

During the XXth century in Europe, as the process of integration of states had already begun, some intellectuals deeply engaged into the European construction started to create a “gallery of portraits” of the precursors of European idea, in order to accompany and legitimate this political process. This course offers a critical history of the European idea within the frame of political thoughts, centered on 3 parts: Precursors, Successors, Founders.

The forerunners imagined an Europe to which they could identify themselves. To them, Europe was a large territory to dominate.

The successors imagined a Europe that would preserve their values. During the XIXth century, these ideas integrated other well identified political thoughts: liberalism, socialism, nationalism, internationalism... The successors then started a long debate, arguing one to each other.

Finally, after the two world conflicts of the XXth century, the founders have drawn, more or less consciously, from this political “think tank”. The bibliography and a detailed plan of the course are available on Moodle (ENT).