



International and European Politics III

Winter Term 2022/23

The European Union as a Global Actor

In many areas of international politics, the European Union has become a major actor in its own right. Today, the EU is among the most important trade powers in the world, a leading actor in global climate policy and other areas of international environmental policy, participates in the Global Summits (G7 and G20) and has adopted a major role in the Ukraine crisis. The standing of the European Union as an actor in international relations is puzzling. On the one hand, it has been established by its member states and observers note (and deplore frequently) that EU foreign policy still lacks power and influence, because it is largely inter-governmentally organized and the necessary power resources are still controlled by the member states. On the other hand, it seems that the EU has gained the ability to influence world politics on its own. Thus, it seems to be much more than a coalition of its member states like the groups of BRICS states or African states.

This seminar has a threefold purpose. *First*, it will make participants familiar with European integration approaches to EU external relations and theories of corporate action that help understand how the EU as an international institution established by its member states could acquire action capability and thus become a corporate actor in its own right. *Second*, students will learn why, and with which effects, EU internal policies (e.g. single market policy, environmental policy) provide a foundation for the emergence of EU actor capability in related areas of international relations. They will also get an idea of the capabilities (and their limits) that allow the EU to act in ways that influence world politics and are meaningful for states and other international actors, among them the global superpowers. And they will become familiar with the goals and policies, which the EU pursues with its action. *Third*, participants will train theory-based empirical analysis of a selected topic taken from the realm of EU external relations.

Language of instruction: English; presentations and coursework have to be made in English; essays may be submitted either in English or in German.

Date and Room: Tuesday, 12.00 – 14.00 in F 21/03.02

ECTS: 8

Admission Conditions: This is a Master-level course open to students of the MA programme in Political Science. Other students are accepted, if their knowledge of European politics and/or their ability to discuss concepts of European integration so warrants.

Participants are expected to

- attend the seminar regularly and participate actively in seminar discussions;
- read the compulsory literature regularly (might be controlled by random checks)
- act as a discussant and provide feedback to other students' presentations

To obtain a certificate, participants have also to

- give a presentation of about 15-30 min (depending on the number of presenters) examining an aspect of the seminar;
 - the outline of the presentation is to be discussed with the instructor at least three weeks prior to the presentation;
 - the presentation should be made in Power Point;
 - the presentation includes a research outline for the term paper displaying research question, theoretical foundation (preferably with a hypothesis), and ideas on how to investigate the question empirically (one case or several, which cases, based on which material or data?)
- upload the Power Point presentation including research outline prior to the session at which the topic is presented and discussed;
- upload the term paper ('Hausarbeit') of about 12-15 pages of text (excluding title page, outline, literature, and possible annexes) until April 1, 2023 at the latest. The essay should examine an aspect of the seminar in a theory-guided way, preferably the subject of the presentation. Essays will be rejected, if they do not meet these requirements.

The final mark is calculated as follows:

- 33% presentation and research outline
- 67% term paper.