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**ACADEMIC YEAR 2014 / 2015  
AT THE UNIVERSITE LIBRE DE BRUXELLES**

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**CERTIFICATE IN  
EUROPEAN LAW ON  
IMMIGRATION AND ASYLUM**

8<sup>TH</sup> EDITION  
ORGANIZED BY

**THE ACADEMIC NETWORK FOR LEGAL STUDIES  
ON IMMIGRATION AND ASYLUM IN EUROPE**

*A Network founded with the support  
of the Odysseus Programme of the European Commission  
and comprising academics of the following institutions:*

*Université Libre de Bruxelles, (B), Université catholique de Louvain (B), Universidade Autonoma de Lisboa (P), Universidade Nova de Lisboa (P), Universität Salzburg (A), Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen (NL), University of Bristol (UK), Universität Konstanz (D), Universidad Pontificia Comillas de Madrid (E), Università degli Studi di Milano (I), Université de Bayonne (F), Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (NL), Aarhus Universitet (DK), Lund Universitet (S), University of Turku (FIN), Eötvös Loránd University (HU), University of Silesia (PL), Mykolas Romeris Universitetas (LT), Riga Graduate School of Law (LV), University of Ljubljana (SL), Mirovni inštitut (SL), University of Latvia (LV), Charles University Praha (CZ), Masaryk University Brno (CZ), University College Cork (IRL), University of Sofia (BG), Swiss Graduate School of Public Administration (CH), Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (CH), University of Nicosia (CY), University of Malta (MT)*

**CONTACT:**

Université Libre de Bruxelles – Institute for European Studies  
ODYSSEUS Network  
39 avenue F. D. Roosevelt - CP 172  
1050 Brussels - Belgium  
Tel.: 00 32 (0)2 650 49 96 - Fax: 00 32 (0)2 650 25 11  
Email: [odysseus@ulb.ac.be](mailto:odysseus@ulb.ac.be) - Website: <http://www.ulb.ac.be/assoc/odysseus>

## PRESENTATION

The aim of this programme is to provide its participants with an in-depth understanding of the legal rules on immigration and asylum adopted by the European Union. This programme will be of interest to all persons who wish to acquire a special knowledge in immigration and asylum law, for instance civil servants, advocates or persons working for NGOs, and in particular researchers, PhD students and other students, who frequently confront the complex legal dimension of immigration and asylum in their work or studies. This programme is organised by the "Academic Network for Legal Studies on Immigration and Asylum in Europe" founded in 1999 with the support of the Odysseus Programme of the European Commission and co-ordinated by the Institute for European Studies of Brussels University (ULB). The course provides the opportunity to live in a unique European environment, with professors coming from academic institutions in many different Member States as well as from the EU institutions, and to take part in an intellectually stimulating experience as part of a group of 20-40 participants specialising in the area of immigration and asylum with different backgrounds from all over Europe. Professional networking within and outside this group will be encouraged by the organisers.

## TEACHING ORIENTATION AND METHODOLOGY

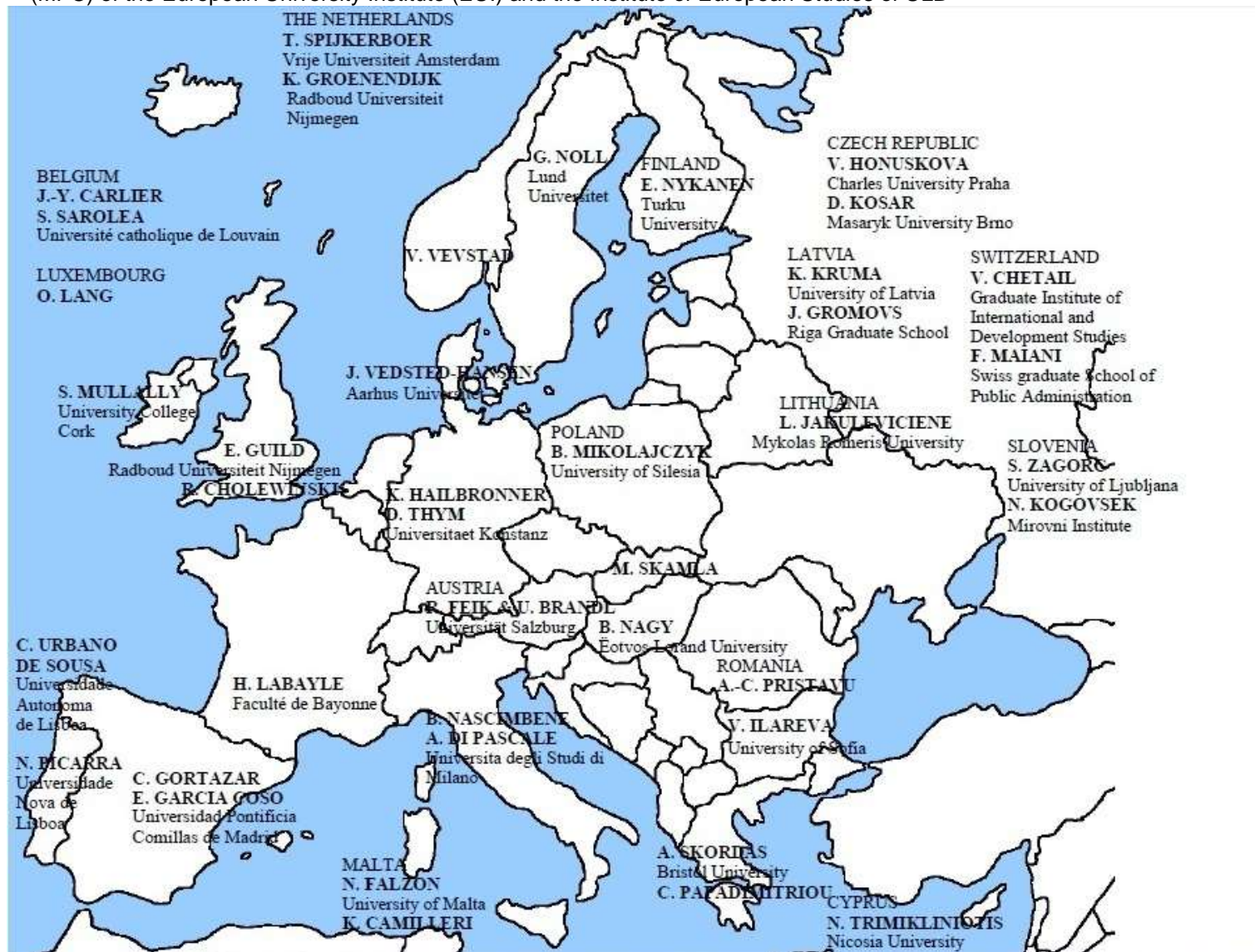
The programme is of a legal nature and courses will therefore be rather technical in orientation, but the programme has been designed to include some introductory legal courses in the first module in order to allow non-lawyers to follow it successfully. The classes offer theoretical, but also practical and research elements. Personal work will be expected from participants. The classes will be conducted by academics among the best specialists of European and national immigration or asylum law coming from the universities co-operating in the Odysseus Network, which is represented in all the Member States of the European Union. Each participant who decides to present a legal opinion during the final exams will benefit from the support of a personal tutor appointed from among the members of the Network to guide him or her in the drafting. The latest developments of the European policy are integrated into the teaching, thanks in particular to the participation as lecturers of high-ranking officials from the European Commission, Council and Parliament. Each participant will receive an extensive and up-to-date documentation pack.

## PROGRAMME

COURSES	CALENDAR AND EUROPEAN CREDITS
<b>1<sup>st</sup> INTRODUCTORY MODULE (1<sup>st</sup> term from September till December)</b>	
1. Institutional framework and sources of European Immigration and Asylum Policy	4 weeks (6 ECTS)
2. Human rights implications for immigration and asylum	2 weeks (3 ECTS)
3. International immigration and refugee law	3 weeks (5 ECTS)
4. Free movement of European citizens	2 weeks (3 ECTS)
5. General introduction to EU Immigration and Asylum Policy and its recent developments	1 week of introduction (+ two weeks during the 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> module by EU practitioners) (2 ECTS)
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> SPECIALISED MODULE: IMMIGRATION (2<sup>nd</sup> term from January till March)</b>	
6. Visa policy and External border controls	2 weeks (3 ECTS)
7. Admission of third-country nationals	2 weeks (3 ECTS)
8. Status and integration of third-country nationals	2 weeks (3 ECTS)
9. Fight against illegal immigration and Return of third-country nationals	2 weeks (3 ECTS)
+ 1 week of conferences by EU practitioners (continuation of course 5)	
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> SPECIALISED MODULE: ASYLUM (3<sup>rd</sup> term from March till April)</b>	
10. Definition of persons who can be protected	2 weeks (3 ECTS)
11. Status of protected persons	2 weeks (3 ECTS)
12. Procedures for access to the status	2 weeks (3 ECTS)
+ 1 week of conferences by EU practitioners (continuation of course 5)	
<b>4<sup>th</sup> MODULE: RESEARCH (4<sup>th</sup> term from May till beginning of July)</b>	
13. Research and drafting of the legal paper for the exams	8 weeks (20 ECTS)

## TEACHING STAFF

The programme is organised under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Philippe De Bruycker from the Migration Policy Centre (MPC) of the European University Institute (EUI) and the Institute of European Studies of ULB



## SCHEDULE AND LOCATION

This programme, which starts on 5th September 2014 and ends on 12th July 2015, is organised in 3 terms. Courses amount in principle to a total of 12 hours spread over a two week period with 4 sessions of 3 hours. They will take place in the Institute for European Studies located on 39 Roosevelt Avenue, 1050 Brussels on the University campus in the heart of Brussels. The schedule of courses (6 to 9pm on Fridays and 10am to 1pm on Saturdays) enables participants to travel every week by train or even plane. Hotel accommodation near the campus for the overnight stay in Brussels can be booked by our secretariat at a reduced rate. Participants who decide to live in Brussels for one year will be assisted in finding cheap accommodation.

## RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

Participants have the choice to prepare for presentation during the final exam a legal opinion in English of a maximum of around 10 pages, which will be analytical rather than descriptive. The subject that participants select, with the agreement of the coordination team, will deal with European or comparative law. The possibility to spend the 4<sup>th</sup> term in a specialised research centre of the Universities co-operating in the Network will be offered to participants with a view to preparing their legal opinion. Participants will in principle need to fund their travel and accommodation expenses for that period, but they will be integrated in a research team and benefit from office space and the supervision of one member of the Network when drafting their legal opinion. Interested persons will be able to obtain advice on undertaking a Phd at one of the universities participating in the Odyssey Network.

## ASSESSMENT AND CERTIFICATE

### ASSESSMENT

Separate examinations will be organised before or after the Christmas holiday period for each of the courses of the first module; two separate oral exams (a global one on asylum and a global one on immigration) will be held for the two specialised modules before a jury composed of members of the Network, during the Odysseus "Summer School on Immigration and Asylum Law and Policy of the EU", which takes place every year in Brussels during the two first weeks of July. Participants who decide so present their legal opinion as first question for one of these global exams.

### CERTIFICATE

Participants who have followed the programme assiduously throughout the academic year and successfully passed all the exams will receive a University certificate specifying each of the courses followed.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must have a University Bachelor's degree (or an equivalent degree) in Law, Political Science, European Studies or International Relations. Graduates of other disciplines (for example Sociology or Economics) will be considered depending on the content of the courses followed in order to meet the legal prerequisites required for the certificate. Applicants can also rely upon relevant professional experience (for example as a civil servant, NGO employee, etc.) which can be considered as equivalent to a Bachelor's degree.

## REGISTRATION AND FEES

The closing date for applications has been set for 8th August 2014, but later applications may be considered.

Applicants are kindly requested to apply by using the registration form available on our website. The applicants will pay 750 Euros to hand in their file on the same bank account as registration fees.

The registration fee is 2500 Euros for students (in principle maximum 25 years old for this category of fee), 3500 for PhD students or researchers remunerated by a salary or a grant and trainees and 5000 for professionals.

Persons choosing only one specialised module (immigration or asylum) will respectively pay 2000, 3000 or 4000 Euros. The fee covers all classes, coffee breaks, documentation, university facilities, including access to the private Odysseus library, with the exception of travel, accommodation and food expenses.

The Network does not provide financial support, but can assist accepted applicants by providing them with proof of acceptance or send reference letters to the institutions from which they request financial support.

Participants are asked to pay the fee by bank transfer to account No. 001-2122389-08 of Fortis Bank, Pesage Branch, 16 avenue du Pesage, 1050 Brussels, Belgium, BIC code: GEBABEBB, IBAN: BE63001212238908, and refer to "Certificate 2014/15" and your name. At least half of the fee must be paid on 1st September 2014 and the rest upon 1st December 2014.

Applicants must keep in mind that the programme will only be organised if a group of around 15 persons registers; otherwise, it will be cancelled for financial reasons. This will be the only case in which the organisers will reimburse fees.

