



THE EU TREATIES

THE EU TOP TEN PRIORITIES





UNPRECEDENTED CHALLENGES

- ❑ High unemployment, slow economic growth, economic uncertainties, a huge investment gap, migratory pressure and environmental and security, as well as instability in its neighbourhood.
- ❑ Populism and nationalism are on the rise.
- ❑ Jean-Claude Juncker was elected on a political programme whose main purpose is to rebuild bridges in Europe and to restore European citizens' confidence.
- ❑ To meet all of these challenges, Jean-Claude Juncker identified the 10 key priorities.





A NEW BOOST FOR JOBS, GROWTH AND INVESTMENT

- ❑ The key is to make **smarter use of existing financial resources** and making **flexible use of public funds** while **improving the quality of regulation**.
- ❑ A new **European Fund for Strategic Investments** has been created which could trigger investments of more than € 315 billion which should generate 3.8 million jobs in 3 years. One quarter of the money will be invested in smaller businesses.





A NEW BOOST FOR JOBS, GROWTH AND INVESTMENT

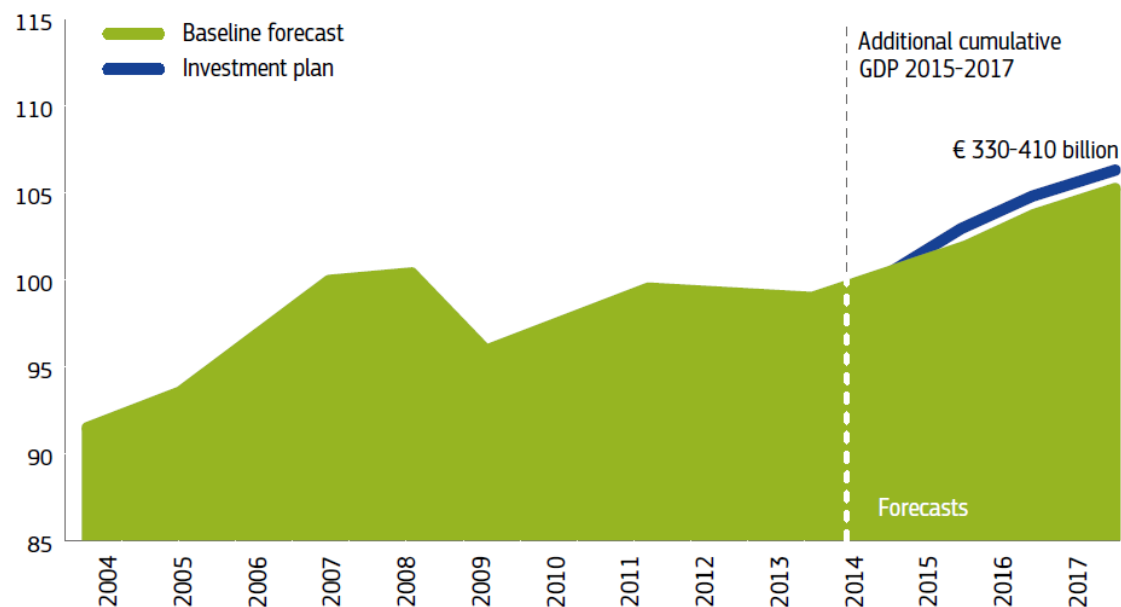
- ❑ Investment will be targeted towards: infrastructure — broadband, energy networks and transport; education, research and innovation; renewable energy and energy efficiency; projects to help young people find work.
- ❑ Priority will be given to removing the significant remaining regulatory and non-regulatory barriers. Closing gaps in the single market could produce benefits of as much as € 1 500 billion per year, while exploiting the full growth potential of the single market could add more than 11 % to the EU's gross domestic product (GDP).





A NEW BOOST FOR JOBS, GROWTH AND INVESTMENT

GROWTH IN GDP
REAL GDP FOR THE 28 EU COUNTRIES; INDEX 2007=100



The EU economy has been in crisis from 2008 to 2014,
but is likely to recover with new investment.



A CONNECTED DIGITAL SINGLE MARKET

- ❑ **Better access to digital goods and services**, to reliable high-speed infrastructure to get the most out of the digital economy.
- ❑ At present, only 15 % of EU citizens shop online from another EU country and only 7 % of small businesses sell cross-border.
- ❑ A fully functional digital single market could contribute € 415 billion per year to the EU's economy and create 3.8 million jobs.





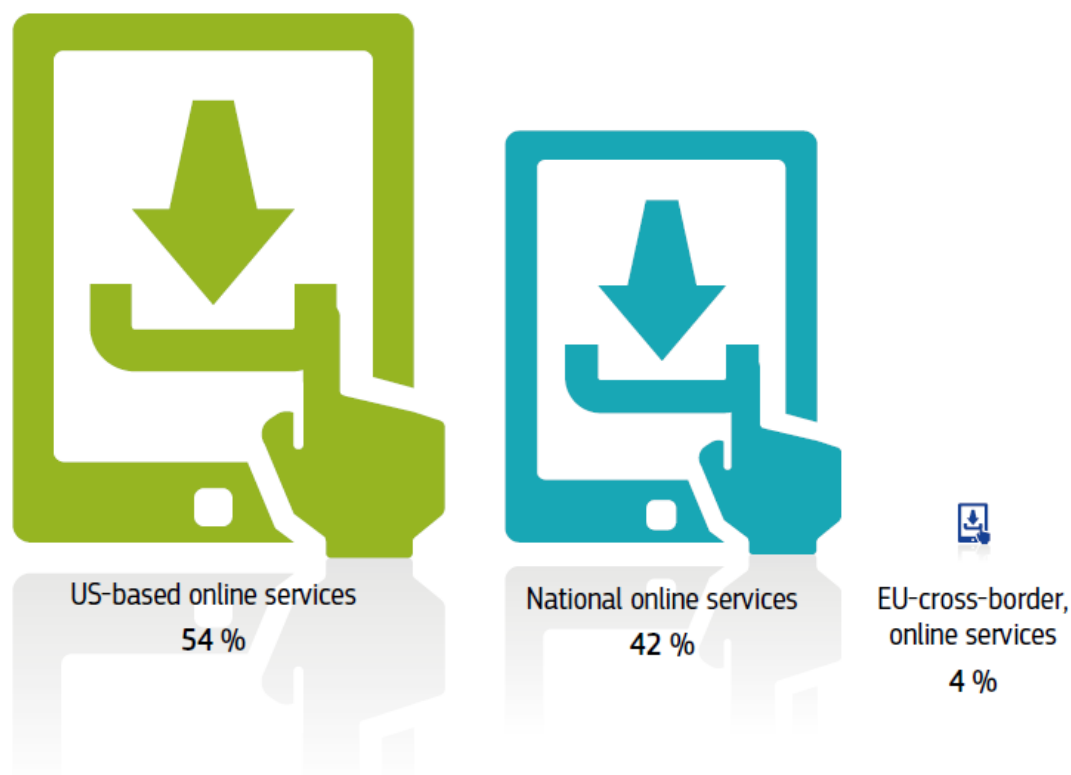
A CONNECTED DIGITAL SINGLE MARKET

- ❑ **Providing better online access to digital goods and services** by: harmonizing rules on contracts and consumer protection; promoting cheaper cross-border parcel delivery services; ending unjustified geo-blocking; modernizing copyright law to allow for wider online access to cultural works across the EU.
- ❑ **Providing a high-speed, secure and trustworthy infrastructure** supported by the right regulatory conditions for investment, fair competition and a level-playing field.
- ❑ **Overhaul of telecoms rules** to guarantee a strong, competitive and dynamic telecoms sector, bringing down national market barriers.
- ❑ **Maximizing the growth potential of the digital economy.** This will be achieved by investment in ICT infrastructure as well as research and innovation to boost industrial competitiveness. It will also include better public services and improved digital skills for citizens — in short, an 'inclusive society'.



A CONNECTED DIGITAL SINGLE MARKET

WHERE DO WE BUY ONLINE SERVICES FROM?



Few people buy online from other EU countries
— a huge growth potential.

.....



A RESILIENT ENERGY UNION WITH A FORWARD LOOKING CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY

- ❑ The Commission wants to ensure **secure, affordable and climate-friendly energy for citizens and businesses**. Using energy more wisely and fighting climate change is not only an investment in our children's future, it will also create new jobs and growth.
- ❑ **EU is the largest energy importer in the world**: 53 % of its energy at around € 400 billion/year.
- ❑ **Many electricity grids and gas pipelines built for national purposes, not well connected across borders**. Fixing problems like these could save consumers up to € 40 billion a year.
- ❑ In the EU: **75 % of our houses are energy inefficient; 94 % of transport relies on oil products, of which 90 % are imported**. Wholesale electricity and gas prices are 30 % and 100% higher respectively than in the United States.





A RESILIENT ENERGY UNION WITH A FORWARD LOOKING CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY

- In February 2015, the Commission set out its strategy to achieve a resilient energy union with a forward-looking climate change policy.
 - **Secure supplies:** the EU must become less dependent on energy from outside its borders.
 - **Internal energy market:** energy should flow freely across the EU, without any technical or regulatory barriers.
 - **Energy efficiency:** consuming less energy means less pollution and greater preservation of our domestic energy sources, reducing our need for energy imports.
 - **Emissions reduction:** the agreed EU target of emitting at least 40 % fewer greenhouse gases by 2030 is a first step.
 - **Research and innovation.**

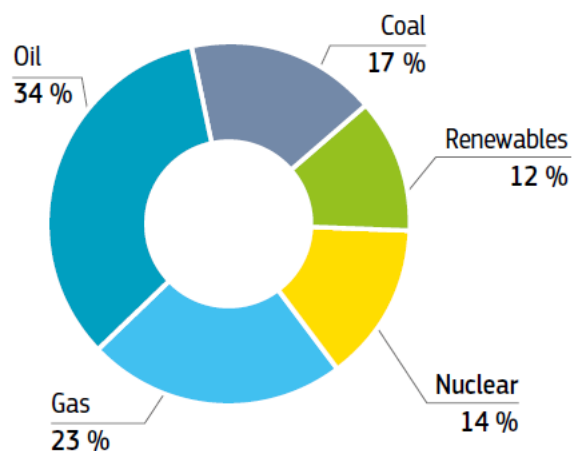




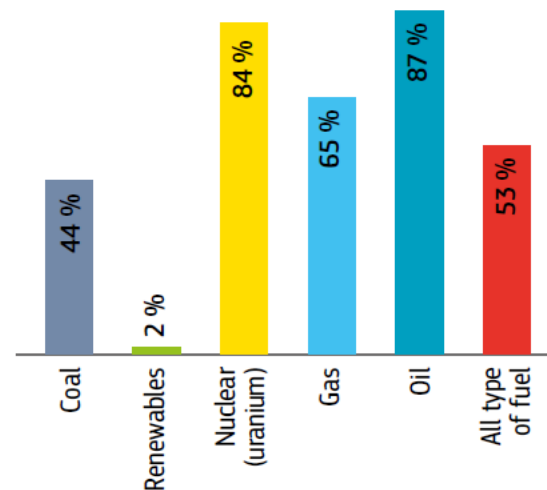
A RESILIENT ENERGY UNION WITH A FORWARD LOOKING CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY

WHERE DOES OUR ENERGY COME FROM?

Fuel used in the EU in 2013



Share of fuel imported
from outside the EU in 2013



Europeans need more secure and sustainable energy sources.



A DEEPER AND FAIRER INTERNAL MARKET WITH A STRENGTHENED INDUSTRIAL BASE

- ❑ To generate fair, efficient growth and jobs and to meet the challenges of globalization, the EU needs to complete the internal market for products and services.
- ❑ The Commission's priorities are to:
 - create a **capital markets union**, making it easier for small businesses to raise money and make Europe a more attractive place to invest;
 - **encourage workers to take up jobs in other EU countries** in order to fill vacancies and meet the need for special skills;
 - **prevent social dumping**; boost administrative cooperation among national tax authorities;
 - work for the adoption of a **common consolidated corporate tax base and a financial transaction tax at EU level**.





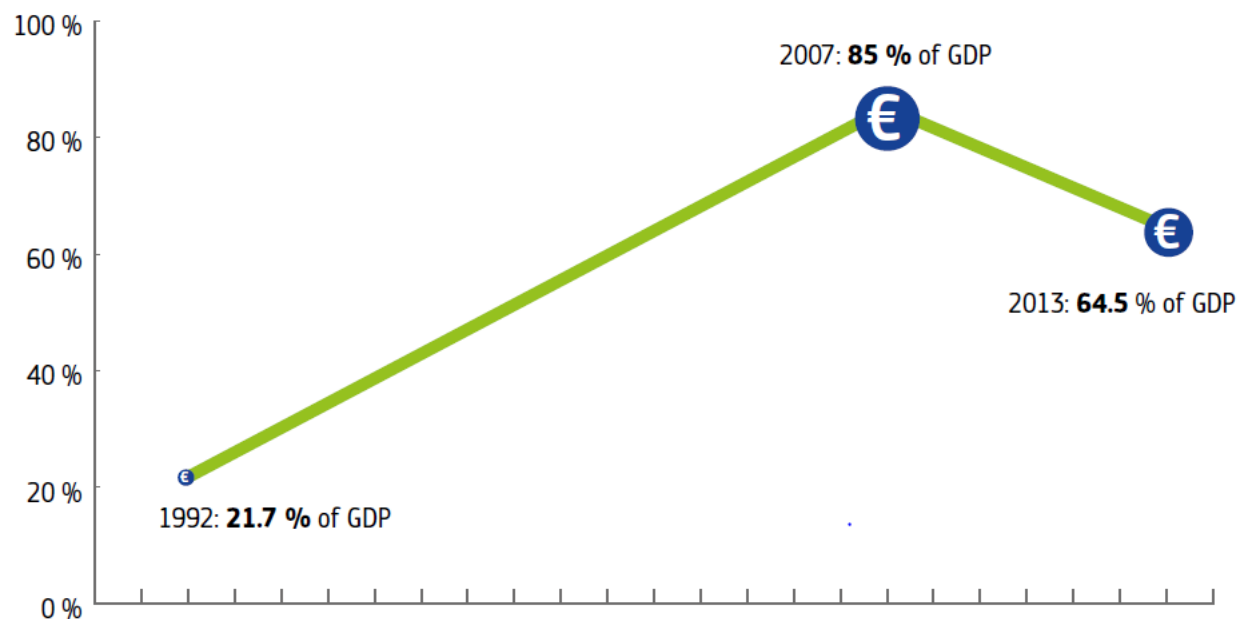
A DEEPER AND FAIRER INTERNAL MARKET WITH A STRENGTHENED INDUSTRIAL BASE

- ❑ **Europe's capital markets remain fragmented along national lines;** European economies rely on banks for their funding needs, which makes them vulnerable. **There is need for more direct investment - 'venture capital'.**
- ❑ In September 2015 the Commission adopted an action plan setting out 20 key measures to achieve a **true single market for capital in Europe by 2019**, breaking down the barriers that are blocking cross-border investments in the EU and preventing businesses from getting access to finance.
- ❑ In June 2015, the Commission presented an action plan to reform corporate taxation in the EU: to tackle tax avoidance, secure sustainable revenues to finance public services and strengthen the single market for businesses. The action plan contains two key goals:
 - **common rules agreed by MS on how to calculate the basis on which they tax businesses.** This would make operating across borders cheaper and reduce tax avoidance;
 - **profits should be taxed where they are generated** rather than on the basis of formal business structures or accounting transactions carried out for tax purposes.



A DEEPER AND FAIRER INTERNAL MARKET WITH A STRENGTHENED INDUSTRIAL BASE

STOCK MARKET CAPITALISATION IN THE EU (VALUE OF ALL SHARES) IN % OF GDP



Capital markets in the EU had problems after the financial crisis.



A DEEPER AND FAIRER ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION

- ❑ The Commission acknowledges the **need to take into account the social consequences of economic and financial measures taken.**
- ❑ Since 2008, the EU has taken action to ensure:
 - economic support to and agreements on reforms for the EU countries hit hard by the crisis;
 - financial stability, including rules for supervision and help for banks in difficulty;
 - better economic and financial governance.
- ❑ The Commission's main objectives for improvement are as follows:
 - decisions on support for struggling euro area MS should be more democratically legitimate;
 - to evaluate EU support and reform programs also for their impact on the citizens of the country concerned;
 - to review the rules on how the EU monitors the fiscal and macroeconomic situation and the national budgets;
 - to encourage further structural reforms in the euro area.

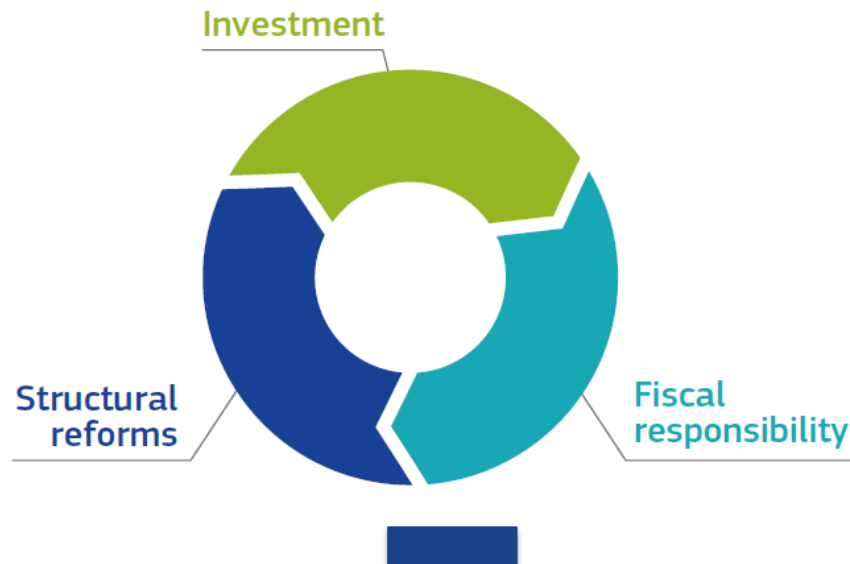




A DEEPER AND FAIRER ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION

- In June 2015, the President of the Commission, in close cooperation with the presidents of the Euro Summit, the Eurogroup, the ECB and the European Parliament (the so-called 'Five Presidents' Report') announced plans to **deepen the EMU and complete it by 2025**. Proposed measures include the introduction of a European deposit insurance scheme and the creation of a euro area treasury.

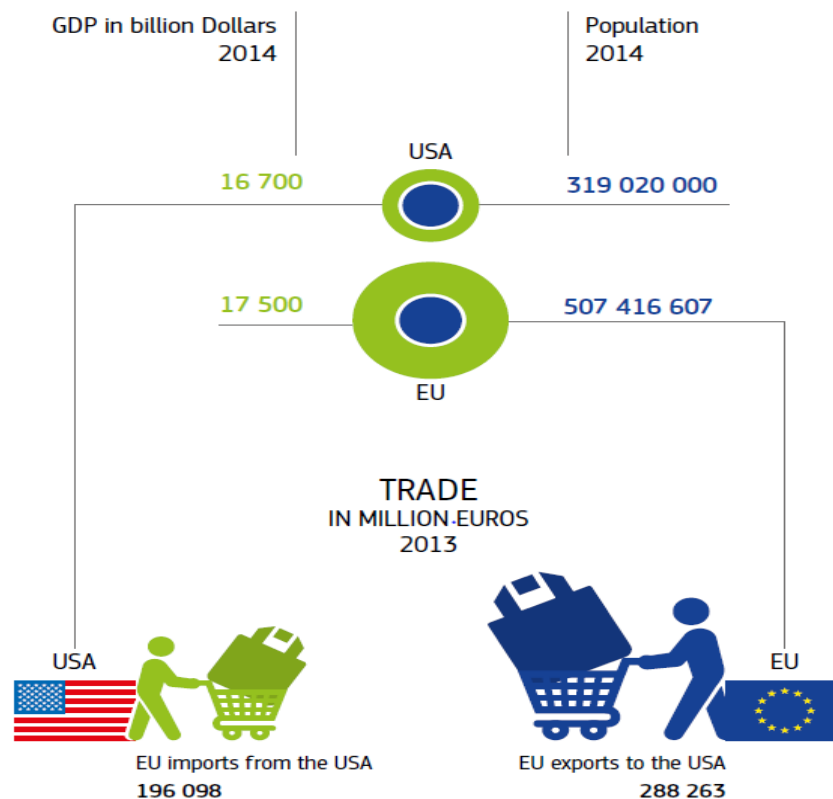
ECONOMIC POLICY PRIORITIES: THREE PILLARS





A REASONABLE AND BALANCED FREE TRADE AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES

TTIP: A NEW TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE EU AND THE USA





A REASONABLE AND BALANCED FREE TRADE AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES

- ❑ The EU and the United States together make up 40 % of global economic output. A comprehensive Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) could bring important economic benefits, wider choice for consumers and new opportunities for businesses.
- ❑ The agreement is mainly about obstacles to trade such as regulations, non-tariff barriers and red tape. Estimates show that 80 % of the overall potential wealth gains of a trade deal will come from cutting administrative costs and from liberalizing trade in services and public procurement.
- ❑ With TTIP, the Commission wants to help people and businesses by:
 - opening up United States markets to EU firms, including for public services;
 - helping cut red tape that firms face when exporting;
 - setting new rules to make it easier and fairer to export, import and invest overseas.





A REASONABLE AND BALANCED FREE TRADE AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES

- ❑ TTIP would help European firms sell more goods and services in the United States. European firms could also participate on an equal footing in United States government tenders. This would be good for the economy and for jobs.
- ❑ Here in Europe, cheaper American imports would mean more choice in the shops at lower prices: cheaper goods and services would also bring savings for business.
- ❑ The Commission will negotiate a reasonable and balanced trade agreement with the United States. The Commission supports free trade, but not at the price of sacrificing European standards in areas such as food safety, health, social and data protection or cultural diversity.

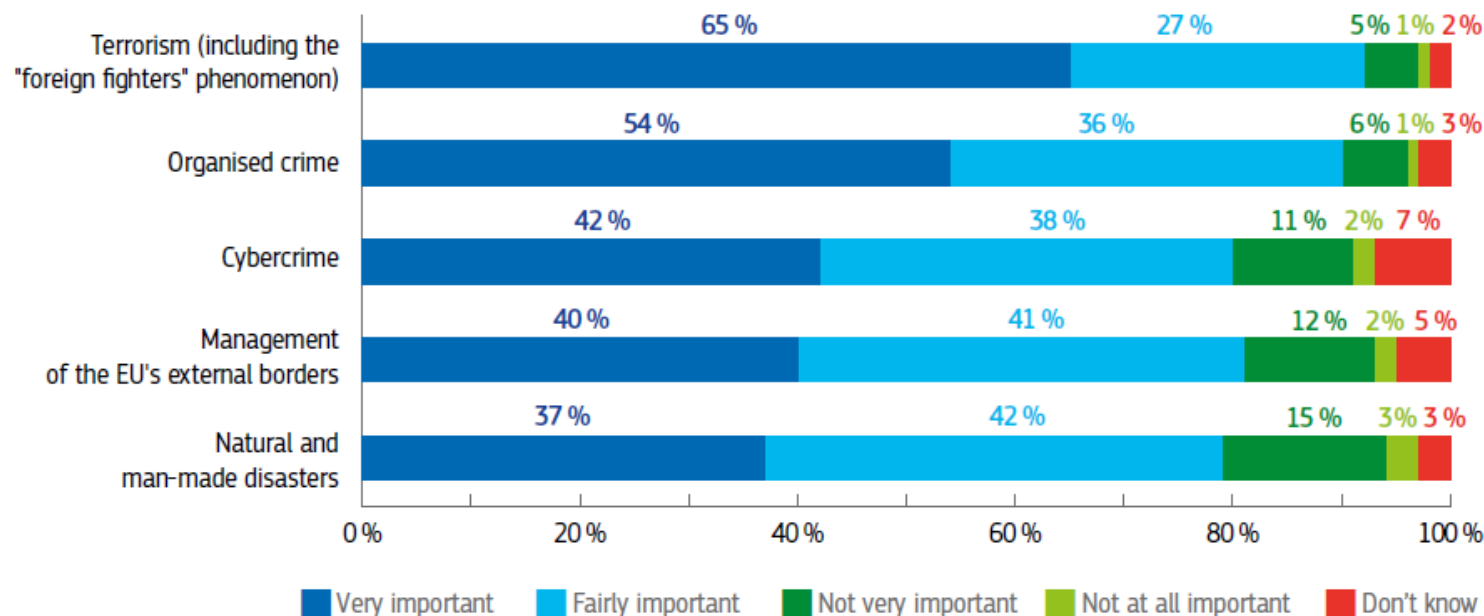




AN AREA OF JUSTICE AND FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS BASED ON MUTUAL TRUST

WHICH QUESTIONS OF INTERNAL SECURITY ARE MOST IMPORTANT FOR EUROPEANS?

Eurobarometer public opinion survey March 2015; replies to the question:
'In your opinion, how important are the following challenges to the internal security of the EU?'





AN AREA OF JUSTICE AND FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS BASED ON MUTUAL TRUST

□ The Commission's main objectives are to:

- make it easier for citizens and companies in the EU to defend their rights outside their home country by **improving the mutual recognition of judgments by courts across the EU**;
- **bring down organized crime**, such as human trafficking, smuggling and cybercrime, and to tackle corruption;
- conclude the **accession of the EU to the Council of Europe's Convention on Human Rights**;
- **obtain guarantees that United States government agencies and companies adequately protect EU citizens' personal data.**





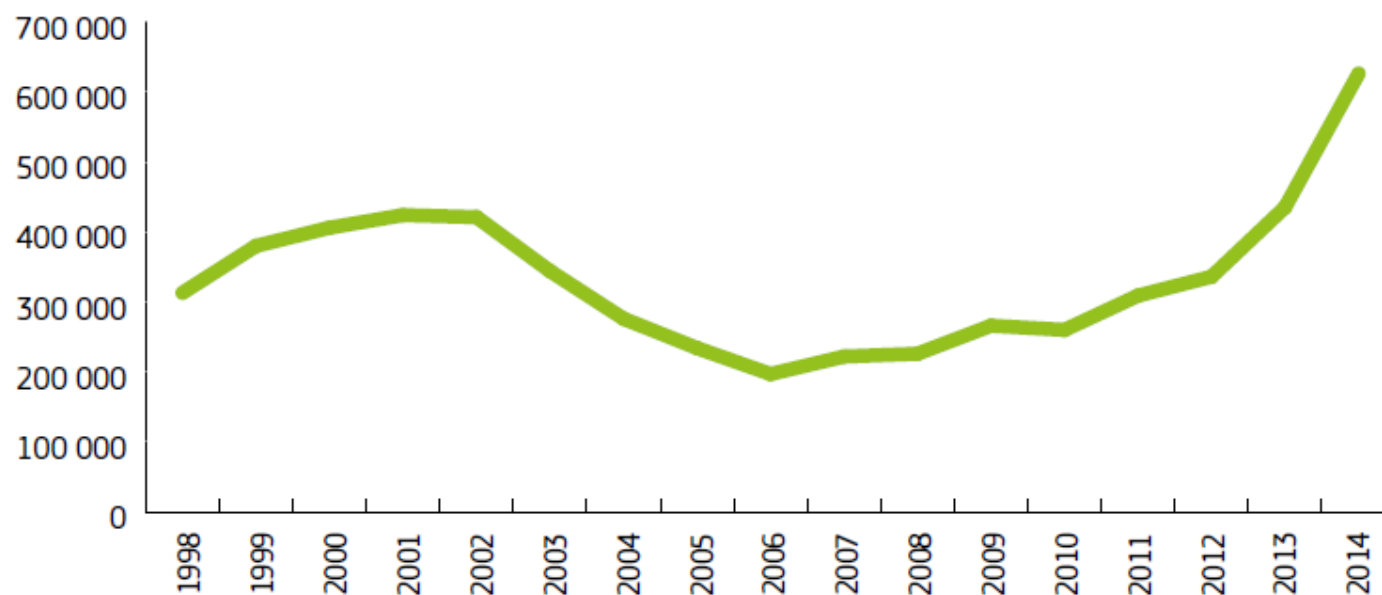
AN AREA OF JUSTICE AND FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS BASED ON MUTUAL TRUST

- ❑ In April 2015, the European Commission set out a **European agenda on security to support Member States' cooperation to tackle terrorism, organized crime and cybercrime more effectively**. Key actions include:
 - **countering radicalization;**
 - **cutting the financing of criminals**, including cooperation between national financial intelligence units, which will be connected to Europol;
 - **enhancing dialogue with the IT industry;**
 - **reinforcing tools to fight cybercrime**, identifying ways to overcome obstacles to criminal investigations online, notably on issues of competent jurisdiction, and rules on access to internet-based evidence and information;
 - **enhancing the capacities of Europol**, particularly to tackle terrorism.



TOWARDS A NEW POLICY ON MIGRATION

NUMBER OF ASYLUM APPLICATIONS IN THE EU



The preliminary figure for the first six months of 2015 is 402 000

The increase in the number of people wanting asylum in the EU calls for common European solutions.



TOWARDS A NEW POLICY ON MIGRATION

- ❑ Thousands of migrants are putting their lives in peril to enter the EU.
- ❑ 73 % of Europeans said they were in favor of a common European policy on migration. Immigration is at the top of the list of Europeans' concerns ahead of the economic situation and unemployment. It was the most frequently cited concern in 20 of the 28 Member States.
- ❑ Europe's response has been comprehensive and decisive :
 - Total 2015-2016 budget for refugee crisis is € 9.2 billion;
 - the EU is the number one donor in the global efforts to alleviate the Syrian refugee crisis (Around € 4 billion);
 - Member States have agreed to relocate 160 000 people. 22 000 refugees will also be resettled from camps outside the EU;
 - Efforts to tackle smugglers and dismantle human trafficker groups have been redoubled.





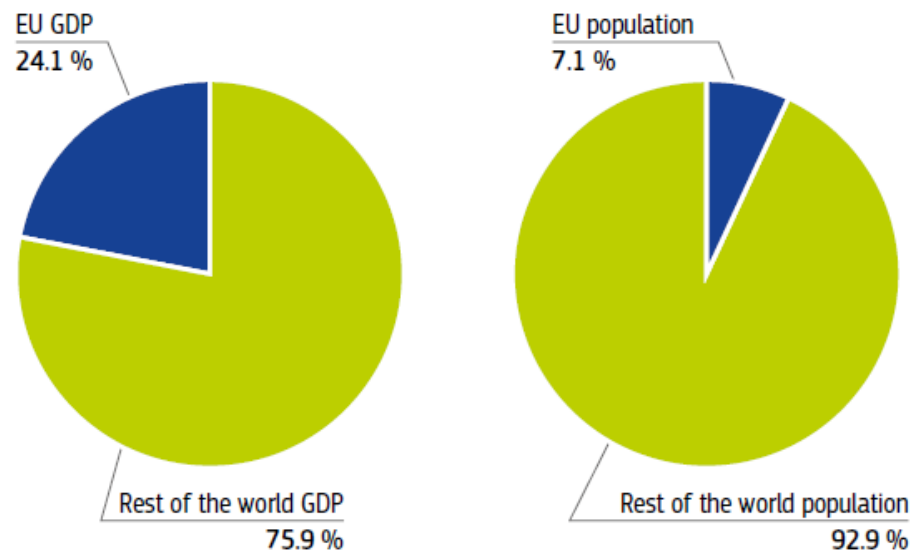
TOWARDS A NEW POLICY ON MIGRATION

- ❑ Refugee crisis revealed much about the structural limitations of EU migration policy and the tools at its disposal. The European Agenda for Migration presented by the Commission in May 2015 set out a comprehensive approach to migration management building on four pillars:
 - reducing the incentives for irregular migration;
 - saving lives and securing external borders;
 - a strong common asylum policy;
 - a new policy on legal migration.



A STRONGER GLOBAL ACTOR

THE EU'S SHARE OF THE WORLD ECONOMY



Even if the EU only has around 7 % of the world's population, its economic share counts for over 24 % of the world's GDP.



A STRONGER GLOBAL ACTOR

- ❑ The EU plays a key role in the global scene, ranging from Iran's nuclear programme and stabilising the Horn of Africa to global warming.
- ❑ As the **world's largest donor of development finance**.
- ❑ The EU also deals with subjects **like environment, education, crime-fighting and human rights** in its relations with the rest of the world.
- ❑ The EU **supports the reform process underway in the Ukraine**, and all efforts to create a lasting peaceful solution for the crisis in the eastern part of the country.
- ❑ The EU and its MS are **leading the international response to the crisis in Syria**.
- ❑ The EU is the **world's biggest trader**, with the world's second largest currency, the euro. The EU maintains partnerships with the world's key players, including emerging powers.





A STRONGER GLOBAL ACTOR

- The Commission's current objectives include:
 - creating **more synergies between Member States in defence procurement**;
 - bringing peace and **stability to the European neighbourhood by continuing ongoing enlargement negotiations, notably with the Western Balkans**. This will take time, so no further enlargement is foreseen during the term of the Juncker Commission (i.e. before the end of 2019);
 - **pooling of defence capabilities** by those national governments that wish to do so, thus enabling them to participate in joint EU missions — and thereby avoiding duplication of programmes and saving money.





A UNION OF DEMOCRATIC CHANGE

- ❑ There is widespread perception that the EU is distant from its people and is overly bureaucratic. Citizens expect the EU to make a difference on the important economic and social challenges.
- ❑ The Commission is committed to democracy and reform. Its main objectives include:
 - proposing new laws only when they are needed and providing a clear European added value once the public has been consulted.
 - being fully transparent about what the Commission is doing (for example, Commissioners and senior officials publish details of their meetings: unprecedented transparency has been introduced for international trade negotiations);
 - examining existing laws and adjusting them where needed;
 - removing unnecessary red tape at both European and national levels;
 - creating a mandatory register for organisations and individuals lobbying the Commission, Parliament and Council;
 - finding ways to deepen cooperation between national parliaments and the Commission.
- ❑ In May 2015, the European Commission adopted its better regulation agenda. This is intended to ensure:
 - transparency when preparing, implementing and reviewing policy;
 - that evidence always informs policymaking;
 - that anyone affected by proposals is involved, including members of the public.



A UNION OF DEMOCRATIC CHANGE

- ❑ The Commission will open up its policymaking process to further public scrutiny and input, with new public consultations when it comes to assessing new proposals or evaluating existing policies.
- ❑ There will also be new opportunities for public comments throughout the entire lawmaking procedure. After the Commission has adopted a proposal, any interested citizen will have 8 weeks to provide feedback or suggestions which will feed into the legislative debate before Parliament and Council.
- ❑ Existing laws will be evaluated, partly through the regulatory fitness and performance programme (REFIT). This assesses existing legislation to make it more effective and efficient without compromising policy objectives. The Commission is already working to reduce burdens for business in areas such as value-added tax (VAT), public procurement, business statistics and chemicals. Comprehensive evaluations in other fields are also under way.
- ❑ The Commission is also renewing its commitment to listen to the views of any stakeholder at any time by means of an online tool called 'Lighten the Load — Have Your Say'.





THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

