

In&Out



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Is it possible an EU without Italy?

The European Union is today a particularly multifaceted and complex organization, which includes 28 member states with their respective backgrounds and cultural peculiarities. The European integration process has been and is still gradual and each member state can boast a specific experience of EU negotiation, access and integration. For this reason it is important to ask a question to ourselves: is it there some country that contributes more to what we generally consider nowadays the EU "body and soul"? The answer is likely to be yes, and the Italian case could be explanatory of this. We need to look back in time.

The EU traces its origins to the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) and the European Economic Community (EEC) the first customs union between European countries, established, respectively, by the 1951 Treaty of Paris and 1957 Treaty of Rome. Parallel to the EEC, EURATOM was established, the European atomic energy community. The European communities, EEC, EURATOM and ECSC, will then constitute the three pillars of the European Union, until the birth of today's EU with the Lisbon Treaty of 2007.



Italy was a founder member of these three European "communities" together with: Belgium, France, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, and West Germany. As that, Italy has been a fundamental component of the European project since its first steps and one of the main "container" of much of its dreams and ambitions.

Nevertheless, establishment of a single entity that encompassed the entire European territory can be traced back to historical periods well before the foundation of the EU. The first organism of this kind was the Roman Empire, which contributed, in fact, to a first unification

of the European territory, also and above all from an infrastructural and accessibility point of view.

However, the modern idea of a Union of different European entities only began to take hold after the two World Wars, guided by the determination to quickly complete the reconstruction of Europe and eliminate the possibility of new, future conflicts between its nations.

On this, the Ventotène's Manifesto (original title "For a free and united Europe") - written by the Italian politicians Altiero Spinelli and Ernesto Rossi in 1941 (published in 1944) - is considered one of the founding texts of the European Union, in that it advocated ideals of unification of Europe based on the concepts of peace and freedom, as well as prefiguring the need for pro-European ideology to establish a European federation with a parliament and a democratic government with real powers in some fundamental sectors, as economics and foreign policy.

More recently the Erasmus program (EuROpean Community Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students) as a student mobility program of the European Union, created in 1987, but conceived in 1969 by the Italian pedagogist Sofia Corradi ("Erasmus mamma"), is contributing strongly to the creation and development of a common European awareness among young Europeans.

There is no doubt that nowadays every country on the European continent is a piece of that huge puzzle which is European history, but similarly it is true that some nations carry a greater responsibility load as well as greater relevance in in the historical processes which led to the birth of what is today the European Union. Imagining an EU without Italy today would mean depriving this large community of peoples of a substantial part of its origins and history, effectively making this large community empty of much of its meaning.

The hope for the future is to see the European process complete and not dissolve, seeing new countries entering the EU and thus making faith in European history, bringing together again a territory that has been once the largest empire that the European continent has ever known, the Roman Empire.

13 things you should know before going to Morocco

Located a few miles from the coast of Spain, Morocco is known not only for its early Islamic architecture but also for its great tasting dishes and beautiful beaches.

The labyrinth of the souks, the mystery of the Sahara, the colourful shopping sprees, the mouth watering food and the riads (guesthouses) of Morocco are like an oasis that you may never want to leave!

But, NEWS FLASH!

This country is not what you see on those pretty squares of Instagram or your Pinterest board. It's a lot grittier, it's more raw and it's real. Dirty, busy, people cat calling you, getting ripped off and shouted at real.

Call it crazy, but this cultural shock is the reason why people love and come back so much time to Morocco.

But this country gets a lot of negative press from the media and even more so from word of mouth, especially for female travellers. So, I feel compelled to share the essential things to know before travelling to Morocco!



1. Make sure to dress conservatively

Islam is widely practiced in Morocco with over 99% of the population being Muslim .

Although you certainly don't have to dress like the locals do, they are fully aware many tourists aren't Muslim, I wouldn't go packing your short dresses and strappy tops that show your cleavage in a hurry.

Unless you want a lot of unwanted attention, marriage proposals ect ...

2. Learn a few phrases in French and Arabic

Parlez-vous français? Although the main language in Morocco is Arabic, French is also a widely spoken language especially in the likes Marrakesh.

Speaking French or Arabic can literally open doors for you in terms of haggling, asking for directions and other things like ordering a taxi.

3. Be wary of those that want to show you around or want to be your ‘friend’

You’re new to this city, of course you want to explore and what better way to be shown around then by a local who knows his stuff?!

Well, before you jump in; stop and think.

Don’t trust everyone you meet; if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is! These guys are just after your money .

4. Learn how to haggle

Unless it’s specifically labelled as a fixed price store, most prices can be negotiated.

Not just for products in the souk; taxi fares, riads, meals, tour prices and the pretty leather products you see can all be picked up at a negotiated price.

5. You will get lost

It’s inevitable, you will get lost at some point in Morocco. With over 9,000 streets in the Marrakech medina alone, is it any wonder? It’s literally a labyrinth. Even with the likes of Google maps, you sometimes won’t be able to find your way as not all the streets are on there! But, there will always be people on hand to help. Just don’t forget to say Choukran=Thanks

6. Non Muslims cannot enter mosques

People who do not practice Islam are not allowed to go inside the mosques in Morocco.

7. Cash is king in Morocco and they use Dhirams

Morocco is a closed currency country that use Moroccan Dirhams (MAD) and cash is ultimately king, so make sure you have a lot in your spare in your wallet ; ATM should be the second option !

8. Cats are everywhere, they may look clean and adorable but you can never be too careful.

9. Negotiate taxis prices before you get inside

10. Rise above the cat calling and staring

“Do you want a Moroccan husband?”

“Hello beautiful lady, where are you from”

“England, sexy, come here!”

“I love you” (saw you 30 seconds before this!)

These are just some examples of the cat calling you would receive when you walked through the souk every day, simply ignore cause the more you do, the less you got cat called.

11. Alcohol and drugs are seriously frowned upon

Although not illegal, alcohol in Morocco is not a common practice and it is frowned upon in Islamic texts .

Although 50% of the worlds hash comes from Morocco, drugs are also a massive no, no. It is very much illegal to be found in possession. So, my advice would be to not partake in any such activity or to use extreme caution when buying/using.

12. Fridays are holy days and holidays

In Islam, Friday is a holy day that many take off as holiday for praying, eating couscous and being with their families.

But, that doesn't mean that everything will be closed, a lot of places will still be open for business.

Transport will also still be running.

13. If anything bad happens, alert the tourist police

Moroccan police are very efficient for any types of situations, looking for Taxi, cat calling, expensive prices ... ect

Don't suffer in silence. If anything goes wrong on your travels, make sure you alert somebody



So love your trip through Morocco and continue to go back simply because You believe most of the negative things that come with it are outweighed by how out of this world it is.

It's an attack on the senses, a mind blowing experience that has a certain magic to it. Put it this way; you won't forget your adventure there in a hurry!

Let Morocco dazzle you, come armed with an open mind and ultimately don't forget to have fun.

Why are we together?

The European Union can be called a great family. The country's accession to the union means that it is treated as equal by other countries that belong to it. Joining such an important international organization is a great prestige for the country. The states belonging to it liquidate the border, which facilitates movement between them. Thanks to this, we can travel around the Uni countries whenever we want to. This opens up the opportunity to learn about other countries and their cultures. This helps in language learning. This is called informal learning. The duty has been removed so there are lower costs of importing



products from other countries. Imports and exports of products increase. Inflation is reduced and the stability of the business environment, economy and financial markets is improved. Access to pan-European certification of goods and activities provides easier sales

opportunities on foreign markets. The need to adapt to European standards is a guarantee of high quality of goods sold or services offered. In addition, the union supports the development of education while facilitating access to education in other countries. Many people want to study in other countries because they gain so much needed experience. This increases competition between universities, which translates into the quality of learning. EU support for agriculture has given the opportunity for good production planning and increase. The quality of products produced in the countryside has improved. Modernizing agriculture also allowed for greater care for the environment and an increase in education in the countryside. Technology allows you to improve the creation process and reduces work time. The most important thing is safety, everyone wants to be safe anytime, anywhere. War between the countries of the union is impossible and the union maintains good contacts with neighboring countries that are not in it. The EU participates in peace-keeping activities and has many projects to implement democracy and human rights.

Eurasian Economic Union

After the collapse of Soviet Union all 15 member countries were facing huge political and economic problems. So for overcoming that hard situation Nursultan Nazarbayev, the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, during his speech in Lomonosov Moscow State University suggested the idea to develop a union of the state's consolidated on the grounds of the interconnected economies. Year 2015 was marked by the birth of the new regional economic organization - the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU). The EAEU did not appear from nowhere but was the fruit of the steady and consistent effort of the Russian Federation to reinvigorate the Eurasian integration on the remnants of the former Soviet Union.

The Union is made up of five countries: Russia, Belarus, Armenia, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. Member States comprise a population of 183 million people and can represent a significant market for product placement and for improving foreign trade relations.

Main areas of function are free movement of goods, capital, services and people and provides for common policies in macroeconomic sphere, transport, industry and agriculture, energy, foreign trade and investment, customs, technical regulation, competition and antitrust regulation. Now let's speak about the benefits that member countries of Eurasian Economic Union had. To begin with, to promote the establishment and

enlargement of the economic union, Russia has made economic sacrifices. Both Russia as a nation and its businesses shoulder greater burdens.

Firstly, attracting Kyrgyzstan to join the union by offering enormous advantages. Kyrgyzstan's promotion has been a procedure of bargaining with Russia. In 2013, Kyrgyzstan set forward entry conditions worth almost \$2 billion to Russian. After numerous rounds of consultation, the "sponsorship for union accession" was transformed into the "Kyrgyzstan-Russia Development Fund," and Russia guaranteed to give about \$1 billion to the economic development of Kyrgyzstan.

Second, Russia has made the best trade off on tariff apportionment. Alongside the promotion of Armenia and Kyrgyzstan, tariff apportionment has changed, and the one to make the best tradeoff is Russia.



Third, subsidize the fossil fuel energy starved countries. Belarus, Armenia, and Kyrgyzstan lack fossil fuel energy, and mainly get tariff-free energy products from Russia. Mainly it is about natural gas. After becoming a member of EEU member countries started getting natural gas from Russia much cheaper. For example, Armenia has witnessed a similar situation. The price before it joined the union was \$271 per thousand cubic meters, but it fell to \$189 after its accession, and then further to \$165. Finally, it opened a door to a large market. EEU gave its member countries huge opportunity to export its home made products to other markets and import goods from other member countries without paying any taxes which is a great benefit for all of them.

Besides having a lot of benefits, EEU has problems as well.

The union lacks solidarity.

The limit and attractiveness of Russia as the main force of the EEU decide the solidarity of the entire union. But the countries are plagued with such problems as economic downturns, backward development models, and a lack of attractiveness.

First of all, Russia is suffering from long-term economic downturn. Russia's economic growth rate was continually decreasing from 2012. The economic downturn will be long-term because of these reasons: Its dependence on energy can't be changed in the short run, however it will be normal at the energy costs to stay at medium and low levels. Russia's relations with the West can barely be considerably improved, which adds to its terrible outer environment for development. Russian is seeing reduced workforce and a maturing populace, which will limit its production and consumption. Russia's resource driven development model is in reverse and not attractive. What's more, it is clearly unwise to follow that model

Third, every nation needs to coordinate into the world, as opposed to restricting themselves to only one corner. With weak economic competitiveness, EEU countries are not well engaged in globalization. To change this, it is vital for them to coordinate themselves into the world economy. With the disturbed Russian economy, other part states have begun to put their hopes on outside of the union. While the union covers a population of 182 million, this figure represents 2.47 percent of the world's total. What's more, the combined GDP of \$2.2 trillion just takes up 3.2 percent of the world's total. That is, both the population and market size are not sufficiently big.

To conclude, Eurasian Economic Union besides having some problems have a great potential to grow and enlarge its borders. Because of the economic sanctions which were put on Russia, EEU was not growing fast enough, however that situation forced Russia and other member states to do everything possible for developing their own economy and starting not to be so dependent on other markets. So, as result of hard work more than 35 countries want to join EEU and in near future some of them will become a part of it.

I just want to travel to EU

During my time in Ege university I found out about a sports programme in Germany which I wanted to participate in. In order to participate in the “Ruhr Games ‘19” I needed a Schengen visa for 10 days from the German consulate. Since I have never been to Europe before I was afraid that my visa application would fail.

I had to apply for a visa at least one month before the programme and before that I needed reservation from the honorary consulate for visa application.

My friends told me that I shouldn't be too excited yet because my visa application is likely to fail. According to what I researched on the internet before, many people's applications can fail. Some reasons why Schengen visa get rejected:



- “The application form has formal mistakes like numbers are written in letters instead of numbers”
- "We have Turkish language schools, no need to go to language school in Germany"
- “You don't have enough financial opportunities”
- “The picture on your

passport is not you"

To be honest when I saw such comments, I was quite anxious to apply.

Then it took me 2 weeks to prepare the documents required for the visa application:

- 1- A 'Visa Application Form', where I briefly explain my personal information and reason for departure
- 2- My flight information indicating my entry-exit dates to the country
- 3- My reservation at the hotel where I will stay during my stay in the country
- 4- Travel Insurance to cover possible health problems up to 30.000 euro
- 5- My sponsor's bank information for the last six months because he was my sponsor
- 7- About 50 Euro payment for visa application
- 8- letter of invitation from organisation in Germany
- 9- I had to show my schedule for my stay and proof that I had enough financial resources to cover the costs

Then my visa was approved, strangely **I felt lucky** 😊

Finally, I would like to say that I hope that a real step will be taken to eliminate this problem in the future and countries outside the European Union can also travel more comfortably internationally.

I hope you can understand the struggle of young Turkish people better especially because Turkey is not the only country with visa issues.

In&Out Game

Now let´s play!

Try to colour all the 28 EU members



Now show us your creativity and dreams... colour all the countries you want to see in the EU in the future



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

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