

Tel Aviv University

European Studies Programme

Course

The European Union's Common Foreign and Security Policy



SYLLABUS

Instructor: Dr. Frédéric Krumbein

2nd Semester 2023/2024

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. For each session, there is a text in Moodle that you should read before the class.
2. Each student should write one **essay** (2000-2500 words). The essay should be submitted until 30 June 2024. For the **essays**, please select a topic of the presentations in the syllabus at your discretion (but not the same topic as for your presentation). Criteria for grading are content, structure, and style/ability to use correct English in an academic paper. The essay will account for 50% of the final grade. The essay should be submitted via Moodle.
3. Each student should conduct a **presentation** 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. The presentation will account for 50% of the final grade.
4. 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 (until the end of July 2024 at the latest).

Optional course reading materials (books):

- Stephan Keukeleire/Tom Delreux (2022): The Foreign Policy of the European Union, Red Globe Press, Third Edition
- Christopher Hill/Michael Smith/Sophie Vanhoonacker (eds.) (2017): International Relations and the European Union, Oxford University Press
- Jan Wouters/Frank Hoffmeister/Geert de Baere/Thomas Ramopoulos (2021): The Law of EU External Relations: Cases, Materials, and Commentary on the EU as an International Legal Actor, Oxford University Press, Third Edition

Course Outline:

Institutional and legal framework	
6 March	Introduction
	Introduction to the seminar and the topic of EU foreign policy; course requirements
13 March	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
20 March	Actors and competences
	Main actors of the EU's foreign policy; Competences of the European Union in the area of foreign policy
Policy areas	
27 March	Promoting human rights and democracy
	Presentation topics: 1) How can the European Union effectively promote democracy and human rights in the world?
3 April	The EU's external action
	Presentation topics: 1) How does the EU contribute to global policies on climate protection (or another policy field of your choice in the area of external action)? 2) Why is the European Union considered to be a trade power and how does the EU use this power?
10 April	Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP)
	Presentation topics: 1) How can the European Union strengthen its defense and become a more effective military power after Russia's war against Ukraine?
Relations with major powers and the EU's neighborhood	
1 May	Russia's war against Ukraine and the EU's reaction
	Presentation topics: 1) How did the EU react to Russia's war in Ukraine? 2) How can the Ukraine become a member of the EU?
8 May	The relationship between the EU and China and the EU and Taiwan
	Presentation topics: 1) What is and what should be the EU's strategy towards China?
15 May	EU-Asia relations

	<p>Presentation topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) How does the EU cooperate with the regional organization ASEAN (Association of South-East Asian Nations)? 2) How does the EU cooperate with India?
22 May	<p>The EU's Southern Neighbourhood: The Union of the Mediterranean and EU-Israel relations</p> <p>Presentation topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) What is the EU's role in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict? 2) How do the EU and Israel view EU-Israel relations? What are challenges?
29 May	<p>The relationship between the EU and the United Kingdom</p> <p>Presentation topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) What is the political and economic relationship between the UK and the EU after "Brexit" and Russia's war against Ukraine?
5 June	<p>The relationship between the EU and the United States and EU-UK relations</p> <p>Presentation topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The transatlantic relationship under the Biden administration – What do the US and the EU expect from each other in NATO and in political and economic cooperation? 2) What are the EU's strategic options in the US-China rivalry?
19 June	<p>Concluding session</p> <p>Discussion: What should be the EU's foreign and defence policy after Russia's war against Ukraine?</p> <p>Deadline for the essay to submit via Moodle: 30 June 2024</p>