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MAXIMILIANS-
UNIVERSITÄT
MÜNCHEN

MUNICH INTERNATIONAL
SUMMER UNIVERSITY



MUNICH **MISU** ^{LMU}
INTERNATIONAL SUMMER
UNIVERSITY

European Studies + German Class Vienna – Prague - Munich

The European Union Challenges, Crises, and Solution Approaches

Tentative SCHEDULE

July 21 – August 28, 2025
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In cooperation with:



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

CENTRAL
EUROPEAN
UNIVERSITY



Vienna

Arrival: 20 July (in Vienna)

Sessions: 21 – 31 July

Departure: 31 July

Sessions will take place at:

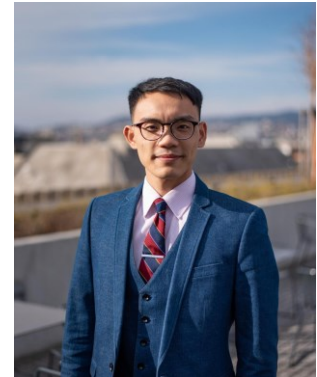
Central European University

Quellenstraße 51, 1100 Vienna

Senior Lecturer: Mr Vincent F. Mo

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

Central European University Private University



Vincent MO is a PhD candidate at the Doctoral School of Political Science at the Central European University and is supervised by Prof. Michael Merlingen. Mr Mo did his Bachelor degree in Government & International Studies in Hong Kong. Afterwards he studied International Relations in the Master programme of Central European University. Vincent MO is interested in European politics and EU governance, cultural diplomacy, and IR theories. He is working on multiple research projects in Austria and Hong Kong. He also had outstanding teaching experiences in both regions.

General course content – the EU in the 21st century

The sessions in Vienna introduce students to the historical trajectory of the European integration process as well as governance and 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. Vincent MO has specialised on the European Union and its foreign political stance and international relations. Together with the summer academy participants, he will discuss the EU's role in international affairs and analyse the European cooperation and its policies for the future.

Time	9.30 a.m. – 11.00 a.m.	11.30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Mon, 21	<p>Introduction to the program Mind-Mapping the EU in the 21st century In the morning you will be picked up by your tutor who will bring you to the classroom. Meeting point: 08:30 a.m. in the lobby of the accommodation.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Course structure/plan 2. Assignments 3. Introduction (students' expectations, topics that students are interested in) <p>Guided City Walk with Tutor in Vienna – 5 p.m. Students will be picked up in the Hotel Lobby at 5 p.m.</p>	
Tue, 22	<p>International relations in the 21st century: actors, power and sovereignty Since the end of the Cold War, debates in international relations rank around the distribution of power among old and new actors. How is power defined? Which role do states play and what is sovereignty? This session and the following one will outline the overarching international environment in which the EU as an international actor can be analysed.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Political concepts: power, states, and sovereignty 2. Politics & democracy 	<p>International relations in the 21st century: what kind of polarity? International relations in the 21st century: what kind of polarity? Besides the debate about the distribution of power, a structural order for international relations in the 21st century is still disputed. Is the world to be considered as a unipolar, bipolar, multipolar or nonpolar one? Is international law an essential point of reference for the regulation of the behavior of states? How important is international law and does it reflect changes in today's globalised world?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. IR theories 2. Agent vs structure 3. Material vs ideational
Wed, 23	<p>European history matters Developments in the 20th century has a strong influence on the European integration process. This session will focus on the period and discuss why do we need to understand the past to understand the EU today.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is Europe 2. The historical and cultural pillars of the EU 3. European integration 4. EU treaties 	<p>Actors and policy-making in the EU Actors and policymaking in the EU Based on the evolution of the European integration, the EU has developed a unique systemic form. Actors and policymaking in the EU are complicated. The competences of actors and the procedures for interaction are determined and regulated. For the understanding of the functioning of the EU, it is therefore necessary to consider the complexity of a multi-level system of governance.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The EU institutions 2. Policymaking process in the EU
Thu, 24	<p>The strategic concept of the EU Closely linked to foreign, security and defence policy is the strategic concept of the EU. The European Security Strategy will be focused in this session. Furthermore, the European strategy needs to be compared to the strategic concepts of other international actors and security political challenges nowadays (US, Russia, China, and NATO). The EU's norms and values will be discussed in a global context as well.</p>	<p>Multilateralism and the United Nations Multilateralism is a core concept for European foreign policy as well as in the framework of the United Nations. Against the background of the earlier sessions the term effective multilateralism needs explanation. Apart from the EU and the UN, further multilateral organizations will be taken into consideration.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Multilateralism within and outside the EU 2. Comparison between the EU and ASEAN <p>Visit to the United Nations in Vienna</p>
Fri, 25	<p>The Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) Looking at the EU's external relations, a mismatch between the economic dimension and the foreign and security political dimension can be observed. This session will look at the evolution from European Political Cooperation (EPC) to the CFSP.</p>	<p>The Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) An essential part of the EU's external profile is determined by the Union's military capabilities. Looking at institutions, instruments, missions and operations, the perspectives of the CSDP and the EU as a military power will be discussed in this part. Particular attention will be paid to the civil-military dimension.</p>

Time	9.30 a.m. – 11.00 a.m.	11.30 a.m. – 1 p.m.	afternoon
Mon, 28	<p>Looking West: Transatlantic relations and EU-NATO relations</p> <p>After the end of the Cold War and especially due to establishment of the CFSP and CSDP, the EU's relations with the US as well as NATO experienced important changes. In this session the US and NATO dimension will be discussed as well as the prospects and challenges for transatlantic relationships in the future.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. EU-NATO 2. EU-US 		
Tue, 29	<p>Looking far East: Sino-European relations</p> <p>With its 'One Belt, One Road' Initiative, the People's Republic of China formulates the ambition to extend its influence well beyond Asia. Recent initiatives clearly show China's eagerness to intensify ties with certain European states, such as the 16+1 framework between China and 16 Eastern European states. Some EU member states and the EU as such show increasing skepticism towards China's strategy and hence adopted the EU's 'Global Gateway' initiative in return. In this session, we will trace Sino-European relations and analyse current state of affairs between these politics.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. EU-China relationship 2. EU's development aid 		
Wed, 30	Tue, 23	<p>9:00 a.m. Visit to the House of the EU in Vienna and guest lecture from the House</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Europa Experience Vienna– Role Play Game</p>	
Thu, 31	<p>Written exam, summary and outlook</p> <p>Departure Prague</p>		

Departure to Prague: July 31

Prague

Arrival: 31 July

Sessions: 1 and 2 August

Departure: 4 August

Session will take place at:

Representative Office of the Free State of Bavaria in the Czech Republic

Lecturer

Prof. Dan Marek

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).

General course content – Europeanization of Member States

The sessions Prague are devoted to Europeanization, i.e. the question in how far the EU changes the political system, politics and policies of its Member States. In this regard and given Prague as venue, the course will especially take into account the perspective of an Eastern European Member State that joined the EU rather recently. Dan Marek of the Palacký University Prague will motivate students to reflect on Member States' different preferences on how to proceed with European integration and why Eastern European Member States currently hold divergent ideas on the EU than Western neighbors with regard to migration-related issues or domestic political reform.

Time		
Thu 31	<p style="text-align: center;">Arrival in Prague MISU staff will pick you up and bring you to Wien Hauptbahnhof. MISU staff will pick you up at Prague main station</p>	
Fri 1	<p>Transformation processes in Eastern Europe since 1989: a historic overview</p> <p>The end of communist rule in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) was fast, unexpected and unplanned process. This session will look at the unique political and economic transition of CEE countries to democracy and market economy.</p>	<p>Central and Eastern European states and their interests in European integration: the political, economic and societal dimension</p> <p>For CEECs, EU membership marked the end of an almost 15-year effort to “return to Europe” after more than four decades of communist rule and Soviet domination. This session will look at the political, economic and societal dimension of EU’s eastward enlargement.</p>
Sat 2	<p>The Czech Republic as an EU member state</p> <p>As a candidate state, the Czech Republic was forced to accept EU rules and policies that it had no role in making. As a member state, however, it has a formal role in EU institutions and an opportunity to influence the EU decision-making process. In this session we will discuss how the Czech Republic copes with her role as an EU member state.</p>	
Sun 3		
Mon 4	<p style="text-align: center;">Departure by train MISU staff will pick you up at and bring you to the bus station</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Arrival in Munich MISU staff will pick you up at Munich’s main station</p>	

Departure to Munich: Monday, August 4

Munich – German Language Course

Arrival: 4 August

Sessions: August 5 – 28 August

Departure: 29 August (from Munich)

Sessions will take place at:

Leopoldstraße 13

80802 München

For more information on the German class, please check the schedule on our website:

<https://ssk-misu.de>