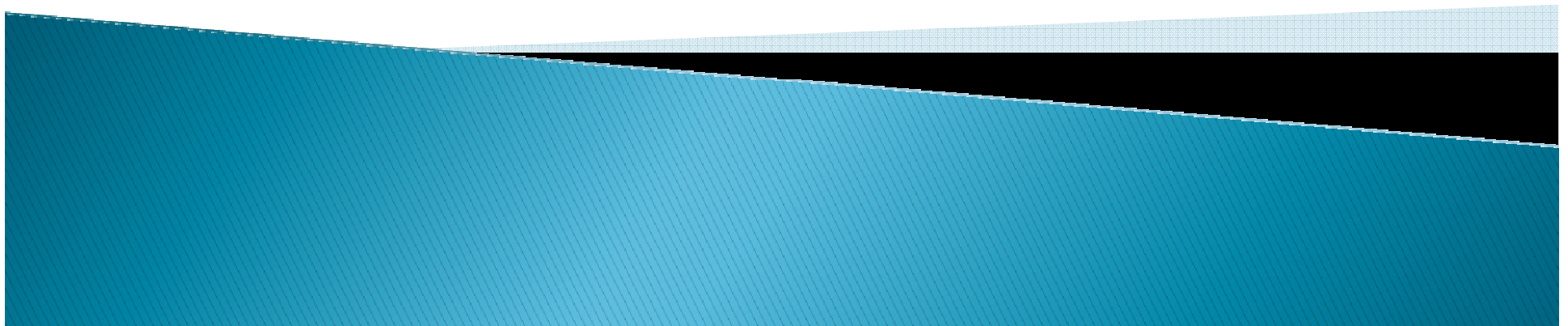


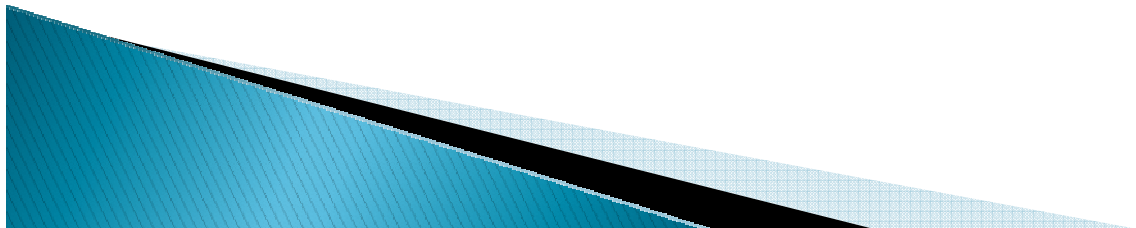
The European Union after the Treaty of Lisbon: recent achievements and challenges ahead

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Contents

- ▶ Introduction
- ▶ Recent achievements
- ▶ Challenges ahead
- ▶ Conclusions: capacities and shortcomings of the EU



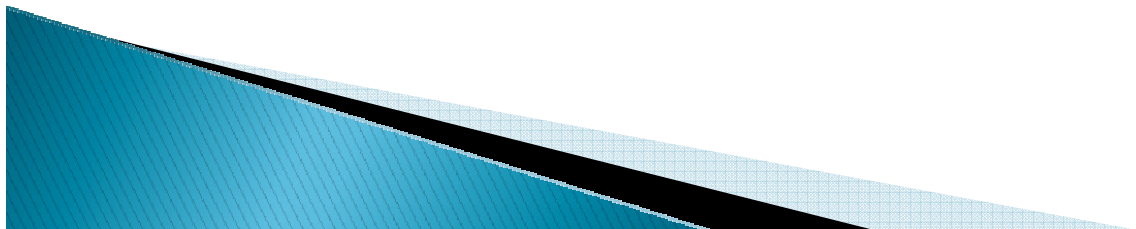
Recent achievements I:

Thesis:

Enlargement of the Union is the enemy of deepening integration

Important recent achievements:

- ▶ Eastern enlargement
- ▶ Adoption of the Lisbon Treaty



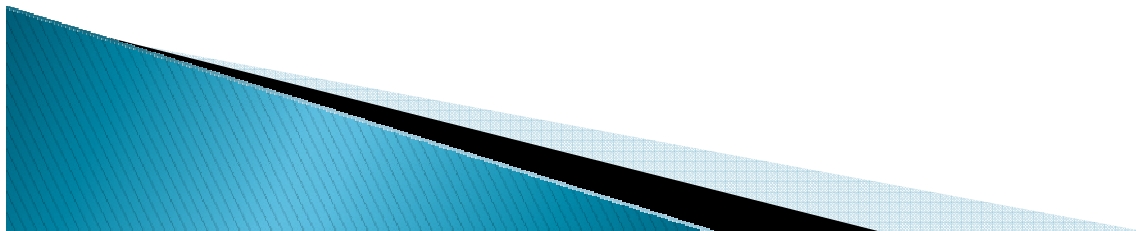
Recent achievements II: Enlargement

1993: Basic decision on the accession criteria

1997: Basic decision on Eastern enlargement

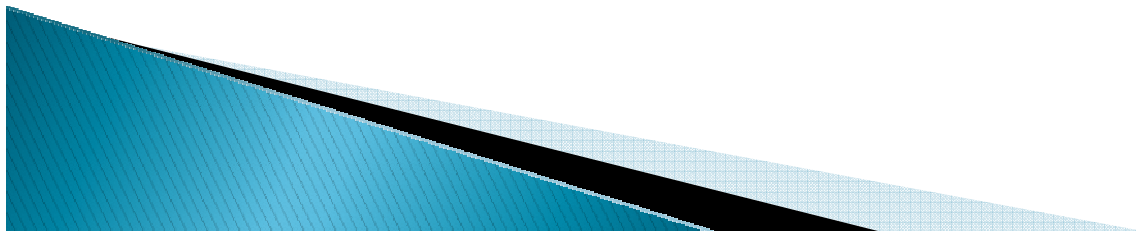
2004: enlargement with 10 new members

2007: enlargement with two further members



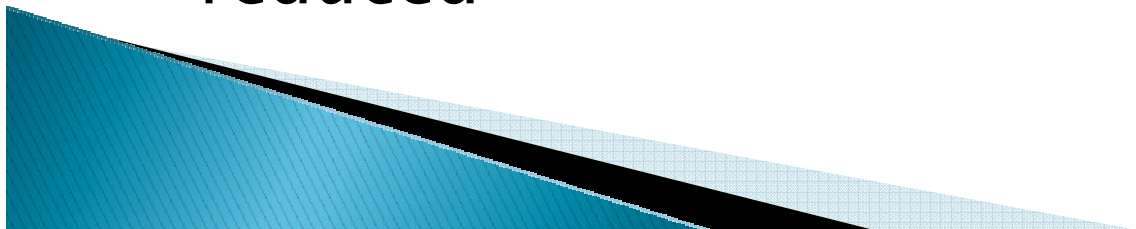
Recent achievements III: Treaty Revision

- 1996: Treaty of Amsterdam–Left over's
- 2001: Treaty of Nice – Left over's
- 2001: Establishment of the Convention
- 2004: Draft Constitutional Treaty
- 2005: Failed Referenda
- 2007: Renegotiation of the Treaty
- 2009: Ratification of the Treaty



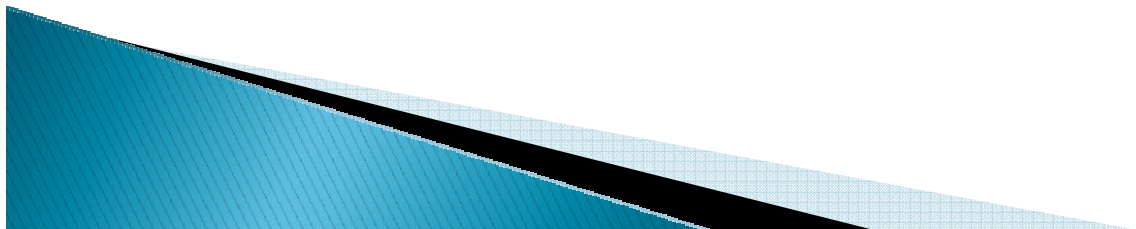
Recent achievements IV: Innovations of the Lisbon Treaty

- ▶ **Councils:** Improvement of their position (facilitated majority voting, permanent presidencies, dominance of the large member states)
- ▶ **Parliament:** Co-legislator
- ▶ **Commission:** Number of Commissioners reduced



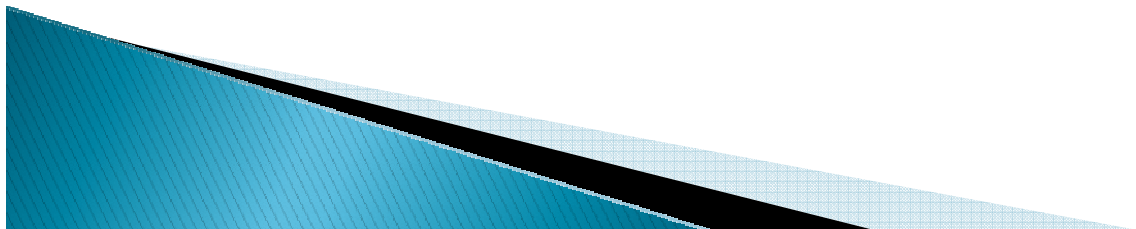
Recent achievements V: Conclusion

- ▶ The Unions capacity to act is significantly improved.
- ▶ The Union has successfully combined both widening of its membership and deepening of integration.



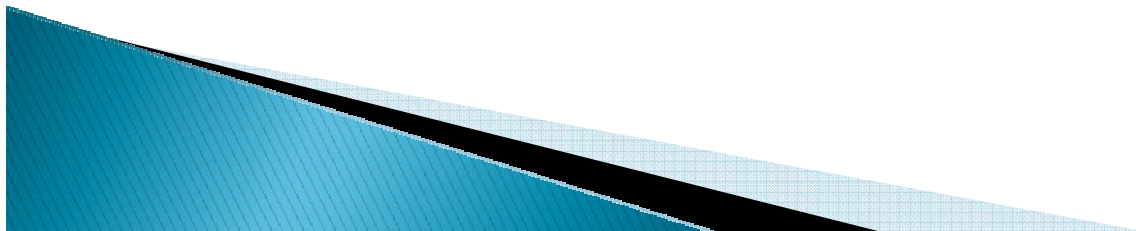
Challenges ahead I: The financial crisis

- ▶ Negative Impact on new member states :
recourse to the IMF
- ▶ Public debt of Greece: austerity regime
imposed by the EU; solidarity of the Euro-
group uncertain
- ▶ Divergence between France and Germany on
future route: economic government vs. no
additional competences for the EU



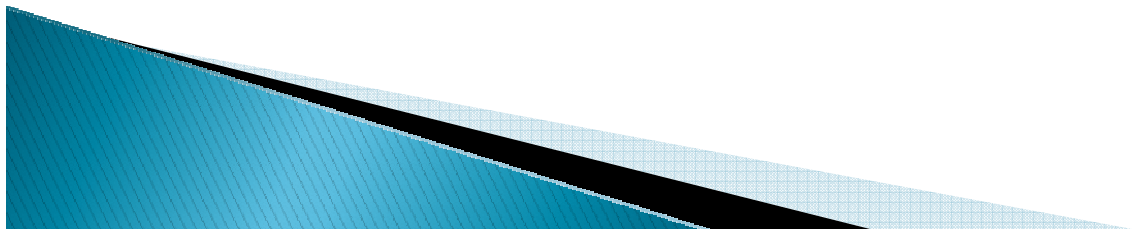
Challenges ahead II: Future enlargements

- ▶ Neighboring states press for membership
- ▶ Union reluctant for several reasons (prior enlargement no success, skeptical attitudes of the public, more disunity in the Council)
- ▶ Stop-and-go policy of the Union
- ▶ Major dilemma: membership bait vs. credible perspective for accession



Challenges ahead III: Conclusions

- ▶ The Union needs a phase of consolidation of the existing
- ▶ The challenges ahead are to be tackled with new innovative solutions



Overall conclusions:

- ▶ Disunity among member states hampers the capacity to act
- ▶ Union not a super-state, but a system that balances the national interests and the European interest
- ▶ Phases of European-wide consensus alternate with those characterized by disunity
- ▶ Phases of disunity lead to innovative solutions
- ▶ The EU is characterized by unity in diversity

