**Tel Aviv University**

**European Studies Programme**

**Course**

**The European Union’s Common Foreign and Security Policy**



**SYLLABUS**

**Instructor: Dr. Frédéric Krumbein**

Spring Semester 2021

**Course Description and Contents**

The course offers an introduction into the foreign policy and external relations of the European Union. It provides insights into a) the legal and institutional framework of the Union’s external relations; b) the relationship between the EU’s foreign policy and the foreign policy of the member states; c) the different areas of the European Union’s external action, such as human rights, trade, or security and defense policy; d) the relations of the EU with major powers and its Eastern and Southern neighbourhood.

**Course Requirements:**

1. Completing basic text readings prior to each class.
2. Each student should write **three short essays** (600-1000 words each). The first essay should be submitted until 15 April, the second essay until 15 June and the third until 1 August 2021. For the **essays**, please select three of the topics of the presentations in the syllabus at your discretion. Criteria for grading are content, structure, and style/ability to use correct English in an academic paper. The essays will account for 45% of the final grade. The three essays should be submitted via Moodle. It is possible to write an essay together with another student. In that case, the essay should contain 1200 to 2000 words and both students will receive the same grade.
3. Each student should conduct a **presentation** in our virtual classroom about one of the topics for presentations in the syllabus. You can choose one of the topics in the course outline or suggest a topic for a presentation to the instructor. The length of the presentation should be about 15-20 minutes. It is possible to do a presentation together with another student. In that case, the length of the presentation should be about 25-30 minutes. The presentation will account for 35% of the final grade.
4. There will be **two online quizzes** in the seminar. The dates are specified in the syllabus. The quizzes will solely refer to the content of the uploaded presentations in Moodle and not to the texts. Naturally, there is a lot of overlap between the content of my presentations and the reading material. But for the quizzes it is sufficient, if you revise the slides that I upload in Moodle. The result of the quizzes will account for 20% of the final grade.
5. Each student should also take the role of a **discussant** in one session. He/she should prepare 2-3 questions related to the topic of the session in order to initiate and stimulate a discussion and should also be the moderator of the discussion (no grade).

After the semester is over and all assignments have been submitted by you and graded by me, I will write you an email with your final grade and comments on your assignments (usually until the end of February 2021 at the latest).

**Optional course reading materials (books):**

* Christopher Hill/Michael Smith/Sophie Vanhoonacker (eds.) (2017): International Relations and the European Union, Oxford University Press
* Stephan Keukeleire/Tom Delreux (2014): The Foreign Policy of the European Union, Red Globe Press, Second Edition
* Christoper J. Bickerton (2015): European Union Foreign Policy: From Effectiveness to Functionality, Palgrave Studies in European Union Politics
* Pieter Jan Kuijper/Jan Wouters/Frank Hoffmeister (2016): The Law of EU External Relations: Cases, Materials, and Commentary on the EU as an International Legal Actor, Oxford University Press

**Course Outline:**

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| **Institutional and legal framework** | |
|  | **Introduction** |
| Introduction to the seminar and the topic of EU foreign policy; course requirements |
|  | **How to analyze EU foreign policy and historical overview of its making** |
| Theories that can be used to analyze EU foreign policy and a historical overview of the development of EU foreign policy |
|  | **Actors and competences** |
| Main actors of the EU’s foreign policy; Competences of the European Union in the area of foreign policy |
| **Policy areas** | |
|  | **Promoting human rights and democracy** |
| Presentation: How can the European Union effectively promote democracy and human rights? |
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|  | **The EU’s external action** |
| Presentation: How does the EU contribute to global policies on climate protection (or another policy field of your choice in the area of external action)? or Why is the European Union considered to be a trade power and how does the EU use this power? |
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|  | **Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDF)** |
| Presentation: How can the European Union become a more effective military power? or Should the EU become a military power or remain a civilian power? |
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| **Relations with major powers and the EU’s neighborhood** | |
|  | **The relationship between the EU and the United States** |
| Presentation: The transatlantic relationship under the Biden administration or What are the EU’s strategic options in the US-China rivalry? |
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|  | **The EU’s Eastern Neighbourhood: Eastern Partnership and EU-Russia relations, and the Union of the Mediterranean** |
| Presentation: How should the EU deal with Russia? or Enlargement policy of the European Union |
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|  | **The EU’s Southern Neighbourhood: The Union of the Mediterranean and EU-Israel relations** |
| Presentation: Possibilities and limits of the EU’s democracy promotion in the Mediterranean region or Challenges and EU-Israel relations |
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|  | **The relationship between the EU and the United Kingdom** |
| Presentation: What is the impact of “Brexit” on EU foreign and defence policy? or What could be the framework for a future EU-UK cooperation in foreign and defence policy? |
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|  | **The relationship between the EU and China** |
| Presentation: What strategy should the EU adopt towards China? or What should the EU do to promote human rights in China? or The relationship between the EU and East Asian democracies (Japan, Korea, and Taiwan) |
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|  | **Concluding session** |
| Final discussion: What role should the EU play in the world and how can the EU fulfill that role? |