Process of formation of the EU-27

1957 Treaty of Rome

1969 The EU-12 comes into being with the entry of Spain and Portugal

1986 Ireland, United Kingdom and Denmark form the first enlargement

1995 The EU-16 is created after the accession of Austria, Finland and Sweden

2004 The entry of 10 new Member States gives rise to the EU-25

2007 The EU-27 is formed with Bulgaria and Romania