

# The transformation of the EU: from an economic union to a war union?

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Artificial crises such as the climate, coronavirus and the war in Ukraine are being used by the EU to establish a socialist central union instead of an economic union in violation of the treaty - in defiance of sovereign states.



#### 1. Introduction

The European Union was founded with the aim of securing peace, stability and economic prosperity on the continent. The Maastricht Treaty (1992) laid the foundations for an economic and monetary union, while later treaties such as the Lisbon Treaty (2007) laid down further integration policy steps. However, current developments, particularly in the context of the Ukraine crisis, indicate that the EU is increasingly deviating from these basic principles and moving towards a war union

## 2. Artificial emergencies as a lever for centralization

The EU used the management of the climate and coronavirus crisis to massively expand its powers. By introducing emergency funds and debt mechanisms, the principles of the Maastricht criteria (Stability and Growth Pact) were largely ignored. Now the Russia-Ukraine war is serving as a new instrument to drive forward a supranational, centrally controlled union. However, the treaty basis of the EU, in particular the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), does not provide for a military union or supranational borrowing.

#### 3. Debt union as a precursor to a war economy

With the agreement on the "Next Generation EU" funds, a communitization of debt was decided for the first time, which was originally intended for economic recovery after the corona pandemic. These mechanisms are now being further expanded to finance a war economy. EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen is planning to introduce the "Savings Union" in order to enable investments in the arms industry by accessing the private savings of EU citizens. This not only represents a massive encroachment on private assets but also undermines traditional banking secrecy and national budgetary powers.

## 4. Digital control and softening of the stability criteria

Another instrument for controlling financial flows is the introduction of a digital euro, which could provide the EU with real-time information on citizens' assets. In conjunction with the planned weakening of the Stability Pact, the Maastricht criteria could finally become obsolete. This opens up the possibility for the EU to take on new debt for the war economy and further undermine national budgetary sovereignty



## 5. Militarization of the EU and weakening of national sovereignty

In addition to financial restructuring, the EU is also breaking new ground at military level. For example, 150 billion euros are to be granted as loans to member states for arms procurement. Even more serious is the planned detour of resources from the Cohesion Fund, which was originally created to promote economic and social convergence in the EU, to the armaments sector. There are also efforts to establish a joint commander-in-chief to centrally coordinate national armed forces - a serious encroachment on the sovereignty of the member states, especially Austria's neutrality

## 6. Democratic deficits and non-parliamentary implementation

These massive changes are being pushed through largely without democratic debate. Citizens and national parliaments are presented with a fait accompli. One example of this is the lifting of the debt brake in Germany, which took place without broad political debate. The authorization to borrow a further trillion euros for military purposes shows that the path to a war economy has long since been paved

#### 7. Lack of peace initiatives and loss of neutrality

Instead of seeking diplomatic solutions, the EU is relying on militarization and economic escalation. Even traditionally neutral states such as Austria are participating in EU sanctions and military support for Ukraine.

Instead of promoting peace initiatives or developing a neutral security system outside of NATO, the EU states are being brought into line with military strategies.

#### 8. Lack of peace initiatives and loss of neutrality

Europe's current military build-up is based on the assumption of a possible Russian attack. But how realistic is this scenario really?

While Donald Trump emphasizes that he gets on well with Vladimir Putin, Russia remains traditionally anchored as an opponent in the USA. NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte also takes a critical stance. Nevertheless, it is worth taking a closer look at some aspects:

Ukraine abolished Russian as an official language after 2014, although a significant proportion of the population is Russian speaking.



- The Maidan revolution was partly driven by foreign influences, and far-right groups played a role in it.
- Western corporations, in particular the US agricultural giant Cargill, have taken over large parts of Ukrainian agricultural land.
- The USA and Great Britain already had a military presence in eastern Ukraine and withdrew unhindered after the start of the war.

Russia has achieved its central interests: the annexation of Crimea and control over the Donetsk, Luhansk and Zaporizhzhia oblasts. A further war with NATO would be an incalculable risk for Moscow. Moreover, the reconstruction of a destroyed Ukraine could be left to the West alone.

The West could have supported a ceasefire at the Istanbul negotiations in 2022 but decided against it.

The claim that Russia is seeking further expansion serves above all as a justification for the military centralization of Europe - a pretext that is being promoted by certain political camps and experts in particular.

### 9. Conclusion

The EU is increasingly moving away from its original principles and is developing into a supranational war union. The circumvention of democratic processes, the creeping introduction of a centralized debt union and the militarization of member states are alarming signs. While citizens are calling for peace, the Union is being steered by unelected actors in a direction that is incompatible with the principles of the European treaties. It remains to be seen whether these developments will meet with widespread resistance or whether the EU will finally turn from an economic union into a military union.

The time has come to ask EU citizens whether they support and agree with this development