1. The History and Constitutional Basis of the European Union

This chapter considers the rationale for the EU, why it was established, what it is, and some of the difficulties encountered along that path to the present day. The discussions cover the motives for European integration; the founding of the European Communities; the relationship of the UK with the European Communities and Union including the Brexit referendum result and possible consequences; the basic objectives and nature of the European Union; the widening and deepening of the Communities and Union; and future developments and conclusions.

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