



*Metropolitan University Prague – MUP  
Department of International Relations and European Studies*

## **The European Union and the Global Climate Challenge**

Fall 2025

Elective course

Lecturers: Mats Braun, PhD (mats.braun@mup.cz), Michal Kolmaš, PhD

([michal.kolmas@mup.cz](mailto:michal.kolmas@mup.cz)), Mgr. Oleksandra Kovalevska ([sasha.kovalevska1@gmail.com](mailto:sasha.kovalevska1@gmail.com))

Time: Thursday 14.15-15.35. Room: 109

*The syllabus is subject to change*

### **Course description**

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has stressed the urgency of taking ambitious action to secure a liveable and sustainable future for all. The global climate challenge highlights the need for global cooperation and governance. The European Union has expressed its ambition to be a global leader in the field. Within this course we explore the EU's possibilities of reaching this objective. The course starts with a view of how climate change is dealt with globally and thereafter the main part of course studies in detail the European level. The course is based on interactive teaching methods – such as simulation games and includes several guest lectures. The examination is based on students producing a podcast related to one of the themes of the course.

The elective course is a part of the Jean Monnet Chair project - Teaching Sustainability and Europe in the World. For more information see <https://tsew.mup.cz/>

### **Course requirements**

Active participation – 50% - Participation in discussions, simulation game and over activities during the sessions including preparations. One missed class during the semester is accepted without negative impact on participation points.

Podcast (group work) – 50% - The final work assignment of the course is structured as the production of a podcast reflecting the content of the course.

### **Required readings**

The main textbook of the course is Rayner T., Szulecki K., Jordan A., and S. Oberthur (2023) *Handbook on European Union Climate Change Policy and Politics*, Edward Elgar. Additional articles will be added to specific sessions.



## Course schedule

**16.10. Week 1** – Introduction – M.B.

**20.10. 16:30 - Week 2** – Guest lecture – Prof. Kacper Szulecki Populism and the politics of energy transition (please note the date and time!)– M.B.

**30.10. Week 3** – The EU as a Climate Leader – the Green Deal, Fit for 55 and Climate Law – O.K.

**6.11. Week 4** – United Nations and the Global Work to Stop Climate Change - M.B.

**13.11. Week 5** – The role of cities. A visit to CAMP – Center for Architecture and Metropolitan Planning – O.K.

**20.11. Week 6** – The practice of global climate politics M.K.

**27.11. Week 7** – Simulation game (part 1) – The Council of the EU and Reforming the Emission Trading Scheme - M.B.

**4. 12. Week 8** - Simulation game (part 2) – The Council of the EU and Reforming the Emission Trading Scheme - M.B.

**11.12. Week 9** – EU Climate Policy and the its implications for other states – seminar with partner university – M.B.

**18.12. Week 10** - The consequences of Russia’s war in Ukraine for the environment and the EU’s energy policy – RePower EU – O.K.

**8.1. Week 11** – Podcast session 1 – M.K.

**15.1. Week 12** – Podcast session2 – M.K.