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European History :

Q: Write a short note on the following.

European Union :

The European Union (EU) is a political and economic union of the 27 European countries which aimed at promoting economic cooperation, political stability and peace in Europe.

"The European Union is a community of values and a unique example of a peaceful cooperation among sovereign states"

Jean Claude Juncker
Former President
of European Commission.

2. Origin and Formation of European Union :

The European Union (EU) traces its root to the after math of the world war II, with the aim of preventing further conflict through economic integration. It begins with the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) in 1951 and the European Economic Community (EEC) in 1957.

3. Key Treaties of European Union:

i. Treaty of Rome: (1957)

Treaty of Rome is established the European Economic Community in 1957, which aim to creating a common market.

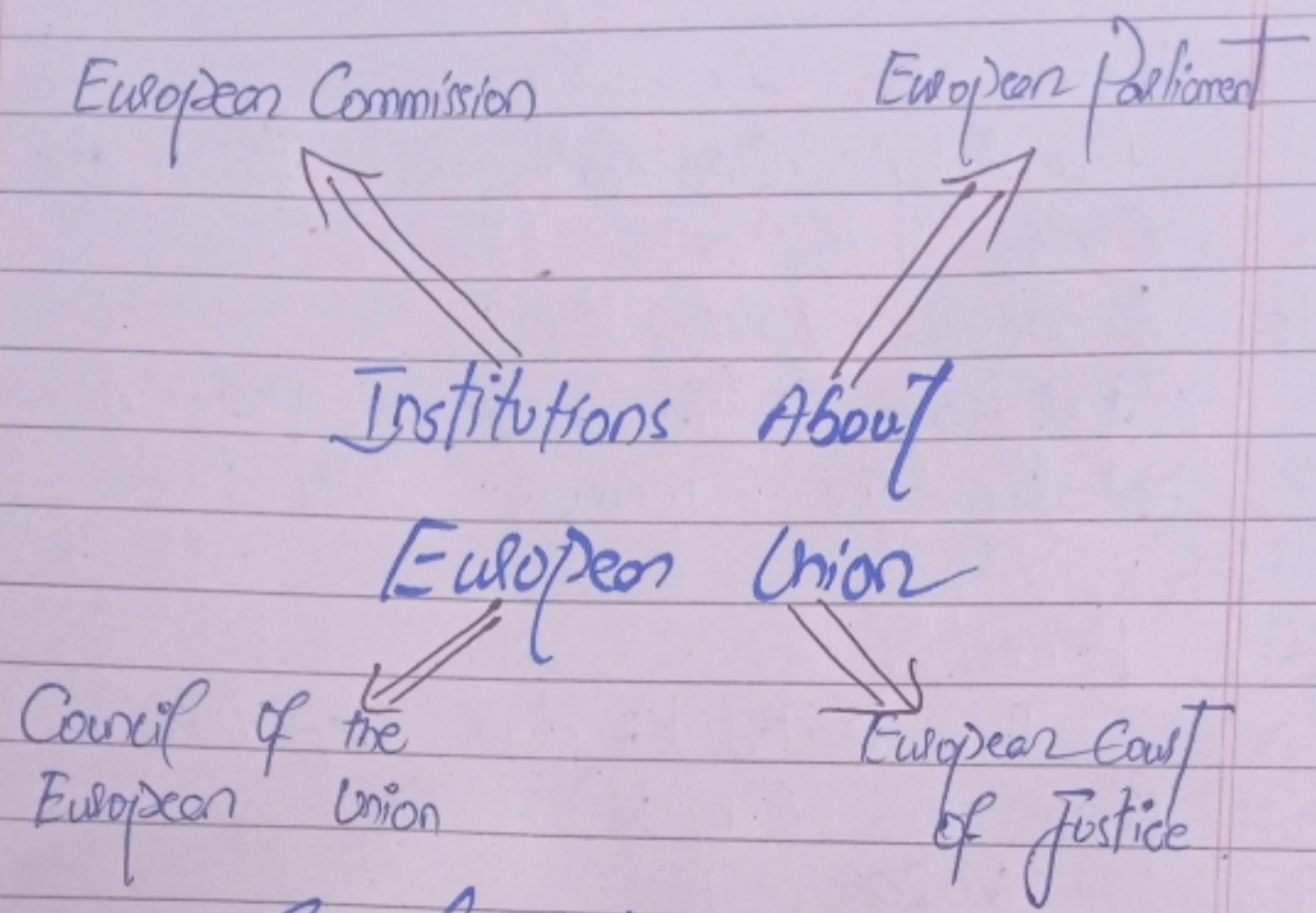
"we must build a Europe which is united, strong and loyal to the spirit of the Treaty of Rome"
(Walter Hallstein)

ii. Maastricht Treaty: (1992)

Maastricht Treaty is formed the European Union and introduced the concept of European citizenship.

iii. Lisbon Treaty: (2007)

Lisbon Treaty is reformed the European Union structures and increased powers of the European Parliament.



4. Single Market and Euro:

The European Union (EU) created allowing free movement of goods, services, capital and people.

The Euro, introduced in 1999, is the commonly currency adopted by 19 members of States, forming the Eurozone.

"The euro is a great success" (Mario Draghi)

5. Expansion of European Union:

The EU has expanded from its original six members to 27, incorporating countries from Eastern and Central Europe after the end of the Cold war. The enlargement has promoted stability and prosperity in the region.

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6. Challenges Faced by European Union :

These are following main challenges faced by European Union (EU) are as:

(A) Economic Disparities :

Differences in economic performance between the member states.

(B) Brexit :

The United Kingdom departure from the European Union in 2020.

"We are leaving the European Union, but we are not leaving Europe"
(David Cameron)

(C) Migration :

Managing immigration and integration of migrants -

(D) Sovereignty vs Integration :

It balancing national sovereignty with deeper EU integration.

Achievements of European Union:

The EU has contributed to over seven decades of peace in Europe, increased economic prosperity, and enforced cooperation on issues like environmental protection, consumer rights and scientific research.

Future Prospects About EU:

The EU continues to evolve, seeking to strengthen its global role, deepen integration among the member states and address contemporary challenges such as

- a. Digital Transformation
- b. Energy Security
- c. Geopolitical tensions.

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Give numbering to headings.

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Concluding Sentences :

The European Union, despite facing numerous challenges, continues to stand as a symbol of unity, cooperation and shared prosperity among its member states, driving forward the vision of a more integrated and peaceful Europe.

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