Summary of Contents

List of Illustrative Material	
Preface	

 Setting the Scene: The 'Crises', the Challenges, and Their Implications for the Nature and Operation of the EU

Part I The Historical Evolution

- 2 The Post-War Transformation of Western Europe
- 3 The Creation of the European Community
- 4 The Deepening of the Integration Process
- 5 The Widening of the Integration Process

Part II The Evolving Treaty Framework

- 6 From Rome to Nice
- 7 The Constitutional and Lisbon Treaties
- 8 Treaties and the Integration Process 111

Part III The Institutions and Political Actors of the European Union 127

9	The Commission	129
10	The Council of the European Union	163
11	The European Council	183
12	The European Parliament	201
13	European Union Law and the EU's Courts	227

xiv	14	Other Institutions	247
xxi	15	Interests	265
	16	The Member States	275

Part IV Policies and Policy **Processes of the European Union** 299 1 Understanding EU Policies 17 301 **Policy Processes** 18 311 21 Making and Applying EU Legislation 19 329 **Internal Policies** 20 345 21 Agricultural Policy and Policy Processes 23 371 39 22 **External Policies** 387 The Budget 47 23 419 55

Part V Conceptualising and Theorising

77	24	Conceptualising the European Union	435
79	25	Theorising European Integration and	
93		EU Politics	447

433

26 Conclusions: Present Realities and Future Prospects 461

Chronology	467
Guide to Further Reading	477
Bibliography	481
Index	493