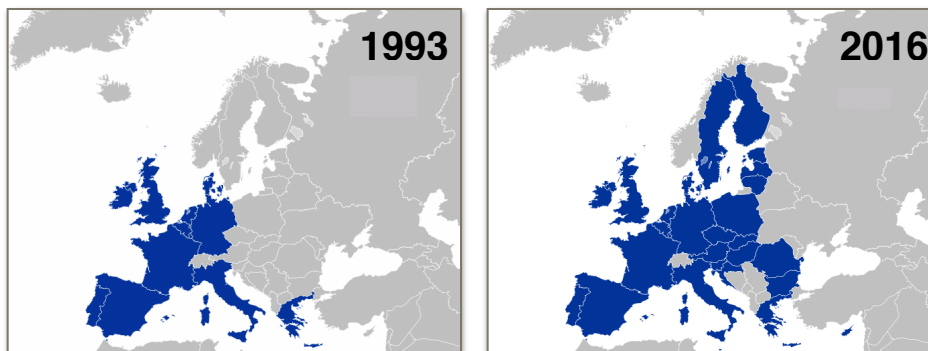


## II. Supranationalism

### A. The European Union (From 1993 to Today)

1. In 1993 a group of 12 nations in Europe, including France, Germany, Italy, Spain, and the United Kingdom, formed into the “European Union” (EU).
2. Since 1993 its membership has expanded from twelve members to 28 today.
3. In 2016, however, the people of Great Britain voted to leave the European Union.
4. In 2017, French voters may vote to do the same thing.
5. What is at stake? What is the European Union exactly? And why are Europeans obviously split on whether or not continue being united by it?



The European Union has expanded from 12 to 28 members since 1993.

### B. Froms Nations to Supranationalism

1. The core concept of “supranationalism” is “nation.” A nation is a country where the people were almost all born there, speak the same language, eat the same food & drink, enjoy the same arts & crafts, and have the same traditions, history and beliefs.
2. From the concept “nation,” one builds the concept “nationalism” which means a *set of ideas* about life in a nation.
3. Europeans have now added “*supra-*” to the concept “nationalism.”
4. “Supra” is similar to “super,” but different. *Supernationalism* would be an enhanced or extra powerful form of nationalism. *Supranationalism*, on the other hand, means nearly the opposite. It involves the cancelation of nationalism by placing something *over and above it*. Why would anyone invent such an idea?



The goal of the European Union is to replace the national flags with a single European flag. The goal is to create a “*United States of Europe*” like the United States of America. Only Europe’s parts are not states; they are *nations*.