

# GLOSSARY: INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

## INSTITUTIONS

EUROPEAN PARLIMENT	The European Parliament is the <b>EU's legislative body</b> . It represents EU citizens' interests and is directly elected on by voters every five years by means of direct universal suffrage, in secret and free of charge. Together with the Council, it takes on the role of <b>co-legislator</b> and adopts legal acts.		EP
	ES	<i>Parlamento Europeo</i>	PE
	FR	<i>Parlement européen</i>	PE
	PT	<i>Parlamento Europeu</i>	PE
THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL*	The European Council brings together the Heads of State and Government of the different EU Member States, who meet in summits to set the Union's political agenda.		NO ACRONYM; 'The European Council' should not be abbreviated
	ES	<i>Consejo Europeo</i>	
	FR	<i>Conseil européen</i>	
	PT	<i>Conselho Europeu</i>	
THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION	The European Commission is <b>the executive body of the EU</b> . It is comprised of one representative for each Member State ( <b>commissioners</b> ). It is politically independent, draws up proposals for legislation and implements the decisions of the EU Parliament and Council.		EC**
	ES	<i>Comisión Europea</i>	CE
	FR	<i>Commission européenne</i>	CE
	PT	<i>Comissão Europeia</i>	CE
COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION* ("CONSILIUM")	The Council of the European Union represents the governments of the Member States. It is comprised of ministerial representatives from each of the States, according to the specific subject to be dealt with. At the Council meetings, laws are discussed, amended and adopted ( <b>co-legislation</b> ), and the various national policies are coordinated.		-
	ES	<i>Consejo de la Unión Europea// Consejo de Ministros //Consejo//Consilium</i>	-
	FR	<i>Conseil de l'Union européenne//Conseil des ministres//Conseil//Consilium</i>	-
	PT	<i>Conselho da União Europeia//Conseho da UE//Conselho/Consilium</i>	-
COURT OF JUSTICE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION	The Court of Justice of the European Union is the <b>judicial body of the EU</b> . It develops and interprets Union law in order to ensure that it is applied uniformly in all Member States. It also monitors compliance by Member States and individuals with their obligations under Union law.		CJEU
	ES	<i>Tribunal de Justicia de la Unión Europea</i>	TJUE
	FR	<i>Cour de justice de l'Union européenne</i>	CJUE

	PT	<i>Tribunal de Justiça da União Europeia</i>	TJUE
<b>COURT OF JUSTICE</b>	The Court of Justice adjudicates on: issues referred to it by national courts, actions for annulment, actions for failure to act and cassation appeals from institutions. It also adjudicates on the procedures for failing to comply with the Treaties.		
	ES	<i>Tribunal de Justicia</i>	-
	FR	<i>Cour de justice</i>	-
	PT	<i>Tribunal de Justiça</i>	-
<b>GENERAL COURT</b>	The General Court rules on actions for annulment and failure to act by individuals, companies and, in some cases, national governments.		-
	ES	<i>Tribunal General</i>	-
	FR	<i>Tribunal</i>	-
	PT	<i>Tribunal Geral</i>	-
<b>CIVIL SERVICE TRIBUNAL</b> ***	Specialised court which, acting as a first port of call, hears disputes between the European Union and its agents.		-
	ES	<i>Tribunal de la Función Pública***</i>	-
	FR	<i>Tribunal de la fonction publique</i>	-
	PT	<i>Tribunal da Função Pública</i>	-
<b>EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK</b>	The European Central Bank is responsible for managing the euro and controlling the money supply.		ECB
	ES	<i>Banco Central Europeo</i>	BCE
	FR	<i>Banque centrale européenne</i>	BCE
	PT	<i>Banco Central Europeu</i>	BCE
<b>EUROPEAN SYSTEM OF CENTRAL BANKS</b>	The central banks of each Member State and the ECB fall under the umbrella of the European System of Central Banks which is dictates and manages the monetary policies of the Euopean Union.		ESCB
	ES	<i>Sistema Europeo de Bancos Centrales</i>	SEBC
	FR	<i>Système européen de banques centrales</i>	SEBC
	PT	<i>Sistema Europeu de Bancos Centrais</i>	SEBC
<b>EUROPEAN COURT OF AUDITORS</b>	Comprising of one representative per Member State, The institution is the EU's external auditor. It examines the regularity and legality of revenue and expenditure and ensures the efficient management of budgets.		ECA
	ES	<i>Tribunal de Cuentas Europeo</i>	TCE
	FR	<i>Cour des comptes européenne</i>	-
	PT	<i>Tribunal de Contas Europeu</i>	TCE

# EUROPEAN EXTERNAL ACTION ORGANISATIONS

## EUROPEAN EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE

This is the EU's diplomatic service. Its purpose is to ensure the maximum coherence and efficiency of external policies and, in turn, increases the influence of Europe in the world.		EEAS
ES	<i>Servicio Europeo De Acción Exterior</i>	SEAE
FR	<i>Service européen pour l'action extérieure</i>	SEAE
PT	<i>Serviço Europeu para a Ação Externa</i>	SEAE

## HIGH REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNION FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND SECURITY POLICY

Appointed by the Council, the representative heads the European External Action Service and presides over meetings of the Foreign Affairs Council, as well as holding the post of Vice-President of the Commission.		HR
ES	<i>Alto Representante de la Unión para Asuntos Exteriores y Política de Seguridad</i>	AR
FR	<i>Haut Représentant de l'Union pour les affaires étrangères et la politique de sécurité</i>	HR
PT	<i>Alto Representante da União para os Negócios Estrangeiros e a Política de Segurança</i>	AR

## ADVISORY BODIES

### EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

An advisory body of representatives from worker/employer organisations and other interest groups in the Member States. It is designed for the needs of consumers, citizen associations and environmentalists. Through the EESC, institutional representation of the various sectors of economic and social life is guaranteed.		EESC
ES	<i>Comité Económico y Social Europeo</i>	CESE
FR	<i>Comité économique et social européen</i>	CESE
PT	<i>Comité Económico e Social Europeu</i>	CESE

### EUROPEAN COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS

An advisory body comprising of representatives from local and regional authorities from the Member States.		CoR
ES	<i>Comité Europeo de las Regiones</i>	CDR//CdR
FR	<i>Comité européen des régions</i>	CdR
PT	<i>Comité das Regiões Europeu</i>	CR

## OTHER BODIES

<b>EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK</b>	The European Investment Bank - a body jointly owned by all EU countries. Aimed at balanced and stable development, it finances itself on the capital markets and provides loans with favourable conditions for projects that contribute to the EU's objectives. In addition to loans, it also offers combined financing and advisory services and technical assistance services.		EIB
	ES	<i>Banco Europeo de Inversiones</i>	BEI
	FR	<i>Banque européenne d'investissement</i>	BEI
	PT	<i>Banco Europeu de Investimento</i>	BEI
<b>EUROPEAN INVESTMENT FUND</b>	It provides guarantees and venture capital funds to help small and medium-sized businesses. It is not a loan entity, nor does it facilitate or manage subsidies or invest directly in SMEs, but rather works with financial intermediaries		EIF
	ES	<i>Fondo Europeo de Inversiones</i>	FEI
	FR	<i>Fonds européen d'investissement</i>	FEI
	PT	<i>Fundo Europeu de Investimento</i>	EIF
<b>EUROPEAN OMBUDSMAN</b>	It investigates complaints from individuals and companies about misconduct by EU institutions and bodies.		-
	ES	<i>Defensor del Pueblo Europeo</i>	-
	FR	<i>Médiateur Européen</i>	-
	PT	<i>Provedor de Justiça Europeu</i>	-
<b>EUROPEAN DATA PROTECTION SUPERVISOR</b>	The European Data Protection Supervisor upholds proper and effective compliance with the rules surrounding the protection of privacy for natural persons with regard to the collection, recording, storage, retrieval, transmission, blocking and deletion of their personal data.		EDPS
	ES	<i>Supervisor Europeo de Protección de Datos</i>	SEPD
	FR	<i>Contrôleur européen de la protection des données</i>	CEPD
	PT	<i>Autoridade Europeia para a Proteção de Dados</i>	AEPD
<b>THE EUROPEAN DATA PROTECTION BOARD</b>	It ensures the consistent application of the EU data protection reference instruments (General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Directive on data protection in criminal matters) in the territories of all Member States, as well as Norway, Liechtenstein and Iceland. It also encourages cooperative action between the various national data protection authorities.		EDPB
	ES	<i>Comité Europeo de Protección de Datos</i>	CEPD
	FR	<i>Comité européen de la protection des données</i>	-
	PT	<i>Comité Europeu para a Proteção de Dados</i>	CEPD

## INTER-INSTITUTIONAL BODIES

<b>COMPUTER EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM</b>	The body assigned to managing computer threats targeted at European institutions.		CERT
	ES	<i>Equipo de Respuesta para emergencias informáticas</i>	CERT
	FR	<i>Équipe d'intervention en cas d'urgence informatique</i>	CERT
	PT	<i>Equipa de resposta a emergências informáticas</i>	CERT
<b>EUROPEAN SCHOOL OF ADMINISTRATION</b>	The school offers training in specific fields for employees of the EU.		-
	ES	<i>Escuela Europea de Administración</i>	-
	FR	<i>Ecole européenne d'administration</i>	-
	PT	<i>Escola Europeia de Administração</i>	-
<b>PUBLICATIONS OFFICE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION//PUBLICATIONS OFFICE</b>	A body whose task it is to ensure that the publication of the European Union institutions' work. It disseminates general and legal publications, manages websites providing official information and data and ensures the preservation of the content produced by the EU institutions and bodies.		-
	ES	<i>Oficina de Publicaciones de la Unión Europea //Oficina de Publicaciones</i>	-
	FR	<i>Office des publications de l'Union européenne//Office des publications</i>	-
	PT	<i>Serviço das Publicações da União Europeia//Serviço das Publicações</i>	-
<b>EUROPEAN PERSONNEL SELECTION OFFICE</b>	The office is responsible for the selection and recruitment of staff for EU institutions.		EPSO
	ES	<i>Oficina Europea de Selección de Personal</i>	EPSO
	FR	<i>Office européen de sélection du personnel</i>	EPSO
	PT	<i>Serviço Europeu de Selecção do Pessoal</i>	EPSO

\*It is important not to confuse either of these two institutions (both of which are an integral part of the EU), with the Council of Europe (CdE), which encompasses all European states (except Belarus, Kazakhstan and the Vatican City).

\*\*Be careful with this abbreviation in the context of Spanish law, it can be misleading. It would be better to use the full name of the Commission whenever possible, leaving the use of the acronym only to EU legislative instruments, where the context avoids any possibility of confusion and ambiguity.

\*\*\*The Civil Service Tribunal was dissolved in 2016 and its powers have been absorbed by the General Court.