INTRODUCTION

The Summer School has been carefully designed and developed to provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of the immigration and asylum policy of the EU from a legal perspective. The programme is organised by the Odysseus Network for Legal Studies on Immigration and Asylum in Europe, which was founded in 1999 with the support of the European Commission and is coordinated by the Institute for European Studies of the Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB). In addition to the content of the taught classes, the course also provides an excellent opportunity to spend an intellectually stimulating fortnight among a group of around one hundred fellow participants specialised in the area of asylum and immigration from all over Europe. The setting of the Summer School in Brussels creates a unique environment that facilitates participants’ deeper engagement with the European institutions. Participants in the Summer School typically include PhD and graduate students, researchers, lecturers, EU and Member State officials, representatives from NGOs and International Organisations, lawyers, judges, social workers and more. The classes are taught by academics collaborating in the Odysseus Network, which is represented in all EU Member States, and by high-ranking officials from the European Institutions, particularly the European Commission. Discover the Summer School through a short film available on our website: odysseus-network.eu/2018-summer-school

LANGUAGES

Participants can choose to follow either the English-language stream or the French-language stream of the Summer School. Participants will attend all classes in the language indicated in their application, with the exception of courses given by high officials of the EU which will be exclusively taught in English. Both streams cover the same set of class topics, and participants from both streams will be able to socialise together during the extracurricular activities.

TEACHING APPROACH

The classes have a legal focus, combining theoretical and practical elements while also leaving space for question time and class discussion. They tackle the most recent legislative, jurisprudential and political developments in the field at EU level. In light of the current crisis facing the EU, the central theme of solidarity between EU Member States will be integrated into the entire course in 2018. The Summer School will explore and analyse the most recent developments in the European Commission, the Council and Parliament, and it benefits from the participation of European officials as lecturers on the course. Class readings will be available on the Summer School’s electronic platform.

SUBJECTS

PART I

Introductory Lectures

Opening lecture
Migration flows and statistics
Free movement of EU citizens
European institutional framework
Implications of human rights
External relations and European migration policy
European databases (SIS, VIS, Eurodac, etc.)

PART II

Specialised Lectures

IMMIGRATION
External border control
European visa policy
Immigration for purposes of work or studies
Family reunification
Legal status and integration of third country nationals
Regularising irregular immigrants
Smuggling and trafficking
Return and readmission policy

ASYLUM
Reception conditions for asylum seekers
EU concepts of refugee and of subsidiary protection
Member States responsibilities and distribution of asylum seekers (“Dublin mechanism”)
Asylum procedures
The position of UNHCR on the European asylum policy
LECTURERS

The lecturers at the Summer School include many members of the Odysseus Network as well as other experts in European immigration and asylum law. The programme alternates between experienced professors with established reputations and younger teachers who specialise in a particular field, so as to ensure that all lessons, even the most technical, are taught by an expert on the subject. The programme is enhanced by the diversity of the speakers who come from all parts of the European Union, which allows for views from all Member States to be expressed. There are also several speakers from the European institutions (in particular the European Commission’s DG HOME) and international organisations (UNHCR), which gives a practical insight into the topics covered.

Below is a list of speakers from the Summer School over the past 5 years. The list is only an example, although some of the speakers below will appear on the Summer School’s 2018 programme. Please see our website for up-to-date information on this year’s programme.

- Prof. Diego ACOSTA ARCARAZO
  University of Bristol, UK
- Prof. Emmanuel AUBIN
  Université de Poitiers, France
- Prof. Ulrike BRANDL
  Universität Salzburg, Austria
- Dr. Samuel BOUTRUCHE
  United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- Dr. Evelien BROUWER
  Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Netherlands
- Prof. Jean-Yves CARLIER
  Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium
- Prof. Vincent CHETAIL
  Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Switzerland
- Ms Laura CORRADO
  DG HOME, European Commission
- Mr Jean-Louis DE BROUWER DG ECHO, European Commission
- Prof. Philippe DE BRUYCKER
  Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium
- Ms Patrícia VAN DE PEER
  European Asylum Support Office
- Dr. Vrigdis VEVSAD
  European Council for Refugees and Exiles
- Mr Henrik VESTED-HANSEN
  Juridisk Institut Aarhus, Denmark
- Prof. Jens VESTED-HANSEN
  University of Essex, UK
- Dr. Niovi VAVOULA
  European University Institute, Florence
- Prof. Constança URBANO DE SOUSA
  Universidade Autónoma de Lisboa, Portugal
- Prof. Ann SINGLETON
  University of Bristol, UK
- Prof. Achilles SKORDAS
  University of Copenhagen, Denmark
- Prof. Daniel THYM
  Universiteit Amsterdam, Netherlands
- Dr. Jorrit RIJPMA
  University of Leiden, Netherlands
- Prof. Lyra JAKULEVCIENĖ
  Mykolas Romeris University, Lithuania
- Prof. Ninoska NAGY
  Eotvos Lorand University, Hungary
- Mr. Henrik NIELSEN
  DG HOME, European Commission
- Prof. Steve PEERS
  University of Essex, UK
- Dr. Nuno PICARRA
  Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal
- Mr Kris POLLET
  European Council for Refugees and Exiles
- Ms Patrícia VAN DE PEER
  European Asylum Support Office
- Dr. Niovi VAVOULA
  Queen Mary University of London, UK
- Prof. Jens VESTED-HANSEN
  Juridisk Institut Aarhus, Denmark
- Dr. Vrigdis VEVSAD
  European Council for Refugees and Exiles
- Ms Patrícia VAN DE PEER
  European Asylum Support Office
- Dr. Niovi VAVOULA
  Queen Mary University of London, UK
- Prof. Jens VESTED-HANSEN
  Juridisk Institut Aarhus, Denmark
- Dr. Vrigdis VEVSAD
  European Council for Refugees and Exiles
CALENDAR & SCHEDULE

The first general part of the programme includes 14 hours of lectures and the second and third specialised parts (on immigration and asylum) are 30 hours in total. Each day is generally comprised of 4 hours of classes, presented in lectures of 2 hours with a break of 30 minutes in between. In order to enable participants in full-time employment to attend the classes, these will mainly be held each day between 2 pm and 6:45 pm.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

PHD SEMINAR - FOUR GRANTS AVAILABLE

A PhD Seminar will be organised during the 2018 Summer School. It offers 15 doctoral researchers the opportunity to individually present their PhD project and receive feedback on the subject, structure and methodology of their thesis from a panel of three Odysseus Network Members from various European universities and possibly one high-level practitioner attending the Summer School. The PhD Seminar is aimed at researchers in law, but applications from researchers dealing with legal aspects of political science or international relations are welcome. The sessions are in English, but may be organised in French upon request.

The PhD Seminar will only be open to those who are participating in the entire programme of the Summer School, and selected doctoral researchers must therefore register for the Summer School and pay the PhD students’ fee. The PhD Seminar will provide an additional 10 to 15 hours of special sessions reserved exclusively for the 15 selected participants.

Four grants are available and will be attributed on the basis of academic record and financial need. The grants cover the Summer School fee (with the exception of the €200 application fee as explained below) as well as travel and accommodation costs. Grant recipients will be required to coordinate either the English-speaking group or the French-speaking group of students.

The closing date for applications is 3 April 2018. For more information, please consult our website.

VISITS TO THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS

The Summer School’s location in the capital of the European Union is a valuable opportunity to discover the EU institutions and to meet high-level officials from the EU who come to lecture. The Odysseus Network therefore organises visits to the European Parliament, the Commission and the Council of Ministers as part of the Summer School. Participants may also take an opportunity to spend an evening in the heart of the European quarter at Place du Luxembourg, where people working at the EU institutions famously go for an after-work drink.
EVENING DEBATES AND OTHER EVENTS

In addition to the opening ceremony and different drinks receptions, a series of events will be organised during the Summer School. These events will take place in various locations, including the ULB, the European institutions and the Brussels Press Club Europe. Last year, the events included:

- Debate evenings to complement the classes, with speakers including, for example, Members of the European Parliament, European civil servants, Justice and Home Affairs advisors, Member States, ambassadors from third countries to the EU and representatives from international organisations (notably UNHCR) and NGOs. In line with last year’s theme of European solidarity, the programme dealt with the consequences of a potential Brexit on European citizens’ freedom of movement, the EU-Turkey agreement on asylum, the transformation of Frontex into a European border guard force, the future of the Dublin system and the reform of the Blue Card Directive and integration.

- A trip to the Red Star Line Museum (on Saturday 7 July) in Antwerp.

- A prize giving ceremony to award the Odysseus Prize for the best young researcher and the best publication in European immigration or asylum law.

As other events may have been added to the programme over time, please consult our website for the most recent information. Those who have already registered will be kept informed of developments via email, Facebook and Twitter.

NETWORKING EVENTS

In order to increase the opportunities for professional networking, a cocktail event is organised on one evening of the Summer School. Professionals from EU Institutions (European Parliament, Commission and Council), International Organisations (UNHCR, IOM, ICMPD, etc.), NGOs (ECRE, JRS-Europe, etc.), think tanks (MPG, CEPS, MPI, etc.) and consultancies are invited in order to give participants of the Summer School the opportunity to make contacts that could help them to find a traineeship or a job.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

FACILITIES

Participants will have access to the Summer School’s private electronic platform containing all documents used during the classes, including the presentations used by the speakers. Participants are therefore encouraged to bring a laptop if they have access to one.

Participants will also be able to use the various university facilities (WiFi, libraries, cafeterias, medical and sports facilities, etc.).

CERTIFICATE

The programme does not require any written work to be submitted or exams to be taken, but some prior reading is recommended. Participants who sign the attendance register for each class, thereby demonstrating their full participation throughout the two weeks, will receive a certificate of attendance specifying each of the classes followed. The certificate will be delivered at the closing cocktail.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants should have some legal background. They must have either completed a University degree (at least a BA or equivalent with 3 years of studies) in Law, Political Science or International Relations (graduates of other disciplines will be considered depending on the courses they have followed) or have an equivalent professional experience in a relevant field, for example as civil servants or in NGOs. Successful candidates will have to submit a copy of their University degree before the start of the programme.
REGISTRATION FEES

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<th>Student (up to 25 years)</th>
<th>NGO/PhD</th>
<th>Professional</th>
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To apply for the Summer School, please register using the registration form available on the Odysseus Network website **before 15 May 2018**.

The programme finances itself through the fees paid by the participants, and does not receive any other financial support. The speakers and lecturers provide their services voluntarily and are not remunerated for their support of the Summer School.

Applicants to the Summer School must pay an advance of €200 when submitting their application in order for their application to be considered. **This sum will be reimbursed if the applicant is not selected, but will not be returned if the applicant withdraws his/her application.**

The fees cover the cost of classes, access to the electronic platform, university facilities, visits, receptions and daily coffee breaks. Fees do not include travel, food and accommodation. Participants requiring accommodation should state this in their application form in order to receive further information about the possibilities for arranging accommodation during the stay in Brussels.

Payments should be made by bank transfer to the account below **before 1 June 2018**:

- **Account name:** Réseau ODYSSEUS
- **Bank:** BNP Paribas Fortis Bank
- **Branch:** Pesage Branch, 16 avenue du Pesage, 1050
- **Brussels, Belgium**
- **IBAN:** BE63 0012 1223 8908
- **BIC:** GEBA BEBB
- **Mandatory reference:** “2018 Summer School - Your name”

COORDINATION

**ACADEMIC COORDINATOR**

Philippe DE BRUYCKER
Université libre de Bruxelles

**ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR**

Nicole BOSMANS
Université libre de Bruxelles
odysseus@ulb.ac.be

CONTACT

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