

## The Policies of the European Union (K000316)

**Course size** *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

**Credits 6.0**

**Study time 180 h**

**Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2026-2027**

A (semester 1)

Dutch

Gent

independent work  
lecture

**Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027**

Vos, Hendrik

PS03

lecturer-in-charge

**Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027**

[Bachelor of Science in Political Science](#)

6

A

[Linking Course Master of Science in Political Science\(main subject International Politics\)](#)

6

A

[Linking Course Master of Science in EU-Studies](#)

6

A

[Preparatory Course Master of Science in EU-Studies](#)

6

A

[Elective Set Political Sciences](#)

6

A

**Teaching languages**

Dutch

**Keywords**

European Union, policy, areas of EU policy

**Position of the course**

This course builds further on 'European Political Integration'. It aims to familiarize students with the different areas in which EU policy is developed.

**Contents**

In this course, an overview of the different EU policy areas is presented. It outlines the European Union policy-making, as well as the recent developments, within each area. The found developments are fit in a theoretical framework. Policy domains that are discussed in any case are:

- Common Agricultural Policy
- Single Market
- Social Policy
- Cultural Policy
- Environmental Policy
- External Policy (Trade and Development)

In consultation with the students, other items or areas of policy can be added to these.

**Initial competences**

Recommended: European Political Integration

Required: --

**Final competences**

- 1 - To be able to explain European policy in various policy areas.
- 2 - To be able to critically analyze and interpret the way in which European policy in various areas is established.
- 3 - To be able to point out and explain recent developments in EU policy.
- 4 - To be able to explain the developments in EU policy areas on the basis of theories related to European integration.
- 5 - To be able to assess the implications of political choices in policy areas.

**Conditions for credit contract**

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

**Conditions for exam contract**

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

**Teaching methods**

Lecture, Independent work

**Extra information on the teaching methods**

(including interaction with and input from students)

Lecture recordings: available in full and on a permanent basis.

**Study material**

Type: Handbook

Name: De impact van de Europese Unie - beleidsterreinen, strijdpunten en uitdagingen

Indicative price: € 27

Optional: no

Language : Dutch

Author : Hendrik Vos

ISBN : 978-9-46344-250-3

Number of Pages : 123

Oldest Usable Edition : 2017

Online Available : No

Available in the Library : Yes

Available through Student Association : Yes

Usability and Lifetime within the Course Unit : intensive

Usability and Lifetime within the Study Programme : regularly

Usability and Lifetime after the Study Programme : occasionally

**References**

Cini, M., & PérezSolórzano Borragán, N. (Eds.). (2025). *European Union politics* (8th ed.). Oxford University Press.

**Course content-related study coaching**

Interactive support through Ufora and e-mail + by appointment.

**Assessment moments**

end-of-term assessment

**Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period**

Written assessment with open-ended questions

**Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period**

Written assessment with open-ended questions

**Examination methods in case of permanent assessment****Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment**

examination during the second examination period is possible

**Extra information on the examination methods**

The exam tests the knowledge of, insight into, and critical attitude toward policy in the different EU policy areas.

**Calculation of the examination mark**

Periodic assessment (100%)

**Facilities for Working Students**

Working students can simply take part in the regular scheduled assessments.  
There are no separate exercises or assignments they are required to complete.