

**RGSL SUMMER SCHOOL, 4-12 AUGUST 2024**

Title	EU Fundamental Values in Times of Crisis
Total hours	40
Credit points	4 ECTS
Prerequisites	Knowledge of the basics of the European Union law Knowledge of the European system of human rights protection

**SUMMER SCHOOL LECTURERS**

Name and surname	Academic degree	Academic position
Ilze Rūse	Dr.phil.	Professor
Natalja Točelovska	PhD	Assistant Professor
Aleksandrs Potaičuks	PhD	Assistant Professor
Mārtiņš Hiršs	PhD	Visiting Lecturer
Viktorija Soņeca	LL.M	Visiting Lecturer
Kristaps Tamužs	LL.M	Visiting Lecturer

**ABSTRACT**

This course examines how the European Union's (EU) fundamental values are being challenged in times of crisis such as the 2014 refugee crisis and terrorist attacks in Paris and Brussels in 2015 and 2016. The course then explores the EU response to external conflicts via humanitarian action as well as the notion of European solidarity. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on human rights and the rule of law are also discussed.

The course aims to illustrate that every crisis is multi-dimensional and can be viewed from various perspectives: thus, for example, a financial crisis does not only have economic consequences but a broader range of implications. Similarly, the COVID-19 pandemic will have broad long-term effects: economic, political, legal, and social.

After completing the course, the students will be able to critically analyse the crises that the European Union faced during the second decade of the 21st century. They will be able to identify political and legal challenges in the implementation of European values and offer appropriate solutions. Apart from looking at past experiences, the course will discuss possible future crises and examine the available instruments to counter them.

The final session of the course is a debate, involving scholars, policymakers, and other stakeholders. The policy debate will serve as a conclusion of the course, offering at the same time a larger platform for discussion of current challenges the EU faces. The debate will be open to a broader audience.

## COURSE SESSIONS

Date	Time	Covered subjects	Lecturer
4 August	10:00-11:00 W20	<b>Opening of the Summer School</b>	
4 August	11:00-12:45 W20	<b>EU Fundamental Values: Why do we need the Charter of Fundamental Rights?</b>	Viktorija Soņeca
4 August	13:30-15:15 W20	<b>Protecting Fundamental Rights in the Age of AI</b>	Viktorija Soņeca
5 August	11:00-12:45 online / W20	<b>Response of the EU External Action on crises outside the EU borders</b>	Prof. Dr. Ilze Rūse
5 August	13:30-15:15 online / W20	<b>Financial crisis: types, causing factors, frequency and implications</b>	Dr. Natalja Točelovska
5 August	15:30-16:30	<b>Study visit to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Latvia</b>	
6 August	11:00-15:15 W20	<b>Workshop on European Commission policy priorities</b>	Dr. Aleksandrs Potaičuks
7 August	11:00-12:45 W20	<b>Workshop on European Commission policy priorities: part II</b>	Dr. Aleksandrs Potaičuks
7 August	14:00-15:00	<b>Study visit to the European Commission representation in Latvia</b>	
8 August	11:00-12:45 W20	<b>EU and the rule of law: crisis or controversies?</b>	Kristaps Tamužs
8 August	13:30-15:15 W20	<b>EU and the rule of law: seminar</b>	Kristaps Tamužs
8 August	16:00-17:00	<b>Study visit to the Constitutional Court of Latvia</b>	
11 August	11:00-12:45 W20	<b>Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the security of Europe</b>	Dr. Mārtiņš Hiršs

Date	Time	Covered subjects	Lecturer
11 August	13:30-15:15 W20	<b>EU enlargement: a potential overstretch?</b>	Viktorija Soņeca
12 August	11:00-12:45 W42	<b>Final group presentations</b>	
12 August	14:00-15:30 W42	<b>The final debate: the future of EU values?</b>  Moderator: Ieva Miļūna, PhD cand., Lecturer of RGSL  Panelists: Dr.sc.pol. Toms Rostoks, Director of the Center for Security and Strategic Research, National Defense Academy of Latvia Sintija Broka, PhD cand., LL.M., Deputy Director of the Latvian Institute of International Affairs Inguss Kalniņš, LL.M., Adviser to the Minister of Justice of the Republic of Latvia	
12 August	15:30 RGSL lobby	<b>Farewell reception</b>	