



COURSE INFORMATION

Course Name:	Jean Monnet Module: Doha Courses on European Union Law / DCEUL – Course 2, Module 3: Policy Brief Writing on EU and Environmental Law/Human Rights	
Semester:	Fall 2023	
Department:	Legal Skills	
College:	College of Law	
Day and Time:	(Tuesday & Thursday) November 14 and 16, 2023, 4-6pm	Hours: 4 hours Prerequisites: Students who have completed Modules 1 and 2 of Course 2.
Classroom:	Bldg I-09, College of Law, Auditorium	

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The seminar will teach you how to write an advocacy policy brief with a particular focus on European Union law issues relating specifically to environmental law or human rights. Seminars are intended to equip students with practical skills and help them prepare concise summaries of information that can help readers understand, and likely make decisions about, government policies. The best policy briefs will be uploaded on the Jean Monnet Module website.

JEAN MONNET MODULE

The objectives of the Jean Monnet Module can be summarized as follows:

The Module aims to promote modern teaching modules that are offered by leading European universities with a view to improving the educational outcomes in Qatar. Qatar University as a national university with the largest share of students is the best place to apply and disseminate this state-of-the-art knowledge.

The Module aims to promote knowledge in the field of international organizations and integration using the European Union as a model, environmental protection and human rights, which are key pillars of QNV2030. The focus on the protection of the environment and human rights represents an important contribution towards promoting environmental and human rights issues in the Qatari society. Increasing education quality on the above issues will have important spill-overs on Qatari education and society.

The Module will contribute to the realization of the vision of a strong knowledge based society with capable and competitive workforce. It will improve the specificity and job-market relevance of education and, will inject relevant tools and emerging issues into current curricula. Therefore, education outcomes of students and capacities of educators on European Union issues and curricula design will be enhanced.

Experience from this Module will be up-scaled into other programs within Qatar University and beyond.

FACULTY INFORMATION

Convenor:
Dr. Rafael Brown
Clinical Associate Professor of Law
Legal Skills Department (Faculty Senate)



Office Location:

Bldg I-09, Rm. C356

Office Hours:

Mondays, 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM and 2:30pm-3:30pm

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REFERENCES AND LEARNING RESOURCES

A. Policy Brief Writing Guides and Articles

- Dagenais, Christian and Valéry Ridde. "Policy brief as a knowledge transfer tool: to "make a splash", your policy brief must first be read." *Gaceta sanitaria* 32 3 (2018): 203-205, <https://scielo.isciii.es/pdf/gsv32n3/0213-9111-gs-32-03-203.pdf>
- International Centre for Policy Advocacy, *An Essential Guide to Writing Policy Briefs* (2017), https://www.icpolicyadvocacy.org/sites/icpa/files/downloads/icpa_policy_briefs_essential_guide.pdf
- Research to Action, "How to Plan, Write and Communicate an Effective Policy Brief: Three Steps to Success." URL <https://www.researchtoaction.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/PBWeekLauraFCfinal.pdf>
- REPOPA, "Preparing and using policy briefs to support evidence-informed policymaking: Template for Writing a Policy Brief" URL http://repopa.eu/sites/default/files/latest/Policy_brief.pdf
- IDRC, 'Toolkit for Researchers: How to write a Policy Brief': <https://www.idrc.ca/en/how-write-policy-brief>

B. Videos

- What is policy? <https://youtu.be/GgBax4WidPA>
- What is a policy brief? (English) <https://youtu.be/66s40DL4LR4>; (Arabic) <https://youtu.be/yaZO4B0ZMsc>

C. Sample Policy Briefs

Environmental Law Samples

- [SHORT] Bueb, Benedict, Tröltzsch, Jenny (2021): Policy Brief: Towards Sustainable Adaptation Pathways A Concept for Integrative Actions to Achieve the 2030 Agenda, Paris Agreement and Sendai Framework. Dessau-Roßlau: Umweltbundesamt, <https://www.ecologic.eu/18206>
- [LONG] Elisa Morgera, Antonio Cardesa-Salzmann, Aileen McHarg, Miranda Geelhoed and Mara Ntona, Rights protected under EU law concerning the environment, https://www.strath.ac.uk/media/1newwebsite/departmentsubject/law/strathclydecentreforeenvironmentallawandgovernance/pdf/brexit/Policy_Brief_No._6,_November_2016.pdf
- [LONG] Science for Environmental Policy, The solution is in nature, <https://ec.europa.eu/environment/integration/research/newsalert/pdf/issue-24-2021-02-the-solution-is-in-nature.pdf>

Human Rights Law Samples



- [SHORT]AK Europa, Business and Human Rights,
https://www.akeuropa.eu/sites/default/files/2019-10/5_Policy%20Brief%20Business%20and%20Human%20Rights.pdf
- [LONG] Aliozi, Zoi (Global Campus of Human Rights, 2021), Climate Justice and Human Rights, in a World in Climate Emergency,
https://repository.gchumanrights.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11825/2340/GlobalCampus2021_Europe_1.pdf?sequence=5&isAllowed=y

D. Key Textbooks (available at QU Library):

- M. Dziak, *Policy Brief*, New York, Salem Press Encyclopedia, 2019.

E. Suggested Policy Brief Writing Resources:

- EcoLogic, <https://www.ecologic.eu/policy-brief>
- Fast Track Impact,
<https://www.fasttrackimpact.com/post/2015/12/19/how-to-make-a-policy-brief-that-has-real-impact>
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Food Security Communication Toolkit, “Writing Effective Reports”, <http://www.fao.org/3/i2195e/i2195e03.pdf>
- Biodiversa, Annex 1, “How to Write a Policy Brief” (2014),
<https://www.biodiversa.org/712/download>

F. Research Resources

- EU Environment and Climate Change Legislation, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/chapter/20.html>
- EU Human Rights Legislation, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/chapter/13.html>
- **A Guide to Researching EU Law** - from the Law Library of Congress
- **ASIL Electronic Resource Guide: European Union**

EuroVoc is a multilingual, multidisciplinary thesaurus covering the activities of the EU. It contains terms in 23 EU languages. This thesaurus enables researchers to search the relevant databases more effectively.

The European e-Justice Portal is a useful research tool providing information on justice systems - it is designed for the layperson, as well as lawyers, litigants and researchers. It links to **EU, member state** and **international case law** and **EU, member state national** and **international** legislation.

The **Europa** platform (open access) includes the **EU Bookshop** which offers open access to a large quantity of documents including reports, newsletters, teaching tools and other documents on the history and current workings of the EU.

COURSE REGULATIONS

Participation

Class participation and attendance are important elements of every student’s learning experience at Qatar University, and the student is expected to attend all classes. A student should not miss more than 25% of the classes. **Attendance record begins on the first day of classes.**



In exceptional cases, the student, with the instructor's prior permission, could be exempted from attending a class provided that the number of such occasions does not exceed the limit allowed by the University.

Teaching Methods: Socratic Method, Flipped Classroom, Group Work

Some parts of the class will be taught using the flipped classroom approach, where students are required to complete readings and watch videos prior to attending class. The syllabus lists questions that will help you prepare for class. The instructor will call on students during class to facilitate discussion about the readings and questions. Students will also be divided into groups for purposes of group discussions and group work completion, supervised by the instructor.

Policy Brief Writing Submission

All students will be assigned to a small group, which will be required to submit a policy brief of at least 2 pages and no more than 4 pages. The policy brief must relate to the EU and environmental law or EU and human rights law.

Due date for the policy brief is December 30, 2023 at 9pm.

CONTENT DISTRIBUTION		
DAY/TIME	TOPICS	READINGS AND VIDEOS
PRE CLASS	Assignment before Class 1	<p>READING</p> <p>Dagenais, Christian and Valéry Ridde. "Policy brief as a knowledge transfer tool: to "make a splash", your policy brief must first be read." <i>Gaceta sanitaria</i> 32 3 (2018): 203-205, https://scielo.isciii.es/pdf/gs/v32n3/0213-9111-gs-32-03-203.pdf</p> <p>International Centre for Policy Advocacy, <i>An Essential Guide to Writing Policy Briefs</i> (2017), https://www.icpolicyadvocacy.org/sites/icpa/files/downloads/icpa_policy_briefs_essential_guide.pdf</p> <p>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, <i>Food Security Communication Toolkit, "Writing Effective Reports"</i>, http://www.fao.org/3/i2195e/i2195e03.pdf</p> <p>VIDEO</p> <p>(1) What is policy? https://youtu.be/GgBax4WjdPA</p> <p>(2) What is a policy brief? (English) https://youtu.be/66s40DL4LR4; (Arabic) https://youtu.be/yaZO4B0ZMsc</p> <p>PRE-RESEARCH: Start thinking about: What would you like to write a policy brief on: environmental law or human rights law? Is there a problem in the EU law on these two topics you would like to address?</p>



DAY/TIME	TOPIC	TEACHING METHOD/OBJECTIVES
DAY 1 NOVEMBER 14 (4:00-4:15 PM)	Introduction and Policy Brief Writing	PowerPoint Lecture What is the class's purpose and focus? What are the learning outcomes? What is the class deliverable and deadline?
DAY/TIME	TOPIC	TEACHING METHOD/OBJECTIVES/LEARNING ACTIVITIES
DAY 1 NOVEMBER 14 (4:15-4:30 PM)	Introduction to Advocacy Policy Briefs	Socratic Method/Flipped Classroom – Class Discussion Introduction to Advocacy Policy Briefs What is advocacy? What is a policy brief? How can it be an advocacy tool? What is an advocacy policy brief? How does a policy brief affect change? What is an example of an EU policy on environmental law or human rights law that you would want to change?
DAY/TIME	TOPIC	TEACHING METHOD/OBJECTIVES/LEARNING ACTIVITIES
DAY 1 NOVEMBER 14 (4:30-4:55 PM)	Policy Brief Writing	Socratic Method/Flipped Classroom - Discussion How to write an advocacy policy brief? Length, parts, and format of policy brief Sample policy briefs on environmental law and human rights Who is the audience? What are the features of a good (evidenced based) policy brief? Writing tips and what to avoid
4:55-5:10PM		BREAK
DAY/TIME	TOPIC	TEACHING METHOD/OBJECTIVES/LEARNING ACTIVITIES
DAY 1 NOVEMBER 14 (5:10-5:30 PM)	Human Rights & Environmental Law: TOPIC EXPLORATION	Group Work: What EU environmental law issue would you like to write about? Is there a specific problem you identified? What EU human rights law issue would you like to write about? Is there a specific problem you identified?
DAY 1 NOVEMBER 14 (5:30-6:00 PM)	Policy Brief Writing - Template	Group Work: create a policy brief template or outline with a policy problem statement.
DAY/TIME	TOPICS	READINGS AND VIDEOS
PRE CLASS	Assignment before CLASS 2: Answer the three questions in the reading	READING Repopa, "Preparing and using policy briefs to support evidence-informed policymaking: Template for Writing a Policy Brief" URL http://repopa.eu/sites/default/files/latest/Policy_brief.pdf (pp 1-5) -What is the specific problem you want to address? -Who is the audience? -What is your advocacy goal (main message)? SAMPLE POLICY BRIEFS



		<p>Environmental Law Samples: Bueb, Benedict, Tröltzsch, Jenny (2021): Policy Brief: Towards Sustainable Adaptation Pathways A Concept for Integrative Actions to Achieve the 2030 Agenda, Paris Agreement and Sendai Framework. Dessau-Roßlau: Umweltbundesamt, https://www.ecologic.eu/18206</p> <p>Human Rights Law Samples: AK Europa, Business and Human Rights, https://www.akeuropa.eu/sites/default/files/2019-10/5_Policy%20Brief%20Business%20and%20Human%20Rights.pdf</p>
DAY/TIME	TOPIC	TEACHING METHOD/OBJECTIVES/LEARNING ACTIVITIES
DAY 2 NOVEMBER 16 (4:00-4:30 PM)	Policy Brief Present and Defend (Environmental Law)	Five-Minute Group Presentation on Environmental Law Topics: present and defend the proposed policy brief -What is the specific problem you want to address? -Who is the audience? -What is your advocacy goal?
DAY 2 NOVEMBER 16 (4:30-4:55 PM)	Policy Brief Present and Defend (Human Rights Law)	Five-Minute Group Presentation on Human Rights Law Topics: present and defend the proposed policy brief -What is the specific problem you want to address? -Who is the audience? -What is your advocacy goal?
4:55-5:10PM		BREAK
DAY/TIME	TOPIC	TEACHING METHOD/OBJECTIVES/LEARNING ACTIVITIES
DAY 2 NOVEMBER 16 (5:10-5:30 PM)	Evidence Based Policy Brief	Lecture: Advocacy Policy Brief as part of a strategy What other advocacy strategies can you use? -Policy Brief -Meetings -Conferences
DAY 2 NOVEMBER 16 (5:30-6:00 PM)	PROMOTING YOUR POLICY BRIEF	Socratic Method: Why should you promote your policy brief? Where do you promote? Reminder: Due date
DAY/TIME	TOPIC	DUE
DECEMBER 30, 2023, 9PM	DUE DATE	FINAL POLICY BRIEF SUBMISSION