

# Europe in the International System

## **The historical background: the Cold War**

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## 1960s: the De Gaulle years

- Believes in “Europe des Etats”
- Launches meetings of FP Ministers and of heads of state and government (aka “Summits”, first meeting 1961)
- Give impulse to Development policy as beneficial to France
- 1964-67 Kennedy Round @GATT
- 1968: EEC customs union for goods operative. Common Customs Tariff (CCT) for goods coming from third countries
- 1968: 10 years after creation of EEC intra-EEC exports soared by 265% and by 113% with third countries
- Crise de la chaise vide (empty chair crises)

### Tensed France-USA relations

- 1962 Kennedy → Polaris offered to UK → De Gaulle ends negotiations w/ UK & offers Association Agreement
- Friendship Treaty w/ GER and URSS

### Tensed France – UK tensions

- 1967: Harold Wilson (Labor) wins elections @ UK → apply to EEC → new De Gaulle veto
- 1969: De Gaulle loses referendum on Senate and regionalization → resigns → Pompidou elected President

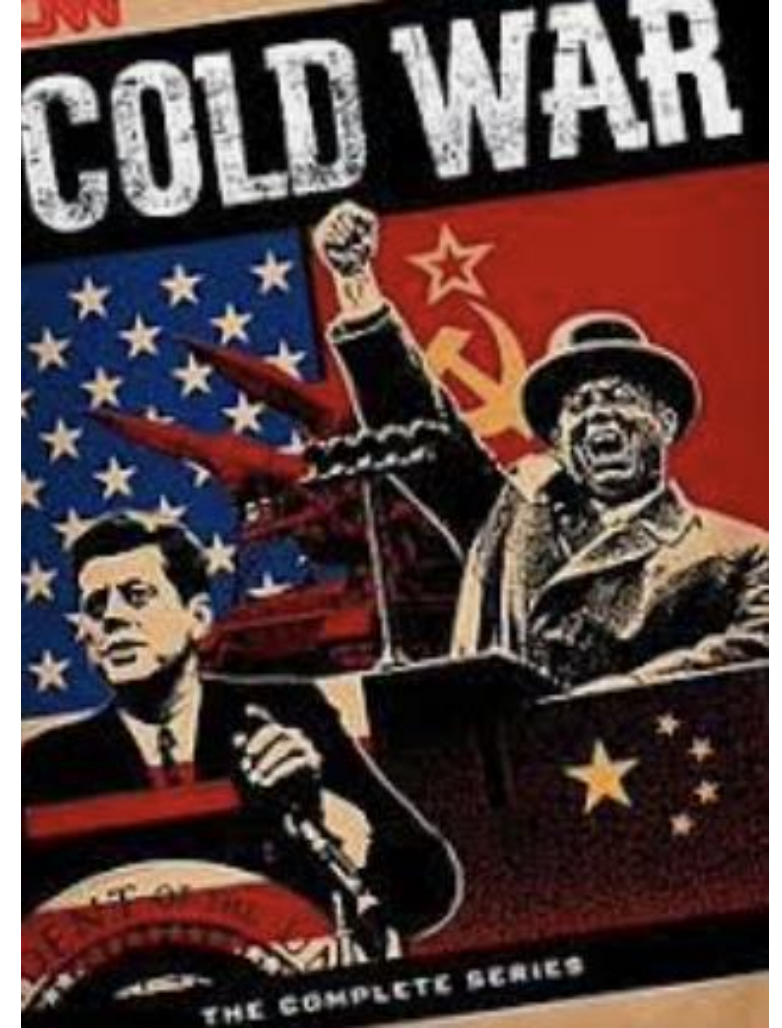
### Pompidou’s TRIPTIQUE leads to:

- European political cooperation (EPC)
- 1<sup>st</sup> EEC enlargement (UK, DEN, IRL). The NOR question



# 1960s

- Berlin Wall (1961)
- **CAP (common agriculture policy)** in place
- **Development policy**: Yaoundé Convention (1963) -> Lomé (1975-2000)
- 1964–67: EEC represents MS @ **GATT Kennedy Round**
- *Ostpolitik* (Willy Brant wins Nobel Prize 1971)
- **1963: End of Kennedy administration** -> shift @US vs EEC (economic competitor)
- 1964-67 Kennedy Round @GATT
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To know more:

CNN Documentary Cold War:

Berlin [https://youtu.be/VVX-iOKty9k?si=\\_TJVa256tkU5OqAG](https://youtu.be/VVX-iOKty9k?si=_TJVa256tkU5OqAG)

Red Spring: The Sixties

<https://youtu.be/RVlr8o1GQcs?si=EA5-V8bnOAAEhal4>

# 1970s: Domestic & international crises

1967: Europeans divided on Six-Days War -> Arab Israeli Wars -> Oil crises & embargo

1971: End of gold convertibility -> EEC saved by Monetary Snake -> Replaced by EMS (European Monetary System @1979)

1973: UK, DK and IRL join the EEC

1973: Nixon & Kissinger: Europe shall pay more but only mind regional business -> EEC feels pressure to engage more in international affairs -> Declaration of European Identity in Copenhagen -> More EPC & creation of EEC rotating Presidency

1974: Valerie Giscard d'Estaing becomes FRA President and creates the European Council ("The Summits are Dead, *vive les Conseil Europeens!*")

1974: Helmut Schmidt becomes Chancellor GER (*OstPolitikk*)

1974: End of Colonels Regime @GR, and Carnation Revolution @POR

1975: End of Franco Regime @SP -> GR, PT, SP ask to join EEC





# 1970s: No more dictatorships in Western Europe!

1974:

- End of Colonels Regime in Greece
- Carnation Revolution in Portugal

1975: End of Franco's Regime in Spain – Role of King Juan Carlos

- Greece, Spain and Portugal apply to join the EEC but the outcome will be different for Greece (1981) and Spain and Portugal (1986)



# 1970s

1975: OCSE is created in Helsinki

1975: China recognizes the EEC, 1<sup>st</sup> Communist country to do so -> 1978 agreement, 1985 trade agreement

**1978: Pope Paul II elected, travels back to Poland (1979)**

1979: Afghan invasion by USSR -> EEC is slow to respond

1977-1979 Camp David -> EEC & US are divided over the Middle East: EU is pro OLP (see 1980 Venice Declaration on Palestinians' rights to self-determination)

1979 Tehran hostage crisis, EEC only agrees on sanctions in 1980 and only implemented by the individual states

1979: Margaret Thatcher becomes the British Prime Minister

To know more CNN: *Détente*

<https://youtu.be/2bwcobw2KJ0?si=3bV5E0P2yYP5OLdT>





## THE 1980s: New Leaders



Jacques Delors



Craxi & Andreotti (ITA)



François Mitterrand and Helmut Kohl



Soares and Gonzales

## THE 1980s: New Leadership & policies

**New Leaders arrive:** Thatcher (1979), Mitterand (1981), Kohl (1982), Craxi (1983), Delors (1985), Regan (1981), G.H.W. Bush (1989), Andreotti

Begin of **EPC** (European Political Consultation)

1980 Moscow Olympics (non) boycott

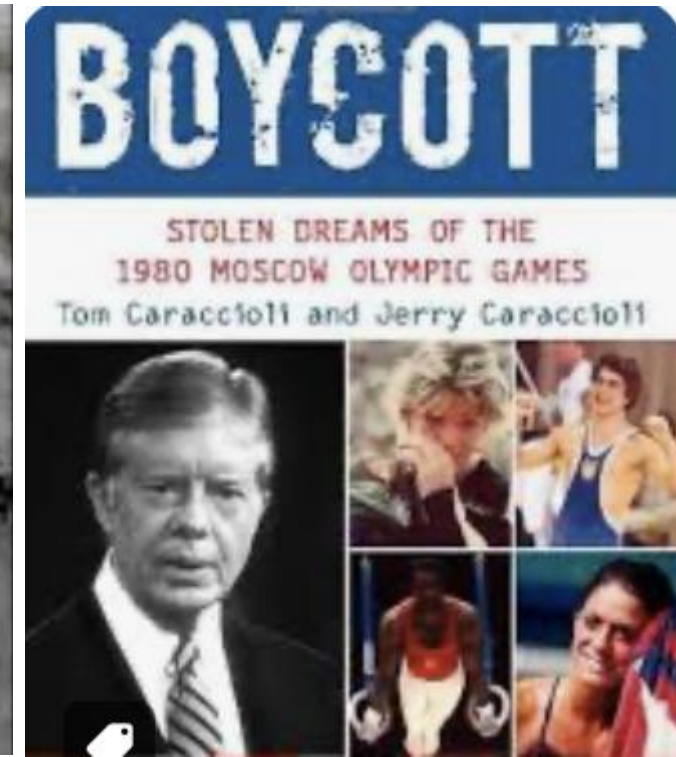
GR (1981); SP (NATO!!) & PT (1986) join EEC -> **Europe of 12** -> EEC interest in Latin America

From Regan's *Strategic Defense initiative* (1983) & *Evil Empire* -> negotiations w/ USSR's Gorbachev (1985->)

1981: GR 10<sup>th</sup> EEC member

1982: Israel invades Lebanon, EEC is stuck on Middle East. Argentina invades the Falkland Islands -> war w/ UK

1985: Sigonella crises





# 1987: the Single Act & Single Market



- First big revision of the EEC treaties
- New EEC policies added
- New decision-making procedures (Cooperation)
- EPC institutionalized w/ Secretariat established in BRX and increased role for European Council
- **From Common Market -> Single Market (1993)**
  - Free circulation of
    - People
    - Goods
    - Services
    - finances



## Questions and issues to think about

- Why did De Gaulle, who believed in a “Europe of the States” still enacted all the legislation needed under the EEC?
- What changes in the relations between the US and the EEC after the end of the Kennedy administrations? And why?
- The 1970s is a period of darkness (terrorism, wars in Middle East, oil crises, etc.) but also of hope for Europe, notably with the end of the right-wing dictatorships in Southern Europe. What distinguished the relationships with the US during this decade?
- How does the international framework evolve during the 1970s?
- The 1980s see a new dynamic between East and Western Europe and the enlargement of the EEC to 12 states. What do you think are the mid to long term consequences?