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ERASMUS – JMO – 2025 – 2028 MODULE
UNIVERSITY OF GJIROKASTRA
EU EDUCATION FOR BETTER GOVERNANCE IN THE REGIONS OF ALBANIA

EU4EduGovRegAl

EUROPEAN LAW

Lecturer: Dr. Arjan GJINI

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OPEN FORUM OVERVIEW: EU4EduGovRegAl

Academic Transformation: Strengthening European Union studies through innovative teaching, interdisciplinary approaches, and research on EU governance.

Institutional Capacity Building: Supporting the modernization of public administration by promoting European standards of transparency, accountability, and good governance.

Regional Engagement and European Awareness: Enhancing awareness of European integration and fostering cooperation among institutions, students, and regional stakeholders.

Sustainable Academic and Institutional Networks: Establishing long-term collaboration between universities, local governments, and international partners to support Albania's European integration process.

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🎯 FORUM OBJECTIVES

- 🇪🇺 Understanding EU Governance Principles
- 🏛️ Analyzing EU Institutions
- 🛰️ Promoting Active Citizenship
- 🤝 Connecting EU Governance with Albania
- 🏆 Applying Knowledge Practically

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PHILOSOPHY AND ARCHITECTURE (INTRODUCTION) IN EU LAW

EUROPEAN LAW: FROM A "GENETIC CODE" TO THE CONSTITUTION OF AN ADVANCED SOCIETY

Analysis of a Sui Generis Legal System and Albania's Path

🇪🇺 European Message:

👉 Law is not a limitation – it is a guarantee of freedom and development.

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A LIVING LEGAL ORGANISM

EU law is not "foreign" – it is "shared"

Replacing force with law: Protecting 500 million citizens

EU Law – From Norm to Reality

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THE EU STANDARD: VENICE COMMISSION

The EU does not impose a system, but requires "Good Practice"

Pillars: Pluralism,

Administrative Integrity,

Financial Transparency

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THE TRIANGLE OF LEGITIMACY (INSTITUTIONAL)

Commission: Guardian of the Treaties (Union interest)

Parliament: Voice of the People (democratic legitimacy)

Council: Voice of the States (national harmonisation)

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SOURCES AND HIERARCHY

What is the "Acquis Communautaire"?

The legal "treasure": 100,000+ pages of treaties, laws, and case law

Albania's challenge: Transposing this body into the national system

- For Albania:
  - Integration = transformation of the legal system
  - The acquis is not a formal obligation, but a standard of living

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THE PYRAMID OF NORMS

Primary Law: Treaties ("Constitution")

Secondary Law:

Regulations,

Directives,

Decisions.

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INSTRUMENTS OF ACTION

Regulation: Directly applicable law (e.g., GDPR)

Directive: Common goal, national means (Environment, Health)

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THE TWO PILLARS: SUPREMACY AND DIRECT EFFECT

Costa v. ENEL: EU law prevails over national law

Van Gend en Loos:

Citizens can invoke EU law before national courts

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ENGINES OF INTEGRATION

The Single Market and the Four Freedoms

More than economics: A laboratory of coexistence

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FREE MOVEMENT OF GOODS AND PERSONS

Cassis de Dijon: Mutual recognition of products

European citizenship: Professional dignity across the Union

FREE MOVEMENT OF SERVICES AND CAPITAL

Competition that lowers costs

Euro stability and transnational investments

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THE COURT OF JUSTICE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION (CJEU) – THE GUARDIAN OF EU LAW ⚖️

Primary Role: Ensures the uniform interpretation and application of EU law across all Member States.
Core Functions: Interpretation of EU Law (Preliminary Rulings):
Providing guidance to national courts on how to apply EU legislation.
Dispute Resolution: Settling legal disputes between national governments and EU institutions.
Judicial Review: Monitoring the legality of EU acts and annulment of proceedings.
Infringement Proceedings: Sanctioning Member States for failing to comply with EU law obligations.
Key Legal Principles Established: Supremacy of EU Law: EU law takes precedence over conflicting national laws.
Direct Effect: EU law creates rights for citizens that must be protected by national courts.

🎯 "Without the CJEU, EU law would remain a theory; with the CJEU, it becomes an enforceable reality."

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HORIZONTAL POLICIES

Competition and the "Level Playing Field"

Fight against cartels and monopolies (abuse of dominant position)

Consumer protection as a priority

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STATE AID

Why governments cannot favor their own businesses

Transparency as a condition for fair competition

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THE GREEN DEAL: ENVIRONMENT AS INDUSTRIAL REGULATOR

“ Polluter Pays” principle

Transition to clean technologies:

No longer optional,

but mandatory.

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ENFORCEMENT AND SANCTIONS

The Guardian of the Treaties in Action

Infringement procedure: From formal notice to the Court of Justice (CJEU)

SIGNIFICANT FINES FOR NON-COMPLIANT STATES

The New Conditionality Mechanism (2020)

No funds without the rule of law

Protecting EU taxpayers' money from corruption

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ALBANIA AND THE "BIBLE" OF NEGOTIATIONS

The 35 Chapters: The Map of Transformation

From free movement of goods to fisheries and environment

Each chapter represents reform in citizens' daily lives

The New Methodology and "Clusters"

Cluster 1 (Fundamentals): Judiciary and justice

Opened first, closed last

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THE PRINCIPLE OF REVERSIBILITY

The process is not "one-way"

Democratic backsliding (Chapters 23–24) can reverse progress

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🇦🇱 FOR ALBANIA: WHAT DOES EU LAW MEAN IN PRACTICE?

Decisions of the Court of Justice of the European Union serve as a guide for Albanian courts and institutions

EU law requires: 👉 independent courts

👉 decisions based on law, not political influence

👉 real protection of citizens' rights

Integration means that: 👉 European rules become part of everyday legal practice in Albania

👉 citizens benefit from greater legal certainty and equality before the law

🎯 👉 "EU law is not only for Brussels – it is the standard that guarantees better justice for every Albanian citizen."

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CONCLUSION: EUROPEAN LAW AS A PASSPORT TO A GLOBAL ELITE

EU law is not just a legal system – it is a model of society

Supremacy of law over politics

Citizen at the center of the legal system

Institutions that guarantee equality and accountability

⚖️ **The Court of Justice of the European Union ensures these principles are not theoretical, but applied in practice across all Member States**

🎯 👉 **"EU law begins in Brussels, but becomes real in our courts and institutions."**

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CONCLUSIONS AND QUESTIONS SUMMARY OF MAIN POINTS. SPACE FOR DISCUSSION.

THANK YOU

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