

EFTA Member States: Chronology of free-trade and accession agreements with the EC/EU

Caption: Chronological table on Member States of the European Free-Trade Association (EFTA) showing the date of their accession or withdrawal from the organisation, as well as the date of the free-trade agreements concluded between them and the European Economic Community (EEC) [to become the European Community (EC) after the Treaty on European Union came into force on 1 November 1993].

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	EFTA Member States	Accession to the EC/EU (withdrawal from EFTA)	Free-trade agreements between EFTA States and the EEC/EC	Miscellaneous
1960	Stockholm Convention of 4 January 1960 establishing EFTA, coming into force on 3 May 1960: Founding States: Denmark, Austria, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom (7 members)			EFTA Convention also applicable to Liechtenstein, pursuant to customs union between Switzerland and Liechtenstein
1961	Finland (associate member)			
1970	Accession of Iceland (7 + 1 = 8 members)			
1972			Bilateral free-trade agreements EEC + 5 EFTA States (Austria, Switzerland, Portugal, Sweden, Iceland)	
1973	(8 - 2 = 6 members)	Denmark, United Kingdom	- Bilateral free-trade agreements EEC + 2 EFTA States (Norway, Finland) - Entry into force of bilateral EEC free-trade agreements with Austria, Switzerland, Portugal, Sweden (January), Iceland (April), Norway (July), Finland (October)*	
1977			EEC-EFTA free-trade zone for industrial products (free movement of goods from 1 July)	
1986	Accession of Finland (6 + 1 - 1 = 6 members)	Portugal		
1991	Accession of Liechtenstein (6 + 1 = 7 members)			

1992			Oporto Agreement on the EEA of 2 May 1992 between EEC Member States (12) + 5 EFTA States (7 - Switzerland and Liechtenstein) coming into force on 1 January 1994	Referendum in Switzerland against ratification of the Agreement on the EEA results in the withdrawal of Liechtenstein, bound to Switzerland by a customs union (December)
1995	(7 - 3 = 4 members: Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland)	Austria, Finland, Sweden	EEA comprises EC States (15) + 3 EFTA States (Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein)	Liechtenstein ratifies its accession to the EEA in a referendum (April) and joins the EEA (May)
2004			EEA comprises EC States (25) + 3 EFTA States (Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein)	
2007			EEA comprises EC States (27) + 3 EFTA States (Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein)	
*7 other bilateral free-trade agreements were signed between the ECSC and the EFTA States; those with Austria, Switzerland, Portugal and Sweden came into force in January 1974.				