

CONTEMPORARY EUROPEAN CHALLENGES: CALMING A CONFLICTED CONTINENT

Professor: Jan Rovny
Session 2
Language of instruction: English
Number of hours of class: 2.5

Objective of the Course

The main objective of the course is to introduce the complexity of European integration as a political project aiming to resolve conflicts on the European continent, while simultaneously creating internal political competition over its own nature.

Summary

This course introduces the historical logics of European integration, explaining the various visions that have led to the creation of what is today the European Union. The course discusses the difficulty of limiting national state sovereignty, and creating a new supranational level of government. It then discusses how today, this new level of government is at the epicenter of the core political conflict in Europe.

Working through the lens of historical analysis and comparative politics, we will discuss the role of diverse actors, visions and ideologies in the formation of the European project. We will then shift to study how the historical success of European integration engendered new conflicts in today's Europe, and how these conflicts are reshaping modern politics.

Professor Biography



Jan Rovny is an associate professor at the Centre d'études européennes and LIEPP at Sciences Po, Paris. His research concentrates on political competition in Europe with the aim of uncovering the political conflict lines in different countries. He explores the issues that political parties contest across the continent, the strategies that different parties follow, as well as the preferences and voting patterns of voters. Jan is one of the principal investigators of the Chapel Hill Expert Survey on party positioning. He teaches courses in comparative politics and quantitative methodology, and acts as the academic advisor to the Sciences Po Summer School.