

Appendix A

Brief Summary

European Treaties / Agreements

Treaty of Paris 1951

Six countries .Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands signed this treaty and created the European Coal and Steel Community. The goal of this treaty was to:

- a. restore economic stability
- b. co-operate in selling coal and steel
- c. address the long standing grievances between France and Germany

Treaty of Rome 1957

The same six countries .Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands signed this Treaty which agreed to:

Free movement of

- a. Goods
- b. Services
- c. People

(Thus creating a common market)

Maastricht Treaty (12 countries, **including Ireland** by this stage are members of **the E.U.**)

Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Denmark, Ireland, UK, Greece, Spain and Portugal signed this Treaty in 1991. It came into effect in 1993. The main areas of agreement were:

- a. a single currency
- b. a common foreign policy
- c. a common security policy
- d. tackling unemployment
- e. a stronger social policy
- f common European Citizenship

The Amsterdam Treaty (In 1998 the E.U. consisted of 15 member states)

The Treaty was signed in 1998 by the previous 12 countries and by Austria, Finland and Sweden. Members agreed to:

- a. accept employment and citizen's rights as major goals
- b. remove remaining obstacles to freedom of movement
- c. strengthen security
- d. give the EU a stronger voice in world affairs
- e. improve the European structures to cope with new members

Appendix B

Brief Summary of Areas of Agreement

Let's look back at our work and see if we mentioned

- a. movement of goods
- b. movement of services
- c. movement of people
- d. single currency
- e. common policies
- f. tackling unemployment
- g. common European Citizenship
- h. strengthening citizen's rights
- I. strengthening security
- j. giving the E.U. a stronger voice in world affairs

Vincetrian Partnership for Justice
Active Citizenship Programme

Appendix C

The 4 Main Institutions of the European Union

- I** **The European Commission** has 19 members with at least 1 representative from each member country. With member countries it ensures that European policies are carried out. The commission also work on new policies and laws.
- II** **The Council – which has 2 parts**
The European Council is made up of the leaders of each nation and meets two or three times a year.
The Council of Ministers which consists of ministers from the member states with similar interest e.g. health, environment.
- III** **The European Court of Justice**

IV The European Parliament – This is the only institution directly elected by European Citizens. It has 626 MEPs, 15 of whom are Irish.

Elections take place every 5 years and there will be an election in June 1999. The Parliament has 20 committees and has power to

- influence European laws and policies
- change EU legislation proposed by the Commission to accept or reject these proposals
- approve international agreements
- accept or reject the budget
- approve the admission of new members
- approve the appointments of the President and members of the Commission
- dismiss the Commission

The 20 Committees of the European Parliament

Each committee has specific responsibilities and much of the preparatory work for the Parliament is done by the committees. Irish MEPs are actively involved in almost all of these committees.

Foreign Affairs and Defence Policy	Agriculture and Rural Development
Budgets	Economic affairs
Technological and Energy Development	Foreign Trade
Legal Affairs and Citizens	Social Affairs and Employment
Regional Policy	Transport and Tourism
Environment and Consumer Protection	Culture, Youth, Education, Media
Development and Co-operation	Civil Liberties
Budgetary – Institutional Affairs	Fisheries
Rules of Procedure	Women’s Rights
Petitions	

(For details of these see leaflet ‘Committees of the E.U. Parliament’ which is included in this pack)

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Appendix D

Priorities

Certain things are very important for all of us. Some things are fairly important and some things are not at all important.

Using a scale of 1-10 mark how important you think the following are for Ireland today.

- 1 - 2 - 3 very important**
- 4 - 5 - 6 fairly important**
- 7 - 8 of little importance**
- 9 - 10 no importance**

- an adequate income for everyone** ()
- a good education** ()
- meaningful work** ()
- belonging to a sports club** ()
- reading the news paper** ()
- watching videos** ()
- walking in the park** ()
- justice for all** ()
- the right to have your say in what is happening in Ireland** ()
- the right to have your say in what is happening in Europe** ()
- voting to get the right policies and laws in Ireland** ()
- voting to get the right policies and laws in Europe** ()
- playing our part to create a peaceful and prosperous Europe** ()
- playing our part to create a peaceful and prosperous world** ()

Work in twos. We'll hear all.

Appendix E

Turn out 1994 European Elections:

AUSTRIA	67.7%	BELGIUM	90.7%
DENMARK	52.9%	FINLAND	60.3%
FRANCE	52.7%	GERMANY	60%
GREECE	71.2%	IRELAND	44%
ITALY	73.7%	LUXEMBOURG	88.5%
NETHERLANDS	36.0%	PORTUGAL	35.5%

SPAIN	59.1%	SWEDEN	41.6%
UK	36.4%		

Appendix F

Information Sheet

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Political Party Groupings in the European Parliament

MEPs do not organise themselves along national lines but according to European party lines.

In July 1998 political groups in the European Parliament comprised:

MEPs	
Party of European Socialists	214
European People's Party	200
Liberal Democrat and Reformist Party	41
Union for Europe	36
Confederal Group of the European United Left/Nordic Green Left	34
Greens	27
European Radical Alliance	20

Independent Europe of Nations Group	17
Independents	37
Total	626

The following are the names of the present Irish MEPs

Gerard Collins (Munster)
 Brian Crowley (Munster)
 Pat the Cope Gallagher (Connacht-Ulster)
 Mark Killilea (Connacht-Ulster)
 John Cushnahan (Munster)
 Joe McCartin (Connacht-Ulster)
 Patricia McKenna (Dublin)
 Pat Cox (Munster)
 Niall Andrews (Dublin)
 Jim Fitzsimons (Leinster)
 Liam Hyland (Leinster)
 Mary Banotti (Dublin)
 Alan Gillis (Leinster)
 Nuala Ahern (Leinster)
 Bernie Malone (Dublin)

The EU now consists of the following 15 countries .

Belgium (1951)
 Germany (1951)
 Luxembourg (1951)
 Denmark (1973)
 UK (1973)
 Spain (1986)
 Austria (1995)
 Sweden (1995)
 France (1951)
 Italy (1951)
 Netherlands (1951)
 Ireland (1973)
 Greece (1981)
 Portugal (1986)
 Finland (1995)

15 more countries have applied for membership .

Turkey
 Malta
 NoFway
 Poland
 Estonia

Latvia
Slovakia
Czech Republic
Cyprus
Switzerland
Hungary
Romania
Lithuania
Bulgaria
Slovenia

Vincentian Partnership for Social Justice Active Citizenship Programme

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