

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of blue, ranging from light sky blue to deep navy blue. These shapes are primarily located on the left and right sides of the slide, framing the central text area.

The Political Institutions of the EU and its Policy-Making Process - Neogtiating the Treaties

Overview

- ▶ How the Treaties are negotiated
- ▶ Intergovernmental Conferences - Actors and their roles
- ▶ The theoretical approaches to Intergovernmental Conferences
- ▶ The Intergovernmental Conference - Mock-debate

How the Treaties are negotiated

- ▶ Treaties are negotiated at Intergovernmental Conferences (IGCs)
- ▶ The first draft of the changes is prepared at a Convention before the actual IGC
- ▶ The IGC consists of several meetings between the governments of member states
- ▶ The last step is the ratification in all member states

Intergovernmental Conferences - Actors and their roles

- ▶ Representatives of the Governments and/or Heads of Governments are not always both present at all times
- ▶ European Council meets in the end to solve any lasting issues
- ▶ European Commission leads the negotiations
- ▶ European Parliament can propose changes

Theoretical Approaches to Intergovernmental Conferences

▶ Intergovernmentalism

- ▶ All main decisions regarding the EU are made by national governments
- ▶ Supranational institutions do not advance European Integration

▶ Institutionalism

- ▶ All member states have a similar impact on the policy-making process (i.e. Ireland = Germany)

Theoretical Approaches to Intergovernmental Conferences

▶ Constructivism

- ▶ Other actors participate and thus shape the EU
- ▶ Supranational actors can frame the Treaty negotiations

▶ Neo-Functionalism

- ▶ IGCs do not fully account for European integration
- ▶ Transnational actors like the EP or the Commission shape the preferences of member states

The Intergovernmental Conference - Timetable

- ▶ 5mins for each group to read over their information and draft a statement
- ▶ Opening statements by the Commission and the European Parliament
- ▶ Opening statement by the governments
- ▶ Discussion
- ▶ Vote on the Treaty

Phase I

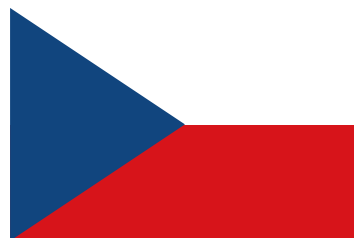
- ▶ Get together in your groups, read over the material and draft a statement on the issues discussed at today's IGC and the Lisbon Treaty.

Phase II - The Opening Statements

- ▶ Maximum 2min per state to outline their opinion
- ▶ List of Speakers:
 - ▶ 1. The European Commission
 - ▶ 2. The European Parliament
 - ▶ 3. Czech Republic
 - ▶ 4. France
 - ▶ 5. Germany
 - ▶ 6. Ireland
 - ▶ 7. Sweden

Phase III - Open Discussions

- ▶ Raise your hand if you want to make a statement. The Commission will then call on you to speak up.



Phase IV - The Final Vote

