

An Introduction to European Business Law

Dr Christoph Schewe
DAAD-Visiting Associate Professor
University of Latvia

Dr Thomas Hoffmann
DAAD-Fachlektor
Tartu University

Spring Semester 2013/14, Wednesdays 12.00-14.00 Auditorium 7 & Thursdays 14.00-16.00, Auditorium 44
University of Latvia, Faculty of Law, Raiņa bulv. 19,

Course Description

Professional business is less and less bound to national legal frameworks and economies. Today, only few business transactions do not imply cross-border elements which reflects not only in day-to-day business but also may become manifest when events in other parts of the world, such as the international crisis affect economies and businesses alike. The situation seems to stand in contrast to law, which appears to focus on national territories. This image however, is only partly true: Especially over the last 60 years one may witness a process of juridification, in which international organisations, trade agreements and other international treaties grew in number and importance. It is mainly the WTO which sets the legal framework for international trade and even covers important parts of IP law which will also be dealt with in the course.

While these rules primarily address States, the main actors in international trade and business are private persons and entities. International trade implies that these actors are confronted with different legal systems. Given considerable differences between the legal families, international treaties intend to internationalise private law and set up rules which internationalise dispute resolution.

Rather than covering all of the numerous areas of EBL which are subject to specific classes, this course aims at providing an overview of the concepts and illustrate the interdependency of different legal fields.

Outline

Date	Topic
5. Feb.	Introduction
6. Feb.	International Trade Law I
12. Feb.	International Trade Law II
12. Feb.	International Trade Law III, Introduction to the Law of RTAs
19. Feb	EU-Law I
20. Feb	EU-Law II + III
26. Feb	EU-Law IV
27. Feb	EU Competition Law I
27. Feb	EU Competition Law II
10. March, Aud. 19	Comparative Law I
10. March	Comparative Law II
12. March	Revision session
20. March	Test I
26. March	Intellectual Property Rights I
3. April	Test I (2 nd : 24 April 11.30-13.00)
23. April	Intellectual Property Rights II
24. April	Dispute Settlement & Arbitration I
30. April	Dispute Settlement & Arbitration II
7. May	Monetary policy and the legal framework I
8. May	Monetary policy and the legal framework II
14 May	Revision session
	Exam I
	Exam II

Requirements: The joint course of the Faculty of Law and the Riga Graduate School of Law is open for students of all faculties. In order to get 3 credit points (B), participants are required to attend lectures, pass an interim examination (50 %), and a final examination (50 %).