



European Federalism

What's ahead of us?

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I. There exist

A. **Federal institutions**

- The EU Parliament
- The EU Commission
- The Court of Justice
- The European Central Bank



I. There exist

B. Common Policies

Exclusive competence of the EU

- Monetary policy
- Commercial policy
- Customs union
- Common fisheries policy
- Antitrust and competition control policy at EU level

Shared competence

- Internal market
- Agriculture
- Environment and consumer protection
- Economic and social cohesion (structural funds)



I. There exist

c. **Decision-making mechanism**

Majority voting

- With regard to a considerable proportion of legislation
- In the framework of treaties whose adoption requires unanimity

Subsidiary principle

- Guarantees the prior right to act at the national government levels (decentralization)
- It determines a space for the expansion of EC competences (centralization)



II. It is weakened

A. **For political reasons**

- After the Double No Vote in France and the Netherlands, Europe is considered by politicians to be a « counter - productive » topic
- The Franco-German leadership has broken down



II. It is weakened

B. For economic reasons

- Lack of real economic policy coordination in the eurozone (Role of the Eurogroup?)
- Failure of the Lisbon Strategy



II. It is weakened

c. **For legal reasons**

- The decision-making process is unbalanced (not proportionate)
- The existence of three pillars is more and more difficult to justify



III. Where must we go?

A. **How to give teeth to the Lisbon strategy?**

- Making it more constraining
- Towards a European tax system to fund projects in the European general interest



III. Where must we go?

B. How to ensure Europe's independence?

- Building a common Energy policy
- Building a truly common Defense policy



III. Where must we go?

c. **How to strengthen Europe's democratic dimension?**

- Political transition towards democracy in European countries: a time success
- Democratization of the EU: the big question



To conclude: The motives for establishment of a Federal model in Europe have not changed

What are the goals?

1951

- Protection of democracy in Europe vis-à-vis the soviet bloc
- Reinforcement of Europe's competitiveness to ensure political independence and economic welfare

Today

- Bolstering of Europe's competitiveness in a new global environment
- Maintaining Europe's independence through coordinated policy making (Defense, energy)



Competition and freedom

To enhance the wealth of a nation (“Europe” ...), every man (woman...), consistent with the law, should be *“free to pursue his own interest his own way, and to bring both his industry and capital into competition with those of ... other ... men.”*

Adam Smith (1776)



A step by step approach

"Europe will not be made all at once, or according to a single plan: It will be built through concrete achievements which first create a de facto solidarity"

Robert Schuman (1950)