

The European Commission

I. Basic Structure of the Commission

A. The College of Commissioners

B. The President

C. The Commission Bureaucracy

II. Responsibilities and Powers

1. Legislative Functions

2. Executive Functions

3. External Representative
and Negotiator

4. Mediator, Conciliator, and
'Conscience of the Union'



Commission Main
Meeting Room

I. Basic Structure

- A. The College of Commissioners
 - Qualifications and Selection
 - Impartiality
 - *cabinets*
- B. The President of the Commission
 - Process of Selection
- C. The Commission Bureaucracy
 - Directorates-General
 - Secretariat General
 - Services and Advisory Committees

Directorates-General

Agriculture and Rural Development	Informatics
Budget	Information Society and Media
Competition	Internal Audit Service
Communication	Internal Market and Services
Development	Interpretation
Economic and Financial Affairs	Justice, Freedom and Security
Education and Culture	Personnel and Administration
Employ., Social Affairs & Equal Opp's	Regional Policy
Enterprise and Industry	Research
Environment	Taxation and Customs Union
External Relations	Trade
Fisheries and Maritime Affairs	Translation
Health and Consumer Protection	Transport and Energy

II. Responsibilities and Powers

- Legislative Functions
 - Right of Initiation
 - Decision-Making Within the Commission
- Executive Function
 - Implementation
 - Managing EU Finances

Commission President Barroso
And President Bush



Types of EU 'Laws'

- **Regulations**: Binding on all member states in their entirety and does not have to be turned into national law
- **Directives**: Sets out a particular goal for policy to achieve, but leaves it to member states as to how to achieve it
- **Decisions**: also binding, but fairly specific in intent and administrative in purpose
 - 'Rule-making' – filling in the details of legislation
- **Recommendations and Opinions**: Non-binding, intended to be persuasive or offer interpretations of regulations, directives, or decisions.

EU budget 2009 in figures

Expenditure estimates for EU policies (in billion EUR)	Budget 2009	Change from 2008
Sustainable growth	60.2	3.2 %
Competitiveness	11.8	6.2 %
Cohesion, <i>including</i> :	48.4	2.5 %
Natural resources	56.1	1.0 %
Citizenship, freedom, security and justice	1.5	12.3% ⁽¹⁾
Freedom, security and justice, including fundamental rights and justice, security and liberties, migration flows	0.9	18.1 %
Citizenship, including culture, media, public health and consumer protection	0.6	5.4 %
The EU as a global player	8.1 ⁽²⁾	7.3 %
Administration	7.7	5.7 %
Compensations to new EU countries ⁽³⁾	0.2	1.2 %
Total	133.8	2.5 %

⁽¹⁾ Excluding the amounts allocated in 2008 from the Solidarity Fund.

⁽²⁾ Including *emergency aid reserve*.

⁽³⁾ Amounts fixed by the accession treaties.

II. Responsibilities and Powers

- External Representative and Negotiator
 - Trade
 - Diplomatic Representation
- Mediator, Conciliator, and 'Conscience of the Union'

The Berlaymont Building
in Brussels: Home of
the European Commission

