



PSC 4609A/EURR 4106A

Selected Topics in European Integration Studies

“The EU and the Mediterranean”

The EU is confronted with a difficult neighborhood at its Southern flank. The Balkan wars, the Cyprus conflict, the unresolved Palestinian question and the difficult relationship with the Arab world are all issues posing enormous challenges to the foreign policy of the Union. In addition, the EU is internally deeply divided. Whereas the Mediterranean member states press for a stronger commitment in the area, the Northern and Eastern member states are rather hesitant. The European Commission for its part pursues a conventional policy of promoting trade and aid. The EU-Mediterranean policy therefore oscillates between diverging approaches: a policy, particularly designed for the Mediterranean, versus one that applies in general to the neighborhood; a multilateral versus a bilateral approach; a security-based versus an economic approach; and, finally, a scheme promoting democracy and good governance versus a policy of non-interference.

This course examines various dimensions of the EU foreign policy in the Mediterranean. It first focuses on the development of the Mediterranean member states from authoritarian rule to democracy, from underdevelopment to economic modernization, and from national isolation to EU membership. It then examines the different policy approaches of the EU for the neighboring Mediterranean countries, in particular the Barcelona process, the new neighborhood policy and the most recent project of a Mediterranean Union. Further subjects are the role of the EU in conflict resolution in different cases, its policy of promoting democracy and good governance, the Mediterranean policy of selected member states; and the reaction of neighboring Mediterranean states to the European policy.

Instructor: Professor Ingeborg Toemmel,
Visiting Professor, University of Osnabrueck, Germany

Schedule: January to April 2009

Time & Location: Please consult Carleton Central

Prerequisite: fourth-year standing or permission of the Department