

BACCALAURÉAT FRANÇAIS INTERNATIONAL SESSION 2025

SECTION : BRITANNIQUE

ÉPREUVE : HISTOIRE - GÉOGRAPHIE

DURÉE TOTALE : 4 HEURES

**Le candidat mentionne sur sa copie son parcours :
bilingue ou trilingue ou quadrilingue**

Le candidat a le choix entre deux sujets **A et B** qu'il doit traiter, selon son choix, dans leur totalité.

Pour le sujet A, le candidat rédige une composition d'histoire et une étude critique de documents en géographie.

Pour le sujet B, le candidat rédige une composition de géographie et une étude critique de documents en histoire.

Chacune des deux disciplines compte pour la moitié des points dans la note finale.

L'usage de la calculatrice et des dictionnaires est interdit.

Dès que ce sujet vous est remis, assurez-vous qu'il est complet.

Ce sujet comporte 9 pages numérotées de 1/9 à 9/9.

Afin de respecter l'anonymat de votre copie, vous ne devez pas signer votre composition, citer votre nom, celui d'un camarade ou celui de votre établissement.

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SUJET A

Le candidat devra traiter **la composition**
et faire **l'exercice – étude critique de document(s)**.

HISTORY ESSAY

Theme 1. The fragilization of democracy, totalitarianism and World War Two (1929-1945)

'The failure of the democratic powers to defend the world order they had created at Versailles was the main reason for the collapse of global peace in the 1930s.' Assess the validity of this statement.

GEOGRAPHY DOCUMENT

Theme 3. The complex and ever-changing position of the European Union in a globalised world.

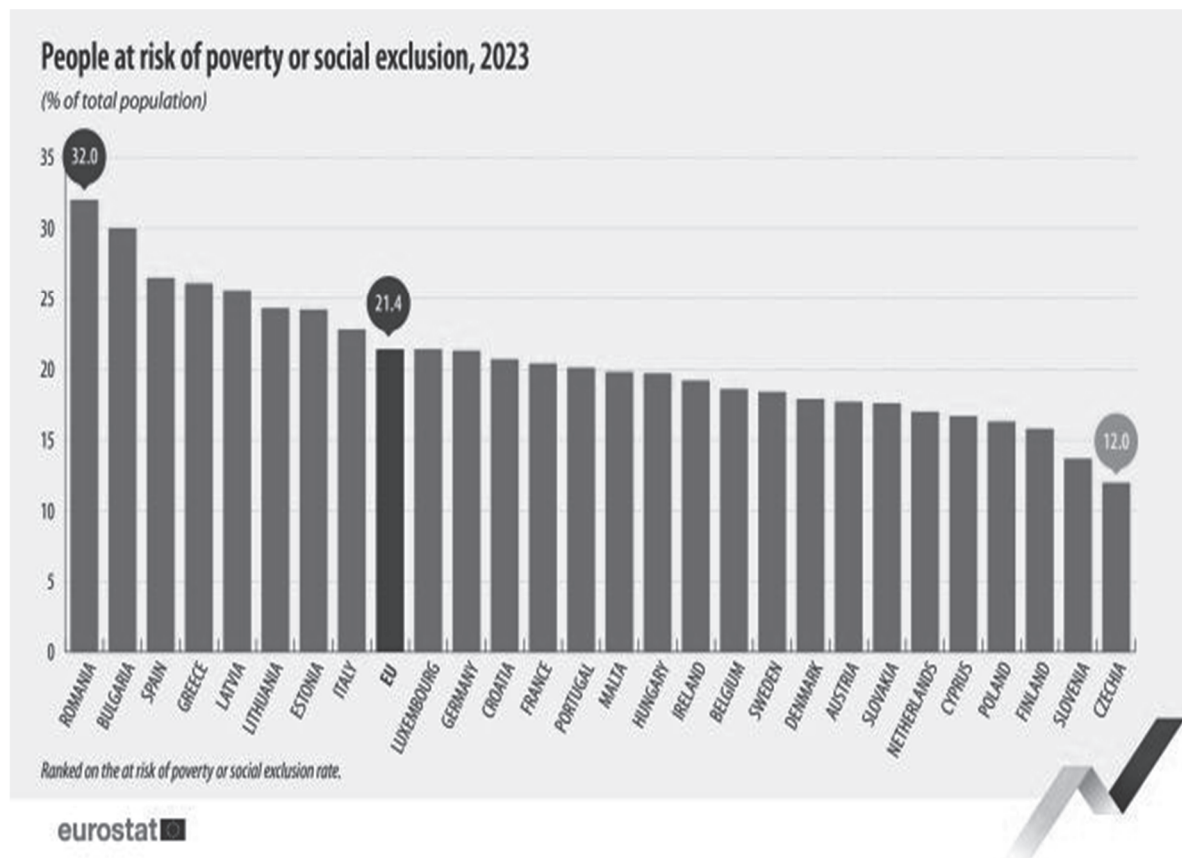
Study Documents A and B.

- a) How useful are Documents A and B in understanding the challenges facing the European Union (EU)? Support your answer with evidence from the documents.
- b) Using Documents A and B and your own knowledge, assess the extent to which the European Union contributes to territorial cohesion within the EU?

Turn over for Document A

Document A

Graph showing poverty and social exclusion in the EU



Source: Eurostat Statistics Explained, data extracted June 2024

Turn over for Document B

Document B

EU floats radical change to how it funds poorer members.

Countries may soon have to meet targets in return for their share of a large part of the EU budget under far-reaching plans drawn up by the European Commission.

Until now, the bulk of so-called cohesion funding, which was worth €392 billion over the period from 2021-2027 and aimed at helping boost growth in Europe's poorer regions, has been paid according to agreed criteria rather than as a carrot for meeting targets.

But in a document signed off by the bloc's 27 commissioners, the EU's executive raised the prospect of strings being attached to the funding in a wholesale way for the first time.

"There is broad support for performance-based funding," the Commission wrote. It is still to come up with a formal proposal. Once it does, governments will have their say.

Cohesion funding makes up a large chunk of the EU's €1.2 trillion seven-year budget and is aimed at narrowing the gap between richer and poorer regions. All of the EU's poorest countries, from Portugal in the west to Hungary and Bulgaria in the east, have benefited hugely from the financing, which largely focuses on environment and transport infrastructure, such as new highways.

Reform is on the agenda because in the back of their minds EU officials are preparing for the bloc's possible expansion to Ukraine and countries of the Western Balkans, where much of this cash would be used to help them catch up economically with existing members.

In recent years, the EU has struggled to persuade some countries, notably Hungary and Poland, to stick to democratic standards and have withheld some funding but in very limited ways. Making cohesion financing dependent on reforms from the start of a country's membership could make it easier to keep governments on the straight and narrow.

Frugal countries, mainly from northern Europe, have long argued that current cohesion spending — that is currently highly skewed toward regions in southern, central and eastern Europe — is inefficient.

Source: Adapted from 'EU floats radical change to how it funds poorer members' by Gregorio Sorigi in *POLITICO*, March 27, 2024.

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SUJET B

Le candidat devra traiter **la composition**
et faire **l'exercice – étude critique de document(s)**.

GEOGRAPHY ESSAY

Theme 1. Maritime areas and geopolitics at the heart of a globalised world

'Maritimisation is the most important factor in the organisation of the global economy.'
Assess the validity of this statement.

HISTORY DOCUMENT

Theme 3. Economic, political and social challenges from 1970 to 1991.

Study Documents A and B.

- a) How useful are Documents A and B for examining why the Cold War came to an end? Support your answer with evidence from the documents.
- b) *'Ronald Reagan's role in bringing the Cold War to an end was far more significant than any other factor'*. How far do you agree with this statement? Use Documents A and B, and your own knowledge in your answer.

Turn over for Document A

Document A

Extract from US President Ronald Reagan's speech in front of the Brandenburg Gate of the Berlin Wall, West Berlin, 12 June 1987.

In the 1950s, Khrushchev predicted: "We will bury you." But in the West today, we see a free world that has achieved a level of prosperity and well-being unprecedented in all human history. In the Communist world, we see failure, technological backwardness, declining standards of health, even want of the most basic kind--too little food. Even today, the Soviet Union still cannot feed itself.

After these four decades, then, there stands before the entire world one great and inescapable conclusion: Freedom leads to prosperity. Freedom replaces the ancient hatreds among the nations with comity* and peace. Freedom is the victor. And now the Soviets themselves may, in a limited way, be coming to understand the importance of freedom.

We hear much from Moscow about a new policy of reform and openness. Some political prisoners have been released. Certain foreign news broadcasts are no longer being jammed. Some economic enterprises have been permitted to operate with greater freedom from state control. Are these the beginnings of profound changes in the Soviet state? Or are they token gestures, intended to raise false hopes in the West, or to strengthen the Soviet system without changing it?

We welcome change and openness; for we believe that freedom and security go together, that the advance of human liberty can only strengthen the cause of world peace. There is one sign the Soviets can make that would be unmistakable, that would advance dramatically the cause of freedom and peace.

General Secretary Gorbachev, if you seek peace, if you seek prosperity for the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, if you seek liberalization: Come here to this gate! Mr. Gorbachev, open this gate! Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!

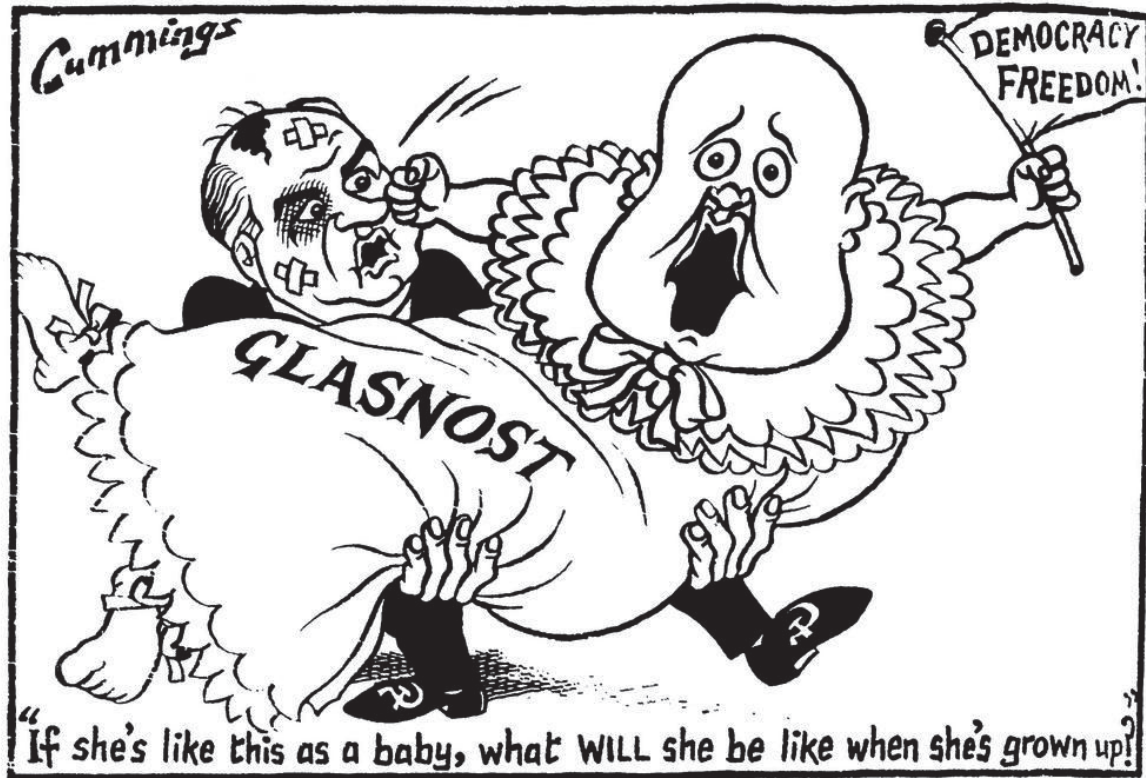
Source: Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum, online Archives.

*'Comity' means a state of civility or courtesy between people, organizations, and nations.

Turn over for Document B

Document B

Cartoon by Michael Cummings, published in British newspaper *The Daily Express*, August 24, 1988.



The cartoon shows Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev carrying a newborn baby which represents Glasnost*.

*Glasnost was a reform designed to increase "openness and transparency" in the USSR.

Source: The British Cartoon Archive at the University of Kent