

Overview

POL 137: IR in Western Europe

I. Regional integration

- Regional institutions are prominent feature of IR
 - e.g. ASEAN, MERCOSUR, Arab League, African Union
 - Provides political and economic cohesion
 - unified voice
 - common trade policy
- European Union (EU) is premier example of regional cooperation
 - Level of integration varies by issue and state



- 

European Union
= 4.3 million km²
= 501 million inhab.
- 

Belgium
30 500 km²
10.83 million inhab.
- 

Bulgaria
111 000 km²
7.61 million inhab.
- 

Czech Republic
78 900 km²
10.50 million inhab.
- 

Denmark
43 000 km²
5.53 million inhab.
- 

Germany
357 000 km²
81.77 million inhab.
- 


Estonia
43 700 km²
1.34 million inhab.
- 

Ireland
69 800 km²
4.47 million inhab.
- 

Greece
132 000 km²
11.26 million inhab.
- 

Spain
506 000 km²
46.36 million inhab.
- 

France
542 500 km²
64.70 million inhab.
- 

Italy
301 300 km²
60.23 million inhab.
- 

Cyprus
5 695 km²
0.80 million inhab.
- 

Latvia
64 600 km²
2.25 million inhab.

- 

Lithuania
65 300 km²
3.34 million inhab.
- 

Luxembourg
2 600 km²
0.50 million inhab.
- 

Hungary
93 000 km²
10.02 million inhab.
- 

Malta
300 km²
0.42 million inhab.
- 

Netherlands
41 500 km²
16.54 million inhab.
- 

Austria
83 900 km²
8.34 million inhab.
- 

Poland
312 700 km²
38.14 million inhab.
- 

Portugal
92 000 km²
10.65 million inhab.
- 

Romania
238 400 km²
21.50 million inhab.
- 

Slovenia
20 300 km²
2.05 million inhab.
- 

Slovakia
49 000 km²
5.42 million inhab.
- 

Finland
338 100 km²
5.35 million inhab.
- 

Sweden
441 400 km²
9.34 million inhab.
- 

United Kingdom
243 800 km²
61.91 million inhab.

NON-CONTINENTAL AND OVERSEAS TERRITORIES OF MEMBER STATES



- Azores (PT)
- Guadeloupe (FR)
- Martinique (FR)
- Canary Is. (ES)
- French Guyana (FR)
- Réunion (FR)
- Madira (PT)

The protocol order of the Member States is based on the alphabetical order of their geographical names in the original language.



II. Western European IR

- History of prominent IR
 - within and outside of region
- EU anchored in western Europe
- Course will focus on:
 - i. Historical development of integration
 - ii. The workings of the EU
 - iii. Theories of integration
 - iv. Effects of EU
 - Europeanization
 - Enlargement of EU
 - Foreign and security policy
 - Neighborhood crises: Ukraine
 - Human rights
 - Trade policy
 - State v EU interests

III. Issues of Integration

- Widening: what states should be included?
- Deepening: how broad should cooperation be on policy?
- What factors drive the process?
 - State interests
 - i.e. France v. Germany
 - Importance of individuals
 - i.e. great men
 - Role of ideas/identities
 - Role of supranational institutions

Issues of Integration

- Methods of integration
 - 1) Federalism: division of powers between supranational and national levels
 - Decision-making by majority or supermajority
 - Also called supranationalism
 - 2) Intergovernmentalism: each participant (state) is represented
 - Decision-making by consensus or supermajority
 - Also called confederation
 - 3) Functionalism: creation of institutions to serve specific tasks in a respective issue area
 - States would become tied in a web of institutions