THE FUTURE OF EUROPE
(EUROPEANSHIP MULTICAMPUS COURSE)
FALL 2023 EDITION – DETAILED SYLLABUS

AIM OF THE COURSE
The graduate course on the ‘Future of Europe’ is the first Europeanship Multi-Campus course, one of the flagship initiatives of the CIVICA project, an alliance of eight leading European higher education institutions in social sciences.¹ The course critically explores the main European policy challenges and is designed and taught jointly by a team of professors from the different partners of the alliance. The course will be delivered synchronously across all the campuses of the CIVICA consortium as a series of live on-line lectures, integrated with local activities. On top of lectures, the course spurs students to work in teams across countries and disciplines, with the aim of completing a final capstone project assignment related to specific and concrete policy challenges.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
While experiencing the unique opportunity of having direct interaction with some of the top scholars on policy areas across different countries and institutions, at the end of the course students will be able to:

1. Outline and critically appraise challenging areas of policy-making facing the European Union in the coming years
2. Apply key concepts and insights from the relevant theoretical literatures to the investigation of contemporary European policy challenges.
3. Explain and evaluate the dynamics which characterize European Union policy responses with a particular focus on responses in times of crisis
4. Identify and analyze the main economic, political and societal challenges posed by globalization, climate change, the digital transition and consider the evolution of the political systems within the European Union in response to these challenges
5. Working in groups, develop and propose in written and oral form evidence-based policy solutions to EU-relevant policy problems

ASSESSMENT
The final evaluation of the course is based on a group capstone project, to be developed by teams of up to 6 students representing (at least) 2 campuses. Each team must analyze one EU-relevant policy problem of choice (among a given subset of topics provided by instructors) and suggest possible policy solutions. Each team is therefore expected to hand in by 14 December 2023 a policy paper of 2000 words outlining policy position and solutions. Detailed instructions on the Capstone Project will be provided at the beginning of the course, teams composition will be announced on 13 October 2023.
Please note that additional assessment methods can be added by each institution at the local level.

LECTURES
The course is organized in modules for a total of 24 hours of lectures, including two dedicated round table debate sessions grouped by topic.
Additional activities in each Campus may complement the course content to fit with each school requirement.

¹ CIVICA – The European University of Social Sciences brings together ten leading European higher education institutions in the social sciences. CIVICA aims to build an inter-university campus that provides joint and long-lasting opportunities in teaching, research and innovative learning, while enhancing academic excellence and facilitating civic engagement in Europe and beyond. CIVICA was selected by the European Commission as one of the pilot European Universities in 2019 and confirmed as successful alliance in 2022 for its full roll-out under the Erasmus+ programme. Read more on www.civica.eu
# LECTURES: MODULES OVERVIEW

## INTRODUCTION

Instructors: Arancha González Laya (Sciences Po) and Carlo Altomonte (Bocconi)

How does a peace project as the EU adapt to a world defined by the competition between China and the US and where war is at its borders? The introductory session will be dedicated to highlighting some of the most important transversal concepts, which are key to understand the dynamics characterizing the European Union with a particular focus on times of crisis and the current geopolitical context.

## MODULE 1: GLOBALIZATION AND ECONOMIC SHOCKS

Instructors: Arancha González Laya (Sciences Po) and Cornelia Woll (Hertie)

This module will be dedicated to the concept of crisis, in the context of globalization and economic shocks. Taking into the consideration the increased flows of goods, services, capital and knowledge at global level, we will focus on how the European Union, confronted with multi-faceted crises, attempts to adapt and respond, and how European construction was strengthened and deepened throughout the four crises that have structured European politics in the last fifteen years: the financial crisis of 2008 followed by the sovereign debt crisis, the migration crises of 2015, the health crises of 2019, and the security crises driven by Russia’s invasion of Ukraine.

## MODULE 2: DEMOCRACY, GOVERNANCE, AND POPULISM IN THE EU

Instructor: Mariyana Angelova (CEU)

This module provides an overview of how parties and voters respond to economic change and democratic backsliding in Europe. We will review the fundamentals of voting behavior and discuss the challenges of electoral accountability in times of democratic backsliding, misinformation and rising affective polarization. Here we will devote attention to the role of social media and the resurgence of nationalism and populism in Europe.

## POLICY PAPER TRAINING CAMP

Instructors: Thu Nguyen (Hertie - Jacques Delors Centre) and CIVICA secretariat

This session will be dedicated to equipping students with all they need to know to tackle the Capstone Project assignment: what is a policy paper, how to approach it, the main "does and don’t", how to structure the project work with particular focus on asynchronous team-working and remote collaboration.

## MODULE 3: ENVIRONMENT, SUSTAINABILITY & THE EU GREEN DEAL

Instructors: Carlo Altomonte (Bocconi) and Sylvie Goulard (Bocconi)

This module offers an introduction to pressing sustainability challenges in the 21st century. After an introduction of the main issues at stake in terms of mitigation and adaptation at the global level, we will focus on the EU Green Deal strategy and its interactions with other EU policies, in particular industrial policies, the EU external dimension, and the increasing role of Central Banks and the financial sector. A specific focus will be given to the emerging issue of protecting nature and biodiversity.

## MODULE 4: DIGITALIZATION AND INNOVATION IN THE NEW EUROPE

Instructor: Matin Mohaghegh (SSE)

Throughout the module, students will gain a deep understanding of the importance of digitalization and its potential to reshape societies, economies, and businesses. The use of advanced high-impact digital technologies such as AI, Big Data, Blockchain, and cybersecurity imposes significant changes in how we live, work, and interact in both physical and virtual spaces. The module will discuss the societal and business advantages of these technologies, highlighting their implications for smart cities and the promotion of sustainability.

However, alongside the benefits, the module will also address the threats posed by these technologies, such as the dissemination of mis(dis)information and hence the need to create a safer, fairer, and more transparent environment. Students will explore the regulatory rules, policies, and frameworks necessary to address these challenges and ensure responsible and ethical use of digital technologies.
Session 1
Introduction
Instructors: **Arancha González Laya** (Sciences Po) and **Carlo Altomonte** (Bocconi)

Session 2 and 3
Module 1: Globalization and Economic shocks
Instructors: **Arancha González Laya** (Sciences Po) and **Cornelia Woll** (Hertie)

Session 4 and 5
Module 2: Democracy, Governance, and Populism in the EU
Instructor: **Mariyana Angelova** (CEU)

Session 6
Round Table Debate on Globalization, Democracy, and the Future of Europe
Instructors: **Arancha González Laya** (Sciences Po), **Cornelia Woll** (Hertie) and **Mariyana Angelova** (CEU)

Session 7
Policy Paper Training Camp
Instructors: **Thu Nguyen** (Hertie - Jacques Delors Centre) and **CIVICA secretariat**

Session 8 and 9
Module 3 Environment, Sustainability & the EU Green Deal
Instructors: **Carlo Altomonte** and **Sylvie Goulard** (Bocconi)

Session 10 and 11
Module 4 - Digitalization and Innovation in the New Europe
Instructor: **Matin Mohaghegh** (SSE)

Session 12
Round Table Debate: Digitalization and the Future of Europe
Instructors: **Carlo Altomonte**, **Sylvie Goulard** (Bocconi) and **Matin Mohaghegh** (SSE)
LECTURES: DETAILS BY SESSION

SESSION 1: INTRODUCTION
Date and time: 06/09/2023 from 10.15 to 12.15 CET
Instructor(s): Arancha González Laya (Sciences Po) and Carlo Altomonte (Bocconi)

Session details:
How does a peace project as the EU adapt to a world defined by the competition between China and the US and where war is at its borders?

1) Context:
- The world moving from a precarious balance to a dangerous geopolitical and environmental imbalance
- Geopolitical imbalance: USA-China rivalry; Russia: a dangerous declining power; systemic environmental crisis
- European Integration in Times of Crisis: The European Union has faced four major crises during the last fifteen years: the financial crisis, the sovereign debt crisis, the migration crisis, Covid, and now the war at its borders. Each time the answer has been build greater solidity and solidarity.

2) How the EU responds to a more geopolitical environment:
- The Concept of Strategic Autonomy: The answers that Europe is currently providing to the war in Ukraine contribute to the European strategic autonomy, and gives Member states the capacity to act at EU level even when our strongest allies are not ready.
- An Open Europe Capable of Shaping the Global Stage: Europe needs more strategic autonomy in the field of industry, technology, security and defence. It needs a stronger international role of the Euro but the EU must also invest in the rules-based international order.
- The Deepening vs. Widening (apparent) trade-off/ Unity and better organized neighborhood. Europe has always answered to the crises it has faced through a deepening of its integration. As Jean Monnet used to say “Europe will be forged in crises, and will be the sum of the solutions adopted for those crises” The latter has not prevented Europe to enlarge itself in terms of its members.

Reading list:

Compulsory Readings:
1. OECD Economic Outlook “The Price of War”, June 2022

Supplementary Readings:
   [Please note this reading is available only in French, Italian and Spanish, it is therefore optional]
SESSION 2: MODULE 1 - GLOBALIZATION AND ECONOMIC SHOCKS

Date and time: 13/09/2023 from 10.15 to 12.15 CET
Instructor(s): Cornelia Woll (Hertie)

Session details:
- In the first part of this session, we will focus on the financial and the sovereign debt crises. After discussing the roots of the financial crisis, we will look at the impact on European countries and EU economic policy and architecture, as well as at the institutional innovations that followed.
- In the second part of the session, we will look the European security framework and the unprecedented economic sanctions and military support that made up the EU’s response to Russia’s invasion of Ukraine.

Reading list:
Compulsory Readings:

Supplementary Readings:

SESSION 3: MODULE 1 - GLOBALIZATION AND ECONOMIC SHOCKS

Date and time: 20/09/2023 from 10.15 to 12.15 CET
Instructor(s): Arancha González Laya (Sciences Po)

Session details:
- In the first part of this session, we will focus on the migration crisis of 2015, the EU’s responses, and the legacy of the crisis which are still impacting European policies and decisions.
- The second part will provide an overview of the EU’s responses to the Covid-19 pandemic, and how it transformed the EU by changing policy priorities and breaking taboos - such as common borrowing-resulting in coordinated fiscal expansion. We will also look at how the health crisis revealed the asymmetric nature of interdependencies, the vulnerability of the EU regarding key sectors, and the fragility of global supply chains.

Reading list:
Compulsory Readings:

SESSION 4: MODULE 2 - DEMOCRACY, GOVERNANCE, AND POPULISM IN THE EU

Date and time: 27/09/2023 from 10.15 to 12.15 CET
Instructor: Mariyana Angelova (CEU)

Session details:
• Part 1 “Voting behavior and the challenges of electoral accountability” will cover the following topics:
  o Review of established accounts of voting behaviour – proximity voting, issue voting, economic voting
  o Assumptions and challenges of electoral accountability (partisan attachment, usage of heuristics)

• Part 2 “Social Media and Democracy” will cover the following topics:
  o Social media and the challenges and opportunities it poses for democracies and electoral accountability
  o Echo chambers and political polarization
  o Social media, misinformation and political knowledge

Reading list:
Compulsory Readings:

SESSION 5: MODULE 2 - DEMOCRACY, GOVERNANCE, AND POPULISM IN THE EU
Date and time: 04/10/2023 from 10.15 to 12.15 CET
Instructor: Mariyana Angelova (CEU)

Session details:
• Part 1 “Populism and affective polarization in Europe” will cover the following topics:
  o Populism, affective polarization and democratic backsliding in Europe
  o Social media and affective polarization
• Part 2 “Consequences of affective polarization” will cover the following topics:
  o Does affective polarization undermine democratic norms and electoral accountability?
  o Approaches to overcome affective polarization

Reading list:
Compulsory Readings:
SESSION 6: ROUNDTABLE DEBATE: IS THE RISE OF POPULISM THE RESULT OF THE ECONOMIC FACTORS OR CULTURAL CAUSES?

Date and time: 11/10/2023 from 10.15 to 12.15 CET
Instructors: Arancha González Laya (Sciences Po), Cornelia Woll (Hertie) and Mariyana Angelova (CEU)

Session details:
- This session will be dedicated to an interactive debate with students and Module 1 and 2 Instructors on the topic: “Is the rise of populism the result of the economic factors or cultural causes?”

SESSION 7: POLICY PAPER TRAINING CAMP

Date and time: 13/10/2023 from 16.00 to 18.00 CET OR from 16.30 to 18.30 CET OR from 17.00 to 19.00 CET
Instructors: Thu Nguyen (Hertie - Jacques Delors Centre) and CIVICA secretariat

Session details:
- This session aims at equipping students with all they need to know to tackle the Capstone Project assignment.
- The first part of the session will be dedicated to explaining what is a policy paper, how to approach it and the main “does and don’t”.
- In the second part of the session the CIVICA secretariat will share with students a demo on how to structure the project work through Whaller (the CIVICA platform supporting the course delivery) with particular focus on asynchronous team-working and remote collaboration.

SESSION 8: MODULE 3 ENVIRONMENT, SUSTAINABILITY & THE EU GREEN DEAL

Date and time: 18/10/2023 from 10.15 to 12.15 CET
Instructors: Carlo Altomonte (Bocconi) and Sylvie Goulard (Bocconi)

Session details:
- Introduction the EU approach to sustainable development
- A brief history of EU climate policy-Institutional framework for EU climate policy
- The EU Green Deal
- Strategic Autonomy and Energy Policy: The RePower EU initiative
- The Green Deal Industrial Plan

Reading list:
Compulsory Readings:

Supplementary Readings:
SESSION 9: MODULE 3 - ENVIRONMENT, SUSTAINABILITY & THE EU GREEN DEAL

Date and time: 08/11/2023 from 10.15 to 12.15 CET
Instructor: Carlo Altomonte (Bocconi) and Sylvie Goulard (Bocconi)

Session details:
- Green transition: which role for Central Banks?
  o the progresses made by Central Banks since 2015
  o the diversity of angles (financial stability, supervision, monetary policy, portfolio’s management, blended finance, etc.)
- Biodiversity and nature related issues:
  o the urgency and the magnitude of nature-related risks and the climate-biodiversity nexus
  o recent progresses: adoption of the Montreal Kunmin CBD global framework at COP 15, TNFD etc.

Reading list:
Compulsory Readings:

Supplementary Readings:
1. “A new age of energy inflation, climateflation, fossilflation and greenflation” Speech by Isabel Schnabel, Member of the Executive Board of the ECB (March 2022) https://www.ecb.europa.eu/press/key/date/2022/html/ecb.sp220317_2~dbb3582f0a.en.html
3. “Biodiversity and climate change” (June 2021) IPBES IPCC joint workshop (https://www.ipbes.net/sites/default/files/2021-06/20210609_workshop_report_embargo_3pm_CEST_10_june_0.pdf)
SESSION 10: MODULE 4 - DIGITALIZATION AND INNOVATION IN THE NEW EUROPE: INTRODUCTION TO DIGITALIZATION

Date and time: 15/11/2023 from 10.15 to 12.15 CET  
Instructors: Matin Mohaghegh (SSE)

Session details:
- Introduction to “Digitalization” (basics and importance)
- Current status and the future of Digitalization in EU
- High impact digital solutions (e.g., AI, Blockchain, Cybersecurity, Big data): A brief overview
- Benefits and implications of high-impact digital technologies for business and society (e.g., smart contracts, smart cities, digital currency, and sustainability)

Reading list:

Compulsory Readings:

Supplementary Readings:

SESSION 11: MODULE 4 - DIGITALIZATION AND INNOVATION IN THE NEW EUROPE: THE BACKSIDE OF DIGITALIZATION

Date and time: 22/11/2023 from 10.15 to 12.15 CET  
Instructor(s): Matin Mohaghegh (SSE)

Session details:
- Risks and challenges of “Digitalization”
- EU current policies, and regulations such as the EU’s AI Act, Digital Services Act, Digital Services Market
- EU’s digital strategy

Reading list:

Compulsory Readings:

Supplementary Readings:
SESSION 12: ROUND TABLE DEBATE: ENVIRONMENT, DIGITALIZATION AND THE FUTURE OF EUROPE

Date and time: 29/11/2023 from 10:15 to 12.15 CET
Instructors: Carlo Altomonte, Sylvie Goulard (Bocconi) and Matin Mohaghegh (SSE)

Session details
The session will be split in two parts:

- Part 1 will be dedicated to an interactive debate on the Environment topic with a particular focus on Bio-diversity

- Part 2 will be dedicated to the Digitalization topic and on the following prompt "What measures and policies should governments implement to foster data-driven innovations while effectively safeguarding data privacy and ensuring individuals' rights?".

Students will be split in breakout rooms to discuss the topic and will present a summary of their discussion in a plenary setting.