



UNIVERSITY OF
COPENHAGEN



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI MILANO



UNIVERSITY
OF WARSAW



EUROPEAN
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ALLIANCE



History of European cooperation since 1919

MAPS-EU: MA-PhD Seminar

Research skills for junior researchers

Since the First World War, the European states have *experimented* with multiple forms of cooperation in order to tackle many of the fundamental challenges that are still with us today. In the last hundred years, European cooperation has been an ongoing process materializing in a variety of ways, from alliances to technical cooperation and international and regional organisations. Although most of these cooperative experiments have been studied by social scientists, legal scholars or historians, the field remains deeply fragmented. Likewise, the normative biases of cooperation, i.e. the ideologies and interests it facilitated, are underexplored, making it difficult for contemporary political debate to fully grasp the new nationalist critique of the EU.

The theme of the course will be European cooperation from 1920 to the present day, encompassing not only the history of the European Union and of its forerunner since 1950, but also all forms of European cooperation with an element of institutional formalization, from 1919, when the League of Nations and the International Labour Organisation, two international organisations with a large European operative basis, were founded. Beyond the European Union, it also includes organisations such as the Council of Europe, OEEC/OECD, NATO, the Comecon (the organisation of economic cooperation of the Eastern bloc) and the OSCE (the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe created in 1975). It also includes analyses of the societal actors that either underpinned or opposed closer European integration, ranging from non-state actors such as transnational political party organizations, professional associations and stable cartels among companies. Hence the course touches on a wide variety of sub-disciplines, including political, economic, social, cultural, legal, diplomatic and military history.

The joint MA-Phd course combines a weekly web-seminar over 21 weeks and

- an intensive one-week field trip at the Historical Archives of the European Union (HAEU) in Florence to learn historical methodology when working on archives. The HAEU gathers materials from the European Union, but also from many other institutions, associations and actors dealing with European cooperation since 1919.

- A three-day seminar in late May 2022 to discuss the exam papers in progress before their delivery on 15 June. Università degli Studi di Milano and the Fondazione Feltrinelli are joint hosts of this session.

Although the course plans to take advantage of the advances in online teaching, brought to the fore by the covid-19 epidemic, the two physical meetings are crucial to create a sense of team spirit, hands-on academic cooperation and eventually in-depth learning. Although mostly historical in its approach, this seminar will welcome masters and PhD students from all disciplines that require academic historical skills. **Teaching will be in English.**

ECTS

This MA-Phd course will provide between 8 and 15 ECTS, depending on local regulations and can serve as a basis for a more integrated cooperation on a common diploma in the future.

Key dates:

- October: Teaching starts. In parallel with the seminars students will be divided in 5 groups of 6 students (split across national lines), tutored by one academic mentor selected among the core-team.
- October-December: first series of 10 online seminars (two hours per week). The seminars will be organized by academics from all 4 universities (some of them with Fondazione Feltrinelli). The seminars will be mixed between plenary sessions and breakout rooms to encourage student to reflect and debate. Student will work on primary sources (written and oral archives) and provide literature review.
- January: the winter school will be an intensive one-week research field trip at the HAEU in Florence. Students will work on the primary sources of their own research and will take part in workshops.
- Late February - Early May: Second series of seminars. Similar to the autumn seminars. A limited number of BA students will be admitted as observers during the last part of the seminar.
- Late May: three-day meeting in Milan. The students will present their draft final paper and receive feedback.
- 15 June: deadline for the delivery of final individual papers. The best could be published.

Admission is subject to place availability (linked to a limited amount of EU funding) : please contact your local correspondent

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