



IMPORTANT EU MESSAGES

EU BASICS

- The EU is composed of 25 nations, including most of Eastern Europe and nearly all of Western Europe, with a population of 457 million and an economy that is slightly larger than that of the U.S. The EU's population is greater than the combined population of the United States and Japan.
- The EU is the world's most successful invention for advancing peace. Following two world wars that claimed over 75 million lives in a single generation, it was created to prevent deadly conflict from ever again engulfing Europe. Since creation of the EU a half century ago, Europe has enjoyed the longest period of peace in its history.
- The EU is more than just a trade organization or a common market; it is committed to democracy, freedom, justice, and human rights.
- EU Member States have stable governments that encourage pluralistic political thought and support freedom of speech, religion, and free market economics.
- The EU is a unique institution in which Member States voluntarily cede some elements of national sovereignty to carry out common policies and governance.

ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE

- The EU is the single largest economic body in the world; its Member States account for almost a third of the entire global economy (31% of global GDP).
- The \$2.5 trillion EU-U.S. transatlantic economy represents the largest, most integrated and longest-lasting economic relationship in the world, supporting 14 million jobs (including 7 million in the U.S.).
- European countries represent the four largest sources of jobs created by foreign countries in the United States (UK, Germany, France, Netherlands, respectively).
- The EU generates three out of every four overseas dollars invested directly in U.S. jobs and businesses.
- The U.S.-EU economic relationship dwarfs America's economic ties with China. European investment in Texas alone exceeds all U.S. investment in China and Japan put together.

- California alone exported \$20.4 billion in goods to Europe in 2003 – that exceeded total U.S. exports to all OPEC member countries.
- U.S. companies earn more from their investments in the EU than in the rest of the world combined.
- Foreign investment is the backbone of the EU-U.S. economic partnership. Trade actually accounts for only about 20% of all transatlantic commerce. EU companies are the single largest foreign investor in 45 of the 50 U.S. states, and rank second in the remaining five. Europe provided 65% of all foreign investment in the U.S. in 2003.
- U.S. corporate assets in just one EU Member State – the United Kingdom – are almost equivalent to the combined overseas assets of American companies in Asia, Latin America and the Middle East.
- U.S. companies rely on the European market for more than half of their global foreign profits.
- The EU imports more agricultural goods from developing countries around the world than does the U.S., Canada and Japan, combined.

VITAL, FORWARD LOOKING, PROBLEM SOLVER

- The EU is the world's fastest growing democratic body. With the addition of 10 new Member States in May 2004, its land mass grew by 25% and its population increased by 20%.
- EU productivity per hour rivals the U.S., with ample room for growth based on Europe's significantly shorter average work weeks.
- Since 1993, annual R&D spending has grown faster in the EU (3.3%) than in the U.S. and Japan (2.7%).
- Fifteen-year-old students from EU countries generally out-performed U.S. students in both math and science proficiency. (*OECD 2003*)
- Sixty percent of all R&D conducted by U.S. companies outside the United States is done in Europe. Likewise, European R&D activities in the U.S. dwarf those undertaken by Asian companies (including Japan).
- Transatlantic Internet “bandwidth” between the EU and the U.S. is three times that between the U.S. and the Asia/Pacific region, and seven times that between the U.S. and Latin America.

EU - U.S. WORKING TOGETHER TO ADDRESS GLOBAL CHALLENGES

- When the EU and the U.S. agree, other countries follow.
- The EU and the U.S. often work together to develop international standards. This is the case in fighting terrorism and transnational crime, advancing trade liberalization, and combating piracy and intellectual property violations.
- The EU has moved to combat global terrorism by instituting common European arrest and evidence warrants and creating a joint situation center to pool and analyze intelligence. The EU and U.S. are sharing international travel information, implementing tighter controls on financial institutions to prevent funding of terror groups, incorporating biometric identifiers in passports, and implementing new customs procedures to keep weapons and dangerous materials out of the hands of terrorists.
- The EU and its Member States are helping to restore peace in Afghanistan by providing 80 percent of the troops in NATO's International Security Force, and paying half the costs of the Afghani presidential election. In Iraq, the EU is providing police and military training, and served as a major contributor to the management and funding of recent elections.
- The EU has contributed to global peace and security by sending peacekeepers and providing other support in the Western Balkans, Georgia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dafur (Sudan) and Aceh (Indonesia).
- Together with the U.S., Russian and the United Nations, the EU developed the 2002 "roadmap" to advance the Middle East peace process. The EU is the largest trading, economic, scientific and research partner of Israel, and it is also the biggest donor of development and humanitarian aid to the Palestinians. EU peacekeepers will monitor the newly-established Gaza border crossing, an important development in the peace process.
- The EU and its Member States are the world's largest aid donor, providing 54 percent of global development assistance, which amounts to \$43 billion per year. Together the EU and the U.S. account for four out of every five dollars in official development assistance globally and an even greater percentage of humanitarian aid. Since 1992, the EU has provided emergency assistance in the wake of natural disasters and conflicts in more than 100 countries around the world.
- The EU is the world's largest contributor of official aid to Africa, the area most impacted by poverty and disease, and plans to increase its aid contributions to the continent over the next decade.
- The EU is acting to promote sustainable development and preserve the rights of future generations to a viable environment by implementing mandatory limits on greenhouse gases and working to ensure that future international trade agreements include environmental and labor standards.