

# What is the European Union?



Credit: Available on amazon.com <https://www.amazon.com/Wall-Pops-WPE0624-World-Decorals/dp/B00CF0QKTS>

## Well, first a bit on World War II (WWII):

This was the second time that almost the whole world was at war. It lasted from 1939 - 1945. The countries divided into two teams, the Allies and the Axis Powers.

**The Axis powers were Germany, Italy, and Japan.**

**The Allies included countries like Britain, France, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, the Soviet Union, China, and the United States of America.**

WWII was started by the Axis Powers where they wanted to get control over areas surrounding them and started invading them. It was a long and brutal war that resulted in many lives lost and many families torn apart. The Allies finally won.

**Got it! So what is the European Union?** The European Union is a collection of 28 member countries in Europe. This was formed over time after World War II. It was formalised in **November, 1993**. This was formed to make the countries stronger as allies or friends and to make trading goods easier. There are many benefits that members enjoy, including:

(a) making joint decisions on major policies,

(b) sharing food and agriculture, and

(c) making it easy for people to travel from one member country to another without having their passports checked. Many of the member countries also share a common currency, called the 'Euro'.

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