COPFUTUREU NEWSLETTER

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JEAN MONNET MODULE
COPFUTUREU

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE FUTURE OF EUROPE

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The Preface

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Jean Monnet Module CHAIR | COPFUTUREU

As the COPFUTUREU Jean Monnet Module approaches the end of its journey, we are pleased to share the final edition of our newsletter series. This final issue comes as we celebrate the successful completion of our 2025–2026 Spring Courses, through which students continued to strengthen their analytical understanding of European affairs and the challenges shaping the future of the European Union. Since our last update, we also successfully held the 11th seminar of the COPFUTUREU Jean Monnet Module series, bringing together academics and participants for a discussion on the role of development cooperation in the EU's current and future geostrategic framework. Beyond our academic activities, this issue highlights two significant developments that have recently shaped the European agenda. The following pages examine the entry into application of the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum, which introduces a new framework for managing migration and asylum across the Union, as well as the EU's 21st sanctions package against Russia, which further expands restrictive measures across key sectors. Further details on these developments, together with an overview of our latest seminar and academic activities, can be found throughout the following pages. As we bring this newsletter series to a close, we are truly grateful to all the students, academics, experts, and participants who have contributed to COPFUTUREU and made this journey so valuable.

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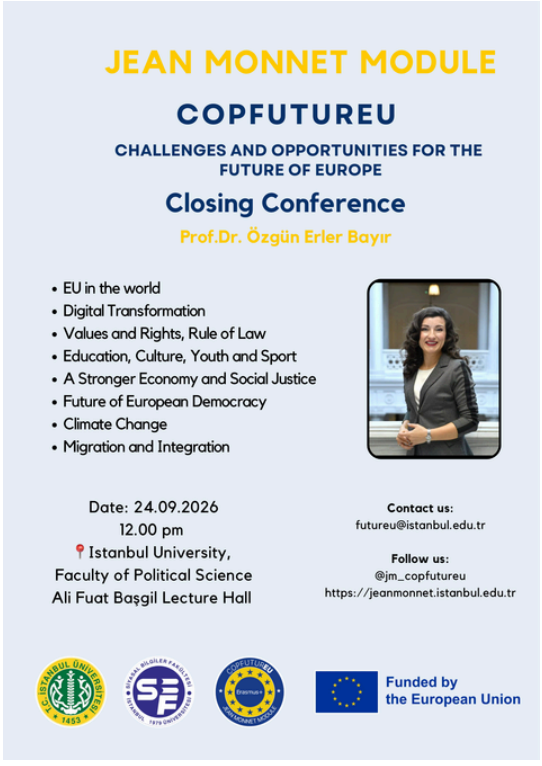
2025-2026 Spring BA Course successfully completed



The 2025–2026 Spring Courses have successfully come to an end. Throughout the semester, students had the opportunity to explore key issues on the European Union, its policies, and its changing role in the world. Through class discussions and assignments, they engaged with current European debates and developed a broader understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing the EU today.

COPFUTUREU Closing Conference

The COPFUTUREU Jean Monnet Module Closing Conference, held on 24 September 2026 at Istanbul University, marked the conclusion of the Module's academic journey. Led by Prof. Dr. Özgün Erler Bayır, the conference addressed key themes including the EU's role in the world, digital transformation, democracy, climate change, migration, and social justice, bringing together the main issues explored throughout the COPFUTUREU project.



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Seminar Series - XI

The Role of Development Cooperation in the EU's Current and Future Geostrategic Framework

8 June 2026



The 11th seminar of the COPFUTUREU Jean Monnet Module series took place online via Zoom on June 8, 2026. Moderated by JMM Chair Özgün Erler Bayır, the session brought together Artur Dietz and Camilo Esteban Hernandez Gonzalez from Goethe University Frankfurt. Focusing on "The Role of Development Cooperation in the EU's Current and Future Geostrategic Framework," the seminar addressed the place of development cooperation within the EU's broader geostrategic outlook. The discussion offered participants insights into how this field relates to the challenges and opportunities that may shape the future of Europe.



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News in the EU - I

EU Expands Sanctions Against Russia with 21st Package

The EU further expanded its sanctions against Russia on 23 July 2026 with the adoption of its 21st sanctions package, introducing additional restrictive measures in response to the ongoing war in Ukraine. The package includes sanctions against 218 individuals and entities, consisting of 48 individuals and 170 entities, and introduces further measures targeting Russia's energy, financial and banking sectors. The EU extended its transaction ban to 33 additional Russian credit and financial institutions and 14 crypto-related service platforms. It also listed 41 additional vessels linked to Russia's shadow fleet and introduced further measures targeting oil refineries and other actors in the energy sector.





The package also introduces measures targeting Russia's military-industrial complex and its access to goods and technologies. The Council added 51 entities to the list subject to tighter export restrictions on dual-use goods and technologies due to their support for Russia's military and industrial complex. Some of these entities are located in third countries, including China and Hong Kong, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Türkiye and the United Arab Emirates. The package also expands existing export restrictions to additional technologies and materials used by Russia's military industry.

Source: https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2026/07/23/21st-package-of-sanctions-eu-hits-russian-energy-financial-services-and-crypto-hard/

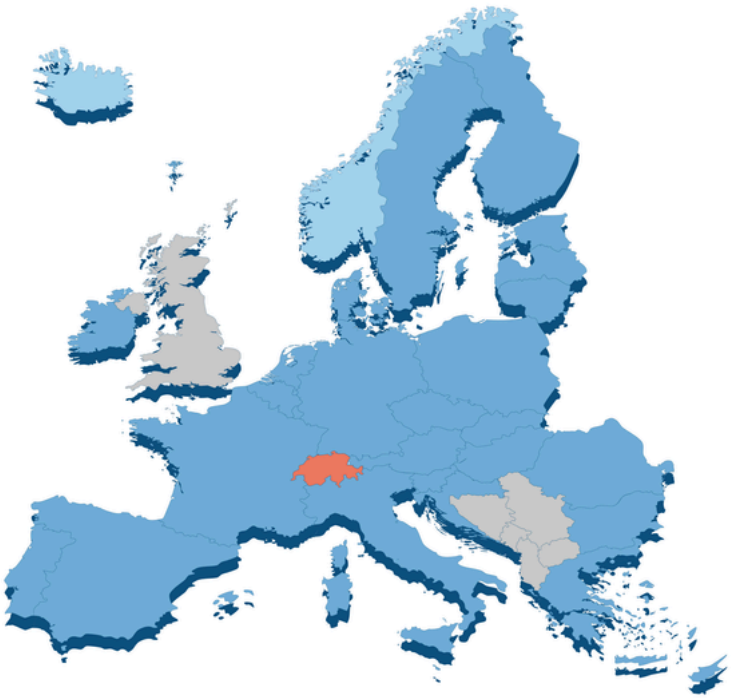
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News in the EU - II

New EU Migration and Asylum Rules Enter into Application

The EU Pact on Migration and Asylum entered into application on 12 June 2026, following the end of a two-year transition period. Consisting of 10 legislative acts, the Pact introduces common procedures for screening and registering irregular arrivals at EU borders, together with faster asylum and return procedures and clearer rules on responsibility for asylum applications. Under the new system, irregular arrivals are subject to mandatory registration, identity checks, and security, health and vulnerability assessments. Mandatory border procedures also apply to certain applicants, including those considered unlikely to qualify for international protection, those posing security risks and those who mislead authorities.





The Pact also establishes a mandatory, flexible and needs-based solidarity mechanism to support Member States facing migratory pressure, replacing the previous voluntary system. It introduces clearer obligations concerning the Member State responsible for examining an asylum application and procedures addressing unauthorised secondary movements within the EU. In addition, a dedicated framework is now in place for emergencies such as sudden migratory surges, the instrumentalisation of migrants by third countries and force majeure situations, providing measures including operational assistance, emergency funding and the activation of the solidarity mechanism.

Source: https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/new-migration-and-asylum-rules-enter-application-what-changing-2026-06-12_en

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