strives to improve the development of all levels of education, strengthen the bonds between formal and informal learning, as well as to create a smoother transition into the labour market.

Through this project the European Union contributes to young people's active inclusion in civil society, helps them develop and improve their leadership skills, and, through a number of different programmes, advances one of the basic values of the EU – solidarity along with offering young people the opportunity to learn about and understand different cultures across the European continent.

Through different projects in the area of sport, which are through this programme, the European Union improves cooperation and networking between sports associations, but also supports projects that promote the healthy aspects of doing sports, as well as equal opportunities for anyone wanting to do so.

The programme was named after Erasmus of Rotterdam. Erasmus was a philosopher, theologian and humanist, and supported the theory that contact with different countries brings new knowledge and experiences. He also spent time and worked in different countries in Europe, in search of diverse experiences. In the period between 2014 and 2020 alone, the European Union enabled over four million Europeans, including but not limited to students, to advance, study and participate in experience exchange programmes all over Europe. The programme is also open to high school teachers, young people, youth workers and teaching staff.
Through the projects financed by the Erasmus+ students in primary and secondary education are able to visit the EU states on short-term student exchanges, precisely with the aim of lifelong learning, hands-on learning and industry partnerships. Everyone – students, interns, professors, volunteers, administrative workers and young people. The goal is to use the possibilities of the programme to improve skills and increase job opportunities.

Do you want to continue your studies at a university in Europe?
Do you know that you can take part in a student exchange lasting from a few months up to one year?
Would you like to complete a master’s program at an international university without having to pay for tuition?

Serbia has been participating in the Erasmus Plus programme since the beginning, but so far in the capacity of a partner country, with limited participation.

SINCE FEBRUARY 2019, SERBIA BECAME A FULL MEMBER OF THE ERASMUS PLUS PROGRAMME, IN WHICH ONLY FIVE NON-EU COUNTRIES PARTICIPATE, MAKING THE SUCCESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA EVEN GREATER, AS WELL AS THE COUNTRY’S REPUTATION IN THE WORLD, SINCE PARTICIPATION IN THIS PROGRAMME IS POSSIBLE FOR EVERY COUNTRY IN THE WORLD.

This also means that the budget for project now is larger, with certain parts of the programme, such as primary and secondary education, being in a more favourable position.

What are the benefits of the Erasmus+ programme for students?

- You get to study in a different country for 3-12 months.
- The European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) means that the credit points you earn at the selected foreign university during the exchange will be taken into account at your home university.
- One semester or a whole year of studying at a different university will considerably improve your resume.
- This is a great way to meet new people and learn about different cultures.
- It’s an important step in becoming more independent, but it will also motivate you to either continue your education or use your existing knowledge in practice.
- You will improve your foreign language skills.
- This is an opportunity to make friends for life, perhaps even to fall in love!

ANA

Sounds interesting?

MARKO

None of this would be possible for us or our peers from Europe, had the European Union not launched a programme, called Erasmus+, the aim of which is to enable individuals to advance their knowledge and skills and to swap experiences by attending different institutions and organisations across Europe.

Marko, you are going away to university next year. Have you thought about applying for one of the programmes offered by Erasmus+?

Of course. I’ve even come up with a list of Erasmus+ brings. I am now going to present to you what I have found and learned about the programme.

**ERASMUS+ PROGRAMME ALUMNI NETWORK IN SERBIA**

In 2010, the Delegation of the European Union to Serbia, in cooperation with the Tempus Foundation established the Erasmus Mundus Alumni Network in Serbia. This Network was established with the aim to assist interaction between the alumni of the Erasmus Mundus Programme students and graduates as well as in facilitating their contact with potential employees.

JUBILEE

Erasmus+ celebrated its first years in 2017. Over these 30 years an exceptional generation of people got to take part in the programme and gain experience which changed their lives, with these people now being strategically important for the future of the whole of Europe. And this does not just apply to the students who took part in the Erasmus programme, but also to everyone who has lived abroad during a crucial stage of their lives, thus representing the migration of Europeans – the Erasmus generation.

Ever since the in 1987, the greatest result of this initiative and programme has been the creation of one generation, which you too can become part of.
EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS

The European Solidarity Corps is a new European Union initiative, launched in 2016, for the purpose of providing young people with opportunities to volunteer or work in their own country or abroad, on projects which are useful to communities and people across Europe. All young people who take part in the European Solidarity Corps must comply with its mission and principles and are obliged to uphold them.

MISSION AND PRINCIPLES

You can register for the European Solidarity Corps at the age of 17, but cannot start projects until you are 18, while participation in the projects is open to anyone aged up to 30. Participation is also possible for young people from Serbia. The projects you can take part in are diverse, such as preventing natural disasters, participating in disaster relief, assisting in refugee centres, working on issues related to climate change, renewable energy sources and respect for human rights, as well as those projects that improve and promote sport and culture. The projects you can apply for, may last from two up to twelve months.

Taking part in a European Solidarity Corps projects is an important achievement for any young person and may also present a considerable advantage in job applications or further education.

INTERESTED?

Explore the possibilities and apply: Find out more:

HOW DOES THE EUROPEAN UNION SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE SPORTS?

Sport is everyone’s favourite pastime – whether we train, participate in matches in schoolyards, or simply follow our favourite sports on television.

ANA

Sport is everyone’s favourite pastime – whether we train, participate in matches in schoolyards, or simply follow our favourite sports on television.

MARKO

I get really excited about team competitions and avidly support Serbia. Did you know that the European Union also promotes sport and contributes to its development and organizes events we can also take part in?

The European Union supports the development of sport and promotes the social and sports and being physically active, but also organises several activities that counter the existing threats in sports, such as games, violence connected to sport and doping.

The European Union organises and supports different initiatives that promote and improve sports activities across Europe, such as the European Sports Week and European Sports Forum.

The most recent EU research on sport and physical activity from 2017 shows that two out of four Europeans (40 percent) exercise or do sport at least once a week, including seven percent who do so on a regular basis (at least five times a week). However, almost one half of those who took part in the survey (46 percent) never exercise or do any sporting activity.

If we look at the European Union member stats, the greatest percentage of those who do sports regularly live in:
- Finland (69 percent)
- Sweden (67 percent)
- Denmark (63 percent).

Organisations and institutions from Serbia and other countries, that are active in the field of sport, including public bodies, may apply for sports related projects as part of the Erasmus+ programme. Although project proposals are submitted by organisations, this also opens up opportunities for individual participation.

Through partnership improvement projects, organisations and institutions work on strengthening European networks in the field of sport, but also propose different activities that lead to the development and spreading of good practice in sports, improving education and training. Additionally supported activities across Europe help spread awareness of the social and physical activity for one’s personal, social and professional development, linking sports with health, education and young people. Furthermore, the programme also supports organizing non-profit sports events, which can take place in one or several countries at the same time. These events promote participation in sporting activities, equal opportunity for all, a healthier lifestyle, and also provide opportunities to make friends and volunteer.
ITALY

AREA 302.073 km²
Share in total EU area 6,8%
POPULATION 60.359.546
Share in total EU population 11,8%
CAPITAL Rome

Italy is one of the founding members of the European Union

1st January 1958

National Youth Forum of Italy (Forum Nazionale dei Giovani)

Italy is responsible for one quarter of the total wood furniture manufacturing inside the European Union.

In 2017 a total of 7 million passengers went on sea cruises in the European Union. Of this number, 1.9 million passengers started their journey in Italy, which is the largest number at EU level (27%).

In 2018 Italy produced 435 million litres of ice cream, which is 13.7% of the total production at EU level. The Italian town of Matera is the European Culture Capital in 2019, together with Plovdiv in Bulgaria.

Italian Agency for Foreign Trade – Belgrade Offic
Embassy of Italy
Italian Tourism Organisation
Italian Culture Consulate in Belgrade

10 Source: Eurostat
11 Source: Eurostat

LATVIA

AREA 64.586 km²
Share in total EU area 1,4%
POPULATION 1.919.968
Share in total EU population 0,4%
CAPITAL Riga

EU Member State from 1st May 2004

National Youth Council of Latvia (Latvijas Jaunatnes padome – LJP)

Latvia today has the highest ratio of women to men in the EU – 118 women to 100 men. Latvia is the Member State with the highest number of women in managerial positions and also the country where women make up over half of the total workforce – 56%.

In Latvia, 37.6% of the total energy spending comes from renewable sources. Latvia is one of the EU Member States with the highest percentage of people who read more than 12 books per year.

Embassy of Latvia in Greece
Latvian Tourism Organisation
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APRIL 2020.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MONDAY</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TUESDAY</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WEDNESDAY</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>THURSDAY</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FRIDAY</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SATURDAY</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUNDAY</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## THE ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

### A GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE EUROPE

The environment is a topic which goes beyond political and legal frameworks, and indeed any man-made boundary. The main aim is to improve the quality of the environment, protect people’s health, achieve a wise and rational use of natural resources and improve international measures for resolving global and regional environmental protection issues.

---

**ANA**

I am happy that the European Union is helping to protect the Eastern imperial eagles that live in Serbia. It’s the eagle represented national teams are named after. But, do you know, Marko, that there are only two of them left in Serbia today?

---

**MARKO**

I know. Do you know that there are specific programmes which were devised at the EU level that help preserve natural habitats? This is why we need also to give this topic greater attention and figure out how we can help preserve not only the eagle from our but also other endangered species too, as well as our environment, and our planet.
The citizens of the European Union have some of the highest environmental protection standards in the world. Together with the EU Member States’ governments, a set of clear goals has been established for the purpose of shaping and implementing environmental protection policies by mid-2020. Environmental protection must be thought of in the long term, which is why the EU has set mid-term goals for 2030, as well as the long-term vision of everything that needs to be done by 2050. The European Union is protecting the environment in this way, by conducting a set of research programmes, passing legislation in the areas of environmental protection, as well as financing different ventures for achieving the set measures and activities.

In the 1970s, when the EU included the environment on its agenda, the challenges that were faced then were considerably different to those faced today. Initially the focus of the European Union in this area was on protecting endangered species and improving air quality, improving drinking water and reducing emissions from large polluters.

Over several decades, improvement has been made in all these areas. However, the EU faces new challenges today and recognizes the importance of the interconnectivity of different topics and sectors and creates synergies among activities, causes and achievements in areas such as agriculture, energy, transport, research and innovation.

NATURA 2000

EU NATURA 2000 is a network protecting rare and endangered animal species and their habitats. Over 27,000 areas have already been included in the network that covers 18% of the European land area and 6% of its marine territory. Many of those areas are located in the vicinity of large cities. Thanks to NATURA 2000 Viewer you can locate all sites within the network – perhaps there is one in the vicinity of a town you are to visit soon or even your own home.

Discover and research these areas and learn about protected species.

18% OF EUROPE’S LAND AREA IS COVERED BY NATURA 2000 NETWORK

The European Union organizes activities in various fields aimed at protecting and improving our planet such as removing pollution at source and reducing water and air pollution. It also manages activities for combating climate change and maintains a coordinated approach in the areas of waste management, preserving biodiversity, nature and soil, reducing noise pollution, chemicals and pesticides, as well as improving resource management and promoting the principles of the circular economy. The “polluter pays” is one of the key principles through which the EU raises awareness of each individual of the importance of environmental protection.

Did you know that the European Union has protected 500 bird species? These wild bird species are at risk of extinction and the EU protects them thanks to the legal framework in this area.

CLIMATE CHANGE

The European Union is the global leader in combating climate change. The regulations the European Union establishes in this field oblige the Member States to invest in renewable energy sources, so that, for example, car manufacturers in Europe must take appropriate measures to reduce emissions from the cars, trucks or motorcycles they produce, in a way envisioned by the legal framework established in the EU.

Every year almost 20 percent of the total EU budget is allocated to projects that prepare citizens, states and communities for climate change. In the next budget period starting from 2021, 25 percent of the total EU budget will be allocated for these purposes.

The EU helps communities to adapt to the consequences of climate change by restoring swamp and green areas in order to create natural barriers against rising sea levels. The EU also encourages expanding green areas as a way of pollution and temperature change. The EU is even looking for ways of saving water.
Did you know that environmental and climate change issues are closely related to another EU policy and area of major importance – Energy? The EU has set certain goals by 2030 that relate directly to both energy and climate.

You must have heard about:

- greenhouse gas reduction by at least 40%;
- increasing the share of renewables by 32%;
- improving energy efficiency by 32.5%.

EU Member States are obligated to develop integrated public policies in the area of energy and climate change during the 2021-2030 period.

Have you heard of #FridaysForFuture?

“Fridays for Future” is a movement launched in August 2018, when the then 15-year-old Greta Thunberg, a high school student from Sweden, sat in front of the Swedish Parliament each Friday for three weeks in a row, as a sign of protest against the lack of activity in combating climate change. Ever since September of the same year she has protested in front of the parliament each Friday, but she is no longer alone in this. She has been joined by thousands and thousands of pupils, as well as young and old people around the world, who demand clear and targeted action in order to combat the consequences of climate change. Greta has spoken at many important rallies around the world, presenting the efforts and concerns of young people for their future and the survival of our planet in front of international politicians.

Read some of her speeches.

Greta protests even during school holidays; take a look yourself.

Over 28 million tons of plastic waste is produced annually in the European Union. Less than 30 per cent of that amount is recycled, while the rest is burned or stored and therefore cause economic loss, because these products have a short period of use.

Every time one of us throws away a sandwich bag, salad box or a plastic bottle after eating lunch – they don’t simply disappear, but rather, become waste. The plastic we use, and throw away, ends up in the parks in our city, in rivers and seas, destroying the natural and plant life in these habitats, as hundreds of years are needed for it to decompose.

The European Union seriously and strongly advocates for reducing the amount of plastic we throw away, as well as swapping plastic packaging – especially that for one-time use – with recyclable packaging, by no later than 2030.

In the next cycle, this programme will focus on the following areas:

- nature and biodiversity;
- the circular economy and quality of life;
- adapting to climate change;
- clean energy transition.

Have a look at the projects across Europe that are supported through this programme:

This European Union programme is used for funding activities aimed at improving the environment and combating climate change. Between 2014 and 2020, 3.4 million euros were allocated for this programme. Bearing in mind the importance and need for stricter measures in the context of environmental protection and climate action, the European Commission has proposed to increase the budget for this programme in the next budget cycle, from 2021 to 2027, to 5.45 million euros.

The European Union programme for Environment and Climate Action – „LIFE”

Say ‘NO, THANKS’ to plastic

Every time one of us throws away a sandwich bag, salad box or a plastic bottle after eating lunch – they don’t simply disappear, but rather, become waste. The plastic we use, and throw away, ends up in the parks in our city, in rivers and seas, destroying the natural and plant life in these habitats, as hundreds of years are needed for it to decompose.

The European Union seriously and strongly advocates for reducing the amount of plastic we throw away, as well as swapping plastic packaging – especially that for one-time use – with recyclable packaging, by no later than 2030.

In the next cycle, this programme will focus on the following areas:

- nature and biodiversity;
- the circular economy and quality of life;
- adapting to climate change;
- clean energy transition.

Have a look at the projects across Europe that are supported through this programme:

This European Union programme is used for funding activities aimed at improving the environment and combating climate change. Between 2014 and 2020, 3.4 million euros were allocated for this programme. Bearing in mind the importance and need for stricter measures in the context of environmental protection and climate action, the European Commission has proposed to increase the budget for this programme in the next budget cycle, from 2021 to 2027, to 5.45 million euros.

The European Union programme for Environment and Climate Action – „LIFE”

Say ‘NO, THANKS’ to plastic

Every time one of us throws away a sandwich bag, salad box or a plastic bottle after eating lunch – they don’t simply disappear, but rather, become waste. The plastic we use, and throw away, ends up in the parks in our city, in rivers and seas, destroying the natural and plant life in these habitats, as hundreds of years are needed for it to decompose.

The European Union seriously and strongly advocates for reducing the amount of plastic we throw away, as well as swapping plastic packaging – especially that for one-time use – with recyclable packaging, by no later than 2030.

In the next cycle, this programme will focus on the following areas:

- nature and biodiversity;
- the circular economy and quality of life;
- adapting to climate change;
- clean energy transition.

Have a look at the projects across Europe that are supported through this programme:

This European Union programme is used for funding activities aimed at improving the environment and combating climate change. Between 2014 and 2020, 3.4 million euros were allocated for this programme. Bearing in mind the importance and need for stricter measures in the context of environmental protection and climate action, the European Commission has proposed to increase the budget for this programme in the next budget cycle, from 2021 to 2027, to 5.45 million euros.
In January 2018, the EU introduced its plastics strategy, which is designed to regulate systems for the production, use and storage of plastic and encourage the transition to the circular economy. A series of measures has been prescribed, which are intended to ensure the success of this strategy.

A vision of the European economy has been set up, in which the plastic industry is smart and sustainable, encourages economic growth, opens up new branches of industry and investment opportunities and brings new jobs. With the proposed measures, the European Union is directing its activity towards resolving problems created by the use of plastic. The strategic direction of growth, which the EU has chosen on this path, boosts the economy and innovation, creates new jobs and at the same time ensures a cleaner and healthier environment.

WHERE IS SERBIA?

When it comes to environmental protection and climate action, 600 million euros has been invested in Serbia – the EU has invested 404 million euros, while Serbia has invested 196 million euros. Thanks to investments in some of the key areas, the citizens of Serbia can enjoy cleaner air, water and soil.

With these funds, 28 measuring states for automatic air quality measurement were established, wastewater treatment systems were set up in Subotica, Sabac, Leskovac, Kula and Vrbas, and water supply systems were built in Pozarevac, Indija, Petrovac on Mlava and Veliko Gradiste.

Additionally, regional dumpsites were set up in Pirot, Užice, Sremska Mitrovica/Sabac and Subotica, and a system for managing medical waste was also developed.
**Luxembourg**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AREA</th>
<th>2595 km²</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Share in total EU area</td>
<td>0,1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPULATION</td>
<td>613,894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share in total EU population</td>
<td>0,1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAPITAL</td>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Luxembourg is one of the founding members of the European Union 1st January 1958

Luxembourg National Youth Council (Luxemburger Jugendkonferenz – CGJL)

In 2017 Luxembourg had the highest ratio of cars per resident in the European Union – 670 cars to every 1,000 residents.

Eight out of nine pupils in Luxembourg primary schools learn more than two foreign languages.

90% of Luxembourg’s residents see themselves as citizens of the European Union.

Tourists from the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany were those who most frequently visited Luxembourg in 2017.

Embassy of Luxembourg (non-resident Ambassador)

Luxembourg Tourism Organization

---

**Netherlands**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AREA</th>
<th>37,368 km²</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Share in total EU area</td>
<td>0,8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPULATION</td>
<td>17,282,163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share in total EU population</td>
<td>3,3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAPITAL</td>
<td>Amsterdam</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Netherlands is one of the founding members of the European Union 1st January 1958

Dutch National Youth Council (Vereniging Nationale Jeugdraad – NJR)

The biggest EU port is located in the Netherlands – in Rotterdam.

The Netherlands is the Member State with the highest percentage of women with shorter working hours – 75.8 per cent.

Embassy of the Netherlands

Dutch Tourism Organization

---

12 Source: Eurostat
MAY 2020.

01 LABOUR DAY
FRIDAY

04 MONDAY

05 TUESDAY

06 WEDNESDAY

07 THURSDAY

08 FRIDAY

09 SATURDAY
EUROPE DAY

10 SUNDAY

27 MONDAY

28 TUESDAY

29 WEDNESDAY

30 THURSDAY
The notion of digital literacy denotes the ability to use and find different sources of information about a certain topic, as well as the understanding that all information carries a particular value, and that the media which cover it have their different advantages and disadvantages.

Today, digital literacy is part of everyday literacy. It is similar to what we call traditional literacy, but it is also different. To be able to read and write digitally students and teachers need to learn to create and interpret different forms of text, such as static and moving images and icons, spoken and written language, screen features, etc. Besides that, we also need to know how to read different types of texts using various platforms, and how to use diverse, accessible learning formats, and how to create content or space to express ourselves, such as forums and blogs, which did not exist in the past.

The European Union has recognised the need to improve the digital skills of the citizens across the EU and has established this goal as part of the key EU strategies. For example, as early as 2006 the European Parliament recognised digital literacy as one of the eight key skills which every citizen needs to perfect and as one of the four basic learning skills.
In 2017 UNICEF’s annual report on the State of the World’s Children dealt with a topic which increasingly influences almost every aspect of the lives of millions of children across the world, as well as ours: digital technology.

Here are some of the most interesting findings:

- Young people between 15 and 24 are the most active age group in the digital world. Across the world, 71% of young people of that age are connected to the Internet, as opposed to 48% of the entire population.
- It is believed that children and adolescents under the age of 18 make up one third of Internet users worldwide.
- Approximately 29% of young people in the world - about 346 million individuals - have no access to the Internet.

To read and find out more - go to:

**INTERNET SAFETY**

E-mails, SMS and social media - continuous communication on the Internet - is part of our daily lives. All these technologies have brought some new challenges, which we have to be prepared to take into account and to offer a response.

Although this way of communicating and exchanging information has become central to our everyday lives, and we believe it will continue to progress and develop, bringing new possibilities and opportunities - think twice before you post personal data on the Internet. It will probably stay there for a very long time and you never know who might be able to see it in the future.

It is also good to have the following in mind:

- The friends you make online can be different in reality from the way they present themselves.
- Never give your data such as e-mail address, home address or phone number.
- You can cut off communication if you feel uncomfortable, if it scares you, or if you simply don’t want to chat with somebody. Block the user or don’t answer. If you come across something disturbing, report this to an adult or through an application or a site - today everyone offers this option.
- Never reveal any information about your family, friends or the other people you know.
- Never arrange dates with somebody you know only online.
- If you do want to see each other, always arrange the meeting in a public place and have an adult you trust accompany you.

**THE DIGITAL SINGLE MARKET**

The Single European Market is one of the greatest achievements in the process of European integration. However, the Internet and digital technologies are bringing changes to the world and it’s time for the integrated European market to adapt to this progress and use the advantages of the digital tools we have at our disposal. The goal of the EU Digital Single Market is to bring down barriers and to make the most of the business opportunities offered in other EU Member States and use them safely and advantageously.

The development and improvement of the Digital Single Market has enabled the free movement of goods, capital, people and services, and within the market citizens and companies can have equal, restriction-free access to goods and services on the Internet, regardless of their nationality or the Member State they live in.

Follow the achievements in the development of the Digital Single Market:

Find out about the results achieved:

Look at the strategy and development of the Digital Single Market:
FREE WIRELESS INTERNET ACCESS FOR CITIZENS OF EUROPE

In March 2018 the European Commission initiated the programme WiFi4EU to improve the implementation of wireless Internet for residents and visitors in public places, such as parks, squares, public buildings, libraries, health centres, and museums all over Europe. This initiative provides municipalities with the opportunity to apply for vouchers to the value of EUR 15,000 to be used for buying the equipment for installing Wi-Fi hotspots in public places.

23,838 municipalities have taken up this opportunity so far. Do you want to check out which municipalities are these?

PROGRAMME HORIZON 2020

The programme Horizon 2020 is the European Union framework programme for research and innovations, and is the biggest European programme for investments in science. Its goal is to ensure Europe produces world-class science and to make it easier for the public and private sectors to work together in the field of innovation.

For the period 2014-2020, funding of nearly EUR 80 billion is available, while the greatest part of the Horizon 2020 budget - almost 40% - goes to the so-called big social challenges, which include health and climate change.

Horizon 2020 is aimed at the further development of the European Research Area, to create a genuine singlemarket for knowledge research and innovation. By coupling research and innovation, Horizon 2020 helps to achieve goals that emphasise first-class science, industrial leadership and the tackling of societal challenges.

WHERE IS SERBIA?

Serbia has been part of this programme since July 2014, and the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development is responsible for giving support to anyone who wants to take advantage of the possibilities offered by the Horizon 2020 Framework.

SERBIAN SUCCESSES

Do you know that the BioSense Institute, formed within the University of Novi Sad, won the first place in Europe within the Horizon 2020 programme? This competition, in which the most recognized European scientific research institutions participated with around 200 projects, the BioSense “Antares” project was best ranked in Europe. Antares is also the only awarded project funded outside the EU. The project that was designed by BioSense aims to develop this institute into a European centre of science excellence for advanced information technologies in the field of sustainable agriculture.

Have you heard of The European Innovation Scoreboard?

This scoreboard provides a comparative analysis of the innovation and research performances in the EU Member States and other selected European third countries, but it also assesses the strengths and weaknesses of national innovation and research systems.
## Slovakia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AREA</th>
<th>49.035 km²</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Share in total EU area</td>
<td>1,1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPULATION</td>
<td>5.450.421</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share in total EU population</td>
<td>1,1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital</td>
<td>Bratislava</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU Member State from</td>
<td>1st May 2004</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Youth Council of Slovakia (Rada mládeže Slovenska – RmS)

In 2017 Slovakia produced the highest number of motor vehicles, trailers and other traffic equipment in the entire European Union. Slovakia is in third place in the European Union, after Austria and Poland, for the highest number of young agricultural workers. 59% of Slovakia’s residents order goods and services online, which is close to the EU average (60 per cent).

Embassy of the Republic of Slovakia

Slovakian Tourism Organisation

## Malta

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AREA</th>
<th>315 km²</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Share in total EU area</td>
<td>0,01%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPULATION</td>
<td>493.559</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share in total EU population</td>
<td>0,5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAPITAL</td>
<td>Valletta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU Member State since</td>
<td>1st May, 2004</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

National Youth Council of Malta (Kunsill Nazzjonali taż-Żgħażagħ – KNŻ)

Although it is one of the smallest EU countries, both in terms of population and surface area, Malta is among those EU Member States with the largest number of cars per capita - 613 passenger cars for every 1,000 inhabitants (preceded only by Luxembourg - with 670, and Finland - with 617). Malta, together with Cyprus, is the only EU Member State without any railways. In 2017 Malta bred more than half of the EU’s entire production of bluefin tuna.

Embassy of the Sovereign Order of Malta

Malta Tourism Organisation

In 2017 Malta was the favourite tourist destination of people from the United Kingdom, Italy and Germany.

In 2017, tourists from Slovakia most frequently travelled to the Czech Republic, Croatia and Italy.

In 2017 Malta was the favourite tourist destination of people from the United Kingdom, Italy and Germany.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
European cultural heritage is based on the diversity of languages, literature, theatre, architecture, artistic expressions, film, radio and television. The European Union is conceiving and putting into effect various activities in the field of culture to support the preservation of different cultural content so that it is accessible to everyone in neighbouring countries, as well as throughout the European continent. The EU organises numerous art, dance, music and culinary festivals, but also makes use of all 24 official languages as well as many regional and local languages in which cultural heritage is being built, maintained and fostered. The slogan “United in Diversity” refers to this unique cultural wealth of the EU.
WHAT IS THE EUROPEAN CULTURAL AGENDA?

The aim of the European Union in the field of culture is to design activities to preserve and improve the dialogue between different cultures. The EU promotes diversity and intercultural dialogue, but it also motivates the cross-border exchange of experiences in the field of culture. For example, artists can freely work throughout the EU, and the European Union implements important activities and campaigns aimed to protect cultural heritage.

Culture and its promotion are an important part of European international relations. The EU strives to promote cultural activities and events with partner countries and regions, in order not only to enrich the societies and improve activities in the sector of culture and creativity but also to promote the nations and countries of Europe.

CREATIVE EUROPE

To promote culture and creativity in the best way, the European Union has developed a framework programme which supports the promotion of cultural content across Europe, encouraging cooperation among different institutions in the culture sector.

In 2019 five of the films that were nominated in different categories for the most prestigious film award, the Oscar (The Favourite, Cold War/Zimna Wojna/, Never Look Away/Werk Ohne Autor/, Border/Grans/, The Wife) had been supported by the programme Creative Europe, and the British actress Olivia Coleman won the Oscar for the leading female role in the film The Favourite. Also, at this year’s Cannes Festival, there were twenty films aired which had been made with the support of the Creative Europe programme, of which three won prestigious awards, including the one for best director, which went to the film Young Ahmed (Le Jeune Ahmed).

2018 – EUROPEAN YEAR OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

Throughout 2018, under the slogan “Our heritage: Where the past meets the future,” numerous events and a series of initiatives have taken place aimed at encouraging citizens to discover cultural heritage of their towns, regions, countries and Europe as a whole.

The diversity and richness of cultural heritage brings people together and contributes to understanding the places, cities and nations that make up the great European continent. From the ancient myth about Europa to present day continent that is home to over 500 million people, cultural heritage is shared and cherished in villages and cities, castles and churches, museums, but also in peoples homes and different crafts and cuisines.

Visit the exhibition “A journey through cultural heritage,” featuring a small portion of the rich cultural heritage of Serbia and Europe. The exhibition was organised by the EU Delegation to Serbia and the EU Info Centre in Belgrade, in cooperation with the digital platform Europeana.

DID YOU KNOW THAT JELENA LENGOLD FROM SERBIA RECEIVED THE EUROPEAN AWARD FOR LITERATURE IN 2017? THIS AWARD PROMOTES CREATIVITY AND THE RICHNESS OF DIVERSITY IN CONTEMPORARY EUROPEAN LITERATURE, AND ALSO PROMOTES THE CROSS-BORDER EXCHANGE OF LITERARY CONTENT ACROSS EUROPE.
You haven’t had a chance to visit the Louvre and see Mona Lisa? You want to explore the most treasured collections of postage stamps? Or you want to hear the most famous musical compositions from different periods in one place?

For starters, you can explore them virtually via Europeana portal which offers an opportunity to explore over 50 million digitised items, books from the world renowned museums and libraries. This portal allows you to take a walk through European cultural heritage thanks to successful digitisation of a significant volume of the available material. The portal is available in 27 languages.

The project was launched in 2008 by the European Commission and over 3,500 museums, libraries and archives from all over Europe have made their contribution to building the archive available on this portal.

Quite a number of institutions from Serbia take part in projects implemented by Europeana, thus bringing Europe closer to the cultural heritage and treasures of Serbia. Among them are the National Library of Serbia, University Library Svetozar Marković, Belgrade City Library, the Museum of Applied Arts.

WHERE IS SERBIA?

The Republic of Serbia participates in both Creative Europe sub-programmes.

Watch how archaeologists, IT specialists, contemporary artists and museum experts, by joining forces through the project Journey to the Beginnings, will research and present, in a new way, the prehistoric cultural heritage of old civilisations, including Lepenski Vir among others.

HAVE YOU SEEN THE MOVIE DRUGA STRANA SVEGA (THE OTHER SIDE OF EVERYTHING)?

The film was directed by a young director, Mila Turajlić, from Serbia. Apart from being among the 2018 finalists for the prestigious Lux Film Prize award, awarded by the European Parliament, in the same year this documentary was also among the films nominated for the best documentary of the year.

Did you know that the winner of the 66th International Film Festival in Berlin, the popular Berlinale, was made with the help and support of Creative Europe? This is the Italian film Fuocoammare, which we had the chance to watch in Serbia during the Free Zone festival.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE CULTURAL SECTOR PROJECTS OF SERBIA SUPPORTED BY THE EU

Three projects from Serbia were winners of the European Union Prize for Cultural Heritage, Europa Nostra for 2018.

They are projects for the conservation of the Bač Fortress, The Pavilion of Prince Miloš at Bukovička Spa (built in 1907) and the project Research and Cataloguing of the State Art Collection.

The prize for cultural heritage awarded by the European Union and Europa Nostra was initiated by the European Commission in 2002 and is managed by Europa Nostra, a pan-European civil society network organisation which covers 40 countries in Europe. This award celebrates and promotes the best achievements in conservation, research, management, volunteering, education and communication in the field of heritage. The European Union supports this award through the programme.
### ESTONIA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AREA</th>
<th>45.336 km²</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Share in total EU area</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPULATION</td>
<td>1,324,820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share in total EU population</td>
<td>0,3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital</td>
<td>Tallinn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU Member State since</td>
<td>1st May 2004</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Estonian National Youth Council (Eesti Noorteühenduste Liit – ENL)

70% of Estonians aged 16-74 communicate with the public authorities over the Internet. 51% of Estonia's territory is forest.

In Estonia, 28.8% of energy spending comes from renewable sources. In 2017, Estonia was the Member State with the highest percentage of people working in culture – 5%.

Honorary Consulate of Estonia in Serbia

Estonian Tourism Organization

Embassy of Estonia in Hungary

### BULGARIA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AREA</th>
<th>110,995 km²</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Share in total EU area</td>
<td>2,5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPULATION</td>
<td>7,000,039</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share in total EU population</td>
<td>1,4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital</td>
<td>Sofia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU Member State since</td>
<td>1st January 2007</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

National Youth Forum (Национален младежки форум)

Bulgaria is one of the largest exporters of sunflower seeds in the EU. 18% of the workforce in Bulgaria works in the agricultural sector.

In 2017, Bulgaria's residents – 6.5% – chose Greece as their favourite tourist destination. The largest number of Bulgaria's residents chose Greece as their favourite tourist destination in 2017.

The research sector in Bulgaria is gender-balanced: 50 per cent of researchers are women.13

Embassy of the Republic of Bulgaria

Bulgarian Tourism Organisation

---

13 Source: Eurostat
13
MONDAY

14
TUESDAY

15
WEDNESDAY

16
THURSDAY

17
FRIDAY

18
SATURDAY

19
SUNDAY

20
MONDAY

21
TUESDAY

22
WEDNESDAY

23
THURSDAY

24
FRIDAY

25
SATURDAY

26
SUNDAY
The single market is one of the greatest achievements of the European Union. Thanks to it, the everyday lives of citizens, firms and companies have been made easier, and job creation, economic growth and development stimulated.

The European Union is constantly working on the improvement of potential for the growth and development of the single market, especially in order to use that potential in the digital age, to secure the sustainable development of European companies and respond to the challenges emerging in our fast-changing world.
The single market enables companies to form mutual connections and integrate by stimulating new production and placing their products on a market that covers the entire territory of the EU without additional customs and technical barriers.

The EU also makes sure that those freedoms and available to EU citizens do not violate justice, but guarantee consumer protection and improve environmental protection and sustainability.

FIND OUT MORE:

THE GREATEST ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE SINGLE MARKET

What are the benefits of the single market?

- Seventeen million Europeans live and work in Member States they do not come from.
- Thanks to the EU competition rules, each one of us can choose an electric utility company or change telecommunications or mobile operators quickly and easily.
- Within a period of 14 days, you can cancel an order or return goods bought online without any further explanation.
- Consumers throughout the EU can return faulty goods within a two-year period without any additional expenses.
- The EU health insurance card provides access to basic medical services in state institutions during a temporary stay in any of the EU Member States.
- Inside the EU, you can call, send messages and download data in all Member States under the same conditions you have at home.
- Consumers can demand compensation from an airline company if they arrive at their destination with more than a three-hour delay.
- Inside the EU, 793,000 small and medium-sized enterprises have already used business support funds.
- All products imported from third countries must comply with strict European standards of production.
- European legislation in the area of health, hygiene and food is among the strictest in the world, which enables the protection and improvement of EU citizens’ health.
- EU citizens can use their digital service subscriptions in all the EU Member States.
- EU citizens have pension rights, regardless of whether they have worked in other Member States.
- EU citizens have greater control over their personal data and the procedure for data processing by third parties.
- Seventeen million Europeans either live or work in an EU Member State of which they do not have citizenship.

CONSUMER PROTECTION IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

The single European market offers access to a wide variety of choices, enables additional flexibility and improves the quality of products. However, even though this is beneficial for consumers, it poses an additional challenge, especially in the areas of the economy that are developing rapidly – such as digital and financial services or the services in the domain of energy.

The EU Consumer Protection Policy ensures respect for the individual’s rights should a problem arise when purchasing goods from another EU Member State online.

The rights in this area, guaranteed by the European Union, help improve among consumers all over the EU and encourage enterprises and companies to do business outside their own countries on the single EU market.

The consumer protection policy:

- Improves the protection of consumer rights
- Guarantees the safety of products on the market
- Helps consumers in the EU make informed decisions when purchasing a certain product, by offering all the information about that product
- Provides tools and options for solving problems and disputes, should they arise.
The European Commission has launched an EU consumer rights awareness campaign – “Your EU Right”.

**Find more about #yourEUright:**

If you have purchased a product online, it must be delivered to your address within thirty days, and if you are not satisfied with it you can return it within 14 days with a full refund.

When travelling around Europe, all EU citizens in all EU countries are:

- protected with a passenger rights package, when travelling by plane, train, ship or coach.
- protected when purchasing package-holidays in travel agencies
- granted certain rights if a travel agency or a carrier goes bankrupt
- entitled to seek help from an embassy or consulate of any EU Member State – if diplomatic representation from their own country does not exist.

In June 2017, the EU abolished roaming charges, meaning that, when travelling to another Member State for business or pleasure, EU citizens can use their mobile phones with no additional charges all over the EU. This has certainly brought about lower charges for consumers.

In the EU, the right to truthful advertising is your right. Product advertisements must offer a detailed description of the features of a product and its composition as well as its availability. If a product bought in the EU (online or in a shop) does not match the advertised item or if it is faulty, the consumer has the right to have it repaired free of charge or to replace it.

The EU has formed the European Consumers Centres Network, which offers assistance free of charge and provides advice on cross-border purchases.

**ROAM LIKE AT HOME**

As of June 2017 all EU citizens can enjoy “roaming like at home” which provides that all users pay the price of local calls regardless in which EU Member State they are travelling or residing.
### Austria

- **Area**: 83,882 km²
- **Population**: 8,858,775
- **Capital**: Vienna
- **EU Member State since**: 1st January 1995

**Austrian National Youth Council (Bundesjugendvertretung – BJV)**

Austria has the largest percentage of land with organic farming in the entire European Union – 12.5 per cent.

A total of 67.1 per cent of packaging waste is recycled in Austria, which is higher than the EU average.

Austria is in second place in the EU, after the Netherlands, for the percentage of women who have shorter working hours – 47 per cent.

**Embassy of Austria**

**Trade Department of the Embassy of Austria in Belgrade**

**Austrian Cultural Forum**

**Austrian Tourism Organization**

### Romania

- **Area**: 238,397 km²
- **Population**: 9,401,658
- **Capital**: Bucharest
- **EU Member State since**: 1st January 2007

**Romanian Youth Council (Consiliul tineretului din Romania)**

One third (32.7 per cent) of the total number of farms in the EU is located in Romania, which equals the number of farms in Poland, Italy and Spain combined.

Romania is one of the largest producers of sunflower seeds, walnuts and plums in the EU.

Romania is one of three Member States, together with Germany and Poland, which has a large number of people working in the forestry sector.

During 2017, 75% of Romania’s residents bought clothes, shoes and sports equipment over the Internet, which is also the highest percentage in the EU.

**Embassy of Romania**

**Romanian Tourism Organisation**
DID YOU KNOW THAT YOU CAN TRAVEL ACROSS EUROPE WITHOUT A VISA FOR THREE MONTHS?

Since 2009, the citizens of Serbia have been able to travel through the Schengen area for a maximum of 90 days within six months. Before this was possible, travelling to Schengen countries demanded a visa. In the EU accession process, Serbia had to set up a system and conditions that would enable the smooth exercising of this right.

WHICH DOCUMENTS ARE NECESSARY TO SET OFF ON A JOURNEY?

In order to discover different European countries, you will need a biometric passport, proof of health insurance and proof of sufficient financial means for the whole duration of your stay at your chosen destination. The requirements depend on the country, but you can inform yourself on this subject on the website of the EU Member State you are travelling to or the consulate of the country you wish to visit during your journey.

TRAVEL

Ana, as an EU citizen, you have the right to do an internship or study anywhere in the EU, and under the same conditions that apply to young people from the Member State in which you have decided to study. Just think about it.

I know! But I am also excited about being able to travel around Europe. It's great, for example, if you were born in Spain and you want to pursue your professional career in France or move to Estonia after that, you can do it freely and enjoy the same working conditions across the EU's territory.

MARKO

ANA
If you wish to travel to the EU Member States more often, you can be granted a multiple entry visa with a validity of up to one year. To obtain a multiple entry visa, you need to meet certain requirements.

Which conditions are those?

The European Health Insurance Card, which is available free of charge, that a person has the right to urgent medical treatment while temporarily staying abroad, within the health system of a Member State, under the same conditions and for the same price as the nationals of that state. This card cannot be used for covering previously planned expenses in another state.

How to apply?

You can reach different destinations across Europe in many different ways – by train, by bus, by car or even by ferry – especially if you travel around the Mediterranean or wish to visit Scandinavia. A train is certainly the most popular means of travelling across Europe, therefore we have good advice for you: if you want to visit as many countries as possible in the summer then save up and buy the ‘Interrail’ pass, that offers the possibility to choose an appropriate European rail route and have a great experience. “Interrail” is a train ticket that doesn’t have a specific route.

With this pass you can choose the course of your journey – it enables you to travel through a certain number of places/countries for a while and pay a certain amount of money.

IMPORTANT TO KNOW!

If you want to travel to an EU Member State, or if you want to cross the European Union border, it is required that passport holders have to have three months of validity left on their passport from the date of entry into the EU. Valid travel document must not be older than ten years.

THE EUROPEAN HEALTH INSURANCE CARD

Even if you are not an EU citizen, but are a resident of one of its Member States, you can apply for this card. Unfortunately, you cannot use it in Denmark, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland. It is important to mention that this does not mean that free services will be provided. All Member States have different health systems (even though a service is free in one state, it might not be the case in some others).

#discoverEU

In 2018 the EU launched the ‘Discover EU’ initiative, which enables young people to travel around Europe. The EU launched this initiative to encourage the discovery of the cultures and history of the European civilization as well as to explore the EU identity. You only need to be 18 and an EU citizen to send in your application and win a free “Interrail” pass. In the last year, more than 50,000 young people all over the EU received free passes and travelled around Europe.

Find out more about their experiences:

The best part of every trip is encountering new cultures, customs, learning the language and discovering new places and cities.

Go to the VISIT EUROPE portal, which is a travel guide, written and edited by students who share their travel experience with us.

Also, before that, you can plan your journey on the Let’s Go portal, which is a travel guide, written and edited by students who share their travel experience with us.

Of course, it is very important to plan your budget and spend money wisely. Nevertheles, certain...
The Voluntary Service project, previously known as the European Voluntary Service (EVS) offers young people, aged 17-30, from all parts of Europe, including Serbia, numerous volunteering opportunities in different countries and in various fields that can be in their area of interest. Therefore you can volunteer on archaeological sites, in retirement homes, NGOs, and in environmental, sports and cultural organisations, etc. Voluntary associations from all over Europe participate in the Voluntary Service project, which also enables you to spend two to twelve months in a European country.

While you volunteer in the Voluntary Service, you have accommodation, food, insurance, covered travel costs, a language course and pocket money.

Currently, 34 organizations are accredited in Serbia for the Voluntary Service projects.

LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS

This initiative is part of the “Erasmus+” programme which promotes young people's mobility and informal learning through international activities related to youth exchange.

If you take part in volunteering activities in another country, you will have the opportunity to develop your social and professional skills and contribute to your further education and professional development. The experience you will gain is recognized in a Youthpass document, which you receive when you have completed your volunteering. “Youthpass” is not only a certificate of participation in the project, but also of what you have learnt during the course of the volunteering project.

CHECK OUT OTHER ORGANISATIONS THROUGHOUT SERBIA AND THE OPPORTUNITIES THEY OFFER!

- Young Explorers of Serbia, Belgrade
- Association “AzBuki”, Niš
- Sombor Educational Center, Sombor
- Association “Svetlost”, Šabac
- Volunteers’ Centre of Vojvodina, Novi Sad

Follow the news, posts and information on the European Youth Portal about the newest programmes, seminars, conferences or educational activities in order to apply, learn something new, meet new friends and discover different countries and cultures.

BECOME A VOLUNTEER – EXPLORE THE AVAILABLE OPTIONS IN EUROPE AND AROUND THE WORLD.
NOTES

UNITED KINGDOM

AREA 248,536 km²
Share in total EU area 5,6%

POPULATION 66,647,112
Share in total EU population 13%

Capital London

EU Member State since 1st January 1973. The United Kingdom has so far presided over the Council of Europe five times: the first time from January to June 1977, and the last time from July to December 2005.

British Youth Council (British Youth Council – National Youth Council of the UK)

During 2017, London Heathrow airport recorded the highest number of passengers – 78 million, which is more than the total number of UK residents.

Aircraft from the United Kingdom, which number 1,325, make up one half of all commercial aircrafts in the EU.

The United Kingdom is the largest importer of wine in the EU.

During 2017, eight out of ten Internet users in the United Kingdom did their shopping online.

BREXIT At the referendum held on 23rd June 2016, the citizens of the United Kingdom voted to leave the European Union. In March 2017, The United Kingdom formally notified the European Council of its intention to leave the EU, which has officially triggered Article 50 of the Treaty of Lisbon, which grants Member States the right to leave the EU. In June 2017 negotiations on leaving the EU started between the EU and the United Kingdom.
The EU Info Network informs the public about the EU and its institutions, its history and development, its laws and regulations in various fields - from environmental protection, through citizens’ rights, consumer rights, children and parental rights, tolerance towards diversity, the single market and common currency, as well as on EU-Serbia relations.

The EU Info Network consists of the EU Info Centre in Belgrade, the EU Info Points in Novi Sad and Niš, as well as a group of experts from all parts of the country called Team Europe.

The EU Info Centre in Belgrade is located at 7 Kralja Milana Street in Belgrade, every working day from 10am to 7pm, and on Saturdays from 10am to 3pm. You can meet and talk with the EU Info Centre’s staff who shall help you with the information you need or give you advice on how and where to get it in the quickest way.

You can also contact us by phone on 011 404 5400 or via e-mail (info@euinfo.rs), and you will receive an answer as soon as possible or out which relevant institution you should contact.

The EU Info Point in Niš is located in the heart of the city at 5 Voždara Karađorđa Street.

For inquiries, please contact us via our email address, uinfo.rs or by phone on 018 241 561.

Available contents:

The EU INFO NETWORK libraries you will publications about the EU that are free of charge, which can be obtained requested by email or downloaded from the Internet.

The EU Info Centre in Belgrade also offers daily newspapers and magazines in English, French and German.

The EU Info Centre website www.euinfo.rs is user friendly and contains a large number of interactive and easily accessible content.

You can also follow the activities of the EU Info Centre via Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, and watch videos and movies on its YouTube account:

- www.facebook.com/euinfo.rs
- www.instagram.com/euicbg
- www.twitter.com/EUICBG
- www.youtube.com/euicbg

Team Europe

Since May 2013, a network of local experts across Serbia exists covering EU related topics called Team Europe. Their aim is to inform the public about EU-related topics in the areas they cover on a daily basis. Schools, civil society organizations, professional associations and many others can contact Team Europe and invite its members to participate in debates or give lectures in their field of expertise.

Most EUTEKA Libraries have close cooperation with the EU Member States institutions and cultural centres in Serbia. Hence, some EUTEKA libraries can also offer their users part of the programmes and funds of these cultural institutions, foreign language learning programmes, exhibitions, promotions of foreign writers and books, etc. EUTEKA corner computers provide users with free access to several foreign libraries (books, magazines,