Education4Progress: REGIONAL COOPERATION TO IMPROVE EU LAW TEACHING

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Introduction

The project “Education4Progress: Regional Cooperation to Improve EU Law Teaching” implemented by the SEELS Network and financially supported by the Western Balkans Fund, aims to provide a platform for exchange of information and dialogue on the most adequate models for EU Law teaching in South East Europe with the specific goal to enhance the quality of EU Law teaching of young lawyers in South East Europe. Namely, the constant expansion and evolution of the EU Law, along with the fact that each aspirant state must harmonize its system with it leads to the conclusion that investing in the improvement of EU Law Teaching is of paramount importance. As a result, the Education4Progress platform is to help the law faculties to find the most adequate curriculum and to benefit from their diversities. In the case of SEELS, the regional dialogue is exceedingly beneficial, taking into account that the network is consisted of faculties coming from both, EU member and non-member states.

The central activity of the project was a Regional Conference – a gathering of scholars from within the SEELS Network who deal with EU Law to exchange their standpoints and views for the most adequate teaching model, as well as to define promising changes for the future. A survey for models of EU Law teaching was conducted at each of SEELS members in order to produce initial materials for a successful discussion at the Conference. In this sense, as the project aims to enhance the quality of EU Law teaching for young lawyers through regional collaboration assess the status quo in the area at hand. The results of the survey were dully analyzed by the involved scholars and provided the “subject matter” of the Conference.

The “Education4Progress: Regional Conference to Improve EU Law Teaching” was held from 13 – 15 of November, 2018 at the Faculty of Law in Niš, Serbia. The core problems that were addressed at the Conference were: the discrepancies in EU Law teaching at the different Law Faculties in SEE; and difficulties for the Law Faculties to follow the rapid changes of the EU Law framework. Namely, the deep societal transformations in each of the respective states naturally affectes the higher education systems too. The conclusions and discussions of the Conference are published in this text, and are divided into 4 main sections: I. Study Program; II. Non-Formal and Continuous Education; III. Regional and International Cooperation and IV. Harmonization of EU-Law Teaching.

The main conclusion is that, despite its universal nature as a set of primary and secondary rules, EU Law has been and still is differently taught at almost all of the Faculties of Law in SEE. The discussions and conclusions at the Conference provide for an identification of the commonalities in the EU Law Teaching and serve as a ground for developing concrete recommendations for the harmonisation of EU Law Teaching as well as for intensified regional and international cooperation on the matter, which, amongst the others, were one of the main project goals.
I. STUDY PROGRAMMES

Three types of study programmes were compared, analyzed and discussed in details: Basic (introductory) course in EU Law, Specialized course(s) in specific EU Law fields and Postgraduate Study Programmes. The Law Faculties that are part of the SEELS network were in charge of elaborating the types of study programmes they offer and the manners and methods used to enable students to progress through the credit levels and, on achievement of the learning outcomes and credit requirements associated with each stage of the programme, to reach their personal goal of success.

1.1. Basic (introductory) course in EU Law

The basic (introductory) course in EU Law exists in all of the eleven SEELS Faculties is aimed towards giving students the basic (introductory) knowledge of the EU law. The title of the course, the year/semester of study, the status of the course, the ECTS credit points, the intensity of classes per week, the course description and the literature used will be described in details below.

1.1.1. Faculty of Law - University of Belgrade

Introduction to law of European Integration

Introduction to law of European Integration is an obligatory, 6 ECTS credit points course, taught in the 2nd semester of the 1st year of studies. During that semester, there are teaching (3 classes per week) and exercises (2 classes per week), which means in total 60 theoretical classes vs. 30 practical classes.

The main objectives of the course are to develop knowledge of institutional and legal system of the European Union; to develop understanding of basic tensions in the relationship between EU law and national, particularly constitutional legal systems; to develop understanding of basic economic logic and policy shaping of the four freedoms; to understand differences and choices between different judicial procedures under the Treaty on Functioning of the European Union.

Intended learning outcome of the course is to understand: the structure of the European Union under the Treaty of Lisbon and its historic evolution; the main stages of European economic integration, and how economic integration affects political and social; economic and political objectives of the European integration and links between economic integration and political goals of the founding fathers of the EU. Moreover, to comprehend the institutional setting of the EU, to get acquainted with its institutions, their respective roles and interrelationships; the vertical separation of powers between the EU and the Member States; the competences of the EU and to get basic understanding of concepts of subsidiarity, proportionality and conferred powers.
In addition, to get the basic overview of the judicial structure of the European Union, notably, the General Court and the European Court of Justice. To understand the concept of the "new legal order of European Law" and what makes it different from the legal order of international law. To get acquainted with differences in understanding of supremacy of EU law that exist between the ECJ and national courts having constitutional jurisdiction. To be familiar with sources of secondary EU law and to be aware of the difference between primary and secondary EU law. To understand obligations of Member States related to application of regulations. To identify specific features of directives as one of the sources of secondary EU law. To understand obligation of Member States to apply EU law, particularly directives, fully, correctly and effectively.

To perceive the economic and political background of the internal market, taking into consideration the relationship between market freedoms and fundamental rights in the EU and how they are balanced by the ECJ.

Taking into account the aforementioned, the topics covered by this basic (introductory) course are:

- EVOLUTION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ITS BASIC LEGAL FRAMEWORK
- INSTITUTIONS AND COMPETENCES AFTER THE LISBON TREATY
- THE EU JUDICIAL ORDER
- UNION LAW-MAKING
- SOURCES AND EFFECTS OF EU LAW (overview)
- SUPREMACY OF EU LAW FROM THE NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE
- THE FOUR FREEDOMS: the bases
- STATE LIABILITY FOR DAMAGES IN CASE OF BREACH OF EU LAW
- CITIZENSHIP OF THE UNION
- FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS IN THE EU
- INTRODUCTION TO EU COMPETITION POLICY AND LAW
- ENFORCEMENT OF UNION LAW

The final grade (maximum number of points 100) is formed out of activities during lectures worth 20 points, activities during practical work classes worth 20 points, seminar classes worth 30 points and oral exam worth 30 points.

Introduction to EU Law

Introduction to EU Law is an obligatory, 5 ECTS credit points course taught in the 8th semester of the 4th year of studies. During that semester, there are 30 theoretical classes and 15 practical classes, which means 45 classes in total.

The main objective of the course is to introduce norms and doctrines of the EU law and familiarize students with the general principles of judicial review in the EU. Additionally, to develop the ability to independently understand and critically analyze the EU principles and legislation and to apply such knowledge in specific situations.

It is expected that after the course students can successfully: understand the structure and process of the creation of the EU law and understand the specificities of the EU; the functioning of the EU and be able to apply EU acts of importance for our country; how EU law institutes function in practice and to apply the acquired knowledge in practice, firstly for the purpose of harmonizing domestic law with EU law, and when our country will become EU member, implement EU law in the area of his/her engagement.

Taking into account the aforementioned, the topics covered by this basic (introductory) course are:

- Introduction
- Historical development
- Institutional mechanism
- Legal Sources
- Principles of functioning
- Judicial system

The final grade (maximum number of points 100) is formed out of pre-exam activities worth 50 points and final oral exam worth 50 points.

The mandatory literature used is: Z. Radivojević - V. Knežević-Predić, Institucionalni mehanizam EU posle Lisabonskog ugovora, Niš, 2016 and V. Knežević-Predić- Z. Radivojević, Kako nastaje i deluje pravo Evropske unije, Beograd, 2009.

European Public Law

European Public Law is an obligatory, 12 ECTS (8 ECTS + 4 ECTS seminar) credit points course, taught in the 4th semester of the 2nd year of studies. During that semester, there are 90 hours of lectures and 270 hours of self-learning, which means in total 360 classes.

Learning objectives and outcomes are defined for each learning unit, consisted of the following:
➢ To be informed about primary and secondary sources that will be used during the course and to acquire basic ability to navigate through the Treaty on European Union and Treaty on Functioning of the European Union. To be acquainted with structure and basic content of the Founding Treaties. To understand the object and scope of the discipline. To be informed about teaching method and what is expected from students in order to pass the exam.

➢ To understand the main stages of economic integration in general and specifically in Europe and how widening of economic integration affects social and political sphere. To understand economic and political goals of European integration process. To understand interdependence of economic integration and political goals of the founding fathers of the European Union.

➢ To understand EU structure and historic reasons for such structure. To understand the organization and basic tasks of EU institutions as well as their mutual relationship.

➢ To acquire basic knowledge and understanding of the organization and jurisdiction of the European Court of Justice, as provided by the Lisbon Treaty. To understand ways and conditions of judicial protection, which different subject of EU law can use in EU law; to understand role of the ECJ in the institutional framework of the EU.

➢ To understand the concept of "new legal order of European law" and what makes it different from legal orders of Member States and legal order of International law. To acquire insight into methodology of work of the European Court of Justice. To acquire ability to distinguish inductive and deductive method and to understand their relevance in process of adjudication. To understand the role of ECJ in process of constitutionalizing of EU law and role of its judgments in the EU legal order. To acquire understanding of direct effect and supremacy of EU law.

➢ To familiarize with different understandings of supremacy of EU law to national law, represented by the ECJ and some national courts. To understand national arguments claiming that EU law is not supreme to national constitutions, as well as the counterarguments claiming the opposite. To understand which new powers/obligations are created for national courts on the basis of the direct effect and supremacy doctrines. Students will be able to understand and discuss problems which can arise in the domestic legal systems, including the one of Croatia.

➢ To understand the difference between primary and secondary sources of EU law and to understand the systematization of sources of EU law. Students will develop ability of distinguishing between vertical and horizontal situations, and understand the importance of this differentiation. Students will develop a skill to apply conditions developed for direct effect in concrete cases.

➢ To learn the basics about the new systematization of legal act into legislative and non-legislative; to learn about further division of legislative acts into delegated and implementing. To understand the difference between
Regulations and Directives. To understand the basic characteristics of regulations and their effects in Member States' legal orders.

- Understand the arguments of the Court justifying vertical direct effect of directives. Develop ability to distinguish state from non-state for the purposes of direct application of directives. Understand the difference between vertical and horizontal direct effect of directives and talk about the arguments for and against horizontal effect.

- Understand difference between direct and interpretative (indirect) effect. Understand the concept of interpretation in conformity with directives and obligations which it creates for domestic courts. Be able to discuss about the limits of the interpretative obligation.

- Understand the Court's motivation for introducing state liability for damages. Learn and understand conditions for state liability. Understand the concept of 'sufficiently serious breach' and develop ability which breaches are serious.

- To understand function of fundamental human rights in the legal system of the EU and why FHR matter. To understand the relationship between different frameworks of protection - national, EU and the European Convention on Human Rights. To be able to identify relevant sources of human rights in the legal order of the EU and to understand the scope of their protection by the ECJ.

- To be familiar with the economic and political background of the rules on market freedoms, especially of the free movement of goods rules. Understanding the motivation of the European court which explains the development of the case law. Understanding the concepts "quantitative restrictions", "measures having equivalent effect", "distinctly applicable measures", "indistinctly applicable measures". Understanding the reasons for the development of the principle of mutual recognition.

- To acquire ability to determine scope of Art. 34 TFEU. To understand difference between "selling arrangements" and "product characteristics" based on the case law of the ECJ. To understand reasons why the ECJ introduced that distinction. To understand the difference between early case law of the ECJ and case law following the judgment in Keck. To understand the concept of margin of discretion and what it means for regulatory autonomy of the Member States. To acquire ability to distinguish between formal and substantive elements of ECJ’s judgments.

- Learn the basics about free movement of workers within the EU internal market. Understand the differences between fundamental freedoms. Understand the basic mechanisms of the functioning of free movement of workers and basic principles, especially non-discrimination and market access test.

- Understand the concept of Union citizenship and its importance in the EU law. Understand the right to family renunciation of EU citizens.

- Learn the basics about free movement of services and freedom of establishment within the EU internal market. Understand the differences between fundamental freedoms. Understand the concept of mutual
recognition in the area of services. Learn the difference between freedom of establishment and free movement of services.

- Understand the relationship between market freedoms and fundamental rights in the EU and how they are balanced by the CJEU. Attain the ability to critically examine this relationship in the EU legal order. Understand how the criteria of the ECHR are applied in practice in the EU legal order. Understand the role of the proportionality test in the legal analysis of the relationship of market freedoms and fundamental rights, and develop the skill of arguing about concrete situations.

- Understand the purpose of the allocation of powers between the EU and the Member States, and the mechanisms of achieving that allocation. Identify the circumstances that caused changes in the case law of the CJEU. Understand both the differences and the links between the principles that govern the division of powers (conferral, subsidiarity, proportionality) and the question of a valid legal basis. Distinguish internal and external powers of the EU. Intended learning outcome of the course is to understand the structure of the European Union under the Treaty of Lisbon and its historic evolution; the main stages of European economic integration, and how economic integration affects political and social; economic and political objectives of the European integration and links between economic integration and political goals of the founding fathers of the EU. Moreover, to comprehend the institutional setting of the EU, to get acquainted with its institutions, their respective roles and interrelationships; the vertical separation of powers between the EU and the Member States; the competences of the EU and to get basic understanding of concepts of subsidiarity, proportionality and conferred powers.

Taking into account the aforementioned, the topics covered by this course are:

- Evolution of the EU and its economic and political context.
- Structure and institutions of the EU.
- Jurisdiction of the Court of Justice of the EU.
- New legal order; How to read ECJ decisions.
- Supremacy - EU and national perspective.
- Sources of EU Law and Horizontal Effect.
- Secondary law and direct effect.
- Direct effect of Directives.
- Interpretative effect of EU law.
- State Liability for Damages.
- Fundamental Rights.
- Databases on the EU.
- Free movement of goods.
- Free movement of workers.
- Union Citizenship.
- Free movement of services.
- Fundamental Rights & Fundamental Freedoms.
• Conferral, subsidiarity and proportionality


1.1.4. Faculty of Law - University of Osijek

European Public Law

Within the framework of the present curriculum of legal studies at the Faculty of Law in Osijek, the course of EU Public Law is compulsory at the 3rd year in the 5th semester of Master study and is taught in Croatian. The same course is offered in the 3rd year, 6th semester for Erasmus students in English. It is the main and fundamental course of the EU law and knowledge that students acquire serves as a basis for new “European” courses. During that semester, there are 90 hours of teaching and 30 hours of seminar. The course is worth 6 ECTS credit points.

The main objectives of the course are: to develop knowledge of institutional framework and legal system of the EU; to develop understanding of relations between EU and national law; to understand basic economic freedoms in EU.

The course intends to introduce students into the formation and development of the European Union, to explain the supranational characteristics of the EU, its institutional and legal system, the operation of the institutions and of European Law, its implementation by the Member States.

The topics covered by this course of EU Public Law are:

• History and theory of European integration
• Croatia on the road to EU
• EU law – sources
• EU institutions with special reference to the Court of justice of the EU
• Effects of EU law in national legal systems (direct effect, supremacy...)

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• Jurisdiction of the ECJ with special reference to infringement procedure against EU member states and to preliminary ruling procedure
• EU Internal market freedom
• EU citizenship
• Protection of fundamental rights in EU and its correlation with market freedoms
• Common foreign and security police
• Cooperation in criminal matters with the special reference on the European Arrest Warrant
• Case law study: Analyze of groundbreaking decisions of the CJEU (e.g. Van Gend, Costa., Simmenthall, Francovich etc...) / and analyze of recent case law of the CJEU


1.1.5. Faculty of Law - University of Rijeka

EU Law I

EU Law I is an obligatory, 8 ECTS credit points course, taught in the 4th semester of the Integrated Undergraduate and Graduated University Study of Law (5 – year study programme). During that semester, there are 75 teaching hours (5 per week) and 165 hours of self-learning, which means 240 hours in total.
The main objective is to obtain basic and specific knowledge on the functioning of the EU, basic concepts of EU law, sources and institutions of the EU and functioning of the EU internal market.

Upon completion of the course, the students are expected to: define and differentiate between fundamental terms and terminology of EU Law; define objectives, development and structure of the EU; define objectives, development and structure of the Council of Europe; differentiate between and describe powers and competence of EU bodies and institutions; analyze the relationship between the EU and Member States; define sources of EU Law; compare and analyze the relation between EU Law and national law of the Member States; define the concept of single/internal market and fundamental economic freedoms; define, differentiate and compare case law of the Court of Justice of the EU in the field of fundamental economic freedoms; describe and define the system of market competition in the EU; define and describe economic and monetary union, its phases and criteria; describe and define sectoral policies and foreign relations of the EU and define and analyze the relations between the EU and non-Member States.

Taking into account the aforementioned, the topics covered by this course are:

- The concept of EU Law.
- Council of Europe.
- Development of the EU.
- Structure of the EU. Legal nature of the EU.
- Relations between EU and Member States.
- EU institutions.
- Sources of EU Law.
- General principles of EU Law.
- Legal protection in the EU.
- EU Law and national law.
- EU citizenship.
- Common market and the development of the internal market.
- Economic freedoms; free movement of goods, free movement of persons, free provision of services, free movement of capital and payments.
- Harmonisation.
- Agricultural and trade policy; other sectoral policies.
- Competition.
- Economic and monetary policy: economic and monetary union.
- Foreign relations.
- Republic of Croatia and the EU.

The final grade is based on the evaluation of student’s participation in classes, written mid-term (written) exam and final (written) exam.


**Fundamentals of EU Law**

Fundamentals of EU Law is an obligatory, 8 ECTS credit points course, taught in the 5th semester of the Undergraduate Professional Study Programme in Administration Studies (3-year study programme). During that semester, there are 75 teaching hours and 165 hours of self-learning, which means 240 hours in total.

The main objective is to obtain basic and specific knowledge on the functioning of the European Union, basic concepts of EU law, sources and institutions of the EU and functioning of the EU internal market.

Upon completion of the course, the students are expected to: define and differentiate between fundamental terms and terminology of EU Law; define objectives, development and structure of the EU; define objectives, development and structure of the Council of Europe; differentiate between and describe powers and competence of EU bodies and institutions; analyze the relationship between the EU and Member States; define sources of EU Law; compare and analyze the relation between EU Law and national law of the Member States; define the concept of single/internal market and fundamental economic freedoms; define, differentiate and compare case law of the Court of Justice of the EU in the field of fundamental economic freedoms; describe and define the system of market competition in the EU; define and describe economic and monetary union, its phases and criteria; describe and define sectoral policies and foreign relations of the EU and define and analyze the relations between the EU and non-Member States.

Taking into account the aforementioned, the topics covered by this course are:

- The concept of EU Law.
- Council of Europe.
- Development of the EU.
- Structure of the EU. Legal nature of the EU.
- Relations between EU and Member States.
- EU institutions.
- Sources of EU Law.
- General principles of EU Law.
- Legal protection in the EU.
- EU Law and national law.
- EU citizenship.
- Common market and the development of the internal market.
- Economic freedoms; free movement of goods, free movement of persons, free provision of services, free movement of capital and payments.
- Harmonisation.
- Agricultural and trade policy; other sectoral policies.
- Competition.
- Economic and monetary policy: economic and monetary union.
- Foreign relations.
- Republic of Croatia and the EU.

The final grade is based on the evaluation of student’s participation in classes, written mid-term (written) exam and final (written) exam.


1.1.6. Faculty of Law - University of Split

**EU Law I**

EU Law I is an obligatory, 6 ECTS credit points course, taught in the 5th semester of the third year of studies. During that semester, there are 30 teaching hours and 15 hours of seminars, which means 45 hours in total.

The course European Law I should give a thorough and comprehensive knowledge of European public law, European Union institutions and European integration process. Institutions and law of the European Union have changed the political, social and economic map of its member states, including the Republic of Croatia that has joined EU in 2013, as well as global international relations. Main course objectives are instructing students on the EU institutions and their interrelation, presentation of position and role of European law in Croatian legal framework, learning on specific
nature of EU law in comparison with international and national law and exploring its specific effects, encouraging critical thinking in relation with other subjects concerning political science, international relations and law.

After the completion of the course students will get the ability to: 1) identify and indicate basic principles and concepts related to European integration process and EU institutional structure; 2) extract relevant legal documents that are sources of European law; 3) explain legal and political principles of the EU; 4) combine and accommodate basic knowledge on EU Law and the procedures of relevant European institutions and the process of Croatia’s accession to the European Union; 5) analyze and comment relevant documents of European public law as well as the relevant case law of the European Court of Justice; 6) deduce on influence and contribution of European institutions and European law on the development of Croatian legal order and status of its citizens.

Taking into account the aforementioned, the topics covered by this course are:

- EUROPEAN UNION LAW BASICS
- HISTORY OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION
- FOUNDING TREATIES
- EU INSTITUTIONS
- SOURCES AND PINCIPLES OF EU LAW
- JUDICAL REMEDIES AND REVIEWS
- FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS PROTECTION

The final grade is formed out of written exam 80% and oral exam 20%.


**EU Law II**

EU Law I is an obligatory, 6 ECTS credit points course, taught in the 5th semester of the third year of studies. During that semester, there are 30 teaching hours and 15 hours of seminars, which means 45 hours in total.

The course European Law II should give a thorough and comprehensive knowledge on the private law component of the acquis communautaire, and on the relations between national and European private law. Includes detailed information on methods of harmonization of private law of the EU Member States (legislative harmonization; harmonization through the practice of the European Court of Justice; soft-law harmonization); the fundamental principles of European law particularly important
for private law; on the existing level of harmonization of the general contract law (PECL, DCFR, CESL, etc.), and in particular of the European consumer protection contract law; of European tort law (PETL; liability EU Member State for damage; the liability of the EU for damage, etc.), and the European law of property (guarantee and protection of property rights; time-share ownership regime; euro mortgage, etc.).

After the completion of the course students will get the ability to: describe the basic characteristics of EU private law and the principles of EU law relevant to that segment of law; explain the conditions for the emergence and the essential elements of each of the legal concepts of European private law; identify areas (legal institutes) in which the harmonization of private law is satisfactory and those where the further work of the European legislator and judicial practice is necessary; interpret the relationship of the national legal order and European Private Law; interpret the relevant case law of the European Court of Justice; examine the degree of alignment of Croatian law with the acquis communautaire and comment and compare the solutions with respect to each of the treated law concept.

Taking into account the aforementioned, the topics covered by this course are:

- The notion of the EU civil law; civil law aspects of EU law; development; basic features and specifics
- The sources of EU civil law, legislative harmonization
- The practice of the European Court of Justice as a source of EU civil law; soft-law sources of law; relationship of the European civil law and the law of the EU member states
- The principles of EU (private) law
- European contract law; Principles of European contract law (Lando Principles): procedure and purpose of creation; functions, scope and structure of Principles; relationship with UNIDROIT Principles and CISG
- Draft Common Frame of Reference; Common European Sales Law
- EU consumer contract law (the notion of consumer in EU law; the market and the consumer, the consumer protection programmes at the EU level; sources of the consumer protection law in the EU; legal basis for harmonisation)
- Basic features of the European consumer contract law and its influence on the general contract law
- European tort law (features; legal basis for harmonization; the degree of conformity; development tendencies)
- Principles of European tort law
- Member state liability for damages caused by violation of the EU law
- European property law: warranty of ownership by the Protocol to the European Convention for the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms; protection of property before the European Court of human rights
- Proprietary aspects of consumer protection in the time-sharing contract
- The relationship between the ownership and the fundamental economic freedoms
The final grade is formed out of participation in lectures and essays 30%. Written and oral exam 70%.


1.1.7. Faculty of Law - University of Sarajevo

European Law Basics

European Law Basics is an obligatory, 4 ECTS credit point course, taught in the 5th semester of the 3rd year of studies. During that semester, there are 2 classes per week, which means in total 30 classes.

The topics covered by this basic (introductory) course are:

- Establishing and developing the European Union
- Legal nature and enlargement of the European Union
European Law I

European Law I is an obligatory, 5 ECTS credit points course, taught in the 5th semester of the 3rd year of studies. During that semester, there are 45 hours of lectures, 11 hours of exercises including course work and about 40 hours of self-learning.

The main objectives of the course are to introduce students: the foundation, goals and basic characteristics of the European Union; the legal sources and their characteristics; the legal methods of creating and developing EU law, as well as the obligations of candidate countries in terms of harmonization of their national law, and finally the process of stabilization and association of Bosnia and Herzegovina and their training in terms of interpretation and application of the EU regulations in practice.

Taking into account the aforementioned, the topics covered by this basic (introductory) course are:

- Foundation, goals and the main characteristics of the European Union
- Institutional law of the European Union
- European Union law
- European Union policies
Students do a test on the legal sources of the EU law. If they pass the test, that part of the curriculum is not given on the oral exam. After this test, a practical hypothetical case is placed. If they satisfy with that part of the exam, they approach the oral exam. All parts are taken into account when forming a final grade.


1.1.9. Faculty of Law - University of Skopje

Introduction to the Law of the European Union

Introduction to the law of the European Union is an obligatory, 7 ECTS credit points course, taught in the 3rd semester of the 2nd year of studies. During that semester, there are in total 60 (5 times per week during 12 weeks), plus 3 weeks of consultation with students.

The course is aimed towards giving students the basic knowledge of the EU law. It is intended to introduce the main core of the European integration, the institutional structure of the Union together with the competencies of the EU institutions, the decision-making process in the EU, as well as the main principles on which the EU law is based. The course puts particular emphasis on the enlargement process of the EU and what is the role of the EU law in that process.

The course covers the following topics:

- EU’s Institutional Structure
- The legislative competencies of the EU institutions
- The sources of EU law
- The basic principles of EU law
- The freedoms of the internal market
- The CFSP of the EU
- Justice and home affairs
- The Schengen Area
- The EU’s Enlargement Policy
- EU and Republic of Macedonia
The final grade is formed after finishing the final written exam. The continuous education is also important and the students' participation in classes is taken into consideration as well.


1.1.10. Faculty of Law - University of Štip

Law of the European Union

Law of the European Union is an obligatory, 8 ECTS credit points course, taught in the 5th semester of the 3rd year of studies. During that semester, there are in total 85 hours (3h lessons x 12 weeks + 2h practice x 12 weeks + 2h self-learning x 12 weeks).

This course introduces the law of the European Union. It provides an overview of the historic dimension of EU Integration and institutional structure; in particular, it focuses on the legal framework, the discussion of competences and the European Court of Justice.

The aim of the course is to acknowledge students with the basic notions of the Law of the European Union. Furthermore, it aims to provide the students with the necessary information for them to understand how the European Union functions and to create an idea of the impact that EU law has on EU citizens.

The program includes the following topics:

- EU treaties
- EU institutions
- Sources of EU law
- Competence of the EU
- European legislative acts
- Supremacy of EU Law
- General principles of Law and Procedural Law of the ECJ

The grade consists of the following points: 10 (presence on lessons) + 10 (presence on practice) + 10 (project work) + 20 (first midterm examination) + 20 (second midterm examination) + 30 (oral examination) = 100 points.

The mandatory literature used is GEORGIEVSKI, Saso: Introduction to Law of the European Union, Faculty of Law, University SS. Cyril and Methodius (2nd ed), 2012, Skopje.

1.1.11. Faculty of Law - University of Tirana
European Union Law

European Union Law is an obligatory, 6 ECTS credit points course, taught in the 1st semester of the 1st year of studies. During that semester, there are 15 weeks of lectures (3 hours each lecture) i.e. 45 hours of lectures in total and 15 weeks of seminars (1 hour each seminar) which means 15 hours for seminars.

The main objective of this course is to give a comprehensive view on the process of creation and evolution of the European Communities and the European Union, as well as the current developments of the EU law. This course has two main parts. The First Part examines the factors that brought to the creation of the European Communities and the Union, the institutional framework and its evolution from the Treaty of Paris to the Lisbon Treaty, the main characteristics of the EU legal order, as supremacy and direct effect; the main institutional principles such as the balance of powers, delegated competences, subsidiarity etc.

The Second Part of the course is focused on the creation, evolution and functioning of the EU Internal Market and its Four Freedoms, from the perspective of the Court of Justice case law and the related documents of the European Commission. The last hours of the course are dedicated to the integration of Albania in the EU, the accession criteria, the Stabilization and Association Agreement and the analysis of the status quo of enlargement policy in EU.

At the end of this course the students will be able to understand: the organization and internal functioning of the Communities and the European Union; common goals, principles and values of the European Union; the role and functioning of the Union's institutions. The student will gain a complete picture of the functioning of the common market and of the four fundamental freedoms, which constitute the genesis and heart of European integration. He/She will be able to understand the enlargement policy of the European Union and especially the Stabilization and Association process and easily navigate to official sites of European Union institutions, download European Union primary and secondary legislation and EU Courts’ decisions. In addition, he/she will know how to work in a group, make ppt presentation and develop research paper (optional).

Taking into account the aforementioned, the topics covered by this basic (introductory) course are:

Part I

- The establishment of the European Communities: Treaty of Paris (1951) and the Treaty of Rome (1957)
- The European Single Act and the strategies to overcome the obstacles for the creation of an EU internal market.
- The Treaty of Maastricht and the creation of the European Union.
- The need for institutional changes and the Treaty of Amsterdam and Nice.
- The Constitutional Treaty and the Treaty of Lisbon

- The competences, powers and organization of the EU institutions.
- The EU principles and its legal instruments
- The European Court of Justice: legal remedies.

**Part II**

- An Introduction to the EU Internal Market
- Free movement of goods
- Free movement of workers and persons
- Freedom of establishment and freedom to provide services
- Free movement of capital
- The Stabilization and Association Process of Western Balkans and the relationship of EU with Albania.

The final grade (maximum number of points 100) is formed out of class participation 10% and final exam 90%.


However, all of the SEELS Faculties have different approach towards the year and the semester in which the basic (introductory) course takes place in the first cycle of studies, the ECTS credit points, the intensity of classes per week, the year in which it was introduced for the very first time etc. In almost half of the Law Faculties which participated in the survey, the compulsory basic (introductory) course takes place in the third year of studies lectured mainly via common teaching methods i.e. classical lectures, ppt presentations and case studies, sporadically via special methods such as short video clips, questions and answers method and debates. In addition, the
literature used is mostly in the official language of the Law Faculty, although students can use literature in other languages.

It should be noted that, even though the purpose of the course is basically the same and it covers similar topics, there can be found varieties of names for the subject i.e. Introduction to the Law of the European Union, European Law Basics, Introduction to Law of European Integration etc.

Conclusion

The involved scholars agreed that the basic course on EU Law should be consisted of at least the following topics, which should be developed in separate lectures:

- History of the EU Law
- Enforcement Policy
- EU Institutions
- EU Legal Sources
- Principles / Protection of Fundamental Freedoms
- Judicial System
- Internal Markets
- EU Citizenship

Regarding the Teaching Methodology of EU Law, it became evident that a combined approach and the inclusion of different teaching methods is present in most of the members, such as:

- Classical lectures (present in all faculties)
- Power Point presentations (present in all faculties)
- Case studies – solving hypothetical or real cases in groups (present in all faculties)
- Debates (present in most faculties)
- Q&A methods (present in all faculties)
- Use of video clips (present in some faculties)
- Online Learning - it was established that there is no EU Learning Method Moodle available, therefore it may not be considered as a real unified method for this topic.

1.2. Specialized course(s) in specific EU Law fields

As a continuation of the basic (introductory) course that exists in first place, there are specialized courses in specific EU fields which offer students an in-depth look at key issues of European Union law. Students have an opportunity to choose from a variety of elective courses and a possibility to broaden their scope of knowledge in specific EU law field. In this regard, Law Faculties in Croatia offer the widest range of courses covering different topics of the EU Law, which is justified by the fact that Croatia is the only country in the region part of the EU family. Specific courses are held mainly in the last two years of studying (usually in the 9th semester) and the vast majority of them are elective. However, there are some master programs that include compulsory courses. The main difference is in the total of ECTS credit points and the total student
workload (ranging from 52 to 75 classes). Course methodology includes interactive lectures, case-studies and class discussions accompanied by national and international literature.

The objective of these courses is to offer a) a solid institutional/constitutional understanding of the manner the EU works and the ways it may evolve in the future, b) a comprehensive and horizontal vision of the main EU policy areas combined with c) a spot-on analysis of some of the most dynamic policy areas.

The following lists of courses do not encompass all specific courses that exist at the Law Faculties concerned. It is important to emphasize that they are used only as an example, in order to show the diversity of courses offered by the Law Faculties covered by the survey.

**Specific courses that have a general overview of the functioning of the European Union are:**

- General Principles of the EU Law (Zenica)
- The Law of the European Union (Zenica)
- EU Internal Market and Fundamental Freedoms (Osijek, Rijeka, Skopje, Zagreb, Tirana) – as one or separate courses
- Law of European Integrations (Belgrade)
- EU Law and Institutions (Niš, Tirana)
- Policies of European Union (Tirana)
- Law of the EU Economic System (Niš)
- Jurisdiction and Role of the European Court of Justice (Zagreb)
- EU and WTO in a Comparative Perspective (Zagreb)
- Economy and Institutions of EU (Zagreb)
- Judicial Remedies in the EU (Tirana)

**Specific courses focused on the European Private Law:**

- European Private Law / EU Civil Law (Zenica, Niš, Zagreb, Rijeka, Osijek)
- European Family Law (Rijeka, Zagreb, Split)
- European Contract Law (Zenica)
- EU Intellectual Property Law (Sarajevo, Rijeka, Niš)
- Private International Law in EU (Skopje, Zenica, Zagreb, Rijeka, Osijek)
- Civil Procedural Law of the EU (Skopje, Zenica, Split, Rijeka, Osijek)
- EU Consumer Law (Zagreb, Rijeka)
Specific courses focused on the European Public Law:

- EU Social Security Law & Employment Law (Rijeka, Zagreb)
- European Administrative Law (Rijeka, Split)
- EU Law in Practice (Skopje)
- Common Foreign and Security Policy (Skopje, Štip)
- Environmental Law of the EU (Skopje)
- Justice and Home Affairs in the EU (Skopje)
- Policies of the EU (Štip)
- European Labor Law (Zenica, Split, Rijeka, Osijek, Niš)
- Public Financial Law of the EU (Zagreb, Rijeka)
- International and EU Energy Law and Energy Security (Zagreb)
- EU Transport Law (Split)
- Political Thought and European Public Law (Split)
- Protection of Human Rights (Split, Rijeka)
- International and European Criminal Law (Split)

It should be emphasized that two Law Faculties, the Faculty of Law in Štip and the Faculty of Law in Zagreb, have specific Master Programmes in European Union Law.

Conclusion

Following a thorough discussion on this matter, the involved scholars came up with the following topics for the EU Law Specialized Courses as a basis:

1. EU Private Law
2. International Market
3. Fundamental Freedoms
4. Private and International Law in EU
5. EU Family Law
6. Intellectual Property Law

This is to be used as a broad frame of the topics which should be elaborated in more detail in the upcoming period. It is also open to new topics, and it can be additionally widened and broadened in accordance with the needs of the specific faculty. However, the basic format should be reviewed and discussed within the panel/network too.
1.3. Postgraduate study programmes

In eight out of eleven Faculties of Law from the SEELS network, there are advanced/specialized courses in EU law fields at postgraduate doctoral study programmes. Only the Law Faculty in Tirana, the Law Faculty in Sarajevo and the Law Faculty in Split do not offer their students a possibility to enroll in postgraduate study programmes in EU Law fields.

The following lists of courses do not encompass all of the advanced/specialized courses that exist at the Law Faculties concerned. It is important to emphasize that they are used only as an example, in order to show the diversity of courses offered by the Law Faculties covered by the survey. In addition, some of the faculties that have postgraduate advanced/specialized courses in Law on European Integrations, award successful students with a specific academic title.

Principally, the advanced/specialized courses in EU law at postgraduate doctoral study programmes can be divided in three main groups.

**Doctoral studies – General Courses**

- Introduction into the European Integrations (Rijeka)
- Institutions and EU legal system (Osijek)
- Law of European Integrations (Belgrade)
- EU Legal System (Niš)
- European Legal Tradition (Zagreb)
- European Private Law Tradition (Zagreb)
- EU Internal Market Law (Skopje, Zagreb, Osijek)
- International Jurisdiction and Procedure in European Secondary Law (Zagreb)
- Standards of Fundamental Rights Protection in the EU Legal Order (Rijeka)
- Free Movement of Workers and Employment in the EU (Osijek)
- European International Civil Law Procedure in Elected Course Practice (Osijek)
- EU Judicial System (Osijek)

**Doctoral studies – Private Law Courses**

- European Private Law (Zagreb, Rijeka)
- European Family Law (Zagreb, Rijeka)
- Private International Law of the EU (Skopje, Niš, Zagreb)
- EU Intellectual Property Law (Niš, Rijeka)
- Consumer Protection (Zagreb, Rijeka)
and

**Doctoral Studies- Public Law Courses**

- European Competition Law (Zagreb, Rijeka, Osijek)
- The EU in the International Law (Zagreb)
- Human Rights Protection in Europe in Light of the Procedural Law (Zagreb, Rijeka)
- Tax Law of the EU (Niš, Rijeka)
- EU Public Financial Law (Zagreb)
- Common Foreign and Security Policy of the EU (Skopje)
- Environmental Law of the EU (Skopje)
- EU Equality Law (Osijek)

**Conclusion**

It is recommended that a PhD course should be created on EU Law among all of the Faculties, in the light of the EU accessions of the region. However, the participants deem that a harmonization of the courses on a PhD level is impossible at this stage. Moreover, it is suggested that the synchronization of the curricula in teaching EU Law topics should be focused only in the studies on undergraduate and master level.

**I.4 General policy (at the Faculty level) on inclusion of the EU Law in courses**

Overall, there is a general policy at all Law Faculties part of SEELS Network on inclusion of the European Union Law in courses for more than 20 years. Lists of basic (introductory) courses, specialized courses and postgraduate study programmes provided by the Faculties, show that different EU law topics are taught in each of them and the EU Law is very well integrated into the national law.

**I.5 Erasmus + Jean Monnet Modules**

Currently, there are Jean Monnet Modules teaching programmes in the field of EU law in three Law Faculties: the Faculty of Law in Rijeka, the Faculty of Law in Osijek and the Faculty of Law in Zenica.

The **Faculty of Law in Rijeka** has Erasmus+ Jean Monnet Module “EU Social Security Law” that has started on 01.09.2016.
The module’s objective is to create a specialized course in EU social security law, as an elective course at the fifth and final year of the integrated Study of Law. Its basis is the existing course Social security and competition law. The module proposes a teaching upgrade in terms of its contents and methodology. The teaching of EU social security law has so far been only marginal at the Croatian law faculties and there is a compelling need for a separate course in view of the increased mobility of Croatian nationals as EU citizens. Involvement of guest lecturers is envisaged as a way to advance the understanding of the EU dimension of social security and make use of their teaching experience. Module’s outcomes primarily include:

- reform of the existing course Social security and competition law by broadening its content to include all matters of EU social security law;
- preparation of a first comprehensive textbook on EU social security law in Croatian;
- creation of open-access website with teaching materials;
- organization of a one-day seminar on open issues of EU social security law.

This is a novel approach in teaching, aiming to stimulate wider multi-disciplinary discussions and revise the teaching contents in view of practical problems in the application of EU social security law.

The EU allocated funds to the Faculty of Law in Osijek to finance the Jean Monnet Chair for European Labor Law, European Equality Law, and European Human Rights Law for the period from 1 September 2013 to 31 August 2016. Through various activities, the Chair was offering a multidisciplinary programme of life-long learning for members of the academic community, students and practitioners. Special goal of the programme was to support academic advancement and research excellence of the members of the Jean Monnet Chair and of the teaching staff at the University and in the region in the sphere of EU Labor Law, European Equality Law and European Human Rights Law. Once a year over the period of three academic years, in which the project was conducted, students of the doctoral study were offered the following courses: The Free Movement of Workers and European Individual Labor Law, EU Equality Law and the Advanced Seminar in EU Equality Law (Full Professor M. Vinković). The proposed project activities of the second chair, the Jean Monnet Chair for EU Procedural Law, were aimed at improving the existing courses and introduction of completely new EU courses into the Curriculum of the Faculty, and at organizing a series of workshops for judges, lawyers and state attorneys, for students of other faculties (non-lawyers) and for all interested citizens. Once a year over the period of three years of the duration of the project, students of the doctoral study attended the course: International Family Law at European Courts (Associate Professor M. Župan). The main goal of the Jean Monnet Chair for Cross-Border Movement of Children in the EU was to provide quality lectures and education on a wide range of themes relating to cross-border movement of children in the EU. Parallel with the lectures and extracurricular activities, scientific research works are conducted into the fields defined by the project. Project results will therefore be founded both on the doctrine and on the actual problems and practice. The monograph resulting from the project will provide a basis for further education of both students and professional
public and it will serve as proof of the scientific competitiveness of our University. Once a year over the period of three years of the duration of the project, students of the doctoral study attend the courses: Child in Cross-Border Civil Procedure and Personal status and Identity in Cross-Border Movement (Župan), and Access to the Justice System for Children (Poretti).

The Faculty of Law in Zenica has Jean Monnet Module “Internal Markel and Human Rights in the EU”, since 2015. That is an elective course at the 6th semester, bachelor programme. It is in depth teaching of specialized issues.

II. NON-FORMAL and CONTINUOUS EDUCATION

The vast majority of Law Faculties in the past 3 years have organized specific forms of extra-curricular activities for students in the field of EU Law.

The Faculty of Law in Osijek have organized Summer school „Procedural Law of the EU” that took place at the Law Faculty Osijek (from 24 to 27 August 2016). Summer school aimed to deliver knowledge and information about different aspects of EU procedural law (civil, criminal and administrative). Eligible to participate were master students in all stages of study, PhD students and young professionals. Participation in the Summer School was free of charge for all participants (including tuition, accommodation costs in Osijek and lunch). Only travel costs were paid by the participants. All participants decided to take the final exam; after they all passed, they were granted with 3 ECTS credits. More than 50 application were received but due to the limited number of places, 23 participants, which was more than planned by the project, were accepted. The results of the survey conducted among the participants were excellent.

The Itinerant Summer University in the Balkans was organized at the Law Faculty in Skopje for the fourth time in cooperation with Franco-German University, Université Paris Nanterre (France) and Universität Münster (Germany). The 2018 Summer University’s main focus was on the Euro integration process of the Western Balkan countries. It provides lecturers from professors from the partner universities, as well as from the universities in the region on several different issues connected to EU integration of the countries from the region. The Law Faculty in Sarajevo have organized The German Law Course (Begleitstudium im deutschen Recht), for several years as an extracurricular activity for German speaking students. The course covered different topics in German (EU) law. The Faculty of Law in Štip continuously organizes activities related to the EU, like various seminars, round tables, lessons from foreign lecturers and practitioners, student conferences, moot courts, debates and other. In particular, every year the Faculty celebrates Europe day and on more than one occasion the Faculty collaborated with the Art Academy by making together art exhibitions on Migration and Discrimination by the Art students, as well as written articles on Migration and Discrimination by the students from the Faculty of Law.
The first summer school, European Law and Economic Summer School (ELESS) organized in cooperation between the Faculty of Law in Rijeka and the Faculty of Tourism and Hospitality Management in Ika, which was supported by the Hanns-Seidel-Stiftung ended on 13 July 2018. European Law and Economy Summer School has achieved its main objective of becoming an ideal summer meeting point for students in social sciences, primarily law and economics. Set in a stimulating environment and applying innovative learning methods and multidisciplinary approaches, ELESS has provided students with an opportunity to expand their knowledge and competences about legal and socio-economic aspects of the functioning of the European Union. The lectures and workshops were held in English and organized within 2 modules: Legal aspects of the EU and Socio-economic aspects of the EU. A multidisciplinary team of 20 lecturers consisted of professors and practitioners with many years of research and experience in the presented topics. The aforementioned Law Faculties, were as well active in development and delivery of specialized courses for legal professionals (judiciary, public servants, law enforcement etc.) within their auspices.

The Faculty of Law in Osijek for instance, in the framework of the Jean Monnet Chair in EU procedural law, have organized specialized courses for legal professionals: “How to litigate before the CJEU”, Workshop “National courts as European courts”, Workshop “Application procedure for EU funded projects (grants)”, Training course “EU administrative law and procedures”. The Faculty of Law in Sarajevo organized seminars given to the judges at the Centre for Judicial Education and to the Chamber of Commerce of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Faculty of Law in Rijeka continues to attract funding for conducting relevant research and innovation in law and law-related areas. The most significant ongoing international projects in which the Faculty participates, deal with contemporary challenges posed to the European Union legislation and its application in the Member States. In addition to cooperation in terms of professional projects, the Faculty also has a wide network of general cooperation agreements with professional institutions and associations, such as the Croatian Bar Association, the Croatian Notaries Chamber, the Croatian Chamber of Economy, and the Judicial Academy. The Faculty of Law in Niš, in the period from 2002-2014 was the host and organizer of the “Permanent seminar on EU Law” with the aim to inform, not only Faculty members and students, but also the general public on crucial and ongoing topics of EU Law. The lectures were held by theorists and practitioners twice a month. In addition, in the framework of the Tempus project Development of Policy-Oriented Training Programmes in the Context of the European Integration (DEPOCEI), the Faculty of Law in Niš in 2016 organized training courses for public administration, business community and civil society organizations. As one of the aims in the above mentioned project, at the Faculty of Law in Niš was established Center for public policies of the EU which serves as a leading and consultancy center in assisting civil servants, entrepreneurs and NGO activists in acquiring and applying knowledge on EU public policies and processes.

Conclusion
Some faculties do offer different courses focused on EU Law tailored for legal practitioners, such as the Law Faculty in Zagreb and the Law Faculty in Osijek. A consensus was reached that this is an important question which needs to be addressed in more detail in future as all of the participants see the collaboration with legal practitioners as potentially very lucrative and needed. Several ideas were shared aimed at developing a model for collaboration between faculties and legal practitioners in the EU Law field, such as a preparation of a course tailored for legal practitioners; preparation of guidelines /readers/ for Judges of the Western Balkanes on topic related to EU Law, EU Principles, basic laws etc – or a text book which could help them access the EU Law in a more efficient manner.

III. REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

It is very important to emphasize that every Law Faculty that is as a member of the SEELS network has been involved in cross-regional (SEE region) cooperation in EU Law teaching. The teaching staff, as well as the students have regularly and actively participated in all forms of cooperation organised by the SEELS Network, including summer schools jointly organised by the SEELS Network and partner organizations, as is the Europa-Institut of Saarland University. As expected, all faculties have to some extend individual cooperation with different Universities in Europe and across the World.

For instance, FL Osijek collaborates closely with universities in Hungary; FL Štip – other than SEELS have no specific regional collaboration, but Erasmus + collaboration had been underlined; FL Zenica – collaborates within the region, with SEELS members and with Germany; FL Skopje – the dominant regional collaborations is done via SEELS; FL Rijeka has regional cooperation with SEELS network and to some extend individually in their work. In addition, it has longstanding collaboration with some Law Faculties in Italy, Germany, Hungary, Spain, Argentina etc.; FL Belgrade – SEELS collaboration and longstanding international collaboration within many Universities in Europe; FL Tirana – not specific regional collaboration on EU Law, except SEELS, they do collaborate internationally with faculty in Naples, Sapienza Rome, Liden Germany; FL Niš– not specific regional collaboration outside SEELS at the moment however they did have Tempus project in 2012 – 2015 which included regional collaboration; FL Sarajevo – not specific collaboration outside SEELS. However, Erasmus exchange programme had been underlined; FL Zagreb – has both regional and international collaboration; FL Split - SEELS is the main form of regional collaboration, especially the Cluster of Excellence project; FL Mostar – SEELS as regional collaboration but has Erasmus exchange. Still no specific EU Law regional collaboration.

Conclusion

It became evident that the faculties have developed international collaboration and that they do collaborate on regional level only through SEELS network which demonstrated once again the importance of building and maintaining such
relations/networks for the future developments of the faculties themselves as well as
of the region. Ideally, the regional collaboration would come as a natural state of
affairs of these faculties and countries, and it is a goal that remains to be achieved in
the future. In addition, it became evident that this type of networking is very
significant. The following ideas were suggested: inviting guest lectures; organizing
regional summer schools; seeking opportunities for mobility of students and
professors; and developing a unified textbook on EU Law for the basic introductory
course offered at the faculties.

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HARMONIZATION OF THE
EU LAW TEACHING

Harmonization of the EU Law teaching curricula is needed and beneficial. It became
evident that the curricula could perhaps not be unified in all levels of the
teaching/studies in the whole region, but that the creation of a basic EU Law curricula
which should be enclosing all necessary topics related to this matter is something that
could be achieved. PhD curricula or Master Studies curricula are specialized forms of
programmes and thus might be constructed differently at every faculty and tailored at
their specific needs. In that sense, a list of topics was proposed to be included within
the basic course for EU Law and was suggested to be used as a bases for further
development.

The added value of harmonization of the EU Law teaching should be seen in the light
of clear dedication of the accession to the EU of all of the countries in the region
represented by SEELS. In their accession to EU it will be more and more necessary
that the future legal professionals are aware and well educated in the matters of EU
Law. In addition, the introduction of such a unified course on regional level will
improve the curricula of the faculties implementing it, and provide for increased
mobility of the professors and students. Such joint curricula and gathered experience
coming from the implementation of such basic course could later lead to possible
creation of a common study programme on Post Graduate level, organization of
specially tailored workshops for legal practitioners, and interested parties.

The project “Education4Progress: Regional Cooperation to Improve EU Law
Teaching” is a good starting point for reaching that goal and for bringing teaching staff
in the region in closer cooperation. The communication and cooperation among the
teaching staff and joint development of books and data bases can facilitate reaching
that goal.

For the Rijeka Law Faculty, dissemination and exchange of best practices in
teaching EU law as well as the improvement of courses connected with EU law are seen
as one of the values of the harmonization of EU law teaching. The similarities in EU
law teaching are recognized and used as basis for specific recommendations. Preparation of report where the synthesis of EU law teaching methods will be provided
was suggested as a measure which will improve the regional harmonization in EU law
teaching.
The Faculty of Law in Osijek suggested improvement of the quality of research and teaching in the area of EU Law and enhancing the visibility of the EU law in Croatia and region. An example of a well-organized conference by the Law Faculty Zagreb named ‘How to teach EU Law’ (27th November 2015) was given in order to support their opinion. The aim of this conference was to identify the problems faced by legal academics in consolidating EU-related content into the existing teaching materials and discourse at the Zagreb Faculty of Law, as well as to find and discuss possible solutions to the identified problems. They have proposed such a conference to be organized for all members of SEELS.

For the Law Faculty in Split, harmonization of the EU Law teaching can be done via the improvement of cross-border cooperation. In their point of view, as a country that had experienced strenuous steps towards joining the EU, candidate countries need overall help in preparations for the EU membership. The outcome of a favorable performance will result, amongst others, in easier and more efficient exchange of students and professors between law faculties in the region, possible creation of common study programmes at the postgraduate level, joint development of books and data bases and so forth.

The Faculty of Law Zenica proposed better regional cooperation, introducing more visiting lecturers, common regional projects including publishing common research papers and books, harmonization of the curriculum as well as introducing EU law competitions for students for reaching the goal of regional harmonization.

**OVERALL CONCLUSION**

The project „Education4Progress: Regional Cooperation to Improve EU Law Teaching” implemented by the SEELS Network and financially supported by the Western Balkans Fund, aimed to provide a platform for exchange of information and dialogue on the most adequate models for EU Law teaching in South East Europe with the specific goal to enhance the quality of EU Law teaching of young lawyers in South East Europe.

SEELS’ region is one of the most diverse sub-regions on the European continent. As for the future of this region, there is no doubt that all the states within are strongly determined to join the European Union. Therefore, they share tasks, needs and challenges in the process of integration and approximation. Taking into consideration the overall political situation in the region, we must agree on the fact that one of the crucial tasks is the adoption of the acquis communautaire and the harmonization of countries’ legal systems with the one of the EU. The starting point is to make achievable changes in order to improve the quality of the basic level of EU Law teaching, firstly at Law Faculties.

The analysis had shown that, even though we are small and at first glance a very homogeneous region, there are huge differences between the methods and formats of teaching EU Law at the Universities. With that, the practice, the experience and the way of producing experts that would be able to work on EU approximation which entails numerous in-depth reforms of various sectors are heterogenous.
A conclusion that unification of Introduction to the EU law basic course in the SEE region is essential can be drawn. That can be done through bilateral cooperation which is confirmed to be facile for implementation and regulation. In addition, the easiest and most adequate way would be via the centre for SEELS which was established with the aim of improving cooperation between the Law Faculties in the region and thus improving their scientific, teaching and administrative capacities. In that sense, SEELS supports the strategic development of the Law Faculties.

Through the development, it can introduce new and unified ways/methods and activities in the area of basic EU Law and provide further professional training. Moreover, the SEELS members are able to offer attractive courses and programmes and thereby facilitate regional mobility of scientists, students, researchers and lawyers.