

## 1995 Enlargement

### **What do I need to know before I start?**

On 1 January 1995, Austria, Finland and Sweden joined the Community, becoming full members of the European Union and bringing the number of EU Member States up to fifteen. The first to submit its application for membership was Austria, on 14 July 1989, followed by Sweden on 1 July 1991, and then Finland on 18 March 1992. Switzerland also applied on 20 May 1992, but withdrew its application when a referendum held in December 1992 rejected European Economic Area (EEA) membership. To remain close to its Nordic neighbours, Norway also applied on 24 November 1992, despite having failed to ratify its 1972 Accession Treaty, which was defeated in a national referendum.

The twelve existing Member States favoured these countries' applications, considering their high living standards and democratic institutions, but the 1991 European Council in Maastricht agreed that accession negotiations could only start once the negotiations pertaining to the Community's own resources in 1992 were concluded. Concessions requested by the applicants were also made on Community aid, farm subsidies and fisheries, considering Member States' interest in having these countries joining the Community.

Despite the difficulties encountered during the accession negotiations, particularly in the fields of agriculture, regional aid, budget and fishing quotas, negotiations were concluded by March 1994, after which the four applicant countries would each hold referenda to ratify the accession treaties. Austria approved the country's accession to the Union, with 66.6 per cent in favour of joining, compared to 56.9 per cent in Finland, and 52.2 per cent in Sweden. In contrast, in Norway, 52.2 per cent of the voters once again did not approve Norway's accession to the Union. Austria, Finland and Sweden thus became official Member States on 1 January 1995, marking the fourth enlargement of the Community. Each country was attributed one European Commissioner, while in the European Parliament, Sweden was granted 22 representatives, Austria 21 and Finland 16, and in the Council of Ministers, Austria and Sweden were to have each have four votes and Finland three.

**Languages:** Please be aware that although most documents available in our Archives are in French, English or German, some may be in other EU languages. In order to check the languages used in a fonds, please refer to our holdings page. Additionally, some fonds may contain a few files in a language other than the ones listed in the description.

## What can I find at the HAEU?

Related specifically to EU's fourth enlargement, the fonds available at the HAEU are:

### 1) *EU institutions*

#### [ECSC High Authority](#) and [ECSC Special Council of Ministers](#)

It can be very useful to consult the fonds of the ECSC High Authority, which includes a section for [External Relations](#), comprising numerous documents pertaining to the Community's relations with the applicant countries over the decades before accession (example for [1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)). Relevant files are also to be found in the section for the High Authority's [Legal Service \(bis\)](#) (example [1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)) and that for the [Secretariat-General](#) (example [1](#), [2](#)). To find these files more easily, it is advisable to use the database search tool and filter the results to limit the search to the ECSC High Authority's fonds. You may also look into the fonds of the ECSC Special Council of Ministers, which includes the proceedings of the Council's meetings as well as various working documents pertaining to its work. As the fonds are organised by years, you need to browse the fonds of each separate year to access the different files of its inventory.

#### [Council of Ministers](#)

In the HAEU inventory, the fonds of the Council of Ministers is organised by years and you need to browse each separate year to access specific files. In the Council's fonds, matters related to the Community's fourth enlargement are assembled in the section 'Relations Extérieures' or 'Relations avec Pays tiers' (example for the year [1962](#) and [1973](#)), which includes some files pertaining to the Community's relations and associations with the applicant countries in the pre-accession period (example [1](#), [2](#)). Concerning the applicant countries' relations with the Community before becoming applicant countries, you may look into the section concerned with trade agreements with third countries, which includes numerous files (example [1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)), pertaining to agreements made between the Community, its Member States, the future applicant countries and the EFTA of which they are a part. Considering that the applications for the fourth enlargement were only submitted in the early 1990s and that the Council's documents are made available to the public following a period of thirty years, files pertaining to the application and accession negotiations for the fourth enlargement available from the Council's fonds at the moment are limited.

#### [Commission](#)

In the Commission's fonds, various files related to the relations of the Community with the applicant countries over the decades are included in the section for the [DG External Relations](#) (example [1](#), [2](#), [3](#)) and in the section '[Documents COM](#)' (example [1](#), [2](#), [3](#)). In addition, you might want to look into the sections related to the [Secretariat-General](#) and the [Cabinets](#). It is advisable to search the database directly to find relevant files more easily, filtering the results to limit the search to the Commission's fonds. The Commission's fonds however does not include at the moment files pertaining to the application process and accession negotiations for the fourth enlargement, considering that the applications for the fourth enlargement were only submitted in the early 1990s

and that the Commission's documents are made available to the public following a period of thirty years.

### [European Parliament](#)

Concerning the relations that developed between the applicant countries and the Community over the decades before applying to join the Community, you might find it useful to consult the proceedings and reports of the [parliamentary delegation for relations with the Nordic countries and the Nordic Council](#), as well as that of the [parliamentary commission for commercial policy and economic cooperation with third countries](#) and of the [parliamentary commission for external economic relations](#). The fonds of the European Parliament includes the proceedings and reports of the parliamentary delegation for relations with the Nordic Countries and the Nordic Council for the [1<sup>st</sup>](#) and [2<sup>nd</sup>](#) legislature, as well as those of the parliamentary delegations to third countries (for the [1<sup>st</sup>](#), [2<sup>nd</sup>](#) and [3<sup>rd</sup>](#) legislature) and of the parliamentary commission for external economic relations (for the [1<sup>st</sup>](#), [2<sup>nd</sup>](#) and [3<sup>rd</sup>](#) legislature). The fonds of the Parliament's third legislature are particularly relevant in the context of the fourth enlargement, as it includes various files pertaining to the application process and accession negotiations of the applicant countries. You may consult the reports of the [inter-parliamentary delegation for relations with Sweden, Finland, Iceland and the Nordic Council](#), while the section comprising the Parliament's [resolution proposals](#) (example [1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)) and that comprising the [parliamentary questions](#) (example [1](#), [2](#), [3](#)) include many files that pertain to the application and accession negotiations for the fourth enlargement.

### [European Court of Auditors](#)

You might find it interesting to consult the ECA's [annual reports](#) (1977-1997), [special reports](#) (1978-1991), as well as [opinions](#) (1977-1997) and [internal documents](#), including [information documents](#) (1977-1994) and [working documents](#) (1977-1994). Internal documents include several files pertaining to the application and accession negotiations for the fourth enlargement but these files are not available for consultation before 2024 (example [1](#), [2](#), [3](#)).

### [European Court of Justice](#)

According to the nature of the ECJ, these fonds include documents dealing with judicial affairs, namely procedure dossiers and sentences. You might find it interesting to consult some of its dossiers dealing with the Community's fourth enlargement.

### [European Investment Bank](#)

The fonds of the European Investment Bank (EIB) includes files pertaining to the early [criteria for accession](#), to the [negotiation process between candidate countries and the EIB](#), as well as to the [consequences](#) of enlargement for the [EIB and its status](#). You also might find it interesting to consult the sub-fonds '[Publications](#)' that includes the EIB [annual reports](#) as well as the section devoted to [EIB projects signed between 1959 and 1971](#) regarding EU member states and associated countries.

## 2) *Corporate Bodies*

### [European Free Trade Association \(EFTA\)](#)

You may look into the fonds of the EFTA to know more about the applicant countries before their accession to the Community and about the cooperation that developed among them within the EFTA context. The EFTA fonds includes the organisation's official documents pertaining to its different councils and committees, as well as [general](#), [information](#) and [working documents](#), and files related to [EFTA's relations with member and non-member countries](#).

## 3) *Individuals*

### [Graham J. L. Avery](#)

It is of utmost relevant to consult the private fonds of Graham J. L. Avery, who was director of the Commission's Task Force for Enlargement (1991-1994). Avery's private fonds includes numerous files pertaining to the work of the [Task Force for Enlargement](#) in preparing for the accession negotiations with Austria, Sweden, Finland and Norway, as well as to the various [issues](#) encountered in the accession process and the [results](#) of these negotiations.

### [Émile Noël](#)

It can also be useful to consult the private fonds of Émile Noël as it includes various files related to the [Community's fourth enlargement](#), the application process, the accession negotiations and the Community's relations with EFTA. In addition, you may look into his notes on the [European Council](#) and [Commission's meetings](#) (1957-1987), as well as into documents related to the work of the [different DGs](#) of the Commission, during his time as [Secretary-General](#).

### [Helen Wallace](#)

It can be useful to consult the private fonds of Helen Wallace, which includes a [dossier](#) comprising documents collected in the context of the Sussex University European Institute Seminar on 'Accession Negotiations with Austria, Finland, Norway and Sweden' held from 29-30/09, as well as documents pertaining to the [European Communities' enlargement negotiations](#) and to the [Community's relations with EFTA](#).

### [Emanuele Gazzo](#)

Gazzo's private fonds also includes relevant files pertaining to the [Community's relations with Sweden](#) over time, to the accession process to the Community of [Austria](#), [Sweden](#), [Finland](#), and to the application request of [Switzerland](#).

### [Edoardo Martino](#)

You may also consult Martino's private fonds, which also includes relevant [files](#) pertaining to the fourth enlargement and to the Community's relations with EFTA countries.

#### 4) *Oral History*

In addition, take a look at the [oral history holdings](#), which comprise numerous interviews of European politicians and officials, including important figures and officials involved in the access negotiations of the Community's fourth enlargement. Below, you can find a (non-exhaustive) list of persons interviewed who talked about the candidate countries to the fourth enlargement and the accession negotiation process.

[Axel Herbst](#)

[Flory Jean](#)

[Fredrik Engström](#)

[Klaus Pseiner](#)

[Risto Pellinen](#)

[Johannes Ortner](#)

[Martii Tiuri](#)

[Ivo Dubois](#)

[Eric Hayes](#)

[Niels Henrik Sliben](#)

[Pierre Duchâteau](#)