CHALLENGES OF EUROPE
Solidarities in and from Europe in Crisis
Inclusion and Exclusion in Contemporary European Societies 12, 2023

INFORMATION & APPLICATION FORM

This is the Course description and USG-application form for the 12th edition of the International Honours Course Challenges of Europe. We are looking for around 8 to 10 students (master, PhD and advanced last years bachelors) from the faculty of Law, Economics and Governance to participate in this course, with around 6 places for the School of Governance (USBO).

Challenges of Europe: Populism, Parochialism and Autocratic Leadership
Inclusion and Exclusion in Contemporary European Societies, Edition 12, 2023

What? International Honours Course (Faculty of Law, Economics and Governance)
When? 27-31 March 2023
Where? Inter University Centre Dubrovnik (Croatia)
Application? By sending this form to Wieger Bakker (w.e.bakker@uu.nl) before December 9 2022

Dear student,

Herewith we would like to invite you to apply for the course Challenges of Europe: Solidarities in and from Europe in Crisis, which will be organised from 27-31 March 2023 at the Inter University Centre Dubrovnik in Croatia. In a separate attachment you will find enclosed the more detailed course description. More information can be provided by asking one of the course directors (from Utrecht Wieger Bakker and René van Rijsselt) in person or by e-mail (w.e.bakker@uu.nl r.j.t.vanrijsselt@uu.nl).

Following the course can be inspiring especially for students with an interest in questions on inclusion and exclusion in European societies. It provides, more than formal conferences, an opportunity to broaden your perspective and to get in touch with people, views and experiences from different countries and academic disciplines. The course is organised at the Inter-University Centre Dubrovnik (IUC). The IUC is an independent international institute for advanced studies that is co-sponsored by some hundred member universities and institutions of higher learning around the world. The centre started in the early seventies to improve and expand contact and discussion between 'West' and 'East' (and later 'South'). See www.iuc.hr
This course exists since 1998 and is organized by partners from the Netherlands (Utrecht University), the Czech Republic (Masaryk University Brno) and Croatia (Economic Institute Zagreb and the University of Zagreb). Regular partners in this course are lecturers and students from Erasmus University Rotterdam and universities in Turkey, the UK, Romania, Germany, Bosnia and Serbia.

The course is open to Masters and Phd students and in some cases to students in their final bachelor year. For most participating departments, including the Utrecht University Schools of Law, Economics and Governance, this course has the character of a so-called ‘honours programme’. In general the course is aimed at students or disciplines that are dealing with issues related to the public domain (social sciences including e.g. sociology, political science, public administration and policy sciences, anthropology, European Studies, law, economics, organizational sciences et cetera).

The course will be intensive in the sense that a total number of around 12 resource persons and around 30 participants have a full week to share their views in a stimulating surrounding without formal barriers and day-to-day obligations: during the day in the IUC-building -an old 19th century boarding school just outside the old city centre-, during lunch break in and around the old city and furthermore most of them stay in the same hotel. Almost all of the contact hours for this course are concentrated in the week at the IUC in Dubrovnik. See for details on the working methods and assignments the course description. When successfully passing the course bachelor and master students will receive 7.5 ECTS credits. The work that has to be done for preparing the course and writing the final paper can be spread over a longer period of time than for a regular course (between the end of February until mid-June).

Based on experiences from previous editions, we expect to receive more applications than we can grant. Therefore selections have to be made. To make a prudent selection the course directors will look at motivation, past performance, relation to the specialisation of the applicant, earlier (inter-national & academic) experiences, English fluency and the composition of the group of participants (discipline, specialisation, male/female, etc.). This means that there are no absolute criteria and that there is no discussion on the outcome of the selection procedure.

The intensive course week in Dubrovnik is for a large part subsidised. An individual personal contribution of 200 Euro is required. This includes hotel half board for maximum 8 nights, course fee, course organisation and the social programme. You are responsible for your own transport to and from Dubrovnik, but will support you in organising this.

If you want to apply, please fill in the application form and send it to Wieger Bakker (w.e.bakker@uu.nl).

Also on behalf of the other course co-directors Ladislav Rabusic, Vit Hlusek, René van Rijsselt and Paul Stubbs,

Wieger Bakker
Course director

More information?
Course reports from earlier editions since 1998 are available in digital form and hard copy. We are happy to answer all remaining questions by e-mail or in person.

Utrecht University, Utrecht School of Governance
Bijlhouwerstraat 6
3511 ZC Utrecht (the Netherlands)
+31 (0)30-2538101
w.e.bakker@uu.nl
www.inclusionexclusion.eu (to be updated the coming months)
Course description

Challenges of Europe: Solidarities in and from Europe in Crisis
Inclusion and Exclusion in Contemporary European Societies 12

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LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After passing the course, participants are able to:

- recognise different forms of and debates on solidarity in and from Europe;
- demonstrate basic knowledge on the characteristics of processes of policy formation and implementation, governance and public accountability concerning the way national governments and the EU act on issues of solidarity;
- analyse concrete new cases of inclusion and exclusion related to changes in solidarity in and from Europe;
- discuss the demands of different groups of citizens and the way the EU does or should respond to these demands;
- present for their home country relevant issues, data and analysis in such a way that participants from a different national background and/or discipline can participate in the discussion;
- discuss relevant topics from an international comparative perspective;
- design, to present and to defend concrete future oriented policies and or strategies for dealing with social problems with a European dimension.

CONTENT

International (Post) Graduate Course
27 – 31 March 2023, Inter University Center Dubrovnik, Croatia

Within the EU and wider Europe, solidarity is anything but self-evident and solidarity between the EU and other parts of the world appears at a low ebb. The decline or retreat of solidarity shows itself most clearly in crisis times. The financial crisis of 2008 exposed the breakdown of solidarity between the north-west and the south-east of Europe. The consequences of national policies following that crisis hit the most vulnerable parts of society hardest. The absence of solidarity with migrants, refugees and asylum seekers became clearly visible during the refugee crisis of 2015, although there were grassroots demonstrations of solidarity. Other recent crises like Brexit, the recent Covid-19 pandemic, climate change, the energy crisis that followed the war in Ukraine and the war in Ukraine itself, posed new challenges for solidarity in Europe as well as for solidarity between Europe and other parts of the world.

During this course we explore the state of solidarity in and from Europe from different disciplinary perspectives as well as looking at histories of solidarity and what they may tell us about potential repertoires of action for increasing solidarity in the future. We look at the key characteristics, consequences and challenges of solidarity.
Three of the most important questions to be addressed during the course are:

- What do we know about and how can we understand the state and development of solidarity from and in Europe, the EU and in particular countries?
- To what extent do these developments lead to new, changing or increasing forms of exclusion or other negative effects?
- What can be done, by whom, and at what levels, to protect individuals, groups, communities and societies from exclusion caused by these developments and to enhance a more inclusive solidarity?

The course encourages diverse approaches to these questions from different academic disciplines, including, but not limited to: anthropology, sociology, political science, economics,
public administration and law. Above all, we encourage explorations of these issues in ways which combine theory and practice, addressing both analytical questions and issues of policy interventions, governance and political strategy, whether at the local, national, comparative, European and/or global level, as well as on the importance of activism and social movements.

Course design
This course consists of a preparatory phase (February/March), an intensive international week at the IUC Dubrovnik (from March 27 – April 1) and a finishing phase in which the final paper is written (April/May). In this course we bring together students that are likely to have a future career within or connected with the public domain (and lecturers and researchers) from the so-called ‘old EU’ (especially the Netherlands), new and candidate member states of the EU and from the so-called ‘new neighbours’. The aim is to share and to discuss our knowledge and perspectives on the Challenges of Europe. The intensive international part of the course is in Dubrovnik and includes different longer and shorter plenary presentations by resource persons from different countries, workshop sessions with presentations by participants, forum debates, simulation games, future creating workshops, and so on. All lecturers and participants stay in the same hotel, discussions will be extended during evening hours within an informal setting.

Participants prepare an outline for a paper and a workshop presentation in advance on research related to the central theme of the course. The participants will be asked to send in proposals for papers and workshop presentations. The proposals have to be related to the central theme of the course. Participants can for instance choose (or combine) different angles to approach the central theme of the course.

In the period preceding the week in Dubrovnik, a few online introductory meetings will be organised and there will be assistance through information on the website and by e-mail. The final papers will be written after the intensive course week. For that online supervising and support will be available. The final papers will be published on the website after the course. Some may be submitted for review for the IUC working papers series. Furthermore, participants are expected to write a short summary of their own presentation and a short report on one of the other presentations.

Twenty years of inclusion and exclusion in contemporary European Societies
This course is the twelfth edition of a bi-annual series of courses of which Inclusion and Exclusion in Contemporary European Societies is the central theme. In 2014 for instance, we focused on the role of citizens and the importance of citizenship in Europe and in 2016 we paid attention to the issue of Human Security. In our last course in 2018 we looked at populism and autocratic leadership. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic we unfortunately had to cancel the course until this academic year.

More information
The intensive course week in Dubrovnik is for a large part subsidised. An individual personal contribution of 200 Euro is required. This includes hotel half board for maximum 8 nights, course fee, course organisation and the social programme. You are responsible for your own transport to and from Dubrovnik.

For more specific information on the programme, costs, grants and the application procedure for Dubrovnik 2023, please contact Wieger Bakker (w.e.bakker@uu.nl) or René van Rijssel (r.j.t.vanrijssel@uu.nl).

Reports from earlier editions since 1998 are available. See for the Inter University Center: www.iuc.hr.

Literature
E-reader (www.inclusionexclusion.eu)

Test
• Written proposal for presentation (10%);
• Workshop presentation (30%);
• Written summary of presentation (10%);
• Paper (50%).
**Application form**

If you want to apply, please fill in this application form and send it to Lieke Brand [i.brand@uu.nl](mailto:i.brand@uu.nl)

*These questions are required.*

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**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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<th><strong>Postal address (in your country of residence)</strong> *</th>
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INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR EDUCATION AND ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

University *

For example: Utrecht University, the Netherlands

Faculty / department *

For example: Faculty of Social Sciences / Department of Governance

Field of study *

For example: Sociology

Graduation, year of study

For example: master, first year

Earlier international experiences with courses or seminars

Please write down your earlier international experiences here.

Earlier followed courses related to the subject of this course

Please write down earlier followed courses related to the subject of this course here.

YOUR MOTIVATION TO APPLY / MOTIVATION TO PARTICIPATE

Motivation (approximately 500 words) *

Why do you want to attend the course?
How does the course relate to your study / specialisation?
How does the course relate to your intellectual and personal development?