

**FACULTY OF SOCIETY AND SCIENCE  
STUDY COURSE DESCRIPTION**

<b>Course Title:</b>	Legal and Institutional Framework of International Business				
<b>Course code (LAIS):</b>					
<b>Study programme:</b>	<b>Business Environment Administration</b>				
<b>Level of Study programme:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1st level professional higher education			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Professional Bachelor			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Professional Master			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Academic Master			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	PhD level			
<b>Type of Study programme:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Compulsory course (Part A)			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Professional specialization courses (Part B, compulsory)			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Professional specialization optional courses (Part B, optional)			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Elective courses (Part C)			
<b>Course Workload:</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>ECTS</b>	<b>Academic hours</b>	<b>Contact hours</b>	<b>Independent work hours</b>
	4	6	160	48	112
<b>Course Author/ Tutor:</b>	Assistant Professor Irēna Liepiņa and Professor Agita Līviņa				
	Academic/science degree: Dr. iur. I. Liepiņa; Dr. oec. A. Līviņa				
	irena.liepina@va.lv ; agita.livina@va.lv				
	Consultations: previously scheduled with the professor via email				
<b>Study Form:</b>	Full-time studies				
<b>Study year, semester:</b>	Spring semester, academic year 2023/2024				
<b>Language:</b>	English				
<b>Prerequisites for the Course:</b>	<i>Recommended knowledge of fundamentals of business Law, economics and diplomacy</i>				
<b>Course Summary:</b>	<p>The aim of the study course is to create an understanding of the main political processes and the main institutions of the European Union and their importance in the business environment. After the completion of the study course, students will develop knowledge and skills in the international and European legal business environment, law and policy development, including current topics areas such as competitiveness, sustainability, the European Green Course, financing options and the development of standardized rules and contracts. During the study course, students will be invited to visit the relevant Latvian, European and international institutions (study trips - according to the possibilities of the relevant study year). As part of the study course, students will strengthen the skill of critical thinking and legal reasoning, the basic skills of applying and interpreting laws, the basics of legal creative initiatives and lobbying, business negotiations, dispute prevention and resolution skills, they will find appropriate external financial sources for business development, they will get to know the EU platforms where to search for information and apply for financing, including tenders, procurement, and will perform independent and team work online and in person. The study course is related to the legal environment of international business and international institutions, based on examples and court judgments and mock situations, guided by the lecturers' professional and academic</p>				

	experience, including the participation in events organized by international institutions, visiting them.	
<b>Course Methods:</b>	The form of studies: lectures, seminars, case studies, role plays, simulations etc. Study types: literature studies, presentations, discussions, research etc.	
<b>Assessment:</b>	Attendance & discussion and debate activity – 25% Presentation – 25% Exam – 50%	
<b>Requirements for Credits:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Attendance</b> is compulsory. You are expected to attend each class and have a video camera switched on at all times.</li> <li><b>Active participation</b> by taking part in presentations, discussions and debates about the issues raised, which will be judged in terms of the quality. Online tools can be used as <i>mentimeter</i>, <i>slido</i>, <i>jamboard</i> etc.</li> <li><b>Presentations</b> should be conducted in accordance with requirements (content, form, time, performance).</li> <li>All academic work must meet the academic standards contained in the Vidzeme University <b>Ethics Regulations</b>. <b>Plagiarism</b> and <b>cheating</b> will not be tolerated and can result in penalties.</li> <li><b>Postponing</b> of presentations and exam is justified only in exceptional emergency cases (illness etc.), approved by official documents. In the case of absence student should <b>inform</b> the course instructor in advance.</li> </ol>	
<b>Abiding by the Academic Ethics</b>	<p>Students must abide by the academic and research ethics, Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences <b>Ethics Regulations</b>, incl.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– study papers must be independently developed;</li> <li>– the study work should reference all statements, ideas and data used that have been authored by someone else;</li> <li>– appropriate data acquisition methods should be used in the acquisition of data, the research ethics must be respected, empirical data must be collected independently and cannot be distorted or falsified;</li> <li>– the examination must be carried out by the student independently, without the use of supporting materials and/or consultations with other students, unless the lecturer states otherwise.</li> </ul> <p>In the event of non-compliance with the academic and research ethics, punishment is imposed in accordance with the ViA Ethics Regulations and the study course must be re-taken, unless the punishment is exmatriculation.</p>	
<b>Course Contents:</b>		
<b>Learning Outcomes; the evaluation methods and criteria</b>	<b>Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>The evaluation methods and criteria</b>
	<b>Knowledge</b>	
	Gain knowledge about the common policy of the European Union,	Presentations, role plays, simulations, and discussion.

	sources of law and their application, institutions and processes	
	Learn the main sources of the international legal environment and its participants and their interpretation and application Construction and management of Latvian, European and global companies from start-ups to concerns	Presentations, role plays, simulations, and discussion.
	<b>Skills</b>	
	Applied methods and tools for analysis of different the EU business environment factors. Familiarity of the EU funds and the EU support for SMEs and Industrial sector.	Presentations role plays, simulations, and discussion, individual work, seminars.
	<b>Competency</b>	
	Understanding of international and European Union organizations, their importance in business, business legal regular companies and individuals  Analysis of problem situations and finding a solution. Responsibility and Ethics for sustainable business in an international environment  Negotiating successfully in an international business environment	Presentations, role plays, simulations, and discussion.
<b>Mandatory Reading</b>	International Business Law and Its Environment (Mind Tap Course List) 10th Edition by <u>Richard Schaffer</u> , <u>Filiberto Agusti</u> , <u>Lucien J. Dhooge</u> , 10th edition 2017.  United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods: <a href="https://uncitral.un.org/sites/uncitral.un.org/files/media-documents/uncitral/en/19-09951_e_ebook.pdf">https://uncitral.un.org/sites/uncitral.un.org/files/media-documents/uncitral/en/19-09951_e_ebook.pdf</a>	

	<p>The European Commission, Business and industry politics <a href="https://european-union.europa.eu/priorities-and-actions/actions-topic/business-and-industry_en">https://european-union.europa.eu/priorities-and-actions/actions-topic/business-and-industry_en</a></p> <p>The European Parliament <a href="https://www.europarl.europa.eu/portal/en">https://www.europarl.europa.eu/portal/en</a></p> <p>The European Council <a href="https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/european-council/">https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/european-council/</a></p> <p>The European Commission <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/info/index_en">https://ec.europa.eu/info/index_en</a></p> <p>The EU budget <a href="https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/eu-budget_en">https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/eu-budget_en</a></p>
<p><b>Additional literature:</b></p>	<p><i>Conventions, Regulations, Directives and Model law</i></p> <p>United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (CISG), adopted in Vienna on 11 April 1980, the text <a href="file:///C:/Users/User/Downloads/CISG_english.pdf">file:///C:/Users/User/Downloads/CISG_english.pdf</a> and commentaries: <a href="https://cisg-online.org/cisg-article-by-article">https://cisg-online.org/cisg-article-by-article</a> ;</p> <p>INCOTERMS 2020, International Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 2020 - <a href="https://iccwbo.org/resources-for-business/incoterms-rules/incoterms-2020/">https://iccwbo.org/resources-for-business/incoterms-rules/incoterms-2020/</a></p> <p>Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR) (carriage by road), available</p> <p>Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules for International Carriage by Air (Montreal Convention) (carriage by air) Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules Relating to International Carriage by Air, (Warsaw Convention) (carriage by air)</p> <p>International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations (FIATA), Model Rules for Freight Forwarding Services</p> <p>United Nations Convention on the Carriage of Goods by Sea (carriage by sea)</p> <p>The Hague-Visby Rules (carriage by sea)</p> <p>UNIDROIT Principles of International Commercial Contracts: <a href="https://www.unidroit.org/instruments/commercial-contracts/upicc-model-clauses/">https://www.unidroit.org/instruments/commercial-contracts/upicc-model-clauses/</a></p> <p>New York Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards of 1958, <i>UNICTRAL Arbitration Rules</i></p> <p><i>International Chamber of Commerce Rules of Arbitration</i>, available at: <a href="https://iccwbo.org/dispute-resolution-services/arbitration/rules-of-arbitration/">https://iccwbo.org/dispute-resolution-services/arbitration/rules-of-arbitration/</a></p> <p>EU Digital Single Market: <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cache/infographs/ict/bloc-4.html">https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cache/infographs/ict/bloc-4.html</a></p> <p>The Principles of European Contract Law (PECL);</p> <p>European Convention on International Commercial Arbitration of 1961</p> <p>DIRECTIVE (EU) 2019/1151 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 20 June 2019 amending Directive (EU) 2017/1132 as regards the use of digital tools and processes in company law - <a href="https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32019L1151">https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32019L1151</a>;</p> <p>DIRECTIVE (EU) 2019/2121 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 27 November 2019 amending Directive (EU) 2017/1132 as regards cross-border conversions, mergers and divisions: <a href="https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-">https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-</a></p>

[content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32019L2121&qid=1576662469712&from=EN](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32019L2121&qid=1576662469712&from=EN) etc.

Additional Reading:

International Business, A. Harrison, E. Dalkiran, E. Elsey, Oxford University Press, 2000;

A. Loos, Director's, Liability: A Worldwide Review Kluwer Law International, 2006;

Denis Keenan, Advanced Business Law, 11<sup>th</sup> edition, Longman: 2000;

Wouters Jan, European Company Law: Quo Vadis?, Common Market Law Review, 37, pp. 257 – 307, 2000.

Wymeersch Eddy, The Transfer of the Company Seat in European Company, Common Market Law Review, 40, pp. 661 – 695, 2003.

Ferran Eilis, Company Law and Corporate Finance, Oxford University Press, 1999, pp. 457 – 488, 567 - 639.

Berk Jonathan B., Corporate finance: Global edition /

Jonathan Berk, Peter DeMarzo. - 2nd ed. - Boston, MA : Prentice Hall, 2011

Bently L., Sherman B. Intellectual Property Law, Trade Marks and Passing Off Registration, 3rd ed., Oxford University Press, 2009

Good R., Commercial Law, Conflict of Laws, 3rd ed., LexisNexis UK and Penguin Books, 2004

Miller Edwin L., Mergers and Acquisitions: a step-by-step legal and practical guide, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 2007, pp. 197 – 242.

Citron R., The Future of the Tax in the 21st Century: a Practitioner's Perspective, British Tax Review, 2002.

Gormley Laurence W., EU Taxation law / Laurence W. Gormley. - Richmond, U.K.: Richmond Law & Tax, 2005.

Piet Jan Slot, A view from the Mountain: 40 years of developments in EC Competition Law, Common Market Law Review, 41, 443 – 473.

J. Alison, *EC competition law: Text, cases, and materials* / Alison Jones, Brenda Sufrin - 3rd ed. - Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007.

W. Richard, *Competition law* / Richard Whish - 5th ed. - London: Butterworths, 2003.

D. G. Goyder, J. Goyder, A. Albors-Llorens, *Goyder's EC Competition Law*, Oxford University Press, 2008.

A Comparative Analysis of the different national regulations, including possible barriers to trade or distortions of competition resulting from them,

[http://ec.europa.eu/consumers/rights/docs/consumer\\_law\\_compendium\\_comparative\\_analysis\\_en\\_final.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/consumers/rights/docs/consumer_law_compendium_comparative_analysis_en_final.pdf)

Eiropas Savienības tiesības I institucionālās tiesības (2020). Christoph Schewe (Kristofa Ševes), Arņa Bukas, Kaspara Gailīša, Ģirta Strazdiņa zin.red.

Olsen, J. (2020). *The European Union* (7th ed.). Taylor and Francis. (EBCSO e-grāmata)

Lenārtss, Kūns **Eiropas Savienības tiesas interpretācijas metodes**, Rīga : Tiesu namu aģentūra, 2022. 221 lpp

	<p><b>Defining Latvia</b> Budapest : Central European University Press, 2022. 269 lpp.</p> <p><b>A Century of Latvian Diplomacy</b> Rīga : Zvaigzne ABC, [2021]. 623 lpp</p> <p><b>Latvijas Intereses Eiropas Savienībā</b> Rīga : Latvijas Politologu biedrība, 2021. 88 lpp.</p> <p><b>Latvijas intereses Eiropas Savienībā</b> Rīga : Latvijas Politologu biedrība, 2021. 87 lpp</p> <p><b>Latvia : Human Development Report</b> Riga : University of Latvia Press, 2020. 150 lpp.</p> <p>Society. Health. Welfare <b>7th International Interdisciplinary Scientific Conference "Society. Health. Welfare"</b>, Rīga Stradiņš University, Latvia, October 10-12, 2018</p> <p>Les Ulis, France : ECP Sciences, 2020. 1 sējums (dažāda lpp. numerācija)</p> <p><b>Latvian Foreign and Security Policy</b> Riga : Latvian Institute of International Affairs, [2020]. 222 lpp</p> <p>Biscoe, Adam <b>Brexit</b> Oxford : Oxford University Press, 2019. 8 pages.</p> <p><b>The War in Ukraine: Lessons for Europe</b> Riga : The Centre for East European Policy Studies, 2015. 182 lpp</p> <p><i>Internet Resources:</i> <a href="https://cisg-online.org/home">https://cisg-online.org/home</a> EU Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market: <a href="https://euipo.europa.eu/ohimportal/en/home">https://euipo.europa.eu/ohimportal/en/home</a> Doing Business in EU: <a href="https://commission.europa.eu/business-economy-euro/doing-business-eu_en">https://commission.europa.eu/business-economy-euro/doing-business-eu_en</a> World Intellectual Property Organization: <a href="http://www.wipo.int/portal/index.html.en">http://www.wipo.int/portal/index.html.en</a> Harvard Business Review: <a href="https://hbr.org/topic/subject/international-business">https://hbr.org/topic/subject/international-business</a> <a href="https://eufordigital.eu/esignature-and-ukraine-leading-the-way-towards-faster-and-easier-international-business-exchanges/">https://eufordigital.eu/esignature-and-ukraine-leading-the-way-towards-faster-and-easier-international-business-exchanges/</a> <a href="http://www.ilo.org">www.ilo.org</a></p>
<b>Course confirmation date:</b>	January 6, 2020.
<b>Date of course description update:</b>	November 26, 2023

**Study Course Plan:**

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Date	Theme	Academic hours		Study Form/ Organization of independent work of students and task description
		Contact hours	Independent work hours	

	Introduction to International and European Business Law: sources, institutions, subjects and system	2		
	Contract law and main contracts: international sales, carriage, lease etc. Incoterms 2020 European Digital Single Market and four freedoms	4	8	
	EU main institutions. The treaty of Lisbon.	2	82	
	EU Policies: General Trends and Characteristics	2	4	
	Basics on Competition and Consumer Protection	2	4	
	Corporate Sustainability due diligence. Intellectual Property: trademarks, designs, patents and copy rights WIPO and OHIM	3	6	
	International Liability and Commercial Dispute Avoidance and Resolution	2	4	
	EU Single market Company law and use of digital tools and processes EU Digital policies	5	10	Literature studies. Seminar presentations and answers to the questions. Discussion and debate activity in seminars.
	EU Energy Economic and Monetary Union EMU	4	8	Literature studies. Seminar presentations and answers to the questions. Discussion and debate activity in seminars.
	Corporate Finance and Taxation Expansion of business: Mergers and Acquisitions	2 2	4 4	
	EU Cohesion & Structural funds EU Budget, budgetary control, regional policies	2	4	Literature studies. Seminar presentations and answers to the questions. Discussion and

				debate activity in seminars
	EU Industry and trade EU Transport	2	4	
	EU Common Agriculture Policy&Fisheries EU Environment and climate.	4	8	Literature studies. Seminar presentations and answers to the questions. Discussion and debate activity in seminars.
			8	.
	<b>Exam</b>	4	20	Exam.
	<b>Hours total:</b>	<b>48</b>		