

European Studies Winter School Munich - Vienna

The European Union Challenges, Crises and Solution Approaches

Syllabus

January 5 - 23, 2026
www.european-study.eu



In cooperation with:



**Doctoral School
of Political Science,
Public Policy, and
International Relations**

CENTRAL
EUROPEAN
UNIVERSITY



Foreword

We are pleased to invite international students to the European Studies Winter School organised by the Munich International Summer University (MISU) at the LMU Munich.

The European Studies Program takes place under the patronage of the Chair of Political Systems and European Integration at Ludwig- Maximilians-Universität München in cooperation with the Department of International Relations of Central European University (CEU) Vienna.

The European Union is the most prominent example of regional cooperation. Both historical lessons and today's global challenges spur European states to prefer cooperation over unilateral policy-making. Starting out as a peace project resting primarily on economic cooperation, the EU has developed into a supranational polity that does not fit neatly into the categories of a 'state' or an 'international organisation'. European integration resulted in ever expanding EU authority, the 'Europeanization' of national political and economic systems as well as increased foreign security policy cooperation.

At the same time, however, disagreement on how to deal with crises in Europe's eastern and southern neighbourhood, on the handling of refugee flows from the Middle East as well as the still looming sovereign debt crisis seem to show the limits of European consensus and solidarity. Time and again, national particularities appear at odds with the common interests. Domestically, public opinion has become less favourable with regard to European cooperation than it had been in the past, with the United Kingdom having decided to exit the Union. Internationally, the EU is triggered to re-consider its global role given the past US administration's isolationist tendencies and the current security challenges such as the war in Ukraine.

Decades of European governance and most recent crises phenomena increased levels of politicization and societal mobilization in Europe. Citizens increasingly form political attitudes and enter into societal conflict along identity lines. Beyond the previous cleavage between left-wing socialist and right-wing neoliberal economic views, today cosmopolitan, green and alternative perspectives clash with traditional, authoritarian and nationalist groups thereby challenging the national and European political systems and decision-makers to organize compromise in society.

The Munich International Summer University is based on an interdisciplinary approach. It combines different methodologies such as lectures, group-work and students' presentations. We are looking forward to meeting students from all countries, nationalities and faculties.

Academic Hosts



Prof. Dr. Klaus Goetz,

LMU Munich, Chair of Political Systems and European Integration

One core interest of the Chair is the process of Europeanization of the political system of Germany and the role of Germany within Europe. Another focus relates to integration and migration in the European states as well as the relationship of politics, state and religion in Europe. Finally, neo-institutional perspectives on parliaments are part of the research.



Dr. Radu-Mihai Triculescu

LMU Munich, Head of MISU EU Studies Programs

Radu-Mihai Triculescu is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Chair of Political Systems and European Integration at LMU Munich, working on the ERC Advanced Grant SYNCPOL - Synchronized Politics: Multiple Times and Political Power. He studied International Affairs and Political Science at Florida State University, and earned an Erasmus Mundus Joint Master in International Migration and Social Cohesion from the University of Amsterdam, Deusto University, and University of Osnabruck.

In 2021, Radu earned his PhD at the University of Twente in the Netherlands, where he researched the multi-level implementation of asylum policies in the European Union. Through his work, he analyzed how bureaucracies and administrative agencies in EU Member States interpret and implement the rules and norms of the Common European Asylum System.

Radu-Mihai Triculescu's research attempts to understand how national differences impact policy harmonization across different jurisdictions. Aside from academia, he has also spent time working as an Associate Policy Analyst at the Migration Policy Institute – Europe, where he worked on projects relating to return and reintegration, asylum, and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on migrant inclusion.



Cooperation Partner and Lecturer in Vienna



Senior Lecturer: Sophia C.E. Mård

Doctoral School of Political Science, Public Policy and International Relations

Sophia C.E. Mård is a PhD candidate at the Doctoral School of Political Science at Central European University. With advanced degrees from VU Amsterdam and King's College London, she brings a rich interdisciplinary background - of law and of politics - and regional expertise spanning European and Russian studies. Her research explores the shifting landscape of European and international security, with a particular focus on how emerging technologies are reshaping legal and political norms. She is currently involved in multiple research and consultancy projects focused on democracy, human rights, and political development in Europe.

General course content – Globalisation and the EU

The sessions in Vienna introduce students to the historical trajectory of the European integration process as well as the policy-making system in the EU. Further, the course analyses Europe's role as an international political and economic actor, and its relations with various countries and regions of the world.

Course Schedule

European Studies

Academic program: Munich 05 - 16 January 2026
Vienna 19 – 23 January 2026

Arrival Munich: 04. January (Transfer to Vienna Jan 17, 2026)

Departure Vienna: 24. January (self-organized)

Course Contact Hours: 60 class hours

German Language Classes:

Students offered 30 contact hours of German Language classes (In-class / Online)

German Language classes for Beginners, 2 times a week

Online: December 2 - 22, 2025, from 8.00 to 9.30 am (Munich time)

In-Class: January 5 - 16, 2026, from 2.00 to 3.30 pm (Munich time)

General course requirements

The Academic Board of the MISU defines the requirements and contact hours (1 contact hour comprises 45 minutes) for successful completion of the courses as follows:

- regular attendance (three contact hours max. absence)
- preparation for and active participation in seminars
- self-study and homework assignments
- group presentations
- written assignment (essay, max. 3.500 words)

Literature

All participants receive introduction literature by email in advance. During the course, students will get online access to research papers and articles. Lecturers will upload relevant research papers and distribute a link to course participants for downloading relevant teaching material. Please make sure that you bring an electronic device in order to be able to download these resources. For a general introduction to the European Union, we recommend the following volumes that comprise short chapters on the history, the Member States, institutions and policies of the European Union.

Jones, E., Menon, A. and Weatherhill, S. (eds.) (2012): *The Oxford Handbook of the European Union*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Lelieveldt, H. and Princen, S. (eds.) (2015): *The Politics of the European Union*, 2nd edition, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Wallace, H., Pollack, M. and Young, A. (eds.) (2015): *Policy-making in the European Union*, 7th edition, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Student Profile

Target group

The LMU Munich's European Studies Program 2026 is open for students...

...who have an interest in the *European Union* as well as European history and culture

...who have different academic backgrounds and cultural interests

...who are looking for an *interdisciplinary learning environment*

...who are in their B.A. and M.A. and would like to engage in *peer-learning*

...who are awarded with *6 + 3 ECTS credits* for their performance

...who have read this information and follow this link:

www.european-study.eu

Achievements

Former participants have evaluated this program very positively and stressed the following benefits:

- profound introduction to the European Union through academic excellence
- immersion into the European and the German culture in particular
- intercultural and interdisciplinary exchange with fellow course participants
- consideration to apply for a Master Program in Europe

Credits

Based on the number of contact hours, the overall program can be considered “intensive. To be awarded credits from home colleges/universities for this course, MISU recommends successful students to petition their faculty for the following:

European Studies

- Contact Hours: 60
- ECTS Credits: 6

German Language Classes

- Contact hours: 30
- ECTS Credits: 3

European Credit Transfer system (ECTS) and ECTS Credits

The ECTS was developed in order to provide common procedures that may guarantee academic recognition for studies abroad. ECTS credits are based on the workload students need in order to achieve expected learning outcomes. The ECTS (European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System) is a standard for comparing the academic level and performance of students in Higher Education across the European Union.

Students will be awarded 1 ECTS credit for 30 hours of work, including attending classes, self-study, examinations and essays. The following chart provides grading information:

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LMU Grade	Description	Grade ECTS	US	US	Percentage
1.0	excellent	A	A+	4,0	100 – 97
1.0	very good	A	A	3,9	96 – 93
1,3	very good	A	A-	3,7	92 – 90
1.7	good	B	B+	3,5	89 – 87
2.0		B	B	3,3	86 – 83
2.3		B	B-	3,0	82 – 80
2.7	satisfactory	C	C+	2,7	79 – 77
3.0		C	C	2,3	76 – 73
3.3		D	C-	2,0	72 – 70
3.7	sufficient	E	D+	1,3	69 – 67
4.0		E	D	1,0	66 – 60
> 4.0	insufficient	F	E	0,0	59 – 0
NG	not graded	F		0,0	0

Grading

Grading Scale

Grades are defined from the Academic Board of the LMU in Munich according to its general grading system. The LMU differentiates 6 levels (from 1 to 6), which cover everything from introductory course work to original research. This course is offered for students having successfully completed levels 2 and 3.

Level	Description
1	Introductory course with intensive supervision; no course prerequisites; generally first year courses
2	Introductory course, independent study techniques included; no specific course prerequisites; generally second year courses
3	For advanced students, course prerequisites: successful completion of level 1 or 2; examinations test the students' ability to apply knowledge and insights to new problems; generally third year courses
4	Specialized course, course prerequisites: successful completion of level 2 or 3; extensive use of scientific articles; examination may include a small research project, an oral report or written work. This is a third year Bachelor's or first year Master's level course
5	Scientifically oriented course; course prerequisites: successful completion of level 3 or 4; use of scientific advanced literature. This is a Master's level course
6	Very advanced scientific course; latest scientific developments included; examinations consist of a contribution to an unsolved problem with an oral presentation; Master's or PhD level course

Grading Procedure

The grading sections in the program are broken down as follows:

- Essay (3.500 words) = 55 % (Essay submission deadline is 1st March 2026)
- Group Presentation = 25 %
- Active participation in class = 20 %

Transcripts

Every student will receive an official transcript after the successful completion of all program requirements. The transcript will show the course name and contact hours, the number of acquired credits as well as the achieved grades.

Costs

Registration Fee

- € 200 (non refundable)

Tuition Fee

- € 1.000 Tuition EU Studies (Waiver for students from LMU partner universities)
- € 250 Tuition German Class (optional, only Level A.0 and A.1)

Tuition includes the following:

- all lectures
- course reading material
- participation in all class
- participation in day trips and excursions (city tours, Alpine snow excursion)
- travel costs between Munich and Vienna (one-way)
- library and internet access

Accommodation Fee

- € 400 Munich, double room
- € 400 Vienna, double room

Food and drinks are not included in the program costs.

Registration

Final application deadline: October 1, 2025

Applicants will be informed soon after submitting their application whether or not they will be offered a spot in the program.

During the online application process the following supporting materials (pdf file) have to be uploaded:

Curriculum vitae (CV); Please use the Euro Pass format:

<http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu> if you do not have your own form.

Statement of motivation; Applicants should write a short statement of no more than one typed page in English as to why they wish to take part in the summer program. We are interested in your academic life and your social and political interest. First of all - what do you expect from this course, the classes and the teachers.

Student ID in case of waiver application

Housing

Participants can find their own accommodation.

On the part of the program we offer hotel accommodation.

Munich

[Novotel Suites München Parkstadt Schwabing](#)

Vienna

<https://mynext.at/de/hotel-rudy/>

The hotels are located in nice neighborhoods with a good connection to the subway. Students are accommodated in double rooms.

Students with health impairment are kindly asked to inform us in the application process.

All participants will be provided with sheets and blankets and towels.

A kitchen isn't available for use.

Cancellation Policy

Cancellation*:

Cancellation before the registration deadline:

The registration fee will not be refunded.

All other deposits will be fully refunded.

Cancellation after the registration deadline:

The registration fee will not be refunded.

If accommodation was booked, the rent will not be refunded or have to be paid.

Cancellation 4 weeks before commencement of the course:

The registration fee will not be refunded.

If accommodation was booked, the deposit for the rent will not be refunded and 50% of the tuition will not be refunded.

Cancellation 3 days before commencement of the course:

The registration fee will not be refunded.

If accommodation was booked, the deposit for the rent will not be refunded and 80% of the tuition will not be refunded.

Once the course has started, no refund will be granted.

Cancellation by MISU

All tuition and fees will be refunded.

* All bank charges are excluded from repayment.

Contact

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