**2.2 Tafelbild**

**Founding the EU**

**European Coal and Steel Community**

* cooperation in industries of war: steel and coal
* Paris, 1951: Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands

**European Economic Community (EEC)**

* success of European Coal and Steel community leads to common market
* no obstacles for exchange of money, business, jobs and trade

**European Union (EU)**

* many more members (today: 28) and areas of cooperation: infrastructure, environment etc.
* changing the name from EEC to EU

**What the European Union does today**

* trying to make life easier
* free movement within EU
* single currency: euro
* help for less wealthy member states and neighbouring countries
* environmental and consumer protection etc.

**How the European Union makes decisions**

**European Commission**

* 28 Commissioners, represent Europe
* propose laws

**European Parliament**

* elected every 5 years, represents the citizens
* decides on laws with Council

**The Council**

* government ministers, represent EU countries

**European Council**

* leaders of European countries who set Europe’s general strategy

**The Court of Justice**

* makes sure that EU laws respect fundamental rights and
* that member states stick to EU laws