

World organisations

EU – European Union – established in 1992. Member countries: (Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom). Main aim: to create a common market in which goods, services, people and capital could move freely across national borders.

NAFTA – North American Free Trade Agreement – established in January 1994. Member countries: Canada, the United States and Mexico. Main aim: to create free trade area and bring economic growth and rising standards of living for people in all three countries.

APEC – Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation – introduced in 90's. Member countries: Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, People's Republic of China, Hong Kong, China, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Russia, Singapor, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, United States, Vietnam. Main aim: economic co-operation but it is not as opened as NAFTA

ASEAN – Association of South East Asian Nations – established in 1967. Member countries: Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Brunei Darussalam, Vietnam, Laos and Myanmar. Main aim: to promote economic cooperation and the welfare of the people in the region.

WTO – World Trade Organisation – established in 1994. Main aim: to develop ground-rules for international commerce, mediates trade disputes

MERCOSUR – made up of Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay, Chile and Bolivia. Main aim: to create the free trade association that hopes to bring the other South American countries and link up with NAFTA.

OECD – Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development – established in 1960. Member countries: 30 (Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovak republic, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States). Main aim: economic development, emerging economies, sustainable development, territorial economy and aid.