ECTS Information for the Executive Master in EU Studies
(60 ECTS)

2026 - 2028

A programme of the Centre international de formation européenne (CIFE), organised with the support of the Erasmus + Programme.

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1. Introduction

1.1. General information on ECTS and the Bologna Process

ECTS is the credit system for the accumulation of transferable credits used in the European Higher Education Area, involving all countries engaged in the Bologna Process. ECTS credits are to be considered one of the cornerstones of the Bologna process. The ECTS credit system is based on mutual recognition between university programmes of the individual workload achieved by the students to attain the objectives of their programmes. The term workload describes the amount of time needed by an average student to attain the results, defined in terms of knowledge and competencies.
Credits are a way to quantify the knowledge acquired by students and to make their accumulation comparable and transferable. The key-documents of the ECTS are:

The catalogue of modules and courses / Curriculum

Course catalogues make study programmes easy to understand and compare for all students and staff – local and foreign – and provide them with essential institutional, academic and practical information. It is the regular information for the Executive Master in EU Studies; it is published in English on the website.

The Transcript of Records

The Transcript of Records documents the performance of the students by showing the list of courses taken, the ECTS credits awarded and possibly ECTS grades awarded.

The Master Diploma

CIFE grants to its graduates a Diploma Executive Master in EU Studies signed by its three main experts Prof. Tamás Szigetvari, Prof. Mattias Wendel and Prof. Wolfgang Wessels, as well as by the Director General of CIFE, Dr Matthias Waechter and the President of CIFE Mr Herman Van Rompuy.

The Diploma Supplement

The Europass Diploma Supplement is issued to graduates of higher education institutions along with their degree or diploma. It helps to ensure that higher education qualifications are easily understood, especially outside the country where they were awarded. The Europass Diploma Supplement was developed jointly with UNESCO and the Council of Europe.

A Diploma Supplement for the Executive Master in EU Studies will be delivered by CIFE together with the Master Diploma.

2. Information on the Executive Master in EU Studies

2.1. General Description

The European Online Academy was initiated in 2003. The Master in EU Studies Online, the first blended-learning master programme offered by CIFE, has been conducted as a two-year programme since October 2008. CIFE improved its curriculum to enable students to choose between the professional and the research tracks and relaunched the programme with the name Executive Master in EU Studies. The two-year Executive Master in EU Studies gives a total of 60 ECTS.

Over the past years European integration has become an even more relevant and complex issue. The European Union is a crucial element of Europe's political architecture, influencing political systems at all levels across Europe. Knowing and understanding the political system of the EU and its policies has become a highly essential part of one’s general knowledge of Europe. The programme aims to develop in each student a deeper understanding of European integration and the role and functioning of the EU in a globalised world and within the international context.

The Executive Master in EU Studies offers comprehensive information on recent developments of the European integration process and up-to-date insights into proceedings and policy areas both in the European and international context. The programme facilitates an interdisciplinary approach to relevant issues mainly from political scientists, economists, and European lawyers' perspective. The study programme demands and strongly supports skills developed across different backgrounds and disciplines.

The first year offers a range of compulsory and optional courses in EU history, political science, economics, EU law, lobbying, sustainable development and more.

The second year combines high level teaching in the chosen specialisation with either a research track, leading to a master thesis or a professional track, intensifying skills and competences for the labour market, leading to a final paper.

Throughout the programme, students are taught in research and methodology based on best practices of the academic and professional community. Additionally, the programme offers professional skills and competences training such as a European Council summit negotiation and an ECJ simulation, cross-country comparative statistics, policy briefs, economic analyses and legal memos, opinions and writs as well as project management, public speaking, presentation and debate.
These skills and competences are taught within each single course (course inherent), within the module *Skills and Competences* (see 4.3.) and as additional offers during workshops.

These competences include e.g.:

- negotiating within an international context (simulations)
- drafting and presenting of position papers, policy papers and summary reports
- planning, proposing and managing international projects (Project cycle management)
- identifying and trade off of different interests
- thinking and arguing in transnational legal dimensions
- understanding political decision-making procedures on European, national and regional level
- acquiring expertise in working for international and European organisations
- writing press releases and (political) speeches

The e-learning platform, interactive tools like online sessions and the intensive presence workshops provide a physical as well as virtual intercultural and multidisciplinary workspace, supporting the development of intercultural competence.

2.2. Students

The Executive Master in EU Studies provides a training and additional qualification on Master level for professionals, postgraduates and junior officials interested in or already working in national, European and international organisations, in public or private sector.

2.3. Curriculum and programme overview (1st year)

<u>Courses during the first year</u>

During the first year, i.e. during the first three terms of study, all students are offered a combination of compulsory and optional courses.

In the first term all three courses are compulsory and provide the necessary introductory background relating to the development of the EU system.

The combination of compulsory and optional courses continues in the successive terms and gives the students the opportunity to study specific areas of interest in depth. In order to meet the requirements

for completion of the programme and in order to gain the specific academic and competences necessary for the study of the modules of the second year, each student must collect a total of at least 30 ECTS in the first year, thus complete three courses in the second term and three courses in the third term.

A European Council summit simulation is scheduled for one of the workshops, whose participation is also a compulsory element of attendance in the first year of study and is graded.

Fundamentals of Scientific Work

Students are expected to work according to academic standards in their written contributions (proper quotation in assignments and examinations, etc). A presentation on the Fundamentals of Scientific Working is held during the first workshop in Berlin in October. Two online sessions on plagiarism and artificial intelligence will take place in November and January of the first study year.

Programme overview first year:

2.4. Curriculum and programme overview (2nd year)

The second year of study combines three advanced compulsory courses and a specialisation phase chosen according to individual interests with the option to either follow a research track, leading to a master thesis, or a professional track to intensify your skills and competences for the labour market, leading to a final paper.
After the successful completion of the three compulsory advanced courses in economics, political science and European law, the students are expected to choose between one of these disciplines and follow either a research track or a professional track. Participation in three advanced courses and in one specialisation is compulsory.

Programme overview second year

2.5. Module over two years: Skills and Competences

Within the module *Skills and Competences,* the students take part in a certain number of lectures, presentations and exercises offered during the presence workshops and complete one compulsory course, either the course *Project Cycle Management and Logical Framework Approach* or the course *Strategic Planning, Evaluation and Implementation of Development Programmes in the EU.*

2.6. Admission requirements and application procedure

The programme is open to applicants of all nationalities who already hold at least a qualification in higher education which meets the European qualification frameworks basic requirements for first cycle qualifications of 180 to 240 credits (i.e. B.A. or equivalent) and English proficiency.

All applicants must complete the online registration form:

- The applicant's Curriculum Vitae
- A description of the applicant's academic qualifications (diplomas, degrees) and professional experience
- A description of the applicant's motivation and interest in the Executive Master in EU Studies

The Selection Committee selects the candidates for participation in the programme on the basis of the information provided in the registration form.

2.7. Final examination and assessment regulations for the 1st year

For the successful completion of the first year of the programme, students are expected to:

A. study the respective online material, participate actively in all courses and submit the respective assignments according to the study regulations (see Study Regulations)
B. participate in at least three of the four presence workshops
C. actively participate in the simulation
D. actively participate in all interactive e-learning modules (e.g. forums, questionnaires, online exercises, etc.)
E. pass the final written examinations for all the compulsory courses and the chosen elective courses
F. take actively part in the lectures of the module *Skills and Competences*

2.8. Final examination and assessment regulations for the 2nd year

For the successful completion of the second year of the programme, students are expected to:

A. study the respective online material and participate actively in all advanced courses and in one specialisation phase (either the research track or the professional track)
B. submit the required assignments and take part in the moderated fora actively throughout the year according to the study regulations (see Study Regulations)
C. participate in all four presence workshops
D. actively participate in all interactive e-learning activities (e.g. forums, quizzes)
E. pass the final written examinations for the three advanced courses and – if chosen - the exam in the chosen specialisation course of the professional track
F. take actively part in the methodological classes
G. submit the required assignments and papers (e.g. outlines, exposés, presentations, research paper according to the chosen track)

H. take actively part in a certain number of teaching sessions online and in-class of the module Skills *and Competences* and complete either the course *Project Cycle Management and Logical Framework Approach* or the course *Strategic Planning, Implementation and Evaluation of Development Programmes in the EU*

2.9. Qualification and ECTS credits awarded

With the successful completion of the programme, students receive a diploma Executive Master in EU Studies.

The credits awarded for the programme add up to 60 corresponding to a workload of 1500 hours/2 years in total.

2.10. Workload

Overview of the ECTS credits distribution over two years:

	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	
Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	**ECTS**
First year																						
Compulsory courses						**18**																**18**
Elective courses									**9**													**9**
Simulation										**3**												**3**
Second year																						
Skills & Competences (PCM or SPIED)											**3**											**3**
AC EU law												**5**										**5**
AC Economics												**5**										**5**
AC Political Science												**5**										**5**
Specialisation phase: Research or Professional Track																	**12**					**12**
																						60

The credits awarded for the successful completion of the Master programme are 60 ECTS. They are calculated on the basis that one ECTS credit is equivalent to 25 working hours on average. In total 60 ECTS are a workload of 1500 hours.

2.11. Educational and professional goals

The programme is designed primarily as an additional qualification on Master level for professionals, postgraduates and junior officials interested in or already working in national, European or international organisations, who need deepened knowledge in the field of European integration and professional skills and competences.

2.12. ECTS departmental coordinator

For questions concerning ECTS credits contact the programme management at cife-berlin@cife.eu.

3. Academic staff and experts of the Executive Master in EU Studies

The lecturers of the Executive Master in EU Studies are renowned experts in their disciplines with academic and professional background as professors, researchers and advisors. Each course is usually led by an expert and supported by an assistant.

General assistance is offered by the team of the Executive Master in EU Studies, **Aline Palige and Camille Raffin.**

Here follows the list and affiliation of the teaching staff of the programme:

Prof. François Bafoil – Head of Research of CERI and Science Po (Paris)
Ms Giulia Cretti – Advisor on Energy Diplomacy for the Pooled Fund on International Energy (PIE)
Dr Veronika Czina – Research fellow, Institute of World Economics, Budapest
Dr Doris Dialer – Attachée | Head of Consumer Affairs & Health, Permanent Representation of Austria to the EU
Mr Emre Gür – BAREM Consultancy &Training (Istanbul) and CIFE
Prof. Artur Gruszczak – Jagiellonian University (Krakow)
Ms Gyöngyvér Gyene – Consultant (Budapest)
Mr Ralf Kanitz - German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin)
Mr Kai Kraus – Legal Engineer (Berlin)
Dr Robert Kissack – Head of Studies, Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals (IBEI - Barcelona)
Prof. Jacques Le Cacheux - Université de Pau
Mr Edgar Lenski – German Federal Chancellery (Berlin) and Research Fellow, Walter Hallstein Institute, Humboldt University Berlin
Dr Mazhar Mughal – Groupe ESC, Université de Pau
Dr Darius Ribbe, Comparative Politics, Institute for Social Sciences, Oldenburg University
Dr Nikolaus Scheffel - German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin)
Prof. Tamás Szigetvári – Pázmány Péter Catholic University (Budapest)
Mr Thomas Traguth – MA (oxon), MA (College of Europe)
Dr Matthias Waechter – Director General, CIFE (Nice/Berlin)
Prof. Mattias Wendel – University of Hamburg, Faculty of Public Law and European Law
Prof. Wolfgang Wessels – Jean Monnet Chairholder *ad personam*, CETEUS, University of Cologne

4. Description of courses & modules of the Executive Master in EU Studies

4.1. First year

4.1.1. Fundamentals of Scientific Work

The lecture Fundamentals of Scientific Work offers an introduction to and repetition of fundamental academic skills/competences, e.g. how to write an assignment, how to quote and cite properly or how to search for open-access academic literature.

Theme/Topic	Fundamentals of Scientific Work
Expert:	**Dr Darius Ribbe**, Comparative Politics, Institute for Social Sciences, Oldenburg University
Character:	Compulsory
ECTS Credits:	No grading /repetition of prerequisites if needed
Teaching methods:	Lecture with in-class discussion and two online sessions
Assessment methods:	Assignments and active participation in forum discussions
Skills and competences:	Essay writing, searching for academic literature, proper referencing, avoiding plagiarism.
Learning outcomes:	Repetition and consolidation of academic skills: How to approach an exam/ assignment?
Literature:	Baglione, L.: Writing a research paper in political science: a practical guide to inquiry, structure, and methods, Los Angeles: Sage, 2016.

4.1.2. Institutional Architecture of the EU

Theme/Topic:	The institutional architecture of the EU 'after Lisbon' – Fit for the next decade?
Experts:	Prof. Wolfgang Wessels, Jean Monnet Chairholder ad personam, CETEUS, University of Cologne and **Dr Darius Ribbe**, Comparative Politics, Institute for Social Sciences, Oldenburg University
Character:	Compulsory
ECTS Credits:	3 ECTS credits
Teaching methods:	Seminar and discussion at the presence workshop, interactive course text, learning videos, guided forum, online sessions
Assessment methods:	Final exam at the end of the term, assignments, active participation in forum discussions
Skills and competences:	Understanding EU policy making in its institutional context; applying theoretical/analytical tools to conceptualise the EU's functioning; handling of EU primary documents; filtering and interpreting this information properly.

Objective and course content:
The course focuses on the explanation of the institutional architecture of the EU in the light of current challenges, providing in-depth insights on the Union's institutions and decision-making procedures from a 'legal' and a 'living perspective'. Both the institutions' internal functioning as well as their interaction in the EU's political system will be analysed. In addition, future scenarios of EU governance and integration for the decade 2020-30 will be discussed in light of the experiences with the Treaty of Lisbon (2009) and recent reform ideas. For all topics, starting points for further research will be integrated in the interactive course text.

Bibliographical advice and links:
Joint CEPS, EGMONT and EPC Study, 2010, The Lisbon Treaty: A Second Look at the Institutional Innovations.
Book review article: Delledonne, G. (2021). The institutional architecture of the European Union: emerging and unresolved questions. *Journal of European Integration*, *43*(8), 1045–1053.
Piattoni, Simona (ed.), 'European Union Institutional Architectures: Structural Tensions, Dynamic Forces, and the Advantages of Hapticity', in Simona Piattoni (ed.), The European Union: Democratic Principles and Institutional Architectures in Times of Crisis (Oxford, 2015; online edn, Oxford Academic, 20 Aug. 2015)

4.1.3. History of European Integration

Theme/Topic:	History of European Integration
Expert:	**Dr Matthias Waechter**, Director General, CIFE
Character:	Compulsory
ECTS Credits:	3 ECTS credits
Teaching methods:	Lecture, seminar and discussion at the presence workshop, guided forum
Assessment methods:	Final exam at the end of the term, active participation in workshop and to two online sessions as well as forum discussion
Skills and competences:	Capacity to use history as a source for understanding current problems, working with historical sources. Comprehending European integration as a step-by-step process.

Objective and course content:

Students receive a general vision of historical factors shaping European integration in the cold war period of international relations and after 1989 in the period of globalization. By the end of the course, they are able to distinguish between different eras of the integration process and know their main characteristics and dynamics. The course is intended to frame a set of structural and historical patterns which can explain the integration dynamics and its stagnation, factors related to internal (functional) as well as external (competition with superpowers and nation states) constraints. Students will understand the relation between enlargement of the European Union and the internal processes of deepening of intra-state cooperation and supranational decision-making. The course helps students to better assess the arguments of opponents of European integration and to place them into their historical context. Also, students will be able to use historical inquiry in order to validate or disprove the different theories of European integration.
Bibliographical advice and links: Universiteit Leiden, *History of European Integration*

4.1.4. Introduction to European Law

Theme/Topic:	European Law I – Basics of European (Constitutional) Law

Experts:	**Mr Edgar Lenski**, German Federal Chancellery) and Research Fellow, Walter Hallstein Institute, Humboldt University Berlin **Academic assistant: Mr Kai Kraus**, Legal Engineer, Berlin
Character:	Compulsory
ECTS Credits:	3 ECTS credits
Teaching methods:	Lecture, seminar and discussion at the presence workshops, guided forum
Assessment methods:	Final exam at the end of the term, assignments, active participation in workshop and forum discussion
Skills and competences:	Legal terminology, legal arguing, reading and understanding cases and judgments, thinking and arguing in transnational legal dimensions

Objective and course content:

Introduction into European Constitutional Law in general: Treaties or Constitution?, the autonomy of European law, its relationship to national (constitutional) law, multilevel constitutionalism and the EU divided-power system, competences of the EU, institutions, decision-making procedures, legislative acts, in particular directives and their direct effect, methods and problems of implementation, liability of Member States for infringements, fundamental rights and the system of legal protection by national courts and the ECJ.

Bibliographical advice: Pernice, Ingolf, 2002. Multilevel Constitutionalism in the European Union.

WHI Paper, 5/02.

4.1.5. European Law II

Theme/Topic:	European Law II – Internal market
Experts:	**Mr Edgar Lenski**, German Federal Chancellery and Research Fellow, Walter Hallstein Institute, Humboldt University Berlin **Academic assistant: Mr Kai Kraus**, Legal Engineer, Berlin
Character:	Compulsory
ECTS Credits:	3 ECTS credits
Teaching methods:	Lecture, seminar and discussion at the presence workshop, guided forum
Assessment methods:	Final exam at the end of the term, assignments, active participation in workshop and forum discussion
Skills and competences:	Legal terminology, legal arguing, reading and understanding cases and judgments, thinking and arguing in transnational legal dimensions

Objective and course content:

Based on the introductory course on European Constitutional Law, this course aims at a more precise understanding of EU substantive law: the internal market and the competition rules. Each of the chapters

on the four freedoms, on gender equality, on harmonisation of laws, on competition law and on public procurement law, starts out with a detailed introduction. These introductory chapters are followed by a study of the ECJ's case law: after reading and analysing the leading cases, the students will finally approach the recent jurisprudence of the Court relating to the topics.

Bibliographical advice - For EU-Legislation and ECJ case law: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/en/index.htm

4.1.6. Political Economy of Energy Transitions

Theme/Topic:	Political Economy of Energy Transitions
Expert:	**Prof. François Bafoil**, CERI Paris **Ms Giulia Cretti**, Advisor on Energy Diplomacy for the Pooled Fund on International Energy (PIE)
Character:	Optional
ECTS Credits:	3 ECTS credits
Teaching methods:	Lecture, seminar and discussion at the presence workshop, guided forum
Assessment methods:	Final exam at the end of the term, active participation in workshop and three online sessions
Skills and competences:	Gaining a broad understanding of the political economy of energy transitions in Europe and in the world

Objective and course content (4 parts)

History
Overview of the development of energy systems over the last two centuries in Europe and in the world.

Determinants
Three main dimensions of the field of the political economy of energy are going to be analysed:

1. how the demographic evolutions impact the energy demand
2. how urbanisation, industrialisation, mobility and consumption practices contribute to the climate crisis
3. how the energy transitions and resources can address the energy and climate challenges together

Resources and conflicts
Some major energy conflicts in Europe and its neighbourhood are going to be analysed.

Organisations and regulation
This chapter explores how energy transitions transform and are transformed by international and European institutions as well as by the State and the market.

Bibliographical advice
Mitchell, C. (2008). *The Political Economy of Sustainable Energy*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan
Moe, E., and P. Midford (eds) (2014). *The Political Economy of Renewable Energy and Energy Security: Common Challenges and National Responses in Japan, China and Northern Europe*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.
Smil V., (2017). *Energy and Civilization. A History*, Cambridge: MIT Press

4.1.7. The EU in World Politics

Theme/Topic:	The EU in World Politics
Expert:	**Dr Robert Kissack**, Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals (IBEI)
Character:	Compulsory
ECTS Credits:	3 ECTS credits
Teaching methods:	Lecture, seminar and discussion at the presence workshop
Assessment methods:	Final exam at the end of the term, assignments, active participation in workshop and realisation of a podcast
Skills and competences:	Critical analysis, essay writing, small and large working groups (Assessment methods). A thorough understanding of the theoretical and practical dimensions of foreign policy making in the contemporary world, with reference to the European Union and its member states. An introduction to the social science discipline of International Relations.

Objective and course content:

This course is intended to provide a thorough understanding of European foreign policy in global dimension; its historical evolution, its current structure, and the key objectives it promotes. More specifically, the course is based in the social science discipline of International Relations, which focuses on the behaviour of states (and, of course, *sui generis* actors like the EU) in international politics. The web content provides the student with an overview of what IR is about and how it approaches the study of the world, and goes on to focus on foreign policy analysis, which was the traditional approach to the study of the EU. It then moves on to cover more recent developments of specific theories of EU foreign policy, as well as the institutional design and the role of the major EU actors in shaping EU foreign policy. Finally, the course explores EU relations with three major powers in the world: the US, China and Russia.

Bibliographical advice

Hill, C. and Smith, M., eds., 2011. *International Relations and the European Union*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

4.1.8. The Economic Dimension of EU Integration

Theme/Topic:	The Economic Dimension of EU Integration: European Economic and Monetary Union, Stability and Growth Pact, CAP, Climate policies
Experts:	**Prof. Jacques Le Cacheux**, UPPA and Sciences Po Paris **Dr Mazhar Mughal**, Pau Business School
Character:	Optional
ECTS Credits:	3 ECTS credits
Teaching methods:	Lecture, seminar and discussion at the presence workshop, guided forum
Assessment methods:	Final exam at the end of the term, assignments, active participation in workshop and forum discussion

Skills and competences:	Working with and evaluating statistical material, exploring and discussion macroeconomic dimensions, analytical skills in applied economics

Objective and course content:

The course is designed in such a way as to mobilize major analytical tools of economics to enlighten the various aspects of EU economic integration under the challenge of international global developments and the processes of economic policymaking in the EU. It covers market integration, competition policy and their consequences, macroeconomic policies (monetary and fiscal) in the Eurozone, tax and social competition, climate policies, etc.
The objectives of the course are to allow an understanding of major issues, problems, challenges and policy choices facing policymakers in the EU, while acquiring analytical skills in applied economics.

Bibliographical advice

https://www.ceps.eu/
https://bruegel.org/

4.1.9. The Enlargement of the EU - Experiences, Processes and Impact

Theme/Topic:	Enlargement of the EU - Experiences, processes and impact
Experts:	**Dr Veronika Czina**, Research fellow, Institute of World Economics, Budapest **Prof. Tamás Szigetvári**, Pázmány Peter Catholic University, Budapest
Character:	Compulsory
ECTS Credits:	3 ECTS credits
Teaching methods:	Lecture, seminar and discussion at the presence workshop
Assessment methods:	Final exam at the end of the term, assignments, active participation in workshop and forum discussion
Skills and competences:	Working with and evaluating of short-, medium- and longer-term development trends based on official documents, statistics, policy papers, exploring and discussing economic dimensions, and developing analytical skills by comparing original goals and instruments (expectations) with real performance (implementation).

Objective and course content:

The course offers a comprehensive analysis of the European Union's enlargement policy, with a particular focus on the integration process of Central and Eastern European (CEE) countries. Students will explore the legal and political framework of accession, including the Copenhagen criteria, pre-accession instruments, and the structural dynamics of formal negotiations.

The curriculum provides historical perspectives with a special focus on the evolution of EU-CEE relations from the post-Cold War association agreements to the landmark 2004 enlargement. A significant portion of the course is dedicated to evaluating the impact of Eastern enlargement across key policy areas, such as common trade policy, agriculture or the free movement of labour.

Beyond historical perspectives, the course examines the EU's contemporary relations with its non-member partners (EEA area and the UK) and its candidate countries. This includes a strategic review of the Western Balkans' path, the Eastern Partnership (focusing on Ukraine, Moldova, and Georgia), and the unique challenges of EU-Turkey relations. Finally, students will analyze the future trajectory of enlargement in light of the recent geopolitical developments which revived the EU from its decade-long enlargement fatigue.

Bibliographical advice

Janis A. Emmanouilidis, Corina Stratulat, Johannes Greubel and Berta López Domènech (2025): A Test of Times - Permachange through enlargement and EU reform. European Policy Centre

4.1.10. Justice and Home Affairs in the EU

Theme/Topic:	Justice and Home Affairs in the EU
Expert:	**Prof. Artur Gruszczak**, Jagiellonian University, Krakow
Character:	Optional
ECTS Credits:	3 ECTS credits
Teaching methods:	Lecture, seminar and discussion at the presence workshop, guided forum
Assessment methods:	Final exam at the end of the term, 1 assignment (an essay), active participation in the workshop and forum discussion
Skills and competences:	• ability to understand and assess the global key aspects of the JHA policies • ability to identify and examine international policy context • anaytical and research skills and critical thinking

Objective and course content

Justice and Home Affairs (JHA) is an expanding field of EU integration. Purely intergovernmental until the entry into force of the Amsterdam Treaty, it has been gradually shifting towards the community policy encountering many obstacles and limitations. JHA policies have evolved along two main axes of tension in this field: intergovernmental versus community policy-making; internal versus external dimension. Transformed into an Area of Freedom, Security and Justice in the Amsterdam Treaty, JHA issues blended the vital state prerogatives, in such areas as internal security, border control and criminal justice, with supranational regulations of EU citizenship, protection of freedoms and rights of EU citizens, asylum and judicial cooperation in civil and commercial matters.

The evolution of JHA from sidelined policy area at the times of the Maastricht Treaty into the focal yet contested field of EU integration in the aftermath of the Lisbon Treaty is a story of a slow progress and many reverse turns. The reason is that the governments have tried to upload their security concerns on the EU agenda, while jealously defending their prerogatives. It is also the story of an increasingly active EU foreign policy agenda, which resulted in placing the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice in a global context and inevitably linking it to cooperation with outside actors. Migration and refugee problems, which culminated in the years 2015-2016, have proven complexity of the external/internal dimension of JHA policy. They also generated new tensions undermining remarkable integration achievements, such as the Schengen area or, to a large extent, the Common European Asylum System.

This course will analyse the institutional and legal framework of JHA policies and examine the aspects of practical cooperation. Special attention will be paid to international dimension and global aspects of these policies. Migration issues, border management, law-enforcement collaboration and judicial cooperation are the most notable aspects of JHA and will be discussed in great detail throughout the entire course.

Bibliographical advice

DG HOME E-Library: http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/e-library/documents/index_en.htm

DG JUST policy libraries: http://ec.europa.eu/justice/index_en.htm

European Parliament LIBE Committee: https://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/libe/home.html

4.1.11. Lobbying and Advocacy in the EU

Theme/Topic:	Lobbying and Advocacy in the EU
Expert:	**Dr Doris Dialer**, Attachée | Head of Consumer Affairs & Health, Permanent Representation of Austria to the EU
Character:	Optional
ECTS Credits:	3 ECTS credits
Teaching methods:	Virtual/physical lecture, role play, storytelling, guided discussion forum, documented problem solving
Assessment methods:	Active participation, feedback-based learning, short assignments (e.g. case study analyses, transparency register findings), final exam
Skills and competences:	• argumentation, presenting expertise (e.g. position paper), policy and process competence, stakeholder identification (EU WhoisWho Directory), lobbyist's tool-kit knowledge, agenda setting and issue management, transparency register knowledge, codes of conduct, dynamics and trends (e.g. digital lobbying, health advocacy, greenwashing)

Objective and course content:

Lobbyists have been termed the 'fifth power" (after the executive, legislative, judiciary branches, and the media). Yet, the constant "scandalization" led to numerous lobbying myths, which the course intends to unpack. Lobbying is marked by a legitimate exchange logic, where "access" to decision-makers is gained by providing expertise. In terms of means and financial resources, the differences between NGOs (advocates) and corporate business (lobbyists), to which for instance the car, banking, pharma or digital industry are counted, raises constant concerns whether interests are represented on an equal footing. Yet, one of the vital questions is what kind of strategies and techniques lobbyists and advocates are using to reach their goals? Given the complexity of the EU institutional setting and law-making process, policy as well as procedural competence is needed to survive in the so-called shark filled "Brussels bubble".

Since the course focuses on a practical approach, insight-knowledge and case studies will support the key content:

1. General Introduction: theory, terminology, differentiation (consultant, public affairs agencies, law firm, think tank), lobbying as a profession, cleavage between EU and the US, funding, in-house lobbying, regional lobbying…
2. Policy & Procedural competence: policies, work programme of the EU Commission, legislative monitoring, identifying specific legislative proposals, understanding a procedure files, …

3. Institutional Setting: Identifying stakeholders, interacting with civil servants (EU WhoisWho Directory), approaching the right Members of Parliament and their staff (Accredited Parliamentary Assistants)
4. Strategies & Instruments: participating in consultations, coalition building, grass-roots lobbying, inside vs outside lobbying, communication instruments, establishing and keeping contacts, awareness creation (social media tools)
5. Scandalization, Transparency, Regulation & Ethics: codes of conduct, conflict of interest, transparency, ethics, bribery vs misconduct,
6. Dynamics & Trends: changes after Brexit, policy field dynamics (e.g. health lobbying post-Covid 19), professionalization, digitalization, green transition ("greenwashing"), …

Bibliographical advice and links:

Dialer, D, & Richter, M. (Eds.) (2019) Lobbying in the European Union. Strategies, Dynamics and Trends, Springer. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-98800-9

Interinstitutional Agreement between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on a mandatory transparency register (20. May 2021) Publications Office (europa.eu)

Code of Conduct for Members of the European Parliament (2018): Rules of Procedure of the European Parliament - ANNEX I - CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT WITH RESPECT TO FINANCIAL INTERESTS AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST - July 2018 (europa.eu)

Code of Conduct for Commissioners (2018): https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32018D0221(02)

4.1.12. Sustainable Development Policy and the European Green Deal

Theme/Topic:	Sustainable Development Policy and the European Green Deal
Expert:	**Ms Gyöngyvér Gyene**, Consultant
Character:	Optional
ECTS Credits:	3 ECTS credits
Teaching methods:	Lecture, seminar and discussion at the presence workshop, guided forum
Assessment methods:	Final exam at the end of the term, assignments, active participation in workshop and forum discussion
Skills and competences:	Current sustainability and climate change issues and institutions, presentation and debating skills, fundamentals of writing policy briefs

Objective and course content:

Course content covers sustainable development policy in Europe, explained against a background of global sustainability trends, focussing primarily on the European Green Deal, the leading policy package aimed at addressing sustainability issues at the European level, as well as a brief review of the key documents featuring sustsainable development over the past decades. (Treaty of Amsterdam, 1997: „environmental protection requirements must be integrated into the definition and implementation of the Community

policies and activities"; the first Europe-wide sustainable development strategy, adopted in 2001; sustainable development objectives in the Lisbon Treaty in 2009; EU contribution to the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, "Transforming our world", and subsequent member state SD strategies).

The European Green Deal, published in 2019, sets the ambitious objective of transforming the EU into a fair and prosperous society, with a modern, resource-efficient and competitive economy. We discuss key objectives and related documents covering the wide range of issues included in the Green Deal: no net emissions of greenhouse gases in 2050; economic growth decoupled from resource use; protect, conserve and enhance the EU's natural capital, and the health and well-being of citizens from environment-related risks and impacts, just and inclusive society, leading international efforts and building alliances with the like-minded, maintaining security of supply and competitiveness.

The course discusses these developments under the following main headings:

1. Sustainability – an emerging global vision
2. Milestones of global sustainable development policy
3. Overview of sustainable development policy in the EU: overarching and competing objectives
4. The European Green Deal
5. The efficacy of policy tools in implementing the objectives of sustainable development in the EU

Bibliographical advice:

European Commission, Communication of the Commission**: Sustainable Europe for a Better World: A European Union Strategy for Sustainable Development.** Commission's proposal to the Gothenburg European Council), 16 May 2001, COM (2001)264 final.

Communication From The Commission To The European Parliament, The European Council, The Council, The European Economic And Social Committee And The Committee of The Regions **The European Green Deal.** COM/2019/640 final

Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

4.1.13. Simulation

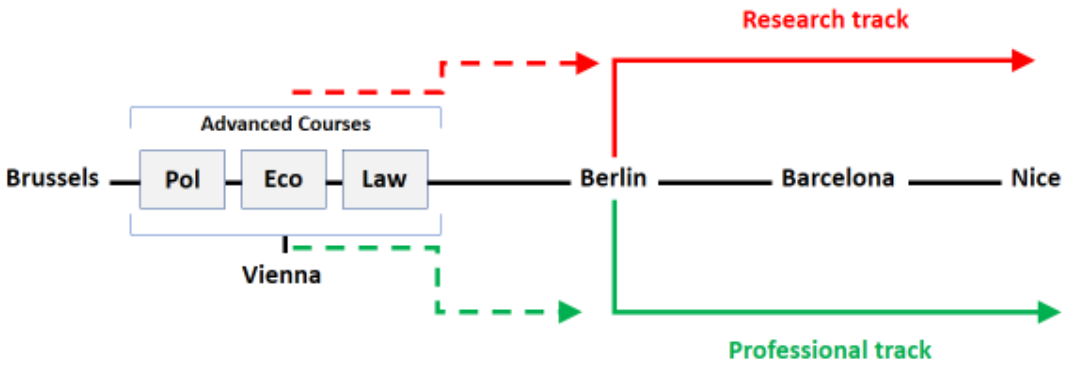
Theme/Topic:	A Summit of the European Council
Expert:	**Planpolitik**
Character:	Compulsory
ECTS Credits:	3 ECTS credits
Teaching methods:	Online preparation of position papers, working groups, simulation
Assessment methods:	Online preparation and submission of tasks before the simulation, active participation during the simulation and final assessment after the simulation
Skills and competences:	Negotiation skills, group work, problem solving, presentation, skills in identifying and trade off of different interests, synthesis, critical appraisal, content summation, composing argumentative pieces of writing and distinguishing between emotional and factual presentation, press releases, interviewing method

4.2. Second year of the Executive Master in EU Studies

The second year consists of two phases:

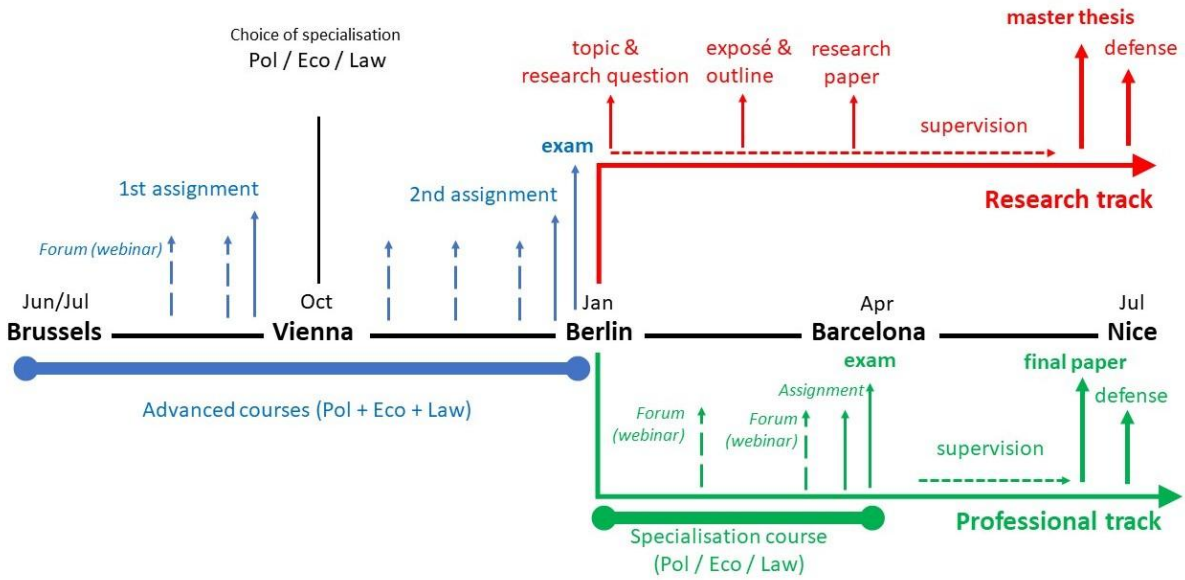
- The first phase with three advanced courses in European Law, Political sciences and Economics
- The second phase with a specialisation phase in either a professional track or a research track

The advanced courses aim at deepening the insights and enhancing the knowledge already acquired. Participation in all three advanced courses is compulsory. During the specialisation phase, students chose one discipline and acquire knowledge in one special field of interest. Within the specialisation phase in either European Law, Political science or Economics, students chose either for a research track, leading to a master thesis or a professional track, intensifying skills and competences for the labour market leading to a final paper.



Throughout all courses and phases the programme teaches research and methodology based on best practices either of the academic or the professional community. Methodological classes, skills and competences training (such as ECJ simulation, cross-country comparative statistics, policy briefs, economic analyses and legal memos, opinions and writs as well as project management, public speaking, presentation and debate) are inherent part of all courses and tracks.

Requirements for the Advanced courses and the Specialisation phase.



4.2.1. Advanced courses

All three advanced courses are compulsory for the students. After the study of these courses, they can decide on their specialisation.

Advanced course European law (compulsory) – 5 ECTS

Theme/Topic:	Constitutional Framework of the EU, European Citizenship and EU Fundamental Rights
Experts:	**Mr Ralf Kanitz**, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy **Academic assistant: Mr Kai Kraus**, Legal Engineer, Berlin
Character:	Compulsory/Advanced course
ECTS Credits:	5 ECTS
Teaching methods:	Course material online, methodological classes during the workshops, classes on special topics during the workshops, guided forum, three online sessions, webcasts, videos
Assessment methods:	Graded final exam at the end of the term, graded legal memo, evaluation of active participation during the workshops and answers/contributions to questions posed during the online sessions
Skills and competences:	Legal analysis, reasoning and arguing, writing a legal memo, in-depth study of some core issues of EU law

Learning outcomes, methods and course content:

The course aims to deepen students' understanding of the EU, its constitutional framework, and its law from the citizens' perspective. Building on the introductory material covered in the first year, master's students will conduct in-depth analyses of three topics. These will include constitutional and structural issues—such as the relationship between national and EU law—Union citizenship, including the social rights of citizens exercising their right to free movement, and individuals' fundamental rights. Relevant case law of the Court of Justice of the European Union will be examined in greater detail.

*** Simulation –Description**

European Law:	A pending case before the Court of Justice of the European Union
Expert:	**Mr Ralf Kanitz**, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy
Character:	Participation is a compulsory part of the advanced course for • students specialising in EU law will draft written observations, the Advocate General's conclusions, or the Court's judgement and will simulate an oral hearing before the Court • students not specialising in EU law will write a legal memo or note/protocol
ECTS credits:	Part of the ECTS awarded for the advanced course
Teaching methods:	Introduction by expert, presentation of results (legal writs, legal memos or note/protocol) by students, simulation of oral hearing

Assessment methods:	Evaluation of the presentation, the discussion and performance during the simulation
Skills and competences:	Litigation skills, legal arguing, applying a legal standard to the facts of a specific case

Objective and content of simulation:

The simulation is designed to familiarise students with the practical application of European Union law. It will be based on a case pending before the Court of Justice of the European Union. Each student will assume the role of one of the parties or institutional actors involved in the actual case, such as the applicant, the defendant, the European Parliament, the Council, the Commission, a national government, the Advocate General, or the judges. A minimum of three students is required.

Students will submit written observations, an application, a defence, or a draft opinion or judgment, depending on their assigned role. On the basis of these submissions, the group will simulate a hearing before the Court, including the parties' oral pleadings and questions from the judges and the Advocate General. After a break, the Court will reconvene to hear the Advocate General's opinion. During a subsequent break, the Court will deliberate before delivering and explaining its judgment in a final session.

Following the simulation, the final judgment, including its reasoning, may be published on the Executive Master Programme's website, allowing it to be compared with the judgment delivered by the CJEU in the actual case.

Advanced course Economics (compulsory) – 5 ECTS

Theme/Topic:	The European Union facing Global economic challenges
Experts:	**Dr Veronika Czina**, Research fellow, Institute of World Economics, Budapest **Prof. Tamás Szigetvári**, Pázmány Peter Catholic University, Budapest
Character:	Compulsory, Advanced Course
ECTS Credits:	5 ECTS
Teaching methods:	Lecture and course material online, seminar and discussion at workshops, guided forum; For those who specialise in Economics: methodological classes during the workshops, interdisciplinary presentation and discussions during workshops; (debating society exercise together with Political Sciences)
Assessment methods:	Final exam at the end of the term (January), one assignment, active participation in workshops and online sessions, methodological classes,
Skills and competences:	Policy-oriented assessment of the interdependence between and mutual impact of global economic trends and developments of the EU, interdisciplinary approach, methods of academic research and writing, developing practical economic policy approaches, writing policy briefs, open discussion of key issues (to be identified according to specific current issues)

Learning outcomes, methods and course content:

The course deals with some core elements of the EU's global presence
(a) the EU as a global trader, its position and trade policy
(b) the EU in global capital flows and European TNCs
(c) the EU's global competitiveness (traditional and new factors of competitiveness)
(d) the role of euro in a globalized economy
(e) the EU and international development assistance

The interdisciplinary character of all subjects will be continuously highlighted.

Students acquainted with key global economic trends and the EU's position in the world economy, including Europe's strong and weak factors, between the external factors challenging the EU and the internal developments, both as a response to external impacts and as a key player influencing global economic trends.

The methodology is based on comparative and policy-oriented approach that enables the students to understand and analyse macroeconomic statistics, identify fundamental economic challenges and different policy responses in global and European context.

The economy-focused but interdisciplinary character of the course is considered to be a relevant input for an active and fruitful discussion with students specialised in political and/or legal issues.

Bibliographical advice and links:

Witzleb, Norman, Alfonso Martínez Arranz, Pascaline Winand (eds., 2015), *The European Union and global engagement: institutions, policies and challenges*. Edward Elgar Publishing, 336 pp.

Góralczyk, Bogdan J. (ed., 2015), *European Union on the global scene: United or irrelevant?* Centre for Europe, University of Warsaw, 278 pp.

Advanced course Political Science (compulsory) – 5 ECTS

Topic:	Explaining the institutional evolution of the EU: Drivers and Barriers
Experts:	**Prof. Wolfgang Wessels**, University of Cologne, Jean Monnet Chair ad personam / CETEUS **Mr Thomas Traguth**, MA (oxon), MA (College of Europe)
Character:	Compulsory, Advanced Course
ECTS-Credits**:**	5 ECTS
Teaching methods:	Lecture and course material online, seminar and discussion at the presence workshops, online sessions, guided forum
Assessment methods:	Final exam at the end of the term, one assignment, active participation in workshop and online sessions
Skills and competences:	Students will: • study the major theories of EU integration • examine the key drivers and barriers of EU institutional evolution • develop competing explanations for the dynamics of development • compare different scenarios of further EU integration • explain complexity and differentiation in the EU

- evaluate different strategies for EU development

More generally, students will:

- refine their methods of academic research and writing, develop practical policy strategies in a policy brief
- take part in a formal debating exercise (together with Economics)

Learning outcomes, methods and course content:

The EU institutional system has been shaped by major event and forces, such as strategic political decision-making, responses to unexpected crises as well as continuous incremental adaptations for more than 60 years. This course builds on the knowledge of the EU institutional architecture provided by the first year of the programme. In this follow-up, students will look for the key driving (and restraining) forces of the EU's institutional evolution. Students learn to identify, analyze and explain "milestones" and "watersheds" in EU history by applying the major theories and approaches of EU integration. They will be able to identify the fundamental patterns of how and why the political system of the European Union has been shaped by its drivers and barriers.

The course will introduce the most influential theories and approaches to explaining the EU, namely

- (Neo-) Federalism,
- (Neo-) Realism / Intergovernmentalism and
- (Neo-) Functionalism
- and newer approaches, e.g. neo-institutionalism.

With these conceptual tools, students will be equipped to develop competing explanations for the dynamics, driving and limiting forces of this change and possible scenarios for the future. They will further compare and evaluate the different strategies for the EU's future.

The course contents are structured in such a way to make these different perspectives comparable and their application interchangeable. Students will thus develop academic rigour in small working groups, oral presentations, written assignments including the drafting of a policy brief, participating in debate and intensive discussions with their peers and the professors of the programme. These transferrable skills are useful in the EU-related labour market and contribute to improving employability prospects in this field.

Bibliographical advice and links:

European Commission (2017): *White paper on the future of Europe – Reflections and scenarios for the EU27 by 2025*

Nelsen, Brent F. and Alexander Stubb (2014): *The European Union. Readings on the Theory and Practice of European Integration*. 4th edition, Houndmills, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Saurugger, Sabine (2013): *Theoretical Approaches to European Integration*. Houndmills: Palgrave Macmillan.

Wiener, A. and Diez, T., eds., 2009. *European Integration Theory*. 2nd Edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Eilstrup-Sangiovanni, Mette (2006): *Debates About European Integration*. A Reader. Houndmills: Palgrave Macmillan.

4.2.2. Specialisation phase

Students choose one specialisation (European law, Economics or Political Science) and follow either a research track, leading to a master thesis, or a professional track, intensifying skills and competences for the labour market, leading to a final paper. 12 ECTS in total is counted for the whole specialisation phase, including master thesis/final paper.

Specialisation phase European law – 12 ECTS

1. Professional track

Topic of specialisation:	Internal Market, Trade and Sustainability (Aspects of internal market law in an international perspective)
Expert:	**Mr Ralf Kanitz**, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy **Academic assistant: Mr Kai Kraus**, Legal Engineer, Berlin
Character:	Specialisation course, focusing on improving professional skills, writing of an assignment and a final paper
ECTS Credits:	12 ECTS
Teaching methods:	Course material online, methodological classes during the workshops, classes on special topics during the workshops, guided forum, two online sessions
Assessment methods:	Graded final exam taken in March/April, graded legal memo, graded final paper, evaluation of presentation of the final paper at the fourth workshop, evaluation of active participation during the workshops and answers to questions posed during the online sessions
Skills and competences:	Interdisciplinary thinking and understanding, professional skills and competences with regard to the course content, writing of a comprehensive legal memo/opinion, briefing and presentation skills

Learning outcomes, methods and course content:

The specialisation course (professional track) takes an interdisciplinary approach and prepares students to write their final paper. It focuses on the relationship between the internal market, international trade, and sustainability. Students will study the case law on the free movement of goods within the EU and compare it with the GATT/WTO framework. The course will cover the substantive rules of both regimes, as well as the mechanisms used to enforce them. Environmental protection law and policy illustrate the need to balance free trade with other important values. This issue is relevant in both the EU and the WTO. EU law will provide the starting point for the course, but perspectives from economics and political science will also be included. This interdisciplinary approach will support the discussions and help students develop their final papers.

2. Research track

Topic of specialisation:	Individual chosen research topic
Expert:	**Dr Nikolaus Scheffel**, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy
Character:	Individual research within the chosen specialisation
ECTS Credits:	12 ECTS
Teaching methods:	Intense individual supervision on a research topic, methodological classes during the workshops; interdisciplinary presentation and discussion of research paper & research colloquium at the third workshop
Assessment methods:	Graded research paper, graded master thesis, evaluation of presentation and discussion of research paper, and of defense of master thesis
Skills and competences:	Research skills and competences (How to find a research question? How to write a research paper? How to write a master thesis?), interdisciplinary thinking and understanding, law in context, requirements and methods of innovative research, writing a master thesis

Learning outcomes, methods and course content:

Students of the research track may choose a legal research topic of their liking. Experience shows that some students already have a topic, often related to their job or career opportunities. In this case, supervisors will help to formulate the research question and continuously guide the students in their work. Students who do not yet have a research topic may discuss possible options with the supervisors. Though the research should have a legal focus, economics and political sciences can be integrated into the master thesis.

Specialisation phase Economics – 12 ECTS

1. Professional Track

Topic of specialization:	Cohesion and differentiation - internal cohesion of the EU
Experts:	**Dr Veronika Czina**, Research fellow, Institute of World Economics, Budapest **Prof. Tamás Szigetvári**, Pázmány Peter Catholic University, Budapest
Character:	Specialisation Course within professional track ECO, focusing on improving professional skills, writing of an assignment and a final paper
ECTS Credits:	12 ECTS
Teaching methods:	Lecture and course material online, seminar and discussion at workshops, guided forum; For those who write their final paper in this module: methodological class during the workshops, interdisciplinary presentation and discussions during workshops
Assessment methods:	Final exam (specialisation course content) at the end of the term, assignments, active participation in workshops and in a discussion

	session; presentation of drafts of the final paper, forum discussions, methodology seminar, final paper
Skills and competences:	How to write a final paper? Policy-oriented assessment of the interdependence between and mutual impact of global economic trends and developments of the EU, interdisciplinary approach, professional oriented skills and competences, developing practical economic policy approaches, writing policy briefs and short economic analysis, open discussion of key issues (to be identified according to specific current issues), writing and presenting a final paper.

Learning outcomes, methods and course content:

Contents:
(a) The upgrading of economic security (mainly energy, migration and environment)
(b) Internal factors of cohesion and differentiation (economic divergences, different impact of external factors on member countries, emerging nationalism and anti-EU movements, the necessity of two-way solidarity)
(c) Consequences and management of a multi-speed EU: towards disintegration or a qualitative leap forward towards deepening the integration?

Assessment methods and skills and competences as above.

The interdisciplinary character of all subjects is continuously highlighted, thus creating an excellent basis is created for discussion with the topics of the political and legal courses.
Students are made acquainted with critical external and internal challenges of the European integration. On the one hand, external economic security challenges will be addressed and discussed. On the other hand, internal threats of cohesion (different member country priorities, undermining of key European values, nationalistic trends) will be dealt with in the context of how or whether to manage the critical mass of cohesion in a multi-speed European Union.

Bibliographical advice and links:

1. Economic security

Review of Income and Wealth. Special Issue: *Economic Insecurity: Challenges, Issues and Findings* May 2014 Volume 60, Issue Supplement S1. Pages S1–S273. Issue edited by: Romina Boarini, Lars Osberg
András Inotai, *Economic Security: Key Challenge for the 21st Century, in: Rebalancing Global Economic Governance – Opportunities for China and the G20 beyond 2015*, UNDP, Beijing, pp. 105-110.

2. Social cohesion

Willem Molle (2015): *Cohesion and growth: The Theory and Practice of European Policy Making*. London - New York: Routledge, 342 pp.
Welfens, Paul J.J. (2013): *Social security and economic globalisation*. Berlin-Heidelberg: Springer.

3. Multi-speed Europe

John Eatwell, Terry McKinley and Pascal Petit (eds.) (2014): *Challenges for Europe in the World*, 2030. Farnham: Ashgate, 2014. 408 pp,
Stieber, Harold W (2013): *Economic Governance in a Multi-Speed Variable-Geometry Europe*. In: Morten Balling, Peter Egger & Ernest Gnan (eds.): States, Banks and the Financing of the Economy: Fiscal Policy and Sovereign Risk Perspectives. Brussels: Larcier, 2013, pp.23-64

2. Research track

Topic of Specialisation:	Individual chosen research topic
Experts:	**Dr Veronika Czina**, Research fellow, Institute of World Economics, Budapest **Prof. Tamás Szigetvári**, Pázmány Peter Catholic University, Budapest
Character:	Individual research work within the chosen specialisation Economics
ECTS Credits:	12 ECTS
Teaching methods:	Intensive supervision on a research topic, readings and individual supervision, moderated forum, online sessions, methodological class during the workshops, interdisciplinary presentation and discussions during workshops, research colloquium during the seventh workshop
Assessment methods:	Exposé, outline, table of content, research paper (leading to a master thesis), discussion during the third workshop of the second year, defense of the master thesis at the final fourth workshop
Skills and competences:	How to find a research question? How to write a research paper? Interdisciplinary thinking and understanding, scientific skills and competences with regard to one special research topic; requirements and methods of innovative research. Sensibility for the integration of theory and practice in EU-studies, writing and presenting an own research paper, writing a master thesis.

Learning outcome and objectives

Students who have chosen the research track learn how to do own research work in the field of economics. They are expected to work on their own research questions and apply economic methods and methodology. Students interested in research work will be supported in developing competences in policy-oriented assessments of global economic trends. The master thesis has to be written in accordance to all academic standards and has to be defended during a final presence workshop.

Specialisation Phase Political Science - 12 ECTS

1. Professional Track

Topic of specialisation:	Formats of professional practice – Working in the EU political arena. Students apply practical skills – both written and oral – needed in a professional environment such as international and national administrations, NGOs, lobbies and think tanks
Experts:	**Mr Thomas Traguth**, MA (oxon), MA (College of Europe)
Character:	Specialisation course within the professional track, focusing on improving professional skills, writing of an assignment and a final paper
ECTS-Credits:	12 ECTS

Teaching methods:	Lectures and online course material, seminar and discussion at the presence workshops, guided forum, online sessions.
Assessment methods:	• Written assignments (e.g. press release, policy brief, one pager, scenario building, group paper) • active participation in presence workshops. • regular (short) written contribution to the moderated forum discussion • methodology seminar with own presentation and development of professional skills • oral presentation of the third assignment • presentation of own final paper in the form of SWOT analyses, policy analyses and studies and policy briefs
Skills and competences:	• application of interdisciplinary approach between political science, economics and law • identify, analyse and practice different formal and informal rules and formats for policy-making, analysis and communication • methods of academic research and writing • formulation of practical policy strategies (how to write a policy brief) and "debating society exercises" • writing and presenting of an in-depth final paper of 25-30 pages

Learning outcomes, methods and course content:

The practical component of this course will focus on relevant practical skills necessary in the political arena, esp. skills in writing policy briefs, memos, political party declarations, press releases, resolutions in parliament position papers, drafts of European Council conclusions and applications for EU-funded projects.

- Students will learn to identify, analyse and explain the opportunities and constraints of how the EU can influence policies and politics outside its own borders.
- Furthermore, they will prepare and present own work of practical relevance, e.g. a proposal for a chosen policy and a strategy for its enactment or implementation in the policy cycle in policy briefs, memos, declarations, press releases and drafts of political documents, such as EC conclusions etc.
- They will examine and evaluate real-life examples from political making or political agency
- They will apply their knowledge to own topics in formulating a 30-page in-depth analysis or study or a SWOT analysis and relevant policy briefs for the policy making arena.
- Overall, the students develop conceptual rigour through written assignments, oral presentations, small working groups and discussions with their peers and the professors of the programme. These skills are useful to enhance employability prospects in the EU-related labour market.

2. Research track

Topic of Specialisation:	Individual research topic to be determined in cooperation with the thesis supervisor
Experts:	**Prof**. **Wolfgang Wessels**, University of Cologne, Jean Monnet Chair ad personam / CETEUS

Character:	Individual research work within the chosen specialisation
ECTS Credits:	12 ECTS
Teaching methods:	• Intensive supervision on research topic • readings and individual supervision through ICT-based technology • interdisciplinary presentation and discussions during workshops • research colloquium during the seventh workshop and peer evaluation of other research proposals • final presentation of own research work
Assessment methods:	• Exposé including an executive summary and outline, table of contents • research paper (leading to a master thesis) including methodology, literature review and bibliography • presentation of research paper during the third workshop of the second year • presentation and defense of the master thesis at the final workshop
Skills and competences:	• Interdisciplinary thinking and understanding across political science, law and economics • scientific skills and methodological competences with regard to one special research topic • fulfilling internationally accepted standards and methods of individual innovative research • inclusion of theory-based approaches for studying the practice of EU-related policy and political processes • writing and presenting an own research paper

<u>Learning outcomes, methods and course content:</u>

The research track of this module allows the student to develop their own and independent in-depth research on a topic to be decided in cooperation with their supervisor. The key skill is to develop a research design and conduct the study over the period of 6 months in the form of a full master thesis of 60 pages.

The process involves the following key steps:

- identification of relevant topics and gaps of research to be addressed in the current research environment
- formulation of a new research question establishing causal relationships in order to elucidate underlying mechanisms of political developments and practice
- review of the academic literature on the chosen topic
- development of a theory-driven research approach which embeds the own research in an established framework within the contemporary academic environment
- formulation of own hypotheses relating chosen indicators in a causal connection or valid context
- selection of an appropriate methodology to conduct this individual research
- in-depth empirical studies through qualitative and/or quantitative research, based on reliable sources of data or own methodological choices, including interviews where possible
- discussion and evaluation of research findings and answering the research question
- identifying shortcomings and omissions and further research desiderata following from the results of the inquiry

- presenting and discussing own findings in a peer-review process to fellow researchers
- commenting other researchers' work in a peer-review process

4.3. Modules over two years – Skills and Competences and Methodology

4.3.1. Module Skills and Competences (3 ECTS)

The Executive Master in EU Studies offers modules which are organised along the courses of both the first and the second year of studies.
During the academic programme, students not only gain firsthand academic knowledge in the specific areas of study, they also acquire a number of skills and professional competences.
Although all course modules contribute to enriching the skills, competences and expertise of the students (see the details given in the course descriptions), the curriculum of the Executive Master in EU Studies contains this specific module designed exactly with the purpose of endowing the students with a series of additional competences. These resources and expertise are useful and decisive to complete the Master programme and are committed to the professional career. This module equips the students with several soft skills and competences usually needed in the working environment helping them to improve their ability and expertise when working for national, European or international organisations, in public or private sector.

The module runs over two years of the Executive Master in EU Studies.

First part: Skills and competences for today's professionals

The first part consists of a series of lectures, exercises, discussions and presentations (mainly during the workshops) and focuses on the development of those soft skills and competences, which are most needed in the daily work in any international working environment. Meetings with (inter)national experts and practitioners offer on one side the opportunity to discuss in depth current issues affecting the EU and its member states, on the other side provide valuable insights into decision-making procedures, offers dialogue and networking possibilities, allows the students to make use of the acquired knowledge in a more practical manner. Meetings with national, European and international experts and practitioners offer insights into decision making procedures and possibilities for dialogue and networking.

Skills and competences (Selection)

- How does it work? Understanding decision-making procedures in multi-level systems and in regional, national, European and international institutions
- Negotiation skills (e.g. simulation): identifying trade-offs, interests, capabilities, opportunities
- Communicating and arguing with success: presentation skills and non-verbal communication
- Intercultural competences
- Drafting of position papers, policy briefs and summary reports
- Working with media and journalists (e.g. press release, information cycle, blog writing)
- Understanding the functioning of social media
- Improving skills in networking and job hunting
- Understanding the functioning of European Agencies in Brussels and the EU
- The professionalism in national and European parliament
- Planning the career development (e.g. Apco worldwide)

Second part: Compulsory course to be chosen out of two

The second part consists of a separate project-based course where students are confronted with the typical issues of managing a project in an international context. The course part takes place from July to October.

Students must choose one of the two following courses:

Topic:	**Project Cycle Management and Logical Framework Approach**
Expert:	**Mr Emre Gür**, CIFE / Barem Consulting
Character:	Optional
ECTS Credits:	3 ECTS credits
Teaching methods:	Course material online, forum discussions, seminar and discussion at the presence workshops
Assessment methods:	Assessment of group work along with active participation in workshops and forum discussions. Group work consists of; preparation of a finalised logical framework and project submission materials with delivery of interim assignments leading to this final product.
Skills and competences:	A holistic view of project development including but not only limited to systematic analysis of problems and their inter-relations, logical framework methodology and Project Cycle Management (PCM) approach. Students also gain an understanding of activity-based planning and resource planning in the context of a project while having an overview of EU and international donors' perspective

Topic:	**Strategic planning, implementation and evaluation of development programs in the EU (SPIED)**
Expert:	**Ms Gyöngyvér Gyene**, Consultant
Character:	Optional
ECTS Credits:	3 ECTS credits
Teaching methods:	Course material online, lecture, group work and discussion at the presence workshop, mid-course online session, guided forum
Assessment methods:	Presentation of assignment, active participation in team work, presence and online workshop and forum discussion
Skills and competences:	Fundamentals of strategic planning and evalutation in the EU context, practice of forecasting and backcasting, practice of planning evaluations and creating and assessing an evaluation Terms of Reference (TOR)

Objectives and course content:

1. facilitate an understanding of the role and functioning of strategies in the context of EU development programmes
2. learn how business strategies differ from public service ones
3. practice and have fun using some of the key tools used in designing, implementing and evaluating strategies within the institutional framework of the EU

The course content is focused on strategic planning and implementation roles at two levels: member state governments and the EU Commission.

Bibliographical advice:

Henry Mintzberg, 1994: The rise and fall of strategic planning: reconceiving roles for planning, plans, planners. The Free Press, New York: Introduction, Chapter 1, Chapter 5.
Gerry Johnson, Richard Whittington, Kevan Scholes, Steve Pyle, 2011: Exploring strategy. Text and Cases. 9th edition. Pearson Education Limited, Harlow, Essex, England.
EU Regional policy guidance on Programming 2014-2020
Evaluation plans (for MA) - incl. Terms of reference for impact evaluations and Quality management of external evaluations
Guidance document on monitoring and evaluation 2014-2020
EVALSED - Evaluating socio-economic development – the Guide and the Sourcebook on Methods and Techniques
Guidance for the Design of Quantitative Survey-Based Evaluation
Guidance for the design of qualitative case study evaluation
EU Better regulation guidelines
https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docgener/evaluation/pdf/performance2127/performance2127_swd.pdf

4.3.2. Methodological classes

Methodological classes are inherent part of all advanced courses and within the specialisation phase of the second year. The fundamentals are laid during the non-graded basic course *Fundamentals of Scientific Work* (taught during the first year and has to be passed only).
These methodological classes empower students to develop and improve their ability to become part of any given academic and professional community and write a master thesis/final paper according to all standards of research and professional work.
The workload is counted within the respective courses and phases.

Special methodological classes take place in the second year in three parallel working groups related to the chosen specialisation, meaning for the respective module in which the students deepen their skills in scientific and professional work. Students learn how to apply different methods, theories and practises in order to meet all the requirements and to prepare the master thesis and final paper.

Theme/Topic:	Methodological classes for the research and the professional track (How to write a master thesis/final paper in the chosen field of specialisation)
Experts:	**Dr Veronika Czina**, research fellow, Institute of World Economics, Budapest **Mr Ralf Kanitz**, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy **Dr Nikolaus Scheffel**, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy **Mr Thomas Traguth**, MA (oxon), MA (College of Europe) **Prof. Tamás Szigetvári**, Pázmány Peter Catholic University, Budapest **Prof. Wolfgang Wessels,** University of Cologne, Jean Monnet Chair/ CETEUS
Character:	Compulsory
ECTS Credits:	The workload is counted within the respective courses and phases.
Teaching methods:	- Methodological classes/working groups, individual consultation - Lectures, course material and videos online, discussions at the presence workshops (June/September/January/April) and via moderated forum - Research colloquium/Presentation and discussion sessions – presentation and defence of research papers and draft of final papers (March/April workshop) - Methodological classes introducing the students into the particularities of research/professional work, discussions of drafts (hypothesis, outlines, exposés, material of the master thesis) - Online sessions
Assessment methods:	Active participation in workshops, and in forum discussions, presenting and discussing outlines, exposés, research papers, draft of final papers
Skills and competences: (e.g.)	- How to write a master thesis/final paper - Methods of academic and professional research and writing - Arguing e.g. “debating society exercises”, legal reasoning and arguing

- Policy-oriented assessment of the interdependence between and mutual impact of global economic trends and developments of the EU
- Developing practical economic policy approaches
- In-depth analysis of core issues of EU law, ECJ judgments and EU legal texts ("guided reading"), simulation of the proceedings before the European Court of Justice (including the oral hearing and the issuing of the judgment)
- How to write a legal writ, a legal opinion, a policy brief
- How to write abstracts and conclusions
- How to write press releases

Learning outcomes, methods and content of methodological classes:

The classes deal further with the methodology of research and professional work. Methodological classes take place in parallel in order to prepare the students to write their master thesis/final paper. In working groups and via intensive contact with their supervisors, students learn to develop hypothesis, defining methods of their research work or learn specific professional skills. The methodological classes prepare and accompany the academic or professional writing on one research question (master thesis) or a professional task (final paper). During a research colloquium / discussion session students have to present and defend their first results of work.

The methodological classes accompany the specialisation by

- informing about the methods of research and professional work
- supporting the finding of a subject (first drafts)
- discussing the planned approach of the specific subject
- learning more about methodological issues such as citation, comparative analysis, multicultural and –language dialogue, as well as to interdisciplinary works; specific professional working methods
- supporting and discussing a detailed structure of the planned Master thesis/final paper in order to complete it within the time limits set by the Study Regulation.

Literature and links: Will be uploaded on the e-learning platform.

4.4. Master thesis/ final paper

(12 ECTS in total are awarded for the specialisation phase)

The topic for the master thesis/final paper needs to be agreed with the expert in the chosen module of specialisation. The writing of the master thesis/final paper will be accompanied by methodological classes, online sessions, teaching sessions.
The deadline for the submission of the master thesis/final paper is the end of May (second academic year). The master thesis/final paper is presented and discussed during the final workshop. After that discussion students have the possibility to re-submit a final version until the end of August. The performance of the discussion and presentation is included into the result of the master thesis/final paper. Students are expected to submit the final version of the master thesis/final paper by the due date and in accordance with all criteria for scientific work. The volume is expected to be within the scope of 50-60 pages (master thesis) 25-30 pages (final paper) (see Study Regulation and Examination Rules /Executive Master in EU studies).

The master thesis is marked by the expert and may be read by a second person to be proposed by the expert. In cases where the master thesis/final paper or the defence of the master thesis/final paper does not meet the required standard and is sent back to the student for revision (e.g. if the expert marks the

result as “insufficient”), the student can submit a revised version once more on written request. In such cases the Board of Examinations and Studies sets a new deadline. Only two different submissions are allowed.

5. Information on the organiser of the Executive Master in EU Studies

5.1. Centre international de formation européenne

Centre international de formation européenne (CIFE Nice)
81, rue de France
06000 Nice FRANCE
Phone +33 493 97 93 97 - Fax +33 493 97 93 98 - E-mail: cife-berlin@cife.eu
Website: www.cife.eu

5.2. Description of the institution

CIFE is a French private institution of higher education and research, founded in 1954 with its head office in Nice and branch offices in Berlin, Brussels and Istanbul.

It receives special funding in the framework of the Jean Monnet Programme/Erasmus + Programme of the European Union.

5.3. Programmes offered

The programmes of CIFE encompass educational and research activities concerning European unification and integration, federalism, regionalism and changes within the structures of contemporary society in accordance with a global federalist prospective.

CIFE organizes each year post-graduate programmes (Master presence and Blended Learning programmes), evening courses and summer sessions, which bring together students of all nationalities.

5.4. Management

President:	Herman Van Rompuy
Director General:	Matthias Waechter
Secretary General:	Ryszard Piasecki

5.5. Admission and registration procedure

Each programme offered by CIFE has its own procedures for admission and registration.