Workshop

Histories of European (Dis-)integration

A project by

Schwarzkopf Stiftung
JUNGES EUROPA

Funded by   as part of the federal programme

Bundesministerium
für Familie, Senioren, Frauen
und Jugend

Demokratie leben!

Funded by

STIFTUNG MERCATOR

1945

Following years of horrific wars, the states of Europe are barely entertaining diplomatic relations with each other. The USA and the then USSR exert great influence over specific regions.

1952

The European Coal and Steel Community joins the coal and steel production of its six founding member states, laying the foundation for common economic development.
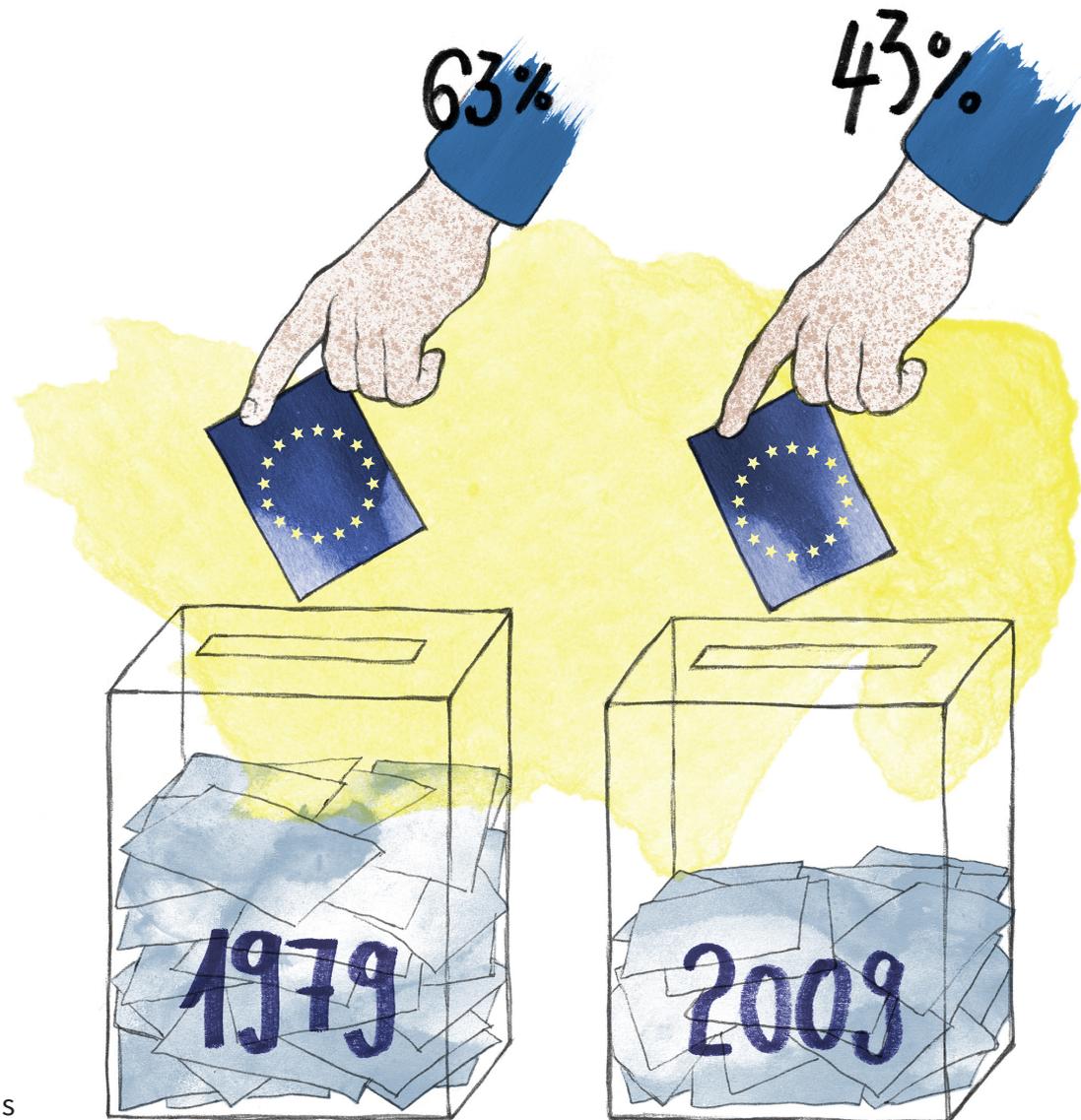
1953

With the Lisbon treaty also the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU came into effect in 2009. The Charter is aligned to the European Convention on Human Rights of 1953. It describes human dignity as inviolable, guarantees the right to asylum and prohibits torture as well as the death penalty.

1967

Officers of the far-right take over power and establish a military dictatorship in Greece. On the same day, they detain eight thousand people. Among them ministers, journalists and artists. In 1974, the first free elections end the reign of the regime and Greece enters the European Community in 1981.

1979

63% 43%

In the first European elections, EC citizens can directly vote in their members of the European Parliament. This gives the European Parliament more democratic legitimacy, but no more competences.
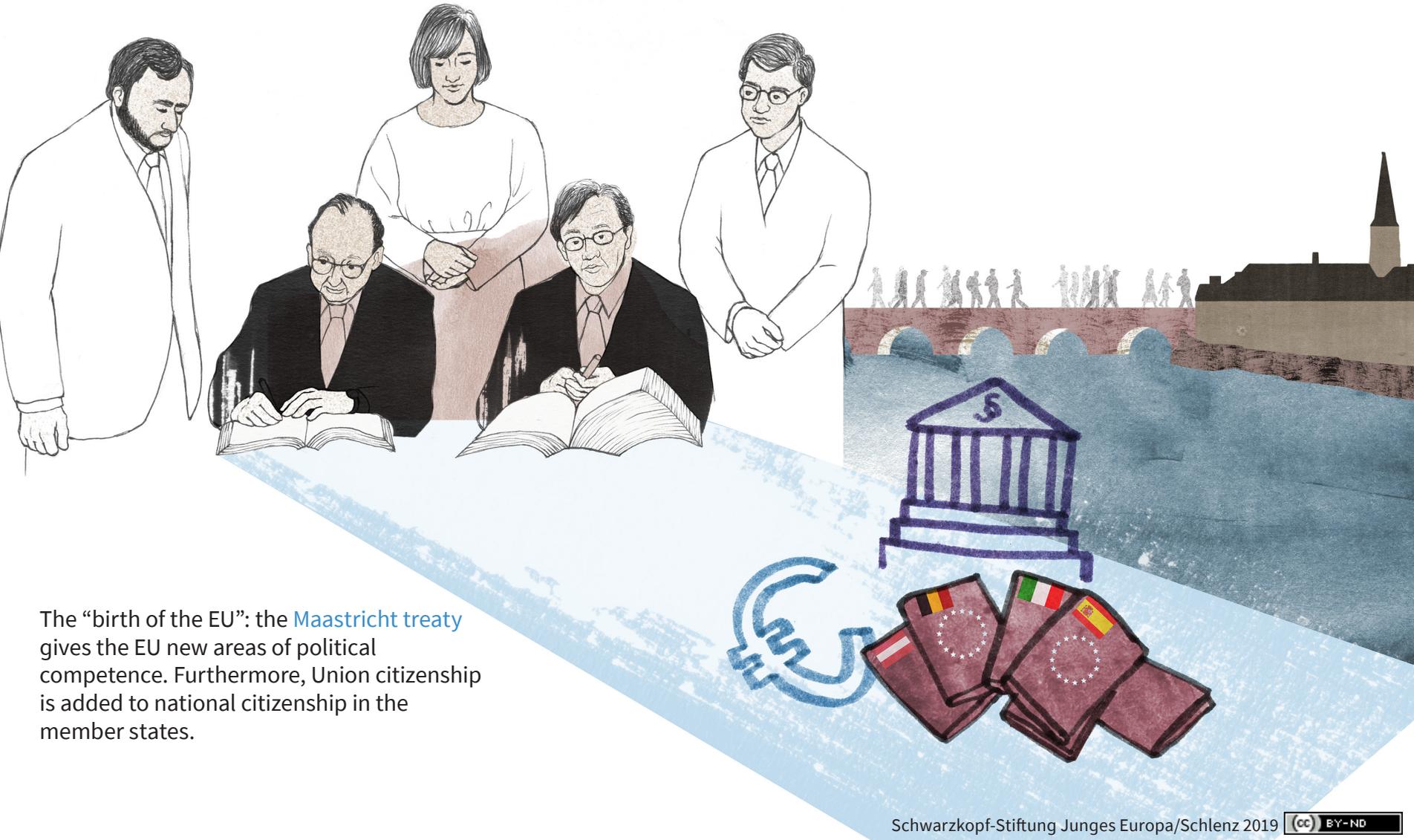
1987

The ERASMUS project starts. Over the following 30 years, 9 million young Europeans will take part in this support programme.

1989

The Fall of the iron curtain changes the political balance across Europe. What was previously divided is now joining together. The Eastern European countries are beginning a process of reorientation. 15 years later, 10 of them will be EU members.

1992

The "birth of the EU": the Maastricht treaty gives the EU new areas of political competence. Furthermore, Union citizenship is added to national citizenship in the member states.

2004

NEWSPAPER

Since 1968, ETA has killed over 820 people fighting for Basque self-determination...

WORLD NEWS

WAR IN IRAQ | U.S. attacks Fallujah

EL PAÍS

Infierno terrorista en Madrid: 192 muertos y 1400 heridos

Infierno... 192 mu...

On March 11th, Islamic terrorists attack four commuter trains in Madrid with bombs. 192 people die. Initially, the Basque underground organization ETA was suspected to be responsible for the attack.

2005

Referendums among the electorate in France and the Netherlands decide against a European constitution. Due to public resistance and the inability of the member states to reach a decision; the EU enters an identity crisis.
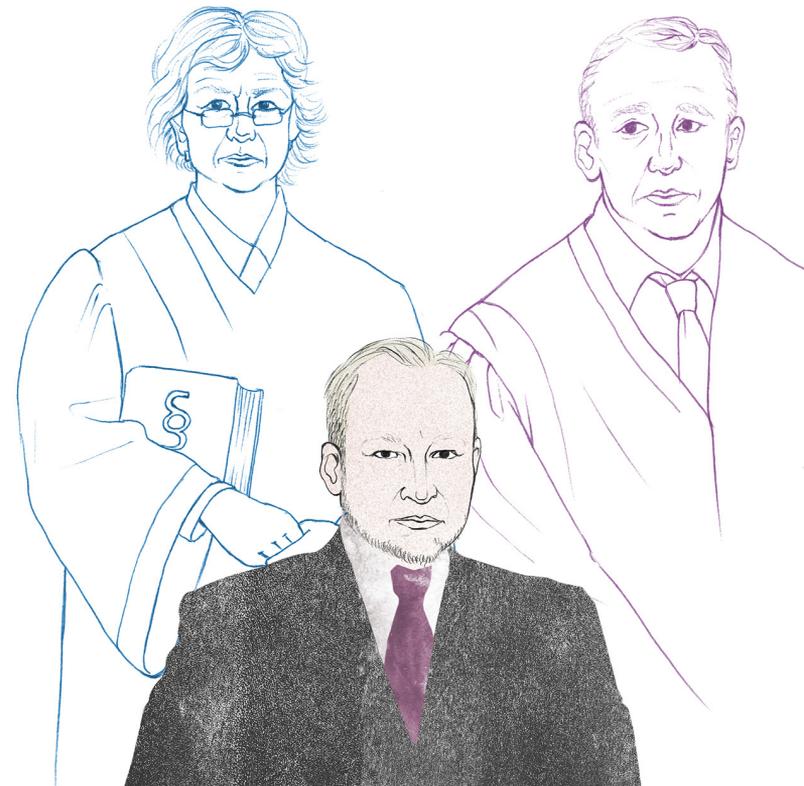
2009

Austerity or investment? The European debt crisis leads to dispute over the direction the common currency policy should take. Does the Euro divide or unify the Eurozone countries?

2011

Right-wing terrorist Andreas Breivik murders 76 people in Oslo and on Utøya. In the same year in Germany, the murder series of the far-right terrorist group "National Socialist Underground" (NSU) becomes disclosed.
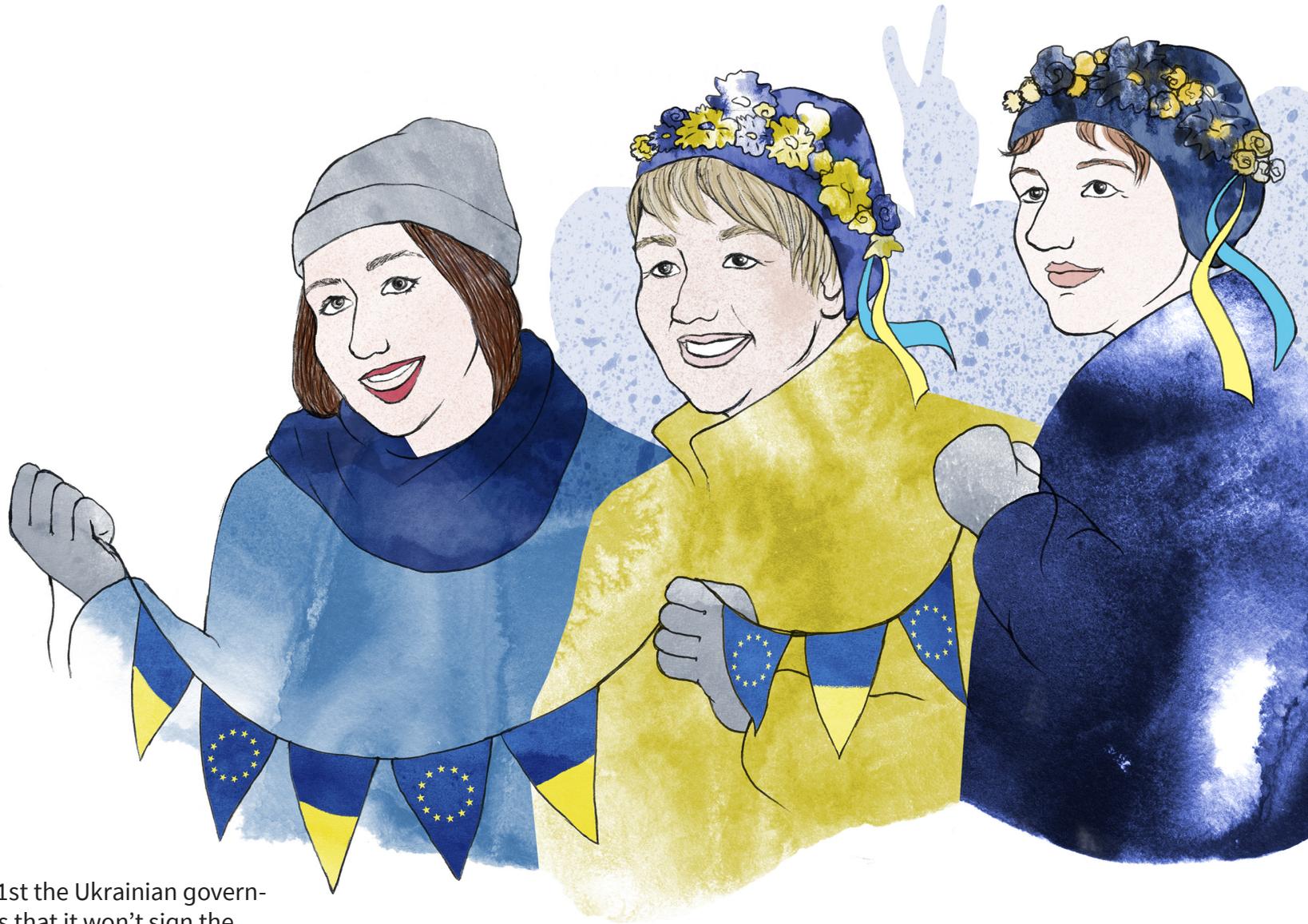
2012

The EU and its predecessors are awarded the Nobel peace prize for their commitment to peace, reconciliation, democracy and human rights.
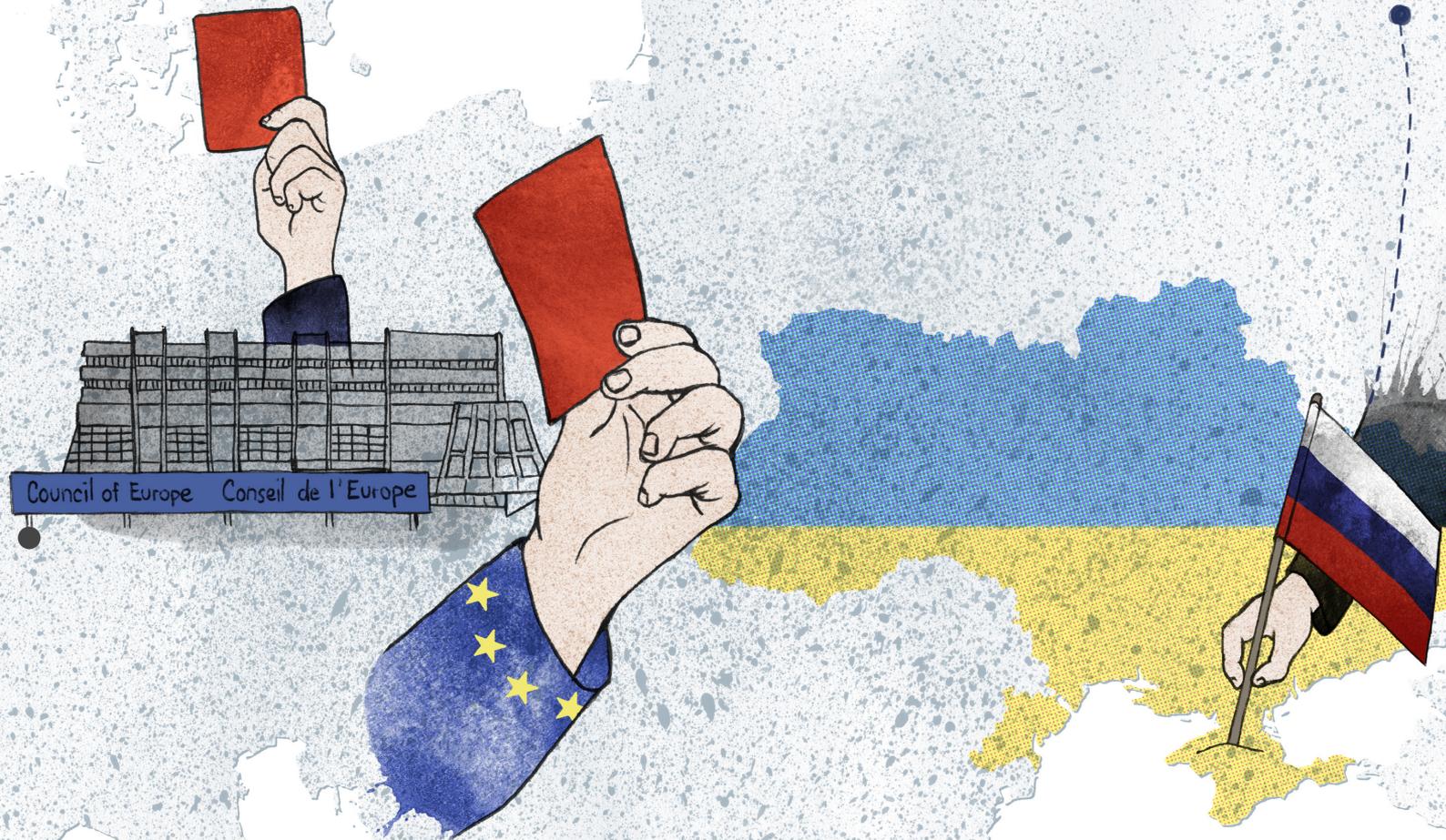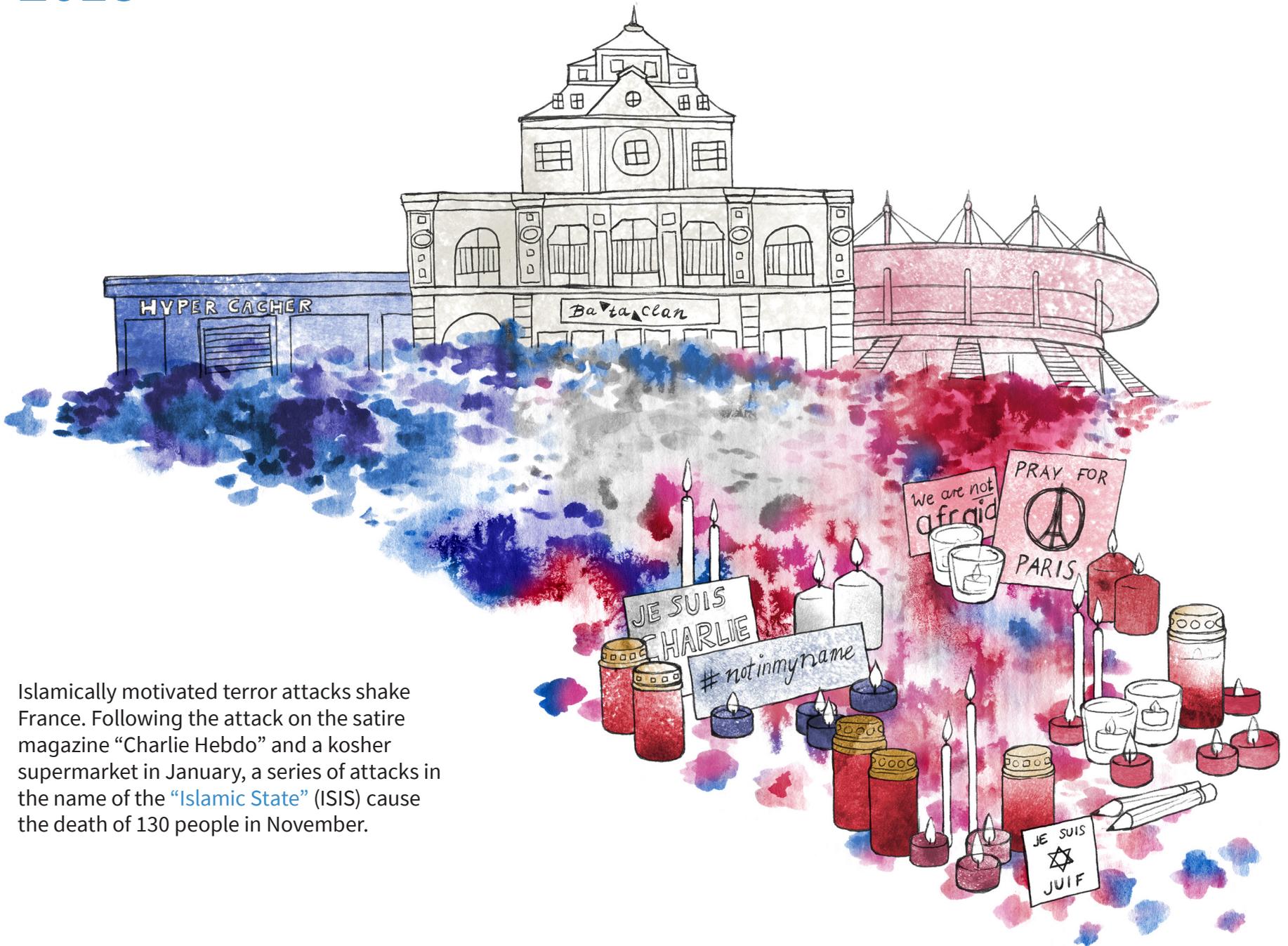
2013

On November 21st the Ukrainian government announces that it won't sign the association agreement with the EU and Ukrainians start to demonstrate for a future in the EU. That day is the beginning of the so-called Euromaidan protests.

2014

After having voted on the annexation of Crimea, the European Council decides to provisionally withdraw the voting rights from 18 Russian parliamentarians. In July, the EU decides to proceed with economic sanctions against Russia.
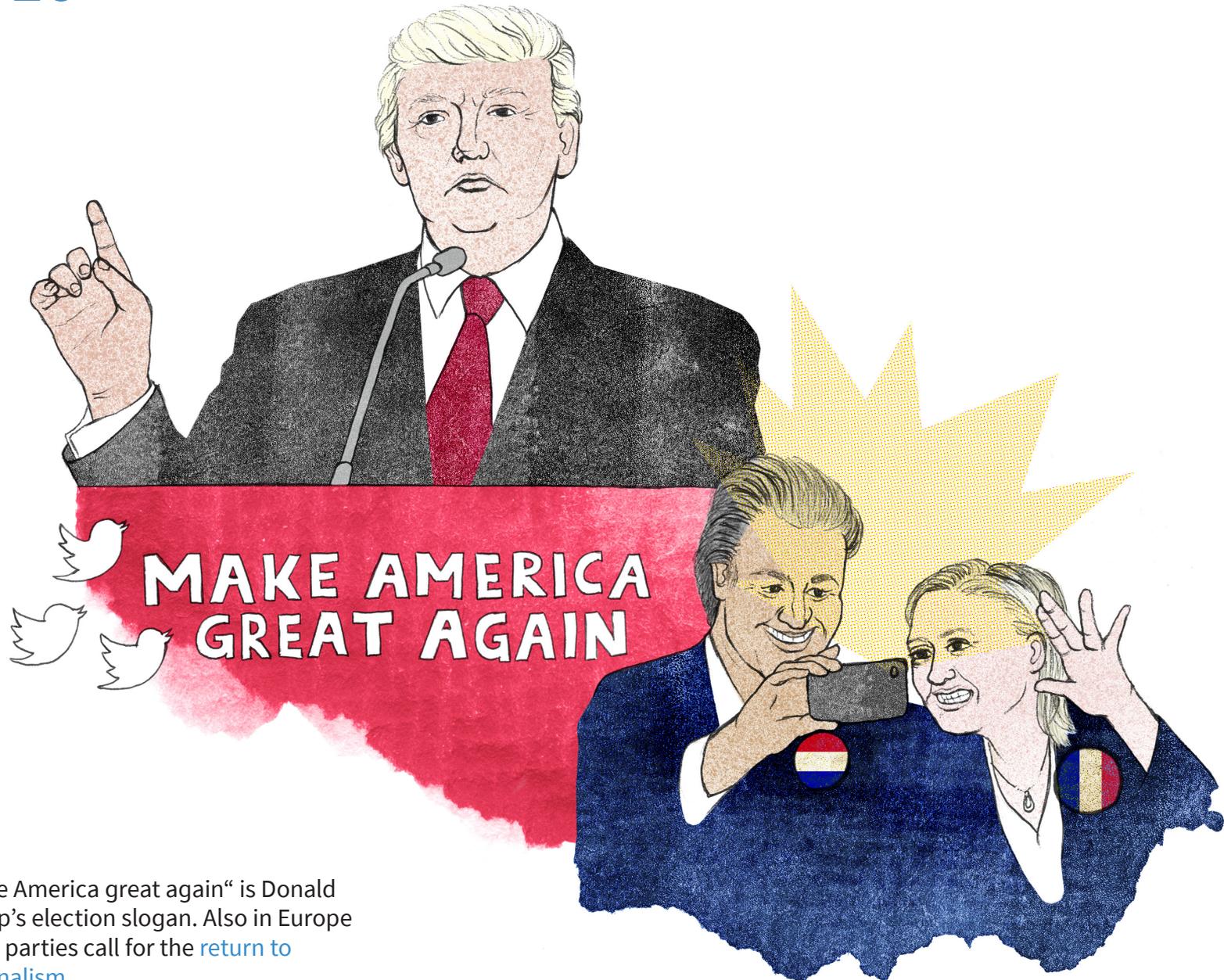
2015

Islamically motivated terror attacks shake France. Following the attack on the satire magazine "Charlie Hebdo" and a kosher supermarket in January, a series of attacks in the name of the "Islamic State" (ISIS) cause the death of 130 people in November.

2016

The European institutions are worried regarding the reforms of the Polish justice system. They fear that the division of powers is going to be limited in this EU member state. For the first time, a rule of law process is being initiated in the EU. If the member state is shown to "severely and persistently violate" the EU's core values, it can lose its voting rights.

2016

MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN

„Make America great again" is Donald Trump's election slogan. Also in Europe some parties call for the return to nationalism.
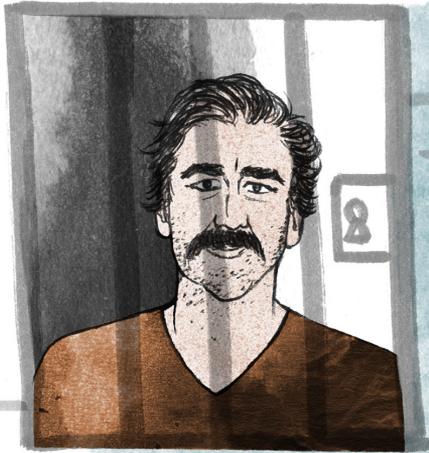
2016

MEŞALE TOLU

MURAT SABUNCU

DENIZ YÜCEL

AKIN ATALAY

After a coup attempt, around 150 journalists have been imprisoned and 150 media outlets were shut down in Turkey. In November, the majority of the members of the European Parliament demand to suspend the accession negotiations with Turkey.
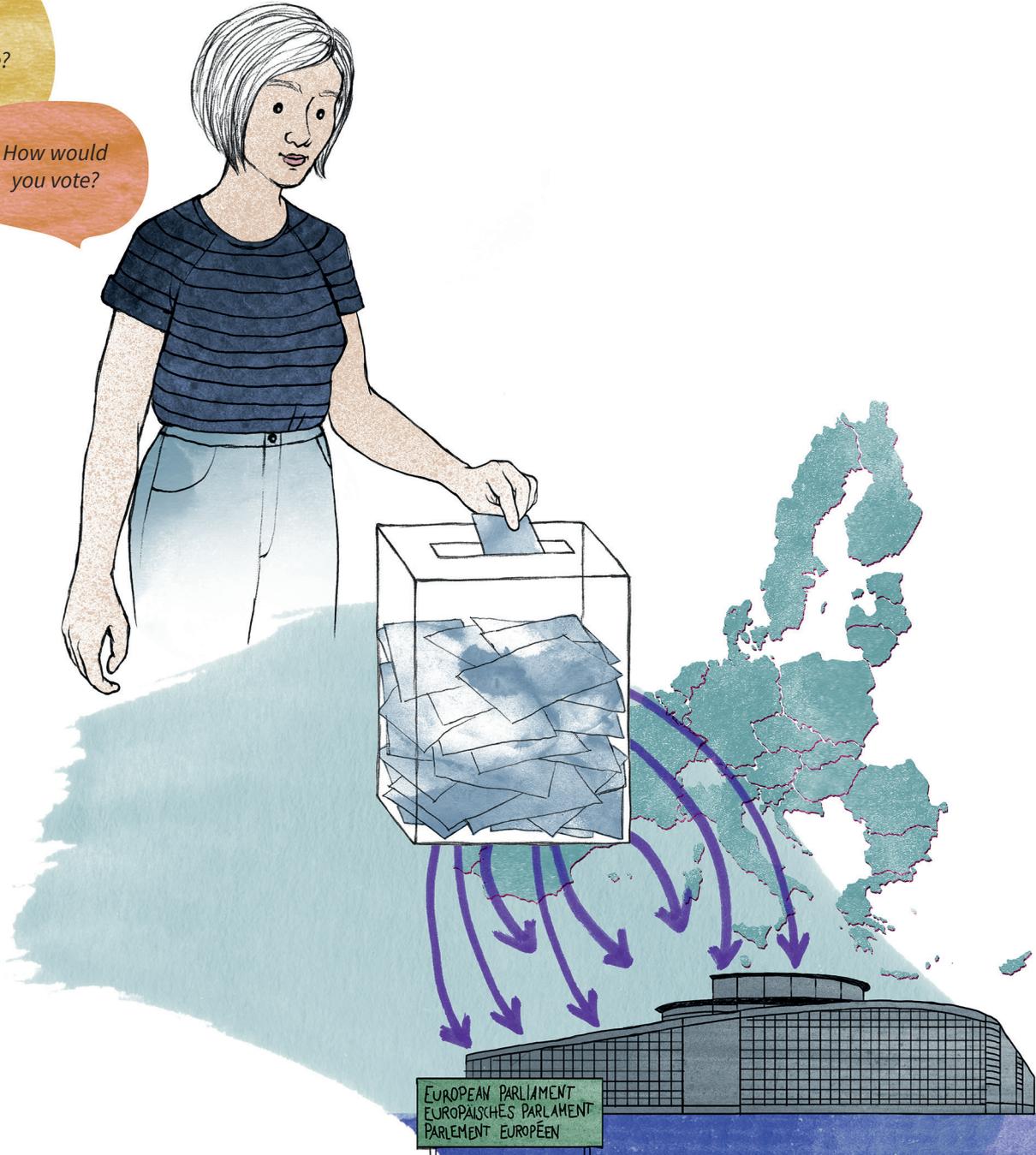
2017

Great Britain requests to leave the EU. For the first time in its history, the community of European nations will become smaller.

2019

What topic could influence your vote?

How would you vote?

The turnout for the European parliamentary elections was the highest since 20 years. Around 51% of EU citizens that were eligible to vote, cast their vote for their members of the European parliament.

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
EUROPÄISCHES PARLAMENT
PARLEMENT EUROPÉEN