



Luxembourg

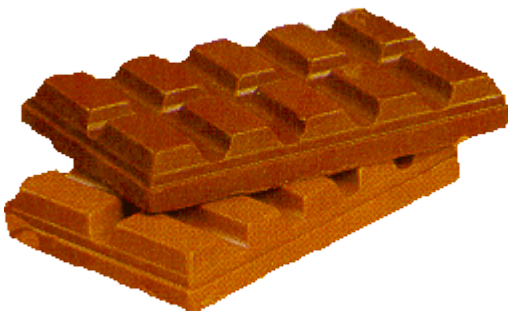


Chocolate is a very important part of Luxembourg's economy but as the smallest country in the EU there is not much that Luxembourg can do alone. Luxembourg usually combines its votes with the other two "Benelux" countries of Belgium and the Netherlands. But will you continue to maintain this alliance or place your vote elsewhere?

On one hand, your citizens are not so finicky about chocolate as their "chocolate purist" neighbors in Belgium. Being a major trading country Luxembourg is used to having a wide variety of items to choose from, including different varieties of chocolate. On the other hand, much of Luxembourg's chocolate is made in the traditional, purist style and you want to continue to protect their business interests.

As minister, you must decide what is more important to your country: protecting the chocolate-related businesses that provide jobs to your citizens or providing your citizens with a wide variety of chocolate products to choose from. See if you can negotiate a solution that does both.

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 Liquor, 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. Try to find other countries that agree with you so you can work together. Also try to convince those who disagree to see your point of view. Of the voting bodies, Luxembourg's vote has a weight of 0.15%. 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?