## Contents



How is the EU budget drawn up?	4
Agenda 2000: multiannual financial programming in line with the European Union's new priorities	4
The annual budget: who decides what? The Treaty and practice	5
The financing of the Union	8
What is the budget used for?	9
Agriculture	9
Economic and social cohesion policy	10
Other internal policies	11
External action	12
Preparations for enlargement of the Union	15
Administration	15
How is the budget spent and monitored?	16
An important role for the Member States in implementing the CAP and Structural Funds	16
The Commission has direct responsibility for implementation in several areas	16
The constant search for efficiency: assessment of Community programmes	18
A sophisticated audit and control system	18
The fight against fraud: the various instruments and the importance of cooperation with the Member States	19