



# Odysseus Network

*Academic Network for Legal Studies on Migration and Asylum in Europe*

## EXECUTIVE MASTER ON EUROPEAN MIGRATION AND ASYLUM LAW



**An online program**

**Academic year 2023-2024**

# EXECUTIVE MASTER on EU MIGRATION and ASYLUM LAW

- A program to acquire an in-depth knowledge of EU migration and asylum law, including the latest and most controversial developments
- An online program including gatherings in Brussels with professors and experts
- A program using as a companion the [Odysseus Research Handbook](#)
- A program legally oriented but also accessible to non-jurists
- A program accessible to professionals with courses on Friday evenings and Saturday mornings
- Professors from all Member States among the top specialists in the area, including practitioners from European Commission, Parliament and Council & EU agencies

## IN A NUTSHELL

- A small group with interactive courses
- The right place to build a professional network
- Three modules: Introduction, Migration (including visas & borders) and Asylum
  - Courses including theory and practical elements
  - Learning how to write a post to be published on the Odysseus blog
  - Traineeship and research opportunities

The Odysseus Summer school taking place every year in July who has trained more than 2000 persons since 2001 is accessible for free to the participants of the program the year before they register for the Executive Master.

# PRESENTATION

*The aim of the program is to provide its participants with an in-depth understanding of the legal rules on migration and asylum adopted by the EU. It is of interest to all persons who wish to acquire such special knowledge, for instance EU or national civil servants, lawyers or judges, workers in international organisations and NGO's, researchers and PhD students who frequently confront the complex legal dimension of immigration and asylum in their work. The program is organised by the "Odysseus Academic Network for Legal Studies on Migration and Asylum in Europe one of the leading research and training organisation in EU migration and asylum law founded in 1999 with the support of the Odysseus program of the European Commission.*

*The program provides the opportunity to live in a unique European bubble with professors coming from many different Member States as well as speakers from the EU institutions. It offers an intellectually stimulating experience as part of a group of twenty to thirty participants specialising in migration and asylum with different backgrounds from all over Europe where internal and external networking is encouraged.*

*On completing the master's program, our graduates can value on the labor market the rare knowledge that they have acquired in migration and asylum law. They work for European institutions & agencies, international organisations and NGO's, migration law firms & national ministries for home affairs. This executive master has also enabled our graduates to reorient their careers towards migration and asylum.*

**Welcome on board!**



*Prof. Philippe De Bruycker*

## WELCOME BY EUROPEAN COMMISSION

EUROPÄISCHE KOMMISSION

EUROOPA KOMISJON

ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΗ ΕΠΙΤΡΟΠΗ

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

COMMISSION EUROPÉENNE

COMMISSIONE EUROPEA

EIROPAS KOMISIJA

ΕΥΡΩΠΟΣ ΚΟΜΙΣΙJA

EURÓPAI BIZOTTSÁG

KUMMISSJONI EWROPEA

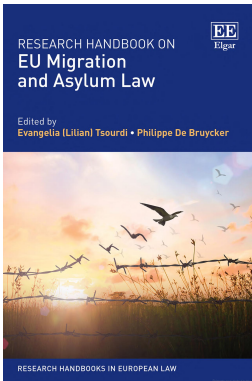
EUROPESE COMMISSIE

### **The European Commission welcomes the creation of a "Certificate on European Law on Immigration and Asylum"**

*The European Commission welcomes the announcement of the creation of a "Certificate on European Law on Immigration and Asylum" by the Odysseus Academic Network. The Commission considers the creation of this one year programme of training as an interesting contribution of the academic community to the development of a common policy on immigration and asylum. There is indeed a growing need for specific training on those issues in the Member States and offering training opportunities is also a significant element of capacity building for third countries cooperating with the EU to improve immigration and asylum management.*

Vice-President Franco Frattini, Commissioner responsible for Freedom, Security and Justice noted: "The course provides the opportunity to live in a unique European environment, with instructors coming from academic institutions in many different Member States as well as from the EU institutions, and to take part in an intellectually stimulating experience as part of a group of 30-40 participants specialising in the area of immigration and asylum with different backgrounds from all over Europe. I look forward to handing out the first certificate to the students in July 2007"

# TEACHING ORIENTATION and METHODOLOGY



The programme is of a legal nature and very demanding. Courses will be rather technical in orientation, but the first module is an introduction to allow non-jurists to follow it successfully by acquiring knowledge about the EU institutional framework; the interactions between human rights and migration & asylum law; the roots of EU law in international migration & asylum law; and the freedom of movement of EU citizens by comparison with third-country migrants; the law of the external relations of the EU. Participants will benefit from the companion *Odysseus Research Handbook on EU migration and asylum law* that provides an helpful overview of the basics for all the subjects of the courses.

On top of the executive master, the fees cover access to the *Odysseus* summer school to give participants the possibility to acquire the necessary basic of knowledge before following the executive master. The classes offer theoretical but also practical elements, in particular regarding the case law of the EU Court of Justice and of the European Court of Human Rights. Personal reading is expected from the participants. The very latest developments of the European policies are integrated into the teaching through the participation as lecturers of high-ranking officials from the European Commission, Council, Parliament and EU agencies. Participants will follow the day-to-day developments of the EU policy by receiving information from the *Odysseus* team.

The classes will be conducted by academics among the best specialists of EU and national migration or asylum law. Three specific gatherings including the professors, other members of the *Odysseus* Network and high-ranking officials from the EU institutions are organised in Brussels throughout the year to give the participants the occasion to meet and exchange physically. Specific issues will be discussed during these meetings in order to improve the understanding of participants and illustrate the courses.

The classes gather participants online from all over Europe who will benefit from broadcasting technology. Courses are recorded to allow participants to follow them when they are not available during classes. A short training will be provided to learn how to use the Teams platform.

Participants only need to have a **good internet connection** and a computer with a camera. The participants will have access to an online platform providing access to an extensive and up to date documentation.



COURSES	LENGTH & ECTS
<b><u>INTRODUCTORY MODULE (1<sup>st</sup> term from September till December)</u></b>	
1. General EU law applied to Migration and Asylum (Institutional framework and sources of EU migration and asylum policy, including EU agencies)	4 weeks (6 ECTS)
2. Human rights implications for migration and asylum law	2 weeks (3 ECTS)
3. International migration and refugee law	3 weeks (5 ECTS)
4. Free movement of European citizens	2 weeks (3 ECTS)
5. External dimension of EU migration and asylum law	2 weeks (3 ECTS)
6. Gathering in Brussels about recent developments in EU migration and asylum law & policy	1 week (2 ECTS)
<b>Exams online</b>	2 weeks
<b><u>SPECIALISED MODULE: MIGRATION (2<sup>nd</sup> term: January &amp; February)</u></b>	
7. Visa and border policies	2 weeks (3 ECTS)
8. Long-term admission of third country nationals (family reunification & labor migration)	2 weeks (3 ECTS)
9. Status and integration of third country nationals, including non-discrimination	2 weeks (3 ECTS)
10. Return and the fight against illegal immigration	2 weeks (3 ECTS)
11. Gathering in Brussels about recent developments in EU migration law & policy	1 week (2 ECTS)
<b><u>SPECIALISED MODULE: ASYLUM (3<sup>rd</sup> term: March &amp; April)</u></b>	
12. Definition of protected persons (refugee status, subsidiary protection and temporary protection)	2 weeks (3 ECTS)
13. Status of asylum seekers and of protected persons	2 weeks (3 ECTS)
14. Procedures for responsibility determination and solidarity between Member States	3 weeks (5 ECTS)
15. Asylum procedures	2 weeks (3 ECTS)
16. Gathering in Brussels about recent developments in EU asylum law & policy	1 week (2 ECTS)
<b><u>4<sup>th</sup> MODULE: RESEARCH (4<sup>th</sup> term: from May till July)</u></b>	
17. Research and drafting of the blog post	6 weeks (20 ECTS)
<b>Final Exam in Brussels or online</b>	During the two first weeks of July

# TEACHING STAFF & SUPPORT

The program is organised under the supervision of Prof. Philippe De Bruycker, coordinator of the Odysseus Academic Network. Professors involved in the executive master are chosen among the persons listed below.

	Ulrike BRANDL, Universität Salzburg		Jean-Yves CARLIER, Sylvie SAROLEA Université catholique de Louvain		Valeria ILAREVA, University of Sofia
Croatia 	Iris GOLDNER LANG University of Zagreb	Czech Republic 	Vera HONUSKOVA, Charles University David KOSAR, Masaryk University Brno	Cyprus 	Nicos TRIMIKLINIOTIS, University of Nicosia
Denmark 	Jens VEDSTED-HANSEN, University of Aarhus	Estonia 	Lethe ROOTS Tallin University	Finland 	Elina PIRJATANNIEMI Abo Akademi University
France 	Henri LABAYLE, Faculté de Droit de Bayonne Ségolène BARBOU DES PLACES, Université de Paris I	Germany 	Daniel THYM Konstanz Universität	Greece 	Achilles SKORDAS, Max Planck Institute Costas PAPADIMITRIOU, University of Athens
Hungary 	Boldizsar NAGY, Eötvös Lorand University	Iceland 	Erna BLÖNDAL, University of Iceland	Ireland 	Siobhan MULLALLY, Cork University
Italy 	Bruno NASCIMBENE Alessia DI PASCALE Università degli Studi di Milano	Latvia 	Juris GROMOVŠ, Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, OSCE	Lithuania 	Lyra JAKULEVICIENE, Mykolas Romeris University Vilnius
Luxembourg 	Catherine WARIN European Institute of Public Administration	Malta 	Neil FALZON, Aditus Foundation	Netherlands 	Thomas SPIJKERBOER, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam Tesseltje DE LANGE Radboud Universiteit
Norway 	Jessica SCHULTZ Michelen Institute Maya JANMYR University of Oslo	Poland 	Barbara MIKOLAJCZYK, University of Silesia	Portugal 	Constança URBANO de SOUSA Universidade Autonomia de Lisboa
Romania 	Madalina MORARU, Masaryk University, Brno	Slovenia 	Sasa ZAGORC University of Ljubljana Neza KOGOVSEK Peace Intitute	Slovakia 	Martin SKAMLA, Trnava University
Spain 	Cristina GORTAZÀR, Paula GARCIA ANDRADE Universidad Pontificia Comillas de Madrid	Sweden 	Gregor NOLL, Lund University Rebecca STERN, Uppsala University	Switzerland 	Francesco MAIANI, Université de Lausanne Vincent CHETAIL, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies
Turkey 	Meltem INELI CIGER, Suleyman Demirel University	UK 	Elspeth GUILD, Queen Mary University of London Valsamis MITSILEGAS University of Liverpool		

# RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

Participants have to write for the final exam a blog post that must be analytical rather than descriptive. The subject to be selected in agreement with the coordination team must deal with EU or comparative law with an EU dimension. **The best posts will be published on the Odysseus blog so that the selected participants will have a scientific publication to add on their CV.** The fourth term corresponds to a research track during which participants draft their blog post with the support of a member from the Odysseus Network. Interested persons will obtain advice on how to build a subject for a PhD. We also offer the opportunity to do a traineeship in the Brussels coordination team of the Odysseus Network.

## SCHEDULE AND LOCATION



This program starts on 1st September 2023, ends on 12 July 2024 and is divided into 4 terms. Courses amount generally to a total of 12 to 18 hours spread over a two/three-week period with sessions of 3 hours. **The schedule of courses (6 to 9pm on Fridays and 10am to 1pm on Saturdays) enables professionals to participate.**

Participants will follow the courses online in real-time through a E-platform. The meetings requiring physical presence will take place in Brussels.

## ASSESSMENT and EXECUTIVE CERTIFICATE

**Separate written or oral examinations will be organised for each of the five courses of the introductory module. Another general oral exam covering migration and asylum law will be held for the two specialised modules** before a jury composed of members of the Network in the framework of the Odysseus “Summer School on Migration and Asylum Law and Policy of the EU” which takes place every year in Brussels during the two first weeks of July. Participants need to present their blog post during this exam.



Participants who have followed the program assiduously throughout the year and successfully passed the exams will receive an executive certificate corresponding to level 7 of the European Qualifications Framework. It will be delivered on behalf of the Odysseus network as an association having a legal personality.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

**Entrance to the course is competitive and based on academic merit and potential.** In addition to a good knowledge of English, applicants must have as a minimum a university master's degree (MA) in Law, Political Science, European Studies or International Relations. Applications of graduates of other disciplines will be considered case by case. Applicants can also rely upon relevant professional experience (for example as a civil servant, NGO employee, etc.). They will be required to supply supporting documents. Interviews can be organised in case there is a doubt about the fulfillment of the admission requirements, including knowledge of oral and written English. As well as your CV, a statement of purpose of one page (single spaced, 12 point font) is required to explain your motivation for following the program.

# REGISTRATION and FEES

***For notice, the program is entirely self-financed by the registration fees paid by the participants and does not rely on any subvention!***

**The closing date for applications has been set for 1 July 2023.** Late applications will be considered if some places are left. Applicants are requested to apply by using the registration form available on the website of the Odysseus Network.

**They must pay 1000 Euros for 1 July 2023 to hand in their file.**

This sum will not be reimbursed if the participant drops out without a reason of force majeure.

The registration fee is 2600 Euros for students, 3600 for PhD students, researchers or trainees remunerated by a salary or a grant, and 5500 Euros for professionals. Persons choosing only one specialised module (migration or asylum) on top of the introductory module will respectively pay 2000, 3000 or 4500 Euros. The fee covers all classes, documentation, one paper copy of the Odysseus Handbook and food during gatherings in Brussels (without travel and accommodation costs), including free access to the Odysseus summer school. The Network provides one grant to allow a selected applicant to participate free of fees who will be asked to help for the coordination of the program, and can assist accepted applicants by providing them with proof of access addressed to the institutions from which they intend to request financial support.

Participants are asked to pay the entire fee at the latest by 1 August 2023 by bank transfer to the account below:

Account name: Réseau Odysseus  
Bank: BNP Paribas Fortis Bank  
1050 Brussels, Belgium

IBAN: BE49 0015 4052 2371  
BIC: GEBA BEBB  
Reference: Master 2023/2024 & your name

## CONTACT

Enquiries should be  
addressed per email at  
[odysseus@ulb.be](mailto:odysseus@ulb.be)

**[APPLY HERE TO THE EXECUTIVE  
MASTER IN EUROPEAN LAW ON  
MIGRATION AND ASYLUM](#)**

