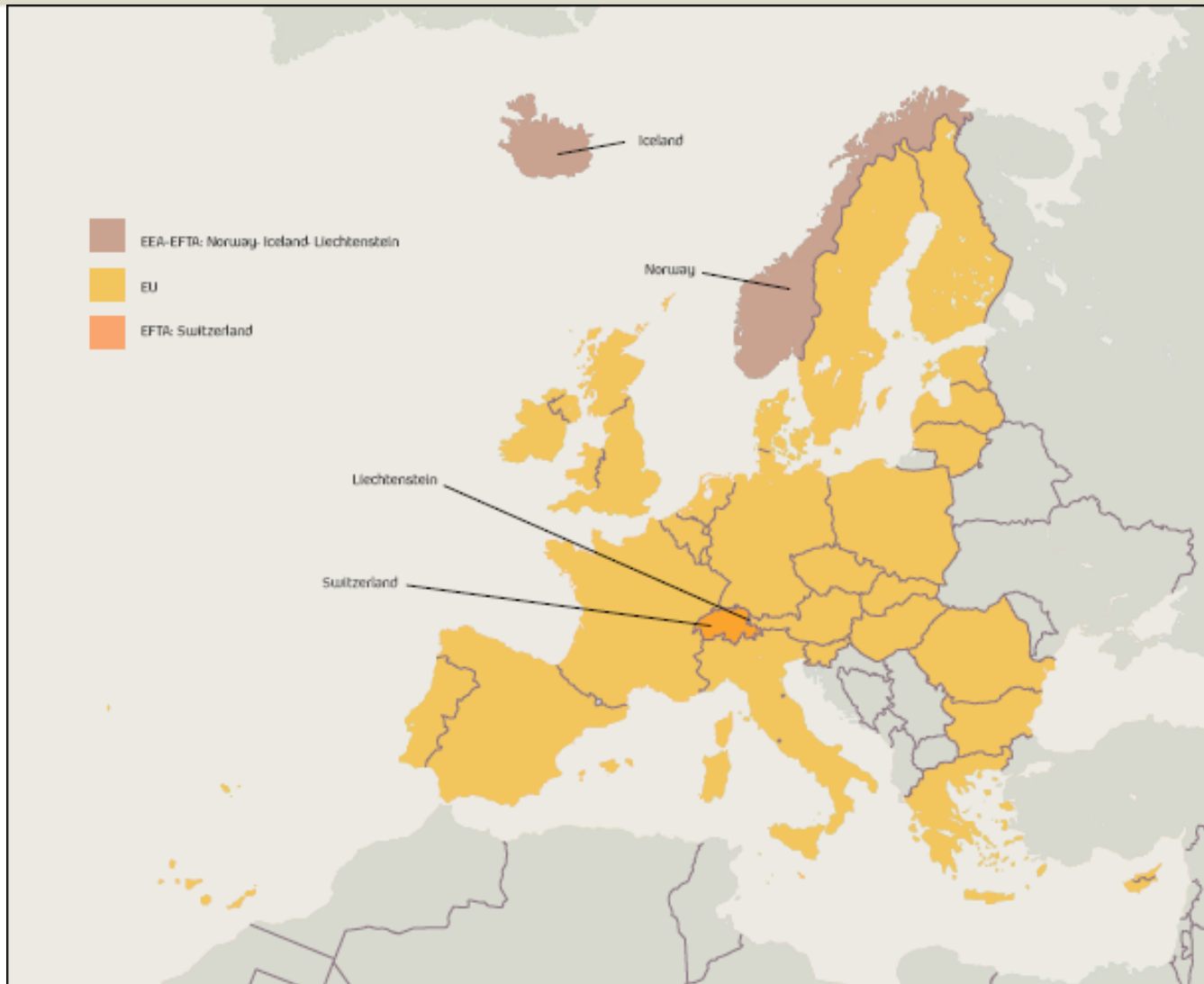


## Norway and the EU – partners for Europe





## Did you know that...

- Population 4,8 mill.
- In 2009 Norway allocated 1% of its Gross National Income (GNI) to international development cooperation.
- Norway is the fifth largest oil exporter and the third largest gas exporter in the world.
- 24 % of EU natural gas imports come from Norway
- 95% of Norwegian electricity comes from renewable energy (hydropower).
- Norway is the world's second largest exporter of seafood.
- Norway has the the world's fifth largest merchant fleet.

## Norway and the EU

- **Two referendums 1972 and 1994**
- **Membership rejected by narrow majority**
- **Good and close relations with the EU**

## EEA agreement

- **European Economic Area:**  
27 EU + 3 EEA/EFTA states (not Switzerland)
- **Included in the internal market**
- **EEA agreement:**  
The free movement of goods, persons, services and capital
- **Equal conditions of competition and non-discrimination in all EU states**

## EEA agreement

- Free movement of **goods** – customs and other restrictions
- Free movement of **persons** – seek employment in EEA,
- Free movement of **capital** – cross-border investments and no restrictions on opening of bank accounts
- Free movement of **services** - establish companies

## EEA agreement

EEA does not cover:

- EU common agriculture and fisheries policies
- The customs union, the common trade policy, the common foreign and security policy, justice and home affairs and the monetary union.

## EEA agreement

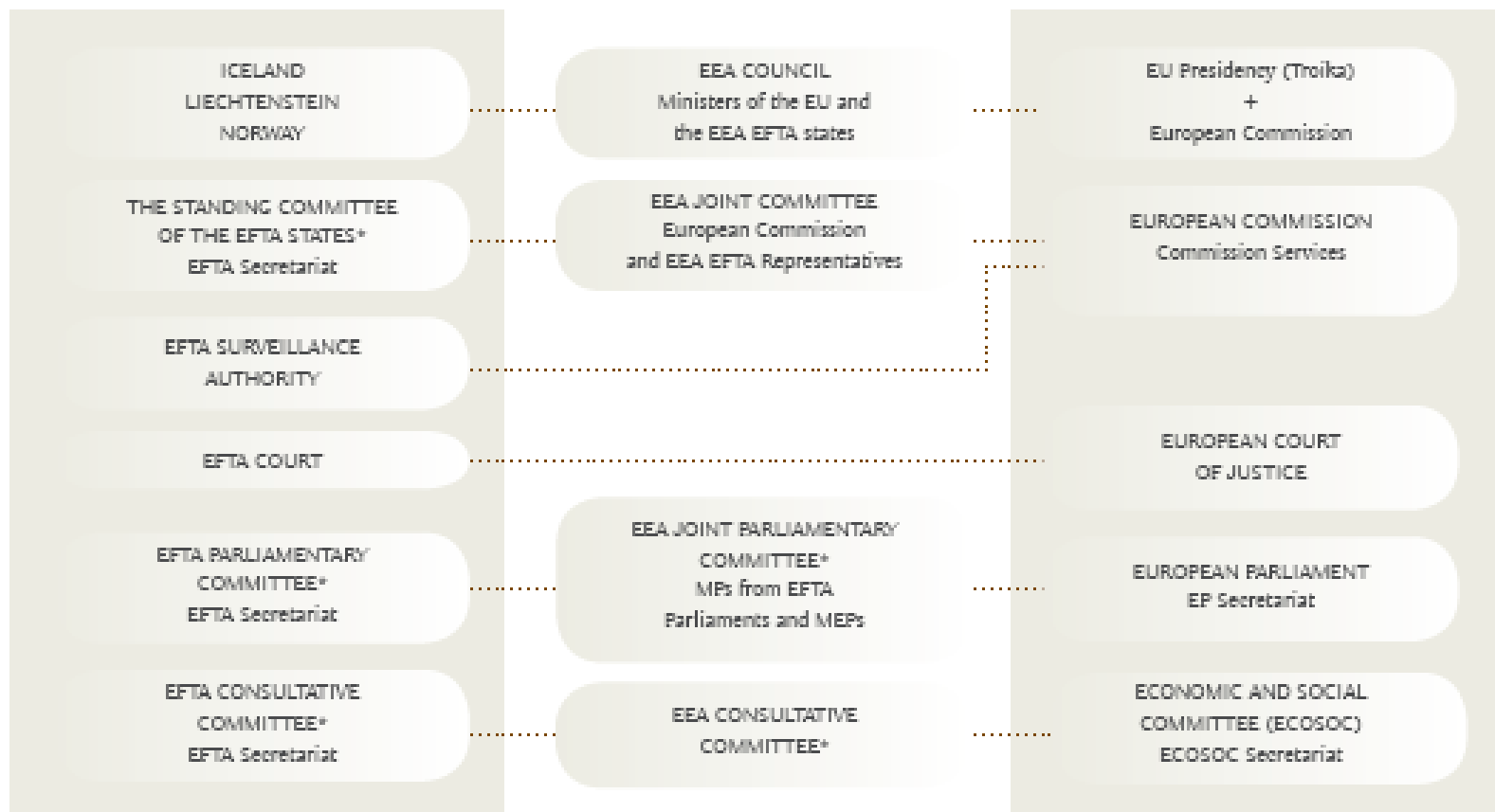
- Conditions: The same rules and conditions of competition must apply in all countries
- EU legislation and internal market is integrated into the national legislation of the EEA/EFTA states.
- 6200 legal acts have been incorporated into the EEA agreement
- Legal acts approved by Parliament in the EEA countries.



## The EEA institutions

- EEA EFTA states not fully members – constitutionally incapable of accepting direct decisions by the Commission or the European Court of Justice
- Two pillar system – match these institutions on the EEA side
- Most important: EFTA Surveillance Authority (ESA)
  - that EFTA countries meet their obligations to free trade
  - EFTA Court corresponds to the Court of Justice of the European Communities

## The Two-Pillar EEA Structure



\*Switzerland is an observer

## Norway's participation in the EU programmes and agencies

- Participation through provisions in the EEA-agreement or bilateral agreement.
- A yearly financial contribution to the relevant EU budget.
- 2008: Norway's contribution € 188 mill – increase to € 290 mill in 2013 (in parallell with increase of the EU-budget).
- Most important: Research and student mobility

## EU PROGRAMMES WITH NORWEGIAN PARTICIPATION IN 2008

- Seventh Framework Programme (FP7)
- Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP)
- The Competitiveness and Innovation Programme (CIP)
- The Community Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity – PROGRESS
- Daphne - Combating Violence
- Health 2008–2013
- The Consumer Programme 2007–2013
- Youth in Action
- Culture 2007
- MEDIA 2007
- Safer Internet Plus 2005–2008
- Data Interchange – IDABC
- Marco Polo – Transport
- EU Statistical Programme
- The Civil Protection Financial Mechanism 2007–2013

# Schengen Agreement

- Joined **Schengen** cooperation in 2001 – harmonised policies on visa and external border control
  - No border control between Norway and other Schengen countries
  - Participates in Mixed Committee of the Council - development of Schengen. Norway right to speak – not to vote.
- Participates in **Frontex** - European Borders Agency – management of the common external borders.
- Agreement on **Dublin cooperation** – criteria and mechanisms for which state is responsible for examining asylum applications
- Agreements on **Europol**, **Eurojust** (cross border crime), **Arrest Warrant**, **Prüm** (police cooperation to combat terrorism)

# Norway and the EUs Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP)

- Political dialogue in the EEA agreement - twice a year. Constellations with working group on Middle East and other topics
- Alignment to EU Foreign Policy statements
- Agreement to participate in European Security and Defence Policy missions. Norway has participated in EU led operations in the Balkans, Asia and in the Middle East
- Norway part of the Nordic Battle Group

## Norway-EU Cooperation at political level

- EEA Council (ministerial level) twice every year - the Arctic or energy
- Mixed Committee/Schengen – the Norwegian Minister of Justice or Minister of Labour
- European NATO defence ministers and EU after formal and informal council meetings of EU defence ministers.
- Informal ministerial meetings
- Present views in European Parliament – Arctic, Middle East

## EEA and Norway Grants

- Norway committed to providing € 1,79 bill. (CAD 2,48 bill.) to reduce social and economic disparities within the EU (2009-14).
- Strengthen this between Norway and respective EU-countries.
- Funding areas: Energy efficiency, waste water treatment, trade union and women's rights.
- Strengthen the capacity of NGOs and civil society.
- Funding – open calls – applications.



## EEA and Norway Grants 2009 -2014

### Annual contributions

- Poland €115.62 million
- Romania €61.19 million
- Hungary €30.66 million
- Czech Republic €26.36 million
- Bulgaria €25.32 million
- Lithuania €16.80 million
- Slovakia €16.15 million
- Latvia €14.59 million
- Greece €12.68 million
- Portugal €11.59 million
- Estonia €9.72 million
- Spain €9.17 million
- Slovenia €5.38 million
- Cyprus €1.57 million
- Malta €0.90 million
- **Total €357.70 million pr year**

## Other areas of cooperation

- Fisheries – 65% of Norwegian export to the EU – regulated in a protocol to the EEA-agreement.
- Fisheries – resource management and participation in EU-programmes.
- Energy – Norway integrated in EUs internal energy market.
- ½ of natural gas imported to EU from Norway (second in volume only to Russian gas)
- Hydropower – informal power trade between Norway and Nordic countries.

## Other areas of cooperation

- Climate change – CCS cooperation.
  - Norway has stored CO<sub>2</sub> under the Sleipner gas field for 12 years.
  - Mongstad- gas fired power plant with full scale CO<sub>2</sub> capture from 2014.
  
- Maritime policy and cooperation.

# Thank you!

