

Seminar on

Developments in EU Law after Lisbon – Selected Decisions of the ECJ after the Lisbon Treaty

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Autumn Semester 2013/14, Mondays from 16.30-18.00, Raiņa bulv. 19, Auditorium 43

Course Description

The Lisbon Treaty marks a qualitative shift from a framework designed for a European Union of 15 Member States to a Union of 27 and more. This Union has to respond to a range of political, economic and also legal issues. Substituting the failed Constitution the Treaty, brought important and substantial changes. While some of them were explicitly envisaged by the Lisbon Treaty for empowering an enlarged EU to manage internal and global challenges, some problems arise due to open or imprecise formulations. Frequently, these issues only become apparent in practical cases when parties dispute about a different interpretation of legal norms. The seminar discusses cases from selected areas of EU law which are to be presented in the context of earlier decisions thus analysing and explaining the changes of law and Court practice.

As a reflex of this concept, students will revise their knowledge gained in previous courses and better understand EU law and the objectives of the Treaty reform. In addition, discussions of the cases will train students to reflect on legal problems and also to criticise the reasoning of the ECJ as well as potential effects and the consequences of decisions.

Outline

	Topics & Dates
I.	Introduction and attribution of topics 2 September 2013
II.	Fundamental Rights in the EU 16 September 2013
III.	European Union Citizenship 23 September 2013
IV.	Discrimination 7 October 2013
V.	The Fundamental Freedoms 14 October 2013
VI.	The External Dimension of EU Law 21 October 2013
VII.	Justice and Home Affairs 28 October 2013
VIII.	Competition Law 4 November 2013
IX.	The Economic and Monetary Union 11 November 2013
X.	Exam I 25 November 2013
XI.	Exam II 9 December 2013

Requirements: The joint course of the Faculty of Law and the Riga Graduate School of Law is open for all law students (without any additional payment). Students are required to present a case in the historic and legal context (orally and in writing, 60 % of the grade); in addition there will be a final exam (40 % of the grade).