

*European Integration on the Balkans:
What's the Point?*

6th December 2007

Borjan Tanevski Memorial Conference

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In teaching, what matters is not to give people answers,
but to help them ask the right questions:

Why bother with EU integration?

What's the point?

Three perspectives: Germany, Britain, Greece

Germany

Peace

Re-integration in to Europe

Opening markets, cheap labor

[no internal changes, Europe is 'us']

Britain/UK

Peace (= control the Germans)

Opening markets, cheap labor

[no internal changes, Europe is 'us' and the 'other']

Greece

Peace (military security)

Economic support & development

Become part of Europe

Internal organisation [Europe is the 'other' we want to be]

Some statistics:

GNP per capita

	1957	1973	1981	1991	2003	2006 (PPP)
Germany	6.492	11.966	14.149	16.650	19.144	28,170
Britain	8.017	12.025	12.747	16.157	21.310	31,430
Greece	2.859	7.655	8.896	10.204	13.677	22,230
FYR Macedonia	2.014	4.361	6.134	3.713	3.295	6,560

1957-2003, GDP per capita in 1990 International Geary-Khamis \$, <http://www.ggdc.net/Maddison/> (U Groningen, OECD, 03/2007)

2006 PPP GNP per capita (World Bank Development Indicators for 2006)

	<i>Corruption Index</i>	<i>Wars fought since 1957</i>
Germany	7.8 (16 th)	Afghanistan
Britain	8.4 (12-13 th)	Falklands, Afghanistan, Gulf war, Iraq, Serbia/Kosovo
Greece	4.6 (56 th)	Gulf war, Afghanistan
FYR Macedonia	3.3 (84-94 th)	Yugoslavia (?), civil war (?), Afghanistan, Iraq

2007 Transparency International Corruption Perceptions Index, <http://www.transparency.org/>

Common features:

Peace [not: support against my enemies]

Democratic and legal procedures [legislative alignment]

Free market economy

[-> Copenhagen Criteria 1993]

Europe by bureaucracy

Europe by law

Europe by osmosis

Europe buys

So, what's the point for you?