

Jean Monnet Module on European Integration 2

Advanced Issues of European integration: Human Rights in the European Union

Institution:	School of Public Policy, Central European University
Year/Term:	Year 1
Course type:	Track-specific course
ECTS:	4

Brief description (including learning outcomes):

The Jean Monnet Module (JMM) is a two-part interdisciplinary course on European integration and governance in the European Union. The first part is an introductory one delivered in the Fall Term (JMM1) and the second –advanced- part proposed in the Winter term (JMM2). Mundus MAPP students must take both JMM1&2. Legal studies students may take JMM1 or JMM2, or both, depending on their respective program requirements.

JMM 2 (Advanced issues of European integration and EU governance: Human Rights in the European Union) builds on JMM 1, by proposing a more thorough, critical and focused inquiry into an increasingly important yet controversial issue in European integration and governance: the respect, protection and promotion of human rights. The course follows the interdisciplinary approach introduced in JMM1, and encourages students to critically evaluate the EU and its member states' contribution to the protection and promotion of human rights norms, using analytical framework and concepts from the fields of legal studies, public policy, political sciences and international relations.

As human rights and rule of law concerns increasingly take center stage in European affairs, it is important to understand the context and institutional and policy framework within which the EU address human rights challenges both internally and externally, and what implications human rights considerations and activities have on the dynamics of EU governance and European integration. The course starts with an historical overview of the development of the protection of fundamental rights in the EU, and continues with addressing in further details substantive, institutional and procedural aspects of human rights protection in and by the EU. It examines the role and relevance of human rights frameworks across a wide range of EU policy settings (from Internal Market and Competition policy, to the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice, External Relations and Foreign Policy, Economic and Monetary Union, Enlargement and Exit, Social Policy, Cohesion Policy and Structural Funds, etc) and takes stock of recent and current crises (COVID 19, Euro-crisis, immigration, terrorism, Brexit, rule of law, etc).

The course includes both asynchronous elements (core readings, audio-visual materials, pre-recorded mini-lectures and presentations, etc) and synchronous – interactive – sessions (either in-person or online, depending on the COVID situation evolution), discussing key

issues and contrasting disciplinary and professional perspectives. It also features a court simulation exercise.

JMM1&2 aims at providing participants with a solid knowledge of EU institutions and decision-making processes, within the context of specific policies, and reflecting on past and current challenges. It also seeks to offer participants a truly inter-disciplinary perspective on those matters, through engagement with relevant analytical and theoretical approaches from (primarily) law and political science, and materials produced by, and for, different categories of professionals.

The course seeks to provide students interested in EU law, policy-making, or politics, as well as students of governance and public policy, business, human rights or comparative constitutional law, key knowledge and analytical tools to assess the relevance of human rights to European integration and governance, whilst improving their understanding of law and policy-making in the EU, and their ability to work across disciplines and professional categories.

At the end of the course, students should:

- be familiar with the historical development of EU human rights law since WWII;
- have a solid knowledge of the institutional, legal and policy frameworks for the protection of human rights in the EU;
- be able to identify, access and analyse the main legal and policy instruments available for the protection and promotion of human rights by the EU in both internal affairs and external policies;
- be familiar with key EU policy areas, and how they are affected by human rights considerations;
- be able to recognize the main institutional and civil society actors in the field of the EU human rights policy and assess their roles;
- be able to assess empirical developments in the field of EU human rights law in the light of key theoretical frameworks in law, political sciences, public policy, and international relations;
- be familiar with basic legal methodology (eg case briefing, mootings)
- be able to recognise, frame and address legal disputes involving human rights law in the EU context;
- be able to identify the human rights implications of policy actions, and advise accordingly;
- be able to reason analytically and logically within more than one discipline;
- be able to write in an analytical and critical way, communicate effectively orally and in writing to both scientific and non-scientific audience.

Assessment: 50% in-class contribution (10% participation, 20% roundtable contribution, 20% case presentation); 50% final seminar paper (2500 words) [TBC]