

# **THE EUROPEAN POLICIES OF THE EU MEMBER-STATES**

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## **SOURCES OF INFORMATION**

**Please do let me know about other useful sites and ideas you find...**

To get you started .....

### **WEBSITES FOR REFERENCE MATERIAL**

#### **Official EU websites**

- European Commission 'Country profiles' page on member-states of the EU including EU map and information and links for each country  
[http://Europa.eu/about-eu/countries/index\\_en.htm](http://Europa.eu/about-eu/countries/index_en.htm)  
\*\*NB This site is not on the world wide web (www). It is <http://europa....> with no www

#### **Basic country information**

- BBC Country profiles  
[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/country\\_profiles/default.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/country_profiles/default.stm)
- CIA World Factbook country profiles:  
<https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/europe/>  
(Careful – the address is https not http)  
Various information about the country (you can even hear a recording of the national anthem!) – see in particular 'Government'
- To find the members of the current government:  
<https://www.cia.gov/resources/world-leaders/>
- For the results of the most recent national elections as well as opinion polls from countries with upcoming elections:  
<https://www.politico.eu/europe-poll-of-polls/>

### **NATIONAL GOVERNMENT WEBSITES**

#### **European and foreign policy of your chosen member-state**

- Website of the national Foreign Ministry  
Usually has useful information about the country's European policy as well as press releases, interviews and speeches by the Minister.
- Also try the site of the Prime Minister or Head of Government

## KEEPING UP WITH THE NEWS

For your term paper to be up-to-date, newspapers and electronic news sites are essential. The sites below are good for keeping up with current news but also their electronic *archives* offer a rich source of information about the European policies of the member-states during recent years (conduct an online search using key words).

Here are a few recommended free-to-access sites:

### Free sites

- <http://www.politico.eu/> (Brussels-based European affairs news site)
- [www.euractiv.com](http://www.euractiv.com) (website devoted to EU politics - good source on the attitudes of the member-states towards specific policies and developments in the EU, often has quite detailed articles about a particular country)
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news> (search for your country to find all the news reports)
- <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/austria> (or country of your choice) (British newspaper with strong interest in Europe and good coverage)

Websites with news about a particular country in English such as:

- <http://www.dutchnews.nl/> (on the Netherlands)
- <http://www.timesofmalta.com/> (on Malta)
- <http://www.thelocal.se/> (on Sweden)
- <http://www.baltictimes.com/> (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania)
- <https://www.romaniajournal.ro/> (Romania)
- <http://www.sloveniatimes.com/> (on Slovenia)

If your chosen country is not included here, see if you can find a national English language news source (and don't forget to let me know!)

### Good sites but mainly for subscribers

- <http://euobserver.com> (independent news site about the EU), you can read a small number of articles each month without a subscription
- <http://www.economist.com> (weekly news magazine)
- <http://www.ft.com> (*Financial Times* – newspaper read by the people who make the news) Some articles are available for free, most subscription only

## ACADEMIC BLOGS

- <https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/euoppblog/>  
The London School of Economics blog site with many short articles on European politics and policy
- <http://www.ecfr.eu/>  
Official site of the European Council on Foreign Relations – useful short analyses, usually by academics, on topical issues
- <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/sei/research/europeanpartieselectionsreferendumsnetwork/epernreferendumbriefings>  
Short articles written by academics for the general public about referendums on EU membership in candidate countries 2002-12 (includes accession referendums in 2004 member-states, also some other EU-related votes e.g. French and Dutch referendums on the Constitutional Treaty)
- <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/sei/research/europeanpartieselectionsreferendumsnetwork/blog>  
Blogs about the role of Europe and euroscepticism in national elections (very useful articles but only goes up to 2017)

On all these sites, you will find not only the current material but also access to their archive of older articles – try a search with the keywords you need.

## PUBLIC OPINION

- <https://europa.eu/eurobarometer/surveys/browse/all/series/4961>  
Full archive of the Standard Eurobarometer, the European Commission's public opinion surveys, conducted every six months and going back to the 1970s
- <https://europa.eu/eurobarometer/screen/home>  
Latest reports from the Eurobarometer with link to full archive of 1,000+ reports: look for thematic surveys e.g. 2024 survey on attitudes towards the introduction of the euro in states which have not yet adopted the Single Currency or 2023 on climate change

Also... please do let me know about other good sites you find.

And remember.... *Google is your friend!!!*