

RGSL SUMMER SCHOOL, 5-13 AUGUST 2024

Title	EU Fundamental Values in Times of Crisis
Total hours	40
Credit points	4 ECTS
Prerequisites	Knowledge of the basics of the European Union law Knowledge of the European system of human rights protection

SUMMER SCHOOL LECTURERS

RGLS faculty and guest lecturers

ABSTRACT

This course examines how the European Union's (EU) fundamental values are being challenged in times of crisis such as the 2014 refugee crisis and terrorist attacks in Paris and Brussels in 2015 and 2016. The course then explores the EU response to external conflicts via humanitarian action as well as the notion of European solidarity. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on human rights and the rule of law are also discussed.

The course aims to illustrate that every crisis is multi-dimensional and can be viewed from various perspectives: thus, for example, a financial crisis does not only have economic consequences but a broader range of implications. Similarly, the COVID-19 pandemic will have broad long-term effects: economic, political, legal, and social.

After completing the course, the students will be able to critically analyse the crises that the European Union faced during the second decade of the 21st century. They will be able to identify political and legal challenges in the implementation of European values and offer appropriate solutions. Apart from looking at past experiences, the course will discuss possible future crises and examine the available instruments to counter them.

The final session of the course is a debate, involving scholars, policymakers, and other stakeholders. The policy debate will serve as a conclusion of the course, offering at the same time a larger platform for discussion of current challenges the EU faces. The debate will be open to a broader audience.

COURSE SESSIONS

Date	Time	Covered subjects and mandatory reading materials
5 August	11:00-12:45 W31	EU Fundamental Values: Why do we need the Charter of Fundamental Rights?
5 August	13:30-15:15 W31	The 2015 refugee crisis: between solidarity and responsibility
6 August	11:00-12:45	Response of the EU External action on crisis outside the EU borders
6 August	13:30-15:15 W31	Financial crisis: types, causing factors, frequency and implications
6 August	16:00-17:30	Study visit to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Latvia
7 August	11:00-15:15 W31	W31 Workshop on European Commission policy priorities
8 August	11:00-12:45 W31	W31 Workshop on European Commission policy priorities: part II
8 August	14:00-15:00	Study visit to the European Commission representation in Latvia
9 August	11:00-12:45 W31	Rise of populist movements in the EU
9 August	13:30-15:15 W31	EU and the rule of law: crisis or controversies?
9 August	16:00-17:00	Study visit to the Constitutional Court of Latvia
12 August	11:00-12:45 W31	Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the security of Europe
12 August	13:30-15:15 W31	EU enlargement: a potential overstretch?
13 August	11:00-12:45 W31	Final group presentations

Date	Time	Covered subjects and mandatory reading materials
13 August	14:00-15:30 W42	The final debate: the future of EU values?
13 August	15:30	RGSL lobby Farewell reception