

Teaching Nr.	2	
Title	Intercultural dialogue and national minorities at the Eastern border of the EU	
Prof. in charge¹	Mircea Brie	
Typology	<input type="checkbox"/> Lecture <input type="checkbox"/> Seminar <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Summer course	<input type="checkbox"/> Training course <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intensive course <input type="checkbox"/> Distance learning course
Description	<p>The latest enlargement of the Union to 28 Member States has considerably increased the diversity of the Union in political, social, economic and cultural terms. In this context, it is essential to ensure that this diversity becomes a source of richness rather than a source of confrontation.</p> <p>The EU enlargement towards Eastern Europe has generated a number of issues related to the process of European integration. This process led to the redesign of the external borders of the EU. The European borders, internal and external, reflect the realities of the European identity and image - local, regional or general (political, cultural but also socio-political and ethno-religious). A main conclusion that emerges from an investigation of the concepts of external border is that the European Union has an external border that can be both rigid and flexible depending on the realities and challenges of the moment, on the tensions or openness in the socio-economic and/or the political-legal fields, but also on the complex internal reality of the Member States. The border security is one of the defining characteristics of the community space requirements. On the other hand, the European integration is a complex process that requires extra attention to be paid to minorities, especially when migration is brought to the discussions table.</p> <p>Many international events have provoked severe tensions and given renewed meaning to the concept of "clash of civilizations". It is essential that the European Union upholds and promotes its values internally and also in its relations with the outside world. Intercultural dialogue can usefully complement diplomacy and contribute to conflict prevention. It can also play a central role in the Union's new Neighborhood Policy. The challenge is even greater due to the contemporary demographic realities, migration of persons and labour force, thus leading to an increasing complexity.</p> <p>The academic aims of this course are: to appreciate the role of each culture in building the European identity; capturing and understanding the specificity of ethnic groups and migration; to early identify types of migration and the effects of such phenomenon; demographic and public policies and the specificity of the internal and the external EU borders; to analyse the specific of eastern border from the point of view of ethnic and religious borders; to allow the perception of demographic crises mechanisms and the effects of such a crisis on social security; capturing and understanding the relational mechanisms; identification of various typologies of ethnic and religious groups; acquiring knowledge referring to diversity and multiculturalism in Central and Eastern Europe; acquiring knowledge referring to minorities typology, the identity and the origins of ethnic and confessional groups; to relate intercultural communication to the process of European integration; they understand and control the conceptual apparatus regarding the issues of cultural diversity, to appreciate the role of each culture in building the European identity, to analyse the particular contributions of each EU Member State to the cultural environment of Europe, to understand the relevance of intercultural dialogue in managing European diversity; to examine and analyse the ways of dealing with conflicts.</p> <p>The learning objectives are: learn how differences in cultures affect European integration of minorities; understand the diverse border typologies, the European policy with border security and integration of minorities; to enhance students' understanding of the crucial issues in intercultural communication and to increase their awareness of the</p>	

¹ Please note: For **Jean Monnet Chairs**, only one professor may hold the Chair and must assume sole responsibility for delivering the minimum number of teaching hours required (90 hours) per academic year. He/she must be a permanent staff member of the applicant institution and hold the rank of professor. It is possible to involve other teaching staff members for additional teaching activities.

role of dialogue in managing cultural diversity, to teach them the practical skills of intercultural communicators; to actively practice the knowledge acquired during classes, to find practical solutions to resolve the situation closely linked to migration, minority relationship management - mostly inter-ethnic and inter-confessional diversity, intercultural communication, diversity and crisis management, acquisition of knowledge in the field of culture, communication, diversity and seeking innovation, interpretation, qualitative analysis of the phenomenon.

Methodology of teaching content

The course will combine elements of traditional lecturing with interactive approaches involving participants in debating the past, present, and future of national minorities and the frontier in the European area. The duration of the course is a total of 29 hours (lecturer, seminars and student evaluation) in each of the three years. The information will be transferred to students using interactive teaching methods, which are focused on debates, discussions on issues, case studies, simulations, role-playing games, comparative analyses, etc. At the end of didactic activity, teams of students will have to present a research project about a theme focused on the role of national minorities in regional development. The student evaluation will be a cumulative one, based on the previously state learning objectives and the accumulation level of theoretical knowledge, competences and practical and transversal abilities will be followed.

Structure of the course:

1. Diversity and intercultural dialogue at the European Union eastern border. Features of Eastern Europe
2. Dialogue amongst peoples;
3. Identity of ethnic groups – debate on ethnicity and nation
4. Ethnicity, nation and confession at the EU eastern border
5. Globalisation and religious fundamentalism at the EU eastern border
6. Intercultural dialogue and European integration; ethno-linguistic integration;
7. Intercultural dialogue and European law; intercultural education; mentality and integration;
8. European instruments and good neighbourhood policy;
9. Identity-community crises and typology of human groups;
10. Migration phenomenon and its impact on the EU demography policies
11. Minority and immigration at the eastern frontier of the EU
12. Communication management in regions with ethnic and religious tensions
13. Epistemology of European borders.
14. Ethnic and religious borders;
15. Cultural and social borders;
16. The Balkans. A border area

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<p>Impact</p>	<p>The learning objectives are: learn how differences in cultures affect European integration of minorities; understand the diverse border typologies, the European policy with border security and integration of minorities; to enhance participants' understanding of the crucial issues in intercultural communication and to increase their awareness of the role of dialogue in managing cultural diversity, to teach them the practical skills of intercultural communicators; to actively practice the knowledge acquired during classes, to find practical solutions to resolve the situation closely linked to migration, minority relationship management - mostly inter-ethnic and inter-confessional diversity, intercultural communication, diversity and crisis management, acquisition of knowledge in the field of culture, communication, diversity and seeking innovation, interpretation, qualitative analysis of the phenomenon.</p> <p>The direct beneficiaries of the project will be the students who know neither the specific and particularities of different cultures in Europe, nor the important role media has to play in intercultural dialogue and in the dissemination of the image of Europe in the world.</p> <p>This course aims to present to the target group one priority of the EU – dialogue between cultures and peoples – that is an important landmark for education and action within the EU</p> <p>The short term and long term impact of the course on direct and indirect beneficiaries consists of the following: 1. Understanding identity mechanisms and involvement of minorities in the process of regional development; 2. Strengthening the exchange of ideas/solutions amongst participants from the academic/educational environment and civil society; 3. Understanding the importance of diversity in the new Europe and the need to connect cultures and peoples in the process of regional development; 4. Getting to know the particularities of different Eastern European countries; 5. Reducing barriers between ethno-religious groups at regional level; 6. Efficient conflict management; 7. Identifying the general framework and the particularities of local features of regional development; 8. Building a system of comparison to the requests and expectations of minorities; 9. Increasing interest in the research of the border, its typology, cultural diversity and cooperation mechanisms.</p> <p>The main quantity indicators of the impact are the following: number of persons attending the course; degree of improving the outputs by disseminating the information relating to the course; degree of penetration of information on the level of the target group (direct and indirect beneficiaries).</p>