

EU Security & Policy Shifts: Baltic Airspace, Ukraine Aid, and Economic Reform

European Politics · Answer Key · 10 Questions

1. Recent security incidents in the Baltic region have prompted European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen to announce new measures. What is the primary focus of these new measures?

- A) Strengthening the EU's eastern flank and countering hybrid and aerial threats.**
- B) Increasing economic aid to non-EU neighboring countries.
- C) Establishing a new cultural exchange program with Russia.
- D) Reducing military presence in the Baltic states.

2. What major reform to the EU's economic governance framework entered into force on April 30, 2024, aimed at strengthening debt sustainability and promoting growth?

- A) A new economic governance framework with medium-term fiscal plans.**
- B) A complete suspension of all fiscal rules for member states.
- C) A mandatory increase in corporate tax rates across the EU.
- D) A unified EU currency for all non-eurozone countries.

3. In the context of the ongoing war in Ukraine, what significant statement did Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy make regarding Ukraine's relationship with the EU?

- A) He stated that 'the time is right' for Ukraine to start the process of joining the EU.**
- B) He announced Ukraine's withdrawal from all EU-related negotiations.
- C) He requested immediate EU military intervention on Ukrainian territory.
- D) He proposed a temporary halt to all EU accession talks.

4. The European Commission recently rejected Russia's warning to evacuate Kyiv. What was the spokesperson's reason for this rejection?

- A) Accusing Russia of trying to 'sow panic' and insisting the EU would maintain its presence.**
- B) Requesting a ceasefire before resuming diplomatic relations.
- C) Seeking a UN peacekeeping mission in Kyiv.
- D) Agreeing to evacuate only non-essential personnel.

5. Which of the following is a key objective of the EU's 8th Environment Action Programme guiding environmental policy until 2030?

- A) Pursuing a zero-pollution ambition, including for air, water, and soil.**
- B) Increasing the use of fossil fuels for energy production.
- C) Relaxing regulations on industrial emissions.
- D) Promoting deforestation for agricultural expansion.

6. NATO foreign ministers recently met in Sweden. What were some of the key topics discussed during this meeting?

- A) Follow-up discussions on defense spending commitments and continued support for Ukraine.**
- B) Negotiations for a new trade agreement with China.
- C) Plans for a joint space exploration mission.
- D) Measures to reduce NATO's military presence in Europe.

7. The European Climate Law sets a legally binding target for the EU to become climate-neutral by a specific year. What is this year?

- A) 2050**
- B) 2030
- C) 2040
- D) 2060

8. Recent discussions within the EU and NATO have highlighted the need for increased European defense investment and capabilities. Which of these is a stated goal of the European Commission's 'ReArm Europe Plan/Readiness 2030' initiative?

- A) Mobilizing up to EUR800 billion on defense investment by 2030.**
- B) Reducing overall defense spending by 10%.
- C) Phasing out all defense cooperation with the United States.
- D) Focusing solely on cyber defense capabilities.

9. The European Commission has published guidance to clarify the application of EU water laws. What is a key aim of this guidance?

- A) To ensure simpler and more harmonized implementation of EU water laws by reducing uncertainties.**
- B) To allow for increased pollution of surface and groundwater.
- C) To eliminate all regulations concerning water quality.
- D) To permit unrestricted use of all chemicals in water bodies.

10. The EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) requires businesses to demonstrate that their products have not contributed to deforestation. When is the EUDR's due diligence system scheduled to enter into application?

- A) By the end of 2026.**
- B) By the end of 2024.
- C) By the end of 2025.
- D) By the end of 2027.