

IP_325 The EU as an actor in International Relations

Name of lecturer:

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Aims of the course:

The course introduces the EU as an autonomous actor in international relations. It analyzes various types and sources of the EU's actorness, especially focusing on their external dimension (recognition, attractiveness), their reflections in practical politics and in relations with various parts of the world.

Learning outcomes and competences:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to

- analyze the EU's position as an autonomous actor in international relations;
- identify key elements and sources of the EU's actorness;
- do a SWOT analysis of the EU as an actor in global international relations;
- apply their knowledge of foreign policies of traditional international actors (states, international organizations, etc.) to the EU as a new type of actor;
- describe and evaluate relations of the EU and EU member states with selected regions and states;
- apply their knowledge to specific foreign policy issues in the EU's agenda.

Course contents:

1. Introduction: The EU as an actor of international relations, its specifics, interests, foreign policy priorities and instruments
2. EU and EU member states: Global presence, harmonization of varying interests
3. EU enlargement: Consequences for the EU position in the world and for EU's relations with other powers
4. EU as a normative actor: International law, democracy, human rights and environmental protection
5. EU as a special security actor: Global security, conflict resolution, peacekeeping and stabilization
6. EU and Russia: Specifics and main topics in their relations; case study of energy security
7. EU and post-Soviet republics: Specifics and main topics in their relations; case study of Ukraine
8. EU in Northern Africa and Western Asia: Specifics and main topics in their relations; case study of Palestine
9. EU and sub-Saharan Africa: Specifics and main topics in their relations; case study of the Democratic Republic of the Congo

10. EU and Latin America: Specifics and main topics in their relations; case study of Cuba
11. EU and Asia: Specifics and main topics in their relations; case study of China
12. EU and the United States: Specifics and main topics in their relations; cooperation and competition
13. Future of the EU in international relations: Consequences of the changing international relations and international system

Assessment methods and criteria:	
Requirement type	Daily attendance
Presentation	20 %
Attendance	20 %
Final test	60 %
Total	100 %

Literature					
Author	Title	Published in	Publisher	Year	ISBN
ELGSTRÖM, O. -- SMITH, M.	The European Union's roles in international politics : concepts and analysis	London	Routledge	2006	0-415-39093-1
FORADORI, P. -- ROSA, P. -- SCARTEZZINI, R.	Managing a multilevel foreign policy : the EU in international affairs	Lanham	Lexington Books	2007	978-0-7391-1643-2
RICHARDSON, J J.	European Union : power and policy-making	London	Routledge	2006	0-415-35813-2
CAMERON, F.	An introduction to European foreign policy	London	Routledge Taylor & Francis Group	2007	978-0-415-40768-7
BRETHERTON, C. -- VOGLER, J.	The European Union as a global actor	London	Routledge	2006	0-415-28245-4