

Chapter 4 | Lesson 2

European Law I European Institutions

European Law I The Institutions of the EU

- Articles 13-19 TEU, Articles 223 et seq TFEU
 - The European Council
 - The Commission
 - The European Parliament, EP
 - The Court of Justice of the European Union, CJEU
 - The European Central Bank, ECB
 - The European Court of Auditors

European Law | The European Council, Art 15 TEU



Head of State or Government of the Member States + President of the Commission + Permanent President

*at least two annual meetings
guidelines for the policies of the EU*

permanent president:

Charles Michel

High Representative of the EU

Josep Borrell

European Law | The Council, Art 16 TEU, Artt 237 et seq TFEU



representatives of the member states on ministerial level

rotating presidency



- organ for the protection of member states interests
- decisive legislative organ
- presidency is performed by Member States for 6 month
- most important legal acts: Regulations and Directives

The Councils

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Council of Europe (Europarat) (CoE):

An advisory international organisation promoting co-operation between all countries of Europe in the areas of legal standards, human rights, democratic development, the rule of law and cultural co-operation. It was founded in 1949, has 47 member states with 820 million citizens, and is an entirely separate body from the European Union.

European Council (europäischer Rat):

The institution of the European Union (EU) that comprises the heads of state or government of the member states, along with the council's own president and the president of the Commission. The High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy also takes part in its meetings.

Council of the EU (Ministerrat):

The Council of the European Union (sometimes just called the Council and sometimes still referred to as the Council of Ministers) is the third of the seven institutions of the European Union (EU) as listed in the Treaty on European Union. It is part of the essentially bicameral EU legislature (the other legislative body being the European Parliament) and represents the executive governments of the EU's member states.

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European Law | The Commission, Art 17 TEU, Artt 244 et seq TFEU



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

- 28 members (one per member state): term in office 5 years; can be re-elected
- 40 so called Directorates General and Services
- guardian of the Treaties/ motor of the Union
- legislative initiative
- executive competences

European Law I The European Parliament (EP) Art 14 TEU; Artt 223 et seq TFEU



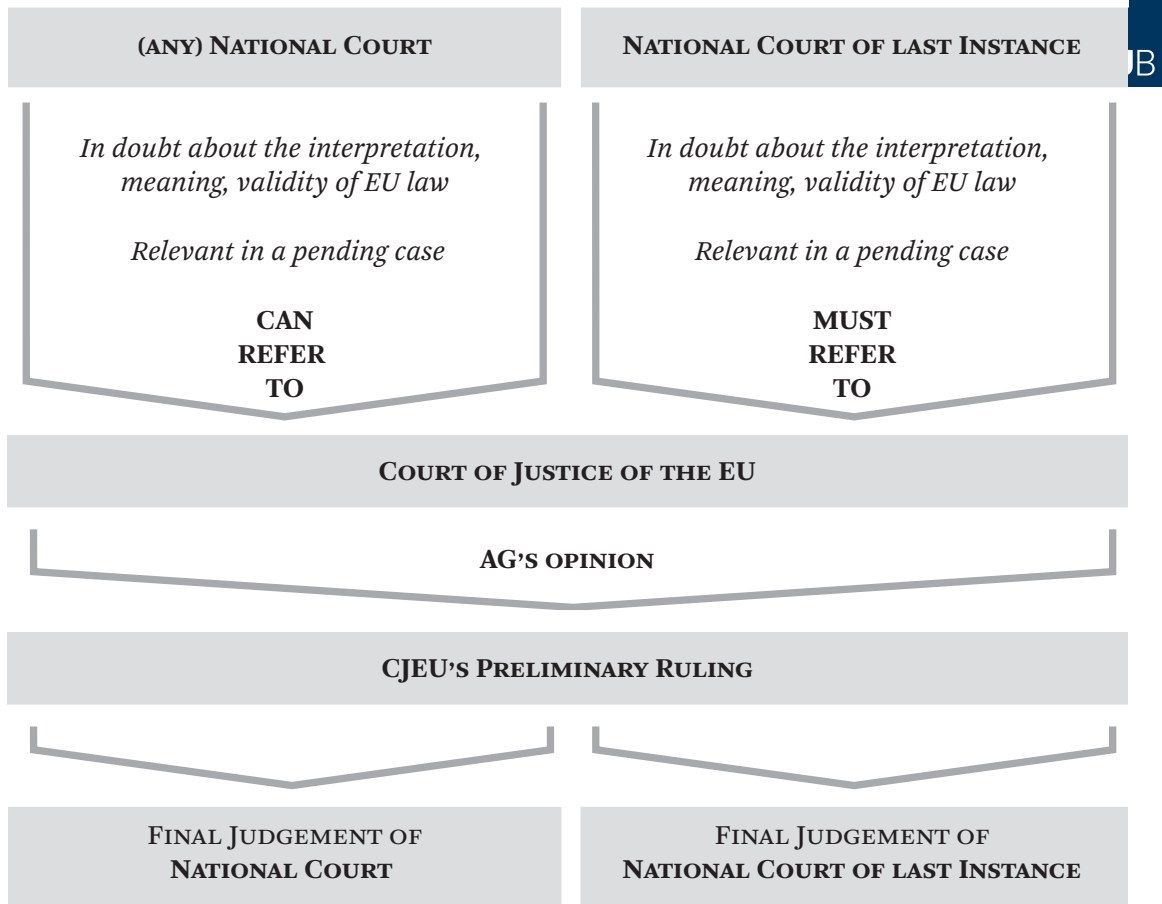
- forum of the representatives of the Union's citizens
- consulting and supervisory rights
- co-decision in the legislative process
- direct democratic legitimisation (democratic election)
- number of delegates elected for 5 years: 751

European Law I The Court of Justice (CJEU)



- 28 judges (one per Member State) + 8 Advocate Generals elected for a period of 6 years
- claims or actions of Member States or EU organs
- preliminary reference procedure (Art 267 TFEU): competence of the ECJ for the interpretation of the entire EU primary and secondary law





European Law | EU Institutions

The European Court of Auditors (Art 285 et seq TFEU)

- Verifies the lawfulness and conformity with regulations of all income and expenditure of the EU, its organs and its facilities

The European Central Bank (ECB) Art 13 TEU, Art 282 et seq TFEU)

- Completely independent institution of the EU
- Responsible for conducting the monetary policy (euro area)