

Lesson 10

The EU on the World Stage: Promoting Security, Stability, and Prosperity

Lesson Essential Question

How does the EU promote security, stability and prosperity?

Introduction

As a major global actor—demonstrated by its role as the single largest economic body in the world, its deep relations with nations, and its long-standing commitment to development aid—the EU is at the forefront of promoting sustainable development, freedom, democracy, and the fight against poverty. Moreover, the European Union plays an increased role in world affairs with the tools of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), the Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP), and the implementation of the Treaty of Lisbon which allow for better response to the far-reaching economic and political changes occurring on the EU’s doorstep and in other parts of the world that require coherent European action.

What’s the Big Idea?

- ☑ Since its inception, the EU has developed a network of bilateral and multilateral agreements with most countries and regions, continually expanding and deepening relations with its global partners.
- ☑ The European Union has been active in development cooperation from its inception in the late 1950s.
- ☑ The European Union is an active political player, with regional and global security interests and responsibilities to match.
- ☑ The EU holds regular summit meetings with partners such as the United States, Japan, Canada, and Mexico as well as with Russia, Ukraine, India, China and others.

NCSS Theme/s

- III – People, Places, and Environments
- IV – Individual Development and Identity
- V – Individuals, Groups, and Institutions
- VI – Power, Authority, and Governance

Knowledge

The student will know

- the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) provides a formal structure that allows Member States to coordinate policy that is consistent and asserts the EU’s

Core Skills

The student will be able to

- read for information.
- draw conclusions and make generalizations.
- compare similarities and differences.

<p>inherent political identity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP) missions include humanitarian and relief work, peacekeeping, and the use of both civilian and military personnel in crisis management. ▪ the European Commission and the EU Member States combined constitute the world’s largest single donor in the struggle against poverty. ▪ about the European External Action Service 	
<p>Materials Needed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Visual 1- Overview of the missions and operations of the European Union ▪ Handout 1- The European Union is a World Player ▪ Handout 2- CFSP, CSDP and the Treaty of Lisbon ▪ Handout 3- What and Where? ▪ Computers with Internet connectivity ▪ PowerPoint for Lesson 10 	
<p>Time Required Two 55 minute class periods</p>	
<p>Procedures</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Begin lesson by telling students that they are about to examine different ways that the European Union promotes security, stability, and prosperity abroad. 2. Select two students to read <i>Handout 1- The European Union is a World Player</i> to their classmates. This reading will highlight some of the things the EU has been doing on the world stage. 3. Display Visual 1- “Overview of the Missions and Operations of the European Union August 2010.” 4. Highlight the differences between the civilian missions (shown in blue) and the military missions (shown in green). 5. Ask students why the European Union would be involved in these countries and what the EU would stand to gain from this involvement. (<i>Answers will vary</i>) 	

6. Distribute a copy of *Handout 2- CFSP, CSDP and the treaty of Lisbon* to each student and ask them to read Part 1- Common Foreign and Security Policy.
7. Review Part 1 with students by asking what the main objectives of the CFSP are under the Treaty on European Union. (*The objectives of the CFSP under the Treaty on European Union are to safeguard the common values, fundamental interests, independence and integrity of the Union; to strengthen the security of the Union; to preserve peace and strengthen international security; to promote international cooperation, and to develop and consolidate democracy and the rule of law, and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.*)
8. Instruct students to read Part 2 of Handout 2.
9. Review Part 2 with students by asking them to explain the aim and purpose of the CSDP. (*The aim and purpose of the CSDP under the Treaty of Lisbon include the traditional range of tasks such as humanitarian and rescue tasks, peacekeeping and post-conflict stabilization tasks as well as tasks carried out by combat forces in crisis management (including peacemaking).*)
10. Instruct students to read Part 3 of Handout 2.
11. Review Part 3 with students by asking them to explain the aim and purpose of the Treaty of Lisbon. (*The aim and purpose of the Treaty of Lisbon include giving the EU a single legal personality that allows it to join international organizations and conventions, more efficiency in the decision-making process, more democracy through a greater role for the European Parliament and national parliaments, and increased coherence externally. It establishes a clearer distribution of powers between the Union and the Member States, sets out common principles and objectives for the Union's external action: democracy, the rule of law, the universality and indivisibility of human rights and fundamental freedoms, respect for human dignity, and the principles of equality and solidarity.*)
12. Inform students that they will now explore the “What” and “Where” of the European Union’s approach to promoting security, stability and prosperity around the world.
13. Divide students into groups of two or three and assign each group to a computer with Internet access. Give each group member a copy of *Handout 3- What and Where?* Each group should use information gathered at the [European External Action Service website](#) to answer all questions.
14. Select different groups of students to offer brief summaries of the “What”

section of Handout 2 and different groups of students to offer brief summaries of the “Where” section of Handout 2.

15. Conclude lesson by once again asking students why the European Union would be involved in countries outside of the EU and what they stand to gain from being involved in these countries. (*Answers will vary but should include: to promote sustainable development, freedom, democracy, and the fight against poverty around the world and to make life safer and more prosperous within its own borders.*)

Web Support

For more background information to support this lesson, visit these websites:

[Common foreign and security policy-](#)

[Consilium: Security and Defense-](#)

[European Commission: External Relations](#)

[EU Common Defense and Security Policy, CSDP Newsletter](#)

[The Treaty of Lisbon](#)

Assessment

1. The main objectives of this policy are to safeguard the values, interests, independence, and integrity of the European Union.
 - A. Common Security and Defense Policy
 - B. Common Foreign and Security Policy*
 - C. The Rapid Reaction Policy
 - D. The Foreign Aid Policy

2. The principle of a Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) was formalized in 1992 in the
 - A. Treaty of Maastricht.*
 - B. Schengen Agreement.
 - C. Macedonian Compromise.
 - D. Treaty of the European Commission.

3. The European Union has been providing humanitarian aid to those in need around the world since
- A. the 1950s.*
 - B. the 1970s.
 - C. the 1990s.
 - D. 2001.

Overview of the Missions and Operations of the European Union

(source: Council of the EU)



The European Union is a World Player

Student 1: The European Union has a population of over 500 million – more than the United States and Russia combined.

Student 2: The European Union is the world's biggest trader and generates one quarter of global wealth.

Student 1: Collectively, the EU and its Member States give more aid to poor countries than any other donor.

Student 2: Its currency, the euro, is one of the most widely used in international financial markets.

Student 1: The EU did not set out to become a world power. Born in the aftermath of World War II, its first concern was bringing together the nations and peoples of Europe to prevent future conflicts.

Student 2: But as the Union expanded and took on more responsibilities, it had to define its relationships with the rest of the world. Just as it has worked to remove trade barriers, help poorer regions develop, and promote peaceful cooperation within its frontiers, so the Union works with other countries and international organizations to bring everyone the benefits of open markets, economic growth, and stability in an increasingly interdependent world.

Student 1: At the same time, the EU defends its legitimate economic and commercial interests in the international arena.

Student 2: A major challenge now is to spread peace and security beyond the European Union's borders. To meet this challenge, the EU's common foreign and security policy acts as a force for stability, cooperation, and understanding in the wider world.

Student 1: For more than 40 years, the Cold War divided much of the world into two camps. Its ending led to a more complex and fragile world order, requiring greater EU involvement in preventing conflicts, keeping the peace and combating terrorism.

The European Union is a World Player

Student 2: The EU helps pay for the UN civil administration in Kosovo, it also provides $\frac{3}{4}$ of NATO-led peacekeeping force, provides ongoing financial support for the Palestinian Authority, and is contributing €1 billion to reconstruction in Afghanistan.

Student 1: Since 2002, the EU and its member states have also committed €8 billion in aid to Afghanistan.

Student 2: In the Western Balkans and central Africa in 2003, the EU embarked on the first missions under its new Common Defense and Security Policy. More followed. By helping to create security and stability in the wider world, the EU also helps to make life safer within its own borders.

Student 1: Finally, the European Union shows how countries can successfully pool economic and political resources in the common interest. It serves as a model for integration between countries in other regions of the world.

CFSP, CSDP and the Treaty of Lisbon

Part 1- Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP)

The geopolitical changes that followed the collapse of communism at the end of the 1980s, the reunification of Germany, the conflicts in the former Yugoslavia in the 1990s, and the threat of international terrorism prompted EU leaders to develop formal instruments of diplomacy and intervention under the Maastricht Treaty in 1993 and the Amsterdam Treaty in 1999. These treaties gave the Union the means to respond to the crises on its doorstep and to project its values around the world as a whole, replacing European Political Cooperation (which had begun in 1970 and was formalized in 1986) whereby Member States merely consulted one another about cooperating on major international policy issues.

The **Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP)** was established under the 1992 Maastricht Treaty, which entered into force in 1993, and was strengthened under the 1997 Amsterdam Treaty, which entered into force in 1999. The Amsterdam Treaty created the **Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP)** as the operational arm of the CFSP, with the potential for later creating a common defense structure. The CFSP was further reinforced under the 2001 Nice Treaty, which entered into force in 2003.

The objectives of the CFSP under the Treaty on European Union are to safeguard the common values, fundamental interests, independence, and integrity of the Union; to strengthen the security of the Union; to preserve peace and strengthen international security; to promote international cooperation, and to develop and consolidate democracy and the rule of law, and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Part 2- Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP)

The European Union's **Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP)** includes the gradual framing of a common defense policy which might in time lead to a common defense. The Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP) allows the Union to develop its civilian and military capacities for crisis management and conflict prevention at international level, thus helping to maintain peace and international security in accordance with the United Nations Charter. The CSDP, which does not involve the creation of a European army, is developing in a manner that is compatible and coordinated with NATO.

CFSP, CSDP and the Treaty of Lisbon

Part 2 continued- Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP)

The scope of CSDP tasks were updated by the Treaty of Lisbon. In addition to the traditional range of tasks such as humanitarian and rescue operations, peacekeeping and post-conflict stabilization, and crisis management (including peacemaking), the Treaty refers to joint disarmament operations, and military advice and assistance tasks as well as contributing to the fight against terrorism, which were already agreed in the European Security Strategy.

Part 3- The Treaty of Lisbon

The **Treaty of Lisbon** entered into force on 1 December 2009. It gives the EU a single legal personality that allows it to join international organizations and conventions (such as the Council of Europe and the European Convention on Human Rights). In addition, it includes a series of institutional and conceptual innovations as well as changes in decision-making that are designed to increase the coherence and capabilities of the EU as a security actor. For the first time, the EU has a direct counterpart to the U.S. Secretary of State with the newly created position of EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.

There are three fundamental reasons for the Treaty: more efficiency in the decision-making process; more democracy through a greater role for the European Parliament and national parliaments; and increased coherence externally. All of these will equip the EU to better promote the interests of its citizens on a day-to-day basis.

The **Treaty of Lisbon** strengthens the democratic control of the European Union with a stronger role for both the European Parliament and national parliaments.

It establishes a clearer distribution of powers between the Union and the Member States, which will make it easier for the citizens to understand “who does what”.

The **Treaty of Lisbon** sets out common principles and objectives for the Union’s external action: democracy, the rule of law, the universality and indivisibility of human rights and fundamental freedoms, respect for human dignity, the principles of equality and solidarity.

Title VII, Article 222 states: "The Union and its Member States shall act jointly in a spirit of solidarity if a Member State is the object of a terrorist attack or the victim of a natural or man-made disaster. The Union shall mobilize all the instruments at its disposal, including the military resources made available by the Member States..."

The Treaty of Lisbon does not create a European army. Military capabilities remain in national hands. The Treaty foresees that Member States can make available civilian and military resources to the Union for the implementation of its Common Security and Defense operations. However, any Member State has the right to oppose such operations and all contributions to them will be always on a voluntary basis.

CFSP, CSDP and the Treaty of Lisbon

A group of Member States who are willing and have the necessary capability will be able to undertake disarmament operations, humanitarian and rescue tasks, military advice and peace-keeping tasks. No Member State can be forced to participate in such operations.

What and Where?

WHAT?

Directions: Answer all questions based on information gathered on the [External Action Website](#).

Part I: External Relations.

1. What role do the 136 EU Delegations play on the international stage?
2. What is the European Union's main objective in the Arab-Israeli conflict?
3. What percent of the world's imports and exports do the 27 European Union members account for globally?
5. Where does the European Union and its Member States rank in donations for worldwide development and humanitarian aid?

Directions: Answer all questions based on information gathered [on this website](#).

Part II: Working for a safer world

- 1 The Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP) was created in response to what global events?
2. Under the CSDP, military, police, or civilian personnel can be sent to areas of crisis to carry out what missions?

What and Where?

WHERE?

Directions: Answer all questions based on information gathered [here](#).

Click on interactive map at bottom of page to find information on the following countries:

1. Afghanistan
2. Colombia
3. Haiti
4. Iraq
5. Zimbabwe

1. Explain how the European Union differentiates humanitarian aid to address the needs of people and governments in the five countries listed.

What and Where?

WHAT?

Directions: Answer all questions based on information gathered [here](#).

Part I: External Relations.

1. What role do the more than 130 EU Delegations play on the international stage?

They play a similar role as embassies, but do not provide consular services (passport and visa services).

2. What is the European Union's main objective in the Arab-Israeli conflict?

A two-state solution with an independent, democratic, viable Palestinian state living side-by-side with Israel and its other neighbors.

3. What percent of the world's imports and exports do the 27 European Union members account for globally?

19%

4. Where does the European Union rank in donations for worldwide development and humanitarian aid?

#1- more than half of all aid contributed worldwide

Directions: Answer all questions based on information gathered [here](#).

Part II: Working for a safer world

1. The Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP) was created in response to what global events?

Balkans war and conflicts in Africa during the 1990's.

2. Under the CSDP, military, police, or civilian personnel can be sent to areas of crisis to carry out what missions?

Humanitarian operations, peacekeeping, crisis management, peacemaking and post-conflict stabilization.

What and Where?

Directions: Answer all questions based on information gathered [here](#).

Part III: Trade Policy

1. Describe the relationship the European Union has with the World Trade Organization.

Works very closely with the WTO and has been a full member since 1995. The World Trade Organization and the multilateral trading system are the core focus for EU trade policy. The EU believes that a system of global rules is the best way to ensure that trade between countries is fair and open.

2. What role does the European Commission play in promoting trade within and outside of the European Union?

Works closely with Europe's trading partners on a day to day basis to remove particular or persistent problems for exporters, open up new opportunities for European investment, and reduce counterfeiting and piracy of European goods.

Directions: Answer all questions based on information gathered [here](#).

Part IV: Solidarity

1. What is the main function of EuropeAid?

EuropeAid is responsible for implementing external aid programs and projects across the world.

EuropeAid aims to deliver development aid in an efficient and effective way. The focus is on maximizing the value and impact of aid funding by making sure support is provided in a speedy and accountable fashion.

2. Where does EuropeAid implement their programs?

Around the world: Africa, Caribbean & the Pacific, Asia & Central Asia, Latin America, the Persian Gulf Region, and the European Union neighborhood and Russia.

What and Where?

WHERE?

Directions: Answer all questions based on information gathered [here](#).

Click on interactive map at bottom of page to find information on the following countries:

Explain how the European Union differentiates humanitarian aid to address the needs of people and governments in the five countries listed.

Afghanistan

The European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection department (ECHO) has been involved in Afghanistan since 1992 supporting the people affected by the ongoing conflict and natural disasters. Since 2001, ECHO has provided more than €483 million in humanitarian aid to meet the basic needs of the Afghan population.

In 2010, the European Commission funded a €33 million humanitarian aid package to provide assistance mainly to conflict and disaster affected populations as well as the new returnees. The European Commission supports protection, food, shelter, livelihood, water and sanitation facilities.

In 2009, the severe floods in the northern part of Afghanistan affected 56,000 people. The European Commission allocated an additional €2 million to address the consequences of the floods to help the most vulnerable people affected by the floods to rebuild their houses and improve their livelihood in view of the winter.

Colombia

Colombia, one of the richest Latin American countries and host to abundant natural beauty and resources, has experienced over 40 years of insurrection, which has prevented socio-economic development and stability for its citizens.

Because of the violence created by this internal conflict, Colombia has become the country, after Sudan, with the second largest number of internally displaced people (IDPs). Since 1993, the European Commission, through its Humanitarian Aid department (ECHO), has allocated over €120 million directly benefiting people displaced from their homes, trapped in their provinces, or taking asylum in neighboring countries.

What and Where?

Haiti

The European Commission Humanitarian Aid department has announced **the opening of an office** to be responsible for the ongoing evaluation of humanitarian requirements and the monitoring of the funding provided. This office will be situated in the same building as the European Union's Delegation, with which it will work in close collaboration.

The Commission's Humanitarian Aid department will implement a **Global Plan** for Haiti. Its major objective is to deploy a coordinated humanitarian response. It will also register Haiti as a priority beneficiary for international humanitarian aid by increasing worldwide awareness of the plight of the country and its inhabitants. The main goal will be to increase access to basic services with a particular focus on nutrition on the one hand, and the reinforcement of the resilience of the most vulnerable on the other.

In 2008, the European Commission allocated €1 million to reduce malnutrition and infant mortality. The funding was used for public health programmes, water, sanitation and food security programmes. Additional funding of €3 million was also allocated to improve access to health, water and sanitation.

Iraq

The war in 2003 and the precarious security situation ever since have resulted in displacement and lack of basic protection for the civilian population. In the past 6 years, the European Commission has provided almost €90 million in humanitarian aid to help the victims of the Iraqi crisis. Aid goes to people displaced inside Iraq as well as to refugees in neighbouring Syria, Jordan, and Lebanon.

The €18 million aid package adopted in 2010 provides protection and relief to people displaced inside Iraq as well as other vulnerable populations affected by the conflict, including people who sought refuge in Iraq before the outbreak of the war. It also allocates aid to refugees in neighbouring countries covers basic health-care, psychosocial assistance, and emergency support to the most vulnerable. Specific support for UNHCR's core mandate of protection is also provided. This is particularly important in identifying the most vulnerable groups and assessing their specific needs.

What and Where?

Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe has experienced a profound economic and social crisis over a prolonged period of time. There are a number of disparate reasons for this crisis: poor governance, which has resulted in an economy in free-fall, an HIV/AIDS pandemic, and food insecurity due to erratic weather conditions and the adverse effects of the land reform policy.

From August 2008 to July 2009, a disastrous cholera outbreak offered further evidence of the state of a country in which basic services such as public health, water supply and sewage systems had largely collapsed. By the end of the epidemic, the disease had spread to all provinces with over 100,000 cases and 4,400 deaths.

ECHO's global humanitarian aid plan for Zimbabwe is aimed at mitigating, as far as possible, the impact of the socio-economic breakdown by boosting the access of vulnerable populations to basic social services including health, water and sanitation, as well as to food.

As part of the European Commission's response, the strategy for the health sector has been to address structural and life-saving interventions in parallel. This approach is expected to improve the health system and protect the lives of the most vulnerable.