



## Europe - Toward the Next Enlargement

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Springer-Verlag New York Inc., United States, 2012. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Softcover Reprint of the Original ed.. 235 x 155 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. by Peter Coffey THE BACKGROUND Once again, Europe finds itself at a major crossroads. In January, 1999, the Euro, the European currency, was launched. This major undertaking does reaffirm the European Union's common international monetary personality whilst further deepening the integration process in Western Europe. The launch of the Euro has gone hand-in-hand with an intensification of the negotiating process between the European Union (EU) and a number of countries of Central and Eastern Europe and Cyprus which are seeking membership of the EU. These countries are divided into two groups, i. e. the so-called frontrunners (Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Poland and Slovenia), and the others (Bulgaria, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta and Romania). The accession negotiations with the first group have proceeded rather swiftly. Now, the second group of countries wishes to move into the first one. PRINCIPLES AND CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP Basically speaking, countries fulfilling the following criteria may apply for membership of the EU: 1. they must be (geographically speaking) European countries, 2. they must have a multi-party parliamentary democracy, 3. they must have a market-type economy, and,...



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