



College of Europe
Collège d'Europe

Brugge



Natolin

ECTS CARD

STUDY PROGRAMME

European Interdisciplinary Studies, Natolin campus (Advanced Academic Master)

YEAR

2023-2024

COURSE TITLE

Case Studies in EU Applied Diplomacy from the UN and the Neighbourhood

SEMESTER

2

COURSE PROFESSOR(S)

MAYR-HARTING Thomas

ACADEMIC ASSISTANT(S)

HAMMAMI Amel

COURSE TYPE

Specialist Course

MAJOR(S)

EUN

ECTS CREDITS

4

TEACHING HOURS

20

INDIVIDUAL & GROUP STUDY TIME

80

TUTORIAL(S)

COEFFICIENT

1

LANGUAGE(S)

EN

COURSE OBJECTIVE

Based on practical cases, students will acquaint themselves with some of the challenges confronting the EU, both as a diplomatic actor in its own right and when establishing common positions with the EU Member States.

Case studies will focus i.a. on key problems the EU faces in its work at the United Nations and its relations with the Western Balkans, the countries of the Eastern Partnership (both bilaterally and multilaterally), Turkey and Russia. Special attention will be given to the impact of the Russian invasion of Ukraine on these areas of diplomatic activity.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

On the basis of real-life examples, students will obtain practical insights into the work of EU diplomats, in particular when

- coordinating EU positions and representing the EU at the United Nations in New York;
- engaging on issues relevant to the EU's enlargement process;
- negotiating EU positions or joint statements in the context of the EU's Eastern Neighbourhood Policy;
- developing common EU positions with regard to international actors such as Russia and Turkey;
- working in/with the specific multilateral formats/structures dealing with conflict regulation in Eastern Europe.

RECOMMENDED PREPARATION

None.

TEACHING METHOD(S)

The course will be lecture-based, with group presentations and simulations by students.

ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA

- Students will sit a digital closed-book written (2 hours) in-class exam consisting of two questions, counting for 75 per cent of the overall mark.
- 25 per cent of the overall mark will be based on presentations on one of the subjects of the course (max. 2 students per presentation, 5 minutes per student) or participation in a simulated negotiation exercise (max. 6 students per simulation). A list of possible subjects for presentations and simulation exercises will be circulated during the introductory session of the course, and students will need to inform the Professor of their choices ahead of the second session.

The College of Europe reserves the right to change the delivery and assessment of the course in case of circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the College (*force majeure*). Any communication from the campus administration in this regard takes precedence over the information provided in this ECTS card.

Retake examinations, i.e. exams passed in the second examination session, will have the same format as those taken during the first exam session. The only exception concerns oral exams, which are replaced in the second exam session by written exams. When a student takes an examination during the second session, the final mark for the course is based solely on the result of the retake examination. No other element of evaluation which would have been taken into consideration in the calculation of the final mark during the first examination session will be considered in the second session. (art. 28 of the Specific Provisions).

COURSE CONTENTS

The course will provide a brief re-cap of the role of the EU after Lisbon and will then study concrete examples of applied EU diplomacy, at the United Nations in New York and with regard to the EU's neighbourhood (Western Balkans, Turkey, Eastern Europe):

1. The "UN segment" will study the EU's position as an "enhanced observer" and a "major group" at the UN. It will deal with the practical problems of collecting information and reporting as well as coordinating EU positions and representing the EU in New York. It will explain the role and competences of the EU Delegation and study the process through which EU positions are defined. It will look at the relationship of the EU Head of Delegation with his/her headquarters (mandates, margins of manoeuvre and 'red lines') as well as with EU Member States, including in particular those who are permanent or non-permanent members of the UN Security Council. Cases studies will include UN General Assembly Resolution 68/262 of 27 March 2014 on the "Territorial Integrity of Ukraine" or UN Security Council Resolution 2240 of 9 October 2015 authorising "Operation Sophia", as well as the internal and external challenges the EU faced when participating in the negotiations on the "Global Compact on Migration" (2017-18).

2. The "Neighbourhood Segment" will provide practical examples of applied EU diplomacy in a broader European context. Case studies will look into EU/EU Member States coordination processes on potentially divisive topics, such as relations with Turkey or Russia sanctions. The discussions in May 2016 on "guiding principles" governing the EU-Russia relationship, as well as those on the EU reaction to the failed coup attempt in Turkey in July 2016 and subsequent developments will serve as case studies, as will the role of EU diplomats in developing relations with the Western Balkans, in preparing

the Joint Declarations of the three last Eastern Partnership Summits (Riga/2015), Brussels/2017, and Brussels/2021), and in deepening relations with Ukraine and other Eastern partners following the Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022.

COURSE MATERIALS (readings and other learning resources/tools)

No prior reading is required. Relevant background information/documents will be available on intranet before the seminar.