

FAMOUS EVENTS: What happened on ... ? Was ist am 5. Mai 1949 geschehen? Was ist am 9. Mai 1950 geschehen?

Europatag / Europe Day

09 May 2016

9 May every year: Celebrating the creation of the European Union.

Europe Day commemorates 9 May 1950, when the then French Foreign Minister Robert Schuman presented his proposal on the creation of an organised Europe, to help maintain peaceful relations between European countries. This proposal, known as the 'Schuman declaration', is considered to be the act that created what is now the European Union.

Each year's **Europe Day** has a different theme. Check on the [European Commission website](#) to find out more about the theme for 2016. You could use **Europe Day** at school to explore the theme in more depth, or find out more about the European Union.



Fun Holiday – Europe Day

May 9 is celebrated as Europe Day in the European Union (E.U.) and around the world.

The holiday commemorates the day in 1950 when French foreign minister, Robert Schuman, presented his proposal to create an organization of European countries. Also sometimes known as Schuman Day, the day aims to garner continuing support for the European Union and to educate citizens in member states and people in the rest of the world about the benefits of such an organization.

How to Celebrate?

- If you live in a member country or are visiting one, this is the time to visit European Union institutions. EU institutions in Brussels and Strasbourg hold open days where they organize public outreach events. Other E.U. countries and cities hold festivals, concerts and other events to raise awareness about the E.U.
- If you don't live in an EU member state, do not despair. Learn more about the E.U. Find out if the E.U. expat community in your city is having public events that you can attend. And if there is nothing going on, remember that Europe Day is at its heart a day to celebrate peace and unity, and you don't have to be in the European Union to do that!



*Europe Day celebrates European unity and diversity.
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Did You Know...

...that when the Euro was introduced in 2002, the initials for the countries adopting the currency spelled out Euro currency was introduced in 2002, the initial letters of the countries adopting it spelt BAFFLING PIGS? The countries were Belgium, Austria, Finland, France, Luxembourg, Ireland, Netherlands, Germany, Portugal, Italy, Greece, and Spain.