



Journey THROUGH **Europe**

A resource for CSPE teachers



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Acknowledgments

The contribution and support of everyone who assisted in the development of this resource is gratefully acknowledged. Special thanks go to the following:

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Co. Meath

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Bandon Grammar School
Old Chapel
Bandon
Co. Cork

Kathryn Moore

St. Dominic's College
Cabra
Dublin 7

Mary O'Donnell

St. Mary's Secondary School
Nenagh
Co. Tipperary

Jim Ryan

St. Peter's College
Summerhill
Co. Wexford

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The European Commission Representation in Ireland.

The individual students and teachers who participated in the piloting and consultation process.



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This resource has been produced by the European Studies Programme with the cooperation of the CSPE Support Service

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Introduction

Welcome to

“A Journey Through Europe”

a resource for CSPE teachers.

The European Union (EU) is a family of democratic European countries, committed to working together for peace and prosperity for all its citizens. Since 1st January 2007, the population of the EU has grown to approximately 500 million citizens. Given the significance of the EU in our lives, it is important that we understand how it functions and that we are aware of its rich cultural diversity.

This European Citizenship pack, developed by the European Studies Programme with the CSPE Support Service is laid out as a module of work. Its theme is “A Journey through Europe”. It contains 10 core lessons and suggestions for Action Projects. The pack has been planned to include teachers’ notes together with any materials and resources needed for classroom use. The emphasis is on engaging students actively in their own learning and encouraging them to discover the EU for themselves and become aware of its importance in their lives. Students are given the opportunity through this pack to develop knowledge, skills and attitudes that will encourage active citizenship at the European level.

This resource focuses on the concept of Interdependence, while also helping students to develop their understanding of the concepts of Democracy and Law inherent in the CSPE Syllabus.

The following skill areas can be developed through the active learning approaches taken in the lessons:

- **Communication skills**
- **Interpersonal and intrapersonal skills**
- **Critical and creative thinking skills**

Citizenship education aims to equip students with the knowledge, skills and understanding necessary to become informed, active and responsible global citizens. In the context of this broad aim, this resource pack for teachers sets out to:

- **Foster an awareness of Europe's past and present**
- **Facilitate young people in engaging with their identity as European citizens**
- **Develop an awareness and appreciation of other cultures and so foster mutual understanding among young Europeans**
- **Help young people understand the relationships between different cultures and traditions in regional, national and European contexts**
- **Provide opportunities for participants to become aware of other perspectives through collaborative work/projects**
- **Encourage young people to develop a range of communication skills, including the use of information technology.**



The European Studies Programme

European Studies is a Second Level curriculum-based programme with a strong ICT focus. It links schools across Europe through sustained collaborative projects furthering tolerance, mutual understanding and appreciation of the cultures of others. It is jointly funded by the Department of Education and Science in the Republic of Ireland and the Department of Education in Northern Ireland.

There are two programmes – the Junior Programme for 11-15 year olds and the Senior Programme for 16-18 years and older.

European Studies can be taught formally as a discrete subject area or as part of a variety of subjects within the Junior Certificate Curriculum. In the past, it has successfully been taught through History, Geography, Science, Languages and ICT at Junior level. There is a clear opportunity in the CSPE Syllabus for teachers of European Studies to teach about Europe in an interesting and active way to further enhance the learning of their students by engaging in collaborative projects with their partner schools.

Schools joining the programme are assigned to a cluster/working group containing a Northern Irish school, a school from the Republic of Ireland plus 4 to 5 schools from other European countries. The school nominates a teacher/coordinator who attends an annual residential International Planning Conference in which the cluster group completes an agreement/contract of curriculum-based work to be exchanged between respective pupils for the forthcoming academic year. This pack contains opportunities for collaborative work between schools, and it is hoped that teachers will use this resource to develop the work already being done in European Studies with their European partners.

To support the work happening in schools, school coordinators of European Studies receive in-service training in the latest ICT developments at the annual conference and full training in the International Dimension in Education. Regional Training Days are also held annually in a number of venues throughout Ireland to update school coordinators on curriculum issues. European Studies staff visit schools in Ireland and Northern Ireland each year to see firsthand the innovative work being carried out with students.

Further information is available at www.european-studies.org

Guide to this Resource

Each class in this module of work comprises learning outcomes, useful suggestions (if appropriate), steps to guide you through the use of the material and homework/follow-up activities. Some of the classes require supporting props for the activities and you will be directed to locate these in the pack.

Although this resource is structured as ten classes forming a unit of work, this is not meant to limit you in any way. Different issues may arise in class, your students may be interested in developing a particular area of interest beyond what is contained in the materials or you may have some ideas of your own to add to what is there. For example you may decide to spend two classes covering a particular area with your class where one is specified in the module. Alternatively, some of the follow-up or homework suggestions could form the basis for supplementary classes during the module.

Included in the resource pack is a colour map of the European Union. You will find this useful for all classes in this module. It will help to familiarise students with the various countries and their location. You can hang it on the classroom wall for the duration of the module or if you cannot leave it on the wall, bring it to each class.

The following are a list of things you will need to do or have BEFORE you begin each class...

Class 1: Blank paper and pens.

Class 2: Country jigsaws found in the resource pack, the teachers' answer sheet, and copies of the student worksheet for each student.

Class 3: Passport Application Form and the European Health Insurance Card application form and photocopies of the Countries Quiz sheet if you want to do it.

Class 4: Date/symbol and information cards, "Europe on the Move" (the wall chart outlining the history of the EU in the format of a timeline found in the resource pack) and copies of the outline map of Europe with the list of countries for each student.

Class 5: Inform students in advance to bring in coins from as many different eurozone countries as possible. This would ideally be done throughout the module in order to have a wide variety within the class.

Class 6: The role-play and identity cards, one copy of each of the four role-play documents and a copy for each student of the role-play worksheet and press release.

Class 7: Task cards for each of the groups, paper for students to draw on. Inform them in advance to bring colouring pencils, markers or crayons and photocopy the homework sheet for students and four copies of the Institutions information sheet.

Class 8: Issue cards, teacher's sheet and photocopies of the student worksheets.

Class 9: Locate the information leaflet on Irish MEPs, and the Issue Cards and student worksheets from Class 8. The blank outline map of Ireland can be photocopied if required.

Class 10: Paper and pens.

NB. All interactive cards to be stored within the resource pack after first use

Background information for teachers

Class 3: Travelling within the European Union

North, South, East, West - here we go!

Help?	Have you been robbed, lost your money or passport? You can seek help from the Irish embassy or consulate or if these don't exist you can ask for help from any EU member state embassy! This is one of the advantages of cooperation between EU countries. Dial 112 for emergency services anywhere in the EU! You can call the number from any phone free of charge.
Sick?	Have you suddenly taken ill or had an accident? The European Health Insurance Card entitles you to the same public healthcare services as the residents of the country you are visiting.
Shopping?	Have you purchased goods while on holiday? In general no limits exist on what you can buy and take with you when you travel between EU countries provided it is for your personal use and not for resale.
Mobile phones?	Using your phone in the EU? Thanks to EU legislation, roaming rates have been significantly reduced to a maximum of 0.35 per minute for calls made abroad and 0.11 per minute for receiving calls abroad. Messaging cannot exceed 0.11 per text.

Class 4: The History of the European Union

The origins of the European Union can be traced to the early 1950s and the aftermath of the Second World War. In order to ensure lasting peace in Europe, six countries decided to pool their coal and steel resources and formed the European Coal and Steel Community. The 6 founding countries (Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands) then signed the Treaty of Rome in 1957 to create the European Economic Community (EEC).

Over the years, the number of countries in the European Union has increased – this process is known as enlargement.

- **1957** (Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands)
- **1973** (Denmark, Ireland, United Kingdom)
- **1981** (Greece)
- **1986** (Spain, Portugal)
- **1995** (Austria, Finland, Sweden)
- **2004** (Czech Republic, Cyprus, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia).
- **2007** (Bulgaria, Romania)

The fall of the Berlin Wall in November 1989 opened the border between East and West Germany for the first time in 28 years, led to the reunification of Germany and triggered the collapse of communism across Central and Eastern Europe. This event also paved the way for further enlargement of the European Union in 2004.

In 2002 the Euro notes and coins were first introduced in a number of Member States.

There are currently 5 countries known as ‘candidate countries’ which might join the European Union in the future – Croatia, Iceland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Turkey.

The development of the European Union since the 1950s has been made possible because of a number of important treaties:

TREATIES	
Rome (1957)	Creation of the European Economic Community (EEC), allowing for general economic cooperation
Single European Act (1986)	Aims to establish the Single Market (the free movement of people, goods, services and money) by the end of 1992

Maastricht (1993)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishes the European Union (EU), replacing the EEC • Introduces elements of a political union (citizenship, common foreign and internal affairs policy) • Introduces the idea of economic and monetary union
Amsterdam (1997)	Provides for closer cooperation between member states on issues such as employment, asylum and immigration
Nice (2001)	Proposes changes to the EU institutions to enable enlargement
Lisbon (2009)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New post of President of the European Council • New post of High Representative for Foreign Affairs • Creation of the ‘Citizens’ Initiative’ • Introduces a legally binding ‘Charter of Fundamental Rights’ • Aims to make the EU more democratic, more efficient and better able to address global problems, such as climate change, with one voice.

Class 5: The Euro

All EU Member States are part of Economic and Monetary Union, which means they coordinate their economic policies for the benefit of the EU as a whole. However, not all EU Member States are in the euro area – only the 17 that have adopted the euro are members of the euro area. Of the Member States outside the euro area, Denmark and the United Kingdom have ‘opt-outs’ from joining for reasons of economic sovereignty. These two countries can join in the future if they so wish. Also, Sweden is not yet in the euro area as it has not made the necessary changes to its legislation, but is required to adopt the euro at some point in the future.

All countries that joined the EU from 2004 are committed to joining the euro when they fulfill certain economic and legal conditions.

Monaco, San Marino and Vatican City have also adopted the euro as their national currency.





The European Central Bank, which is based in Frankfurt in Germany, is the EU institution which has responsibility for managing the Euro.

Class 6: Making decisions in the EU

INSTITUTIONS	
European Parliament	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meets in Brussels & Strasbourg • MEPs are elected to this institution by the citizens of the member states for a 5 year term • Represents the interests of the EU's citizens • Passes EU laws jointly with the Council of the EU • Oversees the EU budget
European Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meets in Brussels • Represents the common interest of the EU • Members are nominated by the government of their own member state • Drafts proposals for new EU laws • Manages the day-to-day business of the EU • Divided into departments called Directorates General
Council of the European Union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represents the member states of the EU • The main decision-making body of the EU • Presidency of the Council rotates between the member states • With the Parliament it supervises the work of the European Commission • Coordinates economic policies of the EU
European Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprises the heads of state or governments of each of the member states plus a President and the President of the Commission • Sets out the overall strategy for the EU
Court of Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprises one judge from each of the member states • Ensures EU law is interpreted consistently across the Union
Court of Auditors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprises 27 members plus a President • Ensures EU funds are properly spent

Class 10: What does it mean to be European?

EU SYMBOLS

<p>European Flag</p> 	<p>The 12 stars in a circle symbolise the ideals of unity, solidarity and harmony among the peoples of Europe.</p>
<p>European Anthem</p> 	<p>The melody used to symbolize the EU comes from the Ninth Symphony composed in 1823 by Ludwig Van Beethoven.</p>
<p>Europe Day</p> 	<p>The ideas behind the European Union were first put forward on 9 May 1950 by French foreign minister Robert Schuman which is why 9 May is celebrated as a key date for the EU.</p>
<p>EU Motto</p>  <p>United in Diversity</p>	<p>'United in Diversity' is the motto of the European Union. It signifies how Europeans have come together, in the form of the EU, to work for peace and prosperity, while at the same time being enriched by the continent's many cultures, traditions and languages.</p>