



STUDY PROGRAMME

- 1. POL**
- 2. MATA**

COURSE TITLE

Interest Representation in the EU

COURSE PROFESSOR

Justin GREENWOOD

NATURE OF COURSE (COMPULSORY, OPTIONAL)

- 1. Optional**
- 2. Optional**

ECTS CREDITS

5

ACADEMIC YEAR

2019-2020

SEMESTER

Second

COURSE ASSISTANT

Laura PIERRET

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION

English

1. COURSE OBJECTIVE

To examine the role of organised civil society interests in EU policy making and integration, and the impact of the EU political system upon organised civil society interests.

On completion of the course the student will be expected to be able to demonstrate understanding, critical analysis and application of:

- The extent to which the EU interest representation system is unique, or shares features to be found in other political systems as a result of the presence of common elements;
- The ways in which the properties of the EU political system, and the architecture of EU decision making structures the character, modus operandi and outcomes of EU interest representation;
- The key features of different interest constituencies and their collective action;
- The extent of inter-dependence with organised civil society interests and its consequences for EU democratic development;
- The mechanisms through which organised civil society interests contribute to EU policy-making;
- The use made of interest organisations by EU political institutions to achieve their goals;
- The factors explaining the mobilisation and political behaviour of different interest constituencies, organised interests, and social movements;
- Skills of communication, debating, writing, collaboration and groupwork, information identification, assessment and retrieval.



2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

These learning outcomes link up with the following programme-specific learning outcomes:

- Students possess a pluri-disciplinary understanding of European integration, allowing them to understand fully the nature, dynamics and functioning of the EU system;
- Students have a general knowledge of the main components of the EU political system: institutions, actors, decision-making procedures, competences and policies;
- Students comprehend the disciplinary knowledge and theories specific to EU studies;
- Students possess an in-depth knowledge of fundamental aspects of the EU political system (institutions, actors, policies etc.);
- Students develop a concrete understanding of the logics of policy-making and negotiations within the EU political system, thanks to simulation exercises and the drafting of policy papers;
- Students can recognize, contextualize, explain, and interpret political, societal and economic phenomena in European integration. They can assess events, governance problems and political crises;
- Students can analyse the process and actors of EU policy-making at different levels of governance and can reflect on potential developments;
- Students can flexibly apply theories and analytical frameworks from different disciplinary perspectives to the main issues of EU politics and policies;
- Students are able to analyse, in a limited amount of time, complex and new issues, by finding and investigating various sources of information and delivering an analytical and critical synthesis;
- Students can communicate clearly and effectively, through oral presentations or written documents, to different kinds of audiences;
- Students are capable of evolving in a multi-cultural context and of taking into account the variety of political systems, institutional logics and cultural backgrounds;

For MATA students, the following MATA programme-specific learning outcomes are relevant:

- The graduate masters the most important theoretical approaches and concepts of, depending on his or her disciplinary focus, Economics, International Relations and Diplomacy Studies, Legal Studies and/or Political Science relevant for the analysis of transatlantic affairs.
- The graduate has good knowledge of, depending on his or her disciplinary focus, the political and/or legal systems, the decision-making processes, the economic structures and the main internal and external policies of the European Union and the United States.
- The graduate has the ability to critically reflect upon problems regarding an extensive range of transatlantic affairs, to adopt well-informed points of view and to communicate them effectively orally and in writing, whether working independently or in a team.
- The graduate can independently transform complex transatlantic issues into a research question within the broader field of transatlantic affairs and, depending on his or her disciplinary focus, find, select and critically assess relevant sources, answer the question using appropriate concepts and methods and present the research results in line with the ethical rules of the chosen discipline.
- The graduate is capable of processing a large amount of information and appropriately analyse relevant sources depending on his or her disciplinary focus within a short period of time and of suggesting possible actions that contribute to problem-solving in a creative way.
- The graduate has the intellectual maturity and skills to take responsibilities and function autonomously in a professional environment at national or international level, and especially in a transatlantic context, and to work efficiently and effectively through planning, organizing, setting priorities, meeting deadlines, cooperating across cultural boundaries and networking.



3. COURSE CONTENTS

- Interest Representation in the EU political system
- The EU Political Opportunity Structure & Interest Representation
- Political influence by organised interests in the EU multi-governance system
- Political mobilisation, segments of Organised Civil Society and Social Movements
- Organised Interests & Democratic Legitimacy

4. TEACHING METHOD(S)

Lectures, guided readings, discussions, case studies, guest presentations.

5. COURSE MATERIAL

Dür A, Bernhagen P & Marshall D (2015) 'Interest Group Success in the European Union: when & why does business lose?' *Comparative Political Studies*, 48, 8, 951-983.

Dür A, Bernhagen P & Marshall D (2019) *The Political Influence of Business in the European Union* (University of Michigan Press)

Greenwood, J (2017, 4th edtn.) *Interest Representation in the European Union* (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan)

Greenwood, J (2014) 'Interest Groups and Patterns of Lobbying in Brussels', in J Magone (eds.) *Handbook of European Politics* (London: Routledge), chapter 43, 793-806.

Klüver, H (2013) *European Union Lobbying* (Oxford: Oxford U P).

Klüver H, Braun C & Beyers J (2015) Legislative lobbying in context: towards a conceptual framework of interest group lobbying in the European Union, *Journal of European Public Policy*, 22:4, 447-461.

Kohler-Koch, B and Quittkat, C (2013) *De-mystification of participatory democracy: EU governance and civil society* (Oxford: Oxford University Press).

Kröger, S (2016) *Europeanised or European? representation by civil society organisations in EU policy making* (Colchester: ECPR Press)

Mahoney, C (2008) *Brussels versus the Beltway: Advocacy in the United States and the European Union* (Washington DC: Georgetown University Press)

Woll, C (2006) 'Lobbying in the EU: from Sui Generis to Comparative Perspective', *Journal of European Public Policy*, 13, 3, pp456-469.

6. EVALUATION

Exam: **60%**

Essay or Presentation: **25%**

Continual Assessment: **15%**

Assessment at second attempt

During the second examination session the course is assessed **100%** on the basis of a written resit





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Natolir

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