



The magazine for the europeans

EU4US



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Culture

Nowadays Europe symbolizes the **strength** and **possibilities together**. It is the root of many cultures and it's also the ground of every nation's blooming trees. Europe is not only a continent, it is the pride of humanity. The different nations' own cultures make Europe as one, piece by piece. Through the history it has been developed fastly, except when people didn't understand each other and started fighting for their own truth.

There were times when we lost the line but after period of time we get to **understand each other problems and started to work together**, so we can say that Europe strength is about working together for one holy goal. We couldn't be as big as now and as rich as now without any European culture. We have to know that every culture itself gives the strength of the European line. Think about Spanish passion and hot temperature of Spanish people, think about Czech's beer culture or Romanian cuisine, or if you think it through you will see, that the Europe we know wouldn't exist if Hungary hadn't defended our borders for hundreds of years, we couldn't live like this in this continent, without Germany's amazing inventions and

the spirit of Cyprusis people. So the point is that we are stronger and greater together. Every nation's culture represents a piece of Europe

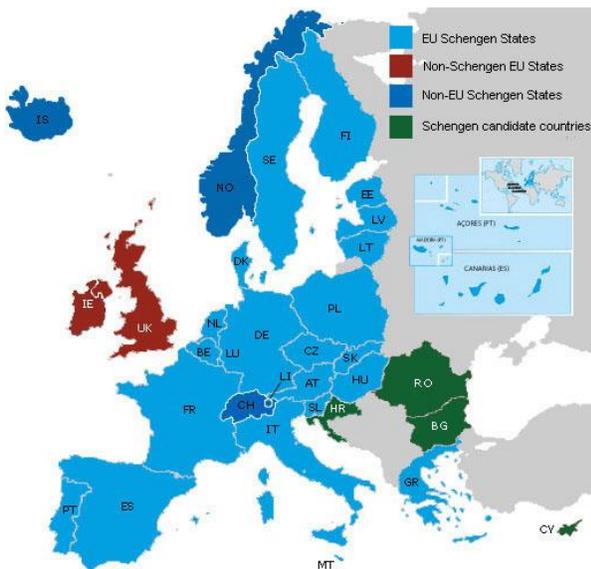


Some of us are bigger, some of us are weaker, but we all have got our own great and beautiful cultures. We have to defend and **protect these cultures** because culture is the main root of our entire nation. And we now that the stronger your roots are the taller and safer will be your tree and strong trees will stand against every storm no matter how big they are.

Three Magical Words?

Yes, you can think about everything like: **Freedom, Peace and Love** (in the world), but the correct answer is **free travel area**.

So, have you ever dreamed about travelling free, without border controls and just with your identity card **through Europe**? Just to take your bags and go from Romania into Spain or Cyprus, or from Czech Republic into Hungary, without waiting for hours on the borders and without take care of visas?



If more than 400 million people can live this reality? How? By **Schengen policy**, which establishes **no more border controls** at

their common borders and no more obligations regarding the documents for travelling, especially passports. The main objective is a common visa policy. The Schengen Agreement was signed in 1985, in the town Schengen, Luxembourg, between 5 European countries. In more 30 years of reforms and annotations, the policy is applied in 26 European countries and in other non-European countries like Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland, Monaco, San Marino and Vatican. But in 6 European Union countries doesn't applied this agreement such as Romania, Croatia, Cyprus, Bulgaria, UK and Ireland. For the beginning Schengen area was established separately from the European Community, even it is applied in Europe.

Why? Let's say that it is a controversial policy, when consensus could not be reached among all EC members states on the abolition of border controls. Ok, the free movement of people is a fundamental right, but also their security and their safety! By Schengen policy, the European citizens can travel/ work/made their studies/visit the beautiful places/ discover cultures!

So yes, definitely, the free travel area is *3 magical words!*

Advantages and Disadvantages

European Union is a political and economic union created by 28 European nations. It is a complicated system and as an every complicated system it has its own benefits, losses, advantages and disadvantages.

In case of education and working, there are many **advantages** we should mention. Students from member countries can be accepted to every school in EU countries.



They can also participate in exchange programmes, which are made between different universities. Then they can join the **Youth exchange programmes**. These programmes are made up through the youth organizations and the goal is to allow groups

of young people from different countries to meet and improve their intercultural skills.

The same thing is with work, every citizen of EU can have a job in all EU countries and the employers should acknowledge EU worker's qualifications and also academic degrees. To get a job EU employers have to guarantee the same requirements for everyone. But still there can be obstacles with the differences in education as the each state has its own educational system.

Thanks to EU more **investments** from abroad are coming to all of the EU countries, due to the employment is supported and the economics are growing.

The Union guarantee to all of the citizens the security, protection of human rights and unified politics. The unified politics could be burden for some countries because the EU authorities can make direct decisions and the states can lose their possibility to make their own law decisions. Another cause is a lot of their own foreign affairs politics.

With the same currency comes increase in prices of food, services, basic necessities and slow growth of wages. Also there are some desperations with which the central

bank has to deal with in certain parts of Europe.



Every member of EU has to **pay some fees**, however each country can develop itself by getting grants. To get the grant member states has to meet some obligations, which are very strict. That means that sometimes countries are paying more on fees than is received through grants.

Finally when the Europe becomes united, countries can lose their nation sovereignty, honour and consciousness.

Do you know that...?

- When the Euro currency was introduced in 2002, the initial letters of the countries adopting it spelt out 'baffling pigs'. Five more countries have now joined, and it spells 'begs piffing scams'.
- Wales has eight per cent of the sheep in the EU.
- The EU annually imports more than 6,000 tonnes of frogs' legs from Asia.

sources: wikipedia, europa.eu, mind



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