



Intensive Summer Course on Economic and Monetary Union & Defence

6 – 10 July 2026

Escalating geopolitical tensions and renewed security threats have compelled the European Union to reconsider the boundaries between Economic and Monetary Union and defence. The growing emphasis on security, strategic autonomy, and defence-related spending has raised fundamental questions about the EU's economic governance framework, budgetary rules, and institutional balance. These developments affect long-standing principles governing EU competences, the coordination between national and EU levels, and the role of key actors such as the European Commission, the European Parliament, the European Central Bank, the European Investment Bank as well as the EU's engagement with third countries.

This summer course offers an opportunity to reflect on these developments and to analyse the evolving relationship between EMU and defence in the EU. The programme opens with an introductory day situating the topic in its broader legal, economic, and geopolitical context. Lectures are structured around three main dimensions. Framework sessions address economic governance reforms, national initiatives and budgetary rules. Policy sessions focus on EU measures, including industrial and emergency policies and external relations. Institutional sessions examine the role of selected EU institutions and bodies, including the European Parliament, the European Investment Bank, and EU agencies active in the field of defence. The course concludes with a roundtable discussion and a keynote speech.

The course extends over one week in Salzburg. Between **6 and 10 July 2026**, each day there will be several sessions on fundamental and topical questions related to the interaction between **EMU and defence in the EU**. It is open for up to 40 participants who will be selected based on their academic and professional merit. The course is credited with 3 ECTS and is free of charge; please note that participants bear their own expenses.





Programme (subject to modifications)

Monday, 6 July 2026: Introduction – Relating EMU and Defence

- Welcome session (8:30-9:00): Introduction to the course – *Diane Fromage (Univ. of Salzburg)*
- Session 1 (9:00-10:40): Common Foreign Security and Defence Policy and interaction with other polices – *Jonathan Bauerschmidt (Council of the EU, Legal Service)*
- Session 2 (11:00-13:00) From Markets to Militaries: Financing European Defence and Private Investment – *Aike Würdemann (Gleiss Lutz)*
- Session 3 (14:15-16:15): ECB and geopolitics – *Daniel Seguin (European Central Bank)*

Tuesday, 7 July 2026: Framework – Economic Governance and Budget

- Session 1 (8:45-10:45): Reform of the economic governance framework and activation of national escape clauses – *Alenka Jaschke (Council of the EU)*
- Session 2 (11:00-13:00): National initiatives to strengthen defence (poss. in selected MS like FR & DE) *tbc*
- Session 3 (14:15-16:15): Defence in the EU budget – *Leopold Mantl (European Commission)*

Wednesday, 8 July 2026: Policy – Measures taken by the EU

- Session 1 (8:45-10:45): Interinstitutional relations and relation with third countries – *Kolja Raube (KU Leuven)*
- Session 2 (11:00-13:00): EU measures taken and the role of industrial policy – *Maria Patrin (Hertie School, Berlin)*
- Session 3 (14:15-16:15): EU emergency measures – *Merijn Chamon (VUB)*

Thursday, 9 July 2026: Institutional – The Role of Selected Actors

- Session 1 (8:45-10:45): EU agencies and defence, incl. European Defence Agency – *Annalisa Volpato (University of Padova)*
- Session 2 (11:00-13:00): EIB's role as regards defence, incl. change of lending policy – *Rocío Sánchez Barrios (EIB)*
- Session 3 (14:15-16:15): EP's role in defence – *Eva-Maria Poptcheva (European Parliament)*

Friday, 10 July 2026: Reflection – EMU in light of Stronger Defence Policy

- Roundtable (8:45-10:45)
Chair: Diane Fromage (Univ. of Salzburg)
Eva-Maria Poptcheva (European Parliament), Matthieu Chavrier (Council of the EU), Marcus Klamert (Austrian Chancellery)

Coffee break (10:45-11:15)

- Keynote speech (11:15-12:45) *Frank Hoffmeister (EEAS)*

Standing lunch





How to apply

Required documents:

- *Curriculum vitae* (three pages maximum, Times New Roman, 12 pt., 1.5 line-spacing)
- Motivation letter (one page maximum)
- For doctoral students and young professionals (3 years of (postdoctoral) experience): letter of recommendation from supervisor or employer
- For Master's/Diplom students: evidence of additional subject-related qualifications beyond the regular curriculum (e.g. relevant extracurricular activities, traineeships, or a thematic focus in the final thesis)

To be submitted to Ms. Klaudia Streicher (eulaw@plus.ac.at) by **Friday, 27 March 2026**.

Applicants will be informed of our decision by Monday, 27 April 2026.

