



K-12 Teacher EU Studies Bootcamp

Summer 2022

European Union and Climate Change

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AP European History, Grades 10-12

Student Goals

How can we balance the unique history, culture and character of each EU member with the needs of all Europeans?

How does climate change provide both an opportunity and challenge to the European Union?

Lesson:

Part 1 (Research)

Student read background [Politico article, "Drought, Fires, and Floods,"](#) which outlines how the South will experience more hardship due to extreme heat and agricultural decline.

- Divide class in half between 2 northern countries and 2 southern countries to research (suggestions – Germany and the Netherlands; Greece and Italy)
 - How will these countries be impacted by climate, include overall trends and specific catastrophic events?
 - Find maps, geographic data to show the impact of climate change in the future.
 - Find examples (1 in each country) that show how cultural heritage sites or cultural landscapes are being transformed due to climate change.
 - Create a Slide presentation that shows your findings – include maps, images, and charts.

Part 2 (Presentation)

Groups of 4 will be formed – 1 person representing each country. Each group will:

- Share slide presentations to show how each country is impacted by climate change.
- Share adaptation and mitigation strategies within each country. What strategies from your country could be adopted by the others? How does each country need different strategies? Identify opportunities for cooperation.
- Review EU strategies and policies. Which of the 4 countries are in most need?
- How should the EU prioritize needs from countries both in the north and south?

Attachments:

- PowerPoint Presentation

European Union & Climate Change

Student Goals

How can we balance the unique history, culture and character of each EU member with the needs of all Europeans?

How does climate change provide both an opportunity and challenge to the European Union?

What are the goals of European Union?

Aims (not a complete list)

- promote peace, its values and the well-being of its citizens
- establish an internal market
- enhance economic, social and territorial cohesion and solidarity among EU countries
- respect its rich cultural and linguistic diversity
- protect and improve the quality of the environment

Values

- Human dignity
- Freedom
- Democracy
- Equality.
- Rule of law
- Human rights

European Union Policies & Strategies for Climate Change

Adaptation:

1. More & better data and risk assessment tools
2. Adapt more quickly & comprehensively
3. Changes must impact all of society
4. Step up intl climate resilience

Mitigation:

EU has set a binding target to cut emissions in the EU territory by 2030 to levels at least 40 % below those in 1990. Emissions from land use, land-use change and forestry have also been incorporated into the EU's emission reduction efforts.

<https://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/climate/intro#:~:text=As%20part%20of%20a%20framework,the%20EU's%20emission%20reduction%20efforts.>



The RESCOOP Model

<https://www.rescoop.eu/the-rescoop-model>





Athens' Chief Heat Officer: Eleni Myrivili

https://www.ted.com/talks/eleni_myrivili_a_3_part_plan_to_take_on_extreme_heat_waves?language=en

How does Climate Change threaten European unity?

While climate change is threatening all European countries, the warming of the planet impacts each European country differently. Climate change has exposed the divide between northern and southern European countries. For example, while northern European countries are experiencing more floods from severe weather, southern European countries face extensive drought, fires and less agricultural output.

The lesson: Students research how climate change is harming northern European countries and southern European countries differently. How can the EU support all Europeans as the planet gets warmer?

Lesson Part 1 Research.

Students read background [Politico](https://www.politico.eu/article/how-climate-change-will-widen-european-divide-road-to-cop26/) article, “Droughts, Fires & Floods” which outlines how the South will experience more hardship due to extreme heat and agricultural decline. <https://www.politico.eu/article/how-climate-change-will-widen-european-divide-road-to-cop26/>

- Divide the class in half between 2 northern countries and 2 southern countries to research: (suggestions: Germany & the Netherlands, Greece and Italy)
 1. How have these countries been impacted by climate, include overall trends and specific catastrophic events?
 2. Find maps, geographic data to show the impact of climate change in the future
 3. Find examples (1 in each country) that show how cultural heritage sites or cultural landscapes are being transformed due to climate change.
 4. Create a Slide presentation that shows your findings - include maps, images and charts.

Lesson Part 2: Share findings and Discuss Way Forward

Groups of 4 will be formed - 1 person representing each country (Germany, Netherlands, Italy and Greece). Each group will:

1. Share slide presentations to show how each country is impacted by climate change.
2. Share adaptation and mitigation strategies within each country. What strategies from your country could be adopted by the others? How does each country need different strategies? Identify opportunities for cooperation.
3. Review EU strategies and policies. Which of the 4 countries are in most need?
4. How should the EU prioritize needs from countries both in the north and south?

Sources

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PRsI14UaG9fWVt45QqZklZDPcl8J_HBrRtkfw1T7pwc/edit?usp=sharing