



CEUTTSS Lesson Plan/Activity (by end Spring semester, 2022)

Name: Alex Northrup		Lesson Plan/Activity Duration: 45 minutes
		Subject/Grade Level: AP Human Geography, Grades 9-12
Lesson Title:	How does the EU actually work? Supranational versus Intergovernmental Organizations	
Standards:	VA SOL WHII.11e, .12a, .14c; AP Human Geography CED 4.9	
Objectives		
<p>Students will understand the basic structure of the European Union, and how it makes and enforces laws that apply to member states. In addition, students will understand the definitions of supranational versus intergovernmental organizations, and the extent to which the EU is a combination of both. Finally, students will explore why a state might choose to give up a degree of sovereignty to be part of a supranational organization.</p>		
Key Concepts		
<p>Supranational Organizations (SO): organizations in which members states give up some degree of sovereignty to the organization</p> <p>Intergovernmental Organizations (IGO): organizations established by a treaty in which sovereign states work together on issues of common interest</p>		
Essential Questions		

1. How do the individual sovereign states that comprise the European Union work together to make laws that apply to all states?
2. Why would an individual state give up some degree of sovereignty to be part of a supranational organization?

Learning Acquisition and Assessment

Major institutions of the EU: European Parliament, Council of the European Union, European Council, European Commission, Council of Justice of the European Union

[Worksheet](#)

Supranational versus Intergovernmental Organizations

[Worksheet](#)

Specific Lesson introduction, details, closure (with approximate times)

2 min

Discussion:
Recall previous knowledge: What is the European Union?
New concepts: *Supranational Organization, Intergovernmental Organization*
Teacher prompts - "Which term applies to the EU?", "Why"

3 min

Worksheet Introduction:
Display [worksheet](#), go over instructions
Share worksheet with small groups

20 mins

Group work time:
Students collaborate in small groups to complete [worksheet](#)
Teacher moves between groups to answer questions, help groups stay on task
Extra time: students work on reflection portion of worksheet

12.5 min

Worksheet Review:
Students share [worksheet](#) responses to the full class, with each group describing the composition, role, location, and definition of one institution.
Teacher prompts - "What role does this institution play in making or enforcing laws that govern the entire EU?", "How did you decide if this institution is SO or IGO?"

7.5 min

Discussion:
What are the goals of the EU?
Teacher prompts - "Has this goal been achieved?", "Was it worth it for an individual state to give up some sovereignty to work toward this goal?"

Extra time: "What should happen if a state does not want to obey a particular law?", "Why did Britain decide to leave the EU?", "What did you wonder about as you completed the worksheet"

Resources and Materials

Books/Articles

Worksheets

Digital resources

[EU
Supranationalism
Worksheet](#)

[EU English gateway](#)