

Experiencing EU-decision making: Model European Union Mainz

13 May – 13 July 2024

As the European Union is gearing up to meet today's challenges, millions of voters across Europe are called upon to elect the new European Parliament this summer. JGU Mainz invites you to explore the dynamics at the heart of the EU: its decision-making processes. In this hybrid programme, you will be challenged to go beyond the ordinary, learning both online *and* in an on-site simulation at Mainz University. By participating, you can gain international experience without having to commit to a full semester abroad.



This hybrid programme is right for you, if...



...you are interested in the European Union and how decisions in the EU's institutions are made

...you are enrolled in one of the FORTHEM partner universities:

Jyväskylän yliopisto; Université de Bourgogne; Università degli Studi di Palermo; Latvijas Universitāte; Universitetet i Agder; Uniwersytet Opolski; Universitatea Lucian Blaga din Sibiu; Universitat de València, Spain



...you are an (advanced) undergraduate or postgraduate student of Political Science, International Relations, European Studies, Communication Studies, Law, or a related subject

...you have time in your schedule for approx. 2 hours/week of self-paced preparatory classes



...you are willing to travel to Mainz in mid-July for an immersive experience of EU-decision-making

How to participate

There is limited capacity. Please apply via e-mail to laulrich@uni-mainz.de by **30 April 2024**. In your application by e-mail, provide your full name, institution, and study program and briefly state your motivation. Participants who attend both the online class *and* the simulation (including the preparation of a position paper of 2-4 pages) will receive a certificate and 3 ECTS credits. Further information about the simulation (such as detailed schedule) will be provided in due time to registered participants. Please be aware that there is no eligibility for funding in the context of an Erasmus+ Blended Intensive Programme (BIP). You will have to seek out alternative sources of funding or provide for your travel costs and accommodation yourself. Please refer to your FORTHEM Office for more information on funding possibilities.

Contact

Laura Ulrich, University of Mainz

laulrich@uni-mainz.de

Tel.: 00 49 6131 39 28819

Part A) Online preparatory class (13 May – 9 July 2024)

The online preparatory class (in English language) will give a comprehensive introduction into EU institutions and decision-making, thus enabling participants to prepare for the simulation. It is Moodle-based, hosted via the FORTHEM Digital Academy, and interactively designed. Students will study the material (videos, readings, quizzes, etc.) at their own pace, allowing for high flexibility. There will be online support and virtual Q&As.

Contents include:

- ✓ EU Democracy
- ✓ The European Commission
- ✓ The European Parliament
- ✓ The Council of the European Union
- ✓ Decision-Making in the EU
- ✓ Preparation for the simulation

Part B) In presence simulation “Model European Union Mainz” (10 – 13 July 2024)

Throughout a four-day period, participants will simulate European Union (EU) decision-making. Around 80 participants from all over the world will come to Mainz for the simulation of the ordinary legislative procedure. Participants will slip into the roles of national Ministers, Members of the European Parliament and journalists. MEUM offers the chance to get a first-hand insight into the workings of the complex political system that is the European Union. Starting point for the debate will be two proposals for legislation drafted by the European Commission that relate to the EU's fight against climate change and to efforts to protect civil society commitment from strategic lawsuits against public participation. Participants, in their roles as MEPs and Ministers, will deliver speeches, work on amendments to the proposal texts, and organize majorities in order to adopt their suggestions for changes to the legislation, while Journalists will monitor and critically report on this political process. The simulation will be accompanied by a social program in Mainz.