

## International Organizations

Module		International Organizations					
Module Code		ECO60190					
Module Coordinator		Catón, Matthias					
Last Update		2015/12/04					
Target Group		Programme(s)			Bachelor of Science		
		Term			7th semester		
		Compulsory/Elective Module			Elective Module		
		Module Duration			1 Semester		
		Credits:			6		
		Frequency			Annually		
		Language of instruction			English		
Workload:	150 h	Contact hours:	44 h	Independent Learning:	46 h	Assignments:	60 h
Prerequisites		none					
Usability in other Modules/Programmes		Bachelor Thesis					
Intended Learning Outcomes		<p><b>Knowledge:</b> On successful completion of this module, students can</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• describe the structure of global governance and its institutions</li> <li>• recap the internal processes of international organizations (IO)</li> <li>• compare different types of international and intergovernmental organizations</li> </ul> <p><b>Skills:</b> On successful completion of this module, students can</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• analyze global problems and their handling by international organizations</li> <li>• assess ways in which the IO system needs to be reformed to better cope with current challenges</li> </ul> <p><b>Competencies:</b> On successful completion of this module, students can</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• monitor activities pertaining to the realm of IOs from a business perspective</li> <li>• seek entry-level job opportunities with international organizations</li> </ul>					
Module Structure		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introductory lecture: Overview of international organization and theoretical approaches (8 h)</li> <li>• 8 sessions (see below) (32 h)</li> <li>• Final discussion (4 h): Do we need a world government?</li> </ul>					

**Module Overview**

International organizations are an essential determinant of global business and affect all areas of economic activity, reaching from international trade policy or the standardization of technology to the regulation of consumer product safety. At the same time, they have become the crucial channel through which civil society can influence the shaping of global economic institutions.

International organizations and civil society act together in the formation of a global public sphere, such as in the area of human rights or environmental policy. Global leaders in international business need to have a thorough understanding of the peculiar dynamics in this field that shapes future political contexts of strategy development.

The course combines an introduction into the theoretical tools to analyse international organization with an interactive approach to understanding the political economy of IO. Students play roles as representatives of international organizations, civil society initiatives and business lobby groups; they discuss policy issues across eight policy domains. Based on inputs by the lecturer, the simulations are reflected upon by making use of theories and concepts in economics, political economy and political science.

The course approaches the topic of international organizations from the viewpoint of institutional theories in economics and political sciences. These principles are applied on the analysis of real world institutions by means of a discursive learning process. The aim is to enhance the students' capacities in viewing complex problems in international political economy from different perspectives. These different perspectives include a) different disciplinary approaches, b) different positions of pertinent interest groups and c) viewpoints of different international organizations.

The first two lectures (8 h) offer an introduction into modern theories of international organization and how these theories are reflected in the history and contemporary reality of international organization. In the eight remaining sessions, students analyse eight domains of international organization and the role of the respective institutions. In order to achieve synergies between the different topics, all cases are selected from the field of international coordination of institutions and policies in international economic transactions.

These domains are:

1. International Trade: main focus is on the WTO and its role in the resolution of international trade conflicts
2. International Development: analysis of global distributional issues and how public policies approach them
3. Climate Policies: interest is directed at the production of global public goods
4. Global infrastructure: focus is on international coordination in critical infrastructure such as transport and energy services
5. International Standardization: emphasis is on the interaction between private and public bodies in the coordination of technology standards

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Global ethical standards: analysis of the role of international organization in the communication of ethical standards in the economic domain</li> <li>7. Intellectual Property Rights: highlights the coordination of economic institutions in the globalized economy</li> <li>8. International Monetary Policy: interest centres on the international coordination of economic policies.</li> </ul>																
Forms of teaching, methods and support	<p>The lecturer presents an introduction to the field based on two lectures. The 8 topics are treated in a discursive setting: One student team represents an international organisation in the respective domain (e.g. WTO in international trade) and offers an overview about the institution and its policy goals and programmes (the protagonist); two other student teams represents critical voices in the global public (the antagonist). The antagonists form two different groups, one pro-business, one anti-business. All students are required to be members of two teams, one protagonist, one antagonist.</p> <p>The protagonist presentation is scheduled for 45 minutes, the antagonist presentation for 20 minutes each. The presentations are followed by a discussion with the audience. Each session concludes with a final lecture on important theoretical aspects of the topic, that also reflects upon the presentations and discussion.</p>																
Type of Assessment in the Module and Performance Points	<table border="1" data-bbox="480 1048 1378 1449"> <thead> <tr> <th>Type of examination</th> <th>Duration or length</th> <th>Performance points</th> <th>Due date or date of exam</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Two team presentations of topic</td> <td>1 x 45 min. 1 x 20 min.</td> <td>40 30</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Essay on final debate</td> <td>5 pages max.</td> <td>30</td> <td>Final session</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Individual Participation</td> <td>(Including brief written comment in check-out question)</td> <td>20</td> <td>During the semester</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>Examination requirements:</u>  The deliveries are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. One team presentation as protagonist (45 min)</li> <li>2. One team presentation as antagonist (20 min)</li> <li>3. One individual essay on the final debate (5 pages max.)</li> <li>4. Participation (including brief written check-out comment for each session)</li> </ol>	Type of examination	Duration or length	Performance points	Due date or date of exam	Two team presentations of topic	1 x 45 min. 1 x 20 min.	40 30		Essay on final debate	5 pages max.	30	Final session	Individual Participation	(Including brief written comment in check-out question)	20	During the semester
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Recommended Literature	Textbook: Rittberger, Volker, Bernhard Zangl and Andreas Kruck, International Organization, 2nd edition, Palgrave Macmillan 2012
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