

## **Module European Law**

### **Advanced course European Law / Compulsory (5 ECTS)**

Theme/Topic:	Constitutional Framework of the EU, European Citizenship and EU Fundamental Rights
Experts:	<b>Prof. Dr Mattias Wendel</b> , Faculty of Law, University of Bielefeld <b>Mr Edgar Lenski</b> , German Federal Chancellery <b>Mr Ralf Kanitz</b> , German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy
Character:	Compulsory/Advanced course
ECTS Credits:	5 ECTS
Teaching methods:	Course material online, methodological session introducing the participants into the particularities of ECJ judgments and EU legal texts (“guided reading”), further methodological sessions, seminars on special topics at the presence workshops, guided forum, simulation of the proceedings before the European Court of Justice*, monthly webinars, webcasts, videos
Assessment methods:	Graded final exam at the end of the term (January), two graded assignments (of which one is part of the simulation), evaluation of active participation during the workshops and answers/contributions to questions posted in the forum
Skills and competences:	Legal analysis, reasoning and arguing, writing a legal memo, introduction into the proceedings before the ECJ, in-depth study of some core issues of EU law

#### Learning outcomes, methods and course content:

The course focuses at the deepening of the understanding of the EU and its constitutional setting and law from the citizens’ perspective. Since the Treaty of Maastricht, the concept of EU citizenship has not only evolved to a central basis of the Union, but also encompasses meaningful political, economic and social rights as recognized by the ECJ. Master students will carry out in-depth analyses of five topics, based upon the introduction completed in the first year. These subjects range from constitutional/structural questions, such as the citizens’ constitutional and political status in the EU, citizens’ rights and obligations in the relationship between national and European (constitutional) law, the individuals’ fundamental rights and her freedoms in the internal market, including social rights of migrant workers and other EU-citizens making use of their right of free movement. Relevant case-law of the ECJ will be discussed in more detail.

**\* Simulation –Description**

European Law:	A case to be discussed before the <a href="#">ECJ</a>
Expert:	<b>Mr Ralf Kanitz</b>
Character:	Participation is a compulsory part of the advanced course <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• participants specializing in European Law will write a legal writ, the Advocate General’s Conclusions, or the Court’s judgement and will simulate an oral hearing before the Court</li> <li>• participants not specializing in European Law will write a legal memo</li> </ul>
ECTS credits:	Part of the ECTS awarded for the advanced course
Teaching methods:	Introduction by expert, presentation of results (legal writs, legal memos) by participants, simulation of oral hearing
Assessment methods:	Evaluation of the assignments, the discussion and performance during the simulation
Skills and competences:	Pleading skills, legal arguing, applying legal knowledge to a specific case, learning how to write a legal writ/memo

Objective and content of simulation:

The idea of the simulation is to make participants familiar with the practical application of European law. A case pending before the General Court or the ECJ will be the basis. Each participant will take the role of one of the parties who are involved in this case in reality: The applicant, the defendant, institutions (EP, Council, and Commission), national governments, the advocate general, the judges (judge rapporteur). A minimum of three participants is required. Participants will submit their written observation, application, defense, or report. On that basis, the group will simulate the hearing of the Court, including the pleadings of the parties, and questions by the judges and the advocate general to the parties. The Court will reconvene after a break to hear the opinion of the advocate general. During another break, the Court will deliberate in order to give and explain its judgment in a final session. After that, the judgment, including the reasoning, will be drafted and possibly published on the website of the Executive Master Programme (for comparison with the judgment of the ECJ in the “real” case).