



2 GATHER

Yearly European Union magazine



- customs and Traditions
- what is the Schengen area
- active Citizenship



customs and traditions

Why do we search for chocolate bunnies at Easter or smash plates on wedding days?



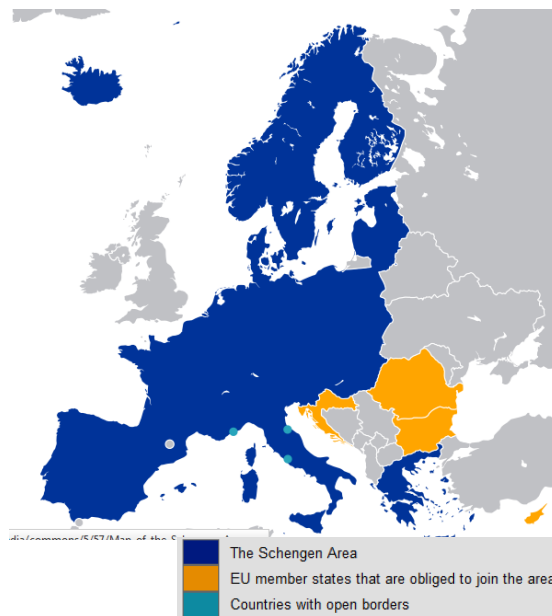
We all know that the old continent is full of ancient traditions and customs. Sometimes boring, sometimes folkloric, they teach us a lot on Europeans' history, culture and philosophy. Customs and traditions enrich individuals' lives.

Every country has its own traditions which makes the states unique. These should be kept alive. Unfortunately, nowadays people don't care about traditions as seriously as in the past. Almost every country has a national costume, which people wear when they celebrate their national holidays. At the countryside it is more common to take part in traditional activities. One of the strongest advantage of traditions is that a lot of tourists are interested in cultural life. Tradition can be defined as identity of the country. A lot of agencies make commercials for TV-s, magazines and newspapers to gain a reputation and encourage people to visit that place.

schengen area

On 14 June 1985, five European countries (France, Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg) began a process for developing European integration by removing border controls through the Schengen states.

In addition, US citizens travelling to Schengen area for 90 days or less do not need to have a visa, just passport.

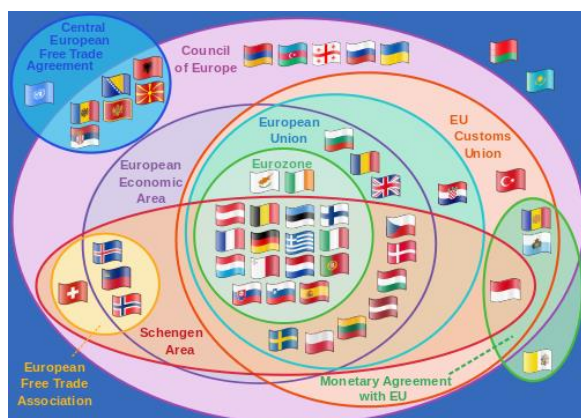


The area is formed from 22 European Union member states and all four European Free Trade Association (EFTA) member states -Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland-that have signed the Schengen Agreement even they are outside the EU. Also three European microstates-Monaco, San Marino and Vatican City-can be considered as de facto within the Schengen area.

From the six EU members that do not form part of the Schengen area, four-Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus and Romania-are legally obliged and wish to join the area. The other two-Ireland and the UK-maintain opt-outs.

Countries are only admitted to the Schengen once they have fulfilled specified security conditions:

- they must be able to control their countries;
- cooperate efficiently with other countries;
- apply the Schengen information System (SIS).



The SIS is the largest information system for public security in Europe, simplifies the exchange of information among national borders control, customs, judicial and police authorities.

active citizenship



Active citizenship = a philosophy which advocates that members of companies/nation states have certain roles and responsibilities to society and the environment, although those members may not have specific governing roles.

Implies:

	active involvement	compassion	working together
compassion		sustainable solutions	respect
safe, stable and clean environment		self- development	honouring duties
			being informed

An active citizen is a person who actively takes responsibility and initiative in areas of private concern, such as crime prevention and the local community.

cris cross

1. What is the name of area for free transport?
2. Where is our project right now? (short version of the country)
3. What is the typical for each country and makes the history?
4. Eevery country has own(3rd answer) and.....
5. What is the main advantages of work in team?
6. What is the name of magazine about EU?

