

ENFORCING EU LAW

CONTENT, PROGRESS AND PEDAGOGY OF THE MODULE

- This course examines the foundations of the EU, its institutions, sources of law and its supranational competences. On that background, the course focuses on enforcing EU law in national courts, and in the CJEU, via the system of preliminary references, enforcement actions against the Member States, including liability for damages, judicial review of EU action and inaction, annulment of EU measures and EU liability for (non-contractual) damages, as well as introducing EU competition law and enforcement. The course aims at building a fundamental knowledge of EU institutions and the *sui generis* system of supranationalism, upon which to explore the various enforcement mechanisms. It thus caters for both students who are new to EU law and students who have already been introduced to EU law but wish to expand their knowledge of EU law in the courts. The course primarily does so through case analysis and active dialogue about how, especially, the CJEU resolves legal problems.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

KNOWLEDGE

- The creation of the EU by member states through the Treaties as a *sui generis* international organization, and the relationship between international law, EU law and national law
- The foundation for supranational competences of EU institutions
- Sources of EU law and their relevance in cases before national courts and EU courts
- The main legal concepts and principles of current EU law
- The central treaty provisions enforcing EU law, including EU competition law and enforcement

SKILLS

- Use the terminology and concepts of EU law
- Identify relevant sources of EU law
- Independently identify EU law problems, understanding the underlying interests
- Interpret and apply principles of EU law and specific EU law provisions
- Present and explain an analysis and findings in relation to an EU law problem or CJEU case
- Understand and challenge the limitations of the EU law enforcement system

COMPETENCES

- Advising on the rights and obligations of EU member states and EU institutions under EU law
- Identifying, analysing and discussing legal solutions to problems within the field
- Analysing the interaction between EU law and international law, and EU law and national law

PRE-REQUISITES

- Students should have completed several years of legal studies at the bachelor level. Prior knowledge of EU Law is not a pre-requisite but is an advantage.

TYPE OF INSTRUCTION

- Lectures, with interactive and problem-oriented discussion.

EXTENT AND EXPECTED WORKLOAD

- 270 hours

EXAMINATION

Name of exam	Enforcing EU Law
Type of Exam	Oral exam 20 minutes per student (including evaluation and feedback)
ECTS	10
Permitted aids	None
Assessment	7-point grading scale
Type of grading	External examination
Criteria of assessment	The criteria of assessment are stated in the Examination Policies and Procedures

FACTS ABOUT THE MODULE

Danish title	Håndhævelse af EU-lovgivning
Module code	
Module type	Course
Duration	11 weeks, including exam preparation
Semester	Autumn
ECTS	10
Language of instruction	English
Empty-place Scheme	Yes
Location of the lecture	Campus Aalborg
Responsible for the module	Fenella Billing
Used in Curriculum for the Master's programme in LL.M. (Master of Laws), 2026. Curriculum for the Master's programme in Business Administration and Commercial Law, 2026	

ORGANISATION

Study Board	Study Board of Law
Department	Department of Law
Faculty	Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities

LITERATURE

- Main textbook: Marios Costa and Steve Peers (eds) Steiner and Woods EU Law 15th edn (OUP 2023) (or latest edition)
- Relevant treaties, other legal instruments and case law