Glossary of terms
EU External Relations

Term	Meaning
Action Plans	Main bilateral political documents of the European Neighbourhood Policy. They set an agenda of political and economic reforms and reflecting EU's interests and values, the country' s needs and capacities, and defining short and medium-term priorities for action.
Actorness	Actors are identified as entities capable of acting autonomously, making decisions and engaging in some form of purposive action in order to achieve certain objectives. International actorness is therefore the capacity to act on the global arena. For the various definitions and criteria to assess actorness, check UNIT 1.
Arab uprisings	Protests spreading across the Mediterranean and calling for democracy, justice and economic equality
Asylum	A form of protection that is granted to all those third country nationals who are escaping from wars, persecutions, etc. It is regulated by both international law, through the so-called Geneva Convention, and EU law, through specific directives of the European Commission.
Asylum-seeker	Someone looking for asylum and for a refuge outside his/her country of origin.
Civilian Headlines Goals	priority areas for the EU civilian crisis management.
Civilian power	The EU is a civilian power in the sense that, while lacking a military dimension, it is able to influence other international actors through civilian means, i.e. diplomatic, economic and legal means.
CFSP	This is the EU Common Foreign and Security Policy, whose purpose is to safeguard common values and EU's interests abroad, as well as the preservation of peace and international security.
Common Positions	One of the instruments of the CFSP under the Maastricht Treaty. They clarify the EU's approach on certain thematic or geographic issues. The Member States are asked to adjust their positions to the EU common ones.
Common Strategies	One of the instruments of the CFSP under the Amsterdam Treaty. They are used in those sectors where the Member States have common interests and set goals, means and duration of the intervention.
Conditionality	This is a strategy used to exchange something, for something else. It means that the EU provides aids or facilitates a third country, *on condition* that it adopts key reforms or implements certain policies. It can be positive, providing a reward or external incentives to a target government as long as it complies with certain conditions; or 'negative', providing sanctions or withdrawing aids if a target government does not comply with certain conditions.
CSDP	This is the EU Common Security and Defense Policy, i.e. the EU policy related to security and defense diplomacy and actions. It concerns the resolution of conflicts, the preservation of peace, the strengthening of

	international security, crisis management and the fostering of international understanding.
Decisions	One of the instruments of the CFSP under the Lisbon treaty, and replacing joint previous actions and common positions with simple 'decisions'. In practice, the type of instrument has not changed, since CFSP decisions may both provide for operational action (Art 28 TEU) or define the Union's approach to a particular issue (Art 29 TEU). Decisions are taken by the Foreign Affairs Council, following the European Council's guidelines and establishing actions to be undertaken by the EU, or positions to be adopted.
Declarations	These are generally delivered by the High Representative on the behalf of the EU.
Demarches	These are confidential messages through which the EU asks for clarification or manifests its concern on a certain situation. They can also include declarations delivered by the High Representative and through which the EU manifests its position.
Development Policy	The main framework to support external action towards developing countries, including Caribbean, Pacific and Sub-Saharan countries.
Differentiation	Proceeding and cooperating with each country on a different basis according to the country's needs and capacities.
Diplomacy	This is a way to promote EU interests and goals through diplomatic relations, persuasion, political dialogue, high level meetings, cooperation and partnership with other countries
Eastern Partnership	A joint policy initiative that, as a complement to the ENP, aims to deepen and strengthen the relations between the EU and the six Eastern neighbors: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.
Economic power / market power Europe	The market is the basis of EU's identity, which can be conceived in terms of 'Market Power'.
Euro-Mediterranean partnership	Also known as Barcelona Process it was launched in 1995 as a new comprehensive regional framework to promote peace and stability (Political and Security Basket), a zone of shared prosperity (economic and financial Basket), cultural dialogue and people exchanges (Social, Cultural and Human Basket).
External policies	The set of policies directed to the external environment with the objective of influencing that environment and the behavior of other actors within it, in order to pursue interests, values and goals.
External relations	The broader set of relations that the EU undertakes and maintains with the outsider world and with external actors. For instance, the relations between the EU and South Africa, or the relations between the EU and Russia.
European Defense Community	The European Defense Community was an ambitious project launched in 1958 to create a fully integrated European army. However, the proposal failed due to the opposition of France. To access more information, you can listen to the podcast here https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rw8HuKvIrw8.
European Political Cooperation (EPC)	This is the first attempt to coordinate the foreign policies of the Member States and it emerged in the 1970s.
EEAS	European External Action Service. It is the EU's diplomatic service which supports the High Representative in his/her daily work, in fulfilling his/her mandate and in carrying out EU CFSP. Based in Brussels, it relies on an

	extensive network of EU diplomatic presence worldwide, through the so-called EU Delegations.
EIDHR	European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights, is a thematic instrument involving civil society organizations and it is the EU's main vector of support in the area of democracy and human rights in situations where they are most at risk.
ENI	European Neighbourhood Instrument. The main financial instrument of the European Neighbourhood Policy.
Enlargement policy	This is the main policy to regulate the relations with the candidate countries, namely all those non-EU states who wish to join the EU and become members.
EU Delegations	EEAS embassies representing the Union in third countries, implementing external policies, and working under the authority of the High Representative.
European neighbourhood policy	The main framework to address the relations and the external action towards the neighboring countries.
Financial instruments	The EU has several funding instruments used to sustain its activities abroad and to support EU external action in third countries.
Foreign policy	Capacity to make and implement policies abroad which promote the domestic values, interests and policies of the actor in question.
High politics	Covers all matters that are vital to the very survival of the state: namely national and international security concerns. By contrast, low politics covers issues that are not crucial for the survival of the state.
High Representative for Foreign Affairs	A new institutional actor which stems from the merging of two previous roles: the High Representative for CFSP, or the so-called Mister CFSP, originally created by the Treaty of Amsterdam; and the Commissioner in charge of the Directorate General External Relations (DG RELEX). He/she is also one of the Vice-Presidents of the European Commission and presides over the Foreign Affairs Council. The High Representative ensures the consistency of the Union's external action and is responsible for coordinating its various aspects.
Humanitarian aid	A EU policy area that addresses the needs stemming from global emergencies such as events of man-made or natural disasters.
Impact	to the analysis of the effects of EU external actions and foreign policies. It regards the extent to which the EU is able to influence and modify the interests, actions and behavior of third actors, as well as the extent to which it is able to achieve the stated goals.
IPA	Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance) is the instrument by which the EU supports reforms in candidate countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey).
Joint actions	One of the instruments of the CFSP under the Maastricht Treaty. They are actual interventions, defining the goals, the means, and the implementation modalities.
Joint ownership	This means that when interacting with third countries, the EU does not seek to impose a pre-determined set of priorities to partners. Rather, priorities, goals and needs are jointly defined by common consent, in line with the principle of differentiation and according to the country's needs. Moreover, in this process of defining priorities, the EU aims to engage all leading local stakeholders in the recipient country, from institutional actors to civil society.
Migration	Migration by people coming from third countries, i.e. countries outside the Union. It can be legal, meaning that these third country nationals have a

	legal title to enter the EU either for work or study, or illegal, meaning that those arriving to the EU from third countries are not legally entitled to enter EU territory.
Migration Diplomacy	use of diplomatic tools, dialogues, and processes to manage cross-border population mobility.
Military headline goals	Designed to provide the EU with the necessary military capabilities to implement the Petersberg tasks. This includes the ability to rapidly deploy forces while the ability to conduct and sustain several operations simultaneously and at different levels of engagement.
More for more	An incentive-based approach that rewards all the countries willing and able to proceed with reforms. The more and the faster a country progresses in its internal reforms, the more support it gets from the EU.
Multilateralism	To use multilateral practices to solve international conflicts or problems means that the latter are not solved by coercive means but through principles, rules and mechanisms collectively shared by all the states. Indeed, multilateralism is a set of practices based on shared principles, equal participation of states to decision-making and non-discrimination.
Multilateral system	A rule-based international order revolving around well-functioning international institutions. See also 'multilateralism'.
Multipolar international order	Unlike a bipolar international order where there are mainly two centers of powers (think for instance of the US versus the USSR during the Cold War period), in a multipolar order there are more than two actors competing for power.
Normative Power Europe	This concept identifies EU's soft power in the capacity to project norms and values abroad. when we think of the EU as a normative power we intend an actor whose foreign policy is based on the exportation of values internal to its system but perceived as universally valid.
Partnership for Democracy and Shared Prosperity	Launched in 2011 to respond to the implications of the Arab Uprisings and complement the first review of the ENP. It is built on three pillars: 1) targeted support for democratic transformation and institution-building, with a focus on human rights and judicial reforms; 2) a close partnership with people, with emphasis on civil society; 3) a boost for economic growth and development.
Permanent Structured Cooperation	To improve EU's security and defense, 25 Member States decided to adopt a permanent structured cooperation designed to encourage Member States to cooperate, harmonize their defense apparatuses and coordinate logistics and training
Petersberg Tasks	The spectrum of military actions and activities that the EU can undertake in its crisis management operations: humanitarian and rescue missions; peacekeeping tasks; crisis management; peacemaking.
Pillar	The Maastricht Treaty formally created the European Union as a single body made of three pillars. The first pillar is related to all the economic, social and environmental policies where supranational institutions play the primary role; the second and third pillars respectively regard the Common Foreign and Security Policy and Justice and Home Affairs, and are mainly intergovernmental meaning that the Member States are the main players.
Political Dialogue	This is an important instrument of cooperation, conducted at various levels (heads of state, ministers, officials etc.) and aimed at influencing the partners' behavior.
Political system	A system is a group of regularly interacting or interdependent elements that, while maintaining their own properties, form a unified whole. In the case of political systems, there are three main elements that integrate each other

	to form a unified whole and a common system: politics, intended as the use of political power, i.e. the actors that have positions with government responsibilities and that produce binding decisions; polity, the civil and political society inside the system, i.e. the group of people with a collective identity, a common institutional system, rules and authorities within specific territorial boundaries; policy, namely public actions for governing public topics and problems. To learn more about the EU as a political system check the dedicated EURASIA course (==link to the EU Political System Course==).
Presence	The EU, by virtue of its existence, has acquired a certain salience in international affairs as well as the capability to exert influence beyond its borders.
Readmission Agreements	International agreements which set out clear obligations and common procedures and conditions for the authorities of the non-EU country and of the EU Member States as to when and how to 'readmit' people who irregularly entered or who are irregularly residing in the EU.
Realist approach	Scholars adopting a realist approach are those who consider the 'States' as the only relevant actors of the international system.
Refugee	Someone who is unable or unwilling to return to the country of origin owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion.
Restrictive measures	The EU can make use of restrictive measures in terms of sanctions to impose certain objectives or to 'punish' certain behaviors by other actors. These measures are adopted by the Council. Moreover, restrictive measures may either be adopted autonomously by the EU, or they may be adopted following a UN Security Council Resolution.
Return Decision	An administrative or judicial decision or act, stating or declaring the stay of that person to be illegal and imposing an obligation to return to the country of origin.
Sanctions	These are restrictive measures, in terms of arms embargoes, trade restrictions including import and export bans, financial restrictions (including assets freezing), or restrictions on movements such as visa or travel bans. They may target governments of third countries, non-state entities or even individuals. They are adopted to safeguard EU values, fundamental interests, and security, as well as to preserve peace and prevent conflicts or to support democracy and human rights
Stabilization and association process	The main framework to manage the relations with the six Western Balkans candidates and potential candidate countries.
Statements	Delivered by the High Representative on his/her own behalf in cases where a swift response is needed
Subsidiary protection	Protection given to a non-EU national who does not qualify as a refugee, but for whom there is the risk that, if returned to his or her country of origin, the concerned person would face a real risk of suffering serious harm.
Union for the Mediterranean	Launched in 2008 to give a new impetus to the relations with Mediterranean countries and to enhance regional cooperation through the implementation of concrete projects and initiatives. It is currently made up of 43 countries, including all EU Member States, the countries in the Middle East and Northern Africa (the same of the ENP), plus Mauritania, Turkey, and the Balkans countries. For a general overview of the Union for the Mediterranean, check this video.
Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFUE)	Sets out the objectives and principles of the EU.

Treaty on the European Union (TUE)	Sets out organisational and functional details of the. European Union.