

## CVCE brochure presenting the WEU file (Sanem, 23 February 2010)

**Caption:** Brochure by the Centre Virtuel de la Connaissance sur l'Europe (CVCE) presenting the research file on Western European Union (WEU), published for the visit by delegations from WEU and the Luxembourg Chamber of Deputies to the Château de Sanem on 23 February 2010.

**Source:** The history of Western European Union, Presentation of the WEU file at the Château de Sanem on 23 February 2010. Sanem: Centre Virtuel de la Connaissance sur l'Europe, 23.02.2010. 19 p.

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# The history of Western European Union



Presentation of the WEU file  
at the Château de Sanem  
on 23 February 2010

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**Foreword by Marianne Backes,  
Director of the CVCE**

**Dear reader,**

At the CVCE (Centre Virtuel de la Connaissance sur l'Europe), our aim is to create, diffuse and share knowledge on the history of European integration in the 20th and 21st centuries and to find applications for this knowledge through information and communication technologies.

The research, production, collation, interpretation and sharing of this knowledge through a collaborative digital library requires academic excellence and technological innovation, and the establishment of a participative culture. We aim to provide a reliable information resource and working tool for teachers and researchers, and to offer European citizens a valuable source of information which may help nurture in them a spirit of awareness, involvement and responsibility.

To achieve its aims, the CVCE conducts research in the fields of European Integration Studies (EIS) and Digital Humanities and Social Sciences (DHSS); it is also involved in research, development and innovation in the area of Knowledge Environments and Digital Libraries (KEDL).

The results of our European studies research find a highly effective outlet in the multimedia research files developed for publication in the ENA digital library.

Our new WEU file traces the development of WEU, its organisation, its modus operandi, its activities and its enlargements over more than half a century. The file was created in partnership with the Institute for European Studies of the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), as well as with the valuable help of several highly regarded contributors. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them warmly for their input.

The booklet you hold in your hands gives you a glimpse of the WEU file. I encourage you to visit our ENA digital library ([www.ena.lu](http://www.ena.lu)) if you would like to explore the collection in its entirety.

I hope that you will enjoy reading our booklet.



**Marianne Backes**

## Introduction

Our thematic collection on Western European Union (WEU) highlights the first European security and mutual defence organisation. Established in 1954, WEU is the heir to Western Union, which came into being in 1948 with the signing of the Brussels Treaty.

### Valuable contributions

This thematic collection traces the origins and development of WEU, its organisation, its modus operandi, its activities and its enlargements over more than half a century. The WEU file was designed and produced by the Centre Virtuel de la Connaissance sur l'Europe (CVCE) in partnership with the Institute for European Studies of the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), with the expert assistance of Prof. Éric Remacle.

Mr André Dumoulin of the École Royale Militaire in Brussels and visiting lecturer at the University of Liège has made a substantial contribution by writing synopses that develop the subject and introduce the various themes.

The precious help of these two WEU specialists has served to add further rigour to the academic approach characterising the preparation of this collection, which has been coordinated by Mr Hervé Bribosia and Mr Cédric Sangaletti, assisted by researchers in European Integration Studies from the CVCE.

### A vast range of sources

The principal documentary sources used come from the WEU archives held in the National Archives at Kew, in London. These documents, for the most part previously unpublished, enable us to relive the first steps made by the organisation originating in the Brussels Treaty.

The other important source comprises the institutional documents of the WEU Assembly, whose seat is in Paris. They give an account of the work done since its earliest days by this institution, which gradually widened its activities and subject matter to cover the many aspects of European defence.

Added to these sources are documents from the archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of National Education of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, a founder member of WEU. These documents also cover the non-military side of the Brussels Treaty Organisation: its economic, social and cultural activities.

The Historical Archives of the European Union in Florence and the documents and information obtained from the WEU Secretariat-General in Brussels complete these rich resources.

The unique nature of this file stems from a desire to provide access to a wide variety of material, in different languages, that also reflects a multiplicity of points of view: official documents, press articles, extracts from memoirs, scholarly articles, and illustrative and audio-visual material.



A series of documents serving as reference points, tables, maps and diagrams have also been created by the CVCE acting in its educational role. The synopses are there to introduce this collection of documents by outlining the historical and political context of each theme as it is broached.

#### **Exclusive interviews**

Lastly, in the compilation of this file, the CVCE has been able to set up exclusive interviews with eminent figures from WEU.

The accounts given by Mr Colin Cameron, Secretary-General of the Assembly, Mr Charles Goerens, former President of the Assembly, and Mr Willem van Eekelen, former WEU Secretary-General, bring to life the history of this pioneering organisation whilst offering an insight into the future of European policy on security and defence.

## Structure of the WEU file in ENA



## Signing of the Brussels Treaty (17 March 1948)



### Caption

Ceremony held in Brussels on 17 March 1948 to mark the signing of the Treaty of Economic, Social and Cultural Collaboration and Collective Self-Defence between France, the United Kingdom, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg.

### Source

*Ceremony of the Signature of the Brussels Treaty.* Brussels: Western European Union, 17.03.1948. Black and white.

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## Poster on the Brussels Treaty Cultural Identity Card



### Caption

Poster presenting the Brussels Treaty Cultural Identity Card, an initiative aimed at promoting cultural exchanges between the five Member States of Western Union.

### Source

Commission européenne, DG X. Représentation au Luxembourg (sous la dir.). *Europa Grafica, Unir des peuples. Associer des États Nations*. Exposition *Europa Grafica*, Luxembourg, du 29 avril au 14 mai 1995. Luxembourg: Office des publications officielles des Communautés européennes, 1995, p. 106.

### Copyright

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## Signing of the Paris Agreements (23 October 1954)



### Caption

The Paris Agreements, signed on 23 October 1954, modify the Brussels Treaty of 17 March 1948 and establish Western European Union (WEU).

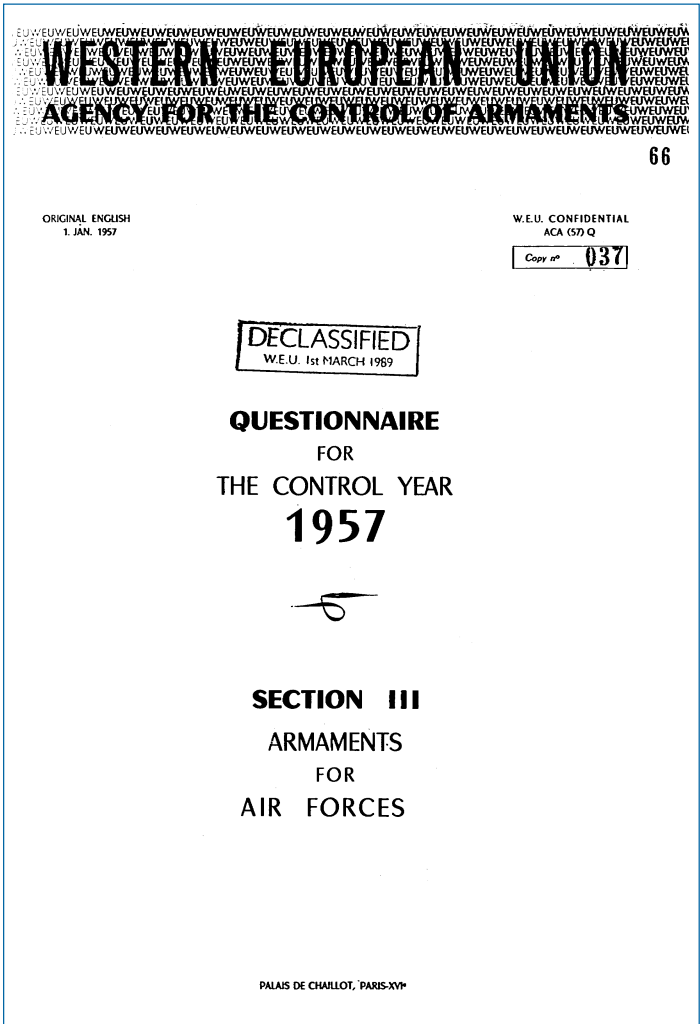
### Source

*Signature of the Paris Agreements. Paris: NATO, 23.10.1954. Black and white.*

### Copyright

© NATO photo

WEU questionnaire on air force armaments (1957)



Caption

Example of a questionnaire sent by the Agency for the Control of Armaments (ACA) to the Member States of Western European Union (WEU), in this case on the subject of air force armaments in 1957.

Source

Agency for the Control of Armaments. *Questionnaire for the control year 1957. Section III Armaments for Air Forces*, ACA (57) Q. Paris: 01.01.1957. 26 p.

Copyright

© WEU Secretariat General

### WEU headquarters in London (1955–1993)



#### Caption

From 1955 to 1993, the headquarters of Western European Union (WEU) are based in London, at 9 Grosvenor Place.

#### Source

*Photo of the WEU Headquarters in London.* London: Western European Union, Colour.

#### Copyright

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## Robert Pontillon and Armand De Decker during WEU operations in the Gulf (1991)



### Caption

Robert Pontillon, President of the Assembly of Western European Union (WEU), and Armand De Decker, Chairman of the Liberal Group in the Assembly of WEU, as operations are carried out in 1991 during the Gulf War.

### Source

President Robert Pontillon and Armand De Decker observing operations in the Gulf. WEU Assembly, 1991, Colour.

### Copyright

© WEU Assembly



**Willem van Eekelen and Manfred Wörner at the first meeting between the North Atlantic Council and the WEU Council (Brussels, 21 May 1992)**



**Caption**

On 21 May 1992, the Council of Western European Union (WEU) holds its first official meeting with the North Atlantic Council, at the headquarters of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) in Brussels. The photo shows Willem van Eekelen, Secretary-General of WEU (on the left), discussing with Manfred Wörner, Secretary-General of NATO.

**Source**

*Visit to NATO by Willem van Eekelen, Secretary General of Western European Union (WEU). Brussels: NATO, 18.02.1991. Black and white.*

**Copyright**

© NATO photo

### WEU operations on the Danube (1993–1996)



#### Caption

Between 1993 and 1996, in the context of the Yugoslav conflict and in coordination with the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Western European Union (WEU) provides police and customs assistance to Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania for the enforcement of United Nations sanctions on the Danube.

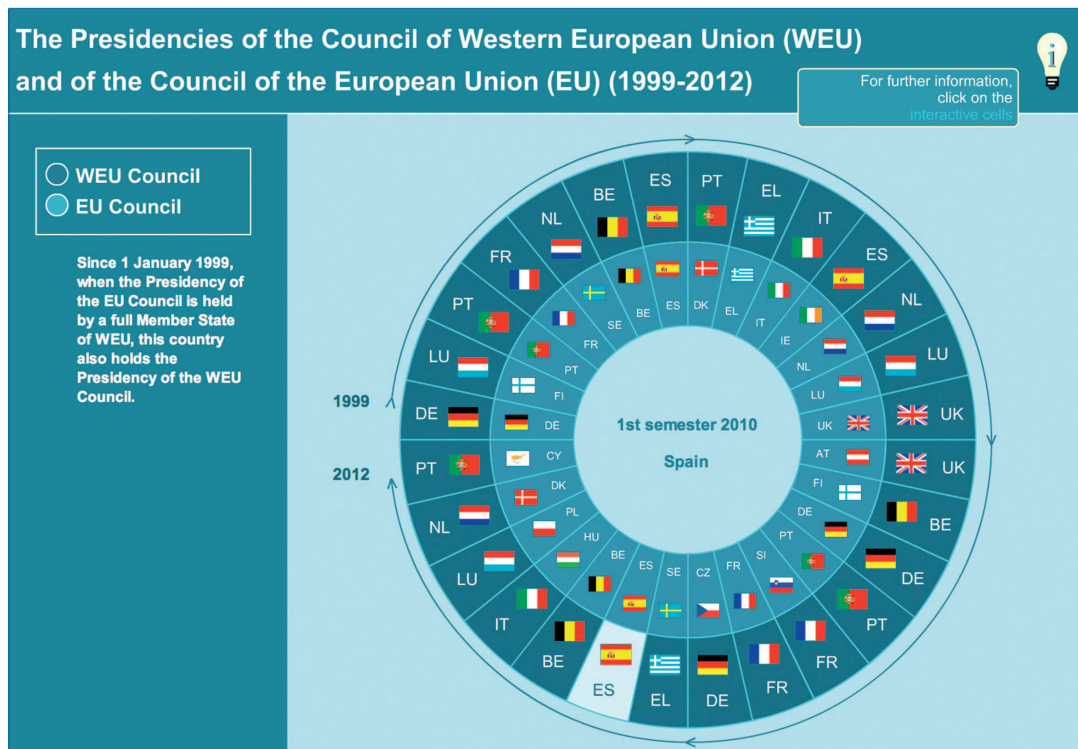
#### Source

*The Italian force, Guardia di Finanza, providing assistance within the framework of the WEU operation to enforce UN sanctions on the Danube. WEU Assembly, Colour.*

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## Diagram showing the Presidencies of the WEU Council and the Council of the European Union (1999–2012)



### Caption

Since 1 January 1999, when the Presidency of the Council of the European Union is held by a full Member State of WEU, this country also holds the Presidency of the WEU Council.

**Source**  
European Navigator.

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### Interview with Colin Cameron (Paris, 23 September 2009)



#### Caption

On 23 September 2009 in Paris, Colin Cameron, Secretary-General of the European Security and Defence Assembly/Assembly of Western European Union (WEU), grants an exclusive interview to the Centre Virtuel de la Connaissance sur l'Europe (CVCE), in which he discusses the role and operation of the Assembly within WEU.

#### Source

*Interview with Colin Cameron / Colin Cameron, Cédric Sangaletti. Filmed by: Alexandre Germain, Paris: CVCE [Prod.], 23.09.2009. CVCE, Sanem. Centre Virtuel de la Connaissance sur l'Europe, Château de Sanem, L-4992 Sanem (Luxembourg). [www.cvce.lu](http://www.cvce.lu).*

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### Interview with Charles Goerens (Sanem, 28 September 2009)



#### Caption

On 28 September 2009 in Sanem, Luxembourg, Charles Goerens, former President of the Assembly of Western European Union (WEU) and former member of the WEU Council, grants an exclusive interview to the Centre Virtuel de la Connaissance sur l'Europe (CVCE). He discusses the development of the Assembly since 1984 and describes the transfer of powers from WEU to the European Union in 2000.

#### Source

*Interview with Charles Goerens* / Charles Goerens, Cédric Sangaletti. Filmed by: Alexandre Germain, Sanem: CVCE [Prod.], 28.09.2009. CVCE, Sanem. Centre Virtuel de la Connaissance sur l'Europe, Château de Sanem, L-4992 Sanem (Luxembourg). [www.cvce.lu](http://www.cvce.lu).

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### Interview with Willem van Eekelen (The Hague, 1 October 2009)



#### Caption

On 1 October 2009 in The Hague, Willem van Eekelen, former Secretary-General of Western European Union (WEU) and former member of the WEU Council, grants an exclusive interview to the Centre Virtuel de la Connaissance sur l'Europe (CVCE), in which he describes the various missions carried out by WEU during his term of office as Secretary-General.

#### Source

*Interview with Willem van Eekelen* / Willem van Eekelen, Cédric Sangaletti. Filmed by: Alexandre Germain, The Hague: CVCE [Prod.], 01.10.2009. CVCE, Sanem. Centre Virtuel de la Connaissance sur l'Europe, Château de Sanem, L-4992 Sanem (Luxembourg). [www.cvce.lu](http://www.cvce.lu)

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## Biographies

This file was coordinated at the CVCE by Hervé Bribosia, Head of the Academic Research and Cooperation Unit for European Studies, and Cédric Sangaletti, Researcher in European Studies.



### Hervé Bribosia

After specialising in international and European law, Hervé Bribosia was awarded a PhD at the European University Institute in Florence, where he carried out research into the future of the European Union's institutional architecture. He has been visiting professor at the University of Paris I — Panthéon-Sorbonne, and teaches at the Institute for European Studies of the Catholic University of Louvain (UCL). He has also worked for the Permanent Representation of Belgium to the EU, as a Political Adviser to the European Commission, and as Drafter at the Secretariat of the European Convention. He joined the CVCE in 2008 as Head of the Academic Research and Cooperation Unit for European Studies.

### Recent publications

Hervé Bribosia, *Revising the European Treaties: An argument in favour of abolishing the veto*, Notre Europe, policy paper No 37, 2009.

Hervé Bribosia, 'The Main Institutional Innovations in the Lisbon Treaty' from S. Griller, J. Ziller (eds.), *The Lisbon Treaty. EU Constitutionalism without a Constitutional Treaty?*, ECSA Austria Publication Series, Vol. 11, Vienna/New York, Springer, 2008, pp. 57-78.

Hervé Bribosia, G. Amato and B. de Witte (eds.), *Genèse et destinée de la Constitution européenne — Genesis and destiny of the European Constitution*, Brussels, Bruylant, 2007.

Hervé Bribosia (et al.), *The Treaty of Lisbon: Implementing the institutional innovations (co-author)*, Joint Study CEPS, EGMONT and EPC, November 2007.

Hervé Bribosia, 'Les coopérations renforcées et les nouvelles formes de flexibilité en matière de défense dans la Constitution européenne', from *Revue du Droit de l'Union européenne*, 2004/4, pp. 647-708.



### Cédric Sangaletti

Cédric Sangaletti was awarded a Master's degree in Political Science and International Relations at the Catholic University of Louvain (UCL) in 2003, after studying at the Institute for Political Studies (IEP) in Lille under the Erasmus programme. In 2004, he completed a further Master's degree in Multilingual Business Communication and a higher Master's degree (DES) in European Studies at UCL. He then carried out a placement at the European Parliament Archive and Documentation Centre (as a recipient of the Robert Schuman grant), where he wrote a study on the constitutionalisation of the European treaties. In 2005 he joined the CVCE as a Researcher in European Studies.

### Publications

'Robert Schuman'; 'Schengen' from S. Kmec, B. Majerus, M. Margue, P. Péporté, *Lieux de mémoire au Luxembourg. Usages du passé et construction nationale*.

*Erinnerungsorte in Luxemburg. Umgang mit der Vergangenheit und Konstruktion der Nation*, 2nd edition, Luxembourg, Saint-Paul, 2008, pp. 127–132 and 221–226.

*Constitutionnaliser les Traités européens: Assemblée Ad hoc et Convention européenne (1952–1953/2002–2003). Étude comparative des deux projets européens de Traité constitutionnel*, Luxembourg, European Parliament, 2005, 71 p. [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/archives/stagiaires/stagiaire\\_fr.shtml](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/archives/stagiaires/stagiaire_fr.shtml)

*La politique européenne de sécurité et de défense et la question d'une culture stratégique commune; L'Oblast de Kaliningrad: une enclave russe dans l'Union européenne*, Louvain-la-Neuve, UCL, 2004, 53 p. (dissertation, higher Master's degree in European Studies).

*Symbole et politique: le drapeau comme symbole politique de cohésion et de légitimation du pouvoir: le cas américain*, supervisor Françoise Massart-Piérard, Louvain-la-Neuve, UCL, 2003, 123 p. (dissertation, Master's degree in Political Science).

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**Centre Virtuel de la Connaissance sur l'Europe**

Château de Sanem - L-4992 Sanem - Luxembourg

Email: [cvce@cvce.lu](mailto:cvce@cvce.lu) - Tel: +352 59 59 20 1 - Fax: +352 59 59 20 555

