## Módulo Jean Monnet "Economic Policy in the European Union"

Session 5.2. The impact of the new economic governance model and the EU democratic legitimacy



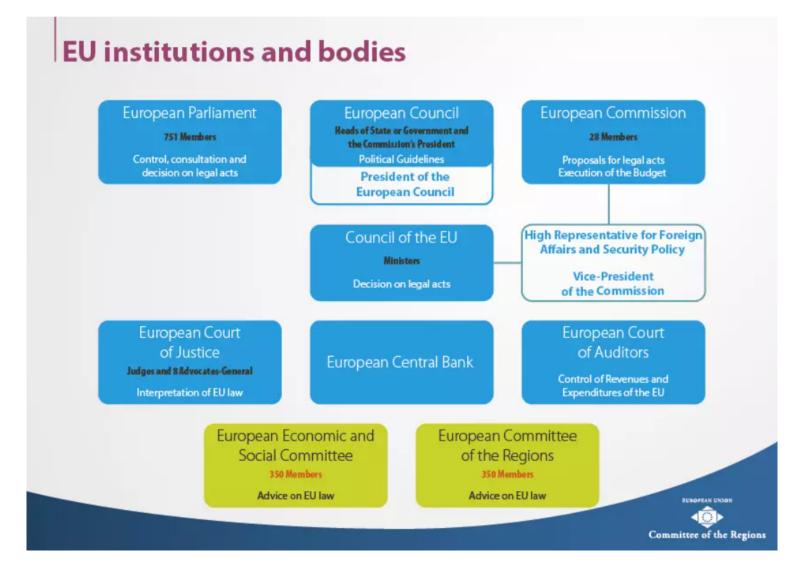
With the support of the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

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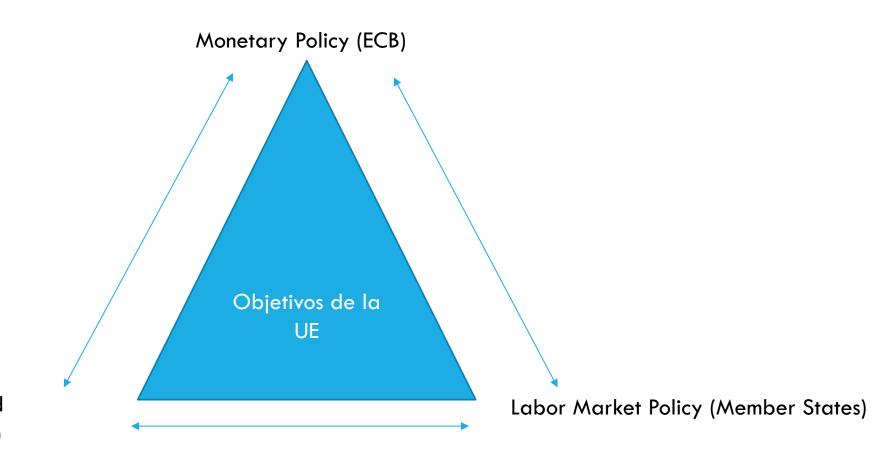
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#### INTRODUCTION



### 2- ECONOMIC GOVERNANCE MODEL IN THE EU



Fiscal Policy (Stability and Growth Pact and Member States)

# 3- ECB FEATURES IN THE ECONOMIC GOVERNANCE MODEL IN THE EU.

#### **BASIC FEATURES OF THE ECB:**

- Organization (Statutes of the ESCB and the ECB)
  - Monetary policy management of the Euro Zone:
  - Governing Councils:
    - Government Council
    - Executive Committee
    - General Council
  - Monitory function:
  - Supervisory Board
- ECB mandate (Articles 3 and 13 del TUE)
- Priority mandate: inflation control
- Other secundary mandates

# 3- ECB FEATURES IN THE ECONOMIC GOVERNANCE MODEL IN THE EU.

#### **BASIC FEATURES OF THE ECB:**

- Political Independence of the ECB:
- Instrument to guarantee the political independence of the ECB:
  - Institucional independence
  - Legal independence
  - Functional and operational independence
  - Financial and organizational independece
- Legitimacy of the ECB:
- Institucional legitimacy
- Legitimacy of result
- Accountability:
- The role of the European Parlament

#### 4- LEGITIMACY PROBLEMS OF THE ECB

#### **European Central Bank**

POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE



**LEGITIMACY** 

#### 4- LEGITIMACY PROBLEMS OF THE ECB

- Principal Agent Theory
- The legitimacy of ECB and Principal Agent Theory



**European Central Bank** 

Who is the principal?

Who is the agent?

#### 4- LEGITIMACY PROBLEMS OF THE ECB



**EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK** 

Legitimacy / Democratic legitimacy

Political independence

Accountability

# 5- THE DEFICIT OF THE DEMOCRATIC LEGITIMACY OF THE ECB AND ITS IMPACT IN THE DEMOCRATIC LEGITIMACY OF THE EU PROJECT

**Is there a problem of democratic legitimacy in EU?** The positions of Majore or Moravcsik.

#### EU institutions have legitimacy problems:

- European Parlament
- EU Council
- EU Comision
- ECB (supranacional instituion, political Independence with a limited accountability) Doubts about its democratic legitimacy.

#### CONCLUSIONS

- ECB democratic legitimacy is conditioned by its institutional design.
- ECB was created in 1998 as a bank with a unique mandate, politically independence with Statues that govern its operation and with a limit in its accountability system conditioned by its political independence.
- There are many doubts about democratic legitimacy of the ECB but a reform of ECB Statues needs Member States agreement.
- The institution's lack of democratic legitimacy raises questions about the rest of EU institutions and the EU Project.
- Democratic legitimacy in EU is limited.

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