Second year of the Executive Master in EU Studies

**ECJ Simulation**

**European Law:** A case to be discussed before the ECJ

**Expert:** Mr Ralf Kanitz

**Character:**
- Participation is a compulsory part of the advanced course
  - 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
  - participants not specializing in European law will write a legal memo

**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).