

Methodological handout & Templates

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1. Why?

Goals and hopes

The Brexit debate in the UK since 2016 has made it clear: many citizens in the EU are illinformed about what the EU is, what it does and how decisions are made in the EU. Distrust of the idea of international cooperation and recourse to nationalist doctrines are growing in many of the 28 EU member states, and populism has become a problem everywhere. Socalled Euroscepticism is particularly widespread, not least among the less educated.

In the Have Your Say project, we are addressing these issues by developing innovative forms of educational activities for low-skilled adults to help them rethink their attitudes towards the EU in a process of reflection, discourse and fact-based thinking delivered in an activating, communicative, potentially joyful and inspiring way.

On the present project module of the partner Europahaus Aurich:

In a referendum within the United Kingdom on 23 June 2016, 51.89% of voters voted for the UK to leave the European Union. Since then, a new term has become established: "Brexit".



Now the question arises as to how such an exit actually takes place and what the consequences are for both sides. The fact that there are no regulations in the European Treaties for the exit of a member state from the community makes it clear how serious and unintentional such a step is.

The vote of the British population is grist to the mill of Eurosceptics and has sparked debates in many countries about the advantages and disadvantages of the European Union (EU). This discussion is often driven by organisations and parties that primarily emphasise the negative aspects of the EU, play them up and spread them with populist rhetoric. They reinforce, especially in Germany, the image of a bloated bureaucratic apparatus that costs Germany a lot of money, operates far from reality and, as if that were not enough, also has the audacity to impose regulations on the member states. Against the backdrop of the previous events in the context of the financial and refugee crisis, many citizens in this country see their critical attitude towards the EU confirmed. But Brexit has not only brought negative results, it is also perceived as a wake-up call. The EU Parliament's latest Eurobarometer survey of 2021 shows a growing approval among Europeans and a positive assessment of the EU's overall image at a high of 48% for the EU, a level not seen in over a decade.

The Escape Room is intended to make a contribution to this debate. Disadvantages are not concealed, but put into context, as are advantages. The aim is not to indoctrinate the participants with a preconceived opinion, but to sensitise them to the topic. This is linked to the hope that seemingly clear and conclusive arguments



can be further questioned and interpreted by the participants in a more reflective way.

The format

The Escape Room format is currently experiencing its heyday in Germany and there is no end in sight yet. While some Escape Rooms, in keeping with the name, are about simply escaping from a room, others use it as a didactic opportunity to address topics in a playful way. The latter is also true in this case. Through the design of the room and the puzzles that have to be solved in order to resolve the situation, the theme of the European Union is approached in a playful way. It is explicitly about what speaks for and against the fact that states belong to the EU, as well as about one's own life-world connection to this topic.

In times of increasing disenchantment with politics, when many people perceive politics as an annoying topic that they definitely do not want to deal with in their free time, this format can open doors. It provides access to complex or unpopular topics through its playful character. In this case, it is important that the participants do not have the feeling that they are learning



something, but that this process takes place subconsciously and quite incidentally. The subsequent follow-up with the participants gives them the opportunity to reflect and clarify open questions.

Moreover, this game is a group performance in which each individual is needed with his or her skills and is thus also valued. The title "Should I stay or should I go" is doubly central to this format and does not only refer to the cooperation of states within the framework of the EU. Rather, it also says that lone warriors will have no place and no success in this game. Good communication among each other and the willingness to work together are guarantees for a successful Escape Room. So there is not only an increase in thematic knowledge, but also an increase in social skills and sensitivity.

2. For Whom?

In general, Escape Rooms are characterised by the possibility to play them at any age. Often it can even be valuable not to have a homogeneous age structure in a group. In this case, there



is no clear target group and many conceivable group constellations. This does not mean that this Escape Room can be played by kindergarten groups or similar. A minimum age of 15 years is recommended. Even though the approach of this method puts the playful aspect in the foreground, it does not exclude adults, quite the contrary.

The target group

The Escape Room Europa is not aimed at a fixed age group. Both the puzzle questions and the other tasks can be adapted to the respective age structure of the group. This means that the Escape Room can be played by homogeneous groups from the age of 15 and also by groups with a heterogeneous age structure. In the latter case, mutual consideration must always be emphasised so that the younger players in particular can play their part and thus contribute to the success of the game. The tasks and puzzles of the Escape Room are designed in such a way that different abilities are required, which should promote an inclusive climate within the groups.

3. How?

The story behind it - what players learn before the game begins

Sofia Novak, a non-party MEP, will take part in a meeting in Germany today on Germany's possible withdrawal from the EU. She has been gathering all the important information for this over the last few weeks and has already prepared two papers that have different concerns. One proposes that Germany leave the EU, the other that membership continue. The group can decide for itself which way it wants to go.

Due to the explosive nature of the topic and her affinity for puzzles, the papers are well hidden and partly also encrypted. Since she is not in the office before this appointment and she did not want to carry these important documents around with her beforehand, she asked her trainee to bring them to her shortly before the appointment. She gave him the combination to open the safe containing the documents verbally, but he forgot it. Ashamed of not being able

to remember even four numbers, the trainee cannot call his/her supervisor and ask for the combination. But she/he knows that her/his boss always takes care of all eventualities and leaves nothing to chance. So there must be clues to the code hidden in the office, but she/he is not able to think clearly at the moment. That is why she/he urgently needs help, because there are only 60 minutes left, then the documents have to be brought to the MP. One could add that if the safe can be opened, the group could influence the outcome by just passing on a request to MP Novak, but that depends entirely on the group. From experience it can be said that most groups are so fixated on the puzzle at this moment that they do not notice or pay attention to this hint.



Things emerging during the game

Mrs. Novak is a big puzzle fan and has hidden various clues in her office and the secretary's office to the combination for the safe. Therefore, it makes most sense to form two groups, one looking for clues in Mrs Novak's office and the other in the adjacent office. In the course of the 60 minutes, both groups will find a key to open the locks of the desk in which the safe



is locked for additional security. In addition, both groups "guess" two numbers each for the safe. After the initial separation of the groups, it is necessary for the groups to come together again at the end.

The solution

Finding the combination for the safe is of course the main motivation for the group. In the end, however, the path to this is the more important one, as it is intended to provide them with more or less conscious information about the EU in general and the consequences of a "Dexit". Nevertheless, there are two possible outcomes to the game: either the safe is opened or it is not. If



the players are successful, it could be pointed out again at that moment that they could make a draft resolution disappear. In that case, it would of course be interesting to see which one they drop under the table. But even if the players do not manage to open the safe, they could be confronted with this decision in the debriefing and have the reason for their decision explained in both cases.

The room

The aim is to create an office that is as authentic as possible. In addition to the smaller, usual office utensils such as filing cabinets, folders, pens, quivers, etc., this also includes larger furnishings such as desks, desk chairs, computers, shelves, a seating area, etc.

How exactly the office equipment is put together in detail is of course always dependent on the budget, the circumstances and the utensils already available. Nevertheless, we have compiled a list of possible utensils that can serve as a guide (see Table 1). Since this case concerns the office of an MEP, this should also be evident in the decoration of the room. This aspect is also taken into account in the list.

For the sake of authenticity and to give the group enough space, the room should not be too small. Shown here (see pictures 1 and 2) is the set-up for two groups, each consisting of six people, i.e. 12 people in total. The room shown is divided by partitions into two areas, each

taking up about a third of the room. The smaller area is necessary for two reasons. Firstly, as a storage area that houses the original seating of the room and secondly, as a place for the game leader to stay, who can easily hear what the group is doing from there. This enables the game leader to intervene at any time and thus influence the course of



the game. For this reason, it is advisable to divide the room in this way, even if no storage



space is needed. Accordingly, this area could be smaller.

As can be seen in Figure 2, there are three game areas in total, although the current version of this Escape Room provides for two groups. This is for two reasons, firstly to give the groups additional space and secondly to keep the option open to integrate a third game area here. The available area

in figures 1 & 2 is approximately six by seven metres, i.e. 42 square metres. For the intended group size of ten to 12 people, this is plenty of space, which can also be smaller.

Figure 1: Exemplary setup of the room

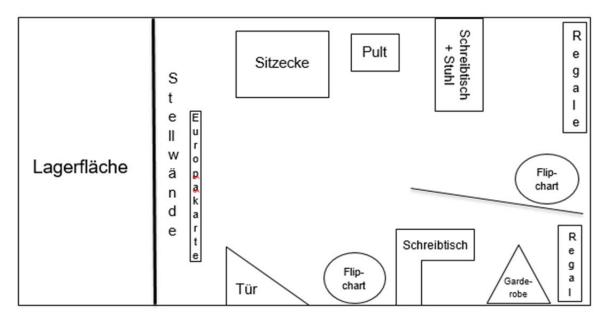
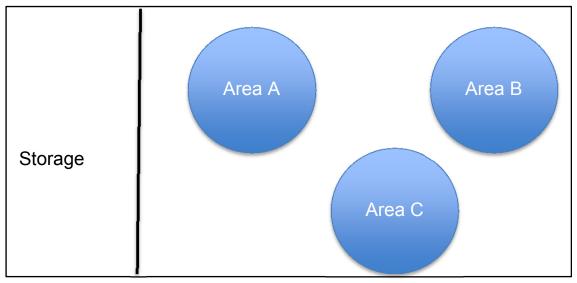
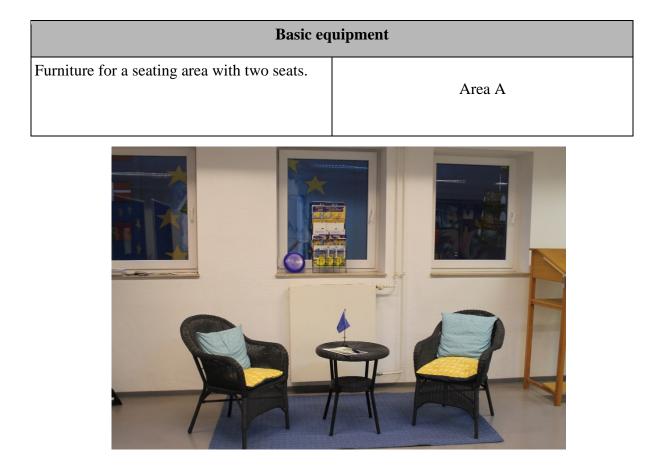


Figure 2: The three areas of space



Furniture and utensils

As already mentioned in the previous section, an office is to be recreated as authentically as possible. The exact appearance of this office should not be specified here. Nevertheless, there are elementary furnishings that should be present in any case and which fall under the heading "basic equipment" in the following table. Other items, on the other hand, are important for the course of the game and others serve mainly for authenticity. Divided according to areas A, B and C, this results in the following list:



Desk	
Desk chair	
Desk lamp	
Computer (+ Keyboard & Mouse & Printer)	Area B
Shelves	
Writing utensils (pencil case + pens)	
Office utensils (hole punch, stapler, paper clips, folders, registers etc.)	



Desk
Desk chair
Desk lamp
Computer (+ Keyboard & Mouse & Printer)
Shelves
Writing utensils (pencil case + pens)
Books (on Europe and politics in general)
Hole punch, stapler, paper clips etc.



Utensils relevant for the game ¹					
A desk or similar piece of furniture that can be locked with two locks					
Safe with combination lock (+ pro and con resolutions on a possible "Dexit")	Area A				
Europe map					
Pro/con "Dexit" resolutions					
Magnet box + 4 magnets	Area B				
Flipchart					
Word spiral					
Combination lock, 5 digits ²					
3 boxes that can be locked with a padlock					
Padlock with key					
Two identical newspapers					
Briefcase, 6-digit					
Combination lock, 4 digits					
Picture with a time on it					
Cash box with numerical code, 3 digits					
Graphic with various information on the EU states					
"Fake letter" on a delegate trip					
Directional lock					
Folder with a hole for a padlock					
Logic puzzle, blue					
Book dummy with combination lock, 3 digits					
Combination lock, 3 digits					
Map of Europe showing the Volga as the longest river in Europe					
 Question cards 1. What time is it where the polar bear sweats? 2. How many countries are there in Eu- 					

 ¹ Examples or templates for many utensils can be found in the appendix.
 ² The locks should be easy to distinguish visually, which makes it much easier for the game leader to assign them.

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rope that use the euro as their currency but are not members of the EU?3. Which river is the longest in Europe? Hint: You have to double the word value!
Magnet on a ribbon
Pipe that is open at one end and closed at the other end
Jacket or bag, something that can be hung on the coat rack
Coat rack
Book dummy, to be opened with a key
Folder with country information on the member states + reference card "Take the climate as a model".
Picture, with flags in combination with the word "Climate
Laptop, with 7-digit password + file with a Word document that says "The third digit for the safe is 3".
Coded letter + decoding instructions
Briefcase, 6-digit
Mousepad
Mailbox
EU quiz with 5 questions
3 boxes that can be locked with a padlock
Combination lock, 5 digits
"Fake mail" for a summer trip
Directional padlock ³
Padlock with key
Logic puzzle, black
Cash box
Puzzle (Geography of Europe)
UV pen with UV lamp

³ We used the *Master Lock One Directional Locking Combination Padlock*. You should be able to find it under this name in internet market places.

Combination lock, 4 digits	
Question cards 1. Which founding country of the EU has the fewest MEPs in the European Parliament today and how many are there?	
Clue card "The answer is the 4th digit for the safe".	
Optional ite	ems/utensils ⁴
Water carafe + glasses	Area A
Bowl with fruit or sweets	
Table flags	Area B & C
Desk pads	
Magazine file	
Card index boxes	
Picture frame with pictures/ posters	
Desk calendar	
Tea boxes/coffee cans or similar.	
Scratch paper	

It is advisable to laminate all puzzles, pictures, graphics and the like to increase durability. Experience has shown that participants can get quite rowdy in the flow of the game and under time pressure, and laminating guarantees that the utensils do not have to be reprinted after each round.

⁴ Note: Use as few utensils as possible that could give the impression of being a clue, such as files with lots of numbers.

The riddles

The types of puzzles are very diverse. Some are about dexterity, logical thinking and the ability to combine well. Others are about geographical knowledge of the EU or even political.

There is the possibility to additionally equip each box, case or similar with a pro and a con argument on the EU. In practice, however, it has turned out that the groups are not very receptive to this during the Escape Room or attribute more importance to it for the course of the game than actually intended. The exact procedure and the puzzles can be found in the following table.



No.	Action	Hideout	This results in	For this you need	Leads to	Note
B1	Find magnets and use them to open the wooden box	Magnets on the flipchart, Wooden box on one of the shelves	In the box is the word spiral from which the numbers 74673 result	Magnets + wooden box + flipchart + word spiral	B2	Place magnets obviously and possibly make marks on the box for the magnets.
B2	Use the numbers 74673 from B1 to open the box with the 5-digit combination lock	Any	In the box is one of the keys for the desk and the quiz from B3	Box, locked with a 5-digit combination lock + desk key + quiz	B3	Put the quiz in a golden envelope
В3	Solve the EU quiz with the help of the magazine "Europe 2022" (the pages needed for the ans- wer are marked in the booklet)	Box from B2	If the quiz is solved correctly, this results in the code 753196	EU Quiz + "Europe 2022" booklet	B4	
B4	Open briefcase with numbers 753196 from B3	any	In the briefcase there is a question "What time is it where the polar bear sweats". Answer: Five to twelve→ 1155	Briefcase with question + picture with a time on it	В5	

B5	Use the numbers 1155 from B4 to open the box with the 4-digit combination lock	any	The box contains three questions about Great Britain. The answer is given by the cards in the room and the booklet Europe 2022. If the questions are solved correctly, the code 307 is given by the last num- ber of the respective answer (e.g. for the first number 1973).	Box, closed with a 4-digit combination lock + ques- tions + graphic with info on GB + Europe 2022 booklet	B6	More graphics can be placed on the flipchart/ in the room to increase the level of diffi- culty
B6	Open the cash box with the numbers 307 from B5	any	In the cassette is a note with the 1st number for the safe	Cash box + note	1. number of the safe→ 2	
В7	"Travelling" the itinerary to a delegate trip with a directional lock	Invitation to the delegates' trip on the desk, Directional lock in a folder with a hole	The itinerary is: Barcelona→ Pa- ris→ Prague→ Rome→ Sofia→ Helsinki (directions for the lock = up, right, down, right, up)	A large map of Europe + directional lock + fake invitation to a delegate trip	B8	
B8	In the folder there is a puzzle about the European Commissi- on	any	The numbers 298	Puzzle cards + task + folder with hole	В9	Place the puzzle in the folder in such a way that it is not possible to access it without opening the folder!
В9	Open the dummy book with the numbers 298 from B8	any	In the dummy there are three ques- tions about the EU, as well as a list on which each EU state is assigned a number. Each answer results in a number. The sum of the answers forms the solution in the form of the code 146	Book dummy + questi- ons + map with informa- tion + list of EU countries	B10	
B10	Use the numbers 146 from B9 to open the box with the 3-digit combination lock.	any	In the box is a question "How many countries are there in Europe that use the euro as their currency but are not EU members? Hint: the number is the 2nd digit for the safe".	Box, locked with a 3-digit combination lock + ques- tion and clue card + river map	2. number of the safe 4→	

C1	Find a magnet on a string in a jacket or similar on the coat rack and use it to fish a key out of a PVC pipe.	Magnet on coat rack, PVC pipe glued or tied to something so that it cannot be detached	The key for the dummy book	Coat rack + jacket/bag + magnet on cord + PVC pipe	C2	Do not attach the tube, otherwise the magnet will be stuck to it and will not reach the key.
C2	Open the dummy book with the key from C1	any	In the dummy are the rules for de- coding the conversation note	Book dummy + decoding instructions	C3	
C3	Filter out all the numbers from the conversation note and deco- de them using the decoding instructions.	Note on the desk or in a filing cabinet, just not too hidden	The interview note on the EU institu- tions contains six figures → 773043 Decoded, this gives the code for the briefcase in C4: 332102	Conversation note	C4	Scratch paper and pens should be available to write down the decoded number
C4	Using the numbers 332102 from C3, open the briefcase contai- ning a laptop computer	any	A laptop whose password you have to find out	Laptop with correspon- ding guest profile + briefcase	This step leads nowhere for the time being, but requires the soluti- on from C5	
C5	Find the folder with the informa- tion on the EU states, follow the hint and make the connection to the climate picture.	Folder on the shelf, Picture on the wall	If you match the flag letters to the correct country and then write down the letters on the back, you get ZHOEYGM. You can then use this to unlock the laptop	Folder with EU states information + climate picture	C6	
C6	Enter the letters ZHOEYGM from C5 into the laptop and open the file on the desktop (user name: Sofia Novak).	any	A file in which the 3rd number stands for the safe	File on the laptop	3. number of the safe→ 0	
C7	Finding the key under the mouse pad	Key under the mouse pad	Key for the letterbox	Mouse pad + mailbox key	C8	
C8	Open the letterbox with the key from C7	any	An EU quiz	Letterbox + EU Quiz	C9	Secure the letterbox well, otherwise it is possible to get at the contents by shaking and turning it over.

C9	Solve quiz from C8		Numbers for a 5-digit combination lock→ 58354		C10	Adapt the difficulty of the quiz to the group
C10	Open box with numbers 58354 from C9	any	A calendar with dates that make up an itinerary	Box, encrypted with a 5- digit combination lock + calendar	C11	
C11	Relate itinerary from the calendar to a directional lock	any	The itinerary is: Brussels→ Stras- bourg→ Luxembourg→ Frankfurt am Main→ Berlin (directions for the lock =down, up, right, right)	Directional lock + Europe map	C12	
C12	Open the box with the directions from C11	any	In the box is the second desk key	Box, locked with a direc- tional lock + desk key	C13	
C13	Find and combine the cards for a puzzle about the European Parliament	On the desk (?)	Correctly combined, this gives the numbers 967	Puzzle cards + task	C14	
C14	Use the numbers 967 from C13 to open a box with a 3-digit combination lock	any	In the box is a puzzle	Box, locked with a 3-digit combination lock + puzz- le	C15	
C15	Assemble the puzzle and light it up with the UV pencil	Pen in a pencil case or simi- lar.	If you shine the lamp of a UV pen on the finished puzzle, the numbers 7036 appear.	UV pen with lamp	C16	
C16	Open a box with 4-digit combi- nation lock using the numbers 7036 from C15	any	In the box is a question "Which of the founding countries of the EU has the fewest MEPs in the Euro- pean Parliament today and how many are they?" Answer→ Luxembourg→ 6	Box, locked with a 4-digit combination lock + ques- tion card	4. number of the safe→ 6	

The role of the game leader

Up to two people can be used to accompany and guide the Escape Room. To ensure that the game remains authentic, these two people take on roles that correspond to the scenario. In this case, one person is the trainee. This role is required in any case, while the second role of the secretary is optional. In any case, both persons should dress according to their role and also adopt the corresponding posture. This requires a bit of acting talent and skill.

1st person: Trainee

This person is completely distraught and confused because it is his/her problem that needs to be solved. In the best case, the players meet this person before they arrive at the meeting



point. The text could then read as follows: "So many clever people, are you clever? I'm in deep trouble! This is my personal Escape Room, so to speak, do you know anything like that? I can't believe some people pay for it and I have it even though I don't want it. Do you have a minute? I'm in desperate need of help. I forgot the code for the safe and where

the keys for the desk are. My boss is going to kick me out for this. I fought so hard for this internship, this can't happen! But I still have an hour, please come and help me!"

Once in the room, the scenario is then described in more detail:

"I urgently need the documents from the safe, which is locked in the desk, for my boss. My boss is a huge puzzle fan, I bet we can find out the numbers and keys somehow. Maybe we should split up into two groups, that should be the quickest way. I don't think my circulation can cope with all this, I need to sit down for a moment, but please start already!" The person then sits down, exhausted, and can then give clues again and again in the course of the game. For example, by finding clues, helping with puzzles, etc.

2nd person: Secretary

This person is less central than the previous one and can therefore be left out. There are also many ways to include this person, they can already be in the room, person 1 could call them to come etc. If one person is overwhelmed with both groups, it is advisable to add this person to the group and thus have "caregivers" and whistleblowers for both groups.



4. The follow-up with the group

The follow-up should serve to reflect on the game. More precisely, the reasons for and against the EU should be explained. How exactly this is done depends entirely on the group and the game leader. One possibility would be to first collect reasons for and against the EU from the German point of view. What advantages does Germany have from the EU? In which areas do you benefit from the EU? What do you find annoying about the EU? What aspects of the EU could be improved, what do you think?

There is a lot to discuss in this regard and if possible the participants should be able to speak freely and without judgement. The result of this discussion could be collected as a mind map and based on it a vote could be taken on Germany leaving the EU. Occasionally, the motivations for the vote could be explained and thus also reflected upon.

At this point, however, no concrete procedure is to be prescribed, but only ideas and possibilities are to be pointed out.



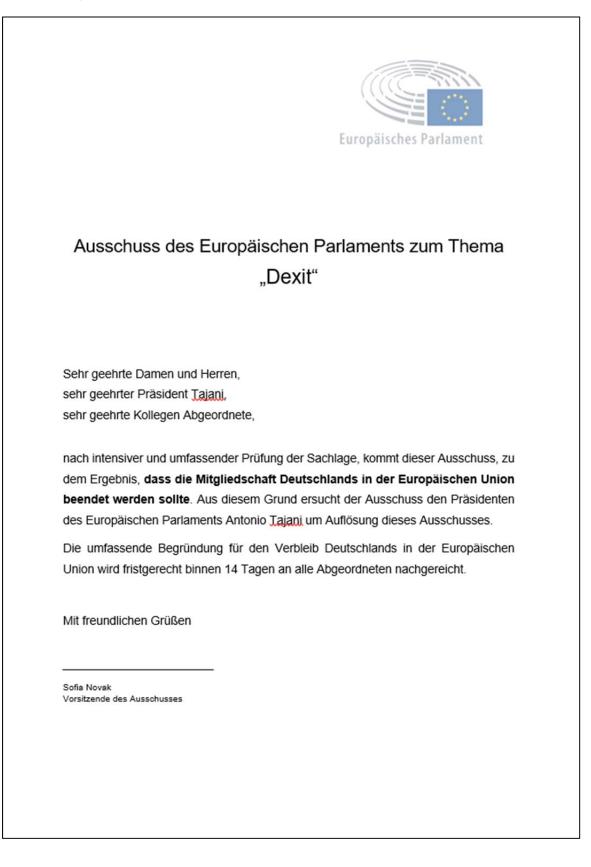
At the end it's time to tidy up and at the latest then good preparation, sorting and marking pays off.

5. Appendix: Utensils & Templates

Utensil 1: Example Contra "Dexit" Resolution



Utensil 2: Example Pro Dexit Resolution



Utensil 3: Magnet box + 4 magnets

You have to build this utensil yourself. For this purpose, 4 or fewer magnetic cabinet locks⁵ are installed in a wooden box. The magnets must then be placed on the box in such a way that the magnetic latches in the box open as a result.



⁵ We used the *Aiska Baby Safety Magnetic Cabinet Lock*, you should be able to find it under this name in internet market places.

D	R	E		
S		Ε	R	S
H	V	S	Ε	
С	S	Н	С	Ε
Ε	S	Ν	Ε	В

Utensil 5: Picture with a time on it



Mitgliedstaat Bevölkerung Prozentual Fläche Prozentual Bevölkerung								
mitgileustaat	Devolkerung	zur EU	km ^x	zur EU	dichte Ew./km*			
Europäische Union 🕈	507.416.607 \$	100 ¢	4.324.782 🗢	100 ¢	116,0 4			
Belgien	11.203.992	2,21	30.510	0,7	352,0			
Bulgarien	7.245.677	1,43	110.912	2,5	68,5			
Dänemark	5.627.235	1,11	43.094	1,0	128,			
Deutschland	80.780.000	15,92	357.021	8,1	229,			
Estland	1.315.819	0,26	45.226	1,0	29,			
- Finnland	5.451.270	1,07	337.030	7,6	15,			
Frankreich ^[92]	65.856.609	12,98	643.548	14,6	99,0			
Griechenland	10.992.589	2,17	131.957	3,0	85,			
Irland	4.604.029	0,91	70.280	1,6	64,			
Italien	60.782.668	11,98	301.320	6,8	200,4			
Kroatien	4.246.700	0,84	56.594	1,3	75,			
Lettland	2.001.468	0,39	64.589	1,5	35,			
Litauen	2.943.472	0,58	65.200	1,5	51,			
Luxemburg	549.680	0,11	2.586	0,1	190,			
Malta	425.384	0,08	316	0,0	1.305,			
Niederlande	16.829.289	3,32	41.526	0,9	396,			
Österreich	8.507.786	1,68	83.858	1,9	99,			
Polen	38.495.659	7,59	312.685	7,1	121,			
Portugal	10.427.301	2,05	92.931	2,1	114,4			
Rumänien	19.942.642	3,93	238.391	5,4	90,3			
Schweden	9.644.864	1,90	449.964	10,2	20,			
Slowakei	5.415.949	1,07	48.845	1,1	110,			
Slowenien	2.061.085	0,41	20.253	0,5	101,4			
Spanien	46.507.760	9,17	504.782	11,4	93,4			
Tschechien	10.512.419	2,07	78.866	1,8	132,			
Ungarn	9.879.000	1,95	93.030	2,1	107,			
Vereinigtes Königreich	64.308.261	12,67	244.820	5,5	251,			

Utensil 6: Table with various information on the EU countries

For the English version see the downloadable materials on the HYS website.

Source: https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Europ%C3%A4ische_Union

Utensil 7: "Fake letter" about a delegate trip

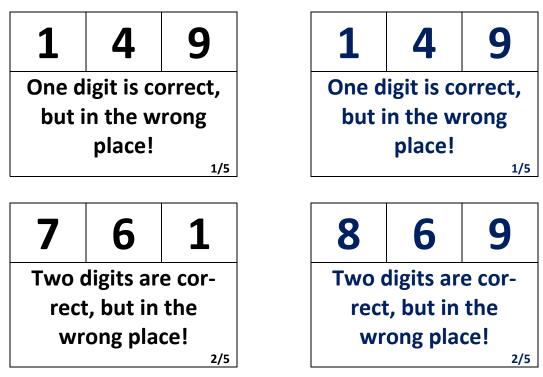


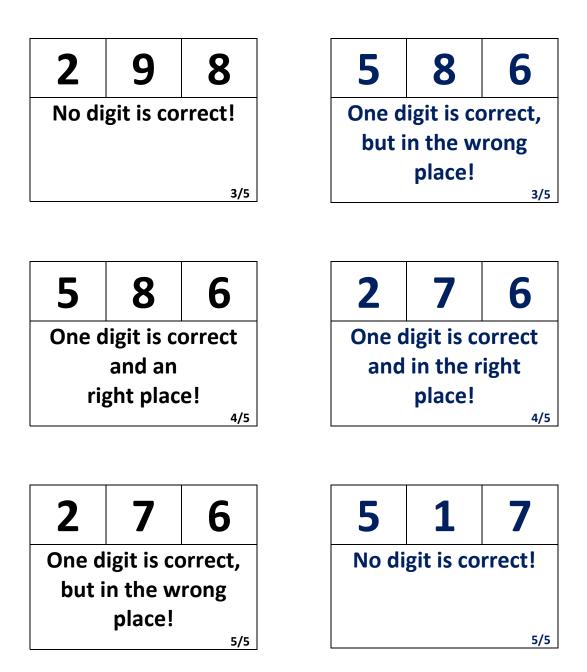
Utensil 8: Folder with a hole for a padlock

A commercially available folder can be used for this purpose and a hole drilled in it.



Utensil 9: Logic puzzle, 3 digits







Utensil 10: Map of Europe showing the Volga as the longest river

What time is it where the polar bear sweats?

How many countries are there in Europe that use the euro as their currency but are not members of the EU?

Which river is Europe's longest?

Tip: You have to double the word value!

Supplement 12: Country information of the Member States + reference map

Next sequence of pages: Statistic sheets for countries in the EU

Please print double-sided, with statistics on Page 1 and the following la

Print on both sides!

Belgium

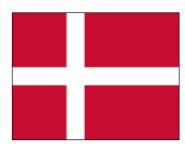
Official language	Dutch, French, German
Capital	Brussels
Form of government	Federal hereditary monarchy
System of government	Parliamentary democracy
Head of state	King of the Belgians Philippe
Head of government	Prime Minister Charles Michel
Area	30,528 km²
Population	11,376,070 (as of January 2018)
Population density	373 inhabitants per km ²
Population development	+0.48 % per year
Gross domestic product (no- minal)	494.7 billion USD
Currency	Euro
Independence	4 October 1830 (Proclamation)
	19 April 1839 (international recognition)
National Day	21 July
Number plate	В
Telephone area code	+32

R

Bulgaria

Official language	Bulgarian
Capital	Sofia
Form of government	Parliamentary Republic
System of government	Parliamentary democracy
Head of state	President Rumen Radev
Head of government	Prime Minister Boyko Borisov
Area	110,994 km ²
Population	7,050,034 (as of December 2017)
Population density	64 inhabitants per km ²
Population development	-0.6 % per year
Gross domestic product (no- minal)	USD 52.41 billion
Currency	Lew
Independence	3 March 1878 (Declaration)
	22 September 1908 (recognised by the Ottoman Empire)
National Day	3 March
Number plate	BG
Telephone area code	+359





Denmark

Official language	Danish
Capital	Copenhagen
Form of government	Parliamentary hereditary monarchy
System of government	Parliamentary democracy
Head of state	Queen Margrethe II.
Head of government	Prime Minister Lars Loke Rasmussen
Area	42,921 km ²
Population	5,748 (as of January 2018)
Population density	130 inhabitants per km ²
Population development	+0.47 % per year
Gross domestic product (no- minal)	\$324.5 billion
Currency	Danish kroner
Foundation	980 AD
National Day	5 June
Number plate	DK
Telephone area code	+45

Ρ

<u>Germany</u>

Official language	German
Capital	Berlin
Form of government	Federal Parliamentary Republic
System of government	Parliamentary democracy
Head of state	Federal President Frank-Walter Steinmeier
Head of government	German Chancellor Angela Merkel
Area	357,385.71 km ²
Population	82,792,351 (as of December 2017)
Population density	232 Inhabitants per km ²
Population development	+0.4 % per year
Gross domestic product (no- minal)	3.685 trillion USD
Currency	Euro
Foundation	23 May 1949: Federal Republic of Germany
National Day	3 October
Number plate	D
Telephone area code	+49

<u>Estonia</u>

Official language	Estonian
Capital	Tallinn
Form of government	Parliamentary Republic
System of government	Parliamentary democracy
Head of state	President Kersti Kaljulaid
Head of government	Prime Minister Yuri Ratas
Area	45,339 km ²
Population	1,319,133 (as of January 2018)
Population density	29 Inhabitants per km ²
Population development	-0,54 %
Gross domestic product (no- minal)	USD 25.97 billion
Currency	Euro
Independence	24 February 1918 (Declaration)
	20 August 1991 (recovery)
National Day	24 February
Number plate	EST
Telephone area code	+372

Т



Finland

Official language	Finnish and Swedish
Capital	Helsinki
Form of government	Parliamentary Republic
System of government	Parliamentary democracy
Head of state	President Sauli Niinstö
Head of government	Prime Minister Juha Sipilä
Area	338,448 km ²
Population	5,503,000 (as of December 2016)
Population density	16.26 Inhabitants per km ²
Population development	+0.36 % per year
Gross domestic product (no- minal)	USD 253.2 billion
Currency	Euro
Independence	6 December 1917
National Day	6 December
Number plate	FIN
Telephone area code	+358

G

France

Official language	French
Capital	Paris
Form of government	Republic
System of government	Semi-presidential democracy
Head of state	President Emmanuel Macron
Head of government	Prime Minister Édourard Philippe
Area	643,801 km ²
Population	66,991,000 (as of January 2017)
Population density	103 Inhabitants per km ²
Population development	+0.43 % per year
Gross domestic product (no- minal)	USD 2,584 billion
Currency	Euro
National Day	14 July
Number plate	F
Telephone area code	+33

W



Official language	Greek
Capital	Athens
Form of government	Parliamentary Republic
System of government	Parliamentary democracy
Head of state	President Prokopis Pavlopoulos
Head of government	Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras
Area	131,957 km ²
Population	11,160,000 (as of 2017)
Population density	84.6 Inhabitants per km ²
Population development	-0.03 % per year
Gross domestic product (no- minal)	USD 200.7 billion
Currency	Euro
Independence	3 February 1830 (Official)
National Day	25 March
	28 October
Number plate	GR
Telephone area code	+30

D

Ireland

Official language	lrish, English
Capital	Dublin
Form of government	Parliamentary Republic
System of government	Parliamentary democracy
Head of state	President Michael D. Higgins
Head of government	Prime Minister Leo Varadkar
Area	70,273 km ²
Population	4,761,865 (as of 2016)
Population density	68 Inhabitants per km ²
Population development	+0,51 %
Gross domestic product (no- minal)	334.0 billion USD
Currency	Euro
Independence	6 December 1921
National Day	17 March
Number plate	IRL
Telephone area code	+353

Η

<u>Italy</u>

Official language	Italian
Capital	Rome
Form of government	Parliamentary Republic
System of government	Parliamentary democracy
Head of state	President Sergio Mattarella
Head of government	Prime Minister Guiseppe Conte
Area	301,338 km ²
Population	60,483,973 (as of December 2017)
Population density	201 Inhabitants per km ²
Population development	-0.13 per year
Gross domestic product (no- minal)	USD 2,060.0 billion
Currency	Euro
Foundation	1861
National Day	25 april
	2 June
Number plate	I
Telephone area code	+39





Official language	Croatian
Capital	Zagreb
Form of government	Parliamentary Republic
System of government	Parliamentary democracy
Head of state	President Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic
Head of government	Prime Minister Andrej Plenkovic
Area	56,594 km ²
Population	4,190,669 (as of 2016)
Population density	74 Inhabitants per km ²
Population development	-0.144% per year
Gross domestic product (no- minal)	64.52 billion €
Currency	Kuna
Independence	8 October 1991
National Day	25 June
Number plate	HR
Telephone area code	+385

S

<u>Latvia</u>

Official language	Latvian
Capital	Riga
Form of government	Parliamentary Republic
System of government	Parliamentary democracy
Head of state	President Raimonds Vejonis
Head of government	Prime Minister Maris Kucinskis
Area	64,589 km ²
Population	1,950,116 (as of July 2017)
Population density	30 Inhabitants per km ²
Population development	-1.07 % per year
Gross domestic product (no- minal)	USD 27.68 billion
Currency	Euro
Independence	18 November 1918
	21 August 1991 (recovery)
National Day	18 November 1918
Number plate	LV
Telephone area code	+371

J

<u>Lithuania</u>

Official language	Lithuanian
Capital	Vilnius
Form of government	Parliamentary Republic
System of government	Semi-presidential democracy
Head of state	President Dalia Grybauskaitė
Head of government	Prime Minister Saulius Skvernelis
Area	65,300 km²
Population	2,849,000 (as of January 2017)
Population density	44 Inhabitants per km ²
Population development	-1.06 % per year
Gross domestic product (no- minal)	USD 47.3 billion
Currency	Euro
Independence	16 February 1918
	11 March 1990 (recovery)
Number plate	LT
Telephone area code	+370

Luxembourg

Official language	Luxembourgish, French, German
Capital	Luxembourg
Form of government	Mobarchy
System of government	Parliamentary democracy
Head of state	SCH Grand Duke Henri
Head of government	State and Prime Minister Xavier Bettel
Area	2,586.4 km ²
Population	602,005 (as of January 2018)
Population density	228 Inhabitants per km ²
Population development	+2.32 % per year
Gross domestic product (no- minal)	USD 62.39 billion
Currency	Euro
Independence	9 April 1839 (de facto) 1815 (de jure) 11 May 1867 (Internationally recognised)
National Day	23 June
Number plate	L
Telephone area code	+352





<u>Malta</u>

Official language	Maltese & English
Capital	Valletta
Form of government	Parliamentary Republic
System of government	Parliamentary democracy
Head of state	President of the Republic Marie Louise Coleiro Preca
Head of government	Prime Minister Joseph Muscat
Area	316 km ²
Population	433,300 (as of 2015)
Population density	1371 inhabitants per km ²
Population development	+0,856 %
Gross domestic product (no- minal)	USD 12.54 billion
Currency	Euro
Independence	21 September 1964
Number plate	Μ
Telephone area code	+356

V

Netherlands

Official language	Dutch, West Frisian, Papiamentu, English
Capital	Amsterdam
Form of government	Constitutional monarchy
System of government	Parliamentary democracy
Head of state	King Willem-Alexander
Head of government	Prime Minister Mark Rutte
Area	41,548 km ²
Population	17,261,622 (as of September 2018)
Population density	413 inhabitants per km ²
Population development	+0.3 % per year
Gross domestic product (no- minal)	USD 825.7 billion
Currency	Euro
Independence	2 July 1581 1648 (recognised)
National Day	26 or 27 April
Number plate	NL
Telephone area code	+31

M

<u>Austria</u>

Official language	German
Capital	Vienna
Form of government	Federal Republic
System of government	Semi-presidential representative democracy
Head of state	Federal President Alexander Van der Bellen
Head of government	Federal Chancellor Sebastian Kurz
Area	83,878.99 km ²
Population	8,822,267 (as of January 2018)
Population density	105 inhabitants per km ²
Population development	+0.57 % per year
Gross domestic product (no- minal)	USD 416.8 billion
Currency	Euro
National Day	26 October
Number plate	A
Telephone area code	+43

B

Poland

Official language	Polish
Capital	Warsaw
Form of government	Parliamentary Republic
System of government	Parliamentary democracy
Head of state	President Andrzej Duda
Head of government	Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki
Area	312,679 km ²
Population	38,427,000 (as of 2016)
Population density	123 Inhabitants per km ²
Population development	+0.0384 % per year
Gross domestic product (no- minal)	USD 524.9 billion
Currency	Zloty
Independence	11 November 1918
Number plate	PL
Telephone area code	+48

Ε



Portugal

Official language	Portuguese
Chicial language	lonuguese
Capital	Lisbon
Form of government	Unitary Republic
System of government	Semi-presidential democracy
Head of state	President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa
Head of government	Prime Minister António Costa
Area	92,212 km ²
Population	10,309,573 (as of 2016)
Population density	112 Inhabitants per km ²
Population development	+0.843 % per year
Gross domestic product (no- minal)	USD 218.06 billion
Currency	Euro
Independence	1143
Number plate	Р
Telephone area code	+351

U

<u>Romania</u>

Official language	Romanian
Chicial language	Komaman
Capital	Bucharest
Form of government	Republic
System of government	Semi-presidential system
Head of state	President Klaus Johannis
Head of government	Prime Minister Viorica Dancila
Area	238,391 km ²
Population	19,870,000 (as of 2016)
Population density	84.4 Inhabitants per km ²
Population development	-0.32 % per year
Gross domestic product (no- minal)	USD 211.3 billion
Currency	Leu
Independence	9 May 1877
National Day	1 December
Number plate	RO
Telephone area code	+40

С



<u>Sweden</u>

Official language	Swedish
Capital	Stockholm
Form of government	Parliamentary hereditary monarchy
System of government	Parliamentary democracy
Head of state	King Carl XVI Gustaf
Head of government	Prime Minister Stefan Löfven
Area	447,435 km ²
Population	10,120,242 (as of December 2017)
Population density	23 Inhabitants per km ²
Population development	+0.81 % per year
Gross domestic product (no- minal)	538.6 bn USD
Currency	Swedish krona
National Day	6 June
Number plate	S
Telephone area code	+46

F



<u>Slovakia</u>

Official language	Slovak
Capital	Bratislava
Form of government	Parliamentary Republic
System of government	Parliamentary democracy
Head of state	President Andrei Kiska
Head of government	Prime Minister Peter Pellegrini
Area	49,034 km ²
Population	5,443,120 (as of December 2017)
Population density	110 inhabitants per km ²
Population development	+0.01 % per year
Gross domestic product (no- minal)	95.93 billion USD
Currency	Euro
Foundation	1 January 1993
Number plate	SK
Telephone area code	+421

L



<u>Slovenia</u>

Official language	Slovenian
Capital	Ljubljana
Form of government	Parliamentary Republic
System of government	Parliamentary democracy
Head of state	President Borut Pahor
Head of government	Prime Minister Marjan Šarec
Area	20,273 km ²
Population	2,064,241 (as of July 2016)
Population density	102 Inhabitants per km ²
Population development	-0.29 % per year
Gross domestic product (no- minal)	USD 48.08 billion
Currency	Euro
Independence	25 June 1991
Number plate	SLO
Telephone area code	+386

Ν



<u>Spain</u>

Official language	Spanish
Capital	Madrid
Form of government	Parliamentary hereditary monarchy
System of government	Parliamentary democracy
Head of state	King Felipe VI.
Head of government	President of the Government Pedro Sánchez
Area	505,970 km ²
Population	46,549,045 (as of June 2017)
Population density	92 Inhabitants per km ²
Population development	-0.02 % per year
Gross domestic product (no- minal)	USD 1,314 billion
Currency	Euro
Number plate	E
Telephone area code	+34





Czech Republic

Official language	Czech
Capital	Prague
Form of government	Parliamentary Republic
System of government	Parliamentary democracy
Head of state	President Miloš Zeman
Head of government	Prime Minister Andrej Babiš
Area	78,866 km ²
Population	10,578,820 (as of June 2016)
Population density	134 inhabitants per km ²
Population development	+0.25 % per year
Gross domestic product (no- minal)	213.19 billion USD
Currency	Czech Crown
Foundation	1 January 1993
Number plate	CZ
Telephone area code	+420

W

Hungary

Official language	Hungarian
Capital	Budapest
Form of government	Parliamentary Republic
System of government	Parliamentary system
Head of state	President János Áder
Head of government	Prime Minister Viktor Orbán
Area	93,036 km ²
Population	9,830,485 (as of 2016)
Population density	106 Inhabitants per km ²
Gross domestic product (no- minal)	USD 152.28 billion
Currency	Forint
Independence	31 October 1918
Number plate	Н
Telephone area code	+36





Official language	English (de facto)
Capital	London
Form of government	Parliamentary monarchy
System of government	Parliamentary democracy
Head of state	Queen Elizabeth II.
Head of government	Prime Minister Theresa May
Area	248,528 km ²
Population	66,020,000 (as of 2017)
Population density	268 inhabitants per km2
Population development	+0.8 % per year
Gross domestic product (no- minal)	2.625 billion USD
Currency	Pound sterling
Number plate	GB
Telephone area code	+44

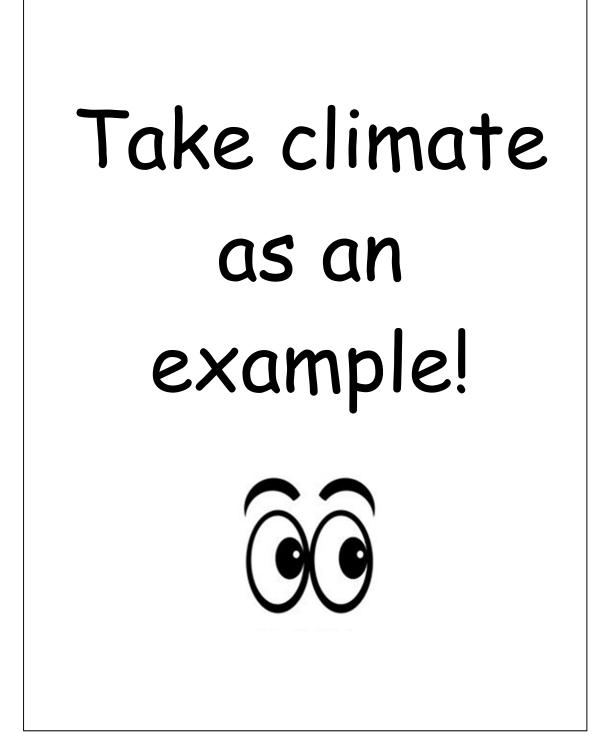
Ζ



Cyprus

Official language	Greek & Turkish
Capital	Nicosia
Form of government	Republic
System of government	Presidential system
Head of state and head of government at the same time	President Nikos Anastasiadis
Area	5,896 km ^{2 (} de facto)
	9,251 km2 (de jure)
Population	1,179,551 (as of 2017)
Population density	150 inhabitants per km ²
Gross domestic product (no- minal)	USD 21.31 billion
Currency	Euro
Independence	16 August 1960
Number plate	CY
Telephone area code	+357

Y





Utensil 13: Picture, with flags in combination with the word "CLIMATE".

Utensil 14: Coded letter + decoding instructions

Original (with code numbers highlighted)

phly nine weeks. If possible, we sorted treats; about <mark>fou</mark> r trays
itaffto assist service, enough of coffee. nd therefore require an n as possible.

Coded



Decoding instructions

Alphabet	Code
A	Y
B	Р
С	L
D	Т
E	A
F	V
G	К
Н	R
1	E
J	Z
K	G
L	М
М	S
N	Н
0	U
P	В
Q	X
R	N
S	С
Т	D
U	1
V	J
W	F
х	Q
Y	0
Z	W

Utensil 15: EU quiz with 5 questions (in 5 knowledge levels, solution is always 5 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 4)

Very easy (from approx. 12 years)

What is the name of the capital of Portugal?

- 5) Lisbon
- 4) Postage
- 2) Madrid
- 2. What does the flag of Europe look like?
 - 8) blue with 12 yellow stars
 - 6) blue with 10 yellow stars
 - 9) blue with 11 yellow squares
- 3. On which animal is Europa abducted according to the legend?
 - 4) on a horse
 - 6) on a donkey
 - 3) on a bull
- 4. What is the "head" of the European Parliament called?
 - 9) Boss
 - 5) President
 - 4) Leader
- 5. What colour is the 100 euro note?
 - 4) green
 - 8) blue
 - 1) purple

2. Easy (from approx. 15 years)

What is the name of the most famous museum in Paris?

- 7) Paris Museum
- 5) Louvre
- 2) Musée de Paris
- 2. Which European capitals are furthest apart?
 - 8) Stockholm and Rome
 - 1) Prague and Ljubljana
 - 9) Madrid and Berlin
- 3. Which five countries are all among the ten EU countries that joined in 2004?
 - 8) Poland, Hungary, Luxembourg, Malta, Cyprus
 - 9) France, Slovakia, Hungary, Slovenia, Lithuania
 - 3) Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Czech Republic, Malta
- 4. What is the total number of seats set for the European Parliament?
 - 2) 626
 - 7) 27
 - 5) 732
- 5. Which countries joined the EU on 01.01.2007?
 - 4) Romania & Bulgaria
 - 3) Latvia & Estonia
 - 1) Croatia and Bulgaria

3. Medium (from approx. 18 years)

1. In which European capital city do most foreigners live?

- 5) Luxembourg
- 2) Berlin
- 9) London
- 2. To which EU state do the Azores belong?
 - 3) Spain
 - 8) Portugal
 - 2) Croatia

3. Since when has the euro been in circulation as cash?

- 3) 2002
- 7) 2001
- 4) 2003
- 4. Which of the following is not an EU institution?
 - 8) Parliament
 - 5) Council of Europe
 - 3) Council of Ministers
- 5. What is the name of the EU funding programme that supports students' stays abroad?
 - 3) Leopold
 - 2) Go Europe!
 - 4) Erasmus

4. Difficult (adults with basic knowledge)

1 The Norwegian capital has only had its name Oslo since independence. What was the name of the city before?

- 4) Kristjana
- 5) Kristiania
- 7) Kristiana

2. Which of the three rivers is the longest in Europe?

- 1) Danube
- 7) Rhine
- 8) Volga

3) How old was "Europe" (the European Community) in 2007?

- 2) 49
- 6) 48
- 3) 50

4. Which body has the right of legislative initiative?

- 2) the Parliament
- 5) the Commission
- 1) the Council

5. What percentage of the total EU budget is spent on administration?

- 4) 6%
- 8) 15%
- 3) 21%

5. Very difficult (adults with in-depth knowledge)

- 1. On what occasion was the Atomium built in Brussels at the end of the 1950s?
 - 8) King Baudouin taking office in 1951
 - 1) World Exhibition 1957
 - 5) World Exhibition 1958

2. In which country in Europe are Russian, Bulgarian and Gagauz spoken in addition to the official language?

- 8) Moldova
- 5) Romania
- 1) Serbia

3. Since when has Turkey been a member of the Council of Europe?

- 3) 1949
- 8) 1970
- 3) 1951
- 4. Who "guards the treaties"?
 - 2) the Parliament
 - 5) the Commission
 - 1) the Council

5. There is an exception in Greece! There, one euro has not 100 cents, but 100...

- 3) ...Leta
- 4) ...Lepta
- 8) ...Lepa

Utensil 16: "Fake mail" for a summer trip

From:	novsk@supermail.com
Sent on:	Tuesday, 11 December 2018 11:20
To:	hanna.mustermann@greatmail.com
Subject:	Summer Holiday
My dear Hanna,	
of the summer getaway we've waking up to all those delight	norter and the nights longer, I can't help but fondly think talked about for next year. I just love the thought of ful summer scenes with you, so I've taken the liberty of ust as we've envisioned it. Plenty of different cities, lots
meetings to Zagreb. We can s straight to Venice; the though brightens my day! After a pea road, hire a car and drive to F road is just breathtaking! And travel to Marseilles and visit (I like to start from Munich and travel straight after my spend some time seeing Croatia, and then take a ferry at of travelling on those slow rolling waves with you ceful few nights on Venetian canals, let's take to the lorence. Friends of mine have told me the journey by speaking of friends, while we're nearby, we could Christin for a little while! Following that, though, my e calling so we'll have to fly directly back in time for my er break.
Altogether, the journey would	l look like this:
Munich → Zagreb → Venice -	→ Florence → Marseille → Brussels
What do you think?! I'd love it	tif we could make it work
With love, Sofia	

Which of the founding countries has the fewest MEPs in the European Parliament today and how many are they?

ESCAPE ROOM SHOULD I STAY OR SHOULD I GO

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

