



Challenges for the European Union: Is the Geopolitical Commission the Real Deal?

19 - 20 January 2021
9:00am-5:00pm

Location TBC Melbourne
VIC 3000
Australia

Fee TBC.

The project is co-funded by the European Union under the Erasmus + Programme Jean Monnet Activities

2021 EU Summer School for Secondary School Teachers

The European Union has set out to reshape itself into a “geopolitical force”. As incoming European Commission President, von der Leyen articulated that she would lead a “geopolitical Commission” with The European Green Deal as the centrepiece of its strategy. Being the largest market in the world with the second highest defence spending, and the world’s largest development-assistance budget, the EU has significant transformative potential. However, the EU is limited by the fragmentation of the European power both between and within EU institutions and member states. The challenge of economic recovery from covid-19 has exposed the need for greater solidarity amongst European leaders. At the same time, the pandemic provides an opportunity for boosting European integration internally and for implementing a new external geopolitical vision.

This Summer School will review the developments in the European Union during 2020, dominated as this time has been by the impact of the pandemic. It will provide participants with an opportunity to learn more about the EU’s approach to tackling a broad range of issues, and will link these issues with learning and teaching activities in Australia.

A two-day intensive program for teachers of:

- History
- Global/international politics
- Social and cultural studies
- Economics
- European languages

The 2021 European Studies Summer School offers a unique opportunity to engage with diverse expert speakers on topics that complement secondary school curricula. There will be 2 days of interaction at TBC.

Day 1 The EU and the rules-based global order in 2021.

Day 2 Directions for a future EU and its relationship with Australia.

Detailed program available late 2020.

Themes covered

- A crash course in European institutions: the who, what and where of how the EU operates
- What does the EU stand for in the new world? How does it relate to China? What will the UK do?
- How will Australia manage its relationship with the EU and the UK?
- Post COVID-19 Challenges for the EU.

The program features interactive sessions with senior academics and practitioners, interdisciplinary approach, and multiple case studies which can support learning in classroom settings.

Partners

- EU Centre at RMIT
- Swinburne University of Technology
- ESAANZ European Studies Association of Australia and New Zealand
- The University of Sydney
- With support from the European Commission

Limited travel/ accommodation bursaries will be available for interstate or country travel.

For more information, contact:

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