

## DEPARTMENT OF LAW

# HRS193 EU Area of Freedom, Security and Justice law with comparative constitutional law, 15 credits

EU - frihet, säkerhet och rättvisa med komparativ konstitutionell rätt, 15 högskolepoäng Second Cycle

#### Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Law on 2021-04-12 to be valid from 2021-08-29, autumn semester of 2021.

*Field of education:* Law 100% *Department:* Department of Law

#### Position in the educational system

The course is an optional specialized course within the Master of Laws programmet at the Department of Law.

Main field of studies

Specialization

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

#### **Entry requirements**

The student shall have completed 150 hec from semesters 1-6 of the law program, of which 120 hec shall be from semesters 1-4. The student shall also have completed the course International law (HRO600). Visiting foreign students, and students enrolled in law programs leading to a law degree (Juristexamen) elsewhere, may be admitted to the course following approval of the department.

It is recommended that students take the EU constitutional law HRS 312 (ht part 1), but the course is free standing.

#### Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the course the student will be able to:

#### Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate in-depth knowledge and understanding of EU law, in particular the EU law that is brought to the fore in the EU area "freedom, security and justice".
- demonstrate in-depth knowledge and understanding of how the EU area "freedom, security and justice" is designed and what issues are raised in the area.
- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how interdisciplinary studies and comparative methods can help us gain a greater understanding of the EU area of freedom, security and justice

### Competence and skills

- critically analyze the EU area "freedom, security and justice".
- demonstrate the ability to present advanced legal argumentation in English in written and oral form.

#### Judgement and approach

- independently question and critically examine the legal ideas the student comes into contact with on the course.
- apply EU law in security matters independently and with the support of relevant theory and method development.
- reflect on their own learning.

### **Course content**

This course deals with the most current issues of security law in the EU and global contexts. We will discuss the EU's security agenda and the legal challenges it poses such as that of due process rights and data protection. We will also discuss EU security regulation in a broader framework by placing it in a comparative constitutional law perspective and assessing it in the light of, for example, US practices as well as other countries. Moreover, we will discuss the notion of a European solidarity with regard to the EU 's responses to security matters.

In short, the course explores a policy domain in EU law (the "Area of Freedom, Security and Justice") and introduces the topic of comparative constitutional law. This field of law is worthy of special attention because of its high-stakes content (particularly from an individual and a state perspective, security, human rights, data protection etc.). As the EU policy Area of Freedom, Security and Justice becomes more and more intertwined with 'mainstream' EU constitutional law, students are offered an advance course into the dynamics of EU security regulation while asked to reflects on its deeper theoretical meaning and thereby aiming at linking this course to their previous studies (e.g. constitutional law, criminal law, international law, migration law). Additionally, the course draws on critical insights from criminology, political science and international relations as well as political theory.

The course is freestanding but students are encouraged to also take the EU Constitutional Law course (HT part 1).

**Form of teaching** Seminars and lectures. Student participation.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment Examination: Seminars (0001)1 hp Essay with oral presentation (0002) 14 hp.

A student who has taken two exams in a course or part of a course without obtaining a pass grade is entitled to the nomination of another examiner. The student needs to contact the department for a new examiner, preferably in writing, and this should be approved by the department unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6 Section 22 of the Higher Education Ordinance).

If a student has received a recommendation from the University of Gothenburg for special educational support, where it is compatible with the learning outcomes of the course and provided that no unreasonable resources are required, the examiner may decide to allow the student to sit an adjusted exam or alternative form of assessment.

In the event that a course has ceased or undergone major changes, students are to be

guaranteed at least three examination sessions (including the ordinary examination session) over a period of at least one year, but no more than two years, after the course has ceased/been changed. The same applies to placements and professional placements (VFU), although this is restricted to just one additional examination session.

#### Grades

The grading scale comprises: Passed with Distinction (AB), Passed with Credit (BA), Pass (B) and Fail (U).

#### **Course evaluation**

The Department of Law is obliged to evaluate all courses given by the department. Course evaluation will be conducted and compiled in accordance with the current procedures in the Department of Law. All course evaluations of the courses on the Master of Laws program are scrutinised by the Board of Education of the Department of Law. A student who assists with the compilation of the course evaluations is entitled to a certain remuneration and a certificate to this point. The results of, and possible changes to, the course will be shared with students who participated in the evaluation and students who are starting the course.