

INSTITUT D'ÉTUDES EUROPÉENNES

ULB

RAPPORT D'ACTIVITÉS

2024
2025





**5 masters
et masters
de spécialisation**



**Quatre axes
de recherche**



**Centre
d'excellence
Jean Monnet**



**Lieu de débat
public**
sur la construction
européenne

*« Aujourd'hui voit se réaliser un
de mes rêves : l'idée de l'Europe trouve
sa réalisation la plus officielle,
sa consécration académique. [...] On me dirait demain que je dois être premier
ministre, cela ne me ferait aucun plaisir.
Mais à l'idée d'être dorénavant considéré
comme professeur d'université, surtout ici,
je ne puis cacher ma joie. »*

Paul-Henry Spaak
à l'inauguration de l'IEE, le 27 février 1964.



CONTACTS

Institut d'études européennes
Tel +32 (0)2 650 30 93
Mail iee@ulb.be
NEW Website: iee.ulb.be

INSTITUT D'ÉTUDES
EUROPÉENNES

RAPPORT D'ACTIVITÉS

2024-2025

ULB



Highlights of the year 2024-2025	2
Chiffres clés	4
Avant – propos	5
Gouvernance	7
Le comité de la recherche	9
Enseignement	10
Témoignages d'Alumni	11
Advanced Master in EU Interdisciplinary Studies	12
Le Master en études européennes	14
Master de spécialisation en Droit européen	16
Master in Economics – Business economics	18
Master in Economic Governance and Public Policy in Europe	19
Les activités de professionnalisation	22
Jeux de rôle et simulations	23
Summer schools	25
Cycle de Cours-Conférence	26
Student life	28
Research	34
Research Themes	34
Research Community	46
International Research HUB	49
Publications	52
Contribution to public debates	54
Podcast of the IEE: Making sense of EU	54
Events organised by the IEE	56

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR 2024-2025

October 10th, 2024

Welcome session for new students

The IEE-ULB hosted an information session to welcome new master students. This provided an opportunity for the students to receive a detailed presentation of their programme from the academic coordinators, and to meet their fellow students and the student associations.



October 24th, 2024

Academic Year Opening Lecture

Our guest, economist Éloi Laurent (OFCE, Sciences Po Paris) opened the academic year 2024-2025 of the IEE-ULB with a lecture entitled “Les transitions justes en Europe – généalogie, principes et politique”.



December 2024 – March 2025

EUqualis guest lecture series

As part of EUqualis Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence, the IEE-ULB organised three guest lectures focusing on EU's role in the fight against inequalities in the framework of health and climate policies.



February – April 2025

Narrating Europe / Raconter l'Europe:

Between February and April 2025, this seminar coordinated by François Foret explored the political, intellectual and artistic narratives of European integration. The 2025 edition of NarratEUR was opened by Enrico Letta, followed by seven other distinguished guest speakers.



February 28th, 2025

EU-Japan Forum

The 25th edition of the annual EU-Japan Forum brought together academics and researchers from across Europe and Japan to discuss a wide range of issues of shared interest. This year's 3 workshops focused on: “EU and Japan Approaches to International Criminal Justice”; “Politics and culture inside/out: a new ‘policy-mix’ in Europe and Japan?” and “New approaches and challenges for the post-Fukushima assessment of nuclear risk”



March 3rd, 2025

AlEUMni Afterwork Networking

This convivial event took place off campus and was part of our efforts to bring the IEE community to life, and to cultivate an interdisciplinary, intergenerational and intercultural dialogue.



March 17th -19th, 2025

RED-SPINEL Annual Conference

The Conference included two expert panels on the subject, “Rule of law, liberal democracy, and economic governance in the EU”, followed by a keynote address by Professor Gábor Halmai (EUI) on “*Illiberalism within the EU: How to Solve the Value Crisis?*”; a workshop dedicated to the *Palgrave Handbook of Dissensus over Liberal Democracy* as well as a Forecasting exercise on the “Future Visions of Liberal Democracy in Europe”.



October 10th, 2025

Graduation ceremony of the 2024-2025 class “Anna Lindh”

The IEE-ULB celebrated the graduates of the Master in European Studies, the Advanced Master in European Law and the Advanced Master in EU Interdisciplinary Studies at the Grand Place of Brussels.



508



étudiant·e·s de 41 nationalités différentes se sont inscrit·e·s aux programmes avec le label de l'IEE pendant l'année académique 2024-2025.

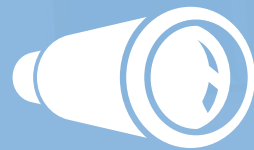


41

nationalités

différentes se sont inscrit·e·s aux programmes avec le label de l'IEE pendant l'année académique 2024-2025.

115



ULB Academics and Researchers are affiliated with the IEE-ULB



An online community

of 27,300 followers

36 événements



ont été organisés ou ont reçu le label de l'Institut d'études européennes

L'ÂGE DE RAISON DANS DES TEMPS TURBULENTS



En 2024, l'IEE fêtait ses soixante ans et, à la lumière de l'expérience, réfléchissait à ses structures, pratiques et ressources de concert avec ses facultés partenaires (Philosophie et Sciences Sociales, Droit et Criminologie, Solvay Brussels School of Economics and Management) dans le cadre des plans de développement stratégique. En 2025, il s'est projeté dans l'avenir en renouvelant la convention décennale qui le lie désormais à l'ULB jusqu'en 2035. Il a ainsi réaffirmé le principe de son autonomie en synergie avec la communauté ULBiste et son identité à la fois bruxelloise, belge, européenne et globale. Ce faisant, il trace son chemin singulier au prisme de l'interdisciplinarité, de la comparaison à travers le temps et l'espace et d'une libre réflexion critique à l'égard des questions européennes. L'IEE est une institution ancrée dans une tradition intellectuelle qui unit les générations se succédant en ses murs, tout en étant irriguée sans cesse par les nouveaux projets qu'elle porte. Cette dynamique entre institution et projets est le moyen de concilier les atouts de la recherche par contrats et de la réflexion de longue durée, de maintenir une continuité tout en faisant sens des disruptions. 2024-2025 marque l'achèvement de projets majeurs qui ont rythmé nos activités, et d'autres sont déjà lancés ou en gestation.

L'âge de la maturité, pour les institutions comme pour les personnes, est celui où l'on sait qu'il faut d'abord travailler sur soi, élargir et actualiser ses compétences, pour œuvrer au mieux avec les autres. Outre ses disciplines fondatrices (sciences politiques, historiques et sociales, droit, économie), l'IEE a ouvert en 2025 de nouveaux espaces d'expertise et de collaboration étudiant l'Europe au prisme de l'architecture, de l'administration

publique ou du digital. L'âge de la maturité est aussi celui où l'on doit affronter les rigueurs du temps. Année après année, à tous les échelons de gouvernance dans l'UE et au-delà, les défis s'accumulent et s'indurent : guerre, innovations à encourager et à encadrer, prospérité, justice et développement soutenable à harmoniser, aspirations individuelles et collectives à concilier... À son échelle, dans sa triple fonction de recherche, d'enseignement et de débat public, l'IEE s'adapte et en tire les leçons qui conviennent pour préparer au mieux ses étudiants et étudiantes au monde qui les attend. Être au cœur de l'Europe, dans un pays en paix en dépit des menaces, et relativement prospère malgré les inégalités, dans un milieu académique mis à l'épreuve sans être attaqué frontalement comme dans d'autres pays, est un privilège. Cela ne doit pas pour autant devenir une source d'aveuglement et d'égoïsme. Les batailles que d'autres livrent aujourd'hui seront les nôtres demain si l'on n'y prend pas garde. La mission de l'Université n'est pas de sauver le monde, mais elle peut contribuer à mieux le connaître pour agir, et à le mettre en partage pour rassembler.

Le dernier mot revient toujours à la jeunesse. Nos diplômé-e-s 2025 ont choisi comme nom de promotion celui d'Anna Lindh. Anna Lindh, personnalité politique suédoise de premier plan dans les années 1980-2000, fut notamment ministre social-démocrate de l'environnement et des affaires étrangères et s'engagea vigoureusement sur de grandes causes (notamment en faveur de l'euro, la solution à deux États dans le conflit israélo-palestinien et contre l'intervention américaine en Irak) avant d'être assassinée en 2003. Elle incarne ces figures qui, à chaque époque, viennent aux responsabilités sans renoncer à protester contre l'injustice et la démagogie et proposent un autre chemin. Ce patronage choisi par nos étudiants et étudiantes a valeur d'exemple.

François Foret
Président de l'IEE-ULB

Chloé Brière
Directrice de l'IEE-ULB

GOUVERNANCE

L'ÉQUIPE DE L'IEE

L'équipe administrative de l'IEE-ULB soutient les activités d'enseignement, de recherche et de débat public organisées à l'Institut. Le président et la directrice de l'IEE-ULB sont accompagnés dans leur responsabilités administratives par une responsable administrative et de la communication, ainsi que par une logisticienne de la recherche. Une équipe dynamique s'occupe du secrétariat étudiant et de la logistique à l'Institut ainsi que des projets de recherche.

Pendant l'année académique 2024-2025 l'équipe de l'IEE était composé de :



François Foret
Président



Chloé Brière
Directrice



Marta Matrakova
Logisticienne de la Recherche



Emmi Kallio
Responsable administrative
et de la Communication



Guylène ChatchaTalla
Gestion administrative
et comptable des projets
européens, secrétariat



Dominique Dembour
Secrétariat de la Présidence



Louise Reyntjens
Assistante Communication
et Évènementiel



Françoise Vanden Broeck
Affaires étudiantes pour
les Masters de spécialisation,
secrétariat

En 2024-2025, la gestion des projets de recherche a été assurée par



Andrew Bradley
(RED-SPINEL)



Alix Bullman
(Navigator)



Frederik Ponjaert
(GEM-Diamond)

LES ORGANES DE DECISION DE L'IEE-ULB

La gouvernance s'articule autour de trois instances. Le *Conseil de l'IEE* gère le fonctionnement général de l'institution. Le *Comité de la recherche* est en charge des questions scientifiques. Le Conseil stratégique, qui se réunit au moins une fois par an, discute de la stratégie générale de l'IEE avec l'apport de personnalités extérieures.

LE CONSEIL DE L'IEE



Le Conseil de l'IEE est composé des personnes en charge de la Présidence, de la Vice-présidence (si le poste est occupé), et de la Direction de l'Institut, ainsi que des doyen·nes des trois facultés partenaires (Faculté de Philosophie et Science sociales, Faculté de Droit et de Criminologie et la Solvay Brussels School of Economics and Management), des membres du corps académique donnant cours dans les programmes en études européennes, de représentant·es du corps scientifique, d'un·e représentant·e du personnel directement rattaché·e à l'IEE, des représentant·es des étudiant·es des programmes en études européennes, et de la personne responsable de l'administration et de la communication et de la logisticienne de la recherche de l'IEE.

Le Conseil de l'IEE a pour mission de suivre les affaires générales (relations externes, coopération inter-facultaire, coordination des activités...), l'enseignement (coordination pédagogique, avis sur les promotions...), de définir le règlement d'ordre intérieur, ou encore de constituer des commissions permanentes (évaluation pédagogique) ou temporaires. Il s'est réuni les 14/10/2024, 16/12/2024, 12/03/2025, 19/05/2025 et 25/08/2025.

Le Conseil de l'IEE se réunit au moins une fois par an en composition élargie (avec des invités extérieurs) sous la forme d'un Conseil stratégique avec des personnalités ayant travaillé dans le milieu des affaires européennes et qui assistent l'IEE dans la détermination de sa stratégie concernant l'enseignement, la recherche et le service à la société. La dernière réunion du Conseil stratégique de l'IEE a eu lieu le 18 décembre 2023.

LES MEMBRES DU CONSEIL STRATÉGIQUE PENDANT L'ANNÉE 2024-2025

- **Cinzia Alcidi** - CEPS - membre depuis 2024
- **Julio Baquero Cruz** - ULB - European Commission - membre depuis 2019
- **Andrew Bradley** - ULB - membre depuis 2019
- **Christopher Bickerton** - Cambridge - membre depuis 2024
- **Saskia Bricmont** - European Parliament - membre depuis 2024
- **Diego Canga Fano** - European Commission - membre depuis 2019
- **Erik Jones** - European University Institute - membre depuis 2024
- **Kazuo Kuroda** - Waseda University - membre depuis 2024
- **Véronique Lamquin** - Le Soir - membre depuis 2024
- **Christophe Leclercq** - Europe MédiaLab - membre depuis 2015
- **Paul Magnette** - ULB - membre depuis 2015
- **Andre Sapir** - ULB - membre depuis 2019
- **Vivien Schmidt** - Boston University - membre depuis 2015
- **Slavina Spasova** - European Social Observatory - membre depuis 2024

LE COMITÉ DE LA RECHERCHE

Le Comité de la recherche est composé du/de la représentant·e de la Présidence, de la Vice-présidence (si le poste est occupé), et de la Direction de l'Institut, des membres du corps académique et scientifique de l'IEE-ULB investi·es dans les projets de recherches gérés par l'IEE, des chercheur·es (appartenant tant au corps académique que scientifique de l'ULB) affilié·es à l'IEE conformément à une procédure spécifique, et de la logisticienne de la recherche de l'IEE. Les collaborateurs scientifiques et les chercheur·es visiteurs de l'IEE sont les bienvenu·es à participer aux réunions du Comité de la recherche.

Il a pour mission de présenter au Conseil de l'IEE des orientations générales de politique scientifique afin d'établir l'agenda de recherche interdisciplinaire, d'encourager l'émergence de nouveaux projets interdisciplinaires et de coordonner la gestion de la recherche en études européennes à l'ULB.

Le Comité de la recherche est convoqué au minimum deux fois par an et fait rapport de ses activités au Conseil de l'IEE lors de sa dernière séance pour l'année académique en cours.

Durant l'année académique 2024-2025, le Comité de la recherche s'est réuni le 13 septembre 2024 et le 21 mars 2025.



INTERDISCIPLINARITÉ, ENSEIGNEMENT À LA RECHERCHE ET ANCRAGE DANS LE MILIEU PROFESSIONNEL EUROPÉEN

Ces programmes visent à offrir aux étudiant·es une expertise de haut niveau et des compétences transversales telles que la capacité d'une lecture plurielle d'un phénomène lié à l'intégration européenne et/ou ses effets dans les États membres. L'offre d'enseignement est régulièrement renouvelée de manière structurelle ou ponctuelle pour tenir compte, d'une part, des évolutions en matière d'enseignement et, d'autre part, des recherches menées à l'IEE par les membres des corps académique et scientifique.



MY EXPERIENCE AS A TEACHER AT THE IEE

It is an honour to be teaching at IEE a graduate course on career development. As I expected, students come from all over the world giving the class a true multinational and multicultural flare. I always enjoyed that. I say always, because I have been teaching university students for quite some time before I joined the IEE or the EU institutions. What I did not expect was how well educated and experienced students already are. Most, if not all, already have one or two Master's degrees while some already have started building a promising career. Naturally, Brussels is the place to be for those who want to work in the EU institutions, in national or international diplomacy, but also in the world of policy-making, policy-support and of national and international NGOs. My course aims to help students to cross the bridge between academia and the labour market, especially the job market of the EU institutions. The latter is constantly developing and getting a foot at the EU institutions can be quite challenging. Thankfully, nothing is impossible if determination is combined with the right knowledge and experience. That is why at IEE we try to combine the academic course with job internships and academic knowledge with professional skills. Guest speakers from various EU institutions, lobbying groups, consultancies, the public and private sector share with us really valuable insights.

Dr. Emmanuel Sigalas

508

étudiant·e·s de **41** nationalités différentes

se sont inscrit·e·s aux programmes avec le label de l'IEE pendant l'année académique 2024-2025



TÉMOIGNAGES DE NOS ALUMNI



The IEE's Master's degree in European law (at that time «Licence Spéciale en Droit Européen») was my ticket into the Brussels

environment and its working methods. More importantly, it introduced me to some truly amazing people. We studied with no internet, we partied without smartphone, but the spirit was the same. Over the past 30 years, I have worked both in and out of Brussels, in the associative and corporate worlds, and now as an EU official. Looking back, I can't help but admit that academic year left a mark—possibly permanent, but definitely profound.

José Fonseca - Licence Spéciale en Droit Européen - Promotion 1995
Head of Sector Environment, ENVE commission - European Committee of the Regions



I graduated from the IEE in 1995, law section, and for 30 years I have made European law and politics the guiding thread of my professional career.

I have worked in two very different contexts: firstly, at the Permanent Delegation of Castilla y León to the EU, where we strive every day to bring European initiatives to local authorities, universities, businesses and research centres in Castilla y León. The European Union and its achievements should not be confined to the capitals; its benefits must reach every village, every little company, every young person in the EU. Secondly, in the academic world, in Chile, where my job was to explain the process of European integration and European institutions to Chilean university students. The distance allowed me to appreciate the achievement that European integration represents as a great area of freedom, security and prosperity as no other bloc in the world.

Isabel Castaño Ambrosio - Licence Spéciale en Droit Européen - Promotion 1995
Policy Officer - Castilla y León Permanent Delegation to the EU



I still have a vivid memory of the first weeks at the IEE. Since the very beginning I felt I was at the right place. Young students from all over

Europe, academic staff very much prepared, open minded and easy to interact with, an extremely pleasant environment where spending my days both studying at the library and interacting with «soon becoming friends».

The Master degree in European political studies has been a a unique experience to acknowledge European policies and institutional framework functioning. Above all it provided me with a multidisciplinary approach which has been crucial during all my academic and professional career. Even in the international cultural and museum sector where I operate since many years now I often refer to my solid IEE's roots.

Mattia Agnetti - Licence Spéciale en Etudes Politiques Européenne - Promotion 1995
General Manager - Venice City Council Museums



I arrived in Brussels at the IEE in 1994 to study European law, having benefitted from the Wiener-Anspach programme for UK students to study at ULB.

I did not expect to be in Belgium 32 years later! During my time here, which has been spent at the international law firm White & Case, I have been lucky to see some of the most interesting abuse of dominance cases, including Microsoft and Google Android, many cartels and mergers, and a number of international trade cases, including the EU Steel Safeguard.

Over the years, I have had the opportunity to work alongside – and against -- a number of the Professors who taught me at the Institut, most notably Professor Dennis Waelbroek and Professor Jean-Francois Bellis. The year I spent at the Institut was crucial to my future career and I warmly thank the Professors who gave me this experience.

James Killick - Licence Spéciale en Droit Européen - Promotion 1995
Partner - White & Case, Brussels

ADVANCED MASTER IN EU INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

ORGANISED BY THE IEE-ULB

ACADEMIC COORDINATION:
Prof. Chloé Brière

The Advanced Master in EU Interdisciplinary studies is a one-year programme organised by the Institut d'études européennes. This 60 ECTS Master, organised in English, offers students relevant academic knowledge in the field of EU studies that considers the recent evolutions in EU and global governance.

The uniqueness of this Advanced Master lies in its interdisciplinarity. The classes proposed are taught by renowned experts, reputed scholars and/or practitioners, who rely on their expertise and experience to tackle key issues comprehensively and reflect upon recent developments.

INTEGRATED INTERDISCIPLINARITY

Its interdisciplinarity goes beyond a juxtaposition of disciplinary approaches and views on the EU: in each of the three specialisation modules - **Economic Governance and Policies in the EU; Migrations, Rights and Policies and EU Integration; and Regionalism and Global Governance** - law, sociology, political science, history and economics are interwoven in a coherent way thanks to the intervention of professors from different disciplines within the same programme.

TEACHING BY GUEST PROFESSORS FROM OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE

The Ganshof van der Meersch Chair was established in 1995 in memory of **Walter Jean Ganshof van der Meersch**, founder and president of the Institute for European Studies at the ULB, holder of the chair of Public Law at the ULB, attorney general at the Belgian Court of Cassation and vice-president of the European Court of Human Rights. Walter Ganshof, who understood from the very beginning the potential of the Foundation, became its president after the death of Mrs Beddington. The chair, held at the ULB by a visiting professor from Oxford or Cambridge, focuses on the economic, historical, political and legal aspects of European integration or on public law.

During the academic year 2024-2025, the holder of the Ganshof van der Meersch Chair was Meredith Crowley, Professor of Economics at the University of Cambridge, on the recommendation of the IEE authorities and Prof. Glen Magermann.

The chair focused on the concept of market integration. Professor Crowley explored the European integration project within the context and under the umbrella of the post-WWII multilateral system. She focussed on the deepening of goods market integration through trade within Europe and around the globe from 1980 until the early 2000s and the slowing down, stalling or reversals that have taken place since the Global Financial Crisis of 2008. Professor Crowley also gave on 27 March 2025 a public lecture entitled «The uncertain future of economic integration for Europe and the world».

During the academic year 2024-2025, the Council of the IEE proposed to the Wiener Anspach Foundation to attribute the Ganshof van der Meersch Chair to Professor David Priestland, Professor of Modern History at the University of Oxford, for the academic year 2026-2027.

PROFESSIONALISATION ACTIVITIES

To fit the needs of students who already have a high level of disciplinary training, courses of this advanced master's programme are based on new pedagogical approaches, bringing together professors and experts from different professional backgrounds. In its curricula, the Institute places particular emphasis on professionalisation. In addition to the professionalisation seminar and the internship, the IEE organises recurrent activities, including mentoring sessions with IEE alumni, that allow students to create and expand their professional network.

INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY

The Advanced Master in EU Interdisciplinary Studies has a mobility agreement with Waseda University (Japan) and selected students can benefit from this internationalisation opportunity. The students following the module "EU Integration and Regionalism and Global Governance" can also attend a course taught by a scholar from Waseda University (Tokyo, Japan). In 2024-2025, the invited professors were Professor Paul Bacon from the Graduate School of Asia-Pacific Studies and Professor Tamio Nakamura from the Faculty of Law.



I am glad I chose the Advanced Master in EU Interdisciplinary Studies to resume my academic journey after some years of professional experience. The program not only strengthened my theoretical knowledge but also provided a practical perspective on contemporary EU issues. I was able to personalize my curriculum according to my interests, attending diverse classes taught by engaging professors. Thanks to the master, I had the opportunity to begin my career in Brussels, as I continue to work in the organisation where I completed the mandatory internship. Beyond traditional coursework, the Institute encourages active student participation through various activities. My experience with Eyes on Europe gave me a platform to pursue my passion for writing, while the project «Debate on the Future of Europe» allowed me to exchange ideas with peers from the College of Europe. At IEE I found a place where cooperation replaces competition and where students are encouraged to question, discuss, and shape the issues they care about.

Francesca Pengo

Advanced Master in EU Interdisciplinary Studies, 2024-2025



Évoluer pendant une année à l'Institut d'études européennes fut très enrichissant, tant sur le plan académique, personnel que professionnel. Cette année complémentaire, après un Master en politique internationale et un Bachelor en études européennes, m'a permis d'approfondir et de rafraîchir mes connaissances transversales sur l'Union européenne sous toutes ses facettes. La richesse des cours et des choix d'options du MS-EURI permet à tous les étudiants d'évoluer dans des matières qui les animent, avec des professeurs passionnés par les sujets qu'ils enseignent. Située à Bruxelles dans un cadre privilégié, au cœur de l'Europe politique, à quelques minutes d'institutions européennes, belges et internationales, l'IEE m'a permis d'évoluer dans un environnement extrêmement stimulant. J'ai beaucoup appris de la perspective de mes camarades de classe, ce qui a renforcé mon esprit critique et d'analyse sur toute une série de sujets. Enfin, tout en bénéficiant de la solide réputation de l'Institut, la possibilité d'effectuer un stage lors du deuxième quadrimestre, que j'ai réalisé au sein d'un cabinet ministériel fédéral belge, m'a offert un véritable tremplin vers la vie professionnelle.

Julien Collin

Advanced Master in EU Interdisciplinary Studies, 2024-2025



42

students from 10 different nationalities
registered in 2024-2025



LE MASTER EN ÉTUDES EUROPÉENNES

ORGANISÉ PAR LA FACULTÉ DE PHILOSOPHIE ET SCIENCES SOCIALES
AVEC LE LABEL IEE

RESPONSABLES ACADÉMIQUES :

Prof. Amandine Crespy (Finalité Politique Européenne),
Prof. Julien Jeandesboz (Finalité EU-Asia)

Le Master en études européennes est une formation de 120 crédits, organisée par la Faculté de Philosophie et Sciences sociales avec le label de l'IEE-ULB. Ce Master vise à l'acquisition de connaissances solides sur l'intégration européenne ainsi que le développement d'une réflexion critique sur les enjeux européens. Il permet également aux étudiant·es d'interagir avec les praticien·ne·s des affaires européennes ainsi que de commencer leur insertion dans le monde professionnel.

Le Master en études européennes est un cursus bilingue, **dispensé en anglais et en français** qui offre un socle solide de connaissances permettant la réflexion critique sur les questions européennes.

Le Master offre le choix entre deux finalités.

- La finalité **Politique européenne** est centrée sur le fonctionnement des institutions et des politiques de l'Union européenne. Cette finalité laisse le choix entre le module « The multiple boundaries of Europe » et le module « Politics and regulation in the EU ».

- Finalité « **EU-Asia** », qui offre la possibilité d'un double diplôme avec l'Université de Waseda au Japon.

Le Master comprend un module commun d'enseignements dans les **disciplines fondamentales des études européennes**, à savoir : le droit de l'UE, l'histoire de l'intégration européenne, le processus décisionnel européen, la gouvernance économique et monétaire, et l'action extérieure de l'UE.

Un **séminaire de méthodologie** de la recherche permet notamment de préparer la réalisation du mémoire, travail substantiel qui met un point d'orgue au parcours académique des étudiant·e·s.

Le Master offre aussi un **module de professionnalisation** qui vise à accompagner les étudiants dans leur transition entre le monde académique et le marché de l'emploi. Il est enseigné par des praticien·ne·s spécialistes de la formation dans le domaine des affaires européennes qui aident les étudiant·es à construire leur propre projet professionnel. Cette démarche débouche sur la réalisation d'un stage qui permet d'acquérir une expérience professionnelle non négligeable pendant le Master.

Le Master en études européennes propose une partie importante d'**enseignements en anglais** afin de former les étudiant·es à la réalité multilingue du monde professionnel européen.

La structure du Master permet ensuite une **spécialisation disciplinaire**.

Le Master constitue ainsi un espace intellectuel qui vise à former, par la réflexion critique et appliquée, le citoyen, l'acteur politique et le professionnel de l'Europe de demain.



The bilingual master's in European studies at the IEE has been an enriching and decisive chapter in my academic and personal journey. Its EU-oriented courses and the direct exchanges with practitioners and distinguished guests offered a genuine understanding of the Brussels policy environment allowing me to feel well prepared when I entered the Brussels bubble work life. I leave the IEE with solid academic foundations, practical insight into EU affairs and a strong sense of belonging to a community that has shaped my ambitions and values.

Cora Rimoldi

Master en études européennes, 2024-2025



77 étudiant·e·s de **12** nationalités différentes
inscrit·e·s en 2024-2025



MASTER DE SPÉCIALISATION EN DROIT EUROPÉEN

ORGANISÉ PAR LA FACULTÉ DE DROIT ET DE CRIMINOLOGIE,
AVEC LE LABEL DE L'IEE

RESPONSABLE ACADÉMIQUE :
Prof. Paul Dermine

Le Master de spécialisation en droit européen est un programme en un an, enseigné en français et en anglais, qui s'adresse aux étudiant·es qui souhaitent approfondir leur expertise en droit de l'Union européenne.

Profitant de la localisation exceptionnelle qu'offre l'ULB à cet égard, il permet aux étudiant·es de **bénéficier d'enseignements de qualité**, dispensés par des enseignants aux profils variés, incluant des **chercheur·se·s de haut niveau reconnus** sur le plan académique, ainsi que des **praticiens partageant leur expérience pratique du droit de l'UE**, acquise au sein de cabinets d'avocats ou des institutions européennes.

Son originalité et sa valeur ajoutée tient à la diversité des cours offerts et les innovations pédagogiques qu'ils contiennent, permettant aux étudiant·es d'acquérir non seulement des connaissances solides en droit européen, mais aussi des compétences transversales utiles pour leur intégration professionnelle.

Les étudiant·es suivent plusieurs appartenant à **un tronc commun**, composé de cours abordant tant le droit européen économique (EU Competition and Internal Market Law), que les matières fondamentales du droit européen (droit constitutionnel, protection juridictionnelle, respect des droits fondamentaux, et EU External Relations). Certains de ces cours sont en outre complétés par des séances de travaux pratiques.

Les étudiant·es peuvent ensuite **par le biais de cours à option** choisir de spécialiser dans un domaine plus précis du droit de l'UE (droit commercial, politique migratoire, protection de l'environnement), garder un profil plus généraliste, leur permettant de découvrir les nombreuses facettes de la matière, ou même suivre certains cours interdisciplinaires liant économie et droit.

Capitalisant sur la position de l'IEE-ULB, et la proximité avec la bulle européenne, les étudiant·es ont régulièrement l'occasion de participer à des activités, telles qu'un procès fictif, une visite à la CJUE, *guest lectures* de professionnels de premier plan, ou encore un cycle de conférences en droit européen de la concurrence, leur permettant de **se confronter à la pratique du droit de l'UE**. Ces opportunités sont complétées par la possibilité de choisir entre plusieurs travaux de fin d'étude : la réalisation d'un mémoire académique, la réalisation d'un stage combinée à la rédaction d'un article, ou la participation au concours de plaidoirie « European Law Moot Court Competition ».



42

étudiant·e·s de 7 nationalités différentes
inscrit·e·s en 2024-2025



Étudier à l'IEE pour mon master de spécialisation en droit européen a été une expérience à la fois exigeante et stimulante. Après un parcours pluridisciplinaire en sciences politiques, j'y ai pu affiner mes compétences juridiques grâce à des cours de haut niveau, alliant exigence académique, ouverture critique et approche concrète du droit de l'Union européenne. J'ai eu l'opportunité d'élaborer un projet de recherche avec mes professeurs et de publier, dans Eyes on Europe, une série d'articles sur la démocratie participative. En tant que représentant étudiant, j'ai également pris part à la vie du programme et à la dynamique collective de la promotion. Ce master m'a offert bien plus qu'une formation d'excellence : une véritable immersion dans une communauté académique engagée et profondément européenne.

Raphaël Comte

Master de spécialisation en Droit européen, 2024-2025



The specialised Master in European Law at the IEE offered me a unique opportunity to deepen my knowledge in European Law, and I could not imagine a better place for that than Brussels. Thanks to the diverse study programme, students gain a comprehensive understanding of European law as the courses cover various topics ranging from the founding principles of the European integration to areas focusing on latest developments in EU law and policy. As the teaching emphasises active participation, and with the support of excellent professors employing a range of teaching methods such as written assignments, oral presentations and Moot Court, I found that the programme enabled me to practice different skills required as a lawyer. The possibility to complete an internship related to EU law was personally one of the main reasons I chose the IEE, and it ended up being one of the highlights of my year. Not only did it allow me to develop valuable practical skills, but it was also an enlightening experience that deepened my understanding of what it means to work for the EU. Both the studies at the IEE and the internship enabled me to recognise the significance of collaboration and unity in Europe. I am truly grateful for all the meaningful connections I made during the year, and I am excited about the opportunity to work with EU law in the future. I am very pleased to have chosen to study at the IEE and I look forward to future engagements as a member of the IEE alumni community.

Kiia Välimäki

Master de spécialisation en Droit européen, 2024-2025

MASTER IN ECONOMICS – BUSINESS ECONOMICS

ORGANISED BY SOLVAY BRUSSELS SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT
WITH IEE LABEL

ACADEMIC COORDINATION:
Prof. Thomas Demuyne and Prof. Mattia Nardotto

The master's in economics trains students to become applied economists, policymakers, consultants and business professionals in sectors and jobs requiring technical and analytical skills. It provides them with up-to-date quantitative and conceptual tools for economic, statistical, and financial analysis, and prepares them for policy and business practice. It has a strong European flavour which manifests itself in specialised courses (such as European competition policy) or in the careful consideration, in other courses, of the specifics of the European dimension.

It develops the students' grasp of business, economics and policy issues, and highlights their interactions (e.g. finance and financial regulation, strategy and competition policy, regulation and lobbying, etc.).

Our graduates typically find work as applied economists, policymakers, consultants and business professionals in sectors and jobs requiring advanced knowledge of how the economy works and strong technical and analytical skills, including:

Executive, analyst or project manager in national and international public or private organisations, including NGOs

- Strategy or economic consultant
- Auditor and management controller
- Business analyst and IT consultant
- Regulator or analyst in policy think tanks
- Executive in the financial, industrial and services sectors



286

253 students of

25

different nationalities registered

for this programme in 2024-2025



MASTER IN ECONOMIC GOVERNANCE AND PUBLIC POLICY IN EUROPE

ORGANISED BY SOLVAY BRUSSELS SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT
WITH IEE LABEL

ACADEMIC COORDINATION:
Prof. Gani Aldashev and Prof. Vincent Mabillard

This Master programme trains business economists, policy makers, consultants and, more generally, professionals for sectors and functions that require technical and analytical skills.

The programme covers quantitative and conceptual tools for financial, economic and statistical analyses and exposes students to their practical applications in the economic and financial world. The European dimension of economic and financial issues is strongly developed, either transversally or via specialised courses (such as European competition policy).

It addresses all the major economic issues (employment, competition, growth, development, redistribution, etc.) and all aspects of economic policy issues (industrial, sectoral, national and global).

Our graduates typically find job opportunities as business economists, policy makers, consultants and professionals in sectors and functions that require technical and analytical skills. Among these are:

- Political advisor, analyst in economic policy think tanks
- Assessment of public policies
- Consultant in economics or strategy
- Analyst in national, international, public or non-governmental organisations.
- Economist in the financial, industrial and service sectors
- Auditor and management controller
- Business analyst and IT consultant



61

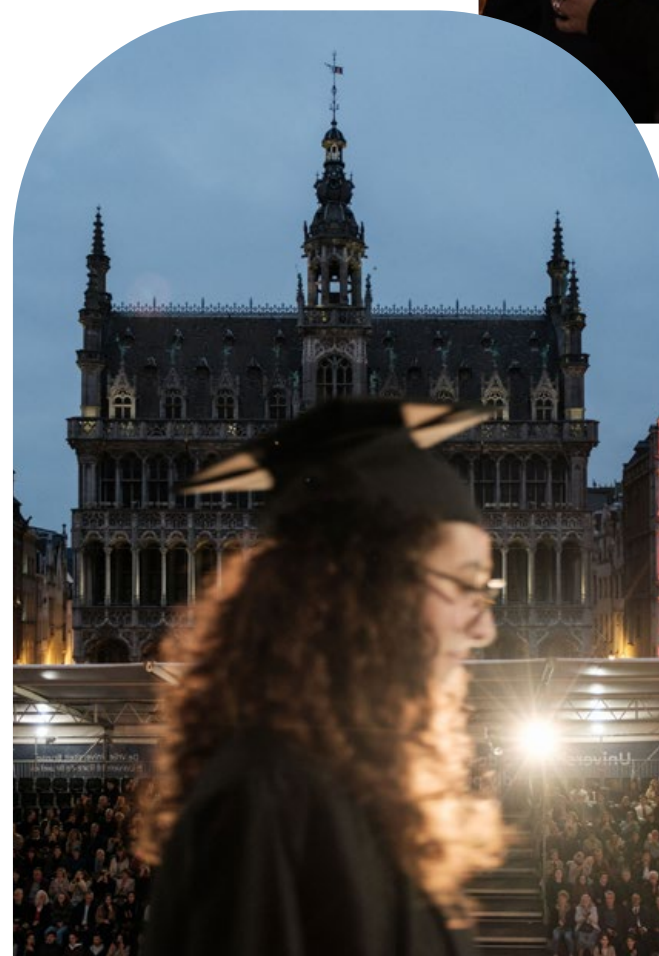
253 students of

17

different nationalities registered

for this programme in 2024-2025





LES ACTIVITÉS DE PROFESSIONNALISATION

L'institut d'études européennes a toujours eu pour préoccupation de favoriser l'insertion professionnelle de ses étudiants et étudiantes dans le marché de travail, aujourd'hui particulièrement compétitif, des affaires européennes. Pour réaliser cette ambition, plusieurs activités, intégrées dans nos programmes ou en dehors de ces derniers, sont proposées.

LES COURS DE PROFESSIONNALISATION

Initiative pionnière à l'ULB, les cours de professionnalisation sont obligatoires dans le Master en études européennes et dans le master de spécialisation interdisciplinaire en études européennes. Il compte selon les programmes pour 15 à 30 % de la formation.

Enseignés par deux praticiens, M. Nicolas Dross et M. Emmanuel Sigalas, travaillant tous deux à la Commission européenne, les cours visent à permettre aux étudiants et aux étudiantes de mieux connaître la réalité du marché de l'emploi et à construire un projet professionnel en adéquation avec leurs envies et aspirations. Des cours théoriques sur les voies d'accès aux institutions européennes, la manière de construire un CV convaincant et rédiger une lettre de motivation percutante sont complétés par des présentations et échanges entre participants. La dimension professionnalisante de ces cours est renforcée par la participation régulière d'intervenants extérieurs travaillant dans une variété de milieux professionnels (secteur privé, consultance, ONG, etc.), visant à faire découvrir aux étudiants et étudiantes la diversité des métiers et fonctions auxquelles des études européennes peuvent conduire. Les cours sont complétés par des stages obligatoires d'une durée de 5 semaines, que les étudiants et étudiantes peuvent réaliser en Belgique ou à l'étranger dans le lieu de leur choix, et qui sont suivis de la rédaction d'un rapport de stage visant à tirer les enseignements de cette expérience. La recherche d'un stage est accompagnée en partie par les équipes de l'IEE, qui préparent notamment les listes de lieux de stage dans lesquels les étudiants et étudiantes ont été accueillis chaque année, et qui transmettent toute offre ou information pertinente reçue.

La réputation des cursus proposés à l'IEE permet à nos étudiants et étudiantes de réaliser des stages dans des lieux variés. Si les institutions européennes (Commission, Parlement) sont représentées, les stages sont réalisés dans des lieux variés, allant des administrations nationales et locales, d'entreprises privées, à des centres de recherche, des think tanks, ou encore des associations à but non lucratif (ASBL ou AISBL) représentant des intérêts divers.

MENTORING ET VISITES

La professionnalisation de nos étudiants et étudiantes est également accompagnée par des activités extracurriculaires qui se déroulent sur et en dehors du campus.

Une session de mentoring a été organisée fin avril 2024 afin de permettre aux étudiants et étudiantes d'échanger avec des mentors alumni de l'IEE sur les perspectives et défis rencontrés lors de la recherche d'un premier emploi dans la bulle européenne, ou de revenir plus longuement sur les carrières et débouchés possibles après des études dédiées à la question européenne. Cette session ouverte à l'ensemble des étudiant.es inscrit.es dans les programmes proposés par l'IEE (en ce compris le master de spécialisation en droit européen) a permis de réunir une trentaine de participant.es, étudiant.es et mentors confondus. Les discussions se sont prolongées de manière informelle autour d'un verre de l'amitié.

Ces activités ont été complétées par des visites des institutions, en particulier du Parlement européen et de l'OTAN, organisées par les membres de SAIES (Students' Association of the Institute for European Studies).

JEUX DE RÔLE ET SIMULATIONS

L'IEE prête également une attention particulière à ce que les activités d'enseignement théoriques soient complétées par des opportunités de mise en application, à travers des exercices de simulation, jeux de rôle, etc. Ces activités permettent également aux étudiants et étudiantes d'acquérir des compétences transversales, notamment en matière d'expression écrite et orale, qui participent à leur formation et à l'excellence de leurs profils.



EUROPEAN LAW MOOT COURT (ELMC)

L'*European Law Moot Court* est un concours international de procès simulé qui a lieu chaque année entre des équipes universitaires d'étudiant.es intéressé.es par le droit de l'Union européenne. Les contributions écrites et orales des participant.es restituent de façon réaliste le déroulement d'une procédure judiciaire européenne. La grande finale de cette prestigieuse compétition bilingue se tient annuellement à la Cour de justice de l'Union européenne au Luxembourg.

Les étudiant.es du master de spécialisation en droit européen participent chaque année à ce concours. Cette année, l'équipe était composée de Inès Draoui, de Cédric Smolders, de Lucas Schoningh et de Martin Absil. Ils ont été une des équipes sélectionnées pour participer à une des quatre finales régionales, qui s'est déroulée du 7 au 10 mars 2024 à Madrid. Malgré une belle performance, l'équipe a manqué de peu la qualification pour la finale à Luxembourg.

SIMULER LA CODÉCISION

L'objectif du cours est de familiariser les étudiant.es avec la procédure législative ordinaire de l'Union européenne, via l'appropriation par la pratique et la simulation du processus décisionnel réel. Les compétences visées ont trait à la capacité de négociation dans ses multiples dimensions : connaissance des règles formelles et informelles, capacité à construire des alliances stratégiques/des majorités, capacité d'expression orale lors des sessions des institutions, gestion des contraintes liées au cadre de négociation (temps, réunions, secrétariat, etc.), maîtrise de la rédaction des amendements et de l'expression orale en séance au sein d'une commission parlementaire du Parlement européen ou d'une réunion du Conseil de l'UE.

Sous l'égide d'Amandine Crespy (Professeure titulaire du cours) et de Lara Querton (assistante académique), des étudiant.es de l'Institut d'études européennes ont ainsi endossé tout au long de ce premier quadrimestre le rôle de député.es européen.ne-s, représentant.es au Conseil de l'Union européenne ou Commissaire européen.ne. Cette année, les étudiant.es ont délibéré et voté sur le Règlement du Parlement Européen et du Conseil concernant les végétaux obtenus au moyen de certaines nouvelles techniques génomiques. Ce texte vise à faciliter l'autorisation d'une nouvelle génération de végétaux ayant subi des manipulations génétiques. Les controverses concernent les bénéfices de l'utilisation de ces plantes modifiées en termes de sécurité alimentaire (résistance au changement climatique) vs. le principe de précaution visant à en considérer les possibles dangers. Les négociations en trilogue (entre la Commission européenne, le Conseil de l'Union européenne et le Parlement européen) ont démarré au printemps 2025 et sont toujours en cours.

CONSIMIUM

Le Secrétariat général du Conseil de l'Union Européenne et du Conseil Européen a mis en place, en 2022-2023, un exercice annuel de simulation du travail de ces deux institutions, destiné à des étudiants et étudiantes. Dans ce cadre, les États-membres de l'UE sont représentés chacun par 6 étudiants et étudiantes de l'enseignement supérieur (master) qui simulent le travail du Conseil de l'UE et du Conseil Européen, à tous les niveaux, sur un dossier spécifique. La Commission et la présidence du Conseil sont impliquées conformément à leurs rôles institutionnels, en présidant les réunions simulées.

Au cours de l'année 2024-2025 Pauline Laloi, étudiante au sein du Master de spécialisation interdisciplinaire en études européennes a été sélectionnée pour faire partie de l'équipe belge.



"I had the privilege of being one of six Belgian students selected to represent Belgium during the third edition of ConSIMium, [...] Over two intense and stimulating days, we delved into the negotiation process, focusing on two critical proposals aimed at shaping future policies for the European Defence Industry and ensuring secure access to critical raw materials — both essential pillars for safeguarding Europe's strategic autonomy."

As Minister, I was responsible for defending Belgium's national position during the Council's meeting, while navigating complex negotiations with my counterparts from across the EU. Finding common ground between 27 different Member States was a real challenge, but it gave me a deeper understanding of EU decision-making and the importance of diplomacy and compromise."

Pauline Laloi

Advanced Master in EU Interdisciplinary Studies
Class of 2024-2025

SPECQUE



La Simulation du Parlement européen Canada-Québec-Europe, plus communément connue sous son acronyme SPECQUE, est une simulation internationale francophone du Parlement européen. Créée en 1998 par des étudiants de l'Université Laval (Québec, Canada), afin de mieux comprendre le fonctionnement des institutions

européennes et les grands enjeux de l'Union européenne, la SPECQUE est aujourd'hui la plus importante simulation francophone du Parlement européen au monde. Au cours de cette simulation, les participant.es – issu.es d'universités européennes, canadiennes mais aussi d'autres zones géographiques (Maroc, Liban, Caraïbes, etc.) – reproduisent le fonctionnement du Parlement européen.

L'IEE soutient la délégation ULB de la Specque. Plusieurs professeurs (Chloé Brière, Ramona Coman, Amandine Crespy, Paul Dermine et François Foret) en sont les marraines et parrains académiques, et l'équipe de l'IEE apporte un soutien dans l'obtention de financements.

Cette année marque la XXVII^{ème} édition de la SPECQUE. Celle-ci s'est déroulée du dimanche 20 juillet au dimanche 27 juillet 2025 à Bruxelles. Cette année, le nombre de participant.es fut supérieur à 150 venant de plusieurs pays et régions de la francophonie. Lors de cette simulation, les rôles occupés par les membres de la délégation ULB étaient variés : Clara Haslé et Maité Molina Vaquerizo jouaient le rôle de députées européennes tandis que Bilale Fayyad, Maria Radzha, Alicia Morelli et Stella Livolsi jouaient le rôle de ministre du Conseil de l'Union européenne.

SUMMER SCHOOLS

SUMMER SCHOOL OF THE EUROPEAN CRIMINAL LAW ACADEMIC NETWORK (ECLAN)

The ECLAN (European Criminal Law Academic Network) was set up by Anne Weyembergh and Serge de Biolley in 2004. Its activities were launched on 1 December 2004.

The network covers 32 countries, i.e. the 27 Member States of the European Union, as well as 5 non-EU countries (the United Kingdom, Switzerland, Norway, Iceland and Bosnia-Herzegovina) with which the EU maintains close relations in the field of policing and criminal justice. It brings together more than 150 professors and researchers specialising in European criminal law.

The ECLAN Summer School 2025, dedicated to *"The EU Area of Criminal Justice"*, was held from 30 June to 4 July 2025. This year's programme offered a comprehensive course on the external dimension of judicial cooperation in criminal matters. The Summer School brought together numerous speakers, both academics and practitioners, and attracted around thirty participants from across Europe and beyond.



ODYSSEUS SUMMER SCHOOL: EU IMMIGRATION AND ASYLUM LAW AND POLICY

This year, Odysseus Summer School took place from June 30th to July 11th 2025.

The objective was to provide participants with a global understanding of European Migration and Asylum policies from a legal perspective, including an analysis of the new legislation adopted under the New Pact and the Commission's proposals currently under negotiation.

The program is made of 3 parts:

- Introductory courses
- Migration, including visas & borders
- Asylum

In addition to classes, the summer school provided an opportunity to spend an intellectually stimulating time in a group of around 100 participants. To support students with refugee status, Odysseus launched a successful **crowdfunding campaign, supported by UNHCR**, to fund the scholarships for them. Additionally, as part of the Network's mission to support emerging researchers, **3 PhD students received scholarships** to participate in the summer school and receive feedback on their research projects from Odysseus members.

The classes were taught in French and in English by academics originating from many Member States and by high-ranking officials from the European Institutions, particularly the European Commission. On July 3rd 2025, the **Summer School celebrated its 25th anniversary**. Over the past 25 years, around 2,500 persons have attended this programme, highly valued by the EU Institutions, which send their staff for training, as well as by recruiters in the field, who find the programme an asset in applicants' CVs. To mark this special occasion, the 25th edition featured an exceptional event that reunited alumni, with testimonials from many prominent participants from different backgrounds who have attended the Summer School over its 25-year existence.



CYCLE DE COURS-CONFÉRENCE

LES MARDIS DU DROIT EUROPÉEN DE LA CONCURRENCE

Les mardis du droit européen de la concurrence constituent une tradition qui date de plus de 50 ans. Organisés par les Professeurs Jean-François Bellis et Denis Waelbroeck, ces séminaires sont consacrés à l'examen de divers aspects de la politique de l'UE en matière de droit de la concurrence. Ils sont animés par des professionnels de grande qualité, issus des institutions européennes et des plus grands cabinets d'avocats spécialisés en la matière.

Les séminaires de cette année 2024-2025 ont été consacrés à l'examen de divers développements importants de la jurisprudence des juridictions européennes et de la pratique et politique de la Commission. Les mardis du droit européen de la concurrence constituent un forum de discussions axé sur les interventions de différent.e.s expert.e.s en la matière. Les séances se déroulent en français ou en anglais et le programme de l'année académique 2024-2025 a été le suivant :

- 15 octobre 2024, *Discours d'ouverture*, Athanasios Rantos, Avocat général, Cour de Justice de l'Union européenne
- 19 novembre 2024, *The foreign subsidies regulation*, Andreas Reindl Partner, Van Bael & Bellis
- 10 décembre 2024, *Recent developments on abuse of dominance*, Massimiliano Kadar, Deputy Head of Unit, DG COMP
- 28 janvier 2025, *Recent developments in EU merger control*, Guillaume Lorient, Deputy Director General, DG COMP
- 18 février 2025, *La jurisprudence récente en matière de cartels*, Fernando Castillo della Torre, Conseiller juridique principal, Service juridique, Commission européenne
- 12 mars 2025, *Recent developments in state aid policy*, José Luis Buendía Sierra, Legal service, European Commission, Professor ULB
- 16 avril 2025, *Private regulation and competition law*, Donald Slater Partner, Ashurst LLP
- 20 mai 2025, *Competition policy and growth in Europe, an economist perspective*, Adina Claiici, BRG Brussels, Professor at the College of Europe

STUDENT LIFE

STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS

The Institute provides financial and logistical support to student associations each year, so that they can carry out their missions. The associations bring life to the IEE and contribute to the Institute's reputation.

THE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF THE INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES (SAIES)



L'Association des étudiant.es de l'Institut d'études européennes (SAIES) a été créée en 2015 par des étudiant.es de l'IEE-ULB, elle vise à offrir un forum de réflexion sur les questions politiques européennes actuelles. Son rôle principal est de représenter les étudiant.es de l'IEE-ULB et d'assurer la cohésion entre les étudiant.es de tous les masters en études européennes de l'IEE-ULB. La SAIES organise divers événements socioculturels liés aux études européennes, tels que des visites et des conférences.

Lors de l'année académique 2024-25, SAIES a organisé ou participé à l'organisation des événements suivants : débat avec le Collège de l'Europe, conférence sur les carrières internationales, événement de Noël, visite de l'OTAN, collaboration avec la Conférence Olivaint de Belgique, événement de Carnaval, 10km de l'ULB, visite du Parlement Européen, de la Commission Européenne et du Conseil de l'UE, et BBQ de fin d'année.

La **co-organisation du débat avec le Collège de l'Europe** a fort occupé notre début de mandat. De la communication à la sélection des candidat.e.s, en passant par le recueil des informations nécessaires, cet événement a rythmé le mois d'octobre.

Le vrai premier événement de l'année fut la **conférence sur les carrières internationales** mise en place en collaboration avec le BE Droit et l'association étudiante espagnole IURIS. Nous réussîmes à réunir environ 150 étudiant.e.s de l'ULB et des membres de IURIS. Nos invité.e.s de haut rang (une diplomate belge, une conseillère auprès de la représentation des Canaries, et l'Ambassadeur d'Espagne auprès de



la Belgique), ainsi que des représentant.e.s du cabinet Uria Menendez ont suscité l'intérêt nécessaire pour rassembler un tel public. La conférence fut suivie d'une réception *networking* qui a beaucoup plu.

La premier quadrimestre fut clôturé par la **soirée de Noël**. De nombreux.ses étudiant.e.s répondirent présent.e.s, et une Professeure nous fit aussi le plaisir de sa venue. Cet événement créa un réel moment de cohésion au sein de l'IEE et permit aussi de faire connaissance avec des étudiant.e.s en dehors de l'Institut. Le secret santa semble avoir été particulièrement apprécié.

La seconde partie de l'année débuta par la **visite de l'OTAN**. Ceci fut aisé à organiser et le nombre maximal de participant.e.s fut rapidement atteint. La satisfaction des présent.e.s a montré le grand intérêt pour ce genre d'événements, ce qui nous a mené à répéter l'expérience avec la **visite des principales institutions européennes (Parlement, Commission et Conseil)**. Toutes les visites eurent le même rapport coût-bénéfice élevé et nous permirent de nouer des liens avec moult.e.s étudiant.e.s hors des murs de notre maison.

Deux collaborations s'ajoutèrent au calendrier du deuxième quadrimestre. Travailler avec la **Conférence Olivaint** était plaisant et nous a permis de créer des connections et de renforcer la réputation de l'association et de l'Institut. Nous coopérâmes aussi avec l'Institut pour mettre en place **l'équipe de l'IEE pour les 10km ULB**. Les coureur.ses apprécèrent faire le parcours ensemble et le brunch, après l'effort, fut fort apprécié.

Le modèle de la soirée de Noël inspira notre **soirée de Carnaval**. Notre dernier événement de l'année fut **le BBQ de fin d'année**. Ces moments de convivialité ont rassemblé plusieurs dizaines de personnes et renforcé l'esprit de communauté au sein de l'IEE. Des étudiant.e.s de dernière année de bachelier sciences politiques vinrent aussi au BBQ pour discuter de potentielles candidatures en études européennes.





EYES ON EUROPE

Eyes on Europe is a trilingual, free, bi-annual magazine created in 2004 by students at the Institute of European Studies. Distributed at the Université libre de Bruxelles, within the European institutions, think tanks and interest groups, the magazine's main aim is to get students thinking about European issues.

Eyes on Europe is also a non-profit organisation with a strong presence on the ULB campus, organising conferences and taking part in events. With a horizontal approach and a youth-to-youth dialogue, the student ASBL is trying to take part in the awakening of European citizens, so that they develop a critical but fair mind towards the European Union.

During the academic year 2024-2025, the activities of Eyes on Europe included the publication of the following **magazines**:

- February 2025: The European project in times of change
- May 2025: Echoes of Europe: who's listening?

In addition, **nine online articles** were published on the Eyes on Europe's website between November 2024 and May 2025.

The following five episodes of the **Student Podcast Talking with EU** were published:

- September 2024: Talking with EU Episode on Disinformation
- October 2024: Talking with EU Episode on US Elections
- January 2025: Talking with EU Episode on Navigator Project
- February 2025: Talking with EU Episode on The European Project in Times of Change
- March 2025: Talking with EU Episode on Gender Equality in the EU



Other activities of the association included:

- 26/11/2024: General meeting with all Eyes on Europe members (Board, events and editorial teams)
- 29/11/2024 : Traditional Beer Pong Game with SAIES
- 06/12/2024 : Contributed to the organizing of the Christmas Party of SAIES ;
- 12/12/2024 : Participation as partners in the FEPS event "From Posts to Polls"
- 02/01/25 : partnership with LIMES (Luiss University): co-writing online articles and co-organizing an event in Brussels.
- 23/01/2025 : Conference : "*The Challenges of Polish Presidency of the Council*" with the participation of guests speakers : Wicke van den Broek (Maastricht University), Sebastian Berchesan (Stand Up for Europe) and László Andor (FEPS)
- 13/02/2025 : Launch Event 41 : Winter Magazines (10 articles)
- 13/03/2025 : Help manage the service during SAIES Carnival Party
- 13/03/2025 : Interview of Paolo Graziano by Juliette Salleras : Interview Paolo Graziano - EU Ecosocial Policies
- 15/03/2025: Instagram publication of the co-written article between Limes and Eyes: "*United for our future? An outlook on the future enlargement of the EU*"
- 26/03/2025 : Participation à la Journée Portes Ouvertes de l'ULB as part of the IEE team
- 09/04/2025 : Conference : "From Fatigue to a geopolitical asset. What is the future of EU enlargement ?" (co-organized with students from La Luiss University) with the participation of guests speakers: Jana Faktor Juzová (Institute for European Policy), Michael Emerson (CEPS), Agathe (DG ENEST), Serafine Dinkel (GEM-DIAMOND)
- 13/04/2025: Instagram publication of the co-written article between Limes and Eyes: "*European security and defense: an ambitious vision or unrealistic dream?*"
- 08/05/2025 : Europe Day : information stand to represent Eyes on Europe
- 10/05/2025: Instagram publication of the co-written article between Limes and Eyes: "*Safeguarding the rule of law in the EU: foundations, enforcement, and future prospects*"
- 15/05/2025: Launch event 42: Spring Edition (13 articles). Conference on "*Russia's narrative warfare against the EU*" with the participation of guests speakers: Piotr Marczynski (CEVIPOL), Ines Gentil (EU DisinfoLab), Anne Delizée (UMons) and Maëlle Desbre (ULB-UCL).

THE DEBATE ON THE FUTURE OF EUROPE BY STUDENTS FROM THE COLLEGE OF EUROPE AND THE INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES

The Debate on the Future of Europe is an annual initiative jointly organized by the Institute for European Studies (IEE) at the Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB) and the Department of European Political and Governance Studies (POL) at the College of Europe in Bruges. It brings together students from both institutions to engage in critical reflection and dialogue on the main challenges facing the European Union today.

This year, after two meetings in Bruges in October 2024, and in Brussels in April 2025, the students prepared and published five policy briefs on the following issues:

- «The Gender Digital Divide Affecting Migrant Women»
- «How to make European elections more visible, accessible and representative to citizens?»
- «What role for the EU in the attempt to revive a nuclear deal with Iran - prospects and take-aways from previous JCPOA»
- «Rethinking the Concept of Safe Third Countries»
- «Strengthening Small Farms through Local Value Chains and Regional Food Hubs».

The choice of the topics, as well as the preparation of the policy briefs, was a truly-student initiative. Their recommendations are nourished by exchanges with experts from the EU institutions and EU bubble, who participated in the workshop held in Brussels.



L'IEE PROCLAME SES DIPLÔMÉ·E·S À LA GRAND-PLACE DE BRUXELLES

Le vendredi 10 octobre 2025 avait lieu la cérémonie de proclamation de nos diplômé·es 2024-2025. Nos étudiant·e·s, pour la sixième année consécutive, ont pu profiter d'une cérémonie dans le magnifique cadre qu'est la Grand-Place de Bruxelles. Cette année, les étudiant·es de l'IEE ont choisi de nommer leur promotion «Anna Lindh».



RESEARCH

RESEARCH THEMES

RESEARCH AT THE IEE-ULB IS STRUCTURED ALONG FOUR CROSS-CUTTING RESEARCH THEMES

Rooted in the permanent scientific interests of its members and supported through collective topical research projects, scientific work at the IEE-ULB is developed along four main themes.

Europe as an Area of Freedom, Security and Justice

The IEE-ULB's first crosscutting theme of research is devoted to studying the creation and development of the European Union's so-called Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (AFSJ).

Europe as an Area of Economic and Social Regulation

The IEE-ULB's second theme explores the European common market, in terms of both integration and social issues. It focusses on European regulation, policy making, economic governance, territorial management and regional cohesion policy.

Europe as a Community of Norms and Values

The IEE-ULB's third research axis focusses on processes of cooperation, identification, and conflict generated by European integration and their role in the legitimization of the EU as a political entity.

Europe in the World

The IEE-ULB 'Europe in the World' crosscutting theme of research examines the European Union in terms of global governance: i.e. the interactions between global and European policies.

RESEARCH THEME 1

EUROPE AS AN AREA OF FREEDOM, SECURITY AND JUSTICE

Since the entry into force of the Treaty of Amsterdam, the development of an Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (AFSJ) has been one of the European Union's objectives. Given the considerable development of the fields encompassed by the AFSJ, such as cooperation on asylum and migration, or police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters - the IEE-ULB has chosen to make this a cross-cutting research theme. Most of the topics it covers are quite sensitive in terms of national sovereignty of states and protection of fundamental rights.

21 IEE-ULB affiliates are active in this research theme, which includes topics such as:

- State and borders in the EU;
- security and fundamental rights;
- judicial and police cooperation; construction/ deconstruction of security issues;
- asylum and migration.

One externally funded project - Erasmus+ Jean Monnet Module- Legal Clinic EU Criminal Law - focus on the understanding of Europeanization of national criminal law.

EXTERNALLY FUNDED PROJECT SUPPORTED BY THE IEE

PDR Impunity_EU (2023 – 2025)

- Administrated through the Centre de Droit Européen (CDE)
- Lead Researchers: Chloé Brière et Julia Burchett

DESCRIPTION

Funded by the F.R.S - F.N.R.S., the research project IMPUNITY_EU aims to examine the actions of the European Union (EU) in the fight against impunity for core international crimes. The EU has long participated in international efforts in this area by supporting the actions of its Member States and third States and by cooperating with relevant international actors. However, since 2022 and in response to the intensification of the war in Ukraine, the EU has adopted innovative and ambitious measures, for instance, in criminal matters or in the field of sanctions. The project, therefore, examines to what extent the Ukrainian crisis marks a paradigm shift in the EU's fight against impunity.

To this end, the project maps all the relevant measures to combat impunity over the long term. This classification is necessary given the fragmentation of the actions supported by the EU, the cross-cutting nature of the policies concerned, and the heterogeneity of the instruments used. The project integrates equally ongoing developments launched by the European institutions to respond specifically to the risk of impunity for crimes suspected of having been committed on Ukrainian territory. These developments, accompanied by sustained international efforts, push the EU (and EU actors) to act at the margins of its competencies. The project therefore also aims to assess these developments against the legal framework to which the EU is subject under the European treaties.

In the course of the academic year 2024-2025, the following activities were organised in the framework of the project.

- The book project on the EU and Japanese approaches to international criminal justice, co-edited by Shuichi Furuya, Shin Matsusawa, Anne Weyembergh and Chloé Brière, progressed with the organisation of a panel at the occasion of the 2025 EU-Japan Forum. The panel was the occasion for the authors to share preliminary findings on selected aspects of the ongoing research, such as the cooperation with the ICC, extraterritorial jurisdiction, the role of memory, or the criminalisation of corruption and money laundering.
- A panel entitled «Assessing the Enduring Effects of EU Crisis Measures: Constitutional and Legal Shifts in Response to Conflicts» was conveyed at the occasion of the bi-annual conference of the ICON.S Benelux Chapter on 22 and 23 May 2025. In that framework, Julia Burchett presented on her ongoing research regarding Eurojust's expanded role in the fight against impunity for core international crimes. The other presentations tackled the criminalisation of the violation of EU restrictive measures, the judicial review of such measures and the establishment of the European Peace Facility. Mr Fabio Giuffrida from the European Commission acted as discussant.

Two outputs in relation of the project were published: a book chapter by Chloé Brière, entitled «The EU's Response to War Crimes» in the collective volume *The impact of war (in Ukraine) on EU Law*, edited by Inge Govaere, Sacha Garben and Eleanor Spaventa (Hart Publishing, 2025); and a peer-reviewed article by Julia Burchett and Anne Weyembergh, entitled "Prévenir et sanctionner le contournement des mesures restrictives adoptées en réaction à la guerre en Ukraine. Les défis du contrôle juridictionnel", a commentary of the case *Fridman v. Council* (General Court (Grand Chamber), 11 September 2024, Case T-635/22), published in the *Revue Trimestrielle des Droits de l'Homme* (2025/4 N° 144).

PROSPER (2025-2028) “Project to Research Opportunities to Strengthen Prosperity and Economic Resilience in the EU”

- Lead researcher: Paul Dermine
- Funding: Erasmus+ Jean Monnet Network

PROSPER (Project to Research Opportunities to Strengthen Prosperity and Economic Resilience in the EU) is a three-year (2025-2028) Jean Monnet Network funded by the European Union’s Erasmus+ programme. The aim of the PROSPER network is to strengthen knowledge sharing, promote best practices, and address contemporary challenges facing the EU through interdisciplinary research and educational initiatives. It focuses on exploring and enhancing economic resilience within the EU, by identifying and promoting strategies that can bolster economic stability and growth, particularly in the context of challenges such as globalisation, climate change, and economic disparities among Member States.

The project is coordinated by Dublin City University and its Dublin European Law Institute. ULB is one of the 12 partner universities. The team, which is coordinated by Prof. Paul Dermine, involves a number of researchers from the IEE, including Prof. Ramona Coman, Prof. Amandine Crespy, Ilaria Gambardella, Tom Massart, Pauline Thinus, Viola Shahini and Anna Zech. The team will produce research and organize events around the themes of social governance, democratic resilience and fiscal integration. The Project’s Kick-off conference, entitled ‘Rebuilding a Prosperous European Economy’ took place in Dublin on January 22-24 2025. Two subsequent events were organised by the partners in Budapest and Magdeburg in March and June 2025. In September 2025, Amandine Crespy and Viola Shahini published a PROSPER Policy Brief entitled ‘Bringing the European Pillar of Social Rights to Life – Lessons from Four Member States’.

RESEARCH THEME 2

EUROPE AS AN AREA OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REGULATION

The IEE-ULB’s second theme of research addresses European governance through the impact of its policy- making on European integration in such key areas as economic governance, territories and regional policy, common market and social issues. It combines two understandings of the EU as a political system: a mode of regulatory and redistributive governance; and a space of mobilisation and conflict. It includes the study of actors and mechanisms shaping collective choices in the European multi-level democratic regime (e.g. election and parliamentary representation; lobbying/interest representation). Collective projects analyse the challenges associated with inequalities of the EU as well as the history and prospects of Social Europe.

42 IEE-ULB affiliates are active in this research theme, which includes topics such as:

- Social policies
- Internal market developments
- Trade policy
- Competition policy
- Corporate governance
- Regulatory policies

EXTERNALLY FUNDED PROJECTS RUN BY THE IEE

EUqualis (2021 - 2025) ERASMUS+ - Jean Monnet Center of Excellence on “(In)equality and the EU”

- Administrated through the Institut d’études européennes
- Lead Researchers: Amandine Crespy and Chloé Brière
- Funding: Erasmus+ Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence

DESCRIPTION

EUqualis is a Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence dedicated to the challenges associated with ‘Inequality and the EU’ hosted at the IEE-ULB. The project has guided the IEE’s research agenda and activities for the past four years and it concluded in March 2025.

The research and teaching activities of EUqualis in 2024 and 2025 included the opening conference of the academic year by economist [Éloi Laurent](#), a researcher at OFCE and professor at Sciences Po Paris. His talk focused on **“Just transitions in Europe”**. The IEE-ULB also hosted a series of three guest lectures, organised between December 2024 and March 2025: **“Preparing for the next pandemic: the EU’s expanding role in the fight against global health threats”** by [Éloïse Gennet](#) (University of Aix-Marseille), **“The EU’s role in the global health & its cooperation with the WHO”** by [Elisabet Ruiz Cairó](#) (WHO) and **“Climate policies, social inequalities and the need for just transition”** by [Kalina Arabadjieva](#) (ETUI). The highlights this year for EUqualis also included the publication of the book **“Inequality and the European Union – New Frontiers in Political Science and Law”**, edited by Amandine Crespy and Chloé Brière. Some of the key findings of the book were discussed in March 2025 in the Book launch event co-organised with The European Social Observatory, entitled « Afterwork discussion on Gender Inequalities in the EU – Perspectives in the Light of the Digital and Green Transitions ».

ARC SOCITEU (2021-2026) Social rights in the European Union From market to social citizenship and back?

- Administrated through the Centre CEVIPOL
- Lead Researchers: Amandine Crespy and Nicolas Verschueren
- Funding: Action de Recherche Concertée (ARC)

DESCRIPTION

This project aims to investigate the developments of the social dimension of European citizenship since the 1960s through the lenses of political science and history. The empirical focus lies with the granting of transnational social rights related to social security (understood as a protection against social risks related to work, unemployment, healthcare, pensions, and poverty) to individuals. This ARC brings history “back in” in order to go beyond the legal issues at stake and the contemporary policy challenges. The purpose of the project is to explain under what political circumstances a European form of social citizenship has been expanded or, on the contrary, hampered and limited to a narrow set of market-based rights. To elucidate this, the focus will lie on political actors within social democracy (decision makers in national governments and EU institutions, intellectuals and experts, and trade unions) and how they have sought to promote a European social citizenship in ambiguous and fluctuating ways.

The project main objectives are (1) substantiating the conceptual and empirical distinction between market and social citizenship; (2) documenting the movement of construction and deconstruction of social rights over time; (3) connecting the development of a European social citizenship to the broader developments including the transformation of the political economy, political ideologies and the process of EU integration; (4) explaining how actors within social democracy have mobilised (or not) for a European citizenship at the national and EU level.

The ARC SOCITEU project carried out a rich programme of academic activities during academic year 2024-2025, combining workshops, conferences, publications, and dissemination. The cycle began with an online workshop on 11 December 2024, chaired by A. Crespy, S. Gaffney, and V. Shahini. It gathered 14 participants, including external invitees and SOCITEU members. The workshop introduced the project, explored the idea of a joint conference, and discussed potential publications, with each participant presenting abstracts for the forthcoming SOCITEU conference and special issue. The flagship event was the SOCITEU Conference, “Revisiting Market and Social Citizenship in the EU: Past and Present,” held on 1–2 April 2025 at the IEE-ULB. Chaired by A. Crespy, S. Gaffney, B. Kenn, V. Shahini, and N. Verschueren, it brought together 11 participants to present preliminary findings and debate contributions to the special issue.

Research outputs of the project included: peer-reviewed articles appeared in leading journals such as the European Journal of Social Security, Journal of European Social Policy, Journal of Youth Studies, and JCMS. Topics ranged from pan-European labour markets and platform work regulation to youth unemployment and parliamentary politics in EU social policy. Additional outputs included book chapters, working papers, op-eds, and essays addressing welfare reform, the European Pillar of Social Rights, and dilemmas in inclusion policy.

SOCITEU members contributed to the dissemination efforts by presenting their research at major international conferences. These included events at Northumbria University, Sciences Po Rennes, Scuola Normale Superiore in Florence, ESPANET Europe in Milan, and the ECPR General Conference in Thessaloniki. Papers covered themes such as unemployment politicisation, education marketisation, coalminers’ mobilization, and the dynamics of social rights. Collectively, these activities demonstrate SOCITEU’s strong engagement in advancing debates on European social citizenship, welfare reform, and the evolving balance between market imperatives and social rights.

RESEARCH THEME 3

EUROPE AS A COMMUNITY OF NORMS AND VALUES

The IEE-ULB’s third crosscutting theme of research focuses on processes of cooperation, identification and conflict management associated with European integration and their role in the legitimization of the EU as a political entity. It hinges on three observations: (1) the role values, ideas and norms play in European politics as issues, resources or obstacles; (2) the promotion of defence of common values as vectors of legitimization of both internal and external EU policies; and (3) these same values are subject to multiple interpretations.

70 IEE-ULB affiliates are active on this research theme, which includes key topics such as:

- Europe as a laboratory for the management of social, cultural, religious and sexual diversity
- Fundamental rights and values: singularities or specificities of the European model
- What European social model in the face of the challenges of capitalism
- Institutionalisation of norms, public policy instruments and mobilisation in the name of values in a multi-level Europe.

EXTERNALLY FUNDED PROJECTS RUN BY THE IEE

RED SPINEL (2022 - 2026)

Horizon Europe-CL2-RIA: **Responding to Emerging Dissensus: SuPranational Instruments & Norms of European Liberal democracy**

- Lead Researcher: Ramona Coman
- Funding: HorizonEurope

DESCRIPTION

The Horizon Europe RED-SPINEL project investigates the evolving nature of dissensus over liberal democracy and examines its implications for the European Union’s supranational policy instruments. It explores how internal (within the EU and its Member States) and external (beyond Europe) sources of dissensus influence the EU’s institutional responses, policymaking processes, and governance practices. Led by the Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB), the RED-SPINEL consortium brings together seven academic and four non-academic partners from eight European countries, fostering collaboration across disciplines and sectors.

During the academic year, IEE researchers affiliated with RED-SPINEL actively contributed to analyzing the nature of dissent surrounding liberal democracy and its implications for EU action.

The Special issue *Dissensus over Liberal Democracy in Europe* co-edited by **Ramona Coman** and **Nathalie Brack** with *European Political Science* brought together the articles by several IEE and ULB academics and researchers, including **Martin Deleixhe**, **Leonardo Puleo** and **Marta Matrakova**. The articles in this special issue present not only the conceptualisation and typology of dissensus but also the networks of actors involved.

As the role of actors is key to understanding the nature of dissensus over liberal democracy, the volume *Dissensus over Liberal Democracy: Insights from European Judges* (Hart Publishing, 2025), co-edited by **Ramona Coman** (ULB), **Viktor Kazai** (ULB), **Leonardo Puleo** (ULB), and **Andrew Bradley** (ULB), examines what judges do and how they perceive their roles in the context of growing dissensus over liberal democracy. The book features interviews with 18 judges from various EU and non-EU Member States and courts, complemented by a series of academic commentaries discussing the relationship between law and politics in times of dissensus over liberal democracy. Each narrative reveals unique personal experiences and reflections, shedding light on the role of the judiciary and the rule of law in the face of contemporary challenges. The **pre-launch book event** took place at the Institute for European Studies on June 5 with the participation of several European judges.

Continuing to focus on actors, RED-SPINEL researchers from ULB and the University of Warwick, in collaboration with Survation, organized a foresight exercise to better understand how dissensus over liberal democracy is perceived within EU institutions, in the Member States, and within civil society. The results of this innovative study can be found in the publication *RED SPINEL – Forecasting Dissensus over Liberal Democracy: How Key Actors View the EU’s Role and Future Scenarios*.

In 2025, all researchers involved in the RED-SPINEL project also contributed chapters to The Palgrave Handbook on Dissensus over Liberal Democracy in Europe, edited by **Ramona Coman** (ULB), **Claudia Badulescu** (ULB), **Thomas Christiansen** (Luiss University), and **Marta Simoncini** (Luiss University).

Researchers from RED-SPINEL affiliated with the IEE-ULB also contributed to the dissemination of the project’s findings and to discussions with members of the academic community at national and international conferences.



In September 2024, **Chloé Brière (ULB)** and **Viktor Kazai (ULB)** organised at the IEE the training course entitled “The Mobilisation of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights in Strategic Litigation”.

RED-SPINEL has been represented in various international conferences by several IEE affiliated members. **Amandine Crespy**, **Pauline Thinus**, and **Dimitros Argyroulis** participated to the *UACES Annual Conference* (Trento, Italy September 2024). **Ioanna Christodoulaki (ULB)**, **Dimitros Argyroulis**, and **Viktor Kazai** attended the Citizen forum “**Innovative Economic Governance Practices and 21st-Century Liberal Democracy**” at HEC Paris, September 2024. Two RED SPINEL panels featuring **Ramona Coman**, **Luca Tomini**, **Claudia Badulescu**, **Pauline Thinus**, **Frederik Ponjaert**, and **Andrew Bradley** were organised in July 2025 at the **28th World Congress of the International Political Science Association (IPSA) in Seoul**.

To continue engaging with diverse audiences, RED-SPINEL has also produced:

- A podcast series within the IEE’s *Making Sense* of EU series.
- A newsletter highlighting project updates and research outcomes.
- Open-access resources, including books, practitioner handbooks, training materials, working papers, policy briefs, and country reports.

All project publications are accessible via the RED-SPINEL website: <https://redspinel.iee-ulb.eu>

GEM-DIAMOND (2022 - 2026)

Horizon Europe-MSCA-DN: **Globalisation, Europe and Multilateralism: Democratic Institutions, the rise of Alternative Models and mounting Normative Dissensus**

- Lead Researcher: Ramona Coman
- Funding: Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action – Joint Doctorate

DESCRIPTION

This Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action Doctoral Network builds on the successful ‘GEM’ and ‘GEM-STONES’ projects previously led by the IEE. It is entitled ‘GEM-DIAMOND - Globalisation, Europe and Multilateralism: Democratic Institutions, the rise of Alternative Models and mounting Normative Dissensus’. The project focuses on how the growing dissensus surrounding liberal democracy, both within and beyond Europe, has impacted the EU’s capacity to act through its internal and external policy instruments.

The project allows for 16 early-career researchers to conduct PhD projects. They will answer both conceptual and empirical questions surrounding the future of liberal democracy in Europe in the face of growing dissensus. GEM-DIAMOND’s researchers first unpack the internal (within the EU and its member states) and external (beyond Europe) drivers of the growing dissensus surrounding liberal democracy. Subsequently, the 16 PhD researchers analyse a set of individual cases to draw lessons on the continued effectiveness and legitimacy of the EU’s political and socio-economic policy instruments considering the mounting dissensus surrounding liberal democracy.

GEM-DIAMOND aims to collectively tackle three shared knowledge gaps regarding contemporary strains on liberal democracy:

1. Conceptualizing the seemingly mounting dissensus over liberal democracy.
2. Unpacking the ambiguous role different actors can play as both champions and challengers of liberal democratic norms, values and practices.
3. Assessing the impact of increased dissensus regarding liberal democracy on the policy instruments of the EU and its capacity to act in its internal and external policies.



GEM-DIAMOND involves a consortium of 11 academic partners - Université libre de Bruxelles, Libera Università Internazionale degli Studi Sociali Guido Carli, Universiteit van Amsterdam, Universitatea Babes-Bolyai, Københavns Universitet, Université Parisi Panthéon-Sorbonne, Université de Genève, University of Warwick, Waseda University, Université Laval, and Fundação Getulio Vargas, **and 6 non-academic partners** - Instituto Affari Internazionali, German Marshall Fund, Egmont, PATRIR, Centre for European Policy Studies and the International Federation for Human Rights.

In academic year 2024-2025, GEM-DIAMOND has seen the initial signs of its collective endeavours come to fruition, while the 16 individual doctoral research projects have proceeded as scheduled. All 16 PhD projects are scheduled to be concluded and submitted over the course of academic year 2025-2026.

Collectively, GEM-DIAMOND has progressed towards the following publications:

- The full publication of a peer-reviewed Special issue: **Brack, Nathalie, Ramona Coman**, and **Sergiu Miscoiu** *Varieties of dissensus over liberal democracy in the EU. National and transnational actors in European Politics and Society* (2025): 1-10.

IEE-ULB affiliated GEM-DIAMOND researchers and academics in this Special Issue include:

- **Brack, Nathalie, Ramona Coman**, and **Sergiu Miscoiu**. «Varieties of dissensus over liberal democracy in the EU. National and transnational actors.» *European Politics and Society* (2025): 1-10.
- **Hargrove, Édouard**. «Abusive or authoritarian? The elite media’s inconsistent framing of surveillance scandals.» *European Politics and Society* (2025): 1-24.
- **Marginas, Vlad**. «Faithful resistance: religious actors and the articulation of dissensus in Romania and Greece.» *European Politics and Society* (2025): 1-19.
- **Martinelli, Adalgisa**. «Dissensus on the plate: a gastro-nationalist narrative of ‘food sovereignty’.» *European Politics and Society* (2025): 1-16.
- **Zech, Anna**. «To hike or not to hike? Expert dissensus over post-Covid inflation and the ECB’s policy response.» *European Politics and Society* (2025): 1-18.
- Two published peer-reviewed individual articles by IEE-ULB affiliated GEM-DIAMOND researchers:
 - de Lange, Sarah L., and **Larissa Böckmann**. «Populists in Opposition: A Neglected Threat to Liberal Democracy?.» *PS: Political Science & Politics* 58, no. 1 (2025): 72-76.
 - **Böckmann, Larissa**, Sarah L. de Lange, Nathalie Brack, and Matthijs Rooduijn. «Far Right Illiberalism in the European Parliament.» *Politics and Governance* 13 (2025).
- A full published edited volume: Coman, Ramona, Viktor Kazai, Leonardo Puleo, and Andrew Bradley (eds). *Dissensus over Liberal Democracy: Insights from European Judges*. Hart Publishing (2025) involving the following IEE-ULB affiliated GEM-DIAMOND researchers and academics:

- **Coman, Ramona** (2025) “How do Judges Conceive their Roles in a Context of Growing Dissensus over Liberal Democracy – And why do Narratives Matter?”
- **Arrighini, Benedetta** (2025) “We Can Aim to be Part of the Solution Rather than Being Part of the Problem – Interview with Judge Lars Bay Larsen”
- **La Torre, Guilia** (2025) “We can Best Uphold Democracy and Defend the Rule of Law by Listening to Citizens - Interview with Judge Javier Hernández García”
- Manuscript submitted for an edited volume: **Coman, Ramona, Bradley, Andrew**, and **Ponjaert, Frederik** (Eds) *Dissensus over Liberal Democracy: Key Conversations with Leading Voices*, Springer (2026).

IEE-ULB affiliated researchers and academics included in this edited volume includes:

- **Ramona Coman** and **Frederik Ponjaert** (Forthcoming – 2026) “The everyday experience of dissensus over liberal democracy”
- **François Foret** (Forthcoming – 2026) “There are 27 ways to be democratic’. Interview with Robert Menasse”
- **Larissa Böckmann** (Forthcoming – 2026) “We live in prefascist times in the sense that fascism is possible - Interview with Natascha Strobl”
- **Édouard Hargrove** (Forthcoming – 2026) “Liberalism increasingly undermines its own conditions for social reproduction – Interview with Adrienne Buller”
- **Anna Zech** (Forthcoming – 2026) “No fiscal rule is as strict as it is portrayed in public - Interview with Philippa Sigl-Glöckner”

- **Ramona Coman** (Forthcoming – 2026) “Social rights and civil rights are the embodiment of the rule of law - Interview with Virginia Fiume
- **Vlad Marginas** (Forthcoming – 2026) “It is crucial that our internal alarm systems are well-tuned so we can quickly identify problems and intervene - Interview with Diana Filimon”
- **Ramona Coman** and **Andrew Bradley** (Forthcoming – 2026) “It is time for us to take a real look at the causes and the actors eroding democracy – Interview with Neil Datta”
- **Guillaume Larouche** (Forthcoming – 2026) “Democracy is a more complicated story to defend than to attack - Interview with John Morijn”
- **Adalgisa Martinelli** (Forthcoming – 2026) “the EU is still the only trade player with a vision for animal welfare in trade - Interview with Stephanie Ghislain”
- **Marija Petrovska** (Forthcoming – 2026) “I am deeply sceptical about what democracy, especially liberal democracy, has turned into - Interview with Nidžara Ahmetašević”
- **Serafine Dinkel** (Forthcoming – 2026) “The absence of accountability and rule of law is directly leading to the loss of lives – Interview with Sonja Stojanovic Gajic”
- **Jing-syuan Wong** (Forthcoming – 2026) “We should go for gradual accession - Interview with Pierre Mirel”

- Further Publications contracts were signed for a set of collective peer-reviewed publications to be submitted in 2026:
 - **Coman, Ramona, Paternotte, David, and Ponjaert, Frederik** (Eds) *Routledge Handbook of Impact in the Social Sciences: Research, Politics and Society* (Forthcoming – 2026) contracted with Routledge Handbook series it will include contributions from all 16 GEM-DIAMOND Fellows
 - **Christou, Georges, Gelhaus, Laura, and Ponjaert, Frederik** (Eds) “The EU’s Dissensus Conundrum – Engaging with its Neighbours” *Journal of Common Market Studies* (Forthcoming – 2026)

Besides the various collective publications, GEM-DIAMOND continued to consolidate its agenda by hosting a series of joint events, most notably its 2025 annual conference hosted at l’Université Paris1-La Sorbonne from the 22nd till the 24th of February 2025. The project also hosted a workshop at the Université de Genève in January of 2025 dedicated specifically to the project’s joint edited volume. If the year 2024-2025 saw GEM-DIAMOND publish its initial scientific deliverables, the rate of delivery is set to increasing over the subsequent twelve months as the project nears its conclusion.

RESEARCH THEME 4

EUROPE IN THE WORLD

Europe in the World’ is the fourth crosscutting theme of research in the IEE-ULB in terms of global governance, notably the interactions between global policy and European policies. This IEE-ULB’s research theme studies the EU’s place in global governance through its interactions with other political, legal, economic and social models in international exchanges. This theme has two specificities. On the one hand, it examines these interactions in different geographical areas (e.g. Russia, Caucasus, Balkans; Asia; Americas; Mediterranean area etc.). On the other hand, it aims at deepening the EU’s relations with third countries, regional or international organisations. It also looks at how other international actors perceive the EU, its policies and its role at the international level.

47 IEE-ULB affiliates are active on this research theme, which includes key topics such as:

- Multilateralism and diplomacy
- Inter-regionalism
- Security and defence
- Development
- Euro-Mediterranean area
- EU trade policy

NAVIGATOR (2023-2026)

Horizon Europe – CL2 – RIA on

“The EU Navigating Multilateral Cooperation”

- Administrated through the Centre de Droit européen (CDE)
- Lead Researchers: Chloé Brière and Elisa Lopez Lucia

DESCRIPTION

NAVIGATOR involves the following partners: Norsk Utenrikspolitisk Institutt, Conpenhagen Business School, Université libre de Bruxelles, Universiteit Maastricht, University of the Witwatersrand Johannesburg, Unoversità Commerciale Luigi Bocconi, Vereniging voor Christelijk Hoger Onderwijs, Wetenschap NL Partner, ECFR Deutschland e.V. Germany Partner, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Tallinna Tehnikaülikool, the Transatlantic Foundation, University of Ottawa, Waseda University.

NAVIGATOR’s main objective is to deliver a ready-to-use “search mechanism” and associated pathways of action that the EU and its member states can use as it seeks to strengthen a rules-based international order. To achieve this, **NAVIGATOR comprises a strong, global and interdisciplinary team of researchers who explores institutional variation on six policy issues** – climate change, digitalization, finance/ tax, health, migration and security – to identify what institutional mixes enable the EU to have optimal impact in a given policy issue.

NAVIGATOR main objectives are: (1) to assess the effectiveness of multilateral institutions and arrangements; (2) to identify the optimal pathways of action of EU support to multilateral, private and public-private initiatives to further global governance in a given policy domain, and (3) to provide recommendations for EU engagement strategies in the context of the war in Ukraine, threats of nationalism and anti-EU populism.

In the past months, several activities have been carried out of the framework of the Navigator project.

The project’s consortium prepared and published several scientific outputs, all available on the project’s website (<https://eunav.eu/>).

- **First Forecasting Report**, authored by Alberto Tagliapietra (GMF) and released in February 2025. It explores possible futures for the multilateral system and their implications for the EU. The report outlines three plausible global scenarios by 2030: institutional reform and renewed consensus, increasing bilateral tensions within a fragmented order, and the collapse of multilateralism. In all cases, it stresses the urgency of EU strategic foresight and adaptability.
- Seven thematic **Working Papers** were published in February 2025 analyzing the EU’s engagement across multilateral governance fields, covering security, migration, health, digitalisation, climate action, finance and regional perspectives. These papers offer targeted insights for researchers and policymakers navigating today’s complex governance arenas.
- Launch of the **NAVIGATOR Podcast Series**, as part of Making Sense of EU, the podcast series from the Institute. The series brings cutting-edge research to wider audiences through engaging expert conversations. Released themes so far include introduction of the project, the methodology, climate diplomacy and the end of international cooperation. Further episodes will be published in the coming months.

Two events were also organised. First, on 25 March 2025, NAVIGATOR convened its second expert groups meeting, hosted in Berlin by the European Council for Foreign Relations under the theme **“Europe’s Approach to International Cooperation in a Trumpian World.”** The event brought together senior experts, academics, and policymakers to discuss the EU’s position in an increasingly transactional world order. The day included a keynote by former **German State Secretary** Dr. Franziska Brantner and a panel on emerging governance formats. The following day, NAVIGATOR ran a scenario-building workshop to explore strategic EU responses to three distinct futures: cooperative, transactional, and fragmented global orders. Participants engaged in discussions on how the EU could preserve legitimacy and leadership by embracing flexibility, coalition-building, and informal cooperation. Secondly, on 5 May 2025, NAVIGATOR held a regional workshop at the University of the Witwatersrand.

The event brought forward African perspectives on multilateral reform. Sessions addressed African agency, migration governance, and the future of the G20 and UN Security Council, with a strong emphasis on decolonial and solidarity-based approaches.



EUIP (2022-2026)

Erasmus+ - **Jean Monnet Policy Network on “The EU and the Indo-Pacific”**

- Administrated through the Waseda Brussels Office
- Lead Researchers: Frederik Ponjaert and Jean-Louis Moortgat

DESCRIPTION

This Network – encompassing EU and Indo-Pacific partners – has started its initial fieldwork (interview rounds orchestrated by the East Asian partners) aimed at assessing the critical question of “what is the most effective role for the EU in the Indo-Pacific?” The EU’s effectiveness in the region will rely on accurate contemporary knowledge of the states of the Indo-Pacific. This Network will create a unique grouping of EU and Indo-Pacific expertise (involving a mixture of academics, think- tankers, and foreign policy officials from both the EU and third countries) to conduct interviews, engage in Delphi style policy debates, and “policy sandpits” in eight Indo-Pacific countries: Australia, China, Indonesia, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, Taiwan, and Thailand. Early career researchers (especially post-docs and PhD students) from all the participating universities will be heavily involved in the project as well. The Network will provide high- level foreign policy analysis, forecasting, and outputs that will be of significant use for practitioners in the European External Action.

The project involves the following partners: University of Canterbury; the Research Trust of Victoria University of Wellington; the Australian National University; Waseda University; Tsinghua University; Guangdong University of Foreign Studies; Zhejiang University; University of Kent; Uniwersytet Jagiellonski; Universiteit Leiden; Universitat Fur Weiterbildung Krems; Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies; Chulalongkorn University; Universidad de Castilla la Mancha; University of Limerick; Korea University; University College Dublin, National University of Ireland; Talinna Tehnikaulikool; Jawaharlal Nehru University; Knagawa University; National Taiwan University; Ruhr-University Bochum; Institut Barcelona d’Estudis Internacionals Fundació Privada; Gadjah Mada University; Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology RMIT University; Fudan University; Université libre de Bruxelles; Universitaet Innsbruck.

POLYCIVIS (2023-2026)

Erasmus+ - **Jean Monnet Policy Network**

“Confronting the Polycrisis in Europe and Africa through Research, Policy and Education”

- Administrated through CIVIS
- Lead Researchers: Dan Schreiber
- Funding: Erasmus+ Jean Monnet Policy Networks

DESCRIPTION

PolyCIVIS is a Euro - African collaboration that brings to the forefront the global polycrisis, allowing a better understanding of the impacts of several concurrent major societal crises challenging the world in the form of a polycrisis. Initiated in late 2023, PolyCIVIS allows discussion, collaboration and action arising out of the collaboration between universities in Europe and Africa. A Jean Monnet Network, (Policy Debate: Foreign policy issues: EU-AFRICA), PolyCIVIS mobilises a consortium of 21 universities: all 11 CIVIS Alliance universities, all 6 CIVIS African strategic partners, and an additional 4 African universities.

During the second year of the PolyCIVIS project, the consortium convened its Annual Conference in Dakar, Senegal, from 23 to 26 April 2025. Within the framework of the Conference, an Agora Forum entitled “Strengthening Europe-Africa Cooperation on Climate, Environment, and Energy Transition in a Polycrisis Era” was organised, culminating in the publication of the Dakar Communiqué.



One intensive Blended Intensive Programme (BIP) on *Euro-Africa Trade and Investment Relations and the Polycrisis* was successfully delivered. Three additional BIPs on Strategic Foresight; *Understanding the Polycrisis: Studies in Polycrisis, Fragility, and Resilience*; and *Enhancing Skills in Polycrisis Management: African and European Approaches*, respectively, are scheduled to take place during the 2025/26 academic year.

During the reporting period, ten Policy Briefs were issued, offering up-to-date practical insights and strategic guidance for navigating the complexities of the polycrisis. Significant progress was also achieved on the project’s principal research output, a forthcoming volume entitled *Facing the Polycrisis Together: Context and African–European Perspectives*, which is scheduled for publication in 2026.



RESEARCH COMMUNITY

Academics and researchers from across the ULB can affiliate to the IEE if their work refers to European integration in all its forms and is congruent with the IEE's research agenda. The IEE also welcomes external scientific collaborators and visiting researchers.

By the end of 2024-2025, the academic community brought together by the IEE-ULB included some 143 members. It included 115 affiliated ULB-based researchers - 60 academics as well as 55 doctoral and post-doctoral fellows. Furthermore, 28 external researchers joined the community temporarily - including 16 scientific collaborators and 12 visiting researchers.

The interdisciplinarity of the IEE-ULB refers to European integration in all its forms and is congruent with the IEE's research agenda. 13 research centres and units from across 5 Faculties: the Faculty of Philosophy and Social Sciences; the Faculty of Law and Criminology; the Faculty of Arts, Translation, and Communication; the Faculty of Psychology, Education Sciences and Speech Therapy; and Solvay Brussels School of Economics & Management.

IEE AFFILIATED RESEARCHER

Researchers affiliated to the IEE are necessarily also member of a disciplinary research centre in their original faculty.

FACULTY OF PHILOSOPHY AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

CEVIPOL - Centre for the Study of Political Life: Ana ANDGULADZE, Dimitrios ARGYROULIS, Claudia BADELISCU, Kenn BASTIAN, Fabio BOLZONAR, Céleste BONNAMY, Arthur BORRIELLO, Nathalie BRACK, Ioanna CHRISTODOULAKI, Ramona COMAN, Anemona CONSTANTIN, Amandine CRESPIY, Natsuko D'APRIL, Pascal DELWIT, Serafine DINKEL, François FORET, Seda GURKAN, Marylou HAMM, Édouard HARGROVE, Isis KLASSEN, Piotr MARCZYNSKI, Vlad-Grigore MARGINAS, Adalgisa MARTINELLI, Aude MERLIN, Tiago MOREIRA RAMALHO, Camille NESSEL, Alvaro OLEART, Ekaterina PIERSON-LYZHINA, Leonardo PULEO, Lara QUERTON, Emilia SALMINEN, Fanny SBARAGLIA, Laura SCHMEER, Luigi Nicolò SEGARIZZI, Viola SHAHINI, Pauline THINUS, Luca TOMINI, Emilie VAN HAUTE, Jing Syuan WONG, Anna Sophie Elektra ZECH.

CTP - Centre for Political Theory: Martin DELEIXHE, Eric FABRI, Justine LACROIX, Jean-Yves PRANCHERE, Vedat SEMIZ

GERME - Group for Research on Ethnic Relations, Migration & Equality: Matteo GAGLIOLO, Federica INFANTINO, Dirk JACOBS, Alexandre LEROUX, Andrea REA, Antoine ROBLAIN, Esteban MARTINEZ

MMC - Contemporary Modern Worlds: Kenneth BERTRAMS, Nicolas VERSCHUEREN

REPI - Research and Studies in International Politics: Lorenzo ANGELINI, Isaline BERGAMASCHI, Quentin DEFORGE Véronique DIMIER, Xavier GILLARD, Julien JEANDESBOZ, Thierry KELLNER, Elisa LOPEZ LUCIA, Christian OLSSON, Frederik PONJAERT, Marie RUYFFELAERE, Jihane SFEIR, Bruno THEODORO LUCIANO, Syuzanna VASILYAN, Christophe WASINSKI, Romain WEIKMANS

ASG - Atelier Sexualité et Genre: David PATERNOTTE, Piotr GODZISZ

FACULTY OF LAW AND CRIMINOLOGY

CDE – Centre de droit européen: Chiara ARMENI, Benedetta ARRIGHINI, Julio BAQUERO CRUZ, Ali BOUNJOUA, Emmanuelle BRIBOSIA, Chloé BRIERE, Julia BURCHETT, Philippe DE BRUYCKER, Paul DERMINE, Marianne DONY, Ilaria GAMBARELLA, Viktor KAZAI, Giulia LA TORRE, Caroline LECLERCQ, Yuliya MIADZVETSKAYA, Areg NAVASARTIAN, Amy WEATHERBURN, Anne WEYEMBERGH, Cecilia RIZCALLAH

CDP - Centre de Droit Privé: Arnaud NUYTS, Erik VAN DEN HAUTE

CDPS - Centre de Droit Public et Social: Emmanuel SLAUTSKY, Marie BEUDELS

Perelman - Centre Perelman de philosophie du droit: Louise FROMONT, Isabelle RORIVE, Arnaud VAN WAEYENBERGE

SOLVAY BRUSSELS SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT

ECARES - European Center for Advanced Research in Economics and Statistics: Paola CONCONI, Bram DE ROCK, Patrick LEGROS, Glen MAGERMAN, Jean-Luc DE MEULEMEESTER, Laura PUCCIO

FACULTY OF ARTS, TRANSLATION AND COMMUNICATION

ReSIC - Research in Information and Communication: Cécile BALT, Laura CALABRESE, François HEINDERYCKX, Valérie MISTIAEN, Amandine VAN NESTE-GOTTIGNIES, Laura CALABRESE

FACULTY OF PSYCHOLOGY, EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES AND SPEECH THERAPY

CESCUP - Center for Social and Cultural Psychology: Assaad AZZI, Laurent LICATTA

RESEARCH COLLABORATORS

Researchers affiliated to other institutions than the ULB can collaborate with the IEE either as a scientific collaborators or as visiting researchers.

IEE SCIENTIFIC COLLABORATORS

Scientific collaborators are advanced researchers, professors, practitioners and other experts in European Studies and EU affairs not affiliated to the ULB, whose scientific or professional activities are related to one of the IEE's research themes and teaching activities. Their scientific collaborators status reflects that they actively participate in the development and implementation of the Institute's research and teaching agenda.

During the academic year 2024-2025, the IEE welcomed 16 scientific collaborators.

- BOLZONAR Fabio (Miyazaki University)
- BRADLEY Andrew (RED-SPINEL, Belgium)
- CANIHAC Hugo (Université Saint Louis, Belgium)
- CHIRULLO Marco (Bruegel, Belgium)
- COCQ Celine (Tribunal d'Avignon, France)
- DENUIT François (EP, Belgium)
- DOTTI Nicola (VUB, Belgium)
- GROSSIO Lorenzo (Università degli Studi di Torino)

- LECLERQ Christophe (MediaLab, Belgium)
- MATTHEIS Frank (UNU-Cris, Belgium)
- MORAR Stefan
- PUCCIO Laura (European Commission, Belgium)
- SABOURIN Amandine (ECDPM, Belgium)
- VASILYAN Syuzanna (Belgium)
- WEILANDT Ragnar (NTNU, Norway)
- WISSENBACCH Uwe (EEAS, Belgium)

Each year, the IEE Council selects the application of visiting researchers from around the world to share and expand their knowledge in European studies through stays ranging from 1 to 12 months.

During the academic year 2024-2025, 12 visiting researchers were hosted by one of the IEE's standing academics.

- ALVAREZ GARCIA Antonio Manuel (Universidad Autonoma de Madrid, Spain) hosted by Professor François Foret
- BASILIEN GAINCHE Marie-Laure (Université Jean Moulin Lyon 3, France) hosted by Professor Chloé Brière
- CUESTA Pedro (LUISS University, Italy) hosted by Professor Chloé Brière
- FAURE Samuel (Sciences Po Saint Germain, France) hosted by Professor François Foret
- HOGIC Nedim (Universität Oslo, Norway) hosted by Professor Ramona Coman
- KAYE Mark Anthony (University of Portsmouth, UK) hosted by Professor François Foret
- PERLORCA Miriana (Università degli Studi della Tuscia, Italy) hosted by Professor Luca Tomini
- SACCONI Tommaso (Scuola Normale Superiore, Italy) hosted by Professor Amandine Crespy
- VALENTINI Chiara (Università di Bologna, Italy) hosted by Professor Ramona Coman
- YASUDA Chinatsu (University of Tokyo) hosted by Professor François Foret
- YOSHIZAWA Hikaru (Kansai University) hosted by Professor Ramona Coman
- ZUCHELLI Giovanni (Università degli Studi di Bergamo) hosted by Professor Ramona Coman

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH HUB

Beyond its own research community, the IEE- ULB also aims to be a hub for international scientific dialogue, both European and global in scope. This includes participation in international consortia or networks, as well as bilateral strategic partnerships.

INTERNATIONAL NETWORKS & CONSORTIA



ECLAN - European Criminal Law Academic Network

The European Criminal Law Academic Network (ECLAN) was set up by Anne Weyembergh and Serge de Biolley in 2004. Its activities were launched on 1 December 2004. It is now co-coordinated by Anne Weyembergh (ULB), Katalin Ligeti (University of Luxembourg) and Valsamis Mitsilegas (Queen Mary University of London). The network covers 32 states, i.e. the 27 Member States of the European Union, as well as 5 third States (Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and the UK) with which the Union maintains close relations in the field of police and criminal justice. It brings together more than 150 professors and researchers specialised in European criminal law.

During the 2024–2025 academic year, several meetings were held among members of the network:

- **Two Management Committee (MC) meetings** took place in hybrid format on 16 May 2025 and 18 August 2025. These meetings primarily focused on assessing applications for new membership and launching a discussion on ways to further revitalize the network and ensure its long-term sustainability, including through the potential use of structural funding.
- **A Contact Points (CP) meeting** was also organized in hybrid format on 16 May 2025 to discuss, among other matters, the network's forthcoming activities.

This year was further marked by a series of initiatives aimed at promoting knowledge in the field of European criminal law, through both academic events and publications.

Events

- The **annual doctoral seminar** was hosted by Utrecht University (The Netherlands) on 10–11 April 2025. Under the theme “*The 15th Anniversary of the Treaty of Lisbon: Reflections on the Past, Present and Future of EU Criminal Law Under the Treaty of Lisbon*”, the seminar provided an opportunity for some thirty early-stage researchers to present their work.
- The **annual conference of the network**, organized by the University of Latvia, took place in Riga on 15–16 May 2025. The conference addressed the theme “*The Presumption of Innocence: Modern Trends and Contemporary Challenges*.”
- The **ECLAN Summer School 2025**, dedicated to “*The EU Area of Criminal Justice*,” was held from 30 June to 4 July 2025. This year's programme offered a comprehensive course on the external dimension of judicial cooperation in criminal matters. The Summer School brought together numerous speakers, both academics and practitioners, and attracted around thirty participants from across Europe and beyond.

Publications

- The publication of **ECLAN Newsletters No. 32 and No. 33**, which provided a comprehensive overview of recent legislative and case-law developments in European criminal law, together with updates on recent and forthcoming publications and relevant conferences, covering the period from July 2024 to July 2025.
- The continued **coordination of the “Hart Series in EU Criminal Law” (Hart Publishing)** by the network's co-coordinators, along with the co-sponsorship and collaboration with the specialist journal *New Journal of European Criminal Law* (SAGE).
- The publication of collective volumes coordinated by network members, including:
 - J. Burchett and A. Weyembergh (eds.), *Stronger Victims' Rights in EU Law? Assessment and Prospects*, Hart Publishing, 2025.

ODYSSEUS -European Migration and Asylum Law Network



The ODYSSEUS Network is the largest Network of academics and experts on immigration and asylum law in Europe. The ODYSSEUS Network was established in 1999 and is coordinated by its founder, Philippe De Bruycker, a professor at the Centre de droit européen and the Institut d'études européennes. The Network's objective is to provide expertise on EU law relating to borders, visas, immigration and asylum. It currently comprises over 50 experts from each of the EU Member States, as well as from Norway, Iceland, Switzerland and Turkey.

Odysseus Members charted an **Executive Master's in EU Migration and Asylum Law**. The program aims to provide participants with an in-depth understanding of the legal rules on migration and asylum adopted by the EU. It is an **online program** that includes **3 mandatory gatherings in Brussels**. The choice of this hybrid version is to allow students from all over Europe to follow the classes, without missing the opportunity to meet and exchange in person. Specific issues will be discussed during these meetings to improve participants' understanding and meeting **leading host speakers**.

KEY PARTNERSHIPS

ULB-VUB Joint Research Group with BSoG



The IEE has a long-standing partnership with its counter-part at the VUB, the Brussels School of Government (BSoG). This partnership has taken on various guises, with two major co-organized conferences becoming the centrepiece of the cooperation: on the one hand, the Interdisciplinary Conference in Advanced European Studies (IDEAS) hosted in the month of May in even years, and the European Union in International Affairs (EUIA), hosted in the month of May in odd years. As such, the IEE and BSoG (along with the University of Warwick) collaborated in 2024-2025 with an eye on organising the 2025 iteration of the EUIA conference held in May 2025. The cooperation between BSoG and IEE is developed in the framework of the joint Research Group, funded by the authorities of the two universities and scheduled to run until the end of the academic year 2025-2026.

Brussels and Florence as Political and Intellectual 'capitales' of Europe: collaboration IEE-EUI



The IEE has been at the vanguard of the partnership agreement signed in 2023 by the European University Institute (EUI) and the ULB. Its interdisciplinary drive and European purpose are in full congruence with the EUI's missions. Collaborations range from scientific and teaching activities to contributions to the public debate, such as a joint seminar 'Narrating Europe' launched in 2024. Students and scholars commuted between both institutions for academic stays. These first achievements pave the way for future common projects. Furthermore, the director of the Robert Schuman Centre Erik Jones integrated the Strategic Council of the IEE to mutualize institutional experiences.

Privileged Partnership with Waseda University



The IEE strategic partnership with the Graduate School of Asia-Pacific Studies (GSAPS) at Waseda University consolidated further across all dimensions of the IEE's activities. In terms of mobility, a new Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the Law faculty of Waseda university to facilitate academic mobility of legal scholars over the next four years. The exchange program linking GSAPS and the IEE's interdisciplinary specialisation master saw further mobility in 2024-2025 with students heading in both directions. The Double Master in European and Asian studies continued to attract registrations at a stable rate. The International Chair integrated into the specialisation master allowed the invitation of guest lecturers from Waseda. Joint research and publications continued to develop, notably at the 2024 EU-Japan Forum hosted in February of 2025.

This year's 3 workshops focused on: "EU and Japan Approaches to International Criminal Justice" ; "Politics and culture inside/out: a new 'policy-mix' in Europe and Japan?" and "New approaches and challenges for the post-Fukushima assessment of nuclear risk"

Privileged Partnership with University of Warwick



The bilateral partnership between the IEE at the ULB and the Politics and International Affairs (PaIS) department of the University of Warwick stretches back over two decades. Initiated by the late professor Eric Remacle in the field of European external action, it has since grown in scope to cover all four of the IEE's research agendas. Over academic year 2024-2025 the partnership involved the co-organisation of the European Union in International Affairs (EUIA) conference in May 2025.



PUBLICATIONS

The IEE manages three peer-reviewed book series in European studies. Edited and directed by scholars affiliated to the IEE, the series as published in collaboration with recognized academic publishing houses, two of them with the editions de l'Université de Bruxelles and one with Routledge. These series covering the full gamut of disciplines involved in European studies, provide a qualitative and highly visible outlet for ongoing research being developed at the IEE-ULB and its partner institutions.

Commentaries J. Mégret - Éditions de l'Université de Bruxelles

Series Editors: Marianne DONY

Series published by the University of Brussels. Founded in the 1970s by Prof. Jacques Mégret and directed by Prof. Marianne Dony; this series provides systematic commentaries on the articles of the European Treaties. With over 40 volumes already published, it serves as a reference in the field of European law.

Collection: European Studies - Éditions de l'Université de Bruxelles

Series Editors: Chloé BRIÈRE & François FORET

The collection publishes legal and political science works on the major themes of European integration. Created and directed from 1968 to 1999 by Jean-Victor Louis, the collection has been directed since 2012 by Prof. Marianne Dony and François Foret. The works published in the collection are characterized both by their critical vision of current issues in European construction and their methodological and disciplinary rigor: from constitutional law for Europe to the European Criminal Justice Area, from comparative politics to international relations, from the history of political ideas to analysis of the evolution of the EU's institutional system. This collection is accessible both to professionals working in the field of European integration, and to anyone wishing to learn more about European affairs.

Globalisation, Europe, Multilateralism - Routledge

Series Editors: Ramona COMAN & Frederik PONJAERT

Launched in 2013 by Prof. Mario Telò and Frederik Ponjaert, this series includes books, monographs and manuals aimed at contributing to scientific innovation in the fields of European and international studies. With over 30 volumes published to date, this series continuous to position itself as a reference for both research and teaching professionals. Of particular importance over the past years has been the further increase in the number of monographs by early-stage researchers that were either published or greenlit for publication. As such, the series confirms its role as a publication outlet for high quality doctoral theses linked to the IEE, and this besides its function as a dissemination platform for interdisciplinary collective research produced by the IEE and its partners.

A REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLE OF PUBLISHED BOOKS

The following is an indicative and non-exhaustive list of monographs and edited volumes published either in one of the IEE-coordinated book series, or edited by one of the IEE-ULB's affiliates over the course of academic year 2024-2025 (in alphabetic order of the initial listed author):

- Brière C. & Crespy A. (Eds) (2024). Inequality and the European Union: New Frontiers in Political Science and Law. GEM Book series, Routledge. Taylor & Francis.
- Cocq C., (2024). Mutual Trust in Regional and Interregional Cooperation on Counterterrorism. EU and ASEAN Approaches. Springer.
- Coman R., Kazai V., Puleo L. & Bradley A. (Eds) (2025). Dissensus over Liberal Democracy. Insights from European Judges. Bloomsbury Publishing.
- Foret F. (2024). The European Union in Search of Narratives. Disenchanted Europe? Routledge. Taylor & Francis.
- Foret F. (Ed) (2025). Religion in the European Parliament: between nation and Europe. Routledge.
- Kazai V. (2024). The Equilibrium of Parliamentary Law-making. Comparative Perspectives on the Role of Courts in a Democracy. Routledge. Taylor & Francis.
- Matrakova M. (2025). Legislative Networks and Reforms in Post-Soviet States: How to Turn the Tide for Democracy, GEM Book series. Routledge. Taylor & Francis.
- Moreira Ramalho T. (2025). Legitimizing Austerity. The Politics of Crisis in Southern Europe. Bloomsbury Publishing.



CONTRIBUTION TO PUBLIC DEBATES

The IEE-ULB is not only a research and teaching institute, but also a public space where exchange and debate are encouraged. Through the organisation of conferences and the dissemination of publications and the results of the interdisciplinary research efforts, the IEE seeks to put theory into practice. It brings together researchers, students and decision-makers to discuss issues of European integration.

PODCAST OF THE IEE: MAKING SENSE OF EU

Making sense of EU is a podcast in which researchers and academics from the IEE-ULB and members of the IEE's partner universities take part as part of its various research projects. It is organised into themed seasons of 5 to 10 episodes each. Since its launch in September 2022, Making Sense of EU has become a source of inspiration for the IEE's students, who decided to launch a 'mirror podcast' entitled 'Talking with EU: The Students' POV', to share their thoughts and ideas on the subjects covered with our researchers and academics.

During the academic year 2024-2025, the third season of «Making sense of EU» explored European efforts to navigate multilateral cooperation, as a part of the Horizon Europe NAVIGATOR project. This season included five episodes, presenting the NAVIGATOR project and its methodology as well as specific themes such as climate change and migration as well as the state of international cooperation both between countries and in different institutions and organisations.



Did you know that IEE-ULB has a YouTube channel where you can find a number of guest lectures and keynote talks?

The videos posted in 2024-2025 include for instance the Opening lecture of the academic year by Éloi Laurent and a video documentary presenting the main activities and findings of the EUqualis, Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence.

EVENTS ORGANISED BY THE IEE

The IEE brings students together with practitioners and experts from the European institutions and the wider 'Eurosphere' who are invited to participate in seminars, lecture series and professionalisation activities. The IEE also organises scientific conferences and workshops, where the academic community, policy makers and members of civil society can meet and exchange views. Over the course of 2024-2025, we have organised 36 events, which are listed below.



September

13/09/2024  Séance d'accueil des nouveaux étudiant·es

13/09/2024  RED-SPINEL Laboratoire d'innovation politique sur les mécanismes d'alerte précoce permettant de détecter la non-conformité à la Charte des droits fondamentaux de l'UE

October

15/10/2024  European Competition Law Tuesdays: opening session by Athanasios Rantos

24/10/2024  «Les transitions justes en Europe» - la rentrée académique de l'IEE avec Éloi Laurent

November

08/11/2024  Présentation du livre - « Constitutional review of parliamentary law-making » par Victor Kazai

21/11/2024  Soirée mentoring : « Comment décrocher un stage dans les affaires européennes ? »

December

09/12/2024  EU competition policy versus American Big Tech companies, with Prof. Hikaru Yoshizawa

10/12/2024  Euqualis Guest lecture: « Preparing for the next pandemic: the EU's expanding role in the fight against global health threats »

February

13/02/2025  EUqualis Guest lecture : « The EU's role in the global health & its cooperation with the WHO »

17/02/2025  NarratEUR 2025 - Enrico Letta: « Raconter l'Europe comme elle se fait : l'histoire derrière le rapport »

20/02/2025  NarratEUR 2025 - Christophe Leclercq: « Les conditions de production du discours médiatique sur l'Europe »

28/02/2024  EU-Japan Forum 2025

March

05/03/2025  AIEUmni Afterwork Networking

13/03/2025  NarratEUR 2025 - Virginie Guiraudon: « Political narratives of immigration in comparison »

14/03/2025  EUqualis Guest lecture: « Climate policies, social inequalities and the need for just transition »

17/03/2025  RED-SPINEL Keynote « Illiberalism within the EU: How to Solve the Value Crisis? » by Gábor Halmai (European University Institute)

17-18-03-2025  RED-SPINEL Annual Conference

20/03/2025  NarratEUR 2025 - Claske Vos: « Narratives on Europe through the lens of cultural players at the 'margins' »

20/03/2025  Book launch: « Mutual Trust in Regional and Interregional Cooperation on Counterterrorism. The EU and ASEAN Approaches » by Céline C. Cocq

26/03/2025  Information session: discover EU studies at the IEE-ULB!

27/03/2025  NarratEUR 2025 - Florence Faucher: « Politiques publiques symboliques dans une perspective comparée »

27/03/2025  EUqualis booklaunch: « Gender Inequalities in the EU - Perspectives in the Light of the Digital and Green Transitions »

April

- 01/04 - 02/04/25



Conference: Revisiting Market and Social Citizenship in the EU
- 03/04/2025



NarratEUR 2025 - Ronja Szczepanski: «How social identities and political preferences help us understand how people perceive Europe (and narratives)»
- 15/04/2025



NarratEUR 2025 - Hussein Kassim: «National Government Narratives of the EU. ‘Official Stories’ of Belonging»
- 16/04/2025



Closing conference of NarratEUR 2025: «What narrative for Europe? Taking stock and looking ahead»
- 16/04/2025



Atelier peinture: statut juridique des sans-papiers

May

- 08/05/2025



Journée de l’Europe à l’ULB - Conférence-débat avec Étienne Balibar
- 21/05 - 23/05/25



European Union in International Affairs conference (EUIA25)

June

- 02/06/2025



Guest lecture : «The European Renaissance of Republicanism» by Armin von Bogdandy
- 05/06/2025



What do judges do, and how do they perceive their role when democracy is under strain?
- 05,06-06-25



Activism As A Modality Of Resistance And Communication? Comparing Judicial Activism Across Eastern Europe
- 30/06 - 04/07/25



ECLAN Summer School : “The EU Area of Criminal Justice”

June-July

- 30/06 - 11/07/25



Odysseus Summer School: «EU Immigration and Asylum Law and Policy»

September

- 13/09/2025



30^{ème} anniversaire des alumnis de 1995
- 10/10/2025



Cérémonie de proclamation de la promotion 24-25 «Anna Lindh»





INSTITUT D'ÉTUDES EUROPÉENNES

Université libre de Bruxelles
Avenue F.D. Roosevelt, 39
1050 Bruxelles
CP 172
iee@ulb.be
NEW WEBSITE: iee.ulb.be