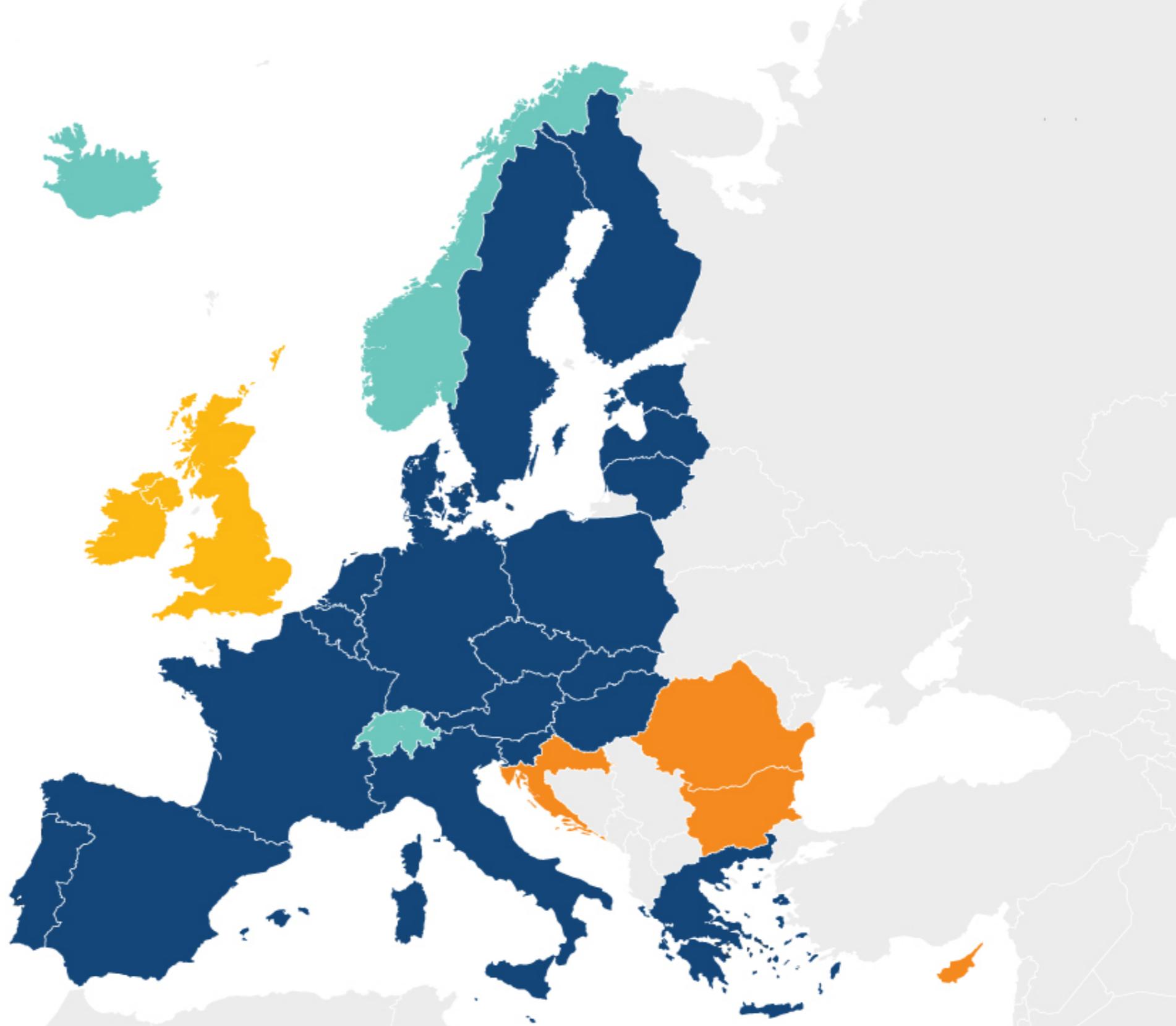
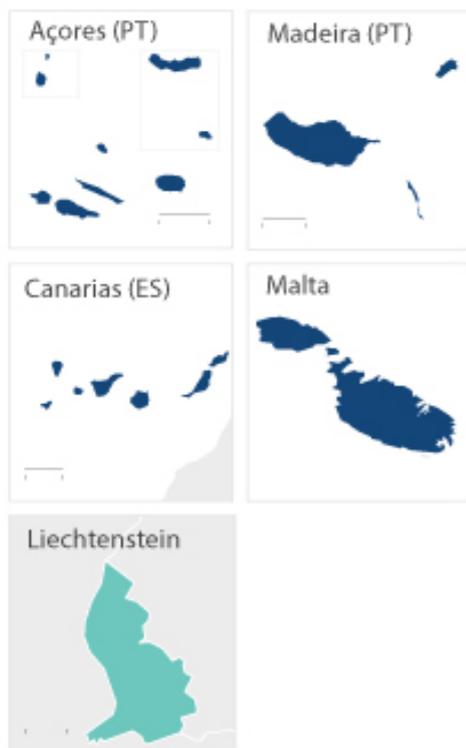


Schengen Area

-  Schengen Area (EU)
-  Schengen Area (non-EU)
-  Schengen candidate country (EU)
-  EU country outside Schengen Area



Schengen Area

The World's Largest Visa Free Zone

WHAT IS THE SCHENGEN AGREEMENT?



*14 June 1985 – signing
the Schengen
Agreement*

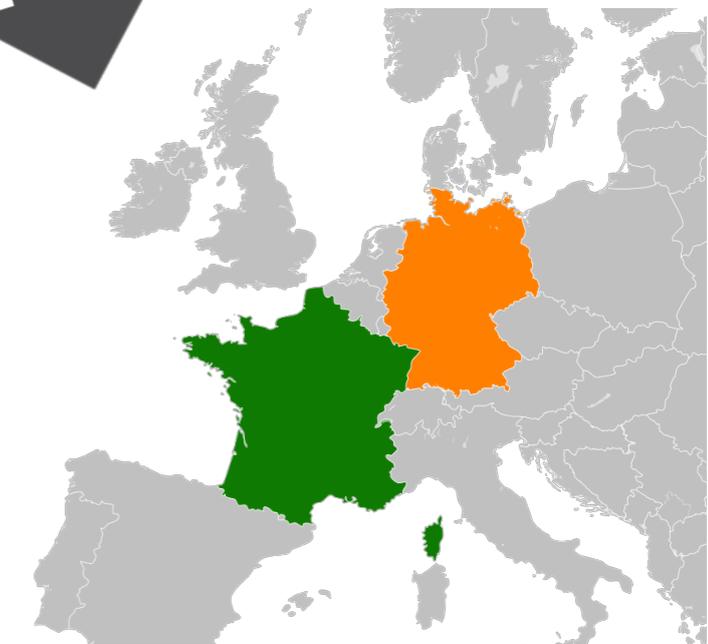
Catherine Lalumière (France), Waldemar Schreckenberger (Germany), Paul De Keersmaeker (Belgium), Robert Goebbels (Luxemburg) & Wim van Eekelen (Netherland).

HISTORY OF THE SCHENGEN AGREEMENT

Concept for free movement between the European countries



2nd World War



17 June 1984 the European Council in Fontainebleau

TIMELINE

The Schengen Agreement was signed by the five European countries.

1985



6

25 June 1991
Portugal and Spain
joined the
Schengen
agreement.

1991



9

The real
implementation of
the Schengen Area
finally started on
26 March 1995

1995



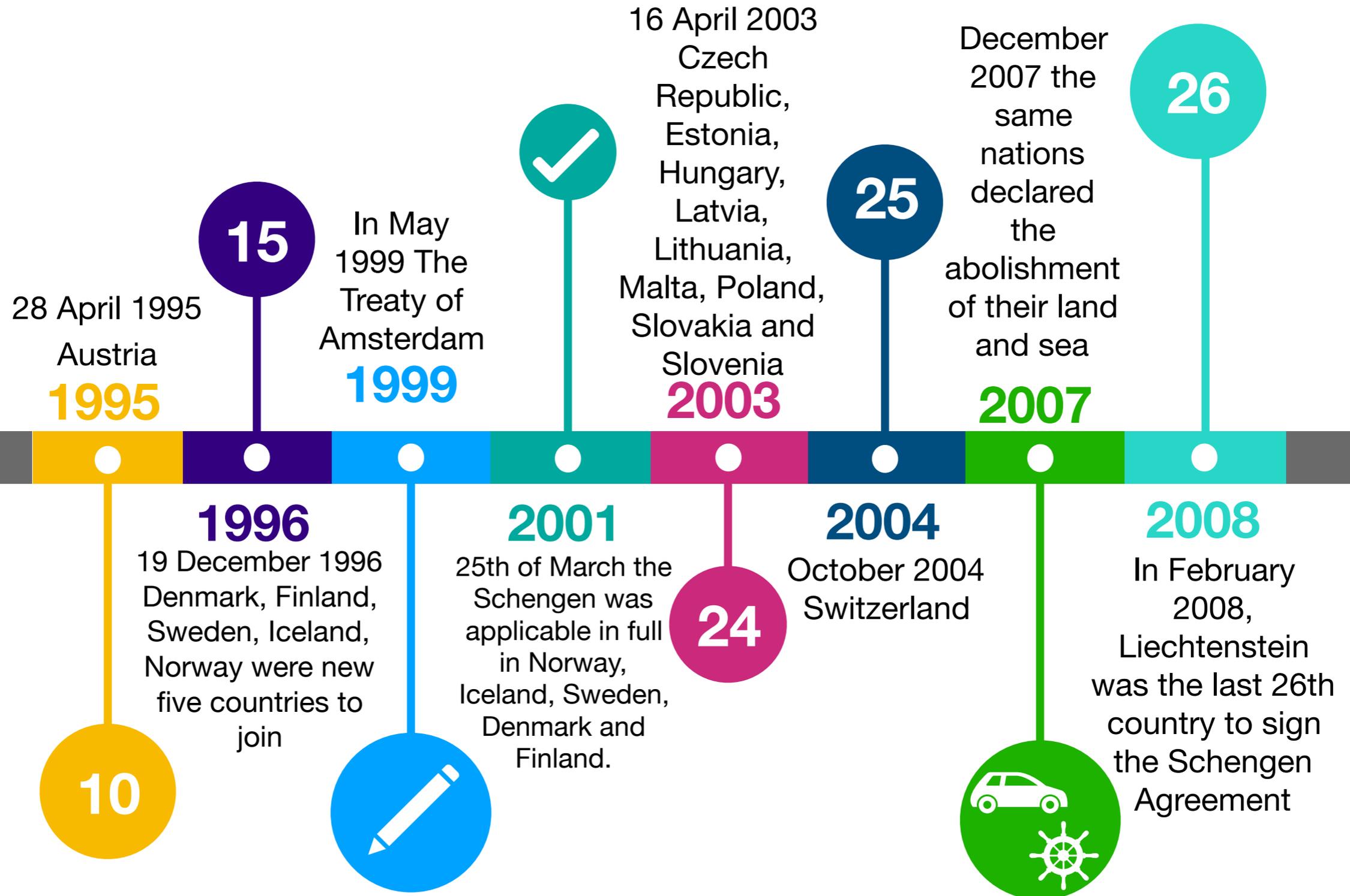
1990

The Convention
was signed for the
concrete
implementation of
the Schengen
Agreement.
+ ITALY

1992

6 November
1992 Greece
joined

TIMELINE



SCHENGEN MEMBERSHIP



PROS

- Free Movement
- Harmonization of customs and common visa policies
- Strong European Economic Integration
- Increased international security and co-operation



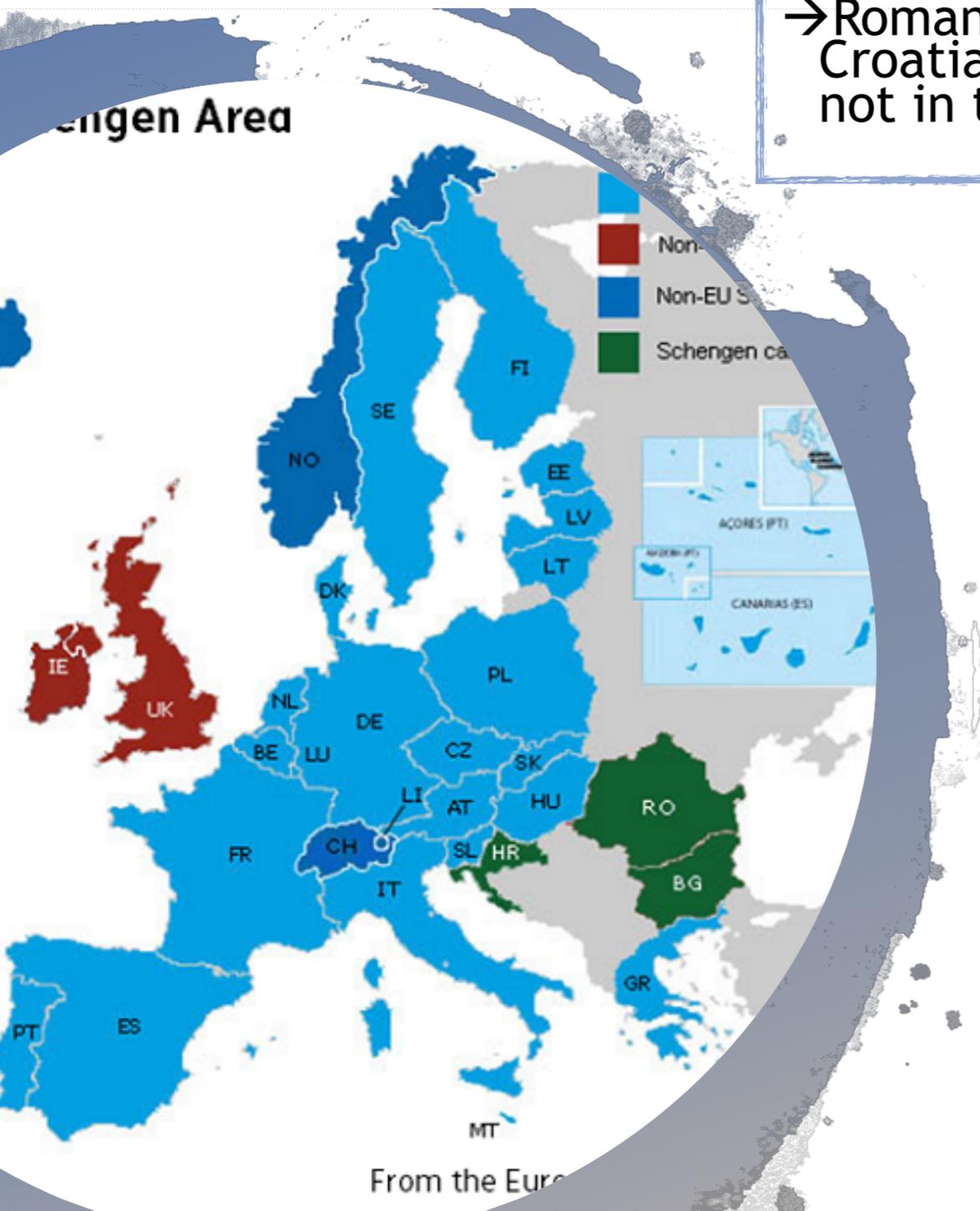
CONS

- States abdicate the ability to retain control over their borders
- 90 day visa limit
- Increase in criminal activity due to no customs controls.

THE EU AND THE SCHENGEN AREA

- **THE EU:**
 - 28 countries
 - Political and economic Union
 - Romania, Bulgaria, Croatia and Cyprus are not in the Schengen area.

- **SCHENGEN**
 - 26 countries
 - Free movement of people
 - Norway, Island, Switzerland are not in the EU.



Endlessly prolonging the acceptance of Bulgaria and Romania might undermine the process of European integration and cohesion.

CRITERIA TO JOIN the Schengen Area



1. Responsibility on controlling external borders
2. To be able to issue Uniform Schengen Visas
3. Cooperation with law enforcement of other Schengen states
4. Connect and use SIS
5. Apply the Schengen Acquis:
 - Control in Land, Sea and Air Borders
 - Issuing of visas
 - Police cooperation

Schengen AQUIS

It's a set of common rules providing for:

- **Free movement of persons and the abolition of systematic controls at internal borders**
- **Police and customs cooperation**
- **Judicial cooperation**
- **The establishment of the Schengen Information System (SIS)**
- **A common Schengen visa which grants free movement throughout Schengen territory during a period up to 90 days**

EU MEMBER STATES OUTSIDE THE SCHENGEN AREA

- Lack of Interest



- Some Criteria Missing



WHAT ARE THE PROBLEMS WITH THESE EU MEMBER STATES?

- Concerns on border control:
 - Romania, Croatia and Bulgaria close to the Balkan Countries.
 - Cyprus close to Turkey
- After they meet the criteria the EU Parliament vote their entrance.
- Disappointment with the EU:



TORNOUTS IN THE 2014 PARLIAMENT ELECTION



32,44%



35,84%



43,97



25,24%



42,61%

CURRENT SITUATION

- **Bulgaria and Romania:**
 - ✓ Already met the criteria to join the Schengen Area.
 - ✓ Dec. 2018: Approved by the European Parliament.
 - ⌚ European Council unanimously approval
- **Croatia:**
 - ⊘ In the route of Middle East and Asia migrants, some illegal
 - ✓ Equipped borders with Serbia and Bosnia
 - ⌚ Approval by the European Union MS
- **Cyprus:**
 - ⌚ Still have to meet the criteria

WHICH ASPECTS SHOULD BE IMPROVED?

SOME SUGGESTIONS



- Strengthening external border monitoring
- Implementing expulsion orders effectively
- Should the Dublin Regulation be reformed?
- Conduct necessary reforms

NEED FOR DETERMINED ACTIONS

- **The upkeep of internal border controls within the context of the Schengen rules**
- **The use of operational tools**
- **Legislative developments**
- **Vital external action**



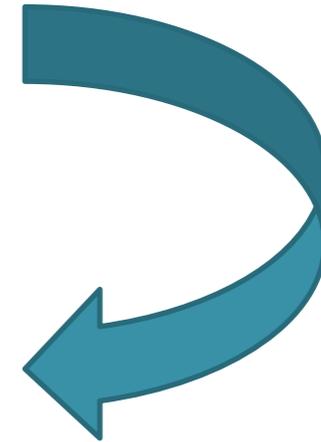
DESIRABLE REFORMS



Encouraging legal immigration



Harmonizing long-term visas



Encouraging national parliaments to participate



CONCLUSION



Schengen is the expression of the European project

Aim of the Schengen area has been to strike a balance between freedom and security

It abolishes the control of individuals at internal borders while at the same time it provides a series of tools for cooperation amongst Member States

In order to protect the Schengen area the challenge comprises implementing measures that will strengthen the way the external border operates, in terms of a filter, and security cooperation