

# **The Council of Europe and its Relation with the EU**

32 hours – 3 ECTS – Semester

**Prof Birte Wassenberg**

Master-level module open to CES students and Sciences Po Strasbourg's visiting students (6 students maximum)

## **Outline:**

### **1. Introduction**

Introduction to the course:

- Structure and functioning of the Council of Europe

Working groups:

- The statute of the Council of Europe

### **2. The beginnings of the Council of Europe (1949-1969)**

From the setting up of the Council of Europe until the Paris summit of the EEC (1949-1969)

Working groups on examples of activities in the Council of Europe:

Human Rights – Culture – Multicultural Society – Teaching of History – Teaching of languages – Protection of environment – Europe and the world – Youth work – Health protection

### **3. The development in cooperation/opposition to the EEC 1969-1989**

The enlargement and deepening of activities in the Council of Europe and its co-existence with the EEC/EU until the East-West detente (1969-1989)

### **4. The pan-European Organisation 1989-2009**

In search for a pan-European identity for the Council of Europe: the enlargement of the Council of Europe and its role as a pan-European organization after the fall of the Berlin wall in 1989

Working groups on the enlargement procedure

### **5. Recent developments (2009-2014)**

The Human Rights Courts reforms

The debate on the accession of the EU to the European Court of Human Rights

The Council of Europe combating new threats: cybercrime, corruption...

Crises in the Council of Europe with recent conflictual situations of Member States

### **6. Examples of fields of cooperation: Culture, Youth and environment**

The cultural convention and its application

Promoting education, culture and sports for all

Eurimages

The European Youth Centres and its intercultural activities

Protection of environment and animals

Explication of the simulation game on a session of the Parliamentary Assembly on the admission of the Kosovo as a member of the Council

### **7. Original cooperation methods and structures**

The Venice Commission

Monitoring

The Congress for local and regional authorities

A profusion of decentralised cooperation bodies

Simulation game

### **8. Which role for the Council of Europe in the European architecture**

Final comparative analysis of the Council of Europe with regards to the EU and other international organizations

- The approach to European integration (theory)
- Objectives and development of the Council
- Relationship with other organizations: between cooperation and competition
- The future ?

Discussion and conclusion

- **During the course: intervention of at least one high civil servant from the Council of Europe on his field of competence.**

### **Bibliography:**

BATES, Ed, *The evolution of the European Convention of Human Rights. From its inception to the creation of a permanent Court of Human Rights*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2010.

BITSCH, Marie-Thérèse, *Histoire de la construction européenne de 1945 à nos jours*, Editions complexe, Paris, 2001

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GILBERT, Mark, *European Integration. A concise History*, Rowman & Littlefield, 2012.

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