



STUDY PROGRAMME(S)

(1) EU International Relations and Diplomacy Studies

(2) Transatlantic Affairs

ACADEMIC YEAR

2024-25

SEMESTER

1

COURSE TITLE

External Dimensions of EU Internal Policies: Climate Change, Energy and the Environment

COURSE PROFESSOR(S)

Simon SCHUNZ

COURSE ASSISTANT(S)

Olha BYKOVA

NATURE OF COURSE (COMPULSORY, OPTIONAL, ELECTIVE)

(1) Compulsory course

(2) Elective course

ECTS CREDITS

2.5

3.5

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION

English

1. COURSE OBJECTIVES

This compulsory course investigates the rapidly evolving external dimensions of European Union (EU) internal policies with the help of several emblematic case studies chosen from the policy areas of climate change, energy and the environment. It enables students to explore the manifold intersections between EU internal and external policies and the different ways in which the European Union mobilises internal policies externally to attain internal and/or external policy objectives. Four forms of EU external engagement based on internal policies are considered: (i) a first form that revolves around the EU leveraging its internal policies – deliberately or unintendedly - by means of the “Brussels Effect” (Bradford 2020); (ii) a second form that relates to the EU’s attempts to proactively externalize its internal policies, notably in the wider European region; (iii) a third form by which the EU seeks to pursue objectives related to internal policies by interlinking them with or integrating them into, external policies such as development and trade policies; and (iv) a final form of external engagement amounting to genuine bi- and multilateral ‘sectoral diplomacies’ in areas of initially internal EU policies. In the discussion of each of these four forms of EU external engagement, specific attention is paid, in a theory-informed way, to the EU’s presence and capacity (being) as a basis of its external action, the precise ways and instruments through which it acts (doing), and how and to what extent its external action based on internal policies can be and is effective (impact). The course takes students from a discussion of the theoretical-conceptual foundations for understanding the external dimensions of EU internal policies to the empirical analysis of relevant policies and a normative reflection on the broader implications of analysed case examples. Students will work together to design a comprehensive EU ‘Green Diplomacy’ strategy vis-à-vis a specific theme and/or geographical region that is of interest to the Union. In the academic year 2024/2025, the focus will be placed on Central Asia. A concluding section extracts cross-cutting insights and offers the opportunity for an appraisal of the relevance of the rapidly evolving external dimensions of EU internal policies in the discussed issue areas and beyond.



At the end of this course, students will be able to

- master select theoretical and conceptual tools necessary to analyse and assess the external dimensions of EU internal policies;
- examine and compare empirically a range of EU internal policies with external dimensions, as hitherto under-explored areas of EU external action;
- recognise, appraise and explain the linkages between EU internal and external policies, and the opportunities, challenges and potential for more 'joined-up' and effective EU action;
- apply the acquired knowledge in order to critically assess contemporary practices in the studied fields of European Union external action and reflect normatively on potential alternative paths as well as their current and future importance for the EU as a global actor more generally.

2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

The course objectives tie in with the following learning outcomes of the programme **EU International Relations and Diplomacy Studies**:

- 1.1. The graduate masters the most important theoretical approaches and concepts of International Relations, EU Studies and Diplomacy Studies relevant for the analysis of the role of the European Union in international affairs.
- 1.2 The graduate can describe, explain and illustrate the current state of scientific research in the field of EU external relations in a broad sense and is able to critically assess the results of this research.
- 1.4 The graduate has acquired insights into the political, legal and economic aspects of EU external action and can use these insights to contextualise and interpret new developments.
- 1.5 The graduate is able to incorporate knowledge and understanding of various fields of EU external action and of different related disciplines (such as Political Science, International Relations, Law, Economics) at the interface between EU affairs and world politics.
- 2.2 The graduate has the ability to critically reflect upon problems in international and European affairs, to adopt well-informed points of view and to communicate them effectively orally and in writing, whether working independently or in a team.
- 2.3 The graduate can independently formulate a research question within the field of European affairs, find, select and critically assess relevant sources, answer the question using typical concepts and methods and present the research results in line with the ethical rules of the discipline.
- 2.4 The graduate is capable of processing a large amount of information within a short period of time and to work efficiently and effectively through planning, organising, setting priorities and meeting deadlines.
- 2.5 The graduate has the intellectual maturity and skills to function responsibly and autonomously in a professional context at national, European or international level and the capacity of suggesting possible action that contributes to problem-solving in a creative way.

The course objectives tie in with the following learning outcomes of the programme **Transatlantic Affairs**:

- 1.1 The graduate masters the most important theoretical approaches and concepts of, depending on his or her disciplinary focus, Economics, International Relations and Diplomacy Studies, Legal Studies and/or Political Science relevant for the analysis of transatlantic affairs.
- 1.2 The graduate can describe, explain and illustrate the current state of scientific research in the field of transatlantic affairs in a broad sense and, is, in line with his or her disciplinary focus, able to critically assess the results of this research.
- 1.4 The graduate has insights into historical, political, legal and economic aspects of transatlantic affairs as well as into those policy areas that are of essential importance to transatlantic affairs. He or she can use these insights to contextualize and interpret new developments.



- 1.5 The graduate is able to incorporate knowledge and understanding of various fields of transatlantic affairs and of different related disciplines (such as Economics, International Relations, Legal Studies, Political Science) as well as to adopt both a European and a US perspective on transatlantic affairs.
- 2.2 The graduate has the ability to critically reflect upon problems regarding an extensive range of transatlantic affairs, to adopt well-informed points of view and to communicate them effectively orally and in writing, whether working independently or in a team.
- 2.3 The graduate can independently transform complex transatlantic issues into a research question within the broader field of transatlantic affairs and, depending on his or her disciplinary focus, find, select and critically assess relevant sources, answer the question using appropriate concepts and methods and present the research results in line with the ethical rules of the chosen discipline.
- 2.4 The graduate is capable of processing a large amount of information and appropriately analyse relevant sources depending on his or her disciplinary focus within a short period of time and of suggesting possible actions that contribute to problem-solving in a creative way.
- 2.5 The graduate has the intellectual maturity and skills to take responsibilities and function autonomously in a professional environment at national or international level, and especially in a transatlantic context, and to work efficiently and effectively through planning, organizing, setting priorities, meeting deadlines, cooperating across cultural boundaries and networking.

3. COURSE CONTENTS

- Introduction and analytical framework (1 h)
- Part 1: The EU's "Brussels Effect" – leveraging the Single European Market (2 h)
- Part 2: Extending the reach of the EU's internal regime – leveraging enlargement and neighbourhood policies (2 h)
- Part 3: From climate, energy and environmental policy integration to managing policy nexuses – leveraging trade, development and other external policies (2 h)
- Part 4: Climate, energy and environmental diplomacy – negotiating bilateral partnerships and multilateral agreements (2 h)
- Conclusion (1 h)

Please refer to the intranet course page for access to the full course outline.

4. TEACHING METHOD

- Interactive lectures
- Participation: students are expected to regularly attend the class, to prepare the required readings and to participate actively in the discussions and group work.
- Tutorials: a tutorial will be offered by the course assistant. It will essentially be dedicated to the discussion of the paper assignment and the group work exercise.

Please refer to the intranet course page for access to further information and instructions.

5. COURSE MATERIAL

Please refer to the intranet course page for access to the detailed reading list (required and supplementary readings) and the slides.

6. EVALUATION

- Exam paper (100%)

The requirements for the exam paper differ slightly for students in the Master of Arts in Transatlantic Affairs



College of Europe
Collège d'Europe



Natolin

ECTS CARD

as compared to students in the EU International Relations and Diplomacy Studies programme. Detailed instructions for students enrolled in either of the two programmes can be found in the course outline.

In case of a second-session resit or a justified absence in first session, students will be evaluated on the basis of a two-hour written exam (100%).

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