

AGENDA LISABONA (1999-2004)
LISABON STRATEGY (1999-2004)

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ABSTRACT

Nowadays, the European Union has to face serious difficulties and controversies regarding its spreading dimension. In May 2004 something unprecedented happened: the European Union expended itself accepting ten new member states. The extension was not only a geographical one, but a political and economic one. Lisabon Strategy is in working progress and its results, so far, have not been extremely satisfactory. The Treaty Establishing a Constitution for Europe is in ratification progress, this process facing serious impediments and raising some doubts after its rejection in two member states (The Netherlands and France). In this complex situation, the European Union is facing, itself, some important challenges. Some of them are regarding external policies and international relations, the European Union being one of the most important economic agents worldwide, and some of them are regarding the internal aspects, like the reformation and the efficiency of the institutions and policies.

Key words: *the European Union, Lisabon Strategy, The Treaty*

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