AY2013/2014 Semester 2
European Union Law
13 January 2014 – 29 January 2014

Course Teacher
Professor Imola STREHO

Course Outline

The 20th century was the scene for the turn from bilateralism to multilateralism and regionalism in the framework of international relations. The phenomenon of regionalism is always the result of a social construction, not of some kind of natural process. There is always a common social reason to be established and identified at the core of each regional project; therefore we should consider this element when studying a regional entity.

The European Union is the oldest and arguably the most developed regional integration system, both in terms of institutional development and by the range of policy areas it now covers. It has served as a reference for some regional organizations, as a counter-model for others. Over 50 years after its inception, however, European integration remains a little-understood process. Part of the difficulty lies in the fact that the EU is unlike any other organization. Whereas it is more developed than ‘classical’ international organizations, it is not a state, and may possibly never become one. This notwithstanding, comparative analysis is required to make sense of its functioning.

In the first part of the course, we shall focus on the actors, processes, principles and tools that shape policy-making in the EU. Our objective is to understand the principles that structure the division of labour between the main institutions, and their evolution from the treaty of Paris (1951) to the recent Lisbon Treaty, entered into force in December 2009. We will also assess each institution’s impact on policy and law-making. In the second part of the course, we shall focus on several policy areas of the EU and try to understand how decision-making has evolved in response to recent challenges, such as the Euro zone crisis.

Course objective:

The purpose of this class is to give students the means to understand how the EU operates, what it does, and the main problems it is confronted with. In so doing, we will be called upon to analyze critically the main academic debates on European integration.

Course requirements:

The course requires full and regular attendance. During the classes we will keep lecturing to the minimum and engage in discussion and debates. During the course, we will also work on case studies and organize a moot around a ECJ case.

Therefore, for each class you must read the assignments specific to the topic of the class beforehand and be able to discuss them in depth. This preparation is necessary to follow classes proactively.
The readings will be available on IVLE at the beginning of the course. Two types of sources will be posted for each Class: Required Readings, which must be read and analyzed for the class and Recommended Readings which are optional sources to go further.

The course requires serious preparation and investment ahead of the class. Serious preparation means that each text assigned should be read once, reflected upon, read again (if necessary) and discussed with other students.

**Assessment:**

Final exam: 6 hours long take home open book exam – 80% of the final grade

Class participation: throughout the three weeks course – 20% of the final grade

**Practical information:**

The course is 27h long and takes place from 13 to 29 of January 2014. Classes meet on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6.30pm to 9.30pm and on Fridays from 2.30pm to 5.30pm. There is an additional class on Wednesday, 15 January 2014 from 1pm to 4pm.

The first day of class is on Monday, 13 January, 2014

There will be 9 classes of 3hours.

**Class topics:**

Class 1 – 13 January 2014

**Origins of the European Project: Ends and means of European Integration**

Suggested topic for debate:

- Compare the foundational objectives of the European integration project (Schuman Declaration) and the current ones (preamble and art.1-3 TEU)

Class 2 & 3 – 15 January 2014

**The EU Institutional Architecture and Decision making**

Suggested topic for debate:

- Compare the institutional structure of the EU and that of ASEAN or MERCOSUR

Class 4 – 17 January 2014

**The Constitutionalisation of the EU Legal Order and its implication**

Suggested topic for debate:

- What are the possible consequences of direct effect and supremacy for the political decision-making process of the EU?

Class 5 – 20 January 2014

**EU Competences and their Evolutions**

Suggested topic for debate:

- Is the power attribution to the EU clear and comprehensive in the founding treaties?

Class 6 – 22 January 2014

**Implementation and Enforcement of EU Law**

Suggested topic for debate:

- Are ECJ judgments obeyed?
Class 7 – 24 January 2014

**Market Integration**

*Suggested topic for debate:*

- *Is the EU a social market economy?*

Class 8 – 27 January 2014

**What about the peoples?**

*Suggested topic for debate:*

- *European Citizenship: Pie in the sky?*

Class 9 – 29 January 2014

**Facing the Euro Crisis. Is the Community Method Still Relevant?**

*Suggested topic for debate:*

- *Which institution has gained most power in the aftermath of the Euro crisis?*

**Instructor**

The course is given by **Dr Imola STREHO**, Associate Researcher at the Centre d’études européennes, Associate Professor at the Law School and Program Director of the Master of European Affairs at Sciences Po Paris, France.

From 2002 to 2008, she was *Référendaire* of the Estonian Judge and previously of the French Advocate General at the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg. She is a Doctor of Laws by the Law Faculty of Paris 2 (Panthéon-Assas) where she has taught between 1999 and 2010 at the Institut des Hautes Etudes Internationales.

She has also taught EU law at the College of Europe (Campus Natolin), the Central European University, the Instituto Empresa Law School, Catolica University Lisbon, the National University of Singapore and the University of Melbourne.

From 2000 to 2002, she was a visiting researcher at Harvard Law School and NYU School of Law where she was the Executive Director of its Jean Monnet Center. She holds a diploma from the College of Europe. She writes in the field of EU law.