

EUROPEAN AGENDA

1. Institutional Questions:

End of October 2002

Referendum in Ireland on the Ratification of the EU-treaty of Nice on institutional reforms

No sooner than in 2002

Implementation of the Schengen Agreement in Greece (concerning land and sea borders)

First half of 2003

Conclusion of the EU-convention to work out an EU-Constitutional Treaty (Charter of Fundamental Rights, distribution of powers, simplification of text of treaty, role of institutions)

Second Half of 2003/First Half of 2004 (scheduled)

Intergovernmental Conference (IGC) decides on EU-Constitutional Treaty (Charter of Fundamental Rights, distribution of powers, simplification of text of treaty, role of institutions)

2005-2006 (scheduled)

Ratification of the results of the Intergovernmental Conference (IGC) 2004: EU-constitutional treaty

2. Economic and Monetary Union (EMU):

March 2003 (probably)

Referendum on EMU in Sweden

Summer/Autumn 2003 (possibly; may 1, 2003 was also mentioned as a possible date)

Referendum on EMU in the United Kingdom

2003 (possibly)

Referendum in Denmark on all hitherto Opting-out clauses (EMU, ESDP, Schengen Agreement)

2004 (possibly)

Access of Sweden and the United Kingdom to the Exchange Rate Mechanism (ERM II) of the European Monetary System (EMS II)

2005 (possibly)

Access of Sweden, the United Kingdom and Denmark to the European Economic and Monetary Union (EMU)

January 1, 2006 (possibly)

Start of the introduction of European notes and coins in Sweden, the United Kingdom and Denmark

February 28, 2006 (possibly)

Conclusion of the introduction of European notes and coins in Sweden, the United Kingdom and Denmark

No sooner than on January 1, 2007

First states of Central and Eastern Europe join EMU

3. Policy Reforms:

2002

“Mid-Term Review” of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) according to the Agenda 2000 decisions

2003

Conclusion of the WTO Round (Liberalising of the international trade on services and agricultural goods)

March 2006 (planned)

EU-summit decides on financing the EU for the period 2007-2013

4. NATO-Enlargement:

November 21-22, 2002

NATO-summit in Prague discusses:

- ? second group of Central and Eastern European countries to join NATO (the following countries are under consideration: Slovenia, Slovak Republic, Bulgaria, the Baltic States, and Romania)
- ? nomination of Croatia as candidate for joining NATO
- ? closer co-operation with Russia, the Ukraine, and other states
- ? capabilities needed to combat new threats

2004 (possibly)

Second group of Central and Eastern European countries joins NATO

5. EU-Enlargement:

October 16, 2002

European Commission presents progress reports of the accession candidates

November 19, 2002

Debate of the European Parliament on the final phase of the accession negotiations in the presence of the chairman of the European Council, the Danish prime minister Anders Fogh Rasmussen, and of representatives of the accession states

December 12-13, 2002

EU-summit at Copenhagen: Conclusion of accession negotiations with up to ten countries (Poland, Czech Republic, Hungary, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovenia, Slovak Republic, Cyprus and Malta)

March 2003 (probably)

Ratification of the accession treaties with up to ten countries by the European Parliament

2003 (probably)

Ratification of the accession treaties with up to ten countries by the 15 EU-Member States, and by the accession state concerned

January 1, 2004 (probably)

Up to ten countries join the European Union

6. Partnership with Russia:

The following steps have already been taken:

- ? Membership of the Council of Europe in 1996
- ? Signing of the Founding Act Russia-NATO in Paris, France on May 27, 1997
- ? Almost Full Membership of G8 (most industrialised countries) at the World Economic Summit in Denver, Colorado, USA on June 20-22, 1997
- ? Membership the Club of debtor states in Paris, France at the World Economic Summit in Denver, Colorado, USA on June 20-22, 1997
- ? Going into force of the EU-Treaty on Partnership and Co-operation: December 1, 1997
- ? Foundation of the German-Russian Conference for the Civil Society "St. Petersburg's Conference" in April 2001
- ? Recognition of Russia as a Market Economy, April 2002
- ? Signing of the "NATO-Council of 20" in Rome, Italy in May 2002

The following steps still has to be taken:

- ? Membership of World Trade Organisation (WTO) at Geneva, Switzerland: 2004
- ? Full Membership of G8 (most industrialised countries) by overtaking presidency: 2006
- ? European motorway Paris-Berlin-Warsaw-Moscow and Common history book
- ? Foundation of a "common University of the 21st Century"
- ? Common Special Unit for Catastrophe Relief