



MODEL EU FLORENCE

Take on the roles of EU foreign affairs ministers, commissioners, and EU press correspondents to better understand the European Union, by proposing and discussing ideas and solutions to the most pressing issues of the day.

31 OCTOBER - 6 DECEMBER 2024

Florence, Italy

AT A GLANCE

Preparatory trainings

November - December 2024, 5 training sessions coached by European Union faculty and EU practitioners.

Final simulation day

6 December 2024, one full day of final simulation. Lunch and coffee breaks included.

Course elements

- activities carried out, whenever possible, in mixed university teams: EUI, JMU, UNIFI.
- academic training meetings led by faculty and EU practitioners.
- 2 hands-on final coaching meetings led by EU practitioners.
- final simulation of an actual EU decision-making process led by EU practitioners and coordinated by faculty.

Participants' profile

All the participants are M.A. students from the three participating programs: JMU's M.A. in European Union Policy Studies, UniFi's M.A. in European Studies, and the M.A. in Transnational Governance of the EUI.

Language

English

Requirements

- Good knowledge of EU institutions and decision-making processes, proven through attendance of at least one course about the EU in undergraduate or graduate

studies.

- Good written and spoken knowledge of English.
- Punctuality, motivation, proactivity, availability to speak in public and be part of a team, working on group presentations that will be presented in class during the meetings.
- Availability to participate to all the meetings.

How to apply

- Students need to check with their university about the application procedure. Each participating university manages the application process internally.

Admitted students will receive official communication via email from the organizing committee.

For more information

Contact the reference person within each participating institution.

Registration on the on-line platform

Please note that all the admitted students need to register through the EUI online platform (link will be provided by the reference person within each participating institution). Registration is mandatory for accessing the campus, and serves for materials distribution and uploading of the assignments.

SHORT DESCRIPTION

Since 2010 James Madison University in collaboration with Scuola di Scienze Politiche “Cesare Alfieri” of Università degli Studi di Firenze has organized yearly a “Model European Union Florence”, which enables students to develop and hone policy analysis, diplomacy, negotiation, team-building, and cross-cultural communication skills. In 2023, the School of Transnational Governance of the EUI joins the Model EU Florence for the first time as well.

The Model EU Florence is supported and assisted by practitioners from the EU institutions, who share with the students their invaluable insider knowledge and vision about the day-to-day workings of the EU's most important institutions and the structural, organizational, ideological and political reasons behind specific policy decisions by Brussels actors.

Working on actual EU legislative materials under the guidance of academics and EU professionals, stepping into the shoes of EU decision makers and having to negotiate solutions to the most controversial policy dilemmas of the day are experiences which allow students to truly comprehend the inner workings of the European policy-making system.





FINAL SIMULATION DAY

December 6, 2024, 9.00 - 18.00

Students play the roles of ministers of foreign affairs, commissioners and even possibly journalists of the national and international press, and simulate multilateral decision-making processes on specific policy decisions involving multiple policy components such as human rights, global trade, foreign policy, development, environmental and energy policy, etc.

Topics of the Model EU Florence 2024:

- The war in Ukraine
- The crisis in the Middle East

The specific topics will be articulated in November by faculty and practitioners, on the basis of the current geopolitical challenges.

On simulation day, the teams discuss their respective positions until they reach a final conclusion.

A mandatory business dress code applies to the final simulation day.

Participation certificates are distributed to each student after the end of the entire Model EU Florence. With more than one absence, no certificate can be handed out.

The final simulation day is hosted by the School of Transnational Governance, EUI, Via Cavour 65/a, Florence.





Schedule

31 October - 6 December 2024

Activities indicated in **bold** are in person

Activities indicated in *italics* are on-line

<i>October 2024</i>	<i>Application period</i>
31 October 2024 16.00-18.00 Location COURT ROOM, STG	In person meeting Presentation of the simulation Introductory activities
8 November 2024 16.00-18.00 Location COURT ROOM, STG	In person Training 1 Introduction to the Foreign Policy of the EU Assignment 1 distribution
<i>20 November 2024</i> <i>By 23.59</i>	<i>Submit assignment 1 online</i>
22 November 2024 16.00-18.00 Location COURT ROOM, STG	In person Training 2 Discussion of the simulation topics Assignment 2 distribution

<p><i>27 November 2024</i> <i>By 23.59</i></p>	<p><i>Submit assignment 2 online</i></p>
<p>29 November 2024 17.00-19.00 Location COURT ROOM, STG</p>	<p>In person Training 3 Decision-making and negotiations in the EU Council Assignment 3 distribution</p>
<p><i>2 December 2024</i> <i>By 23.59</i></p>	<p><i>Submit assignment 3 online</i></p>
<p>4 December 2024 10.00-13.00 Location UNIFI</p>	<p>In person Training 4 Teams coaching by EU practitioners</p>
<p>5 December 2024 14.30-17.30 Location UNIFI</p>	<p>In person Training 5 Teams coaching by EU practitioners</p>
<p>6 December 2024 9.00-18.00 Location OSTRUM ROOM, STG</p>	<p>MODEL EU SIMULATION With Faculty and practitioners</p>

Locations:

STG – School of Transnational Governance: Via Cavour 65/a, Florence. Rooms: COURT ROOM and OSTRUM ROOM.

UNIFI – Università di Firenze: Via delle Pandette 32, Florence, Dipartimento di Scienze Politiche e Sociali (DSPS).

Rooms:

4 December, 10.00-13.00 Building D5, Room 112 (breakout rooms: 114 and 012)

5 December, 14:30-17:30 Building D5, Room 112 (breakout rooms: 113, 114)

Simulation team

Christine Bakker



Christine Bakker holds a PhD in public international law from the European University Institute, Florence.

She is currently a Visiting Research Fellow at the British Institute of International and Comparative Law (BIICL, London) and an Affiliated Researcher at the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna in Pisa. Christine previously worked at the European Commission (DG Development), as a Research Fellow at the European University Institute in Florence, as an Adjunct Professor at LUISS University, Rome, as a Visiting Lecturer at the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna and the University of Rome-3, and occasionally as a guest lecturer at the University of Siena. Her main fields of research, teaching, and high-level professional training are international human rights law including children's rights, international environmental law and climate change, international disaster law, and EU law & policies.

Federica Bicchi



Federica Bicchi is Associate Professor at the Department of Social and Political Sciences of the University of Florence and is also affiliated with the Department of International Relations at the London School of Economics (LSE), where she is the Director of the European Foreign Policy Unit. She holds a PhD degree in Political Science from the European University Institute in Florence, Italy, and has spent research periods at Stanford University, New York University (New York), University of Siena and the Free University (Berlin).

Her current research interests centre on the digitalisation of European foreign policy, the interaction between the EU and its member states in international affairs and the European External Action Service (EEAS).

Enrico Borghetto



Enrico Borghetto is an Associate Professor at the Cesare Alfieri Faculty of Political Science of the University of Florence, where he teaches political science and two master's courses on European Union politics. He is also coordinating the Jean Monnet Module 2022-2025 "REPLAN-EU Implementing Resilience and Recovery Plans in Italy and Beyond" and is one of the organizers of the "EU Talks – Dialoghi sul Futuro dell'Europa" annual events in Florence. After receiving a Ph.D. in Political Studies from the Univ. of Milan, he joined their Political Science department as a postdoc. He was also FCT Postdoc and then FCT researcher at the NOVA University of Lisbon (2013-2020). He was a visiting researcher at the Univ. College London (2005), Univ. of Washington (2010), Univ. of Mannheim (2012) and Univ. of Texas at Austin (2017). His research has focused on legislative studies, political representation, compliance with EU policies, the Europeanisation of national legislation, and European decision-making.

Silvio Gonzato



Ambassador Silvio Gonzato is currently the Head of the European Union Delegation to Albania. He was previously Ambassador and Deputy Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations in New York. Prior to that he worked at the European External Action Service in Brussels as Director for Human Rights and Democracy. In this capacity he was responsible for the organization and contents of all HR-related dialogues and consultations between the EU and partner countries (over 40 of them), the development of policy guidelines, and guidance to EU bilateral and multilateral delegations in matters pertaining to HR and democracy support. He was also responsible for Election Observation activities. In September 2015, he was appointed Director for Interinstitutional relations, Policy coordination and Public diplomacy at the EEAS. His responsibilities covered relations with all EU institutions, representation of the EEAS in negotiations having institutional or legal implications, preparation of the meetings of the Foreign Affairs Council, public diplomacy activities and strategic communication issues, including activities aimed at fighting information manipulation from foreign sources.

Kalypso Nikolaidis



Kalypso Nicolaidis is Chair in Global Affairs at the School of Transnational Governance (EUI). She is currently on leave from the University of Oxford and was professor at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government and at Ecole Nationale d'Administration, Paris. She has worked with numerous EU institutions, including as a member of the European Council's reflection group on the future of Europe, and is a Council member of ECFR. She also served as advisor on European affairs to George Papandreou in the 90s and early 2000s, the Dutch and UK governments, the European Parliament, the European Commission, OECD and UNCTAD. At the EUI, Professor Nicolaidis teaches courses on 'Transnational Politics and Institutions', 'Responsible Negotiation', 'Transnational Democracy in the XXI Century' and EU-Africa relations as part of STG's master's, executive education and Young African Leaders programmes. Her research revolves around internal and external aspects of European integration as well as global affairs, theaters of recognition, democratic theory, transnational legal empathy and social solidarity, global governance and international trade, sustainable integration, post-colonialism, myth and politics and the import of new technologies on international relations.

Caterina Paolucci



Caterina Paolucci has organized the joint JMU-UNIFI Model EU simulation since 2010. She is currently On-site Director of the James Madison University (JMU) Florence Programs, and Academic Coordinator of the M.A. in Political Science with a Concentration in European Union Policy Studies of JMU. She studied political science at the Università Cattolica di Milano and the European University Institute in Florence. She has

taught seminars and courses on The Formation and Consolidation of Western European Party Systems, Introduction to the EU: History, Institutions and Policies, The European Monetary Union, Political Theory from Plato to Machiavelli, Italian Political System, Italian Politics and Society. Her main interests lie in comparative politics, the history and theory of party systems and electoral behavior. She is also interested in political theory, with a special attention for theories of democracy and political representation.

Alexandre Stutzmann



Ambassador Alexandre Stutzmann is Head of the EU Representation Office to West Bank and Gaza Strip. He was previously Minister at the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations in New York. He served as Special Adviser to the President of the UN General Assembly at the United Nations, where he was Team Leader for social, humanitarian and cultural issues within the Office of the President of the General Assembly. Formerly he has covered roles such as Director for External Policies in the European Parliament, Head of the Secretariat of the Committee on Foreign Affairs (2014-2015), and Diplomatic Adviser to three Presidents of the European Parliament (Hans-Gert Pöttering, 2007-2009; Jerzy Buzek, 2009-2012; Martin Schulz, 2012-2014). In the EP President's diplomatic team he advised on and coordinated the President's activities in all foreign policy related areas. A graduate in German studies, political science and law from the École Normale Supérieure as well as the Sorbonne University in Paris, Mr. Stutzmann was also a postgraduate scholar at the European University Institute in Florence (1997-2001), where he focused on international relations, while teaching political science at New York University (1999-2001). A French native, his working languages include German, English, Italian and Spanish.