



## Division of competences within the European Union



**1. Exclusive competences** areas in which the EU alone is able to legislate and adopt binding acts. EU countries are able to do so themselves only if empowered by the EU to implement these acts. The EU have exclusive competence in the following areas:

## **CUSTOMS UNION**

**THE ESTABLISHING OF COMPETITION RULES NECESSARY  
FOR THE FUNCTIONING OF THE INTERNAL MARKET**

**MONETARY POLICY FOR EURO AREA COUNTRIES**

**CONSERVATION OF MARINE BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES  
UNDER THE COMMON FISHERIES POLICY**



## COMMON COMMERCIAL POLICY

## CONCLUSION OF INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS

**2. Shared competences** (Article 4 of the TFEU): the EU and EU countries are able to legislate and adopt legally binding acts. EU countries exercise their own competence where the EU does not exercise, or has decided not to exercise, its own competence. Shared competence between the EU and EU countries applies in the following areas:

## INTERNAL MARKET



**SOCIAL POLICY, BUT ONLY FOR ASPECTS SPECIFICALLY  
DEFINES IN THE TREATY**

**ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND TERRITORIAL COHESION  
(REGIONAL POLICY)**

**AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES (EXCEPT CONSERVATION OF  
MARINE BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES)**

**ENVIRONMENT**

**CONSUMER PROTECTION**



**TRANSPORT**

**TRANS-EUROPEAN NETWORKS**

**ENERGY**

**AREA OF FREEDOM, SECURITY AND JUSTICE**

**SHARED SAFETY CONCERNS IN PUBLIC HEALTH MATTERS,  
LIMITED TO THE ASPECTS DEFINED IN THE TFEU**

**RESEARCH, TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT, SPACE**



# DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AND HUMANITARIAN AID

**3. Supporting competences** (Article 6 of the TFEU): the EU can only intervene to support, coordinate or complement the action of EU countries. Legally binding EU acts must not require the harmonisation of EU countries' laws or regulations. Supporting competences relate to the following policy areas:

## PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF HUMAN HEALTH

## INDUSTRY



**CULTURE**

**TOURISM**

**EDUCATION, VOCATIONAL TRAINING, YOUTH AND SPORT**

**CIVIL PROTECTION**

**ADMINISTRATIVE COOPERATION**