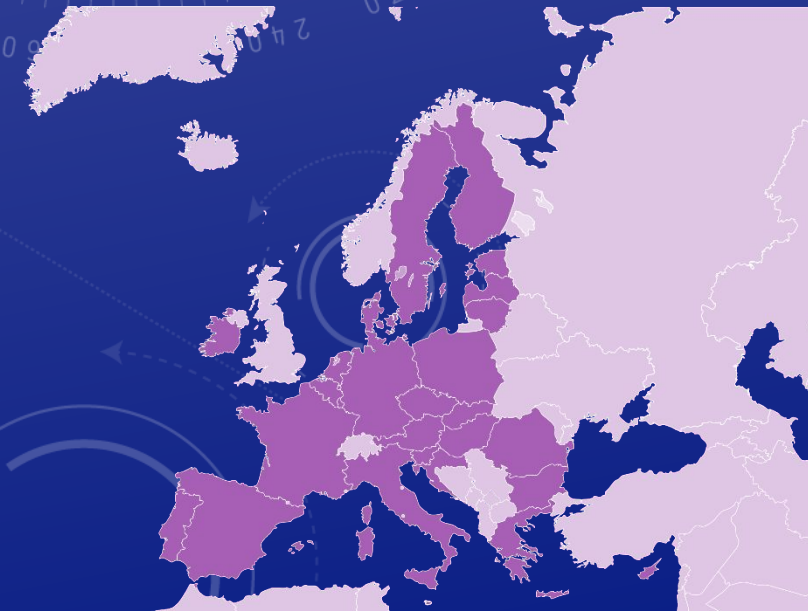


Social Policy Fundamentals



EUROPEAN UNION



European Citizenship Project
Pre-session LTTA 1
9/9/2021

Social Policy Fundamentals



- European integration and social policies
 - The European Social Model
 - European coordination
 - The Fundamental Rights of EU

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1. Building a social Europe was not an explicit objective of Community integration.

The founding fathers, who did not exclude a social dimension, were, however, convinced that progress in this area would naturally take place from a strong economic community, anchored in free competition and free movement.

In the course of the process there were collateral interventions of social impact in various sectors, to ensure the effectiveness and fairness of the four freedoms of movement:

from improving working conditions, protecting safety and health to equal treatment of workers for men and women and migrant workers (to circumvent social dumping);

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(cont.)

5. From the prohibition of restrictions on the freedom of establishment of nationals of a Member State in the territory of another Member State to the recognition of diplomas, certificates and other titles necessary for access to self-employed activities;
6. goods, as consumer products, to ensure consumer protection, from the protection of their safety and health to the quality of the products consumed and to food hygiene;
7. capital (the last to be implemented) there were no social impact actions.



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With the successive reforms of the treaties, an effort was made in a stronger social policies.

The Treaty of Rome is the name given to two treaties: the Constitutive Treaty of the European Economic Community (EEC) and the Constitutive Treaty of the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom)

They were signed on 25 March 1957 in Rome by West Germany, France, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg.

It entered into force on 1 January 1958. The signing of this treaty is the culmination of a process that comes after World War II, which left Europe economically and politically destroyed, and weakened in the face of the two superpowers: the United States and the Soviet Union.



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EEC Constitutive Treaty (Treaty of Rome)

Currently in force under the name of the Constitutive Treaty of the European Community, it is, together with the Treaty on European Union, one of the two fundamental texts of the European institutions.

The treaty provided:

Customs Union: The EEC has been popularly known as the "Common Market". A transitional period of 12 years has been agreed, in which customs barriers between member states should disappear altogether.

Common Agricultural Policy (CAP): This measure established the free movement of agricultural products within the EEC, as well as the adoption of protectionist policies, which allowed European farmers to avoid competition from products from other non-EEC countries. This was achieved by subsidising agricultural prices. Since then, the CAP has concentrated much of the Community assumption.



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This treaty established a ban on monopolies, the granting of some trade privileges to the outermost regions of the European Union, as well as some common transport policies. In the face of the success driven by the increased fluidity of trade exchanges, all internal barriers between Member States were removed on 1 July 1968, while a common customs policy was adopted for all products from non-EEC countries. This common market affected only the free movement of goods. The free movement of people, capital and services had to wait for the Single European Act (SEA) of 1986 to give the impetus for the unified market to be established in 1992.



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The Treaties of Rome meant a triumph for Europeanists such as Robert Schuman and Jean Monnet who, in the face of the impossibility of immediately consolidating a political union, developed a process of integration that gradually affected various sectors of the economy, creating supranational institutions in which member states give part of their sovereignty over certain competences. Thus, the EEC has set up a number of institutions:

- European Commission
- European Council
- European Parliament
- Court of Justice of the European Union
- European Economic and Social Committee

In this way, a process began in which progressive economic integration has paved the way for political union.



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Maastricht Treaty, which created the European Union with the intention of easing it with a political aspect (1 November 1992).

European Commission President Jacques Delors, a socialist and former trade unionist, has gathered the will of the governments of the Member States, excluding the United Kingdom, to enter a social protocol annexed to the treaty.

A light version of the Community Charter on The Fundamental Social Rights of Workers adopted in 1989 by the Member States, with the exception of the United Kingdom.

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Treaty of Amsterdam (1 May 1997) incorporated a social aspect, with the Labour Prime Minister Tony Blair, made new advances, especially in the fight against discrimination and in the field of employment support, to give possible the European Employment Strategy, launched shortly before (November 1997) in Luxembourg by the heads of government and state.

At the 2000 Nice Summit, when the treaty was adopted, the EU European Charter of Fundamental Rights (CDFUE) was also adopted with political value, which also incorporated all existing social rights in the Union.



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The Treaty of Lisbon (signed 13 December 2007; entered into force on 1 December 2009):

recognized legal value to this code of fundamental rights;

formalized the autonomy of social policy (improving the environment and working conditions, social protection of workers, dialogue between social partners, combating exclusions and discrimination);
and

in some areas, more proficient mechanisms for the adoption of
normative acts.



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The Treaty of Lisbon (cont.): Policies and actions, in particular with regard to a high employment index, adequate social protection, the fight against social exclusion and a high level of education, training and protection of human health. Successive Community enlargements, inherent in the market dynamics itself, have made Europe more unequal, the gap in levels of development between Member States, regions and living standards has widened ---- Structural funds have been created, of which the European Social Fund (ESF), provided for since the Treaty of Rome, has been the most relevant in social support.



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CFRUE

Proclaimed at the Nice Summit on 7 December 2000, the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the Union reinforces the concept of European citizenship, summing up, in a single text of 54 articles, all the civic, political, economic and social rights of European citizens, as well as of all persons residing in the territory of the Union. It is divided into six chapters: dignity, freedom, equality, solidarity, citizenship and justice.

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