

During your visit, you will discover our European roots, the Member States of the European Union, and the European Union and its implementation in Brussels.

Answer to the questions during your visit. These answers will help you when you complete the presentation of Europe at the end of the notebook.



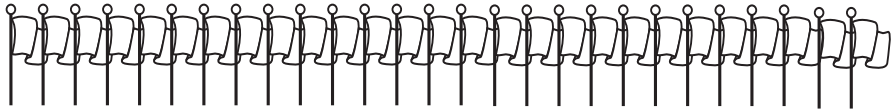
REGION DE BRUXELLES-CAPITALE
BRUSSELS HOOFDSTEDELIJK GEWEST



www.minieurope.eu

**STUDENT
workbook**

Start of the visit at the top of the park near the flags.



Flags are always displayed alphabetically in the language of the country. Throughout your journey, you will find their names in your language and their country's language.



Q.1 What's the country of the very first flag (right at the top)?

.....

What's the country of the last flag (at the bottom)?

.....



Q.2. The European Flag has a blue background with yellow stars. How many stars are there on the flag?

- ☐ As many as there are member states
- ☐ Always twelve
- ☐ Always 27



Q.3 How many countries are there in the European Union?

- ☐ 25
- ☐ 27
- ☐ 30

You are in front of the Berlaymont, which houses the European Commission. This building symbolises the European presence in Brussels. We shall come back to the European Commission later.

Follow the path all the way down to Denmark.



Vikings lived in the village of Trelleborg. The Vikings lived in Denmark, Sweden and Norway. They were great **adventurers and merchants**. They went all around Europe and even travelled to North America.

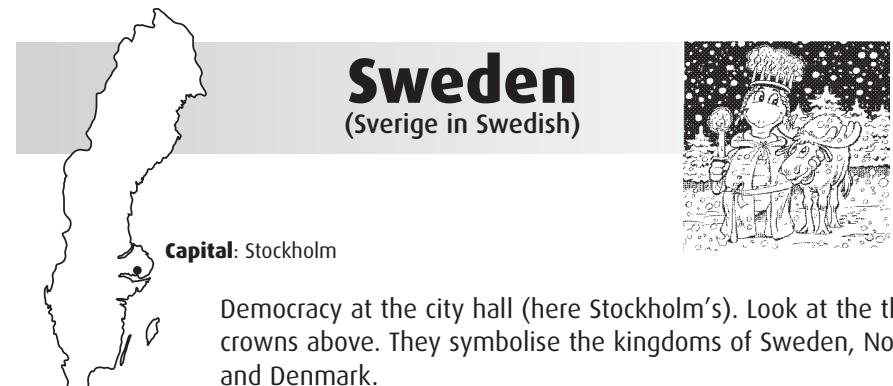


Q.4. What are called Viking ships?

- ☐ liners
- ☐ drakkars
- ☐ schooners

In front, you can see the Copenhagen stock exchange. Europeans invented business associations with shares. A share represents a portion of the **company** **#3** property. Shares are exchanged in the stock exchange.

Alongside is Copenhagen's Nyhavn port, which was created by the Dutch. This is a proof that exchanges between Europeans have existed for a long time.

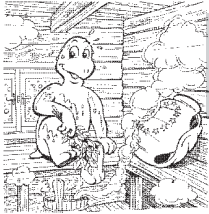


Democracy at the city hall (here Stockholm's). Look at the three crowns above. They symbolise the kingdoms of Sweden, Norway and Denmark.



Q.5. Where have you seen these 3 crowns?

- ☐ Trelleborg ☐ the Copenhagen stock exchange ☐ Nyhavn



Finland

(Suomi in Finnish)



Capital: Helsinki

The fortress that you see is Olavinlinna castle. Forts were used to protect people against the enemy. If you press the button, you will discover one of the Finnish people's favourite habits.



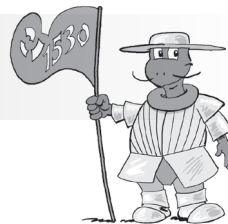
Q.6. It is: ☐ the hammam ☐ the sauna ☐ the Turkish baths?



Capital: Tallinn

Estonia

(Eesti in Estonian)



Estonians speak a language that is similar to Finnish. The name of the capital Tallinn means "City of the Danes". Surprising, no? In the beginning, Tallinn was a town built by the Danes.



Q.7. Listen to the Estonian national hymn. Which other hymn does it remind you of?

- ☐ Danish ☐ Latvian ☐ Finnish



Capital: Riga

Latvia

(Latvia in Latvian)



Latvia and Estonia were independent from 1918 until 1940 before becoming Soviet provinces.

They regained their independence in 1991.

The monument for freedom recalls the necessity to always defend democracy.



Capital: Vilnius

Lithuania

(Lietuva in Lithuanian)



For a very long time, Lithuania was a great state linked to Poland.

Universities #5 (here the Vilnius University) prove a great mean of diffusing and improving knowledge.

One of the first centres for astronomy was here.



Q.8. Alongside the University, you will note a scientific instrument. What does it remind you of?

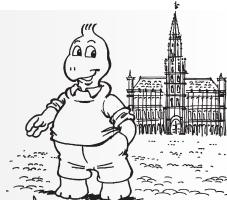
- ☐ A telescope ☐ A microscope ☐ An antenna

Let's go to Belgium.



Belgium

(Belgique in French
België in Dutch,
Belgien in German)



The Brussels city hall is a magnificent monument.

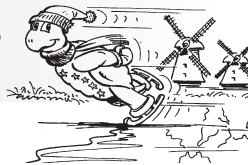
Brussels is also the capital of the European Union. It welcomes $\pm 40\,000$ European civil servants and many European institutions.

Brussels is a multicultural town and boasts a wide range of European and non-European inhabitants.



The Netherlands

(Nederland in Dutch)



A little bit further, you can see the Kinderdijk windmills, a technological invention of the era.



Q.9. What are windmills used for?

- ☐ Pumping water to dry out the Polders
- ☐ Making electricity

Back to Belgium

This tall tower is the Belfry of Bruges. In the middle ages, pilgrims started off from here on the major Christian pilgrimage route Way of Saint James that took them to Spain (that we can see from afar). Christianity was a very strong value in Europe.



Q.10. A pilgrim wants to go to Spain by foot. The journey is 2 000 kilometres long. If he walks an average of 40 km/day, how long will it take to reach the destination? days.

It will only take you a few minutes.

After Belgium,

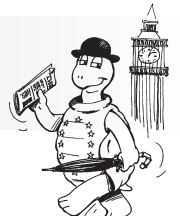
we cross the channel and arrive in the United Kingdom.

The United Kingdom left the European Union in 2020 (= Brexit).



United Kingdom

Capital: London



This tall building is called "the Houses of Parliament". The English invented parliamentary democracy.

Because ruling a country becomes increasingly difficult, citizens choose (elect) parliamentarians and senators to make decisions in their place.



Q.11. This monument has a tower with a clock with a well known sound. What's its name?

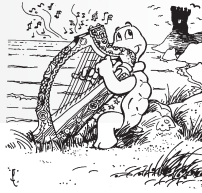
- ☐ Big John
- ☐ Big James
- ☐ Big Ben

We continue our journey and arrive in



Ireland

(Ireland in English, Eire in Gaelic)



In 450 BC, monks promulgate Christianity. Ireland's first king converted in Cashel. This gothic church was built to mark this occasion.



Q.12. What do you see in the Irish countryside?

- ☐ sheep
- ☐ cows
- ☐ goats

Let's go back through the United Kingdom.

You will see the large ferry (same scale as the other buildings). If you carry on walking along a bit further, you will see the new method of crossing the channel.

It is the Channel Tunnel. Yet another technological feat.



Q.13. Which countries does the tunnel link?

- ☐ Holland and the United Kingdom
- ☐ France and the United Kingdom
- ☐ Belgium and the United Kingdom



We're in France.

France



Europe exhibited its technology in the great world fairs. The Eiffel Tower was shown in the 1889 edition of the event.

All the buildings at Mini Europe are made at the same scale of 1/25. This means that all the buildings are built 25 times smaller than the originals.



Q.14. If Mini Europe's Eiffel Tower measures 12 meters (without the antenna), how tall is the original?

..... m.

We are at Paris' Arch of Triumph, monument that celebrates the glory of Napoleon and France.

The French revolution added the principle of equality to democracy. Napoleon and his troops will disseminate this new value throughout the whole of Europe.

Still in France, you will note a red train. Another example of great European technology, just like the Airbus **planes #4** that you saw at the airport.



Q.15. The TGV is a train (HST). What do these letters mean?

- ☐ High-Speed train
- ☐ Variable geometry train
- ☐ Frequent flyer train

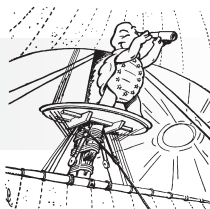
We are going past the Arc-Ét-Senans. Back in the era of Louis XIV, bosses and workers lived here together on their workplace. The boss had to provide his employees with a decent livelihood. In those days, this was a **social #7** improvement.



We are arriving in Portugal

Portugal

(Portugal in Portuguese)



We already told you that Europeans had a great sense of adventure. Some great navigators left Portugal and sailed past the Belem Tower.

Vasco de Gama was the first navigator to circumnavigate Africa. Knights are about to duel in front of the castle of Guimaraes. The Romans developed cities around the Mediterranean Sea. The knights of the Middle Ages developed cities in North and East Europe.



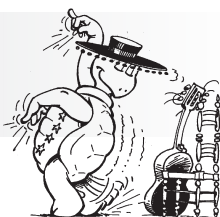
Q.16. Some knights conquered territories in the name of Christianity. What were these expeditions called?

- ☐ crusades ☐ grand adventures ☐ reformation



Spain

(España in Spanish)



Cervantes is a world-famous writer who penned "The Ingenious Gentleman Don Quixote of La Mancha". Here you can see the windmills of the novel. Europeans share many other cultural works.

Further along, you are arriving in Barcelona. At the top of the column, you can see the statue of Christopher Columbus. He also embodies the spirit of **adventure #2**.



Q.17. Which continent did he discover?

.....

You are going past Santiago de Compostela, which we mentioned when we were in Belgium. Do you remember? It is an important meeting point for **Christians #6**.

Capital: Valletta



Malta

(Malta in Maltese and in English)



Maltese is the only language of Semitic origins (from the Middle East) to be written in Latin letters.

The Mnajdra temple is the world's oldest stone temple. We know very little about the civilisation that built it.



Q.18. Malta is the least-populated country in the European Union.

How many inhabitants live there?

What is the country's surface area?



Capital: Rome

We are arriving in Italy.

Italy

(Italia in Italian)



As we walk pass, look at the leaning tower.



Q.19. What is the tower called?

- ☐ The tower of Pisa
☐ The tower of Rome
☐ The tower of Venice

You will walk in front of the Villa La Rotonda, which symbolises Renaissance, a hugely important movement for Europe.

Renaissance will challenge every single fact. This is why we are constantly questioning everything. It is a fantastic engine for democracy and sciences (at the same time, Galileo carries out an experiment on the Tower of Pisa).

A little further, you are going past Venice, a city that long ruled controlled navigation and commerce in the Mediterranean.



Lübeck was an important trading town. During the middle ages, it was part of the German Hanse, an association of trading towns including Bruges, Riga, Tallinn, and Gdansk, all cities represented in Mini Europe.

Berlin's Brandenburg gate is world-famous.

In 1989, Germany is still separated in two. Eastern Germany is part of the USSR. At the time, many countries in the USSR gain back their independence and join the European Union.



Q.20. What happens when you press the button in front of the Berlin monument?

After Slovakia, you will see another German building that looks like a big gate: it is the Porta Nigra (Latin for Black Gate), dating back to the Roman era. Romans colonised a large part of Europe and strongly influenced us.



Thanks to a French engineer, this was Europe's largest stone bridge. This material will be used until steel, then concrete, will become more efficient.



Poland is the largest country of the 2004 enlargement.

Arthus' Court is a truly European building. It was built by a Dutchman in a (European) gothic style using roman symbols to host receptions when the city was part of the Hanse (see Lübeck). Alongside the door, you will note a portrait of Sigismund III, King of Poland, Great Duke of Lithuania, and at one time, King of Sweden. Isn't Europe a tiny place?

Alongside, the three crosses monument symbolises the fight of the trade unions and for the country's liberty of independence.



Q.21. What is this Polish town?

☐ Warsaw

☐ Gdansk

☐ Krakow



Czechoslovakia regains its independence in 1989 before splitting up into two different countries in 1993: the Czech Republic and Slovakia.



Q.22. Slav countries (Croatia, Czech republic, Slovakia and Slovenia) all use the same three colours for their flags. Can you name these colours?

1) 2) 3)



When this church was built, Bratislava was still part of the Hungarian empire. This is why this edifice is dedicated to Saint Elisabeth, daughter of Hungary's Andreas II.



Q.23. What is the main colour of this church?

.....



Romania and Bulgaria joined the EU at the same time. They are Europe's two poorest countries. Thanks to the European Union aid, their **economic #9** growth will be made quicker.



Q.24. What year did Romania and Bulgaria join the EU?

☐ 1999

☐ 2004

☐ 2007



Hungarian is a very specific language. Hungary was long part of the Austro-Hungarian empire.



Q.25. The name of Hungary's capital city is made up of two city names put together. Can you name these two cities?

..... and



Zagreb's Saint Mark's Church boasts a splendid roof that reproduces the coats of arms of the city of Zagreb and former kingdoms of Croatia, Slovenia and Dalmatia.

Q.26. When did Croatia join the EU?

☐ 2004 ☐ 2007 ☐ 2013



Slovenia is the first country from the 2004 enlargement to use the **Euro #10** currency. Slovenia draws its origins in the Former Republic of Yugoslavia.

Q.27. What is the total surface area of Slovenia?

.....



At one point, Bulgaria was Europe's largest empire. The Bulgarian **language #8** is written in Cyrillic.

Q.28. Which other European countries does Bulgaria border?

☐ Romania and Greece
☐ Romania and Slovenia
☐ Romania and Macedonia



The Melk Abbey is a magnificent example of the extremely detailed baroque architectural style.

Q.29. The Abbey is considered to be baroque style because:

☐ It has a lot of decorations and colours
☐ It has thick walls and small windows
☐ It only has one floor



Greece

(Elláda in Greek)



Greece inspired Europe. Athens invented the initial **democracy #1**.
The ancient Greek inspired the hugely important Renaissance.
See Italy for a quick reminder. Berlin's Brandenburg gate copied the Greek style.



Q.30. Some column of this small temple are very peculiar.
They are called caryatides and look like:

- ☐ flowers ☐ animals ☐ women



Cyprus

(Kypros in Greek and Kibris in Turkish)

Capital :
Nicosia



The island of Cyprus is not in Europe but is part of the EU.

Theoretically, the northern part of the island is part of the EU but has been under Turkish occupation since 1974.

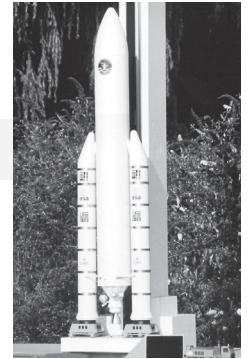


Q.31. Which population occupied Cyprus?
They also built this theater.

- ☐ Vikings ☐ Ancient Greeks ☐ Celts



Ariane



The Ariane rocket is launched in Kourou, French Guyana, a French department belonging to the European Union and situated in south America.

The Ariane rocket is a symbol of European technological success.



Q.32. Can you list 5 countries of the European Union that participated to Ariane's construction? Look at the flags on the rocket.

- 1) 2) 3)
4) 5)

You have now finished your journey through the park.
Enter the Spirit of Europe to answer the following questions.



Q.33. Correctly place the following names of the 5 institutions on the dotted lines on the next page: **Commission, Parliament, Council of Ministers, European Council, Court of Justice.**

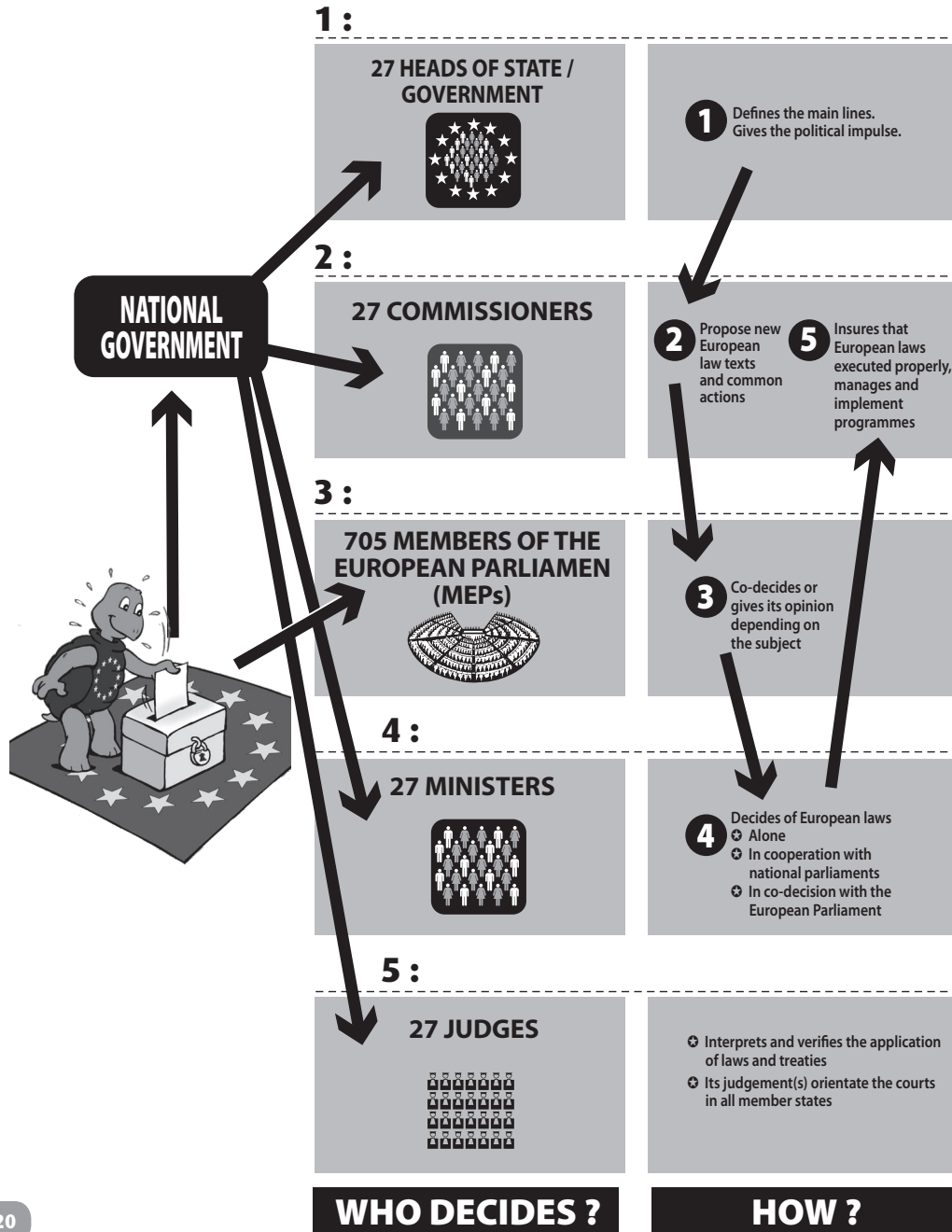
Q.34. How much official languages does the European Union have?
(hint: did you see the turtle that talks about the motto of the European Union, «United in diversity»?)

- ☐ 24 ☐ 27 ☐ 33

Q.35. By placing your hands on the musical instruments, you will hear the European anthem. How is this anthem, composed by Ludwig Van Beethoven, called?

- ☐ Unity makes strength ☐ Let's walk together ☐ Ode to Joy

YOUR INFLUENCE IN EUROPEAN BODIES



Food for thoughts: Multiculturalism

Europeans have bet to be able to live and work together.

It's difficult after so many wars. There are many reasons to split up: different languages, religions, and cultures... Immigrations from the rest of the world have also contributed to increase the wide variety of cultures and religions. We are often quick to simplify: Belgians are like this, the German like that, and the French are just like so and so. But for each culture, diversity rules... Yet very often we only see our differences instead of resemblances.

Going through Mini-Europe, are we not seeing familiar ideas or monuments?

Our future lies in multiculturalism. Together, we are stronger and diversity is a treasure.

The European Union encourages multiculturalism:

- Institutions gathering Europeans
- Exchange programmes between Europeans: Erasmus, Comenius...
- Cultural programmes such as European capitals of culture

Let's not forget that WE are Europe.

We vote for our representatives: ministers, national and European parliamentarians. We can demonstrate to all elected officials. Through our behaviour or participation in associations, we can influence other Europeans.

Thierry Meeùs

Administrator of Mini-Europe Education ASBL

Summary: Fill in the blanks with the # answers from your workbook.

Despite many countries, cultures and wars, Europeans share many common values.

- **#1** born in Greece and developing in Europe up to today. It means that everyone brings their own idea(s).
- The spirit of **#2** also characterises all Europeans. They explored every land and sea since the Vikings up until Christopher Columbus and even went into space.
- The spirit of ENTERPRISE gave the West unparalleled prosperity. Europeans have invented many tools to facilitate economic development: banks, credit letters, commercial businesses, insurances **#3**, stocks and bonds, etc.
- TECHNOLOGY created economic development and an extraordinary quality of life. The analytical spirit allowed the Dutch to invent windmills to dry out the Polders or the High-Speed Train and **#4** for easier transportation.
- CULTURE AND RADIATION of culture reinforce values. Europeans recognise themselves in the works of Shakespeare, Cervantes, or Beethoven. **#5** convey and question these values, continuously forming an ever-renewed European identity.
- HERITAGE **#6** has gathered and divided Europeans. Despite everything, Christianity still influences the way we think and our way of living together. These social values are found in our daily lives.
- **#7** THOUGHT is very strong in Europe. Worldwide, we spend the most on social protection: health service, pension, family and unemployment benefits...
- MULTICULTURALISM is a new value. It consists in accepting others, regardless their culture, their origin, their **#8** or difference. The secular state (separation between religion and state) is a means of guaranteeing multiculturalism.

In May 1951, Robert Schuman declares that the best way of living together at peace is by working together. In 1957, the Treaty of Rome is signed, thus forming the Common Market. Europe will develop to form the European Union in 28 countries (then 27 following after the Brexit). Never have as many humans gathered together of their own free will.

The European Union has enjoyed many great successes:

- PEACE: the longest period of peace for the past 1000 years.
- DEMOCRACY: which is reinforced little by little, every day.
- The EU encourages EQUALITY between men and women.
- FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT of persons: every citizen can travel and work wherever they want. With its ERASMUS programme, the EU facilitates higher education in all European countries.
- PROSPERITY: Europeans are very rich thanks to the single market. Development **#9** was excellent for dozens of years.
- The **#10** already brought us many advantages.
- EUROPEAN TECHNOLOGY puts the EU in first place for high-technology production.
- SOLIDARITY between Europeans exists through the mutual assistance between Europe's poor and rich regions.
- The EU is in top place for INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY with a financial contribution of more than 50%.
- The EU encourages nature protection by supporting the Kyoto Protocol against CO₂ emissions.

Let's be proud that we belong to this Union.

Let's learn to participate to it and to improve it for the good of all.

Map of the European Union

Colour in the countries that are part of the EU. Shade in or use another hue to colour in the five candidate countries:

Turkey, Albania, Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia



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