*Metropolitan University Prague – MUP*

*Department of International Relations and European Studies*

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

Fall 2023  
Elective course

Lecturers: Mats Braun, PhD (mats.[braun@mup.cz](mailto:braun@mup.cz)), Michal Kolmaš, PhD ([michal.kolmas@mup.cz](mailto:michal.kolmas@mup.cz)), Mgr. Oleksandra Kovalevska (sasha.kovalevska1@gmail.com)

*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%

Podcast (group work) – 50%

**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**

**Week 1** – Introduction – M.B.

**Week 2** – United Nations and the Global Work to Stop Climate Change - M.B.

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

**Week 4** – Simulation game (part 1) – The Council of the EU and Reforming the Emission Trading Scheme - M.B.

**Week 5** – The role of agriculture and forrests – M.B.and guest lecturer

**Week 6** – Technological innovations - the possibilities of electric cars- M.K. and guest lecturer

**Week 7** – The role of activism for climate policy – M.B. and guest lecturer

**Week 8** – The role of cities. A visit to CAMP – Center for Architecture and Metropolitan Planning – O.K.

**Week 9** - The consequences of Russia’s war in Ukraine for the environment and the EU’s energy policy – RePower EU – O.K.

**Week 10** – Podcast session 1 – M.K.

**Week 11** – Podcast session2 – M.K.