International Organisations

The Bare Minimum for BCS

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Commonwealth of Nations

Commonwealth of Nations i

- Intro: political organisation, largely composed of former British colonies
- Establishment:
 - Balfour declaration: → "British Commonwealth of Nations" (1926)
 - Statute of Westminster (1931) made the dominions their own sovereign states
 - London declaration → "Commonwealth of Nations" (1949)
- Members: 56
 - Latest members: Togo, Gabon (2022)
 - The last 4 members are the only ones that have never been British colonies
 - Mozambique (1st non-colony member; 2009)
 - o Rwanda (2009)
 - o Togo (2022)

Commonwealth of Nations ii

- o Gabon (2022)
- **HQ:** Marlborough house, London.
- Head: Queen Elizabeth II.

NAM (Non-Aligned Movement)

NAM (Non-Aligned Movement) i

- Intro: Formed during the Cold War by countries supporting neither the Soviet nor the US.
- Establishment: 1961; Belgrade, Yugoslavia.
- Members: 120 members, 20 observers.
- HQ: None

OIC (Organisation of Islamic

Co-operation)

OIC (Organisation of Islamic Co-operation) i

- Intro: Made in the wake of the Arab-Israel war
- Establishment:
 - Sep 25, 1969, as Organisation of Islamic Conference
 - Changed to current name in 2011
- Members: 57
- HQ: Jeddah
- 1st sec. gen.: Tunku Abdul Rahman (Malaysia)
- Current sec. gen.: Hissein Brahim Taha (Chad)

EU (European Union)

EU (European Union) i

Intro:

- World's largest economic union
- Political and economic union, with an internal single market
- After the end of the Cold War and the unification of Germany, to "further advance European integration"

Establishment:

- Treaty of Rome: (1957)
 - Established European Economic Community (EEC)
 - Signed by 6 countries: Belgium, France, Netherlands, W. Germany,
 Italy, Luxembourg
 - o Signed: Mar 25, 1957
 - o Effective: Jan 1, 1958
 - After formation of EU, renamed to European Community (EC)

EU (European Union) ii

- Was one of the "3 pillars" of EU till 2009, when the 3-pillar system was abolished and the functions of the pillars were absorbed into EU
- Treaty of Maastricht: (1992; Maastricht, Netherlands)
 - Signed by 12 countries marking the beginning of EU
 - Signed: Feb 7, 1992.
 - Effective: Nov 1, 1993.
- Treaty of Lisbon: (2007)
 - Initially called "Reform Treaty"
 - Amendment of the Maastricht treaty
 - o Signed: Dec 13, 2007
 - o Effective: Dec 1, 2009

EU (European Union) iii

- Abolished the 3-pillar system and marked the emergence of the EU as a legal person
- o In 2012, the EU received the Nobel Peace Prize
- Members: 27
- **HQ:** Brussels, Belgium.
- Structure:
 - 7 institutions, 1st 4 are the main decision-making institutions
 - European Parliament
 - * Location: Strasbourg (France), Brussels, Luxembourg
 - * Members: 705 MEPs (members of European parliament)
 - European Council
 - * Location: Brussels
 - * Members: Heads of state of EU member countries

EU (European Union) iv

- * President: Charles Michel
- Council of the EU
- * Location: Brussels
- * Members: Ministers of EU member countries
- European Commission
- Court of Justice of the EU
 - * Location: Luxembourg
- European Central Bank
 - * Location: Frankfurt, Germany
- * Members: ECB President and Vice-President and governors of national central banks from all EU countries

■ Euro:

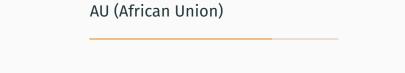
• "Members":

EU (European Union) v

- 19 member states, together called eurozone / euro area, have adopted the euro as their primary currency.
- o Croatia will become the 20th member on Jan 1, 2023
- Other EU members can join the eurozone when they fulfill the criteria for joining

• Launch:

- o Jan 1, 1999
- 11 member states had met the criteria back then, and hence those 11 were the firsts to adopt the euro
- Physical notes and coins were launched on Jan 1, 2002.



AU (African Union) i

Establishment:

- OAU (Organisation of African Unity) \rightarrow May 25, 1963
- Sirte declaration → Sep 9, 1999 (9/9/99); signed by heads of OAU states
- AU officially launched in Jul 9, 2002.
- Members: 55
 - Latest member: Morocco (2017)
 - All African nations are members
 - Morocco was a founding member of OAU, but quit in 1984 due to the
 acceptance of Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic as a member state,
 most of the territory of which is ruled by Morocco. Nonetheless, it is a
 partially recognised sovereign state, with 41 UN nations recognising it.
- HQ: Addis Ababa.

AU (African Union) ii

■ Chairperson: Macky Sall (President of Senegal)

Arab League

Arab League i

- Establishment:
 - Alexandria protocol (1945) → Arab league (Mar 22, 1945)
- Members:
 - Member states: 22
 - Observer states: 7
 - o Armenia
 - Brazil
 - Chad
 - o Eritrea
 - Greece
 - India
 - Venezuela
 - Latest member: Comoros (1993)

Arab League ii

- Suspended member: Syria (since 2011)
- Probably unrelated fact: Egypt and Syria formed the United Arab Republic in 1958 (capital: Cairo). In 1961, Syria quit the union, and Egypt continued to be officially known as the UAR until 1971.