

Forty years of investment in European integration

Source: Les 40 ans de la Banque européenne d'investissement (1958-1998)- Luxembourg: Banque européenne d'investissement [Prod.], 1998. Banque européenne d'investissement, Luxembourg. - VIDEO (03:14, Couleur, Son original).

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Established at the signing of the Treaty of Rome in 1957, the EIB has remained faithful to the mandate given to it at the time: to encourage European integration. For you, no doubt, the last forty years bring to mind international events, fashions and rock'n'roll. But throughout that period the EIB was at work, well away from the limelight. During the forty years of its existence, the EIB has been financing industrial projects and a vitally important infrastructure in less-favoured regions. Although three out of four loans still target regional development today, energy also aroused growing interest in the 1970s. During the 1980s, ecology played a major part in the public perception, which led to more environmental projects coming to fruition. Road, rail, air and telecommunication links have always aroused a great deal of interest, today more than ever.