The euflag \LaTeX 2ε package*

European Union Flag

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Summary

This package implements a single command \euflag which reproduces the official flag of the European Union (EU) using just the built-in picture environment, with the xcolor and graphicx packages and the amssymb font.

The flag is reproduced at 1em high based on the current font size, so it can be scaled arbitrarily by changing the font size (see examples in the table on page 5).



^{*}This document corresponds to euflag v. 0.4 β , dated 2019/02/02.

Contents

1	Back	rground	4
2	2 Usage		
3	Implementation		
	3.1	Auto-initialisation	6
	3.2	Packages required for the package	7
	3.3	Changes to package defaults	7
	3.4	The flag	8
A	The	FTEX Project Public License (v 1.3c)	10
	A.1	Preamble	10
	A.2	Definitions	10
	A.3	Conditions on Distribution and Modification	11
	A.4	No Warranty	13
	A.5	Maintenance of The Work	14
	A.6	Whether and How to Distribute Works under This License	15
		A.6.1 Choosing This License or Another License	15
		A.6.2 A Recommendation on Modification Without Distribution .	16
		A.6.3 How to Use This License	16
		A.6.4 Derived Works That Are Not Replacements	17
		A.6.5 Important Recommendations	17
		A.6.5.1 Defining What Constitutes the Work	17
Cł	nange	History	19
In	dex		20

Latest changes

v.0.4 (2019-02-02)

Changed the star

• Changed from the bbding \FiveStar to the amssymb \bigstar command.

v.0.3 (2019-02-02)

Mods to ClassPack

• Added switch in db2dtx.xsl to detect the use of a package in its own documentation (as here) and code around the \PassOptionsToPackage for svgnames on xcolor, which was causing an Option Clash error.

v.0.2 (2019-02-01)

Works in table cells

• Fixed bug (a \vfill) that was crashing (well, locking up) LTEX when \euflag was used in a table cell.

v.O.1 (2019-01-31)

First version

• Simple picture mode is all that is needed, plus a decent star.

See p. 19 for details of earlier changes.

1 Background

This package provides a command \euflag for reproducing the flag of the European Union. It follows exactly the official specification. The EU's web site says:

The European flag symbolises both the European Union and, more broadly, the identity and unity of Europe.

It features a circle of 12 gold stars on a blue background. They stand for the ideals of unity, solidarity and harmony among the peoples of Europe.

The number of stars has nothing to do with the number of member countries, though the circle is a symbol of unity.

History of the European flag

The history of the flag goes back to 1955. The Council of Europe — which defends human rights and promotes European culture — chose the present design for its own use. In the years that followed, it encouraged the emerging European institutions to adopt the same flag.

In 1983, the European Parliament decided that the Communities' flag should be that used by the Council of Europe. In 1985, it was adopted by all EU leaders as the official emblem of the European Communities, later to become the European Union. In addition, all European institutions now have their own emblems.

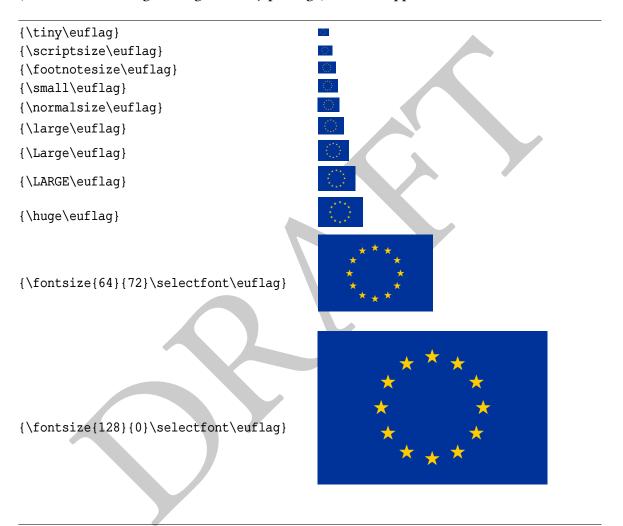
https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/symbols/flag_en

The \euflag command provides a simple way to use the flag in any LTEX document. Details of construction and spacing are taken from the official specification in http://publications.europa.eu/code/en/en-5000100.htm

2 Usage

The flag is reproduced at 1em high, with the bottom edge at the current baseline like this: using the \euflag command.

The font size of the enclosing environment can be changed to make the flag appear at any size. In the examples below, the code and the flags are in m-type cells (middle-vertical-align, using the array package), so their apparent baselines differ.



To move the flag down so that the bottom star's baseline becomes the flag's baseline, use the \raisebox command to lower the flag by 1/6em: _____, eg \raisebox{-.167em} {\euflag}

Implementation

3.1 **Auto-initialisation**

This section is added automatically by *ClassPack* as a preamble to all classes and style packages. The fixltx2e package is no longer preloaded, as its features are now a part of the latest LATEX kernel.

The code starts with identity and requirements which are generated automatically as needed by the DocTFX system. For details see the ltxdoc package documentation.

```
1 \NeedsTeXFormat{LaTeX2e}[2016/02/01]
2 \ProvidesPackage{euflag}[2019/02/02 v0.4
3 European Union Flag]
```

svgnames Pass the svgnames option to the xcolor package if that gets loaded later. This avoids a conflict with any other packages (eg hyperref) which use their own default is when they load xcolor.

> However, we have to make an exception in this case because the package is used in its own documentation, which would cause a duplicate \PassOptionsToPackage, so we code around it by testing the current package name against the job name of the calling .dtx file – if they are the same, then this is the case in point, and the \PassOptionsToPackage command is not executed; otherwise it it OK to do so.

```
4 \def\CPK@thispackage{euflag}
   \edef\CPK@thispackage{\meaning\CPK@thispackage}
6 \edef\CPK@thisjob{\jobname}
  \edef\CPK@thisjob{\meaning\CPK@thisjob}
8 \ifx\CPK@thispackage\CPK@thisjob
9 %% this is the documentation: omit PassOptionsToPackage
10 \message{Option svgnames not being passed to package xcolor}
11 \else
12 %% this is a user job: include PassOptionsToPackage
13 \message{Option sygnames being passed to package xcolor}
  \PassOptionsToPackage{svgnames}{xcolor}
  \fi
15
```

Thanks to zeroth at https://tex.stackexchange.com/questions/44499/ how-to-test-jobname-compilation-option-within-latex-file/54895 for this switch.

3.2 Packages required for the package

xcolor Provide color.

```
16 \RequirePackage[svgnames]{xcolor}
17 \@ifundefined{T}{%
18 \newcommand{\T}[2]{{\fontencoding{T1}\selectfont#2}}}{}
```

There seems to be a bug in the T1 encoding of some package (unidentified, but possibly xcolor) which uses the command \T1, which is an impossibility (no digits allowed in command names). So we fake it here to stop Lagrange complaining, by dropping the first argument on the floor.

graphicx Provide for graphics (PNG, JPG, or PDF format (only) for pdflatex; EPS format (only) for standard Lagrange.

```
19 \RequirePackage{graphicx}
```

amssymb Provide for the American Mathematical Society's symbols (see their documentation for details).

```
20 \RequirePackage{amssymb}
```

3.3 Changes to package defaults

The only changes are to implement the blue and yellow according to the specification. Note that exact Pantone® colour codes are not available, so the HTML values used on the EU web site are used here. The CMYK values are commented out in the code; they are available for users to test.

PantoneReflexBlue As specified.

```
21 \definecolor{PantoneReflexBlue}{HTML}{003399}
22 %\definecolor{PantoneReflexBlue}{cmyk}{1.00,.67,0,.40}
```

PantoneYellow As specified.

```
23 \definecolor{PantoneYellow}{HTML}{FFCC00}
```

```
24 %\definecolor{PantoneYellow}{cmyk}{0,.2,1,0}
```

We could have just used the Yellow from the xcolor package, but it was felt better to be explicit.

3.4 The flag

We now use the \bigstar command from the amssymb package (earlier versions used the \FiveStar command from the bbding package, but that did not reliably scale beyond about 100pt).

\eustar It needs to scale, so we implement it as a command using \scalebox.

```
25 \newcommand{\eustar}{\scalebox{0.1}{\ensuremath{\bigstar}}}
```

This is the only slightly uncertain part of the implementation: the specification calls for the star to be ½18 of the height of the flag, but 上下X only has access to the bounding-box of the glyph. The value of 0.1 given here is therefore experimental and subject to change in future in the light of feedback.

The command itself is a blue \colorbox containing the stars set at the clock-points of a circle in a LTEX picture environment.

\euflag Before the \colorbox is used, set the \fboxsep length to zero so that there is no border around the box.

```
26 \newcommand{\euflag}{{%
27 \fboxsep0pt
28 \colorbox{PantoneReflexBlue}{%
```

The rectangle itself is formed from a \vbox 1em high and 1.5em wide. The paragraph skip and indent are zeroed to avoid unwanted space, and the content is centered and made yellow.

```
vbox tolem{%

vbox tolem{%

hsize1.5em

parskipOpt

parindentOpt

centering

color{PantoneYellow}%
```

For the picture environment, set the unit to 1em and then divide it by 18. This enables us conveniently to use six units for the axes behind the circle of stars, because the specification says it must have a radius of $\frac{1}{3}$ of the height (ie $\frac{6}{18}$). The positioning argument was found by trial and error.

```
35 \setlength{\unitlength}{1em}
36 \divide\unitlength by18
37 \begin{picture}(6,6)(-2,3.5)
```

The positioning of the individual stars was found with simple trigonometry. It would have been possible to construct this from a loop cycling through the 12 positions, but it is simpler to do it like this.

```
\put(6,0){\eustar}
38
                   \put(5.196,3){\eustar}
39
                  \put(3,5.196){\eustar}
40
                  \put(0,6){\eustar}
41
                  \poline{put(-3,5.196) {\eustar}}
42
                  \poline{put(-5.196,3)} {\eustar}
43
                   \put(-6,0){\eustar}
44
                  \put(-5.196, -3) {\eustar}
45
                  \poline{put(-3, -5.196) {\eustar}}
46
                   \put(0,-6){\eustar}
47
                   \put(3,-5.196){\eustar}
48
                  \polinimes (5.196, -3) {\eustar}
49
```

Finally, close off the picture environment, and close the containing \vbox and other containers.

```
50 \end{picture}%
51 }% end vbox
52 }% end colorbox
53 }% end environment
54 }% end command
```

That's it. Any problems, mail me.

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```
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%%% Copyright 2005 M. Y. Name
%%
%% This work may be distributed and/or modified under the
%% conditions of the LaTeX Project Public License, either version 1.3
%% of this license or (at your option) any later version.
%% The latest version of this license is in
%% http://www.latex-project.org/lppl.txt
```

```
%% and version 1.3 or later is part of all distributions of LaTeX
%% version 2005/12/01 or later.
%%
%% This work has the LPPL maintenance status `maintained'.
%%
%% The Current Maintainer of this work is M. Y. Name.
%%
%% This work consists of the files pig.dtx and pig.ins
%% and the derived file pig.sty.
```

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```
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```

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case, the licensee would be entitled to make reasonable conjectures as to which files comprise the Work.



Change History

v0.1		ded switch in db2dtx.xsl to de-	
General: First version: Simple pic-		tect the use of a package in its	
ture mode is all that is needed,		own documentation (as here) and	
plus a decent star	1	code around the PassOptionsTo-	
v0.2		Package for svgnames on xcolor,	
General: Works in table cells: Fixed		which was causing an Option	
bug (a vfill) that was crashing		Clash error	1
(well, locking up) ⊮T _F X when eu-	v0.4		
flag was used in a table cell	1 Ge	eneral: Changed the star: Changed	
v0.3		from the bbdingFiveStar to the	
General: Mods to ClassPack: Ad-		amssymbbigstar command	1

Index

Numbers written in italic refer to the page where the corresponding entry is described; numbers underlined refer to the code line of the definition; numbers in roman refer to the code lines where the entry is used.

A amssymb (package) 20	M \message 10, 13
C	N
\centering 33	\newcommand 18, 25, 26
\color 34 colours:	0
PantoneReflexBlue 21	options:
PantoneYellow 23	sygnames $\dots \qquad \underline{4}$
\CPK@thisjob6-8	
\CPK@thispackage 4, 5, 8	P
D	packages: amssymb
\definecolor 21-24	graphicx
\divide 36	xcolor 16
E	${\tt PantoneReflexBlue} \ (colour) \ \ \dots \ \ \underline{21}$
\ensuremath	PantoneYellow (colour)
\euflag	R
European Union see EU \eustar	\RequirePackage 16, 19, 20
F	S
\fontencoding	svgnames (option)
(1011concouring	
G	U
	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
G	U