



# **Future of Europe: Scenarios**

**Istvan Perger** Deputy Head of Representation European Commission Representation in Hungary



## Changing demographics

Europe's economic power will wane Return of populist and nationalist rhetoric

#### **Population shift**



Forrás: ENSZ Statisztikai Osztály és Eurostat EU27.

#### **Economic weight**

	2004	2015	
United States of America	28%	24%	<b>N</b>
EU-27	26%	22%	<b>1</b>
Japan	11%	6%	<b>N</b>
UK	5%	4%	<b>1</b>
China	5%	15%	
Canada	2%	2%	$\rightarrow$
Мехісо	2%	2%	$\rightarrow$
Brazil	<2%	2%	
India	<2%	3%	
Rest of the world	18%	21%	







**Share of Europe in World Economy**, Source: http://www.ggdc.net/maddison/oriindex.htm (Statistics on World Population, GDP and Per Capita GDP, 1-2008 AD (copyright Angus Maddison, University of Groningen) and OECD, 2014



## **Five scenarios on the future of EU27**

The fives scenarios – a glimpse into the potential state of the Union by 2025, depending on the choices Europe will make.

The starting point for each scenario is that the 27 Member States move forward together as a Union. The five scenarios are illustrative and thought provoking rather than detailed blueprints. That's why no mention of legal procedures and institutional process.

Wide range of possibilities covered.

Number of overlaps between scenarios.





#### **1.** Carrying on

The EU27 focuses on delivering its positive reform agenda.

The positive agenda of action continues to deliver concrete results.

The unity of EU27 remains.

The unity of the 27 may still be tested in the event of major disputes.

The gap between promise and delivery will only progressively be closed if there is collective resolve to deliver jointly.





## 2. Nothing but the Single Market

*The EU27 cannot agree to do more in many policy areas beyond key aspects of the single market.* 

Decision-making may be simpler to understand.

It becomes harder to address issues of concern to more than one Member State and therefore the gap between expectations and delivery widens on common challenges.

Citizens' rights guaranteed under EU law may become restricted over time.





#### 3. Those Who Want More Do More

The EU27 allows willing Member States to do more together in specific areas.

The unity of the EU at 27 preserved while progress is made possible for those who want more.

The gap between expectation and delivery closes in countries who want and choose to do more. Questions arise about the transparency and accountability of the different layers of decision-making.

Citizens' rights guaranteed under EU law vary depending on where people live.





#### 4. Doing Less More Efficiently

The EU27 focuses on delivering more and faster in selected policy areas not acting in where it is perceived not to have and added value.

European citizens feel that the EU in only acting where it has read added value.

A clearer focus of resources and attention on a number of selected domains helps the EU27 to act faster. The EU at first has difficulty in agreeing which areas it should prioritise and where it should do less.





### **5. Doing Much More Together**

Member States decide to do much more together across all policy areas.

There is far greater and quicker decision-making.

Citizens have more rights under EU law. Parts of society which feel that the EU lacks legitimacy or has taken too much power away from national authorities risk being alienated.





### 6. President Juncker's 6<sup>th</sup> scenario

13 September 2017: State of the Union speech -Strasbourg

#### More united

by increasing efficiency and inclusivity: Schengen, eurozone, social Europe with quicker and more decisive measures: stronger single market, effective euro-zone governance, global influence, Defence Union

Stronger

More democratic

role of European parties at EP elections; Spitzenkandidat method; party financing

discussion: multi-speed, two-speed or core?





















18-19/10 European Council / Meeting of EU27

Initiative by the Commission to strengthen the enforcement of the **Rule of Law in the European Union** 

13-14/12 European Council / Meeting of EU27

30/03 Possible Extraordinary European Council to take first decisions by unanimity **on the future of Europe**, Sibiu, Romania

**European Parliament elections** 



# Thank you!

istvan.perger@ec.europa.eu