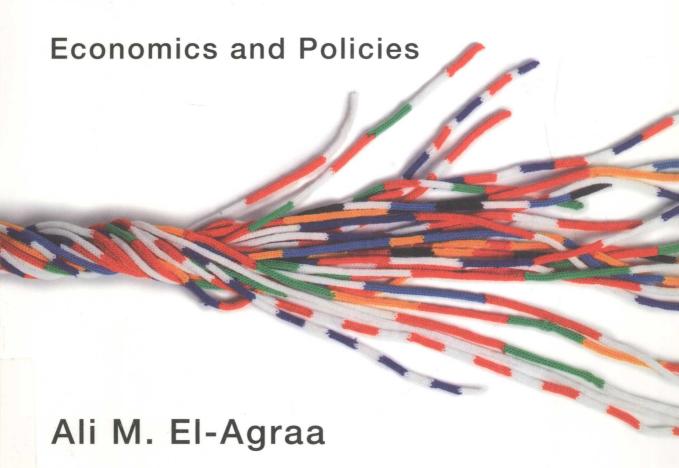
Ninth Edition

# THE EUROPEAN UNION



NINTH

# The European Union Economics and Policies

Ali M. El-Agraa

With invited edited contributions

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### The European Union

The European Union has established itself as a leading text that provides readers from all disciplines with a sound understanding of the economics and policies of the EU. Its wealth of information, detail and analysis has ensured that previous editions have been read by a generation of students, researchers and policymakers. It covers all major EU policy areas, as well as theories of economic integration, the theory of economic and monetary union (EMU), the measurement of the economic effects of European integration and the legal dimension of EU integration. It also includes an explanation and analysis of all recent developments affecting the EU, such as enlargement, the ratification of the Nice Treaty and the Convention for the Future of Europe. This edition has been thoroughly revised and updated and includes new resources to help students and teachers, including summaries, review questions, suggestions for essay titles and further reading lists.

**Ali M. El-Agraa** is Emeritus Professor of International Economic Integration at Fukuoka University, Japan. He has extensive teaching experience at universities in the UK and North America.

To Diana, Mark and Frances and those who believe in and actively support an ever closer unity for Europe



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### **Preface**

The European Union (EU) is the most significant and influential of international economic integration (IEI) schemes. There are three reasons, the sum of which explains this significance:

- 1. Of the six EU founding states, (West) Germany, France and Italy were top ten world economies. Since then, two such economies have joined: the UK and Spain. Hence today the EU includes half of the world's top ten economies. The EU has also proved a magnet for new members: in addition to the founding member nations, known as the Original Six, there are now an additional twenty-one. The EU of twenty-seven continues to receive applications for membership; hence it is set to include practically the whole of Europe, and may go beyond the geographic area if Turkey succeeds in joining in 2015. No other scheme matches this economic size and diversity.
- From a voluntary viewpoint, the EU is the oldest IEI
  scheme in operation; voluntary in the sense that
  countries are not coerced into joining, due to their
  being dominated by a foreign country or captured
  by war. This longevity is part of the EU's attraction.
- 3. Most vitally, the EU has the deepest scheme of IEI. It is almost a complete economic union: (a) it is practically a complete 'common market', where people, goods, services and capital move freely the four freedoms; (b) sixteen of its twenty-seven member states have the same currency (euro), with the European Central Bank in charge of Eurozone monetary policy; (c) it has a system for monitoring and influencing fiscal policy the Stability and Growth Pact; and (d) it has its own budget, financing a range of policies. Also, since the entry into force of the Treaty on European Union (TEU), popularly known as the Lisbon Treaty, on 1 December 2009, it has: (e) a single president of the European Council; and (f)

a foreign policy chief who controls a vast diplomatic corps, now being established.

That is why the EU is fascinating to study, and this book attempts to guide those who care about an 'ever closer union' for the people of Europe. But it is not confined to 'Europeans', since the EU offers lessons for all countries that try to learn from it or even emulate it. This is not to suggest that the EU is heaven – far from it; it has always had its serious problems, some bringing it close to complete collapse: witness the financial and economic crises it has been experiencing since 2007, which prompted many to speculate on the imminent demise of the euro. But this is inevitable, given the diversity of EU peoples and economies.

This book is unique, and in more ways than one. First, when the first edition was published in 1980 there was no such text on the market; there were a few books for the layperson and the expert, which were naturally limited in scope. Second, this is the only text that covers every single major EU policy, but is inevitably slanted towards the economic, given the way the EU has developed. Third, although I am personally responsible for ten chapters of the book and co-author of another eight, the rest of the chapters are contributed by leading authorities in their particular area of EU expertise, but I have edited their contributions in such a way as to make the book read as a consistent whole. Naturally, in doing so, I have tried my best not to make them lose their unique style.

The book, together with its website, offers comprehensive coverage of all the major EU policy areas. It is written in such a way that the theoretical aspects are covered in separate chapters, so that those not comfortable with theory, either because they are averse to it or simply do not want to be diverted by it, can go straight to their chosen delight.

The book is in seven parts:

### Part I EU history, institutions and legal dimension

Chapter 2 A history of European integration and the evolution of the EU

Chapter 3 EU institutions

Chapter 4 The legal dimension in EU integration

Chapter 5 The European economy: bare essentials

The aim of this part of the book is to provide a general background to the EU. Chapter 2 gives a short account of the history of European integration and the development of the EU. Chapter 3 provides a general description of EU institutions and their functioning. Chapter 4 explores the legal dimension in EU integration. Chapter 5 is a general survey of the bare essentials of the EU economy, using mainly charts, with the full statistical tables available on the website; it covers the major economic indicators for the present EU twenty-seven member states (MSs), as well as those involved in imminent enlargements and, to enable comparison, also for the rest of those in the group of eight (G8, now G20).

### Part II EU market integration: theory and practice

Chapter 6 The theory of economic integration

Chapter 7 The economics of the single market

Chapter 8 Factor mobility

Chapter 9 Measuring the impact of economic integration

Part II of this book is devoted to a discussion of the theoretical and practical aspects of EU market integration. Chapter 6 covers the theory of economic integration, providing an overall picture of the analysis of the economic implications of the creation of a single market on both the partner nations and the rest of the world. It is followed by a consideration of these aspects in terms of the EU's Single European Market (SEM) in Chapter 7, with Chapter 8 dealing entirely with the question of the free movement of capital, labour and enterprise within the EU. Chapter 9 then deals with the nature and problems of the measurement of the impact of the formation of the EU on trade, production and factor mobility.

### Part III EU monetary integration

Chapter 10 The theory of monetary integration

Chapter 11 The development of EU economic and monetary integration

Chapter 12 The operation of EMU

Part III covers all aspects of that far-reaching and most

demanding element of integration, monetary unification, including the adoption of a single currency. The three chapters cover, respectively: the theoretical analysis of the gains and losses from economic and monetary union (EMU); the EU developments that have led to the present situation, where twelve of the fifteen pre-2004 EU member nations are using the euro as their only currency, and where all countries acceding after that are obliged to join them when deemed fit, with five of them already having done so; and the management of the euro by the European Central Bank (ECB) and how the euro is operated.

# Part IV The single European market: policy integration

Chapter 13 Competition policy

Chapter 14 Industrial and competitiveness policy: the Lisbon Strategy

Chapter 15 Tax harmonization

Chapter 16 Transport policy

Chapter 17 Energy policy and energy markets

Chapter 18 Environmental policy

Part IV of the book covers areas that constitute the very foundations needed to facilitate a properly operating SEM. Hence it tackles in six chapters: competition rules; industrial and competitiveness policy; tax harmonization; transport policy; energy policy; and environmental policy. Industrial policy is included because variations in it would be tantamount to affording differing protection to national domestic industry. The absence of tax harmonization would have consequences equivalent to those of disparate industrial policies. Similar considerations apply to transport, energy and the environment. Of course, transport and energy are also dealt with as industries in their own right, as well as providers of social services, and the environment is treated in terms of tackling pollution and the consequent health benefits.

### Part V EU budget and structural policies

Chapter 19 The general budget

Chapter 20 The Common Agricultural Policy

Chapter 21 The Common Fisheries Policy

Chapter 22 Regional policy

Chapter 23 Social policies: the employment dimension

Part V of this book covers all EU policies that address certain structural aspects of the EU economy and society. The EU affords special treatment to those in the agricultural sector, fishing industry and depressed regions, as well as dealing with EU-wide social problems, especially unemployment, hence employment. These areas are not only financed by the EU general budget, but also claim the bulk of its general budgetary resources. Thus this part of the book begins with the chapter on the budget and follows on with chapters on each of the mentioned areas.

### Part VI EU external relations

Chapter 24 External trade policy Chapter 25 The EU and the developing world

Part VI of the book deals with the external relations of the EU. Chapter 24 covers EU trade relations with its major partners within the context of the Common Commercial Policy (CCP) run by the European Commission on behalf of all EU member nations. Chapter 25 tackles EU relations with the developing world, in terms of trade, aid and preferential trading arrangements.

### Part VII The future of the EU

Chapter 26 The future of the EU

Part VII of the book is naturally concerned with the future of the EU: where it is heading. It examines the views of all those who play influential roles in the drive behind European integration and sets them against the vision of the founding fathers.

Finally, I would like to thank all those who have contributed to this book over the years, especially those who are still with me since its inception, and to welcome Professors Ian Barnes and Imelda Maher and Dr Miriam Manchin to my team. Thanks are also due to Chris Harrison, Publishing Director for the Social Sciences at Cambridge University Press, for his encouragement and support, and to all his production teams for their excellent work.

Ali M. El-Agraa Fukuoka University, Japan October 2010



## A reader's guide

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The book is written in such a way that pure theory and measurement techniques are confined to separate chapters. This means that the policy chapters should be accessible to all readers. However, it also means that those who seek a rigorous, yet brief, background on international economic integration can find it handily in the same book. Moreover, as my contributors will no doubt attest, my editing style has been to ensure that the book reads as a whole, not as a collection of independent articles, each contributed for its own sake. This has been ensured through thorough editing and consultation with the contributors, cross-referencing, allowing repetition only where absolutely necessary, logical sequencing and a setting which begins with an introductory chapter and finishes with one on the future of the EU. In the process, I have tried my best not to distract from any contributor's own writing style. Therefore the reader has a unique product which offers a truly single entity, yet is authored by several acknowledged authorities in the various fields.

As to the reader's guide, for those truly interested in the EU as a whole, you will of course have to read the entire book, if you really want to understand it as a most successful scheme of international economic integration, with aspirations going beyond that. However, those who are simply interested in the EU itself without the global context can skip Chapters 6, 9 and 10, since these are devoted to theoretical

and measurement considerations which pertain to all schemes. Those interested only in the EU policy areas can drop Chapters 2-6 and 9, although Chapter 2 is important for a proper understanding. Those interested only in the EU economic policies can drop Chapters 2-4 and 23 and, if not interested in the future of the EU, can also drop Chapter 26. Those interested only in EMU and the euro can confine themselves to Chapters 7, 8 and 10-12, but are advised to read Chapters 2 and 26 for a proper understanding; those interested in this area with an emphasis on the UK will find my book The Euro and Britain: Implications of Moving into EMU (2002) more appropriate. Also various combinations of chapters can be made, depending on what the user/ reader has in mind - for example, those interested in a very basic understanding of the EU can use Chapters 2, 3, 5 and 26.

Finally, the entire book is written with those who want to pursue further study in mind. Thus, within every chapter the reader is referred to the most relevant research publications in the field and these are fully set out in the Bibliography at the end of the book. Nevertheless, there are also guides to further reading at the end of each chapter, but no guides to other texts, since it is not our task to supply them, especially when this book is a pioneer in its field and covers more than one field of study – it is not confined to economics.



# **Abbreviations**

IEI: International Economic Integration

AAMS	Association of African and	BEP	biomolecular engineering
	Malagasy States		programme
AAU	Arab-African Union	BEST	Business Environment
ACC	<b>Arab Cooperation Council</b>		Simplification Task Force
ACM	Arab Common Market	BLEU	Belgium-Luxembourg Economic
ACP	African, Caribbean and Pacific		Union
	countries party to the Lomé	BRAIN	basic research in adaptive
	Convention (now the Cotonou		intelligence and neurocomputing
	Agreement)	BRIDGE	Biotechnological Research for
ADAPT	Community initiative concerning		Innovation, Development and
	the adaptation of the workforce to		Growth in Europe
	industrial change	BRITE/EURAM	basic research in industrial
AEC	African Economic Community		technologies for Europe/raw
AIM	advanced informatics in medicine		materials and advanced
AL	Arab League		materials
ALADI	Association for Latin American	BSE	bovine spongiform
	Integration		encephalopathy
ALTENER	specific actions to promote greater	BU	Benin Union
	penetration of renewable energy	CAA	Civil Aviation Authority
	sources	CACM	Central American Common
AMU	Arab Maghreb Union		Market
ANZCERTA	Australia and New Zealand Closer	CADDIA	cooperation in automation of data
	Economic Relations and Trade		and documentation for imports/
	Agreement (also CER)		exports and agriculture
ARION	programme of study visits for	CAEU	Council for Arab Economic Unity
	decision-makers in education	CAP	Common Agricultural Policy
ASEAN	Association of South East Asian	CARICOM	Caribbean Community
	Nations	CARIFTA	Caribbean Free Trade Association
ASEM	Asia-Europe meeting	CCP	Common Commercial Policy
AU	African Union	CCT	Common Customs Tariff
BAP	biotechnology action	CEAO	Communauté Économique de
	programme		l'Afrique de l'Ouest
BATNEEC	best available technology not	CEC	Commission of the European
	entailing excessive cost		Communities
BC-NET	Business Cooperation Network	CEDB	component event data bank
BCR	Community Bureau of References	CEDEFOP	European Centre for
			-
BENELUX	Belgium, the Netherlands and		Development of Vocational

CEEC	Countries of Central and Eastern	CSF	Community support framework
	Europe	CSTID	Committee for Scientific and
CEEP	European Centre for Population		Technical Information and
	Studies		Documentation
CEN	European Committee for	CTP	Common Transport Policy
	Standardization	CTS	conformance testing services
CENELEC	European Committee for	CU	customs union
	Electrotechnical Standardization	DAC	Development Assistance
CEP	common energy policy		Committee (OECD)
CEPGL	Economic Community of the	DDR	German Democratic Republic
	Countries of the Great Lakes		(now part of Germany)
CER	closer economic relations	DELTA	developing European learning
CERN	European Organization for		through technological
	Nuclear Research		advance
CET	common external tariff	DG IV	Directorate General Four
CFP	Common Fisheries Policy	DI	divergence indicator
CFSP	common foreign and security	DRIVE	dedicated road infrastructure for
	policy		vehicle safety in Europe
CI	Community initiative	DV	dummy variable
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent	EAC	East African Community
	States	EAGGF	European Agricultural Guidance
CM	Common Market		and Guarantee Fund
CMEA	Council for Mutual Economic	EBA	'Everything But Arms'
	Assistance	EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction
CN	combined nomenclature		and Development
CODEST	Committee for the European	EC	European Community
	Development of Science and	ECB	European Central Bank
	Technology	ECAA	European Common Aviation Area
COMECON	see CMEA	ECHO	<b>European Community</b>
COMETT	Community programme in		Humanitarian Office
	education and training for	ECIP	<b>European Community Investment</b>
	technology		Partners
CORDIS	Community research and	ECJ	European Court of Justice
	development information service	ECLAIR	European collaborative linkage of
COREPER	Committee of Permanent		agriculture and industry through
	Representatives		research
CORINE	coordination of information on	ECMT	<b>European Conference of Ministers</b>
	the environment in Europe		of Transport
COSINE	cooperation for open systems	ECOFIN	European Council of Ministers for
	interconnection networking in		Financial Affairs
	Europe	ECOSOC	Economic and Social Committee
COST	European cooperation on		(also ESC)
	scientific and technical research	ECOWAS	Economic Community of West
CREST	Scientific and Technical Research		African States
	Committee	ECPE	European Centre of Public
CRS	computerized reservation system		Enterprises
CSCE	Conference on Security and	ECSC	European Coal and Steel
	Cooperation in Europe		Community

ECU	European Currency Unit	EUROCONTROL	European organization for the
EDC	European Defence Community		safety of air navigation
EDF	European Development Fund	EURONET-DIANE	direct information access network
EDIFACT	electronic data interchange for		for Europe
2211101	administration, commerce and	EUROSTAT	statistical office of the EC/EU
	transport	EVCA	European Venture Capital
EEA	European Economic Area	Luid no	Association
EEC	European Economic Community	FADN	EEC farm accountancy data
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone	111011	network
EFTA	European Free Trade Association	FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
EGE	European Group on Ethics in	1710	of the United Nations
LGL	Science and New Technologies	FAST	forecasting and assessment in the
EIB	European Investment Bank	17131	field of science and technology
EIF	European Investment Fund	FCO	Foreign and Commonwealth
EMCF		rco	Office
ENICF	European Monetary Cooperation	EEED	
PME	Fund	FEER	Fundamental Equilibrium
EMF	European Monetary Fund	FFOCA	Exchange Rate
EMI	European Monetary Institute	FEOGA	European Agricultural Guidance
EMS	European Monetary System	PIPO	and Guarantee Fund
EMU	European monetary union or	FIFG	Financial Instrument for Fisheries
moletul mi	economic and monetary union	Transmission	Guidance
EP	European Parliament	FLAIR	food-linked agro-industrial
EPC	European political cooperation	. (c rox 11/4	research
EPOCH	European programme on	FSAP	Financial Services Action Plan
	climatology and natural hazards	FSU	Former Soviet Union
EQS	environmental quality standard	FTA	free trade area
Erasmus	European Community action	GATS	General Agreement on Trade in
	scheme for the mobility of		Services
	university students	GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and
ERDF	European Regional Development		Trade (UN)
	Fund	GCC	Gulf Cooperation Council
ERM	Exchange Rate Mechanism	GDP	gross domestic product
ESA	European Space Agency	GFCM	General Fisheries Council for the
ESCB	European System of Central Banks		Mediterranean
ESF	European Social Fund	GNI	gross national income
ESI	electricity supply industry	GNP	gross national product
ESPRIT	European strategic programme	GSM	global system for mobile
	for research and development in		communication
	information technology	GSP	generalized system of preferences
ETUC	European Trade Union	HDTV	high-definition television
	Confederation	HELIOS	action programme to promote
EU	European Union		social and economic integration
EUA	European Unit of Account		and an independent way of life for
Euratom	European Atomic Energy		disabled people
	Commission	HS	Harmonized Commodity
Eureka	European Research Coordinating		Description and Coding System
	Agency	IAEA	International Atomic Energy
EURES	European Employment Services	10 - Inc	Agency (UN)
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IATA	International Air Transport Association	JOP	joint venture programme PHARE-TACIS
IBRD	International Bank for	JOULE	joint opportunities for
	Reconstruction and Development		unconventional or long-term
	(World Bank) (UN)		energy supply
ICES	International Council for the	JRC	Joint Research Centre
	Exploration of the Seas	KALEIDOSCOPE	programme to support artistic
ICONE	comparative index of national and		and cultural activities having a
100112	European standards		European dimension
IDA	International Development	LAFTA	Latin American Free Trade Area
1011	Association (UN)	LDC	less-developed country
IDB	Inter-American Development	LEDA	local employment development
IDD	Bank	LLDI	action programme
IDO	integrated development operation	LIFE	Financial Instrument for the
IEA	International Energy Agency	LIFE	Environment
IEA		M&A	
IDM	(OECD)		mergers and acquisitions
IEM	internal energy market	MAGP	multi-annual guidance
IGC	intergovernmental conference	A CA DATE	programme
IIT	intra-industry trade	MARIE	mass transit rail initiative for
ILO	International Labour Organization	- netro yea	Europe
IMF	International Monetary Fund	MAST	marine science and technology
	(UN)	MB	marginal benefit
IMP	integrated Mediterranean	MC	marginal cost
	programme	MCA	monetary compensatory amount
IMPACT	information market policy actions	MEDIA	measures to encourage the
INSIS	inter-institutional system of		development of the audiovisual
	integrated services		industry
INTERREG	Community initiative concerning	MEP	Member of the European
	border areas		Parliament
IPR	intellectual property rights	MERCOSOR	Southern Cone Common Market
IRCC	International Radio Consultative	MERM	multilateral exchange rate
	Committee		model
IRIS	network of demonstration projects	MFA	Multifibre Arrangement
	on vocational training for women		(arrangement regarding
IRTE	integrated road transport		international trade in textiles)
. 13111	environment	MFN	most favoured nation
ISIS	integrated standards information	MFP	multi-annual framework
1010	system	THE TOTAL PROPERTY AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY AN	programme
ISPA	instrument for structural policies	MFT	multilateral free trade
ISTA	for pre-accession	MISEP	
ITA	ioi pie decession	MISEP	mutual information system on
		MNIE	employment policies
KEED	0	MNE	multinational enterprise
ITER		MONITOR	research programme on
******	experimental reactor		strategic analysis, forecasting
JESSI	,		and assessment in research and
Blasse degra	Initiative	Syrrian Band 2 (Ga	technology
JET	Joint European Torus judicial and home affairs	MP	marginal productivity
JHA		MRU	Mano River Union

MS	member state	OSCE	Organization for Security and
NAFTA	North Atlantic Free Trade		Cooperation in Europe
and want	Agreement; New Zealand	OSI	open systems interconnection
	Australia Free Trade Area	PAFTAD	Pacific Trade and Development
NAIRU	non-accelerating inflation rate of		Conference
best room	unemployment	PBEC	Pacific Basin Economic
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization		Council
NCB	National Central Bank	PECC	Pacific Economic Cooperation
NCI	new Community instrument	1200	Conference
NEAFC	North-East Atlantic Fisheries	PEDIP	programme to modernize
NEATC	Commission	LDII	Portuguese industry
NET	Next European Torus	PETRA	action programme for the
NETT	network for environmental	ILIIU	vocational training of young
NEIT	technology transfer		people and their preparation for
NGO	non-governmental		adult and working life
NGO		PHARE	programme of community aid for
NIC	organization	PHARE	Central and Eastern European
NIC	newly industrializing country		
NIE	newly industrializing economy	DO.	countries
NIEO	New International Economic	POSETDOM	producer organization
NHECD	Order	POSEIDOM	programme of options specific to
NIESR	National Institute of Economic		the remote and insular nature of
Walland III	and Social Research	nnn .	the overseas departments
NiGEM	National Institute Global	PPP	polluter pays principle
	Econometric Model	PPP	purchasing power parity
NIS	Newly Independent States (of the	PTA	preferential trade area
	former USSR)	PTC	Pacific Telecommunications
NMS	new member states		Conference
NOHA	Network on Humanitarian	PTT	Posts, Telegraphs and
	Assistance		Telecommunications
NPCI	national programme of	QMV	qualified majority voting
	Community interest	RACE	research and development
NPT	Treaty on Non-proliferation of		in advanced communication
	Nuclear Weapons		technologies for Europe
NTB	non-tariff barrier	RARE	réseaux associés pour la recherche
NTM	non-tariff measure		européenne
NUTS	Nomenclature of Territorial Units	R&TD	research and technological
	for Statistics		development
OAPEC	Organization of Arab Petroleum	RCD	Regional Cooperation for
	Exporting Countries		Development
OAU	Organization for African Unity	REGIS	Community initiative concerning
OCTs	overseas countries and territories		the most remote regions
ODA	overseas development aid	REIMEP	regular European interlaboratory
OECD	Organization for Economic		measurements evaluation
	Cooperation and Development		programme
OEEC	Organization for European	RENAVAL	
	Economic Cooperation		conversion of shipbuilding areas
OPEC	Organization of Petroleum	REPAs	regional economic partnership
	<b>Exporting Countries</b>		agreements

RESIDER	programme to assist the		to advanced telecommunications
	conversion of steel areas	JB 54 1 56 1	services
RIA	regional impact assessment	STEP	science and technology for
RoO	rules of origin		environmental protection
RTA	regional trade agreement	SVER	structural vector autoregression
RTD	research and technological	SYNERGY	multinational programme
	development		to promote international
SACU	Southern African Customs		cooperation in the energy
	Union		sector
SAP	social action programme	SYSMIN	special financing facility for ACP
SAST	strategic analysis in the field of		and OCT mining products
	science and technology	TAC	total allowable catch
SAVE	Specific Actions for Vigorous	TACIS	Technical Aid to the
	Energy Efficiency		Commonwealth of Independent
SCENT	system for a customs enforcement		States
	network	TARIC	integrated Community tariff
SCIENCE	plan to stimulate the international	TBT	WTO's agreement on technical
	cooperation and interchange		barriers to trade
	necessary for European	TEDIS	trade electronic data interchange
	researchers		systems
SDR	special drawing rights	TELEMAN	research and training programme
SEA	Single European Act		on remote handling in nuclear
SEDOC	inter-state notification of job		hazardous and disordered
Atme	vacancies		environments
SEM	Single European Market	TEMPUS	trans-European cooperation
SEM 2000	sound and efficient management		scheme for higher education
SFOR	multinational stabilization force	TENs	trans-European networks
SLIM	simpler legislation for the internal	TESS	modernization of the exchange
	market		of information between national
SMEs	small and medium-sized		social security institutions
	enterprises	TEU	Treaty on European Union
SPD	single programme documents	TFEU	Treaty of the Functioning of the
SPEAR	support programme for a		European Union
	European assessment of research	TRIPs	trade-related aspects of
SPES	stimulation plan for economic		intellectual property rights
	science	TSEs	transmissible spongiform
SPRINT	strategic programme for		encephalopathies
	innovation and technology	t/t	terms of trade
	transfer	TUC	Trades Union Congress
SPS		TVA	taxe à la valeur ajoutée
010	application of sanitary and	UDEAC	Union Douanière et Économique
		ODLITC Inches	de l'Afrique Centrale
STABEX		UEMOA	West African Economic and
SITIBLE	and OCT export earnings		Monetary Union
STAR		HES	uniform emission standards
SIAR		UES	
	and adveropinent of certain	UN	United Nations
	less-favoured regions of the	UNCLOS	United Nations Conference on the
	Community by improving access		Law of the Sea

UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on	UTR	unilateral tariff reduction
	Trade and Development	VALOREN	Community programme for
UNECA	United Nations Economic		the development of certain
	Commission for Africa		less-favoured regions of the
UNEP	United Nations Environment		Community by exploiting
	Programme		endogenous energy potential
UNESCO	United Nations Educational,	VALUE	programme for the dissemination
	Scientific and Cultural		and utilization of research results
	Organization	VAT	value added tax
UNHCR	United Nations High	VEIS	VAT information exchange system
	Commissioner for Refugees	VER	voluntary export restraint
UNICE	Union of Industries of the	VSTF	very short-term financing facility
	<b>European Community</b>	WEU	Western European Union
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial	WFC	World Food Council (UN)
	<b>Development Organization</b>	WFP	World Food Programme (UN)
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works	WIPO	World Intellectual Property
	Agency for Palestine Refugees in		Organization (UN)
	the Near East	WTO	World Trade Organization
URAA	Uruguay Round Agreement on	YES	'Youth for Europe' programme
	Agriculture		(youth exchange scheme)
URBAN	Community initiative for urban		
	areas		