

First year of the Executive Master in EU Studies

Justice and Home Affairs in the EU

Theme/Topic:	Justice and Home Affairs in the EU
Expert:	Prof. Artur Gruszczak , Jagiellonian University, Krakow
Character:	Optional
ECTS Credits:	3 ECTS credits
Teaching methods:	Lecture, seminar and discussion at the presence workshop, guided forum
Assessment methods:	Final exam at the end of the term, 1 assignment (an essay), active participation in the workshop and forum discussion
Skills and competences:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ability to understand and assess the global key aspects of the JHA policies• ability to identify and examine international policy context• analytical and research skills and critical thinking

Objective and course content

Justice and Home Affairs (JHA) is an expanding field of EU integration. Purely intergovernmental until the entry into force of the Amsterdam Treaty, it has been gradually shifting towards the community policy encountering many obstacles and limitations. JHA policies have evolved along two main axes of tension in this field: intergovernmental versus community policy-making; internal versus external dimension. Transformed into an Area of Freedom, Security and Justice in the Amsterdam Treaty, JHA issues blended the vital state prerogatives, in such areas as internal security, border control and criminal justice, with supranational regulations of EU citizenship, protection of freedoms and rights of EU citizens, asylum and judicial cooperation in civil and commercial matters.

The evolution of JHA from sidelined policy area at the times of the Maastricht Treaty into the focal yet contested field of EU integration in the aftermath of the Lisbon Treaty is a story of a slow progress and many reverse turns. The reason is that the governments have tried to upload their security concerns on the EU agenda, while jealously defending their prerogatives. It is also the story of an increasingly active EU foreign policy agenda, which resulted in placing the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice in a global context and inevitably linking it to cooperation with outside actors. Migration and refugee problems, which culminated in the years 2015-2016, have proven complexity of the external/internal dimension of JHA policy. They also generated new tensions undermining remarkable integration achievements, such as the Schengen area or, to a large extent, the Common European Asylum System.

This course will analyse the institutional and legal framework of JHA policies and examine the aspects of practical cooperation. Special attention will be paid to international dimension and global aspects of these policies. Migration issues, border management, law-enforcement collaboration and judicial cooperation are the most notable aspects of JHA and will be discussed in great detail throughout the entire course.

Bibliographical advice

DG HOME E-Library: http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/e-library/documents/index_en.htm

DG JUST policy libraries: http://ec.europa.eu/justice/index_en.htm

European Parliament LIBE Committee:

<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/libe/home.html>