# The euflag $\LaTeX$ $2\varepsilon$ package\*

## European Union Flag

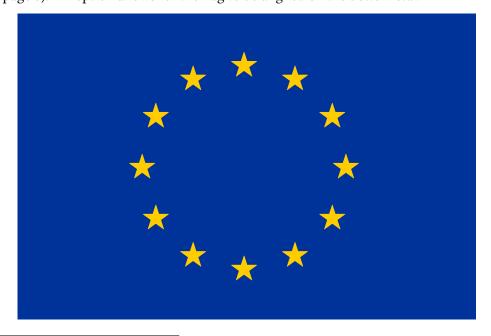
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#### **Summary**

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 locally (see examples in the table on page 5). An option allows for the flag to be aligned on the bottom star.



<sup>\*</sup>This document corresponds to euflag v.  $0.8\beta$ , dated 2020/05/22.

## Contents

1	Back	ground	4	
2	Usag	ge e	5	
3	Implementation		6	
	3.1	Auto-initialisation	6	
	3.2	Options	7	
	3.3	Packages required for the package	7	
	3.4	Changes to package defaults	8	
	3.5	The flag	8	
A	The Lagrangian Transfer Technique (v 1.3c)			
	A.1	Preamble	12	
	A.2	Definitions	12	
	A.3	Conditions on Distribution and Modification	13	
	A.4	No Warranty	15	
	A.5	Maintenance of The Work	16	
	A.6	Whether and How to Distribute Works under This License	17	
		A.6.1 Choosing This License or Another License	17	
		A.6.2 A Recommendation on Modification Without Distribution .	18	
		A.6.3 How to Use This License	18	
		A.6.4 Derived Works That Are Not Replacements	19	
		A.6.5 Important Recommendations	19	
		A.6.5.1 Defining What Constitutes the Work	19	
Cl	nange	History	20	
Index				

## Latest changes

### v.0.8 (2020-05-22)

#### Reference update

• Added missing reference to Claudio's paper

### v.0.7 (2020-05-16)

#### Regression release

- Updated to use ClassPack 1.19
- Switched all @conformance attributes on revision dates to @YYYY-MM-DD

### v.0.6 (2020-04-01)

#### Maintenance release

- Updated to ClassPack 1.18
- Switched all conformance attributes on revision dates to YYYY-MM-DD

#### v.0.5 (2019-07-24)

### Separated stars from flag and added baseline option

- Made the ring of stars a separate macro so that they can be used on their own as well as in the flag.
- Added a baseline package option to align the bottom star with the text, and a command option to do it on a per-command basis.

See p. 20 for earlier changes.

## 1 Background

This package provides a command \euflag for reproducing the flag of the European Union. It follows exactly the official specification (Council of Europe and European Commission, 2019). 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 the Graphics guide to the European emblem<sup>1</sup>.

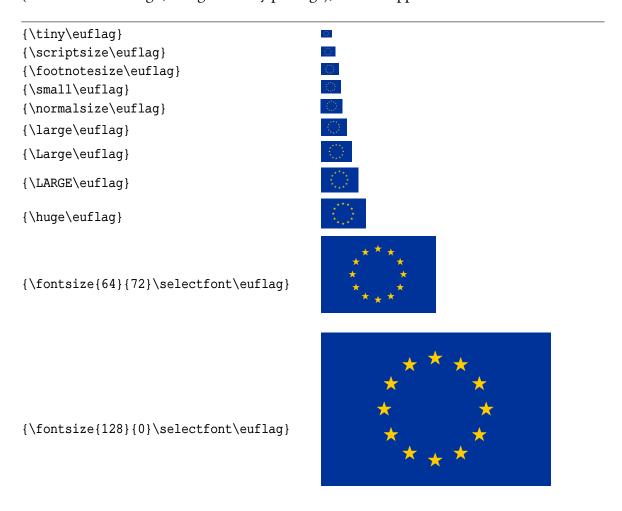
Since the publication of v0.4 of this package in February 2019, Claudio Beccari has investigated ways to produce the flag using only LTEX's drawing facilities and the xfp package. He has written a very comprehensive paper about this in *Arstexnica*, the journal of the Gruppo Utilizzatori Italiani di TEX (GuT), explaining how he did it (Beccari, 2019).

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 baseline package option or an optional length argument to the \euflag command can be used to change this (see below).

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, like this: , load the package with the baseline option:

```
\usepackage[baseline]{euflag}
```

(that will affect all \euflag commands). Alternatively, use the optional argument to \euflag to lower the flag by 1/6em or whatever amount you wish, eg \euflag[-.167em]

#### **Implementation** 3

#### **Auto-initialisation** 3.1

This section is added automatically by *ClassPack* as a preamble to all classes and style packages. The fixltx2e package, which used to be included automatically, is no longer preloaded, as its features are now a part of the latest  $\LaTeX 2_{\varepsilon}$  kernel.

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

```
1 \NeedsTeXFormat{LaTeX2e}[2016/02/01]
2 \ProvidesPackage{euflag}[2020/05/22 v0.8
   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 gets 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 include it.

```
\def\CPK@thispackage{euflag}
  \edef\CPK@thispackage{\meaning\CPK@thispackage}
6 \edef\CPK@thisjob{\jobname}
7 \edef\CPK@thisjob{\meaning\CPK@thisjob}
8 \ifx\CPK@thispackage\CPK@thisjob
  %% this is the documentation: omit PassOptionsToPackage
     \message{Option svgnames not passed to package xcolor}
10
11 \else
  %% this is a user job: include PassOptionsToPackage
     \message{Option svgnames passed to package xcolor}
13
     \PassOptionsToPackage{svgnames}{xcolor}
14
15 \fi
```

### 3.2 Options

LEUF@baseline Define an option to set the default position to align the lowest star with the text baseline of the surrounding text. The default is zero, meaning the bottom of the flag aligns with the text baseline; setting this option will lower the flag so that the lowest star aligns with the text baseline.

```
16 \newlength{\EUF@baseline}
17 \setlength{\EUF@baseline}{Opt}
18 \DeclareOption{baseline}{\setlength\EUF@baseline{-.167em}}
19 \DeclareOption*{%
20 \PackageWarning{euflag}{Unknown option
21 \'CurrentOption'; please Read The Fine Manual}%
22 }
23 \ProcessOptions
```

### 3.3 Packages required for the package

xcolor Provide color.

```
24 \RequirePackage[svgnames]{xcolor}%
25 \@ifundefined{T}{%
26 \newcommand{\T}[2]{{\fontencoding{T1}%
27 \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 ŁTFX).

```
28 \RequirePackage{graphicx}%
```

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

```
29 \RequirePackage{amssymb}%
```

### 3.4 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.

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

PantoneYellow As specified.

```
32 \definecolor{PantoneYellow}{HTML}{FFCC00}
33 %\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.

### 3.5 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.

```
34 \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 LTEX 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 Lagrangian process.

\makestars Separate the making of the ring of stars from the flag itself so that the ring of stars can be used separately.

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.

```
\newcommand{\makestars}{%
35
36
      \color{PantoneYellow}%
      \setlength{\unitlength}{1em}
37
      \divide\unitlength by18
38
      \beta (6,6)(-2,3.5)
39
        \put(6,0){\eustar}
40
        \put(5.196,3){\eustar}
41
        \put(3,5.196){\eustar}
42
        \put(0,6){\eustar}
43
        \put(-3,5.196){\text{eustar}}
44
        \put(-5.196,3){\eustar}
45
        \put(-6,0){\eustar}
46
        \put(-5.196,-3){\eustar}
47
48
        \put(-3,-5.196){\eustar}
49
        \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \\ \end{array} \end{array}
        \put(3,-5.196){\eustar}
50
        \put(5.196,-3) {\eustar}
51
52
      \end{picture}%
53
```

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.

EUF@baseline

Neuflag Before the \colorbox is used, set the \fboxsep length to zero so that there is no border around the box, and then raise (lower) the box by the value of EUF@baseline as set by the baseline option.

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.

```
59 \vbox to1em{%
```

```
hsize1.5em
hparskip0pt
kparindent0pt
kcentering
kmakestars
```

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

```
65      }% end vbox
66      }% end colorbox
67      }% end raisebox
68     }% end encapsulation
69  }% end command
```

That's it. Any problems, mail me.

## References

- Beccari, C. (2019). La bandiera europea e la sezione aurea. *Arstexnica*, 27. https://www.guitex.org/home/images/ArsTeXnica/AT027/BandieraEuropea.pdf
- Council of Europe and European Commission. (2019). Graphics guide to the European emblem: Interinstitutional style guide.

  http://publications.europa.eu/code/en/en-5000100.htm

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```
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%%% Copyright 2005 M. Y. Name
%%
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%% 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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# **Change History**

v0.1	Made the ring of stars a separate
General: First version: Simple	macro so that they can be used
picture mode is all that is	on their own as well as in the
needed, plus a decent star 1	flag.; 2) Added a baseline
v0.2	package option to align the
General: Works in table cells: Fixed	bottom star with the text, and a
bug (a vfill) that was crashing	command option to do it on a
(well, locking up) LaTEX when	per-command basis 1
euflag was used in a table cell 1	v0.6
v0.3 General: 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	General: Maintenance release: 1)  Updated to ClassPack 1.18; 2)  Switched all conformance attributes on revision dates to YYYY-MM-DD
PassOptionsToPackage for svgnames on xcolor, which was causing an Option Clash error 1 v0.4 General: Changed the star: Changed	Switched all conformance attributes on revision dates to
from the bbdingFiveStar to the	YYYY-MM-DD 1
amssymbbigstar command 1	v0.8
v0.5	General: Reference update: Added
General: Separated stars from flag	missing reference to Claudio's
and added baseline option: 1)	paper

## 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) 29	L lengths: \EUF@baseline
С	
\centering	\makestars
PantoneReflexBlue 30	N
PantoneYellow       32         \CPK@thisjob       6-8         \CPK@thispackage       4, 5, 8	\newcommand 26, 34, 35, 54 \newlength 16
\CurrentOption 21	0
_	options:
\DeclareOption 18, 19	svgnames <u>4</u>
\definecolor 30-33	P
\divide 38	packages: amssymb
E	graphicx
\ensuremath 34	xcolor
EU see European Union, 8	\PackageWarning 20
\EUF@baseline 16-18,54	PantoneReflexBlue (colour) $\dots \underline{30}$
\EUF@baseline(length) 9, <u>16</u>	PantoneYellow (colour) $32$
\euflag $\underline{54}$	\ProcessOptions 23
European Union 1	\put 40-51
\eustar <u>34</u> , 40-51	R
F	\raisebox 57
\fontencoding 26	\RequirePackage 24, 28, 29
	S
<b>G</b>	svgnames (option) <u>4</u>
Gruppo Utilizzatori Italiani di Try	-
Gruppo Utilizzatori Italiani di T <sub>E</sub> X 4 GUIT see Gruppo Utilizzatori Italiani di T <sub>E</sub> X	U
GOIT see Gruppo Gunzzatori Italiani ur IFA	\unitlength 37, 38
н	X
\hsize 60	xcolor (package) $\underline{24}$