



College of Europe
Collège d'Europe



Natolin

ECTS CARD

STUDY PROGRAMME(S) / STUDY TRACK(S)

Master of Arts in European Interdisciplinary Studies
Master of Arts in Transatlantic Affairs (Study Track: European Interdisciplinary Studies)

YEAR

2026-2027

COURSE TITLE

**EU Decision-making and Interest Representation in Practice / Le processus
décisionnel de l'Union européenne et la représentation d'intérêts**

SEMESTER

1

PROFESSOR

MARISSEN Vicky

ACADEMIC ASSISTANT

BEN MEFTEH Nour

COURSE TYPE

Simulation Game

MAJOR(S)

Not applicable

ECTS CREDITS

0

TEACHING HOURS

10

INDIVIDUAL & GROUP STUDY TIME

10

TUTORIAL(S)

0

COEFFICIENT

0

LANGUAGE(S)

EN

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The course targets at giving students a practical insight on how the EU decision-making system works (the implementation in particular), how external stakeholders (can) engage with the EU and on techniques that allow them to successfully bring their points of view across. The students will be preparing and running negotiations between various parties (EU Commission, private stakeholders, national authority, third country).

LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of this course, the students will be able to:

- 1) Understand in detail the EU decision-making process (A3, MATA1.3);
- 2) Show good insights into the various stakeholders active at EU level and how to advocate interest at best (A3, B2, MATA1.5);
- 3) Show practical understanding of negotiation and communication techniques (B1, B4, MATA2.2);
- 4) Formulate arguments in the context of interest representation (B4, MATA2.2);
- 5) Improve inter-personal and negotiation skills (B1, B2, MATA2.5).

RECOMMENDED PREPARATION

Each participant is required to do recommended background reading, personal preparation before the negotiation sessions. Independent research by students is recommended and the basis of a pre-conceived questionnaire.

TEACHING METHOD(S)

Lecture, Q&A, simulation exercise.

ASSESSMENT METHOD(S)

None.

COURSE CONTENTS

Session 1: lecture, briefing exercise and Q&A (3 hours)

- EU decision-making system with specific focus on the adoption process for implementing acts and the specific role of the European Medicines Agency, the EU Commission, Member states and the EU Court of Justice
- Orphan legislation: how it operates and key principles to take into account
- Lobbying and communication techniques and strategies at EU level

Session 2: simulation exercise (2 blocks of 2,5 hours; total: 5 hours)

Session 3: debriefing (2 hours)

COURSE MATERIALS (readings and other learning resources/tools)

EU Orphan legislation, booklet 'the Orphacol saga', Books: 'New practical Guide to the EU labyrinth', 'Handbook on EU secondary legislation'.