



## Teachers' introduction

Welcome to *Citaware* – a free briefing pack of ideas for introducing the European Union to students aged 11–18.

Rather than providing detailed facts and figures, we have chosen a few key areas of the EU's activity and highlighted the potential of these topics to encourage open debate and discussion in your classroom.

### Structure of pack

There are four Activity Sheets. Each one focuses on a subject area relevant to the EU:

1. **Human rights and religion**
2. **Sustaining Europe and the world**
3. **International co-operation**
4. **Citizens of Europe**

Within each subject area, we highlight three topics that might be of interest to young people. Each topic includes the following:

<b>Suggested age group</b>	Key Stage 3, Key Stage 4 or post-16; some activities are suitable for more than one age group
<b>General information</b>	Basic facts to support you and your students in understanding the topic
<b>Activity</b>	One or more classroom activities to enhance students' understanding
<b>Discussion points</b>	Encouraging further critical thinking and debate about Europe

### Curriculum links

Each Activity Sheet includes examples of specific links between Citaware and the Personal and Social Education (PSE) curriculum and subject specifications in Wales. In addition, the pack in general helps to meet the following requirements:

<b>PSE – Key Stage 4</b>	<i>Skills – pupils should...</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Communicate effectively their feelings and views</li><li>• Appreciate, reflect on and critically evaluate another person's point of view</li></ul> <i>Knowledge and understanding</i> <p>Citaware complements the Community Aspect in its entirety</p>
<b>Welsh Bacalaureate</b>	<i>Wales, Europe and the World</i> <p>Element 1: Political issues – key issues 1 &amp; 2 Element 2: Social challenges and responses – key issue 1 Element 3: Economic &amp; technological change – key issue 1</p> <i>Personal and Social Education</i> <p>Element 3: Rights &amp; responsibilities of being an active citizen Element 4: Understanding development issues</p>

## Further work

Citaware is a collaborative project, organised by the following three bodies and funded by the European Commission. Our other activities may also interest you and your students.



CEWC-Cymru organises **European Youth Parliament** competitions for 15-17 year olds, and arranges classroom-based workshops on European and global issues. See [www.cewc-cymru.org.uk](http://www.cewc-cymru.org.uk) for further information.



Visit [www.europaworld.org.uk](http://www.europaworld.org.uk), the free online newspaper covering international development from a European perspective.



The Welsh Centre for International Affairs organises events on European and global affairs. Visit [www.wcia.org.uk](http://www.wcia.org.uk) for the latest information.

## Useful websites

To pursue Citaware topics further, or to find more detailed information, we suggest the following websites as useful starting points:

### General

#### **[www.citaware.org.uk](http://www.citaware.org.uk)**

Includes downloadable versions of our Citaware Activity Sheets and a beginners' guide to the EU by Peter Sain-ley-Berry

#### **[europa.eu/abc/12lessons/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/abc/12lessons/index_en.htm)**

Europe in 12 Lessons

#### **[www.euabc.com](http://www.euabc.com)**

Dictionary of words related to the EU

#### **[www.eurodesk.org.uk/schoolsandcolleges](http://www.eurodesk.org.uk/schoolsandcolleges)**

European resource centre for schools and colleges

#### **[www.youthinformation.com/Templates/Internal.asp?NodeID=90089](http://www.youthinformation.com/Templates/Internal.asp?NodeID=90089)**

Information about Europe for young people

#### **[www.europeanchildrensnetwork.org](http://www.europeanchildrensnetwork.org)**

Promoting children's rights in the EU

#### **[www.ycponline.co.uk](http://www.ycponline.co.uk)**

Young citizens' guide to the law – includes section on the EU

#### **[news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/in\\_depth/europe/2003/inside\\_europe/default.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/in_depth/europe/2003/inside_europe/default.stm)**

BBC 'Inside Europe' guide

#### **[www.coe.int/T/E/Com/About\\_Coe/Brochures/fichedh\\_IndexE.asp](http://www.coe.int/T/E/Com/About_Coe/Brochures/fichedh_IndexE.asp)**

Factsheets on the European Convention on Human Rights

## **Activity Sheet 1 – Human rights and religion**

*(a) Inhuman Treatment?*

**[www.amnesty.org/torture](http://www.amnesty.org/torture)**

Amnesty International campaign against torture

**[www.apr.ch](http://www.apr.ch)**

Association for the Prevention of Torture

**[www.cpt.coe.int/en](http://www.cpt.coe.int/en)**

European Committee for the Prevention of Torture

*(b) The place of religion*

**[www.iarf.net](http://www.iarf.net)**

International Association for Religious Freedom

**[www.iheu.org](http://www.iheu.org)**

International Humanist and Ethical Union

**[news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/3459963.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/3459963.stm)**

8 different views on the French headscarves debate

*(c) Should Turkey join the club?*

**[en.wikipedia.org](http://en.wikipedia.org)**

Search for “Accession of Turkey to EU” for a full history

**[news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/4305656.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/4305656.stm)**

Take the Turkey Test!

**[www.etuc.org/r/557](http://www.etuc.org/r/557)**

European Trade Union Confederation – Turkey

## **Activity Sheet 2 – Sustaining Europe and the world**

*(a) Plastic fantastic?*

**[ec.europa.eu/environment/waste](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste)**

European Commission pages on waste

**[www.carrierbagtax.com](http://www.carrierbagtax.com)**

Carrier Bag Consortium (against taxing plastic bags)

**[www.defra.gov.uk/ENVIRONMENT/WASTE/topics/plastics.htm](http://www.defra.gov.uk/ENVIRONMENT/WASTE/topics/plastics.htm)**

UK government’s policy on plastics

*(b) Carbon emissions*

**[www.ngfl-cymru.org.uk/climatechange](http://www.ngfl-cymru.org.uk/climatechange)**

Climate Change in Wales – teaching resources

**[www.ipcc.ch](http://www.ipcc.ch)**

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

**[www.newscientist.com/channel/earth/climate-change](http://www.newscientist.com/channel/earth/climate-change)**

New Scientist ‘expert guide’ to climate change

*(c) Introducing sustainability*

**[www.cynnalcyrmru.org](http://www.cynnalcyrmru.org)**

Sustainable Development Forum for Wales

**[www.insnet.org/ins\\_links.rxml](http://www.insnet.org/ins_links.rxml)**

Worldwide database of sustainability related links

**[www.wwflearning.org.uk](http://www.wwflearning.org.uk)**

Resources from the Worldwide Fund for Nature

### **Activity Sheet 3 – International co-operation**

*(a) Why co-operate?*

**europa.eu/abc/history/index\_en.htm**

History of the European Union

**www.democracynineurope.com**

Anti-EU platform

**www.euromove.org.uk**

UK-based pro-EU organisation

*(b) The EU – making poverty history?*

**ec.europa.eu/development/index\_en.htm**

European Commission's pages on international development

**www.oxfam.org.uk/coolplanet/milkingit/index.htm**

Resource helping young people to understand global trade issues

**www.unmillenniumproject.org/index.htm**

Anti-poverty project; goals include meeting the 0.7% target

*(c) Security and defence*

**www.consilium.europa.eu/cms3\_fo/showPage.asp?id=261&lang=en&mode=g**

European Security and Defence Policy

**www.caat.org.uk/issues/european-conduct.php**

Related pages from Campaign Against Arms Trade

**www.euractiv.com/en/security**

News and other information about the EU, security, defence and terrorism

### **Activity Sheet 4 – Citizens of Europe**

*(a) Should foreigners vote?*

**www.immigrantvoting.org**

Immigrants' voting rights around the world

**www.migrantwatch.org**

Migrants Rights International

**www.migrationwatchuk.org**

Organisation concerned about immigration into the UK

*(b) True democracy?*

**ec.europa.eu/youreurope/nav/en/citizens/index.html**

Information about EU citizens' rights and opportunities

**euabc.com/index.phtml?word\_id=276**

The EU's 'democratic deficit'

**ec.europa.eu/yourvoice/index\_en.htm**

Your Voice in Europe – ways of getting your opinion across to the EU

*(c) A constitution for Europe?*

**www.democracy-international.org**

Organisation seeking a new European Convention

**europa.eu/constitution/futurum/index\_en.htm**

Debate the future of the European Union

**news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/4596005.stm**

The European Constitution – what happens next?

## Background information: The Institutions of the European Union

The EU is an intergovernmental union of 25 countries. It works through a number of institutions to create and apply its laws and policies. The most important of these are:

	<b>WHAT IS IT?</b>	<b>WHAT DOES IT DO?</b>
<b>European Parliament</b>	<p><b>The EU's equivalent of the House of Commons or the National Assembly for Wales.</b></p> <p>732 Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) are directly elected by EU citizens to represent their interests. Elections are held every five years. There are 78 MEPs representing the UK, 4 of them for Wales.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passes European laws (jointly with the Council of the European Union in some cases)</li> <li>• Supervises other European institutions (e.g. approves appointments to the European Commission)</li> <li>• Sets the EU's budget (jointly with the Council of the European Union)</li> </ul>
<b>Council of the European Union</b>	<p><b>The EU's main decision-making body, also known as the Council of Ministers.</b></p> <p>Council meetings are attended by one minister from each of the EU's 25 national governments. Each meeting includes different ministers, depending on the topic being discussed by the Council – e.g. at a finance meeting, the UK's Chancellor of the Exchequer will be present.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passes European laws (jointly with Parliament in some cases)</li> <li>• Co-ordinates member states' general economic policies</li> <li>• Finalises agreements between the EU and other countries/organisations</li> <li>• Sets the EU's budget (jointly with Parliament)</li> <li>• Develops the EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy</li> <li>• Helps national courts and police forces to co-operate</li> </ul>
<b>European Commission</b>	<p><b>The 'executive' body of the EU, where most of its staff work.</b></p> <p>The Commission runs the day-to-day business of the EU, helping to draft EU laws and putting its decisions into practice. It is independent of national governments, and is staffed by international civil servants from all member states.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposes laws to Parliament and Council of the European Union</li> <li>• Manages and implements EU policies and the budget</li> <li>• Enforces European law (jointly with the Court of Justice)</li> <li>• Represents the EU on the international stage (e.g. negotiating agreements between the EU and other countries)</li> </ul>
<b>European Council</b>	<p><b>A meeting of the heads of government (Prime Ministers or Presidents) of all 25 EU member states, along with the President of the European Commission.</b></p> <p>Discussion and decisions take place on important current issues and the overall direction of the EU. Most of its meetings take place in Brussels.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acts as the driving force behind the EU's political, social and economic activities</li> <li>• Provides a forum for top-level political discussion during a crisis</li> </ul>
<b>Other institutions</b>	<p><b>European Court of Justice</b></p> <p><b>Court of Auditors</b></p> <p><b>Economic and Social Committee</b></p> <p><b>Committee of the Regions</b></p>	<p>Makes sure that EU laws are fair, advises countries on how to apply them, and tackles those accused of breaking the law</p> <p>Oversees the EU's finances</p> <p>A channel for employers, trade unions and other organisations to influence the EU</p> <p>Allows the voices of local and regional governments to be heard</p>

