The treaties are the foundation of the European Union

**KEY TREATIES**

- **Treaty of Lisbon**, entered into force on 1 December 2009
  - the European Council becomes an institution
  - law-making parity between the Council and the European Parliament
  - Charter of Fundamental Rights

- **Treaty of Nice**, entered into force on 1 February 2003
  - reform of the EU institutions for the future Union of 27

- **Treaty of Amsterdam**, entered into force on 1 May 1999
  - area of freedom, security and justice; integration of the Schengen framework
  - High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP)

- **Treaty of Maastricht**, entered into force on 1 November 1993
  - birth of the European Union
  - Economic and Monetary Union; move towards the euro
  - Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP)
  - Justice and Home Affairs (JHA)

- **Single European Act**, entered into force on 1 July 1987
  - beginning of legislative cooperation between the Council and the European Parliament
  - qualified majority voting in the Council
  - towards a large internal market
  - foreign policy cooperation

- **Treaty of Rome**, entered into force on 1 January 1958
  - gradual establishment of a general common market (European Economic Community or EEC)
  - European Atomic Energy Community (EAEC or Euratom)

  - common market for coal and steel, the strategic products of the time

**ACCESSION TREATIES**

- **Croatia**, entered into force on 1 July 2013
- **Bulgaria and Romania**, entered into force on 1 January 2007
- **Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia**, entered into force on 1 May 2004
- **Austria, Finland and Sweden**, entered into force on 1 January 1995
- **Portugal and Spain**, entered into force on 1 January 1986
- **Greece**, entered into force on 1 January 1981
- **Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom**, entered into force on 1 January 1973

**FOUNDING MEMBERS:** Belgium, Federal Republic of Germany, France, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands

For further information: www.consilium.europa.eu