

**Europe - giving shape to an idea**  
*The Council of the European Union***Pub Date:** December 2009**Binding:** Hardback**Price:** £21.99 / \$36.95**ISBN:** 9781843318293**Category:** POLITICAL SCIENCE /  
Essays**BISAC code:** POL032000**BIC code:** JPH**Extent:** 300 pages**Size:** 305 x 215mm / 12 x 8.5**Illustrations:** 100+ figures and images**Rights Held:** World**Description**

**This fascinating compilation features extracts from proposals for uniting Europe, drawn up over the centuries.**

- Co-published by Anthem Press and the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union.
- 300 richly-illustrated pages offering 25 renowned authors, with accompanying commentary.

Europe has existed down the centuries as a myth, a geographical area, an idea, a source of identity, and much else besides. Recently it has taken more concrete shape in the form of a Union of Member States working together within a unique legal and political framework in pursuit of a common destiny. An awareness of the need to harness the political forces of Europe within some sort of framework, whether it takes the form of a treaty, founding charter or constitution, has existed for a long time. First appearing in Dante, the notion of a unified Europe has continued throughout the centuries, culminating after the Second World War with the establishment of the European Community, and subsequently the European Union. During this time thinkers from vastly different backgrounds reflected on how to bring peace and reconciliation to the continent of Europe. This collection aims to present a part of European history that is little known: the historical attempts to give concrete shape to that ambitious vision. In doing so, it shows that the objective of a Europe at peace with itself has roots which go back deep in history, and that many of the ideas put forward to achieve that objective over the years contained the seeds of the European Union as it exists today.

**Readership:** This volume is aimed at the general reader interested in the development of the European idea, from the 13th century to the creation of the European Union.

**Contents**

List of authors commented upon: Dante Alighieri; Jeremy Bentham; Johann Kaspar Bluntschli; Hermann Broch; Richard Nikolaus von Coudenhove-Kalergi; Émeric Crucé (de la Croix); Luigi Einaudi; Wojciech Bogumił Jastrzębowski; William Ivor Jennings; Ernst Jünger; Immanuel Kant; Alexis Leger, alis Saint-John Perse; Jakob Heinrich von Lilienfeld; James Lorimer; Lord Lothian / Philip Kerr; Emil Ludwig; Ronald William Gordon MacKay; Salvador de Madariaga; Jean Monnet; William Penn; George de Podiebrad; Charles Irénée Castel (Abbé) de Saint-Pierre; Claude Henri de Rouvroy, Count of Saint-Simon; Robert Schuman; Paul-Henri Spaak; Altiero Spinelli; Maximilien de Béthune, Duke of Sully.

**About the Editor**

Compiled by the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union, the principal decision-making institution of the European Union.

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