LMU LUDWIG-MAXIMILIANS-UNIVERSITÄT MÜNCHEN

MUNICH INTERNATIONAL SUMMER UNIVERSITY

MISU LMU MUNICH INTERNATIONAL SUMMER UNIVERSITY

European Studies

Vienna – Prague - Munich

Europe Between Integration and Geopolitics: The European Union and its Internal and External Challenges

SYLLABUS (tentative)

July 19 – August 13, 2027

www.european-study.eu







Foreword

We are pleased to welcome international students from many different countries and universities to the Munich International Summer University (MISU) in Germany.

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, round-table discussions, group-work and students' presentations along with excursions. In addition to the academy, we encourage you to engage in a vibrant international student life on the campus of LMU Munich during the summer of 2026.

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

Central European University

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.

Cooperation Partner and Lecturer in Prague



Professor Dan Marek
(Jean Monnet Lecturer in European Politics; Palacký University)

Dan Marek is Associate Professor of European Politics at the Department of Politics and European Studies, Palacký University, Czech Republic. He has studied at Palacký University (Czech Republic), University of Umea (Sweden), UCLA (USA) and Hull University (UK). He taught Central European and EU politics at universities in the Netherlands, the UK and USA.

His teaching and research interests include European Union politics, policies and Central European politics. He is a co-author of Cohesion Policy in the European Union (Palgrave Macmillan, 2014) and The Czech Republic and the European Union (Routledge, 2011) and co-editor of EU Cohesion Policy after Enlargement (Palgrave Macmillan, 2008) and The New Member States and the European Union: Foreign Policy and Europeanization (Routledge, 2013).

His other publications include articles on European and Czech politics in the Journal of Common Market Studies, Publius, the Journal of International Relations and Development, Perspectives on European Politics and Society and the Journal of Contemporary European Studies. He also worked as an advisor to the Czech government on the preparations for the Czech EU Presidency (2007-09).

Course Schedule
EU Studies

(please see the schedule in detail on our website)
www.european-study.eu

European Studies Vienna – Munich - Prague

Application deadline: May 1 (March 1 early bird)

Arrival:	July 18, 2027 (in Vienna)
Date:	
Vienna:	July 19 – 29, 2027
Prague:	July 29 – August 2, 2027
Munich:	August 2 – 13, 2027
Departure:	August 14, 2027 (from Munich)

Course Requirements

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 (12 contact hours max. absence)
- preparation for and active participation in seminars
- attendance and contribution to lectures
- participation in and contribution to class excursions
- self-study and homework assignments
- written assignments (exams, essay)

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 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 willing to *meet politicians*, diplomats and staff of the European Union

…who are awarded with *9 ECTS credits* for their performance

Achievements

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

- profound introduction to the European Union through academic excellence
- seeing Europe from three different perspectives given the stay at three different cities
- immersion into the European and the German culture in particular
- intercultural and interdisciplinary exchange with fellow course participants
- consideration to return to Europe for a Master program

Credits

Based on the number of contact hours, both course options can be considered "intensive" in comparison to courses taken at your college/university. Thus, it may be appropriate to award credits on a two- to-one course calculation. To be awarded credits from home colleges/universities for this course, MISU recommends successful students to petition their faculty for the following:

European Studies Intensive
- Contact Hours: 90 (include fieldtrips and extracurricular activities)
- ECTS Credits: 9

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 Academic Board of the MISU defines contact hours as follows:
1 contact hour comprises 45 minutes

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 European Studies Course is a level 3 course.

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

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 Procedure
The grading sections of the program are broken down as follows:

European Studies Intensive

- **Active participation / Weekly Reflections = 35%**
  Consistent attendance and high-quality contributions to class discussions and/or brief weekly written responses to specific theses discussed in class.

- **Written exam (Vienna) = 25%**

- **Final Essay = 40 %**
  A reflexive essay of 4,000 words (excl. title page and bibliography)

Transcripts
Every student will receive an official transcript of the LMU MISU 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

- € 400,00 Regular registration fee (€ 200 early bird by March 1)

Please send us the registration fee of € 400 after you receive your registration confirmation by email. Only with the payment of registration fee will you secure a place in the program and accommodation.

Tuition fee

Tuition includes the following:

- all lectures
- course reading material
- class excursions and extra-curricular activities (City tour, Neuschwanstein Castle)
- transport by train from Vienna to Prague and from Prague to Munich

Costs for housing, books and supplies, meals, public transport tickets are not included in the tuition or registration fee.

European Studies Intensive

- € 1,180 Tuition
  - 90 contact/class hours, include fieldtrips and extracurricular activities
  - 9 ECTS credits European Studies Course

Housing

We offer accommodation for the participants in student residential halls or hotels. Own booking of accommodation is possible.

- € 440 Vienna
- € 150 Prague
- € 475 Munich

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 6 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.

Housing

Vienna (tentative)

In Vienna you'll stay in double rooms at SMARTments business Wien Hauptbahnhof. All rooms are equipped with shower, toilet, powerful Internet (WLAN und LAN), room telephone, refrigerator and kitchenette. You will be provided with bedding. This includes sheets for the mattress, blanket and pillow.

Location: close to the center, central station and Belvedere. Public transport: U1 subway , bus 13A and 69A, tram 18 and 0

Prague (tentative)

For the trip to Prague, participants of the European Studies program are accommodated at the Hotel Ostaš. The hotel is located approx. 25 minutes from the historical center of the capital.

The hotel is located within a safe and quiet neighborhood.

Our participants will stay in shared apartments (double rooms) and breakfast is included. All rooms are equipped with shower, toilet, WLAN, microwave, refrigerator and water heater.

Munich

The students will be accommodated in a shared double room with bathroom. The rooms are equipped with bedding (sheets and blankets) which can be washed at one of the laundry rooms in the building.

Towels will not be provided. We ask you to acquire these items according to your own personal needs.

The communal kitchen of the house is at your disposal. There you can prepare your own meals.

During their stay, each student is responsible to clean their room by themselves.

The entire house is supplied with free WiFi. It connected with 250 Mbit/s, so that sufficient bandwidth is available.

Important Note:

The rooms are state-subsidized living spaces. Due to the high demand for living space in Munich, we are pleased that the rooms from a contingent made available to MISU.

Please note that the rooms are tailored to students' needs and financial means. Therefore, please do not expect luxurious facilities.

Accommodation is subject to availability. A selection of preferences is usually not possible. **Students with health impairments are asked to inform us in the application process.**

Registration

In the interest of maintaining the program's high standards, the number of participants will be limited to 20. Application is based on a ‘first come first served’ basis. Only with the payments are you securing your place in the program.

The online registration process starts on 1st of November 2026

Application deadline:	May 1 (early bird March 1)
Final tuition- and housing fee deadline:	May 10th

Furthermore, we kindly ask you to prepare following information as PDF files for upload in advance:

Curriculum vitae (CV); you may 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.

Please follow this link to register:

www.european-study.eu

Contact

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