

European Labour Law

Time: every Tuesday, starting from 19 Sep until 12 Dec 8:00-9:30

Location: room A/9

Instructor: Sara Hungler, Labour and Social Law Department (A/302)

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Course description:

The course addresses the fundamental question as to the purpose of EU labour law: whether the regulations are primarily economic, social or both. This intellectually stimulating course traces the dynamic evolution of EU labour law, from its origins to its contemporary role as a potent social policy influencer.

Course Highlights:

1. **Evolution of EU Labour Law:** Embark on a historical journey through the development of EU labour law, tracing its transformative shifts to understand how this evolution has shaped contemporary perspectives on labour rights.
2. **Regulatory Dynamics:** Navigate the intricacies of the EU's regulatory framework from traditional rule-making methods through innovative legislative techniques.
3. **Exploring Substantive Areas:** Gain a comprehensive overview of the diverse facets of employment law within the EU. Explore topics such as the free movement of persons, principles of equal treatment, the impact of enterprise restructuring, the rights and challenges of posted workers, workers' participation and industrial action, and the intriguing intersection of competition law and labour rights.
4. **Critical Analysis:** Engage in critical discussions and debates about the purpose, impact, and ongoing transformation of EU labour law. Challenge conventional notions and seek to unravel the intricate balance between economic objectives and social justice within the European Union.
5. **Interactive Learning:** Participate in engaging discussions, case analyses, and real-world scenarios to deepen your understanding of the subject matter. Collaborate with peers to address contemporary challenges and consider innovative solutions.

By the end of this course, you will possess a nuanced perspective on EU labour law, equipped to navigate its complexities, assess its evolving priorities, and contribute to the ongoing discourse surrounding the economic and social dimensions of labour regulation in the European Union.

Course Schedule:

Week	Topic
1	The evolution of employment law: from hard law to policy
2	The free movement of persons as a fundamental principle of the EU compared with the regulations related to posted workers
3	Equality: prohibition of sex-based discrimination, development, principles and equal pay
4	Equality: prohibition of discrimination based on other grounds than sex
5	Atypical work: part time, definite term contracts and agency work
6	Working conditions
7	Employee participation, Collective redundancies and restructuring of the enterprise
8	Working time and conditions
9	European Social Dialogue
10	Human rights and business in the EU
11	Wrap-up and Q&A
12	Written exam

Literature: Barnard, C: EU Employment Law (4th ed.), Oxford, 2010, OUP; additional readings given by the instructors.

Course requirements: Open book exam.