

EU@School Newsletter #2



Februar 2022

Welcome to the 2nd Newsletter of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence “EU Expertise at School” (EU@school). In 2021, despite the Corona pandemic, we were able to organize some exciting activities for pupils, students and teachers, and more will follow in 2022.

New Publication

We are very pleased to announce that, with the funding of our Center of Excellence, Richard Coudenhove-Kalergi's classic *Pan-Europa* has been translated into Hebrew for the first time. It was translated from German by Gadi Goldberg. While our experts Sharon Pardo, Michèle Knodt and Hila Zahavi provided scientific editing.

Open Educational Resources (OER)

On our website, we regularly publish freely accessible teaching and learning materials on the European Union. In 2021, the library has already been well filled. Several slide decks on EU-related topics have now been published in German and Hebrew, especially on the institutions and political procedures of the European Union. New content will be unlocked at the end of February 2022!

With our interactive assistant tool “Ask the Expert”, we offer school classes the opportunity to directly ask questions about the European Union, which are answered individually by our experts in the form of podcasts or videos.

You can find our IAT content [here](#). New questions can be sent to flath@pg.tu-darmstadt.de.

About us

The Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence “EU Expertise at School” is led by Prof. Dr. Michèle Knodt from the Technical University of Darmstadt (Germany) and Prof. Dr. Sharon Pardo from Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (Israel). Further key team members are Dr. Hila Zahavi (Israel) and Lucas Flath (Germany). We are funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union.

Our goals are to

- reach out to schools in secondary and vocational education – provide you with ready-to-go information about the European Union.
- develop teaching materials for classroom and online teaching,
- enhance EU studies by feeding in research results into the academic discourse.

Feel free to contact us:

flath@pg.tu-darmstadt (en/de)

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Jean Monnet Pupil Award for EU Essay

Our award is created to promote excellence in pupils essay writing in this field. The award rewards excellent essays on the EU in a special theme which are published each year in Israel and Germany.

The 2021's award in Germany went to the Erich Kästner School in Darmstadt, Hesse. A 10th grade student convinced our jury with a precise analysis of the EU refugee policy and a plea for more solidarity between the member states in this matter. The full essay can be found [here](#).

Due to the Corona pandemic, unfortunately we had to cancel the congratulatory ceremony and postpone the award in Israel. However, in 2022 will be a second round of the Pupil awards and soon conditions and time period will be announced on our website.

Training for teachers

In cooperation with the Hessian Teachers' Academy and the Arbeitskreis Europäische Union e.V., EU@School organized a training for young teachers on "Ideas for (digital) teaching content on the European Union" on September 23, 2021.

In addition to a general introduction to the European Union by our expert Michèle Knodt, participants received input from external speakers on the topics of right-wing populism in the European Union, possibilities of implementing EU simulations for students, and opportunities for organizational and financial support for schools and teachers from the EU.

The lectures and teaching materials of the teacher training are also freely available on our [website](#).

Graduate Students' Workshop

Together with the Model European Union Mainz (MEUM), Prof. Knodt and EU@School organized a graduate workshop to simulate a European Parliament debate for a European climate act on 20 July 2021. Thus, the students were taught the ordinary legislative procedure of the EU in a more interactive, intensive and long-term way than is possible in regular lectures.

On 2 June 2021, Sharon Pardo and Hila Zahavi organized a Graduate Students' Workshop at the Open University of Israel as part of EU@School. 25 participants from different Israeli institutions were introduced to the topic "Ethnography of International Organizations as a method for studying EU's institutions" by Inna Leykin from the Open University of Israel.

Upcoming

- **February 2022:** Joint Report of the Graduate Students' Workshops as OER
- **February 2022:** Tools on the EU for school and vocational education
- **March/April 2022:** Publication Announcement of the Jean Monnet Pupil Award for EU Essay (Germany)



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