

Identification	Subject (code, title, credits)	PSIR 577 Foreign Policy of the European Union 6 ECTS 15 Weeks, 60 hours
	Department	Political Science and International Relations
	Program (undergraduate, graduate)	Graduate
	Term	Fall 2025
	Instructor	Vasif Huseynov
	E-mail:	Vhuseynov@khazar.org
	Phone:	
	Classroom/hours	Narimanov campus/18:40
	Office hours	By appointment
Prerequisites	None	
Language of instruction	English	
Compulsory/Elective	Required	
Course outline	This course examines the European Union as a global actor in foreign, security, and defense affairs. It introduces students to the development of the EU's external action framework, its institutional architecture, and the dynamics shaping its global engagement. The course provides historical context for the evolution of the EU's foreign policy capabilities and explores how internal EU politics intersect with external ambitions.	
Course objectives	<p>By the end of this course, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Explain the historical development of the EU's foreign, security, and defense policies. - Identify the key EU institutions and actors involved in external relations. - Analyze the EU's foreign policy strategies and assess their effectiveness. - Understand the EU's interaction with major global actors and regional partners. - Evaluate contemporary foreign policy challenges facing the EU. - Learning the necessary conditions that make democracy work - Developing presentation and critical analysis skills 	
Learning Outcomes	<p>Upon completion of the course, the students are expected to articulate good analytical and critical thinking on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - structure and foreign policy priorities of the EU - competencies of EU institutions, with particular relevance to foreign policy - role of the EU as a global actor - historical development of the EU and its foreign policy 	
	Lecture	x

Teaching methods	Class discussion		x
	Experiential exercise		x
	Course paper		x
	Others (presentations)		x
Evaluation	Methods	Date/deadlines	Percentage (%)
	Midterm Exam		25
	Attendance		5
	Participation in Class Discussions		5
	Case-study Presentation		10
	Review presentation		10
	Research Paper		10
	Final Exam		35
	Total		100
Course Materials to download	https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/fo157roudhl472zhvsm0a/AGf8JcfLw9cUc7r60zdW8DM?rlkey=jybzpreqitqsrler9zrz9b6i&dl=0		
Policy	<p>Attendance: Attendance is strongly required.</p> <p>Participation: Students following this course are not simply expected to listen and memorize the lectures but to study the reading materials well, to engage in class discussions and small group-works and be able to demonstrate and debate his/her viewpoints. Each week the instructor will note your weekly grades for participation. However, also remember that the quality of your inputs matters no less. Do not merely speak for the sake of speaking. Any efforts to imitate an “informed student” without in fact having done the homework will be easily discernible. There is a value in bearing this in mind.</p> <p>Case-study Presentation: Each student is required to make, depending on the group size, one or two case study presentations on the topics agreed with the instructor in advance. (20 minutes – presentation, 20 minutes - subsequent Q&A session).</p> <p>Review presentation: Students are required to make one or two review presentations, depending on the group size. These presentations are expected to cover the learning outcomes of the previous week under the title “what did we learn last week?”. Students are required to present 2-3 questions for discussions at the end of the presentations. (10 minutes – presentation, 15 minutes for Q&A session)</p> <p>Research Paper: Students are required to write a research paper on a question analyzing the theoretical aspects of democracy or its application in practice. Your paper should contain an introduction, main body and conclusion. The paper format is as below: 12 font size, Times New Roman, 1.5 spacing, 5 pages excluding references. Papers must adhere to the academic principles of quotation and citation. The papers that do not correspond to these requirements will not be considered. The Deadline for Paper Submission is 30 November 2025.</p>		

	<p>Mid-Term Exam: This will be a written, in-class exam. It will cover all of the course readings plus class lectures and discussions.</p> <p>Final Exam: This will be a written, in-class exam. It will cover all of the course readings plus class lectures and discussions encompassing the period after the midterm exam.</p> <p>Integrity: Students are expected to respect basic rules of academic integrity, including but not limited to avoidance of plagiarism.</p> <p>Academic misconduct Academic honesty plays an essential part in maintaining the integrity of Khazar University. Students are expected to recognize and uphold high standards of intellectual and academic integrity. The following acts are examples of academic dishonesty, therefore are strictly forbidden and will, if proven, be penalized:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - plagiarism, - cheating, - unauthorized collaboration, - falsification, - multiple submissions. <p><i>On plagiarism:</i> Plagiarism is unethical and an <u>offence</u> under the University regulations. Please familiarize yourself with the regulations relating to plagiarism and cheating in examinations.</p> <p>Plagiarism is copying other people's work without <u>proper</u> attribution. The students committing plagiarism and the students providing materials for plagiarizing will automatically receive a zero (0) for the assignment. Students must always indicate that they used someone else's words and ideas if they have done so, by using quotation marks and mentioning the source in the text or a footnote. A bibliography must also follow after the end of your essays.</p> <p>Rules of Professional Conduct The students shall behave in the way to create favorable academic and professional environment during the class hours. Unauthorized discussions and unethical behavior are strictly prohibited. Classroom behavior that seriously interferes with either (a) the instructor's ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to benefit from the course program will not be tolerated. When a student's behavior in a class is so seriously disruptive as to compel immediate action, the instructor has the authority to remove a student from the class on an interim basis, pending an informal hearing on the behavior.</p>
Tentative Schedule	

Week 1: 15.09.2025 Introduction: EU as a global actor: common foreign and security policy	<p>Bindi, Federiga. "The New EU foreign policy under the Treaty of Lisbon." In <i>The Foreign Policy of the European Union: Assessing Europe's Role in the World</i>, pp. 41-50.</p> <p>Anderson, Stephanie. "The EU's Security and Defense Policy a Decade after Lisbon Raised Expectations, but the Same Internal Struggles" In <i>The Foreign Policy of the European Union: Assessing Europe's Role in the World</i>, pp. 50-65.</p>
Week 2: 22.09.2025 Key principles and objectives of EU foreign policy	<p>Vanhoonacker, S. and Pomorska, K. (2023) "The Institutional Framework". In: Hill, C., Smith, M. and Vanhoonacker, S. (eds.) <i>International Relations and the European Union</i>. 4th edn. (Oxford: Oxford University Press) pp. 67-90.</p> <p>Ana E. Juncos. "The Implementation of EU Foreign Policy," <i>NEW EUROPEAN UNION SERIES</i> (2023): 257-300.</p>
Week 3: 29.09.2025 EU and theories of IR	<p>Andreatta, Filippo, and Lorenzo Zambarnardi. "The European Union and Theories of International Relations." <i>NEW EUROPEAN UNION SERIES</i> (2023): 45-63.</p>
Week 4: 06.10.2025 Role of Member states	<p>Spyros Economides. "European Foreign Policy and the Role of Member States: Europeanization or Renationalization?," <i>NEW EUROPEAN UNION SERIES</i> (2023): 217-255.</p>
Week 5: 13.10.2025 EU and Migration	<p>Francesca Longo. "The European Union's Foreign Policy and the External Dimension of Migration" In <i>The Foreign Policy of the European Union: Assessing Europe's Role in the World</i>, pp. 90-100.</p> <p>Hill, Christopher. "Migration: The Dilemmas of External Relations." <i>International Relations and the European Union</i> (2023): 327.</p>
Week 6: 20.10.2025 Democracy and Populist change	<p>Lord, Christopher. "Democracy and the Populist Challenge ." <i>International Relations and the European Union</i> (2023): 300.</p>

Week 7: 27.10.2025 The EU and neighborhood	<p>Casier, Tom. "The European Neighborhood Policy in a new geopolitical context." In <i>The foreign policy of the European Union: Assessing Europe's role in the world</i>. Rowman and Littlefield, 2022.</p> <p>Smith, Karen E. "An End to Enlargement: The EU, its Neighbourhood, and European." <i>International relations and the European union</i> (2023): 281.</p>
Week 8: 03.11.2025	MIDTERM
Week 9: 10.11.2025 EU-Russia relations	<p>Serena Giusti Eleonora Tafuro Ambrosetti "The EU-Russia Zigzag Relationship" In <i>The foreign policy of the European Union: Assessing Europe's role in the world</i>. Rowman and Littlefield, 2022.</p>
Week 10: 17.11.2025 Ukraine war	<p>Maurer, H., Whitman, R.G. And Wright, N. (2023) "The EU and the Invasion of Ukraine: A collective responsibility to act" <i>International Affairs</i> 99(1): 219-238.</p> <p>Serena Giusti Tomislava Penkova "Drawing Lessons from the EU's Approach toward Ukraine" In <i>The foreign policy of the European Union: Assessing Europe's role in the world</i>. Rowman and Littlefield, 2022.</p>
Week 11: 24.11.2025 Transatlantic relations	<p>Bindi, Federiga. "Transatlantic Relations: The End of the European Dream of Independence." In <i>The Foreign Policy of the EU: Assessing Europe's Role in the World</i>. Brookings Press, 2022.</p>
Week 12: 01.12.2025 EU-China relations	<p>Sara Norrevik. "EU-China Relations: Economic Interdependence and Vulnerabilities." In <i>The Foreign Policy of the EU: Assessing Europe's Role in the World</i>. Brookings Press, 2022.</p>
Week 13: 08.12.2025	

EU-Central Asia	Aleksander Lust. "The European Union and Central Asia: Dust in the Wind?." In <i>The Foreign Policy of the EU: Assessing Europe's Role in the World</i> . Brookings Press, 2022.
Week 14: 15.12.2025 EU-Azerbaijan relations	The materials will be distributed by the instructor
Week 15: 22.12.2025	Concluding Discussions
FINAL EXAM	

This syllabus is a guide for the course and any modifications to it will be announced in advance. The instructor may require additional readings for each week's topics.