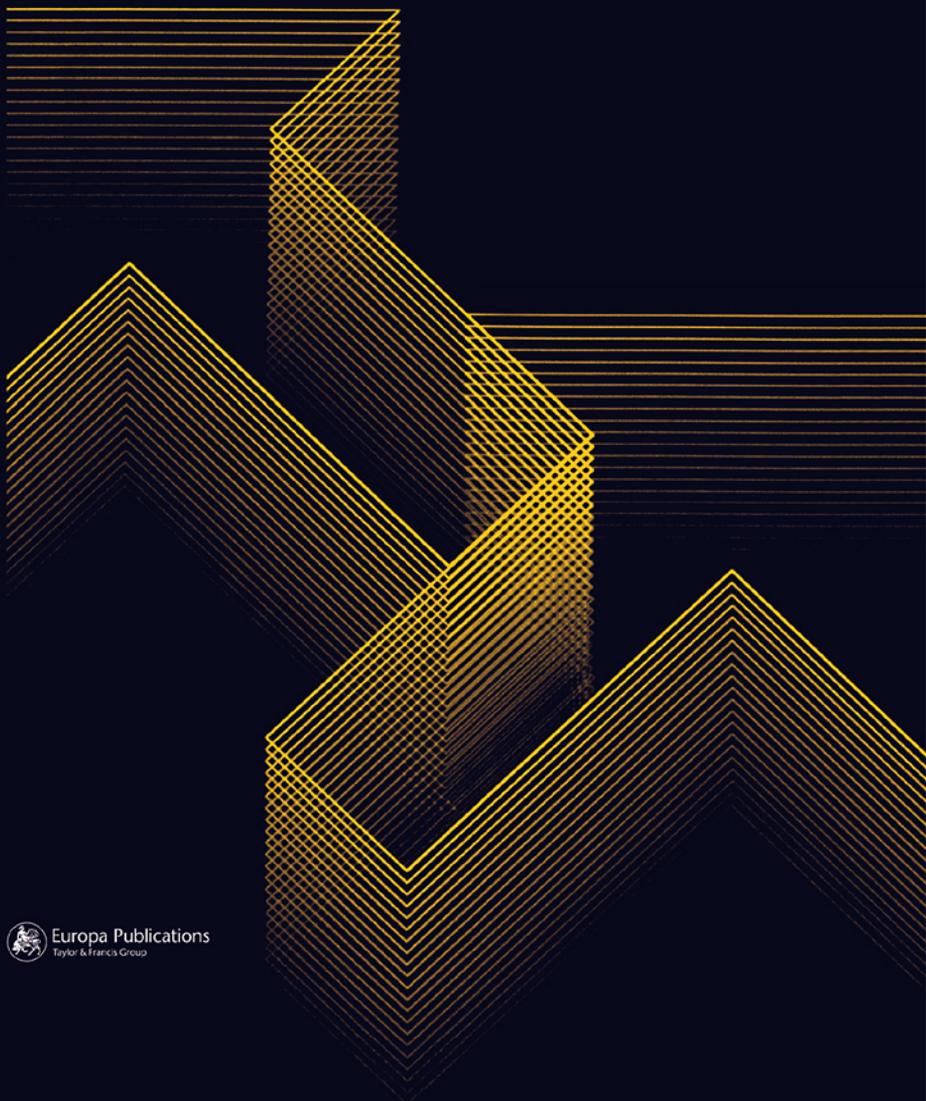


A DICTIONARY OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION

SECOND EDITION

DAVID PHINNEMORE AND LEE MCGOWAN



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Foreword

A DICTIONARY OF THE EUROPEAN UNION aims to give a comprehensive overview of the development and current status of the European Union. The journey from European Communities to European Union has been a long one; there have been many arguments and difficulties, but also co-operation and enlargement. Information on a variety of European issues is here brought together to give the reader a wide range of facts and background knowledge on the European Union. Thus, this Dictionary includes entries on the history of the European Union and the issues and personalities of importance to its development, as well as on current achievements, debates, concepts, programmes and people.

Most entries in the Dictionary will point the reader towards other relevant entries by means of cross-references. These cross-references within entries will be found in bold type, to denote the existence of a separate entry. However, it should be noted that the potential number of highlights precludes putting in bold those terms that are used in almost every entry. Thus, European Communities, European Union, the names of current Member States, etc. are not highlighted, unless the authors deem it necessary to further understanding for the reader to be pointed towards such entries. For the purposes of alphabetization, words such as 'and', 'of', 'the', etc. have been ignored.

The reader should be aware of the difference between the terms European Union, European Community and European Communities. The European Communities were established by three separate treaties, with, from 1967, common institutions. The name of one community, the European Economic Community, was formally changed to the European Community from 1993; thus, when referring to the Treaty of Rome alone after 1993, European Community (EC) is used in the singular. Referring to the three communities from their conception onwards, the Dictionary uses European Communities (EC) in the plural. The European Union, consisting of three inter-related pillars, came into existence in 1993. Thus, the supranational pillar of the European Union continues to be known in

this book as the European Communities (EC), while references to the European Union as a whole, which includes the two inter-governmental pillars, use European Union (EU).

March 2004

The Authors

Lee McGowan is currently a Senior Lecturer in European Studies in the School of Politics and International Studies at Queen's University Belfast, where his teaching and research interests centre on three strands. These are: The politics and policy-making in the European Union (EU), and particularly the role of the European Commission as a quasi-judicial actor in the area of competition policy; the EU dimension of the devolution arrangements in Northern Ireland; and political extremism in Germany. He has published widely. Among his publications are articles in *Journal of Common Market Studies*, *Journal of European Public Policy*, *Governance*, *European Journal of Political Research*, *Public Administration*, and *Regional and Federal Studies*. He has co-authored a book (with Michelle Cini) on *Competition Policy in the European Union* (Macmillan, 1998) and has written *The Radical Right in Germany: 1870 to the present* (Longman, 2003).

David Phinnemore is at present Senior Lecturer in European Integration at the School of Politics and International Studies, Queen's University Belfast, where he teaches courses on contemporary Europe, the enlargement of the European Union (EU) and NATO, and EU external relations. His research interests also include treaty reform and the position of Romania within European integration processes. Among his most recent publications are *The Penguin Guide to the European Treaties* (Penguin, 2002), which he co-authored with Clive Church, and *Association: Stepping-Stone or Alternative to EU Membership?* (Sheffield Academic Press, 1999). Among his other publications are articles in *European Foreign Affairs Review*, *Journal of Southeast European and Black Sea Studies* and *Revue d'études comparatives est-ouest*.

Abbreviations

AIDS	acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
e.g.	exempli gratia (for example)
etc.	et cetera
i.e.	id est (that is to say)
m.	million
UK	United Kingdom
US	United States
USA	United States of America
USSR	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
V	versus

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The authors and editors of this book gratefully acknowledge work previously carried out by Professor Derek Urwin and, subsequently, by Professor Urwin assisted by Linda M.Stevenson. These contributors provided the A–Z section for early editions of *The European Union Encyclopedia and Directory*, and their text has subsequently been extensively updated and expanded by the current authors.

A

À LA CARTE EUROPE is a term related to concepts of differentiated integration. Basically it suggests that European Union (EU) Member States should be able to pick and choose which programmes and policies they wish to adopt and participate in. Opponents of the concept argue that the reality of any such development would create a considerable amount of disarray and confusion, undermine solidarity and almost certainly make the EU unmanageable. Nevertheless, the idea is not infrequently espoused by some Member States as a means of showing their opposition towards certain priorities. The **opt-out** secured by the **United Kingdom** at the Maastricht **European Council** meeting in December 1991 on **economic and monetary union** is an example of an *à la carte* approach towards EU integration.

AASM : See **Associated African States and Madagascar**

ABATEMENT is the term used to describe the annually calculated 'rebate', which the **United Kingdom** receives from the European Communities **budget** following an agreement reached in 1984 at the **Fontainebleau Summit** of the **European Council**. In recent years, the United Kingdom has come under pressure to accept a reduction in the 'rebate', as the European Union seeks to meet the challenges of financing **enlargement** and there is a growing demand from other Member States, most notably France, for an end to the United Kingdom's rebate when the next multi-annual financial package is agreed in 2006.

ABEL : See **EUDOR**

ABSTENTION : See **Constructive Abstention**

ACCESSION CRITERIA , often referred to as the **Copenhagen criteria**, were adopted by the Copenhagen Summit of the **European Council** in June 1993, when the European Community committed itself

to admitting the countries of **Central and Eastern Europe** (CEE). Accession was, however, to depend on the **candidate countries** meeting the following criteria: having stable institutions guaranteeing democracy, the rule of law, **human rights** and protection of minorities; possessing a functioning market economy and the capacity to cope with the competitive pressures of the **internal market**; and having the ability to take on the obligations of membership, including adherence to the aims of the European Union, notably political, economic and monetary union. In 1995 the Madrid Summit of the **European Council** added a further criterion: that the countries seeking membership should possess the administrative capacity to implement the *acquis communautaire* .

ACCESSION NEGOTIATIONS need to be completed before **applicant countries** can join the European Union (EU). They are conducted on a bilateral basis, with the **European Commission** co-ordinating the position of the EU's Member States. Accession negotiations with **Cyprus** and five Central and Eastern European countries (the **Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Poland and Slovenia**) often referred to as the 'Luxembourg group' were opened in 1998. Two years later, in 2000, the EU opened accession negotiations with the so-called 'Helsinki group' (**Bulgaria, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Romania and Slovakia**). Negotiations with those applicant countries meeting the **accession criteria**—the Luxembourg group plus Latvia, Lithuania, Malta and Slovakia—were concluded at the Copenhagen Summit of the **European Council** held on 12–13 December 2002. The **Accession Treaty** was then signed on 16 April 2003. Following ratification of the Accession Treaty, the 10 countries were expected to join the EU on 1 May 2004.

ACCESSION PARTNERSHIPS were first concluded with **applicant countries** from **Central and Eastern Europe** in 1998 and are designed to assist them in meeting the **accession criteria** and preparing themselves for membership of the European Union (EU). They list priority areas for legal adaptation and administrative reform in the countries concerned, and for EU financial assistance through the **Instrument for Structural Policies for Pre-Accession** (ISPA), **PHARE** and **SAPARD** programmes.

The **ACCESSION PROCESS** was launched in 1998 and consists of three elements: **accession negotiations, accession partnerships** and the **European Conference**.

An **ACCESSION TREATY** contains the legal instruments governing the accession of a state to the European Union (EU). Accession treaties

have to be ratified by all existing Member States as well as the acceding state or states. Ratification normally involves a referendum in the acceding country. Since the **Single European Act**, the approval of the **European Parliament** via the **assent procedure** has also been necessary. The most recent accession treaty was signed in Athens, Greece, on 16 April 2003 between the EU's Member States and 10 applicant states, mainly from Central and Eastern Europe: **Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia**. With the exception of Cyprus, each of the applicant states held a referendum during 2003 on whether the country should join the EU. In each case, a majority of those voting voted in favour of membership. Successful ratification of the Accession Treaty in the Member States was expected to enable enlargement to take place, as planned, on 1 May 2004.

ACCOUNTABILITY has been a major concern of the European Union (EU) since the early 1990s, as the EU's institutions have become perceived to be increasingly remote from the people. Although the EU has a democratically elected **European Parliament**, which has seen its powers increased, it continues to suffer from an increasing **democratic deficit**, with citizens feeling that decision-makers in Brussels are unaccountable. In response, the EU has sought to promote greater **transparency** and **openness**. It has also sought to increase monitoring of the activities of the **European Commission** and to ensure tighter financial control over the **budget**.

ACP STATES is the collective title of those African, Caribbean and Pacific developing countries which have entered into an **association agreement** with the European Communities (EC) under Articles 182–188 of the **Treaty of Rome** 'to further the interests and prosperity of the inhabitants of these countries and territories in order to lead them to the economic, social and cultural development to which they aspire'. The provisions were originally directed towards the colonies and ex-colonies of the **Six**, and were finalized in the **Yaoundé Convention** of 1963 and 1969. With the successive rounds of **enlargement**, ex-colonies of new Member States have joined the arrangement, which from 1975 was regulated by the **Lomé Convention**; this was replaced in 2000 by the **Cotonou Agreement**. The original 18 participants were known collectively as the **Associated African States and Madagascar**. The present title was adopted in 1975, and 77 countries currently belong to the agreement. ACP states are allowed duty-free entry to the European Union market for most of their products on a non-reciprocal basis, and are also eligible to receive both grants from the **European Development Fund** and low-interest loans from the **European Investment Bank**.

4 ACQUIS COMMUNAUTAIRE

Preferential treatment for ACP states has caused friction between the EC and members of the **World Trade Organization**, especially the USA, which has long objected to the preferential treatment given to **banana** producers in Caribbean states. (See also **Development Aid; OCTs; Overseas Development Fund; System of Stabilization of Export Earnings; System for Safeguarding and Developing Mineral Production.**)

ACQUIS COMMUNAUTAIRE is a phrase that collectively describes all the secondary **legislation** of the European Community (EC) passed under the provisions of the **founding treaties** and their subsequent amendments. It covers all the **directives, decisions** and **regulations** adopted by the EC. States that apply for EU membership have to accept the *acquis communautaire*.

ACQUIS POLITIQUE is a phrase describing all the **decisions** and **resolutions** adopted by the Member States of the European Union in the field of foreign policy

The **ACTION COMMITTEE FOR A UNITED STATES OF EUROPE** (ACUSE) is an interest group established by **Jean Monnet** in 1955 following the failure of the **European Defence Community**. Monnet created it as a selective group of political and trade union leaders that would work for closer European unity, and it contributed to the ideas and pressures that led to the formation of the **European Economic Community**. After 1958, it continued to argue for more intensive integration that would include as many European countries as possible. It was led by Monnet until 1975, but after the 1960s it became a less prominent organization.

ACTION ON EMPLOYMENT AND EQUALITY FOR WOMEN:
See **Equal Opportunities**

ACTION PLAN FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN: See **Mediterranean Policy**

ACTS was a programme set up to develop Advanced Communications Technologies and Services, and to encourage the development of advanced **trans-European networks** and services that would further assist economic and social cohesion in the European Union. It superseded the **RACE** programme, and was itself superseded by the **Information Technology Society (IST)** programme.

ACUSE: See **Action Committee for a United States of Europe**

The **AD HOC GROUP ON IMMIGRATION** was a specialized sub-element of **TREVI** established in 1986. It was made responsible for increasing the stringency of the controls at external borders of the European Communities, co-ordinating national **visa policies**, harmonizing national **asylum** rights, and consolidating the exchange of information between Member States on **immigration**.

ADAPT is the abbreviation for Adaptation of the Workforce to Industrial Change, a programme established in 1994, which continued as ADAPT Bis (Building the Information Society) after 1996. Several thousand projects and partnerships have been funded by the programme to assist in the transition to an information society.

ADDITIONALITY is a principle applied to the allocation of money from the **European Regional Development Fund** (ERDF). It means that ERDF funding is additional to that provided by local and national authorities. The principle is designed to ensure that Member States contribute to the financing of infrastructural projects.

KONRAD ADENAUER (1876–1967) was the first Chancellor (1949–63) of the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG, West Germany). He believed strongly in European co-operation and integration, based in particular upon reconciliation between France and Germany. In 1945 he emerged from retirement, eventually to become the leader of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU). He led the German delegation to the **Congress of Europe** at The Hague in 1948. As Chancellor, he also directed the FRG's foreign affairs. His foreign policy, known as a 'policy of strength', had two main objectives: the rehabilitation and the reunification of Germany. For Adenauer, the FRG had to work hard to be accepted by its Western neighbours as an equal, responsible and trustworthy partner in both Western co-operative endeavours and security measures in an alliance against the **USSR**. The recovery of the FRG and the policy of strength were aimed in the *lfsonger* term at German reunification. Adenauer believed that West German participation in European integration was an essential element of rehabilitation that would remove fears of a renewed German militarism. He supported all European co-operative developments from the Congress of Europe through to the establishment of the **European Economic Community** (EEC). After 1958, he formed a close relationship with President **Charles de Gaulle** of France, with whom he was an architect of the 1963 **Treaty of Friendship** (Elysée Treaty) between the two countries. This treaty established much closer cultural, economic and political ties between both states and became the basis of the Franco-German axis that later

came to dominate many of the developments and activities of the European Communities.

ADONNINO REPORTS: See **Committee for a People's Europe**

The **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON FOODSTUFFS** is a body established in 1975 to advise the **European Commission** on problems and issues associated with the **harmonization** of national laws on **foodstuffs**, its membership being composed of representatives from agriculture, industry and consumer associations.

The **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SAFETY, HYGIENE AND HEALTH PROTECTION AT WORK** is a consultative body established in 1974, with a general remit to consider problems and improvements across the field of industrial safety and health. Its membership is drawn from experts and professionals in the area of industrial safety. It has assisted the **European Commission** in the preparation of draft **legislation** for all industrial sectors, other than those controlled by the **European Coal and Steel Community**, where there is a separate health and safety apparatus. Several of the Committee's recommendations were incorporated into the second Action Programme on Safety and Health at Work adopted by the European Communities in 1984. The implementation of the **Single European Act** strengthened its role because legislation on health and safety no longer required unanimous approval within the Council of Ministers (see **Council of the European Union**). (See also **Health and Safety; European Inventory of Existing Chemical Substances; Mines Safety and Health Commission; Social Action Programme; Workers' Rights; Charter of Fundamental Social Rights.**)

ADVOCATES GENERAL: See **Court of Justice**

The **AETR JUDGMENT** was a 1971 ruling by the **Court of Justice**, which established the important principle that, where the European Communities (EC) have an explicit internal competence, they also have a parallel external competence. Its implication was that in such areas of competence, Member States could not act independently of the EC. Where a Member State has entered into an international agreement that conflicts with EC law, the latter takes precedence over any obligation arising from the agreement.

AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN AND PACIFIC STATES: See **ACP States**

AGENDA 2000 was an **enlargement** strategy developed by the **European Commission** in 1997 following a request from the **European Council**. Its objectives were to strengthen growth, competitiveness and employment; to reform agriculture and structural policies; and to expand the membership of the European Union (EU) eastwards, to include 10 countries from **Central and Eastern Europe** (CEE). It recognized the need for further institutional reform prior to enlargement, and for a new financial framework to enable the EU to expand and integrate in the 21st century. The report comprised three sections: the first covered measures to strengthen and reform policies, in particular the **Common Agricultural Policy** and economic and social **cohesion**; the second contained recommendations for preparing the EU for enlargement; and the third proposed a new financial framework, covering the period 2000–06. Also published as part of Agenda 2000 were the Commission's *avis* on the membership applications from the 10 CEE countries. In these, the Commission assessed the extent to which the applicants had met the **accession criteria**. A report on the status of **Cyprus** was also included.

AGREEMENT REGARDING INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN TEXTILES : See **Multi-Fibre Arrangement**

AGRICULTURAL POLICY: See **Common Agricultural Policy**

AGRIRES: See **FAIR**

AIRBUS is one of the success stories of European industrial co-operation. Founded in 1967 as a consortium of European aircraft manufacturers, the aim of Airbus was to design and build large passenger aircraft that could compete with the large US corporation Boeing. Airbus comprises four partners: British Aerospace, Construcciones Aeronáuticas SA (CASA) of **Spain**, Daimler-Benz Aerospace of **Germany** and Aérospatiale of **France**. Each of the four partners specializes in producing different parts of the aircraft. Airbus has grown considerably in terms of market share and by the 1990s had almost a 45% share of the market for large passenger aircraft. Boeing, however, has complained about the massive government subsidies being channelled into Airbus in order to make it viable, and has labelled such activity as constituting nothing less than unfair competition. Tension was particularly acute in the 1980s, until a bilateral agreement on civil aircraft, which capped government support for new aircraft, was reached in June 1992. Nevertheless, relations were still tense, as was evident in the European Union's (EU) total opposition to the planned merger between Boeing and McDonnell Douglas in 1997. This merger aimed to create the world's largest aerospace and defence company. Airbus would be the only other

major competitor. The **European Commission** raised its concerns about the potential dominance in the world market of this new company, and threatened to oppose the merger and to impound Boeing aircraft if they landed on EU soil. The USA saw EU **competition policy** as another means to protect Airbus. Rumours of a trade war between the EU and the USA grew and the sensitivity of the issue also led to intervention by the US President, Bill Clinton. The issue was only resolved when the Commission sanctioned a merger providing that many of the clauses that would have tied Boeing customers to the new company for 20 years were removed. In an effort to make Airbus more competitive and more efficient, it was transformed in 1999 into a limited company; it became a single integrated operating company in 2001. There remains a consistent rivalry between Airbus and Boeing, and the former overtook Boeing in terms of orders in 2002 after securing a huge 120-aircraft deal from the British low-cost carrier EasyJet in October of that year. In terms of production, Airbus delivered 303 aircraft in 2002, worth some US \$19,500m., which constituted the third consecutive year that the company had delivered more than 300 aircraft.

AIR TRANSPORT POLICY has been slow to develop towards a level that meets the **competition policy** requirements of the European Communities (EC). The airline industry has been dominated by an international cartel, the International Air Transport Association (IATA), and by a series of intergovernmental agreements. The emphasis of these was upon the mutual protection by governments of state-owned airlines, their pricing arrangements and access to scheduled routes. The result was an absence of competition, and some of the highest air fares in the world, in terms of cost per kilometre. Before 1986, **European Commission** initiatives were restricted to technical matters relating to, for example, co-operation on accident procedures and noise emissions. Challenges to the government-supported IATA structure were largely left to small, independent airlines.

In April 1986 the **Court of Justice** ruled in the *Nouvelles Frontières* case that EC competition policy also applied to air transport. The European Commission immediately threatened legal action against 10 European airlines unless they substantially modified their price-fixing arrangements. Simultaneously, it sought to persuade the Member States to opt for more liberal policies. In April 1987 the airlines indicated that they would comply with the Commission's demands. Subsequently, progress was positive, but slow. A number of Commission proposals relating to discount fares, competition on established routes, the rights of prospective new competitors and the establishment of new scheduled routes were implemented in January 1988. These measures also gave the Commission substantial investigatory powers.

In anticipation of the introduction of the **internal market**, and partly because many state-owned airlines were substantial money-losers, governments began to accept a greater degree of private ownership and capital, and also to urge the consolidation of their national companies as a way of warding off foreign competition in a more competitive market. Matters were complicated by the fact that the major carriers, to meet the conditions of the internal market and world developments in air transport, began to seek closer and more formal collaboration, which in turn threatened the survival of smaller, independent airlines. However, airline agreements and co-operative arrangements are subject to Commission approval and the EC's **merger policy**. The acceptance of liberalization also varied from one country to another. The United Kingdom and the Netherlands led the movement for change, while France and some of the Mediterranean states were more resistant. Full liberalization of the market did not occur until 1997, when restrictions on European airlines within the European Union (EU) were removed, with the result that airlines were able to operate domestic air services in EU countries other than their own. In 2000 the Commission proposed the creation of a European Aviation Safety Agency, which would be an independent organization within the EC. It has also tried to initiate policies in order to create 'Single Skies' within the EU, replacing each state's airspace with a single European zone, which would mean the creation of a unified supervisory structure for air traffic control.

In March 2003 the **European Commission**, in a communication to the **European Council** and the **European Parliament**, expressed its first reactions to the potential consequences of the US-led war in Iraq on **energy** and the air transport industry. This formed part of the Task Force established by the Directorate-General (DG) for Energy and Transport in December 2002, which is briefed to provide information on the dangers to both the security of energy supplies and the transport infrastructure in the EU and the candidate countries. The Task Force forwards this information to the DG RELEX's Crisis Room and to the DG Environment's (see **Environment**) Alert Centre. With reference to air transport policy, this communication maintained that civil aviation was likely to be affected by the war in three ways: the closure of air space in the region of the conflict; more congested air space; and finally, and most importantly, a reduction in demand for flights. This last consequence was expected adversely to affect operational costs and, indeed, very quickly resulted in demands for the provision of help to the air transport sector through some form of financial assistance, such as the relaxation of the rules on **state aid** to airlines for a limited period only, as occurred immediately after the terrorist attacks in the USA on 11 September 2001.

ALBANIA concluded a trade and co-operation agreement with the European Community in 1992 that held out the prospect of negotiating an association agreement. Progress towards such a goal was hampered in the 1990s by domestic political and economic instability in Albania. In 1999, however, the country became part of the **Stabilization and Association Process** that the European Union (EU) launched in the aftermath of the Kosovo crisis. This led to assistance under the **CARDS** programme, and the possibility of opening negotiations on a **Stabilization and Association Agreement**. Albania is keen to become a member of the EU, a point recognized at the Feira European Council in 2000 when Albania, along with the other countries in the Western Balkans, was confirmed as a **potential candidate** state. In 2003 EU membership clearly remained a priority for the Albanian Government. Although negotiations on a Stabilization and Association Agreement were opened in February 2003, effectively representing Albania's first step towards eventual EU membership, the Commission President, **Romano Prodi**, asserted that substantial problems remained which required serious consideration by the authorities in Tirana before any real progress could be made by Albania towards the acquisition of full EU membership. These included suppressing criminal activities and showing evidence of solid economic progress. In July 2003 an 'Annual Programme for Albania', detailing how €46.5m. of CARDS funds would be spent in assisting Albania in its reform and modernization efforts, was adopted by the Commission.

ALE: See **European Free Alliance**

ALGERIA: See **Maghreb States**

ALTENER stands for Alternative Energy, an initiative relating to the development of new and renewable energy resources (RES) (see **Electricity policy**). It was established in 1993 and its objectives were to make such resources competitive, to eliminate barriers to their marketability, and to develop public awareness about their availability and virtues. The 1997 White Paper laid down a clear strategy of doubling the proportion of RES in the European Union's gross domestic energy consumption from 6% in 1997 to 12% in 2010. The ALTENER II programme was renewed in 1998, but little progress had been made towards the objective by 2001. The European Commission has remained optimistic, however, and in September 2001 a directive was adopted by the **European Council** and the **European Parliament** on the production of electricity and RES. This aimed to increase a reliance on RES by advocating greater use of 'green' electricity, which it hoped to see rise to 22% by 2010 (it stood at 14% in 1997).

AMS is the acronym for Aggregate Measure of Support, the calculation of the costs to taxpayers and consumers of both the domestic farm support and the export subsidies provided by the **Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)**.

AMSTERDAM TREATY: See **Treaty of Amsterdam**

The **ANDEAN COMMUNITY OF NATIONS**, formerly the Andean Pact, comprises five South American countries: Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela. The community is based on a customs union, and formal ties with the European Community date back to agreements on bilateral trade and aid signed in 1983 and 1986. Since then, co-operation has developed both on a European Union (EU)-Andean Community basis and within the context of the EU's developing relations with **South and Central America**. Following a series of declarations in 1996, a new institutional framework for relations was developed, with dialogue focusing particularly on drugs. Funds amounting to €72m. have been spent by the EU on regional co-operation with the Andean Community since 1992.

GIULIO ANDREOTTI was Minister of Foreign Affairs (1983–89) and Prime Minister (1989–92) of **Italy** during the 'relaunch' of the European Communities in the 1980s and early 1990s. As an enthusiastic supporter of European integration he was instrumental in some of the key debates and initiatives during these years. At the 1985 Milan summit his decision to push the case for an **Intergovernmental Conference (IGC)** on treaty reform, in spite of opposition from the UK Prime Minister, **Margaret Thatcher**, was endorsed by a majority vote in the **European Council**. The **Single European Act** duly followed in 1986. Andreotti was also instrumental in campaigning for an IGC on political union—which evolved into the **Treaty on European Union**—and, as President of the European Council in 1990, Andreotti helped to negotiate the Transatlantic declaration with the **USA** in that year. Andreotti was charged with consorting with the Mafia in 1995, and was acquitted in 1999. However, in November 2002 the 83-year-old Andreotti was sentenced to 24 years in prison (a term that he is unlikely to serve on account of his age), having been found guilty of ordering the assassination by the Mafia of an investigative journalist in 1979.

ANIMAL WELFARE is not formally a competence of the European Union, although concerns, notably from the United Kingdom, over the transportation of live animals within the **internal market**, have led to tighter controls being introduced. The **European Commission** established a computerized network (ANIMO) linking national veterinary