



Countries

Member countries of the EU (year of entry)

The European Union has 28 member countries:

- [Austria](#) (1995)
- [Belgium](#) (1958)
- [Bulgaria](#) (2007)
- [Croatia](#) (2013)
- [Cyprus](#) (2004)
- [Czech Republic](#) (2004)
- [Denmark](#) (1973)
- [Estonia](#) (2004)
- [Finland](#) (1995)
- [France](#) (1958)
- [Germany](#) (1958)
- [Greece](#) (1981)
- [Hungary](#) (2004)
- [Ireland](#) (1973)
- [Italy](#) (1958)
- [Latvia](#) (2004)
- [Lithuania](#) (2004)
- [Luxembourg](#) (1958)
- [Malta](#) (2004)
- [Netherlands](#) (1958)
- [Poland](#) (2004)
- [Portugal](#) (1986)
- [Romania](#) (2007)
- [Slovakia](#) (2004)
- [Slovenia](#) (2004)
- [Spain](#) (1986)
- [Sweden](#) (1995)
- [United Kingdom](#) (1973)

On the road to EU membership

Candidate countries

- [Albania](#)
- [Montenegro](#)
- [Serbia](#)
- [The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia](#)

- Turkey
Potential candidates

- Bosnia and Herzegovina

- Kosovo *

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/99 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence

Joining the EU

Becoming a member of the EU is a complex procedure which does not happen overnight. Once an applicant country meets the conditions for membership, it must implement EU rules and regulations in all areas.

Map

The image shows an interactive map of Europe with a sidebar on the right. The map highlights the 28 member states of the European Union in light blue. Other countries are shown in light grey. The sidebar on the right contains a search bar and a list of countries. The search bar is labeled 'When countries joined' and has a dropdown arrow. Below it, the section is titled 'European Countries' and has an upward arrow. The main heading in the sidebar is 'The 28 countries of the European Union', which is selected with a radio button. Below this heading is a list of countries, each preceded by a radio button. The countries listed are: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Croatia, Cyprus, and Denmark. The map includes navigation controls such as a home button, a layer selector, zoom in (+) and zoom out (-) buttons, a full-screen button, and a print button. A compass is located in the bottom left corner of the map area. The text 'Leaflet | Credit:EC-GISCO' is visible at the bottom of the map.

See also

- [EU policies: Enlargement](#)
- [Travel and tourism in Europe](#)
- [Travelling in the EU](#)
- [Country profiles \(Eurostat\)](#)

Downloads

- [The European Union: high-resolution map \(2013\)](#)
- [Historical and current geographical maps](#)