



The European Flag



Adopted in 1955 by the Council of Europe, the European flag has been the official emblem of the European Community since 1986.

Twelve 5-pointed gold stars form a ring against a deep blue background. The stars represent the peoples of Europe. The number 12 is invariant, signifying perfection and plenitude.

The European flag was solemnly hoisted for the first time on May 29, 1986 before the buildings of the Community institutions in Brussels. Since that time, it has frequently been hung together with the **French flag** when the French President addresses the public.