

Eduardo Lechuga, *Towards a New Europe: The Increased Depth and Magnitude of the European Integration Process*

The European Union (EU) is presently undergoing a transformation of unprecedented magnitude. The new Europe will be shaped by a growing level of European integration, and by the enlargement of the EU. The main objective of the Maastricht Treaty is the solidification of an economic, monetary and political unity, to be grounded on the three fundamental pivots of economy, foreign policy and common security, as well as cooperation on legislative and internal matters. The establishment of a European region with no internal border controls has already begun: the European Common Market is today a reality, full of both promise and challenges. Regarding the enlargement of the EU in order to include Nations from Central and Eastern Europe, a strategy for their adhesion is already in operation; this will entail certain costs, although benefits will greatly exceed anything that might be achieved on purely economic terms. Economic and monetary unity, as well as foreign policy and common security, are also processes which are being implemented and adapted to emerging needs. These matters are to be studied at the forthcoming Inter Governmental Conference in Turin. The increased level of European integration, and the enlargement of the EU, will call for institutional reforms which are now being debated, and whose nature will determine the shape of Europe in the years to come.

Roberta Lajous, *The Future of Europe*

Since the signing of the Maastricht Treaty in 1992, the recession that plagues the European economy has continued to fuel doubts, concerning the heightened level of European integration, and the growing membership of the European Union

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(EU). On the one hand, the “Europessimists” are skeptical regarding the feasibility of a common currency to be in circulation by 1999, especially if new members are integrated into the EU. On the other, the “Eurooptimists” believe that the prevalent global context calls for a strong and unified Europe, and that it is imperative that established goals be achieved. The challenges posed for the EU at the present juncture are many. In the general context of institutional reform and EU procedure, there are three goals which must be considered a priority: the implementation of a common currency; the creation of a policy for common security and defense; and, on more general terms, the elaboration of a common foreign policy.

Carlos Tirado Zavala, *The Integration of Eastern and Central European Nations into the European Union*

This essay analyzes the challenges posed by the European Union's expansion into Central and Eastern Europe. It is divided into three main sections. The first studies institutional challenges faced by the EU, and underlines the extent to which enlargement is both necessary for integration, and an obstacle to be overcome on practical terms. This section also examines some of Europe's most pressing internal problems, such as unemployment, and external problems, such as common security. The second section focuses on the process of integration for Central and Eastern European Nations, as well as the Baltic States, into the EU. It revises existing mechanisms for cooperation and exchange, (the PHARE program, European Accords) as well as the strategy designed by the EU for the adhesion of the aforementioned Nations. The third section concludes with an analysis of the costs that will be imposed, in the short and medium terms, by the amplification of the EU. It also underlines its importance as a means to achieve a lasting European stability, as well as the promotion of development throughout Europe.

Alejandro García Moreno E., *Towards a New Architecture of European Security*

The new order of European security is in a process of legitimation. The strategies to be implemented, and the institutions to be created, have already been identified. The principal players in this process are the United States and the members of the European Union (EU). The institutions which will ostensibly create this new architecture of European security are the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the Western European Union (WEU) and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). This essay studies the construction of a common policy on security and foreign affairs in the EU, as well as the most serious

obstacles which this policy will have to overcome. It also analyzes the emergence of a new structure in European security, and the feasibility of an understanding between Russia and the Atlantic Alliance. The pacification of BosniaHerzegovina, and in particular the consensus which was finally established regarding the deployment of a Peace Keeping Operation in this region, demonstrates that the construction of a new system of European security, endowed with the necessary legitimacy, is indeed feasible.

Francisca Méndez Escobar, *The European Unión's Policy Towards Latin America: The Mexican Case*

The project of a new Accord on Economic Association and Political Coordination which the European Union (EU) has put forward for Mexico's consideration qualitatively alters the sense of relationships that had traditionally been established with developing Nations and emerging economies. In its first section, this essay analyzes common cooperative policies for development, which are the general backdrop for EU-Mexico relations. The second section focuses on relations between the two parts in the last two decades, with a special emphasis on the institutional framework within which they have developed. Undoubtedly, the 1991 Accord must evolve in order to reflect recent transformations in the international arena ensuing from the Cold War's demise; it must also contemplate changes that have taken place within the EU and Mexico. Therefore, the third section of this essay analyzes these changes, including the fact that the EU has transformed the nature of its relationship with the Latin American Nations, in terms of both form and content, in order to include new, complex, and diverse schemes for economic and political complementarity.

Judith Arrieta Munguía, *Mexico's Foreign Policy Towards the European Union 1990-1995*

This essay has two main objectives: the first is to analyze the scope of the Framework Accord, which has been in force between Mexico and the EU since 1991; the second, is to evaluate whether the EU can, at this time, be constituted into a viable option which will ensure external resources that are necessary for Mexico's future development. To achieve this, the essay is divided into three sections. The first of these describes the approaches made by Mexico towards the then European Economic Community (EEC), and the type of relations which prevailed between 1960 and 1989. The second section studies, firstly, the process

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of negotiation which led to the signing of the 1991 Accord between Mexico and the European Community (EC), and secondly, the contents of the Accord itself. The third section describes the changes that have evinced the need for a new accord between Mexico and the EU. The perspectives for such an accord, and, in particular, the state of negotiations are also examined.

Jorge Chen Charpentier, *The Relations Between Mexico and Europe Today*

Europe has an important and specific international weight in the political, economic and cultural arenas, which is largely due, among other reasons, to the process of European integration that has been carried out by the European Union (EU). According to the 1994-2000 National Development Plan (NDP), Europe is a priority for Mexico's strategy of diversification in foreign policy. This essay examines the state of relations between Mexico and the European continent, in particular the EU, on the bilateral and multilateral level. The first of this essay's two sections focuses on the challenges posed for the ongoing process of European integration, and, in particular, on the problems which derive from the enlargement of the EU. The second section analyzes the role assigned to Europe within the Mexican strategy of increasing diversification in terms of foreign relations. In this context, it examines the prevalent state of bilateral relations between Mexico and the European Nations, as well as those between our Nation and the EU, and the means which might serve to make them deeper.

Mario Chacón, *Economic Relations Between Mexico and the European Union: Their Recent Evolution*

This essay examines the recent evolution, and the actual state, of economic relations between Mexico and the European Union (EU). It is divided into six sections. The first analyzes the profound process which is Mexico's commercial aperture. The second and third sections analyze the evolution and actual state of commercial relationships and investment between Mexico and the EU. The fourth section focuses on a specific commercial problem, whose accentuation is likely: the difficulty that Mexican exports face in the European market, which is restricted to those countries with preferential access. The fifth section emphasizes the opportunity to create a privileged relationship among Mexico and the EU which stems from the coincidence between the Mexican need to deepen its commercial ties with the EU, and the European interest in our Nation. The sixth and final section points out that, even if a new Framework Accord were to be signed, this

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would not preclude the establishment of parallel strategies to permit an improved exploitation of the Accord now in force with the EU.

Fernando de Matco, *Commercial Relations Between Mexico and the European Union*

The process of European integration that has led to the European Union (EU) has, since its inception, been an important example for many Nations. Given that the processes of integration followed by various groups of Nations have differed considerably, the first section of this essay describes the different kinds of integration, in order to study and analyze the EU's antecedents, and the tendency of its member Nations towards economic unity or total integration. The second section underlines the relative importance of Mexico and the EU in the global commerce of goods and services: it analyzes the reach of intra European commerce in the total commerce of EU Nations, underlines Mexico's role in extracommunitary commerce, and compares our Nation's foreign commerce with that of other Nations, with which the EU maintains important economic ties. The third and final section focuses upon the commerce which exists between Mexico and the EU: it compares commercial policies and preferential systems, both in the EU and Mexico, studies the actual state of commerce between the two parts, and the obstacles in its path; and finally, it emphasizes the need to actualize the institutional structures that underpin this commercial interchange.

Stéphan Sberro, *The European Union as an Option for Diversification: A Critical Overview*

This article provides a critical view of the relations between Mexico and the European Union (EU). It is divided into two main sections. The first underlines the fact that Mexico and the EU grant each other a different relative importance. The role of the EU in Mexico's international relations is analyzed, as is that of Mexico in the EU's relations; the low priority which Latin America had traditionally held for the European Nations, and the political importance which it acquired throughout the Eighties, for which Mexico provided most of the impetus, are also examined. The second section analyzes the political and economic relations which today prevail between Mexico and the EU. It emphasizes the relative stagnation which characterizes political relations, and underlines the fact that Mexico is the only Latin American Nation that lacks a preferential relationship with the EU. It also compares Mexican strategies for approaching the EU with those implemented

by other Nations, and concludes by considering the convenience that a more political vision might have for Mexico in the quest for new accords with the EU. It is also pointed out that in Europe, it is politics which determine economic relations, rather than the other way round.

Lcón Rodríguez Zahar, *Religious Fundamentalism and the State in the XX Century*

Fundamentalism can be defined as the politicization of the most traditional and religious values in a specific society. This is not a phenomenon limited to the Islamic Nations; on the contrary, it is an important aspect of even the most advanced societies. This essay is divided into two main sections. The first analyzes the secularizing revolution of the modern State, and the crises of secular ideologies in the XX Century. The second section explains the emergence of a fundamentalist counterrevolution which, in its struggle against the secular State, has adopted one of three main shapes: fundamentalism as an expression of moral renewal; fundamentalism as a late manifestation of antiColonial nationalism; and revolutionary fundamentalism.

Eva Pizano Cejka, *Negotiations Between Israel and Syria: Towards a Settlement in the Middle Eastern Conflict?*

The peace negotiations now taking place between Israel and Syria hope to achieve a settlement for the ancient bilateral conflict; they have been also considered as a necessary prerequisite for the end of the Arab-Israeli confrontation. This essay describes and evaluates the peace negotiations between these two Nations, and their importance for the broader Middle Eastern peace process. It is divided into three main sections. The first summarizes advances in Arab-Israeli relations stemming from the Camp David Accords. It underlines that, although each conference between Israel and any one of the Arab Nations displays specific characteristics, they all form part of an indivisible whole; the Syrian-Israeli negotiations, therefore, are of importance for the broader process. The second section analyzes Syria's regional role: it studies its evolving relations with its neighbors, explains the Syrian leadership in the dispute with Israel, and examines the internal conditions, economic ones especially, which have led Syria to search for a more stable regional context. The third and final section describes the actual state of peace negotiations between Israel and Syria, emphasizing the Syrian position in the Persian Gulf, the advantages that the peace process will bring to the parties involved, and the obstacles that this process now faces.