### **European Economic Community**



# Motives

- Limit the effects of excess nationalism
- Establish a Free Trade Bloc
- Establish a common front against communism

# Steps toward EEC

- 1949 The Council of Europe:
- Promoted unity amongst nations with a common heritage
- Mostly human rights issues
- Britain not a member

### Motives • <u>Schuman Plan 1950</u>

- To manage steel and coal production in France and Germany "common market"
- Led to European Steel and Coal Community (ECSC) 1952 European Coal and Steel Community

(the beginning of EU)



### **Motives**

#### **European Defence Community**

To unite the defences of all ECSC countries

#### **Euratom (1957)**

- To reduce dependence on Arab oil by developing atomic power alternatives
- Generally considred a failure

# Why Britain didn't join...

- 1)...The ECSC...did not trust Europe
- ...thought membership would interfere with role in wider world (Empire and Commonwealth)
- Might effect relationship with USA

2)...Euratom...reluctant to share nuclear technology

# European Economic Community 1958

- The EEC comes into existence by the Treaty of Rome in 1958
- Goal was to establish much closer relations and "abolish obstacles of freedom of movement of persons, services and capital" between the six states
- "Inner Six" France, West Germany, Italy, Belgium, Netherlands, and Luxembourg

# Wuzzup with Britain....again?

- Britain formed the European Free Trade Association with the "Outer Seven" at the Stockholm Convention
- Britain tried to join the EEC shortly after its formation, but...
- 1961 De Gaulle (France) blocks entry because of Britain's special relationship with the USA
- 1967 Britain accepted American Polaris Missiles

### EEC expands

- 1973 The Inner Six became Nine as Britain, Ireland, and Denmark join.
- After Britain joins more emphasis is put on third world development.