

Economics of European Integration

List of Essay Topics

1. Fiscal federalism and the EU: use economic principles to assess the allocation of tasks among government levels in Europe.
2. Trace the enlargement of the European Union from 1973 to 2010. What about the future? Can you see a limit to the enlargement of the European Union, focusing on economic issues?
3. How are the monetary and fiscal policies of the member states of the European Union connected? Are monetary and fiscal policies enacted and implemented in the same fashion within member states? If monetary and fiscal policies are different, should they be more coordinated? What are the possible benefits and costs of such a coordination?
4. Regional state aid and its effects on economic and social cohesion in the EU.
5. What are the main features of the CAP, currently? What are the major challenges for the CAP considering future European enlargement? .
6. Discuss the expansion of the EU into Eastern Europe and its implication for national and international companies.
7. EU regional policy was reformed in the context of "Agenda 2000". What were the major reform themes and how successfully were they implemented?
8. Feasibility and desirability of a common EU migration policy.
9. Feasibility and desirability of a common EU energy policy.
10. Select a particular European nation and investigate the political influence of its farmers. In particular, identify the main farm lobby group(s) and show how they put pressure on politicians to continue the high level of support.
11. How close is the "United States of Europe"– which Churchill intended to reality? Is this good or bad, in your opinion? Put in an economic context.
12. Would European Monetary Union benefit from UK or Swedish membership?

13. Less but better state aid: Shift of the focus to R&D and the promotion of SME companies.
14. Europe's economic geography: historical perspective and possible future developments.
15. Make the case for and against Eurozone membership of Ukraine or Turkey or Georgia.
16. Trade liberalization and state aid in the European Union
17. Do you think it would be a good idea for the EU to sign more trade agreements? If so, with which countries and why?
18. Compare the EU's agricultural policy to that of the USA. Does the USA have the same policy? Which policy provides a higher level of support to farmers?