



The Foreign Policy of the EU

Chapter 2

Historical Overview

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1. European integration: the product of a structural foreign policy (1945-52)
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1. European integration: a product of structural foreign policy (1945-51)

■ Aim

- Tackle economic and political instability
- Prevent the spread of the communist ideology

■ Marshall Plan (1947)

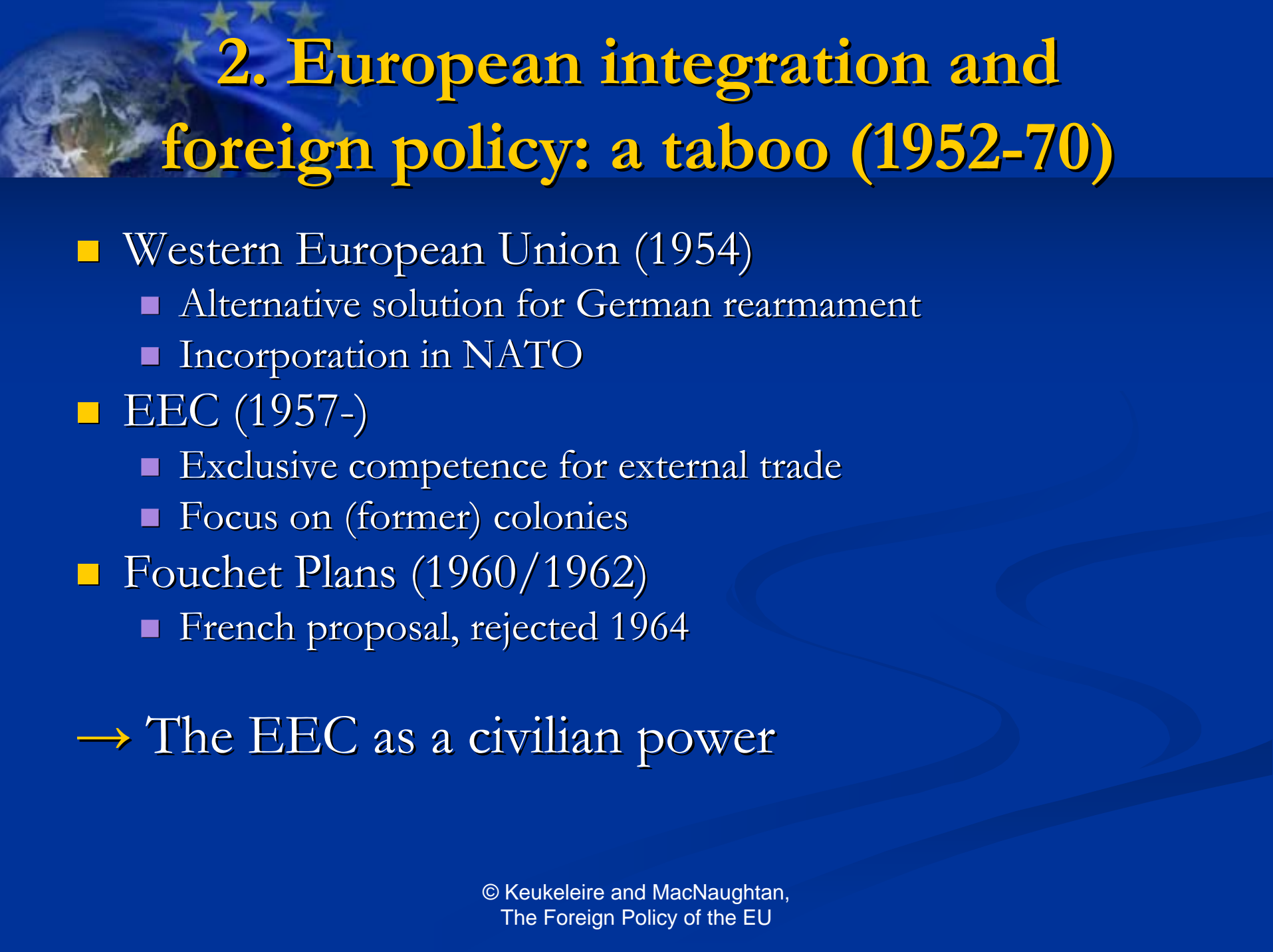
- Long-term American economic assistance programme
- Part of a comprehensive American structural foreign policy

■ Schuman Declaration (1950) and ECSC (1951)

- European integration as an instrument of foreign policy

2. European integration and foreign policy: a taboo (1949-70)

- NATO (1949/50)
 - East-West tension
 - American military security commitment towards Western Europe
 - European Defence Community (1950-54)
 - German rearmament
 - Pleven Plan (1950)
 - Failure of European Defence Community (EDC) (1952-1954)
- Security excluded from European integration process
- Predominance of the Atlantic Alliance



2. European integration and foreign policy: a taboo (1952-70)

- Western European Union (1954)
 - Alternative solution for German rearmament
 - Incorporation in NATO
- EEC (1957-)
 - Exclusive competence for external trade
 - Focus on (former) colonies
- Fouchet Plans (1960/1962)
 - French proposal, rejected 1964

→ The EEC as a civilian power



3. European Political Cooperation (1970-93)

- Luxembourg Report (1970)
 - Features
 - Intergovernmental
 - Separate from EEC framework
 - Information, consultation and cooperation
 - Objectives
 - Integration
 - Interrelational
 - Identity
- ‘Cooperation’ vs. ‘common’
- Ineffective

4. The Maastricht Treaty and CFSP (1992)

- Geostrategic context
 - Motivation for creation of CFSP
 - Strengthen European integration
 - Managing inter-institutional relations
 - Identity and public relations
 - Creating an effective and credible EU foreign policy
 - Results
 - Three-pillar approach
 - Intergovernmental
 - Military dimension: “*eventual framing of a common defence policy*”
- major expectations, lack of result

4. The Maastricht Treaty and CFSP (1992)

- Strategies and partnerships beyond CFSP
 - 3 pillars, mainly EC
 - Mediterranean, Asia, Latin-America, ...
 - Structural approach: promoting long-term structural changes
- globalization of the EU's external attentions

5. The Amsterdam Treaty and ESDP: The Amsterdam Treaty (1997)

- Tackling the lack of common actors and common instruments
 - ‘Secretary general/High Representative of the CFSP’
 - ‘common strategies’
 - EU – WEU
- overcoming EU foreign policy tensions

5. The Amsterdam Treaty and ESDP: The ESDP (1999)

- Saint Malo Declaration (1998)
 - UK & France
- Cologne European Council (1999)
 - ESDP
- Helsinki European Council (1999)
 - Helsinki Headline Goal
- Berlin-Plus Agreement (2002)
 - NATO

→ From declaratory to action-oriented foreign policy



6. EU foreign policy beyond September 11

- New security issues
- Impact on EU foreign policy
 - EU-3 vs. Other member states
 - European integration vs. Atlantic solidarity
 - credibility?



6. EU foreign policy beyond September 11

The European Security Strategy

- European Council in December 2003
- Strategic objectives:
 - Addressing new threats
 - Building security in EU's neighbourhood
 - International order based on effective multilateralism
- More active approach → role of key actors



7. Enlargement to Central and Eastern Europe (2004/2007)

- Stabilization and transformation in CEE since 1988
 - Enlargement as structural foreign policy
- New context
- Repercussions for EU foreign policy-making
 - Largest or most relevant member states shape EU foreign policy



8. EU foreign policy after the Lisbon Treaty

- Impetus
 - Enlargement
 - Changed security context
 - Rejection of the Constitutional Treaty
 - Yet: new ESDP operations + EDA
 - Lisbon Treaty (2007)
 - Centralization
 - High Representative
 - Broadening Petersberg Tasks
- strengthen leadership and coherence

Exploring EU Foreign Policy

See the Website Companion and Online Resource Guide:

<http://www.exploring-europe.eu/foreignpolicy>

- Guide to the maze of information sources on EU foreign policy for researchers, students and practitioners
- EU-Documents
- Official EU-links
- Links to sources from international organisations
- Links to information from non-governmental organisations, research centres and think tanks
- Latest online news on EU Foreign Policy
- Updated tables and PowerPoint presentations
- References to recent literature