

**Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine
Lesya Ukrainka Volyn National University**

International Relations Faculty

International Relations Department

SYLLABUS

of elective academic component

“THE EU's COMMON FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY”

Bachelor training

Lutsk 2026

The syllabus of academic component «The EU's common foreign and security policy» Education Level Bachelor.

Developer : PhD in Economics, associate professor Oksana Pikulyk

Approved

by the Guarantor of Education and Professional Programme:



Associate professor Ilona Balak

The syllabus of the academic component was approved at the meeting of the International Relations Department

Protocol № 7 of January 30, 2026

The Head of the Department:



Associate professor Yevheniia Vozniuk

I. THE DESCRIPTION OF ACADEMIC COMPONENT

Indicator Name	Field of knowledge, specialty, educational and professional programme, education level	Characteristics of academic component
Full-time form of education	C “Social Sciences, Journalism, Information, and International Relations” C3 “International Relations” “International Relations” bachelor	Elective
Number of hours / credits 150/5		Year of study – 4.
Individual Student’s Work: no		Semester – 7.
		Lectures – 10 hours
		Seminars – 20 hours
		Independent work – 110 hours
		Consultations – 10 hours
		Form of control: Credit
Language of study		English

II. INFORMATION ABOUT THE INSTRUCTOR

Name Oksana Pikulyk

Scientific Degree PhD in Economics

Academic Title associate professor

Title Associate Professor of the Department of International Relations

Contacts Pikulyk.oksana@vnu.edu.ua 0504380466.

Days classes <https://ps.vnu.edu.ua/cgi-bin/timetable.cgi>

III. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACADEMIC COMPONENT

1. Course abstract.

The educational component «The EU's common foreign and security policy» covers issues of the EU's common foreign and security policy formation, its institutional framework, principles, instruments, as well as practical aspects of the EU's activities in the field of foreign policy and security.

3. Goal and tasks of the academic component

The purpose of the educational component is to form in students a systemic understanding of the main initiatives, mechanisms and areas of integration in the field of the Common Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union, assess how these

initiatives affect the strengthening of European unity and security, as well as how they change the role of the EU on the international stage.

The main **tasks** of the educational component are to study the basic principles of the CFSP and CSDP (Common Security and Defense Policy), to analyze key EU initiatives in the field of foreign policy and security, the participation of individual member states in these initiatives, and the challenges and prospects for implementing the EU's common security and defense policy.

3. Soft skills:

- analytical thinking;
- critical thinking;
- communication skills;
- negotiation skills;
- teamwork.

5. Structure of the of the educational component

Names of content modules and themes	Total	Lect.	Semin	Self-Study	Cons.	Form of control/ points
Content Module 1. The formation and main instruments of EU Common foreign and security policy						
Topic 1. The main stages of the formation of the CFSP and their significance for European integration.	15	2	2	10	1	DS/10
Topic 2. Legal Foundations and Institutional Framework of the CFSP	16		2	13	1	DS/10
Topic 3. Decision-Making Processes in CFSP	13		2	10	1	DS/10
Topic 4. Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) as a component of the CFSP	17	2	2	12	1	DS/10
Topic 5. European External Action Service (EEAS): functions and significance	13		2	10	1	DS/10
Total for module 1	74	4	10	55	5	50
Content Module 2. Practical aspects of the EU's common foreign and security policy						
Topic 6. CFSP and the EU's Global Strategy	15	2	2	10	1	DS/10
Topic 7. EU-NATO security	15		2	12	1	DS/10

cooperation						
Topic 8. The Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP)	13		2	10	1	DS/10
Topic 9. EU missions and operations.	16	2	2	11	1	DS/10
Topic 10. Ukraine's cooperation with the EU in the field of security and defense	17	2	2	12	1	DS/10
Total for module 2	76	6	10	55	5	50
Total hours/points :	150	10	20	110	10	100

Control methods: DS – discussion, DB – debates, T – tests, TR – training, RZ/K – solving problems/cases, INDZ/IRS – individual task/individual work of the student, RMG – work in small groups, MKR/KR - modular control work/ control work.*

6. Tasks for independent work

Independent student's work involves in-depth study of issues related to the topics of lecture classes, study of recommended literature for preparation for seminar classes

Elements of the independent student's work

Elements of the independent student's work	Number of hours
reading literature for classes	20
studying lecture material	20
preparing for seminars	20
doing homework	30
preparing presentations	20
Total	110

IV. EVALUATION POLICY

The assessment takes place in accordance with the Regulations on the current and final assessment of knowledge of higher education applicants of the Lesia Ukrainka Volyn National University dated 06/26/2025. Academic Integrity Policy. (<https://hel1.your-objectstorage.com/vnustorage/s3fs-public/inline-files/2025-pro-potochne-i-pidsumk.otsinyuvannya.pdf>) Under valid reasons (participation in scientific events, sick leave), studies may be conducted according to an individual plan agreed with the teacher.

Academic integrity policy.

The process of studying the educational component is carried out under the conditions of compliance by the students and the teacher with the "Code of Academic Integrity of the Lesya Ukrainka Volyn National University" dated 05/25/2023. . <https://ra.vnu.edu.ua/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Kodeks-akademichnoyi-dobrochesnosti.pdf>

Seminar classes missed by a student for valid reasons (medical certificate, formal application) are retaken orally by answering questions related to the seminar topic or by preparing a written summary (outline) of the topic including answers to specific questions. Based on the results of the retake, a grade is assigned according to the grading scale for student performance in seminars. The retake of a pass/fail exam (credit) is conducted according to the examination schedule and in accordance with the Regulations on Ongoing and Summative Assessment of Higher Education Students at Lesya Ukrainka Volyn National University.

Learning outcomes obtained through formal, non-formal, and/or informal education (professional courses/training, online education, internships) may be recognized and credited to students. The recognition process is governed by the Regulations on the Recognition of Learning Outcomes Obtained through Formal, Non-formal, and/or Informal Education at Lesya Ukrainka Volyn National University (https://hell.your-objectstorage.com/vnustorage/s3fs-public/inline-files/%2B2024_%D0%92%D0%B8%D0%B7%D0%BD%D0%B0%D0%BD%D0%BD%D1%8F_%D1%80%D0%B5%D0%B7%D1%83%D0%BB_%D1%82%D0%B0%D1%82i%D0%B2_%D0%92%D0%9D%D0%A3_i%D0%BC._%D0%9B.%D0%A3._%D1%80%D0%B5%D0%B4.pdf). In accordance with the established procedure, learning outcomes may be recognized if their subject matter, scope, and content correspond to either an entire credit module or to specific topics specified in this syllabus. To initiate the process, the student must submit a formal application addressed to the Dean within the established deadlines, attaching all necessary supporting documents for review.

V. FINAL CONTROL

The form of final control is a credit, which is set based on the results of the types of work that are provided for in the syllabus of the educational component. Tasks from these types of current control are evaluated in the range from 0 to 100 points. The student can additionally pass the topics he missed during the semester (for valid reasons) in consultation with the teacher, thus improving his result by exactly the amount of points provided for the missed topics. In the event that a student received less than 60 points, he makes a credit during the liquidation of academic debt. In this case, the points scored during the current assessment are cancelled. The

maximum number of points during the liquidation of academic debt from credit is 100.

Credit Questions

1. The evolution of European security cooperation: from the Pleven Plan to the Maastricht Treaty.
2. The place and role of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) within the three-pillar structure of the European Union.
3. Core objectives and tasks of the CFSP according to the Treaty on European Union.
4. Powers and responsibilities of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.
5. The role of the European External Action Service (EEAS) in the implementation of foreign policy.
6. Functions of the Council of the EU and the Political and Security Committee (PSC) in the decision-making process.
7. Decision-making procedures in the CFSP: the principle of unanimity and the mechanism of "constructive abstention."
8. The Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) as a component of the CFSP: key stages of development.
9. "Petersberg Tasks": the content and evolution of the EU's defense policy missions.
10. Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO): objectives, participants, and key projects.
11. The role of the European Defence Agency (EDA) in strengthening the defense capabilities of Member States.
12. EU civilian and military missions: legal framework, geography, and case studies (e.g., EUAM or EUMAM).
13. Rapid response mechanisms: EU Battlegroups and the prospects for the "Rapid Deployment Capacity."
14. The EU Global Strategy (2016): the concept of "resilience" in foreign and security policy.
15. The EU Strategic Compass (2022): main vectors for security development in the face of new threats.
16. EU-NATO cooperation: strategic partnership and the issue of duplication of functions.
17. EU-US relations in the defense sector: the transatlantic link and the concept of Europe's "strategic autonomy."
18. The Eastern Partnership and the European Neighbourhood Policy in the context of EU security interests.
19. EU policy on countering hybrid threats, cyberattacks, and disinformation.
20. The role of the CFSP in supporting Ukraine amidst Russian aggression: military assistance, sanctions policy, and the European Peace Facility.

VI. THE SCALE OF AVALUATION

Scores	Linguistic Grade
90-100	Passed
82-89	
75-81	
67-74	
60-66	
1-59	Fail (needed to retake)

VII. RECOMMENDED LITERATURE AND INTERNET RESOURCES

1. Agency, Security and Governance of Small States A Global Perspective. Ed. by T. Kolnberger and H . Koff, Routledge 2024.
2. International Security Journal. URL: <https://direct.mit.edu/isec>
3. RAND Corporation: Global Security. URL: <https://www.rand.org/>
4. The Maastricht Treaty The Treaty on European Union (TEU) URL: www.eurotreaties.com/maastrichtec.pdf
5. The Treaty of Amsterdam (the Treaty of Amsterdam amending the Treaty of the European Union, the Treaties establishing the European Communities and certain related acts) URL: www.eurotreaties.com/amsterdamtreaty.pdf.
6. The Treaty of Lisbon. URL: http://europa.eu/lisbon_treaty/full_text .
7. Європейський Союз : навч. посіб. / [А. О. Бояр (кер. авт. кол.), Н. П. Карпчук, Н. І. Романюк та ін.] ; за ред. А. О. Бояра, С. В. Федонюка. Київ: ФОП Маслаков, 2020. 600 с.
8. Зелений і безпечний Європейський Союз : монографія / [А. О. Бояр (кер. авт. кол.), І. В. Кицюк, Н. І. Романюк та ін.] ; за ред. А. О. Бояра, В. Й. Лажніка. Луцьк : Вежа-друк, 2023.
9. Пікулик О.Б. Безпекова та оборонна співпраця між Україною та ЄС. Міжнародне співтовариство та Україна в сучасних глобальних цивілізаційних процесах: актуальні економічні, політико-правові, безпекові та соціально-гуманітарні аспекти: матеріали доповідей Міжнародної науково-практичної конференції (м. Ужгород, 18-19 квітня 2023 р.) За заг. ред.: М.М. Палінчак, В.В. Химинець, М.М. Король. Ужгород: РІК-У, 2023. 486 с.