

# THE HISTORICAL ARCHIVES OF THE EUROPEAN UNION



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Established in 1984, the Historical Archives of the European Union (HAEU) is the single, official repository for the historical documents of the institutions, bodies and agencies of the European Union. It preserves and makes available, under the 30-year access rule, the archival documents of EU institutions for research purposes. It also holds more than 160 private collections of European personalities, key politicians, movements and associations.

The state-of-the-art archival vaults, located beneath Villa Salviati in Florence, Italy, hold approximately 9000 linear meters of documents. Nearly 650,000 items are described in the online database, including around 560,000 files, more than 900 oral history interviews, 60,000 photographs, and more than 8200 audio recordings, 1200 video recordings, and approximately 60,000 digitalised files.

The HAEU is part of the European University Institute (EUI) and provides modern research facilities. The Archives' five grant programmes support postgraduate research on European integration, and each year around 150 academics come to our facilities to consult our collections on site, while hundreds of thousands of visits are made to our archival database. A multi-lingual team of professional archivists assists users in consulting the collections.



# EU INSTITUTIONAL HOLDINGS

Around 7000 linear meters of paper files have been sent from EU institutions, agencies and advisory bodies to the HAEU, the central preservation and access point for research on European integration. These holdings document the decisions and policies leading to a united Europe, and contain the written memory and testimonies of the men and women engaged in its construction.

## THE HAEU'S INSTITUTIONAL HOLDINGS PRESENTLY INCLUDE:

- The European Parliament and its predecessors - the Ad hoc Assembly, the ECSC Common Assembly, and the European Parliamentary Assembly
- The Council of Ministers and its predecessors - the ECSC Special Council of Ministers, the Council of Ministers of the EEC and Euratom
- The European Commission and its predecessors - the ECSC High Authority, as well as the Commissions of the EEC and Euratom
- The Court of Justice of the European Union
- The European Investment Bank
- The Court of Auditors, including the Audit Board
  
- The European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training
- The European Environment Agency
- The European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions
  
- The Economic and Social Committee

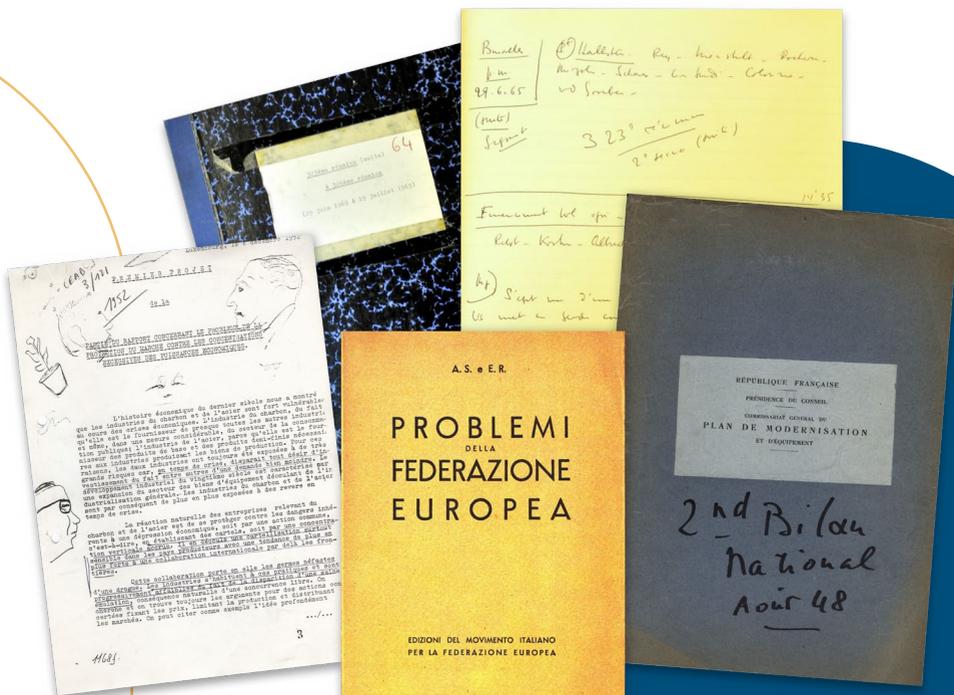
# PRIVATE DEPOSITS

The HAEU has the mandate to collect the private papers of high-ranking EU officials and Members of Parliament as well as of pro-European movements and associations which played a major role in the history of European integration.

The HAEU holds presently a unique collection of more than 160 private archives, including those of the founders of the European Communities, such as Alcide De Gasperi, of high EU officials, such as Piero Malvestiti, Emile Noël, Max Kohnstamm, François-Xavier Ortoli, Jacques Delors, Fabrizia Baduel Glorioso, Pascal Lamy and Romano Prodi, as well as of pioneers of the European Union, such as Alexandre Marc, Pierre Uri, Altiero Spinelli, Fausta Deshormes La Valle, and Ernesto Rossi.

The collection includes the archives of pro-European movements, including those of the European Federalist Movement, the European Movement, and the Council of European Municipalities and Regions, as well as of international organisations with a European scope, such as the Assembly of the Western European Union, the European Free Trade Association, the European Space Agency, the European Society of Culture and the European Science Foundation.

Collections of political groups of the European Parliament, such as the Liberals and the Socialists, are also among the deposits.



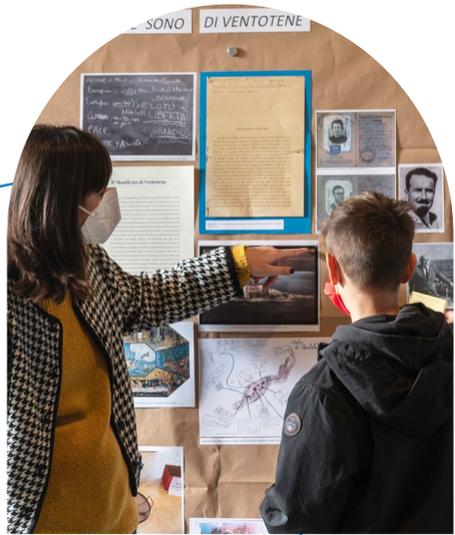
# ORAL HISTORY, AUDIO-VISUAL AND DIGITAL ARCHIVES

The HAEU is the repository for ten distinct oral history programmes, launched to preserve the voices of high-level European politicians and officials. The more than 900 interviews in the collection complement the written sources of EU institutions, private organisations and individuals.

The HAEU's audio-visual collections are an integral part of the institutional and private archives preserved there. They presently consist of more than 60,000 photographs, more than 8000 audio recordings, over 1000 video recordings, and a substantial collection of posters produced by EU institutions.

To ensure that these materials are easily accessible, the Archives works constantly to improve their preservation conditions and consultation tools in line with new technological developments. The HAEU has invested in a bold digitization project to guarantee the durability of fragile materials and long-term public access to these materials.





## RESEARCH, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC INFORMATION

The HAEU participates in a variety of research initiatives and organizes seminars and workshops in cooperation with academic departments at the EUI and other universities, archives and institutions.

The Alcide De Gasperi Research Centre, a joint effort of the HAEU and the EUI History Department, promotes innovative research on European integration, facilitates the use of primary sources, and supports networks of historians through academic events.

The Archives also administers five postgraduate research grant programmes in collaboration with the EUI and other institutional or external partners. More than 20 fellowships are awarded each year for the consultation of primary sources at the HAEU, resulting in a significant number of publications and post-graduate theses.

The educational programme at the HAEU engages with hundreds of students annually, from kindergarten through highschool and beyond. Developed in collaboration with local schools, it now extends beyond Tuscany and internationally. The programme stimulates reflection on the origins of European integration, historical preservation and historical narrative, and the meaning of European citizenship.

Finally, the Archives hosts regular open days, bringing the local public to Villa Salviati with popular guided visits and activities for people of all ages.



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**The Historical Archives of the European Union is committed to preserving the memory of European institutions and European integration.**

**Search our database:**  
<http://archives.eui.eu>

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