
AGH University of Science & Technology

Faculty of Humanities

Spring 2024

Introduction to European Politics

Instructor: Prof. Dr. Klaus Mueller
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Course Description

The history of European integration is considered a unique success. A few years after two devastating wars, formerly hostile states have gradually integrated their economies, established common institutions and 'communitarised' more and more policy areas. The common market of the six founding members has grown to a union of 27 states. The economic community has adopted a common legal system, established supranational institutions, and put democratisation on the agenda.

Despite all its successes, European policy over the past decade has faced unforeseen challenges. Its enlargement policy has reached its limits, and the Ukraine conflict that began in 2013 has escalated into a war with Russia. Geopolitically, the EU is exposed to the confrontation between the USA and China. The course will therefore have to ask whether the EU's success story can be continued in the face of these challenges.

Format: Lecture and seminar sessions
Location: to be announced
Time: Friday (see the dates of the course)
12:10-15:10

Evaluation: Students of Humanities
Presentation 25%
Participation 25%
Essay 50%

SCHEDULE

(open to revision; some dates may change)

Session 1 (March 8, 2024) – Post-War Europe: Out of Chaos

- a. Spaak, Paul-Henri 1950: The Integration of Europe: Dreams and Realities, *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 29, No 1, 94-100.
- b. Stinsky, Daniel 2020: 'Integration, Nobody Knows What It Means'. European Cooperation and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), 1947–56, in Broad, M. & S. Kansikas eds. 2020: *European Integration Beyond Brussels. Unity in East & West Europe Since 1945*. Palgrave, 25-48.
- c. Judt, Tony 2005: *Postwar. A History of Europe Since 1945*, London: Penguin, 63-99.

Session 2 (March 15, 2024) – The Emergence and Evolution of European Integration

- a. Van Middelaar, Luuk 2013: *The Passage to Europe. How a Continent Became a Union*, Yale University Press, 158-180.
- b. Ibid., 181-210.

Session 3 (March 22, 2024) – European Institutions & Governance

- a. Usherwood, Simon & Pinder, John 2018: *The European Union. A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford University Press, Chapter 3.
- b. Bale, Tim: *European Politics. A Comparative Introduction*, Palgrave, 77-111.

Session 4 (March 29, 2024) – 'How Democratic is the EU?

- a. Habermas, Jürgen 2003: Towards a Cosmopolitan Democracy, in *Journal of Democracy*, Vol. 14, No 4, 86-100.
- b. Dahrendorf, Ralf 2003: Making Sense of the EU. The Challenge for Democracy, in *Journal of Democracy*, Vol. 14, No 4, 101-114.
- c. Dahl, Robert A. 1999: Can International Institutions be Democratic. A Sceptic's View, in Shapiro, Ian & Casiano Hacker-Cordon eds. 1999: *Democracy's Edges*. CUP, Ch. 2

Session 5 (April 12, 2024) – EU & Ukraine: From Neighbourhood Policy to Accession Agreement

- a. Lehne, Stefan 2014: Time to Reset the European Neighbourhood Policy.
- b. Sakwa, Richard 2015: The death of Europe? Continental fates after Ukraine, *International Affairs*, Vol. 91, No 3, 553-579.
- c. Van Middelaar, Luuk 2019: Negotiating the Ukraine Crisis, in *Alarums and Excursions: Improvising Politics on the European Stage: Agenda*.

Session 6 (April 19, 2024) – EU & Russia: Alienation, New Cold War, and the Russo-Ukrainian War

- a. Sakwa, Richard 2023: *The Lost Peace. How the West Failed to Prevent a Second Cold War*. Yale University Press, Chapter 8 & 10.
- b. Streeck, Wolfgang 2023: The EU after Ukraine, in Anderson, Grey 2023: *Natopolitanism. The Atlantic Alliance since the Cold War*: Verso.

Session 7 (May 10, 2024) – Divided Europe & the Global Challenge

- a. Bradford, Anu 2020: *The Brussels Effect: How the European Union Rules the World*. Oxford University Press.
- b. Mueller, Klaus 2023: *European Economic Nationalism*, in Andreas Pickel ed. 2023: *Handbook of Economic Nationalism*, Edward Elgar, 189-222.

Session 8 (May, 17 2024) – EU – US – China. Europe's Geopolitical Sovereignty?

- a. McNamara, Kathleen 2023: Transforming Europe? The EU's industrial policy and geopolitical turn, *Journal of European Public Policy*, July 6, 2023.
- b. Casarini, N. A 2022: European strategic "third way?" The European Union between the traditional transatlantic alliance and the pull of the Chinese market, *China International Strategy Review*, Vol. 4, 91-107.

Additional literature for the essays will be provided (all literature will be made available for registered students via drop box)

Anderson, Perry 2009: *The New Old World*, Verso.

Documentaries

The Brussels Business - Who Runs the EU?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xMuUEd6w54E&ab_channel=TBUNEWS

Yanis Varoufakis: Adults In The Room – My battle with Europe's deep establishment

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nGt82RFfg3U&ab_channel=EFNEkonomikanalen

Course Requirements

All participants are expected to **read the assigned literature** in advance of the sessions and to **contribute to the discussions. Participation is obligatory.**

Presentation (15 to 20 minutes): students form groups to prepare a specific session (starting with session 2). The presentations should sketch out the main theses of the specified

readings, identify different opinions on the topic under discussion, raise questions and/or articulate problems of understanding. **Presentations must be sent in 5 days before the resp. session.** Participants are expected to study the presentations in advance and to send questions and critical comments to the authors and me. **Personal statements** are especially welcome. Connections to earlier sessions should be pointed out. The **discussion** will take the form of a conversation between the group, the plenum, and the instructor.

Essays (applies to students of the humanities) - due date: **according to the general datelines of the summer term of the faculty.** All written essays should be submitted directly to me via e-mail. Topics must be chosen from the schedule and should refer to the proposed literature. Written assignments are due on the date stipulated and it is not our policy to grant extensions except for illness or equivalent reasons. Length of Essays: 8-10 pp.

Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence. Written work from students which is not original in conception, organization and phrasing will not be accepted. The borrowing of material from other sources, whether in the form of direct quotation or paraphrasing, **must** be acknowledged. Direct quotations must be identified with quotation marks and referenced. When you follow someone's ideas closely, or when you use specific information from a primary source (e.g., a government document) or a secondary source (e.g., a book or journal article), the source **must** be referenced. **Failure to make such acknowledgement will make written work ineligible for grading. Serious offences will result in a grade of zero.**