

SHOULD  
FRANCE  
LEAVE  
THE EU ?



# Summary

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- 1) The benefits of France's membership in the EU
- 2) The drawbacks and constraints of the European Union for France
- 3) The potential consequences if France leaves the EU
- 4) Comparison with Brexit

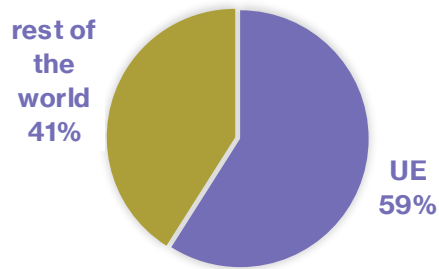


# 1) The benefits of France's membership in the EU

## Economic Benefits

### Access to the Single Market & Exports

#### BREAKDOWN OF FRENCH EXPORTS



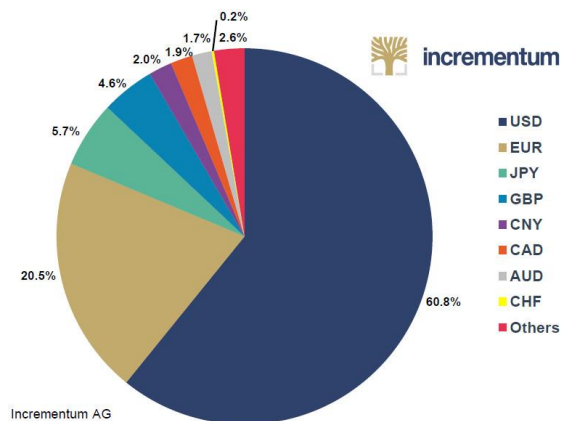
- 59% of French exports go to the EU
- In 2018, France exported €285.7 billion to the EU, out of a total of €482,3 billion.
- Airbus : A European cooperation -> 48,000 jobs in France.

### EU Support for Agriculture

- €9,4 billion in agricultural subsidies received in 2023 (France > Spain & Italy)
- Ensures financial stability and modernization of farms.
- Supports ecological transition and European standards.

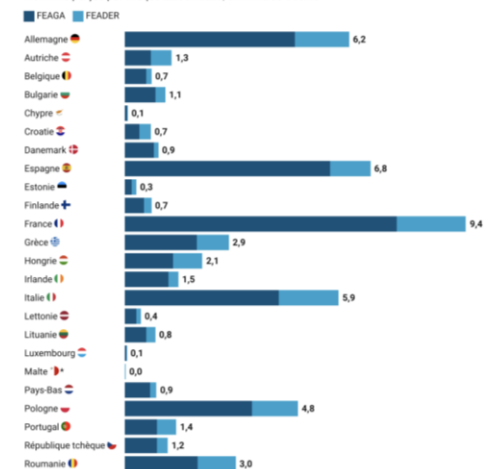
### The Stability of the Euro: An Economic Shield

- The Euro accounts for 20% of global monetary reserves (2nd reserve currency after the US dollar).
- Ensures financial security & attractiveness for investors.
- Unlike the British pound after Brexit, the Euro remains stable, protecting trade and French businesses.



#### Répartition des aides de la Politique agricole commune

Montants perçus par chaque Etat en 2023, en milliards d'euros



# 1) The benefits of France's membership in the EU

## The EU's Geopolitical Influence on France

### Trade Agreements: Enhanced Negotiation Power

- The EU negotiates global trade agreements, securing better deals than if France acted alone.

- CETA (Canada) : + 60% increase in trade over 5 years.

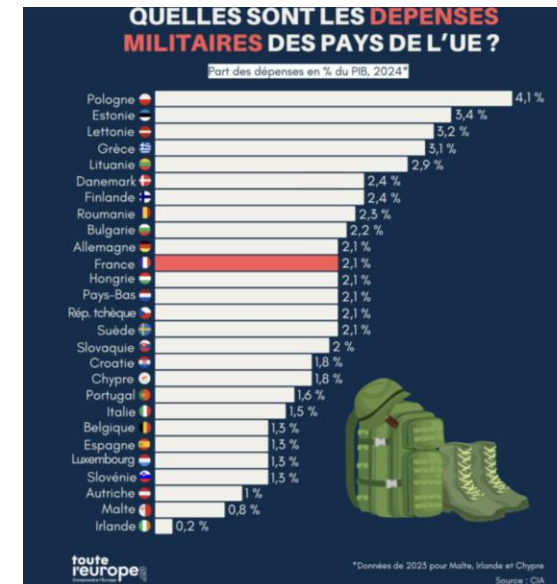
- The EU has agreements with over 70 countries, creating new opportunities for French businesses.

- Japan: 90% of customs duties eliminated, facilitating French exports.



### Security & Defense: A Strengthened Strategic Framework

- France allocates 2.1% of its GDP to defense, one of the highest levels in the EU.



- Enhanced national security through European defense initiatives.

- Intelligence sharing and reinforced military coordination

- Permanent Structured Cooperation (PSC): joint military projects (tanks, military drones)



# 1) The benefits of France's membership in the EU

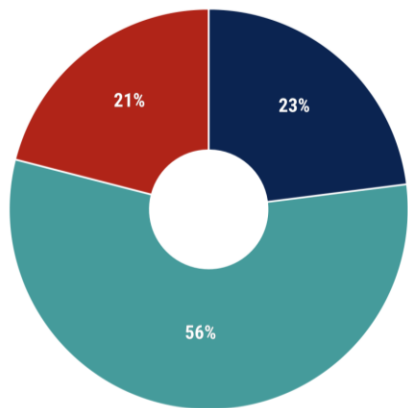
## The Social and Cultural Benefits of the EU for France

### Free Movement and Job Opportunities

- Schengen: Travel, work, and study freely in 27 countries without border controls.
- Worker mobility: 1.5 million French citizens live in another EU country.
- A more accessible job market for young professionals and skilled workers.

### Erasmus & Education: International Opportunities.

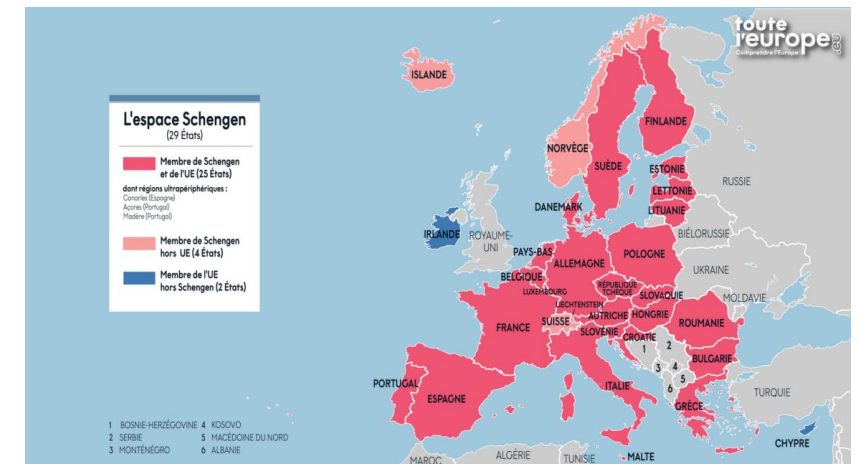
- 40 000 French students participate in the Erasmus program each year.
- The program improves employability: 80% of Erasmus students find a job within six months.
- Scientific and academic collaboration : EU funding for research projects.



### French Public Opinion on the EU

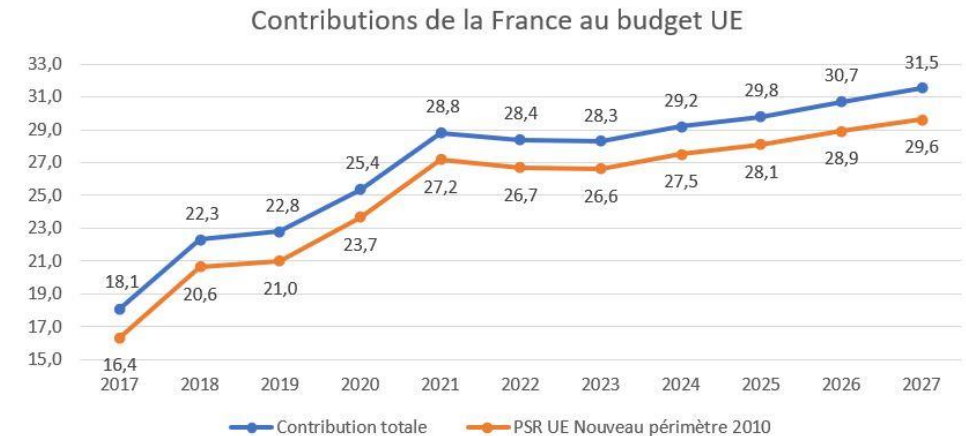
Ipsos 2024 Survey:

- 55% of French citizens believe the EU is beneficial.
- 30% have a negative opinion.
- 15% remain neutral.



# 2) The drawbacks and constraints of the European Union for France

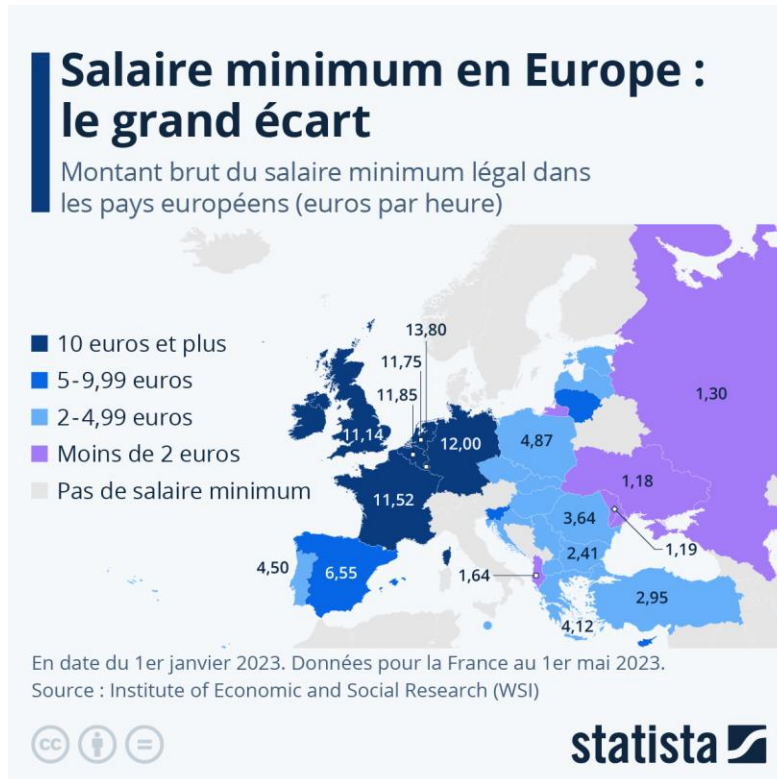
Sovereignty Constraints	Economic Burdens
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• EU Laws Primacy</li><li>• Monetary Policy Control</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• France is a Net Contributor</li><li>• EU Sanctions / Penalties</li></ul>



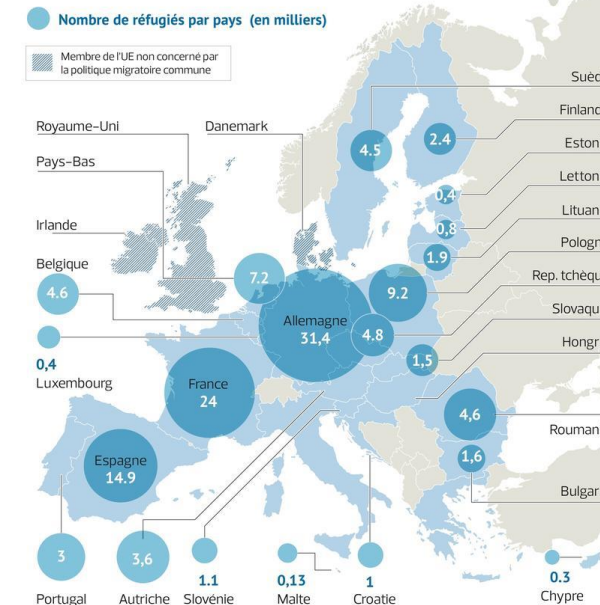
For 2024 : The contribution to the EU budget represents 6,44% of the national's annual budget

## 2) The drawbacks and constraints of the European Union for France

Trade and Industry Challenges	Migration and Social Strains
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Competition from Other EU Countries</li><li>• Relocation of Industries</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Freedom of Movement Issues</li><li>• Unequal Sharing</li></ul>



### Le plan de l'UE pour accueillir 120 000 migrants supplémentaires\*



\*EN PLUS DES 40 000 REFUGIÉS DÉJÀ INTÉGRÉS DANS LE PLAN INITIAL, PRÉSENTÉ EN MAI DERNIER.

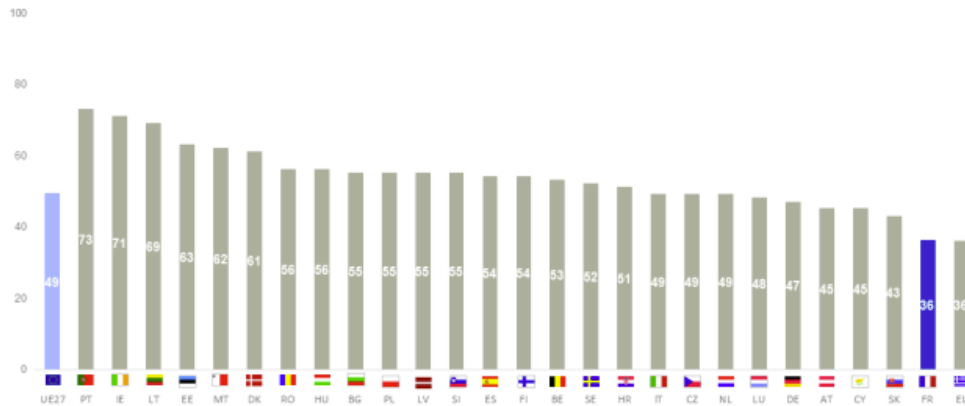
Sources : Reuters

Infographie LE FIGARO.fr

## 2) The drawbacks and constraints of the European Union for France

Political and Democratic Concerns	Agricultural and Environmental Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rise of Euroscepticism (bureaucracy)</li><li>• Difficulty in Reforming in the EU</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) Limitations</li><li>• Environmental Regulations</li></ul>

Pour chacune des institutions suivantes, pourriez-vous me dire si vous avez plutôt confiance ou plutôt pas confiance en elle :  
L'Union européenne  
Plutôt confiance (%)



Source : Kantar Public pour la Commission européenne – Eurobaromètre Standard 95

PAC 2023-2027, UN GREENWASHING  
À 270 MILLIARDS D'EUROS



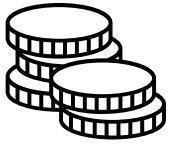


# 3) The consequences of leaving for France

## Potential Benefits



-Between **7 to 10 billions** of savings every year



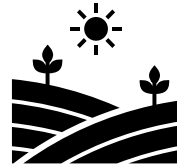
-Economic advantage on **nuclear electricity** that could be used for profit on exports

-No need to comply with deficit and debt regulations, **more leverage**

## Potential Threats



-Risk for French **farmers** who are the main benefiter of the EU subventions (**CAP**)

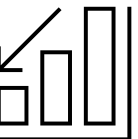
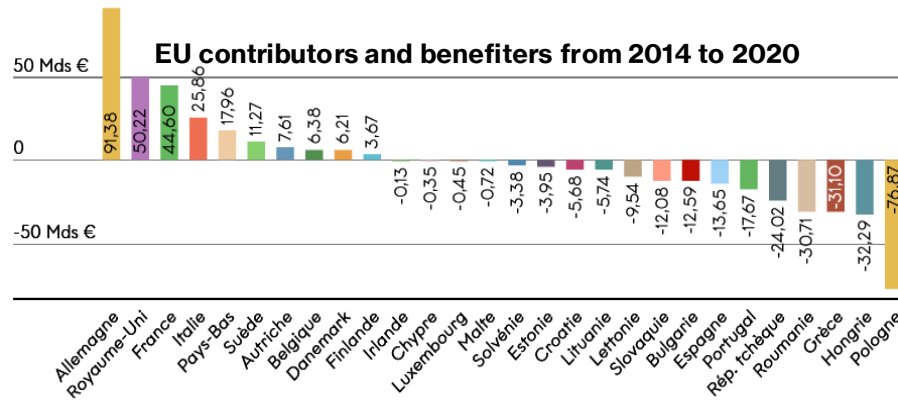


-Lose of the access to **free market**, appearance of tariffs

-Leaving the EU means leaving the **Schengen area**, no free movement of people anymore

-Risk of **isolating** France on the Global scene, less economic and military power

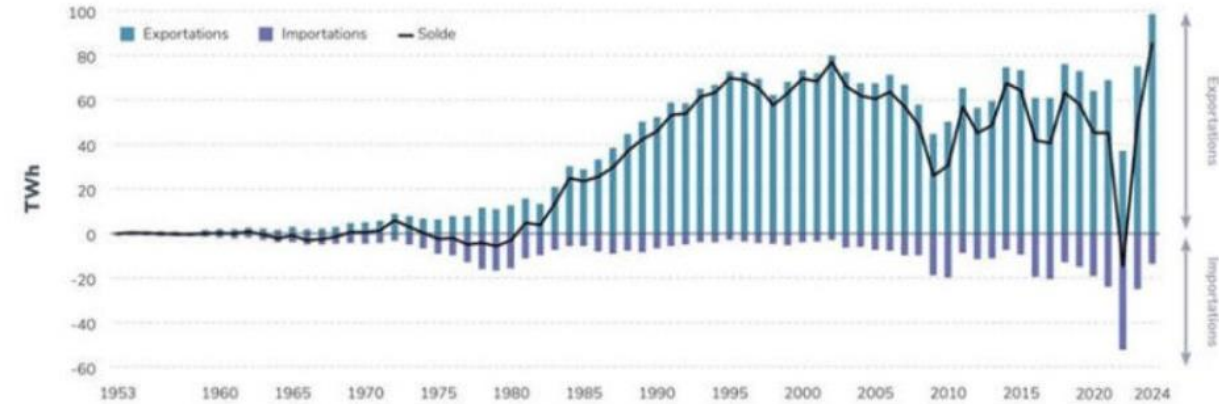
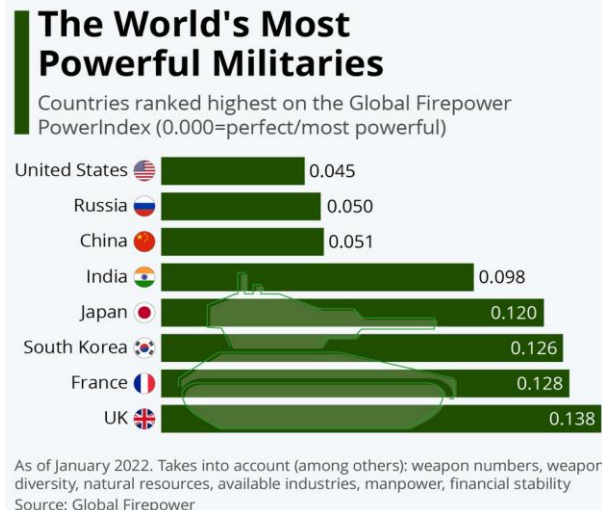
-Return to the French franc would most likely devalue the money and **inflation** could arise, leading to higher **unemployment** and lower economic power



# 3) The consequences for the EU

## On the economy

- EU would lose its second economic contributor (more than 18%), giving 25 to 30 billion per year
- Risk of energy crisis if France rises prices on energy (France exports 1.6 times the equivalent of Netherlands consumption)



## On the global EU capacities

- Reduction of the military strength, no nuclear power anymore
- Germany would be the first country with more than 20% of the vote at the EU Council (21.78%)
- The impact of EU policies will be highly lowered

# 4) Comparison with Brexit

"Take back control" ?

Before	Now
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Public opinion divide</li><li>• 44% in favor of "Remain"</li><li>• 43% for "Leave"</li><li>• 13% undecided</li><li>• Divided nation</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 55% of British are in favor of rejoining the EU</li><li>• 11% believe Brexit is a success</li></ul>

(YouGov Survey)



## 4) Comparison with Brexit



Negative impact	Positive impact
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- British economy</li><li>- Immigration has not decreased</li><li>- Issue to attract new investors</li><li>- Return of administrative formalities slows trade</li><li>- Less exportation</li><li>- Slower and more expensive</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Legislative independence</li><li>- Businesses</li><li>- Fishing</li></ul>
Consequences	Consequences
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Growing trend of “Bregret” (Brexit regret)</li><li>- Majority now wishes for closer relations with the European Union</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Represents a victory for direct democracy and national sovereignty</li></ul>



# Conclusion

## Main benefits of staying in the EU:

- Access to the single market (59% of exports)
- Agricultural support (€9.4B in 2023)
- Euro stability
- Geopolitical influence
- Free movement (Schengen, Erasmus)

## Main constraints of exiting the EU :

- Loss of sovereignty
- High EU budget contribution (6.44% in 2024)
- Intra-EU competition
- Reform difficulties



## Consequences of a Frexit:

- Savings (€7-10B/year),
- End of budget constraints
- But loss of agricultural subsidies, trade barriers, end of free movement
- Risk of currency devaluation



**Kahoot!**



*For you, should France leave the EU?*

*If yes, do you think it is possible?*

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