



## The EU and Eastern Europe: Peace, Democracy and Cooperation

Joint course of UCLouvain (Current EU topics) and Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, with the participation of colleagues from the University of Belgrade

Simulation of an EU Council Meeting and site visit to the EU Commission in Brussels

Before the course takes place in presence:

- 1 online session on November 7, 15:30 for presenting the activity to the students, forming the groups, assigning the roles and topics
- Students will have to prepare short position papers summarizing their positions in the negotiations as they will have to come up with a joint declaration (or not) as an outcome of the meeting
- Material for preparation will be made available on HU's Moodle, students may have to do some additional research on their own

### Schedule and Scenario for the Simulation

<b>Wednesday 16 November (Brussels, Université Saint-Louis)</b>	<b>Thursday 17 November (Louvain-la-Neuve)</b>	<b>Friday 18 November (Brussels)</b>
10:00: Get-together and presentation of the activities, time for first group work  11:30-12:45 Input 1: The EU, EaP and Enlargement (Ivana Radic Milosavljevic, University of Belgrade)	9:30-10: Introduction to the group negotiations  10:00–12:30: Group negotiations in break-out rooms aiming at reaching an agreement and drafting a conclusion	8:30: Meeting point: Brussel-Exit Schuman Metro Station - Point A on map  08:45: Visit to the EU Commission, DG NEAR on Ukraine
Lunch break (sandwiches)	Lunch break (own expense)	Lunch break (own expense)
14:00–15:00 Input 2: Ukraine and Russia (Laetitia Spetchinsky, UCLouvain)  15.30-16.30 Input 3: The role of China and other Asian countries (Elena Atanassova, UCLouvain)  17.00-18.00 Meeting with Nicole Dewandre (Policy Coordinator Foresight in the cabinet of Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission)	14:00–15:30: Plenary negotiation, Council meeting  16:15: Final discussion, Feedback and Comments	Meeting point: 13:30 Rue Belliard. Opposite to Total Petrol Station and next to EP. Point B on Map.  14:00: Visit of the Belgian permanent representation of the EU
18:30 Graduation Ceremony Master in EU Studies, speech by Nicole Dewandre	Dinner at Brussels	15:00/15:30 End of the seminar

20:00 Reception at UCLouvain-Saint-Louis Brussels		
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## **The EU Council Meeting on Ukraine's application for EU membership**

Scenario: As stated on the EU's External Action's website: "The Eastern Partnership (EaP) is a joint initiative involving the EU, its Member States and six Eastern European Partner countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine. Launched in 2009, the EaP is a strategic and ambitious partnership based on common values and rules, mutual interests and commitments, as well as shared ownership and responsibility. It aims to strengthen and deepen the political and economic relations between the EU, its Member States and the partner countries, as well as supports sustainable reform processes in countries of Eastern Partnership. As a specific Eastern dimension of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP), the Eastern Partnership combines bilateral and multilateral tracks."

Initially, the EaP within the ENP was not supposed to lead to further EU enlargement. However, now Ukraine and Moldova applied for EU membership and the EU Council, on its meeting in June 2022, approved their applications and provided the status of an accession country.

During our bloc seminar, we will simulate a further Council Meeting on Ukraine's application to discuss the next steps in the accession process. Three member states, France, Italy and Spain are opposing the further EU enlargement, Germany and Poland argue in favour. The EU Commission and the EP will also formulate a statement on the issue.

### Your tasks:

- 1) Find and formulate a position within your group (you will have material on Moodle that you can use as a preparation), according to your respective role, before meeting in Louvain and on November 16.
- 2) Discuss your actor's view on the issues across the groups in order to find out about the other actors' positions (November 17).
- 3) Negotiate during the Council Meeting and come up with a Joint Statement (or not) and comment on that if you are an outside observer (November 17).

### Participants:

Teams will comprise of 4 students each, a mix of HU Berlin and UC Louvain students:

- European Council President – Charles Michel
- Governments/Heads of State EU Member States (France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Hungary, Poland)
- Czech Government as currently acting EU Council Presidency
- High Representative EEAS – Josep Borrell
- EU Commission President – Ursula von der Leyen
- DG Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (NEAR)
- Government of Ukraine
- EP President or EP Committee (LIBE)
- Observers: NGO or journalists