The course is designed to answer the question: Why are countries willing to surrender their sovereignty and enter institutions that threaten their ability to control the policy in different areas. This, for example, might lead the countries to give up their currency or their control over their borders.

The challenge and importance of the response to such questions stems from the fact that sovereignty of the country is not only a matter of policy or strategy, but also of its identity. Therefore, the question raises interest not only in the context of positivist views and their ability to explain processes of integration, but also in the context of interpretive views that emphasize the importance of the identity of the players.

The course will examine different theories that seek to explain the occurrence of processes of this kind and their effect on the formation and expansion of the European Union, as well as the challenges that the European Union faces in terms of preserving its existence in light of processes and shocks that have become prominent in recent years, and in particular the expected departure of the United Kingdom from the European Union (Brexit).

Module:
1. The aim of the course is to introduce students to theories of integration and sovereignty and their relationship (moderate)

The next section will examine the fundamental contributions of the key theories of sovereignty and integration (5th edition, 2024).


Hoffmann, Stanley. (1996). Obstinate or Obsolete? The Fate of the Nation-State and the Case of Western Europe. Daedalus, 95 (3): 862-915.


Maria Mälksoo (2018) Countering hybrid warfare as ontological security management: the emerging practices of the EU and NATO, European Security, 27:3, 374-392


