



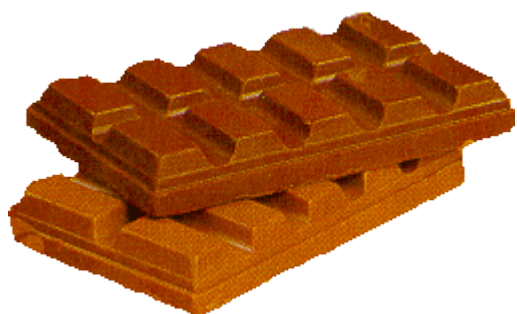
Greece



As of late, Greece has had a tenuous relationship with the European Union. In 2009, the Greek Debt Crisis occurred. Reports of Greek fiscal mismanagement and deception increased borrowing costs; the combination meant Greece could no longer borrow to finance its trade and budget deficits at an affordable cost. These actions placed a strain on the Euro forcing other EU member nations, especially powerful nations like Germany and France, to offer Greece a bailout. Since then Greece has been trying to reduce its debt and become a more stable country.

As far as the Chocolate Directive goes Greece has no vested interest in the outcome. What Greece does care about is maintaining good relations with its fellow EU member states. As such, it is very important that Greece understands where each EU member stands on the issue. In particular, Greece wants to know how the most powerful EU countries are voting and align themselves accordingly.

The main question up for debate is whether to allow Denmark, Ireland, Austria, Portugal, Finland, Sweden, and the United Kingdom to sell their style of chocolate throughout the EU. The European Union is all about free trade and open markets. For that reason, the Commission - the executive branch - has proposed that a new law (called a "directive") be made that would allow free trade of chocolate. Now it is up to you all to work out the details of the law. Under what conditions should the "less than pure" chocolate, like Cadbury's, be sold?



The necessary ingredients in traditional *pure* chocolate bars:

- Cocoa powder (also sometimes called Cacao Liqueur, Cacao Mass, Cacao Paste)
- Cocoa butter: More Cocoa Butter means a smoother, creamier, less bitter bar. Less Cocoa Butter means a sharper, dryer, more powdery, more flavorful bar.
- Sugar

The following are the major questions you will need to settle at the simulation. Before then, you'll need to try to figure out how different countries feel about these issues. Of the voting bodies, Greece's vote has a weight of 2.65%. Use the space below each question to take notes as you learn more about where the other countries stand.

1. Consumers will want to know what kind of chocolate they are buying. Traditional Belgian-style chocolate should be called chocolate. But what should the Cadbury's style of chocolate be called?

2. Can anything containing just a bit of cocoa powder be called chocolate? In the U.S., chocolate must have at least 10% cocoa powder. Cadbury's has less than 10%, while much of the chocolate you sampled had 70%. What percentage of cocoa should the new law require?

3. Traditional chocolate is made with cocoa butter. Chocolate made in Denmark, Ireland, Austria, Portugal, Finland, Sweden, and the United Kingdom has vegetable fat added in place of the cocoa butter. Should there be a limit to how much vegetable fat is used? What percent of the total fat can be vegetable?

4. If chocolate contains vegetable fat it should say so on the label. But what should the label say? Is it enough just to list vegetable fat in the ingredients? Or should there be some sort of bold warning on the front?