

# EUROPEAN STUDIES IN BRUSSELS

Law | Politics | Economics



Vrije Universiteit Brussel

# European and International Law: the LL.M in International and European Law

## A window of opportunities

The LL.M. in International and European Law has been a successful master's programme at the *Vrije Universiteit Brussel* for over 35 years. The Institute for European Studies organizes the programme through the Faculty of Law. The programme, also known as the Programme on International Legal Cooperation (PILC), is geared towards law graduates from all over the world. Focusing on European and international law, its method of interactive training and teaching for a select student body (40 students are admitted) is unique and guarantees a high-quality output. The international teaching staff consists of high-ranking academics and leading practitioners from renowned law firms and European institutions.

### Programme of excellence

For more than 35 years, the LL.M has been the university's top-quality law programme. International audits have continued to emphasize the excellence of the programme, which is now imbedded in the Institute for European Studies, and have ranked it as the top programme on European and international law in the country. With well over 1000 alumni working on all continents in international organisations, national administrations, law firms and ngo's, the LL.M has a legacy of quality and success that encourages students from all over the world to seek admission each year. The full programme can be found on our website (see below).

### Applications

The LL.M in International and European Law is a demanding programme with high academic admission requirements. To qualify for admission you must possess a university law degree, excellent scholastic marks and certified proficiency in English.

For further information and the application procedure, visit [www.ies.be/pilc](http://www.ies.be/pilc)

## Testimonial

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*Olga Kopiczko*

Olga Kopiczko | European Commission DG ENV – Environmental Agreements and Trade

"The International Law Programme of the *Vrije Universiteit Brussel* has been crucial for my professional life. This programme helped me greatly in passing the EU competency exam and getting an interesting job as an international lawyer at the Commission."



# The Institute for European Studies at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Awarded the title of Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence in 2002, the Institute for European Studies (IES) offers advanced master's programmes and focuses on interdisciplinary research in European Studies - more specifically on the role of the EU in an international setting. With this scope, it provides academic services to scholars, policy makers and the general public. Founded in 2001, the IES, recognized and endorsed by the government, is an autonomous interdisciplinary research centre at the *Vrije Universiteit Brussel*. Its central location in Brussels makes it an outstanding workplace for students and scholars who wish to conduct research in an international setting.

More information at [www.ies.be](http://www.ies.be)

## Two advanced master programmes

The IES is home to two advanced master programmes: the prestigious LL.M. in International and European Law (full time law programme, 35 years in existence) and the renowned Master of European Integration and Development (politics and economics evening programme). Both one-year programmes are international by nature and boast a study body of over 80% foreign students.

More information can be found in this brochure, or at [www.ies.be/masters](http://www.ies.be/masters)

## Summer School

Each year in July, the IES also organizes an interuniversity Summer School on the European Decision Making Process. The Summer School is open to 35 students and is organized for one week in Brussels and one week in Vienna in collaboration with the University of Vienna and the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna.

More information at [www.ies.be/summerschool](http://www.ies.be/summerschool)

## PhD research

Annually, the IES initiates calls for PhD projects and selects the candidates with the best proposals to embark on our PhD research programme. To date, the IES is home to over 25 PhD or postdoctoral researchers. Research at the IES focuses on the EU in an international context. It explores EU institutions, policies and law within the context of globalisation and international law and politics. Research projects analyse the role of the EU as a global actor and the interaction between the internal and external dimensions of EU policies. They also address the interrelationship between the EU and international organisations. To this end, the Institute favours an interdisciplinary approach, involving legal, economic, social and political expertise.

More information at [www.ies.be/research](http://www.ies.be/research)

## e-learning

Since 2006, the Institute offers introductory courses on European Institutions and on European Law through its advanced E-learning platform. Based on content developed by our research team, students can learn about all aspects of the EU, wherever they are and whenever they like.

More information at [www.ies.be/emodules](http://www.ies.be/emodules)





## European Politics and Economics: The Master of European Integration and Development

### In-depth knowledge about the European Integration Processes

The Master of European Integration and Development provides an in-depth analysis of the European integration process for advanced students and practitioners. It is organised through the Faculty of Economics, Politics and Sociology and is an interdisciplinary programme geared towards an international student body. This advanced master's programme combines academic excellence with practical experience - an element that is reflected in its teaching staff, which is a meticulous mix of renowned academics and carefully selected practitioners in EU policy-making.

#### Background

The Master of European Integration and Development is designed to provide graduate students of different backgrounds with an expert knowledge of European legislation, European institutions and the economic integration process. Depending on their backgrounds and interests, students can choose between a profile on Economic Integration and a profile on Politics and Social Integration.

#### Evening courses

In order to allow students to combine this Master programme with their other professional activities, classes are organised in the evenings, after working hours, and the standard one-year programme can be spread out over two years.

#### Applications

To qualify for admission, you must possess a university master's degree (consisting of at least four years of study or 240 ECTS), excellent scholastic marks (or relevant experience) and certified proficiency in English.

More information can be found on our website: [www.ies.be/euromaster](http://www.ies.be/euromaster)

### Testimonial

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Maja Prelog

#### Maja Prelog | Parliamentary Assistant to MEP

"The best part of studying European Integration and Development at the *Vrije Universiteit Brussel* is the creative approach to the issues discussed and the cultural diversity of the programme which is attended by students from all over the world. The topics I have learned about in depth have proven to be excellent theoretical underpinnings for my job. Great friendships developed through the frequently required group work."



Computer rooms



Library



Leisure



Classes



University swimming pool

## Thrilling Campus Life

The *Vrije Universiteit Brussel* is host to more than 10.000 students who are earning their BA, MA and PhD programmes in almost every scientific discipline possible. Its main campus is a green oasis in the city of Brussels where the international atmosphere and diversity of the European capital are reflected on campus. With its 30-plus nationalities, the two programmes offered by the Institute for European Studies are as cosmopolitan as they can be.

The *Vrije Universiteit Brussel* and its partners offer a full and sparkling campus life that meets every student's needs, from affordable housing over banks, libraries, on-campus cafeteria, music, film, culture and leisure to a complete sports facility including one of the largest fitness clubs in the Brussels area, an exclusive athletics field, indoor football field, basketball, volleyball, badminton and squash courts and a swimming pool ... all are at your disposal on the university premises. Of course, students can also benefit from the broad cultural programme of cosmopolitan Brussels. After all, the main university campus is only a few metro or tram stops away from the "old" town centre. And if that is not enough, you can always explore the many neighboring cities that are easily accessible by Belgian Inter City rail, such as Antwerpen, Gent, and Namur (30 min); medieval Brugge and the Flemish coast, Liège and Paris (approx. 1 h); and Amsterdam, Köln, London and Luxemburg (2 h).

### Testimonials



Guoyo Zhang

**Guoyo Zhang | Shanghai WTO Affairs Consultation Center**

"The Law master programme has proven to be very useful for my career. During my three years of professional working experience, I have discovered the European Union to be a key actor in international legal relations. The Law master provided me with a unique opportunity to obtain deep academic knowledge on EU law, especially on EU trade law. In addition, PILC's multi-cultural and multi-ethnic environment will polish every student's social skills, which is very helpful for a future career in international communities."

dealing with European affairs but also at students interested in continuing their academic careers. The foremost quality of the programme is undoubtedly the high standards of the teaching staff. Highly motivated students from all over the world and a well-grounded curriculum make it a must for anyone conducting business in or with the EU."



Branislav Radeljic

**Branislav Radeljic | PhD Candidate, Student Ambassador, University of London**

"Based on my personal experience, the Master in European Integration and Development has proven to be a programme of great utility, aimed not only at professionals

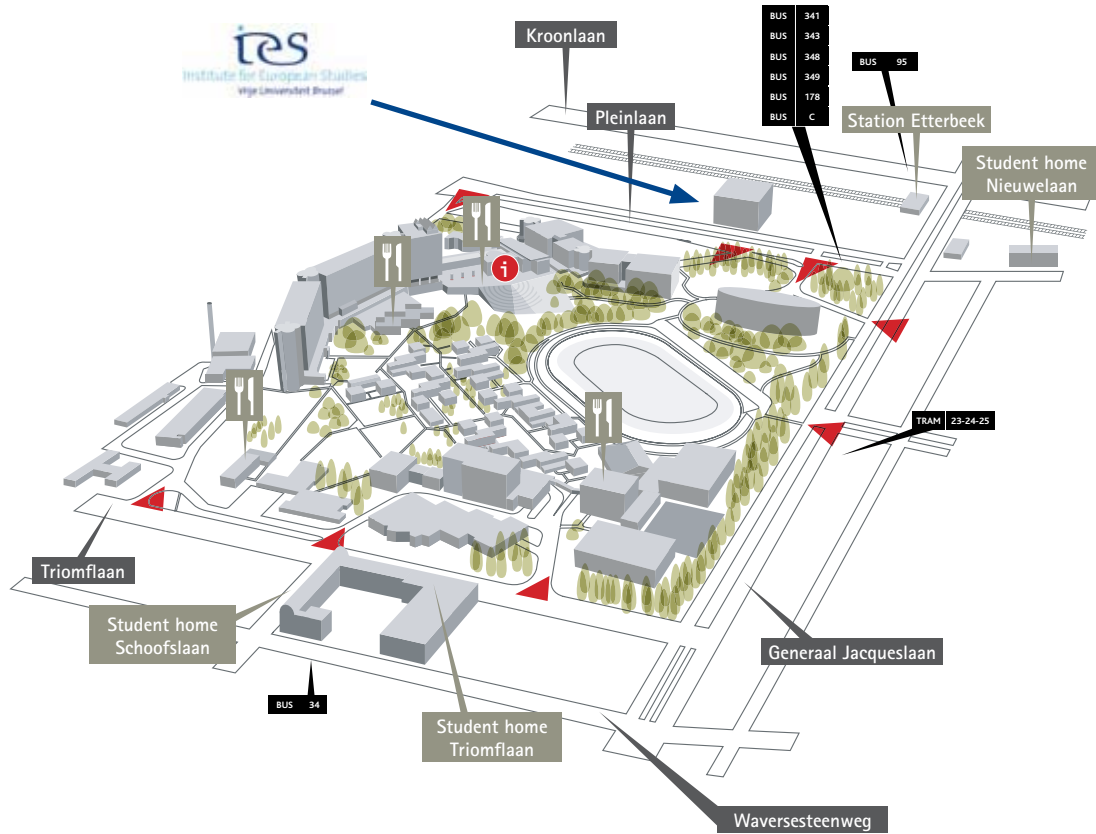
**Porter Elliott | Partner at Van Bael & Bellis in Brussels**

"The Law master programme was the best year of my academic career by far. The level of instruction was very high, with a great mix of professors and practitioners, and spending a year in Brussels was a wonderful experience. More than a decade later, I am still in Brussels, only now as a practitioner specializing in EC law. I remain actively involved in the PILC programme to this day, and it remains without a doubt one of the top LL.M. programmes in Europe."



Porter Elliott

  
 Institute for European Studies  
 Vrije Universiteit Brussel



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