The EU and its functioning

1. What was the aim of the European Coal and Steel Community, the first step towards European integration?

a) To reduce the negative environmental impact of the Coal and Steel Industry in Europe

b) To bring together French and German industries to limit unhealthy national competition and national capacities to develop a weapons industry

c) To compete with the Austrian and Hungarian coal and steel industry

2. What are the three main EU institutions?

a) European Parliament, European Court of Justice and Committee of Regions

b) European Commission, European Ombudsman and Council

c) Council, European Commission and European Parliament

3. Where are the headquarters of the Council of Europe?

a) In Brussels (Belgium)

b) In Strasbourg (France)

c) In Geneva (Switzerland)

4. The presidency is currently, as of August 2023, held by:

a) France

b) The United Kingdom

c) Spain

d) The Netherlands

5. Which of the following is not a European Union institution?

a) European External Action Service

b) Court of Justice of the European Union

c) European Court of Auditors

d) European Court of Human Rights

6. What is meant by 'Exclusive Union Competence'?

a) Only Member States can legislate in these areas

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b) Both the Union and Member States are able to act and Member States are free to legislate as long as they do not enact legislation that conflicts with EU law or principles

c) The EU can carry out actions to support, coordinate or supplement Member State activity, but these must not include making the laws of Member States the same

d) Only the EU can legislate and adopt legally binding acts i.e. the Member States cannot act independently in these areas

7. What are the two initial main treaties on which the European Union is based?

a) The treaty of Paris and the treaty of Brussels

b) The Treaty on European Union (Maastricht Treaty) and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (Treaty of Rome)

c) The European constitution and the Schengen Convention

d) The treaty of Amsterdam and the treaty of Lisbon

8. Who is the current president of the European Commission?

a) Jose Manuel Barroso

b) Angela Merkel

c) Ursula von der Leyen

d) Jean-Claude Juncker

9. What is the ''horizontal social clause''?

a) A legislation under preparation for a European universal unemployment benefit

b) A European Parliament working group aiming at peace and social justice for Europe

c) A soft law principle stating that the Union has to take into account the guarantee of adequate social protection when implementing new policies

d) A hard law provision binding Member States to provide a minimum adequate income to all

10. Which one of these is not part of the European Union's ''four freedoms''

a) Freedom of movement of migrants

b) Freedom of movement of goods

c) Freedom of movement of services

d) Freedom of movement of capital

11. To summarize, decisions in the EU are taken through…

a) A federal body called the European Commission

b) A mixed of ''supranational'' institutions (including the European Commission) and ''intergovernmental'' negotiations

c) The president of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen and the president of the European Parliament David Sassoli

d) The European Parliament inter-groups and the European Commission desk officers

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