



University of
Central Lancashire
UCLan Cyprus



With the support of the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

European Union Law & Governance in Populist Times *#EU-POP*

Jean Monnet Module 2019 - 2022

Summer School 2nd - 3rd July 2021

F2F and Online

The School of Law of UCLan Cyprus is pleased to announce its second EU-POP Summer School that will take place on the **2nd and 3rd of July 2021**, within the framework of the Jean Monnet Module 'European Union Law and Governance in Populist Times.'

This year's Summer School will focus on the **Role of the Courts and the Judiciary in Populist Times**.

Subject to COVID-19 related measures in force at the time, the Summer School will take place simultaneously **on site at the UCLan Cyprus campus and online via Microsoft Teams (10:00-16:00 Cyprus time/09.00-15.00 CET)**.

The Project

The European Union is faced with a threat to its very foundations through the rise of right-wing populist narratives and political parties. The current climate of uncertainty, migration flows without adequate integration policies in many European countries, including Cyprus, and the rise of fake news particularly online constitute a fertile setting for the rise of right-wing populists. Such phenomena are damaging in themselves and also in their manifestations, such as in relation to the protection of the rule of law and human rights.

The proposed module is established on research informed teaching of the soft and hard tools available at an EU level to challenge the right-wing populist threat and its manifestation in the form of (i) deterioration of the rule of law or risk thereto (ii) hate speech including online hate speech (iii) hate crime (iv) aggressive Euroscepticism currently tainting Europe at a local, national and regional level. To this end, EU-POP was developed on the premise that there exists an urgent need to (i) develop research in the area which continues to remain under developed (ii) enhance teaching excellence in the field so as to ensure that young professionals and graduates are well equipped with the ability to understand the regulatory framework in the EU, (iii) foster coherent dialogue between stakeholders, civil society and academics on the chosen theme and (iv) offer a core output to the European Commission on guidelines for improvement of the current regulatory framework.

For more information on the project, visit <https://eupopulism.eu/>

The Summer School

This year's Summer School will focus on the role and behaviour of the judiciary within populist times across the European Union and beyond. The proliferation of right-wing populism has brought forward fundamental questions related to the rule of law such as the importance of judicial impartiality, the dangers associated with the extensive involvement of the executive into the judicial branch, the salience of equal access to justice, and the significance of ensuring that judicial decisions are not the result of executive or political influence. Looking across Europe, one can witness populist parties and governments engaging in coordinated attempts to undermine judicial independence, and thus diminish the rule of law. The same holds true for countries outside the European Union facing similar challenges. This Summer School purports to explore the role of the judiciary within this milieu. It will offer, among other things, sessions exploring the role of the judiciary within a democracy in general, analysing the effect of populist rhetoric and action targeting the judiciary, investigating the actions the EU can take to protect the judiciary and the rule of law, and examining the importance of the rule of law and judicial independence within populist times both within and outside the EU.

Materials for the Summer School will be available electronically. For more information, including a frequently updated bibliography on the topic and material collected from last year's Summer School, visit <https://eupopulism.eu/bibliography/> and <https://eupopulism.eu/summer-school/>

The Summer School will employ a melange of formal and non-formal educational methodology, placing the learner at the epicentre of the learning process. It will include a series of interactive workshops led by experts, providing learners with the opportunity to actively engage in discussions.

Target Group

PhD students, early career researchers, advanced students in fields such as law, European Studies, sociology, politics, policy makers, members of civil society, stakeholders, professionals.

Subject to the professional background of each such guest, participation may contribute to their formal or informal Continuing Professional Development (CPD), Personal Development (PD) or other self-managed learning and development needs.

Certificates of completion will be issued to those attending the entire event.

Costs

There is no registration cost.

Flights and accommodation for international participants are not covered. Given the current pandemic, it is highly recommended that international participants attend virtually via MS Teams (the link will be provided following registration).

Contact and Application to Participate

If you wish to apply for a place please send your CV and a 1-page cover letter explaining why you wish to participate in the summer school, what you can contribute to it and how you will use the learning outcomes in your academic/employment/social settings. Please indicate whether you intend to participate in person or online (via MS Teams).

You may send the above, or any other enquiries you have, to info@eupopulism.eu

For further information, you may reach us at +357 24694156.

Deadline to apply: 1st June 2021. Notification of results: 15th June 2021.