COPFUTUREU NEWSLETTER

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JEAN MONNET MODULE
COPFUTUREU

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE FUTURE OF EUROPE

Prof. Dr. Özgün ERLER BAYIR

The Preface

BY PROF. DR. ÖZGÜN ERLER BAYIR
Jean Monnet Module CHAIR | COPFUTUREU

We are excited to present the second issue of the COPFUTUREU newsletter. This semester has been marked by remarkable success, featuring both engaging class sessions and dynamic seminars. This newsletter has been designed to highlight these activities and their outcomes.

Throughout the semester, students participated in thought-provoking discussions, group projects, and interactive sessions that enhanced their understanding of EU institutions and policies. In addition to lectures, we hosted specialized seminars led by experts in their respective fields.

As we prepare for the next phase of the module, which will return to a graduate-level focus, we remain committed to promoting academic excellence and nurturing the next generation of EU experts. We thank our students for their dedication and enthusiasm, and we are excited to continue this journey of exploration and learning in the semesters to come.

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The Module Continues with Success



Since its launch in October 2023, COPFUTUREU successfully completed a graduate-level course in the fall semester, followed by an undergraduate course in the spring. This semester returns to graduate-level instruction, where students deepen their understanding of EU institutions and decision-making processes through interactive sessions.



As the Jean Monnet Module COPFUTUREU progresses at Istanbul University, it continues to thrive. Running from 2023 to 2026, the module offers MA and BA courses, alongside a seminar series. The curriculum incorporates diverse teaching methods such as presentations, discussions, group work, and debates, encouraging students to brainstorm and explore key EU challenges and opportunities.

In addition to lectures, the module will continue to offer specialized seminars featuring guest speakers who provide expert perspectives on key issues. Together with the core coursework, these seminars ensure a comprehensive and enriching academic experience.

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Undergraduate Level Course Successfully Completed



We are happy to announce that the undergraduate-level course has been successfully completed. During the course, students are provided with a comprehensive understanding of the European Union's institutions, policies, and decision-making processes. Throughout the semester, students actively participated in discussions, debates, and group work, enhancing their critical thinking and analytical skills.
The course provided the students a solid foundation for understanding how the EU operates, equipping them with the knowledge to assess both its internal and external dynamics.

Graduate Level Course to Start This Semester

Building on the success of the undergraduate course, the Jean Monnet Module COPFUTUREU will return to graduate-level teaching this semester. The course will continue to explore critical EU-related topics while offering advanced insights into the European Union's institutional structures, governance, and global challenges.

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COPFUTUREU Seminar Series III: Transatlantic Security Agenda and the EU

4 June 2024



On June 4, 2024, the Jean Monnet Module COPFUTUREU hosted an online seminar titled 'Transatlantic Security Agenda and the EU', featuring expert contributions from Prof. Dr. Serhat Güvenç, Dr. Kaan Kutlu Ataç, and journalist Barçın Yinanç. The event was organized in collaboration with the International Relations Council of Turkey (UİK) and Global Academy.

The seminar focused on the latest developments in Transatlantic relations, with discussions centered on NATO and the European Union. The speakers provided an in-depth analysis of the EU's security policies within the Transatlantic Alliance and examined the Union's enlargement strategies, emphasizing both the opportunities and challenges it faces in becoming a global actor. Attendees gained valuable insights into the complexities of EU-NATO relations and the evolving security dynamics within the Transatlantic partnership.





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Announcing the New Jean Monnet Module: EU as a Global Digital Actor



We are very proud to announce that a new Jean Monnet Module in which our module chair, Prof. Dr. Özgün Erler Bayır is also a part of and titled "EU as a Global Digital Actor" (EU-GlobalDigi) will be funded by the European Union and conducted at the University of Bucharest, Romania by Dr. Luciana A. Ghica between 2024-2027.

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This Jean Monnet Module will conduct research and organize conferences and seminars focused on how the European Union, as a global digital actor, both influences and is influenced by digital technologies in key areas of political competition. The module will also consider the broader impacts of digitalization on politics and governance.





What's Happening in the EU?

EU Adopts World's First Comprehensive AI Law

1 August 2024



The European Union has officially adopted the world’s first comprehensive regulation on artificial intelligence, the European Artificial Intelligence Act (AI Act) On August 1, 2024. This landmark law is aimed at ensuring that AI systems developed and used within the EU are trustworthy, with built-in safeguards to protect fundamental rights.

The AI act, which is the first binding worldwide horizontal regulation on AI, sets a common framework for the use and supply of AI systems in the EU. The new act offers a classification for AI systems with different requirements and obligations tailored to a 'risk-based approach'.

The regulation also lays down specific rules for general purpose AI (GPAI) models and lays down more stringent requirements for GPAI models with 'high-impact capabilities' that could pose a systemic risk and have a significant impact on the internal market.

Source:https://commission.europa.eu/news/more-support-artificial-intelligence-start-ups-boost-innovation-2024-01-24_en

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EU at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games: Unity, Solidarity and Diversity

27 July 2024

The Paris 2024 Olympic Games kicked off with a global celebration, and for the first time, the European Union took center stage at the Opening Ceremony. Under the motto "United in Diversity", dancers on a floating barge symbolized the EU's youth, openness, and dynamism, set to the beat of Eurodance music. This performance highlighted the values of peace, unity, and solidarity, aligning with the Olympic spirit.
The Games provided a platform for the EU to promote its values and showcase initiatives like the European Medal Counter – Team Europe 2024, tracking EU athletes' achievements. The EU also used the occasion to emphasize policies supporting sport and youth development, including Erasmus+ and the European Week of Sport.







Through programs like the #BeInclusive EU Sport Awards, which promote social inclusion through sport, and efforts to fight doping and match-fixing, the EU continues to foster fairness, inclusivity, and unity in sports.

Source:https://commission.europa.eu/news/eu-paris-2024-olympic-games-unity-solidarity-and-diversity-2024-07-27_en

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