### LISTENING COMPREHENSION

#### Introduction

This exercise is about listening to a conversation from 2013, doing a little research and jotting down catch words so that you can answer the questions in class.

## Objective

Doing this assignment, you are practising listening skills and learning how to form and express your own views on European integration.

### **Disclaimer**

A German and an English teacher discuss Europe and the European Union. Both of them express strong opinions that you may or may not choose to share.

### **ASSIGNMENT**

#### Research

- List all the EU member countries that you can think of, then find out how many there really are. This <u>map</u> will help.
- 2) Sketch a <u>timeline</u> from 1950 to the present entering one or two major events per decade.

# Listening exercise

Listen to the audio file (~23') and replay tricky bits as often as you need to.

- <u>List</u> where the British person spent "formative years".
- 4) Mind map what makes his family European.
- 5) <u>Sum up</u> what makes the European Union "rotten to the core" in his view?
- 6) <u>State</u> what, according to him, makes the nation state the biggest possible entity?
- <u>List</u> his reasons for not considering Belgium a nation state.
- Sum up the reason given why it is not European peoples who have helped out one another financially.
- A matter for <u>debate</u>: On the claim that European <u>integration</u> has created and preserved peace, <u>list</u> the arguments on both sides

   a) pro and
   b) contra.
- 10) Mr Cameron, Britain's current prime minister has promised a <u>referendum</u> to the British people. <u>Sum</u> it <u>up</u> in one sentence.
- 11) <u>Find</u> out and <u>list</u> the three main concerns that the British public is really most worried about these days.
- List three aspects given here that make Britain different from continental European countries.
- 13) <u>State</u> how big the <u>majority</u> was that voted for British membership in the then "European **Economic** Community".
- 14) Very briefly <u>describe</u> how the <u>map</u> of Europe has changed since the nineties.
- 15) Prepare a brief statement on why you would call yourself a <u>patriot</u> or why not.

## Wrapping up

16) Very briefly sum up what "Erasmus" is all about.

<u>www.englisch-bw.de</u> – <u>Hörverstehen</u> – <u>"Voices on Europe and the EU"</u>

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