Decision Making in the Council

One of the INSTITUTIONS of the EU is the Council of the European Union, which is the most important decision-making body. It is during the work of the Council that Member States are able to contain pacts between themselves, to arrange themselves using the tools of diplomacy. In the Council, each state has an adequate number of votes proportional to the number of inhabitants.

Simulation task: voting in the RUE on additional assistance for selected countries in the post-crisis period.
I are thinking about rethinking the situation of countries with regard to the functioning of the euro area.
1.   The criteria from Maastricht should be checked to see if the country meets/meets;
2.   Please find information on the country's position on providing assistance to countries such as Cyprus, Italy, Spain and Greece in crisis;;
3.   Assess the weaknesses and strengths of the euro area.
4.   Read the voting rules in the RUE.

Does the following division guarantee the possibility of reaching a common position?
Please group according to the following scheme:
1. Benelux countries
2. Visegrad countries (Poland,Hungary, Czech Republic, Slovakia)
3. small countries Cyprus, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Malta, Slovenia
4. PIIGS countries (Portugal, Spain, Ireland, Italy, Greece)
5. other countries: Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Bulgaria, France, United Kingdom, Germany, Romania, Austria.

Information for the presenter: Students are divided into 5 or 6 groups depending on the subject, so that they can negotiate a position on the topic with other groups of countries. After the first attempt, students can try to make changes to the teams- the presenter can also moderate the discussion so as to show how to block decisions.

Students receive short instructions to prepare in advance for classes.

Are the smallest countries able to vote on their own initiative, or are they able to block the strongest countries?

In addition to communication skills, expressing their own positions and using the right arguments, they gain knowledge of how the Council of the EU works in practice. Simulations show in which constellations of countries are politically arranged.

Classes do not require a computer lab, as every student can install a free phone app available below:

https://www.consilium.europa.eu/pl/council-eu/voting-system/voting-calculator/