

MASTER DEGREE in European studies -LM 90 A.A. 2022/2023

I° year- II° term

History and Institutions of European Union (9 CFU)

This course taught in English language in the framework of “European Studies LM/90” is aimed at providing Italian or foreign law students with a comprehensive exploration of the history, institutions and politics of European integration since 1945.

The rationale of this course is to focus on the (political) actors, theories of integration and the resulting European treaties that shaped the European institutions.

Therefore, every module shall illustrate:

- 1) actors and political thought behind integration strategies.
- 2) treaties that resulted from negotiation and agreement between the Member States;
- 3) the European institutions established by the relevant Treaty.

Module 1: Before and during the World War II

- 1) Early ideas of European integration, Richard Coudenhove-Kalergi and Pan-Europa, Spinelli and the Ventotene Manifesto on European charter on European Federalism; Winston Churchill and United Europe Movement, and the Hague Conference in 1948
- 2) The Treaty of London 1949, European Convention on Human rights 1950
- 3) Council of Europe in Strasbourg, European Court on Human Rights

Module 2: establishment of ECSC

- 1) George C. Marshall and the Marshall Plan, Jean Monnet and functionalism, and the Schuman declaration
- 2) Paris treaty 1951 establishing European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC)
- 3) ECSC institutions: High Authority (forerunner of Commission), Council of Ministers, Common Assembly (Parliament), Court of Justice, Consultative Committee (similar to the Economic and Social Committee).

Module 3: the EDC and EPC failure

- 1) De Gasperi and European political federalism, the struggle for European Defence Community and European Political cooperation
- 2) Paris treaty 1952 establishing European Defence Community (EDC)
- 3) EDC treaty was not approved by French National Assembly in 1954, though together with EPC it provided with a Board of Commissioners, Parliament, Court of Justice and eventually a European Bank. Western European Union (WEU) was established as a substitute for EDC.

Module 4: European relaunch and the establishment of EEC

- 1) Paul-Henri Spaak and Gaetano Martino, economic functionalism and the Messina Conference 1955
- 2) Treaties of Rome 1957 establishing European Economic Community (EEC) and Euratom
- 3) European Commission, Council of EEC, and sharing with the ECSC the Parliament and Court of Justice

Module 5: De Gaulle and the “empty chair”

- 1) De Gaulle’s approach to European integration; the Fouchet Plans
- 2) Luxembourg compromise 1966;
- 3) Council of Ministers decision-making

Module 6: first enlargement

- 1) De Gaulle’s opposition to the UK, Georges Pompidou and Edward Heath UK’s accession to the EEC.
- 2) 1972 association agreement to the EEC of the UK, Ireland and Denmark
- 3) EEC institutions reforms to welcome UK, Irish and Danish representative

Module 7: Strengthening European economy and the European Parliament direct elections

- 1) Chancellor Schmidt and president Giscard d’Estaing; Prime Minister of Belgium, Leo Tindemans; Spinelli and the Crocodile group for European general elections, Jenkins president of the Parliament
- 2) Luxembourg Treaty 1970; 1975 Tindemans report; 1976 Council decision on European Parliament elections voting system
- 3) Own resources decisions; European Monetary System; 1979 European elections and first Parliament directly elected by European voters, Moreover, Court of Auditors established in 1975.

Module 8: Single European Act and the 80s

- 1) Margareth Thatcher, François Mitterand, Bettino Craxi, Giulio Andreotti and the Milan Council 1985, Jacques Delors and the completion of Single European Market; Felipe Gonzalez and Spanish democracy after Franco.
- 2) Single European Act 1986; 1986 association agreement to the EEC of Greece, Spain and Portugal
- 3) Voting systems in Council, and reforms to institutions. European Political Cooperation established

Module 9: the road to Maastricht

- 1) Jacques Delors role as president of the Commission; François Mitterand, and Helmut Kohl and the fall of Berlin Wall.
- 2) 1992 Treaty of Maastricht
- 3) Establishment of the European Union and the three pillars (European Community, Justice cooperation and Common Foreign and Security Policy). Phase 1 of the European Monetary Union (EMU)

Module 10: Amsterdam and Nice Treaty

- 1) Delors Commission, Bosnian War 1992-95, Kosovo War 1999 and NATO non-Art V missions
- 2) Amsterdam Treaty 1997 and Stability Pact for EMU; Nice Treaty 2000; association agreement to the EU of Austria, Sweden and Finland
- 3) Further evolution of the two pillars in Justice and Home Affairs, and CFSP High Representative and European Defence and Security Policy. Phase 2 of The European Monetary Union including the Euro as a currency and European Central Bank 2002

Module 11: Eastern enlargement and the Lisbon Treaty

- 1) Prodi Commission, the shadow of the war in Iraq 2003, and the intergovernmental conference in Rome 2004-2005 to the Lisbon Council. Enlargement of 10 new Member States
- 4) Rome's Constitution for Europe 2004 (failed to be approved); Lisbon treaty 2007; EU accession treaty for 10 Members States
- 5) Further reform of EU institutions to reflect enlargement, in particular Commission and Parliament;

Module 12: Polycrisis, financial crisis and the EU

- 1) 2008 financial crisis, and financial crisis in Greece.
- 2) Treaty establishing a European Stability Mechanism (ESM); Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the Economic and Monetary Union (TSCG) or Fiscal Stability Treat
- 3) European Stability Mechanism

Module 13: Brexit

- 1) 2016 UK referendum on Brexit and Brexit negotiations
- 2) 2019 Withdrawal Agreement (agreement between the UK and the EU on British exit from the EU) the UK Withdrawal Bill; 2020 EU-UK trade agreement
- 3) Modifications to the EU institutions after British exit from the EU, including Commission and EU Parliament. UK-EU future relations

Module 14: Permacrisis, Covid and the EU

- 1) Covid-19 and EU institutions and Member States reactions.
- 2) PNRR and pandemic financial measures
- 3) Stronger role of Commission and ECB

Textbook (suggested):

Claudio Catalano *European integration: from its origins to Brexit*, La Nuova Cultura, Roma 2020