

Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Peace, Justice and Inclusive Societies

Winter term 2026/27



Co-funded by
the European Union

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Course concept

- What will you study in this course?
- What will you do?
- What is special about this course?
- How will you earn credits?
- What is the timeline?
- What are the rules?
- What is EUPeace and what else does it have to offer?

What will you study in this course?



What will you study?

- You will deeply engage with the Nobel Peace laureate 2026
- Based on your studies of the learning resources on peace, justice and inclusion offered by lecturers from all over the EUPeace alliance in our [Online Library](#), you will identify the perspective(s) that matter most to you and in the present context.
- Possibly, you want to [analyze the conflicts](#) that the laureate helps to resolve. Is [economic inequality](#) a relevant aspect? Or the [geographical dimension to inequality](#)? Maybe you are more interested in a [gender perspective](#) or [ethnic diversity](#)?
- Choose the perspectives that matter most to you, and add your own perspectives in a team research project with real impact.



What will you do in this course?



What will you do?

- Select your own lens to explore the laureate's contribution through leadership, social engagement, dialogue, or inclusion. Analyze the economic, political, or social contexts that shaped their journey. Provide a critical analysis of the power structures and selection narratives.
- You will be part of an interdisciplinary, international team, guided by a mentor. Together you will transform your insights into a tangible output with impact.
- Together with your team and your mentor, you will gather resources and explore them jointly. The aim is to develop a deep understanding of the context and the laureate's contribution.



What will you do?

- Present the results of your team's research in a paper and a presentation.
- Then, go beyond these classical formats: Develop a serious game, a learning module, an exhibition, or a living library. Develop your own output format that will make your insights impactful.
- Be creative!



What is special about this course?



What is special about this course?

- This EUPeace course is being developed by an alliance-wide team.
- It invites active participation, bringing in own ideas and taking ownership of team projects.
- It promotes intercultural cooperation and hands-on experience in digital collaboration.
- It connects you with the EUPeace community and encourages you to use the alliance's resources (e.g., to propose a student-led event).
- The course is part of the European Track.



Timeliness and relevance of your research

The winner of the Nobel Peace Prize will be announced on 9 October.

You will dive deep into the meaning of this choice in real time, making the course a dynamic laboratory for critical thought.

Working in collaborative teams, you will select your own lens. Looking through all of them, we will see a multi-faceted picture of the laureate's contribution through leadership, social engagement, dialogue, or inclusion, and a critical analysis of the economic, political, and social contexts that shaped their journey.

Why wait for textbooks when you can write the analysis as history unfolds? Join us to debate, dissect, and define what true global leadership means in our time.



How will you earn credits?



How will you earn credits?

The examination format is a portfolio, which means that it consists of several components. You have to complete all of them. They will be jointly evaluated. (More details at the end of this slide show.)

- A written reflection of the onboarding phase of the course
- Participation in a survey to coordinate the team projects
- A mid-term presentation and report
- Final presentation or demonstration of your own creative format and report

How will you earn credits?

Master students complete an **additional task**:

- A written reflection of the onboarding phase of the course
- Participation in a survey to coordinate the team projects
- A mid-term presentation and report
- Final presentation or demonstration of your own creative format and report
- **Description of three relevant resources**

What is the timeline?

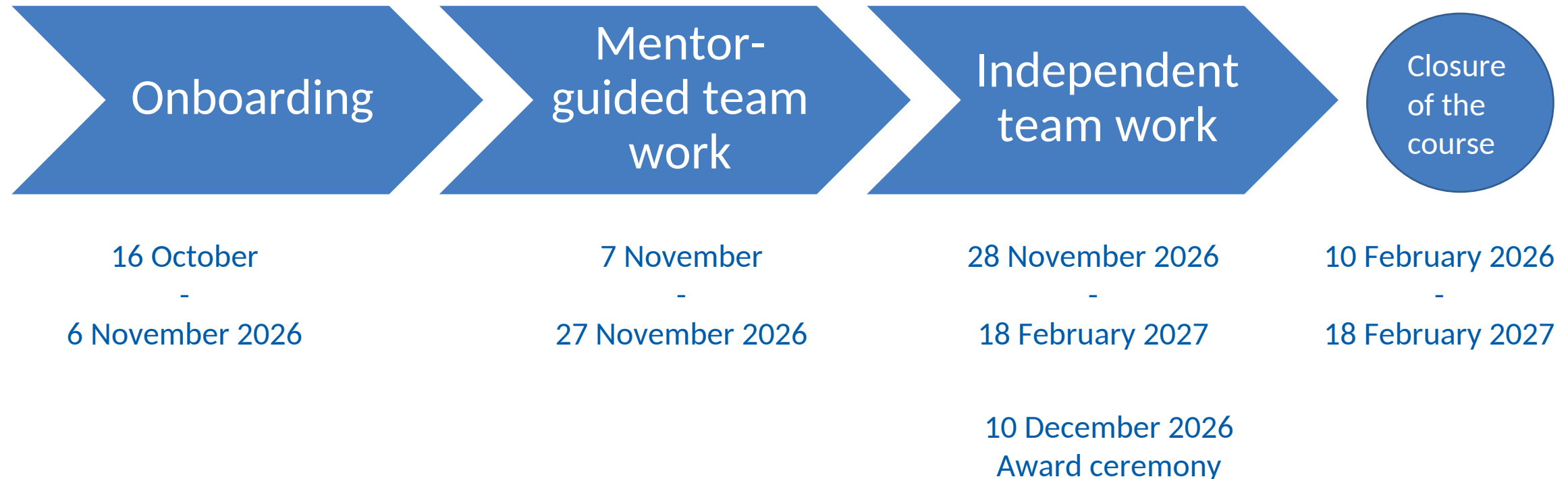


Important dates before the course

- September 2026: Deadline for virtual enrolment at Marburg University via MO:VE
- October 2026 Deadline for enrolment in the course
- 9 October, 11 AM Announcement of the Nobel Peace laureate 2026
- 16 October 2026 Start of the course



Course phases



Onboarding (16 October-7 November)

- You will work together with persons whom you never met in physical space. Developing a common understanding of the course work and sense of team work is particularly important.
- The first four online sessions (weekly on Friday, 10-12 AM CET) will be devoted to onboarding.
- This phase will clarify the course concept and involve trust-building activities.



Onboarding: your responsibilities (ca. 42 h)

- Participation in the online meetings (ca. 2 hours per week)
- Self-studies of course material (ca. 8 hours per week)
- Participation in an online survey (less than 10 minutes)
- Reflection on this phase for your portfolio (ca. 2 hours)

Mentor-guided team work (7-27 November)

- Mentors schedule weekly online meetings with their teams
- Mentors guide their teams in the development of their project. They help them identify relevant resources, and engage them in discussions.



Mentor-guided team work: your responsibilities (ca. 30 h)

- Participation in the online meetings (ca. 2 hours per week)
- Own research (ca. 3 hours per week)
- Studying the material selected by the team (ca. 3 hours per week)
- Choosing the perspective(s) to focus on in the team's contribution and on developing a creative format (ca. 1 hour per week)
- Documenting progress and outcomes of the meetings (ca. 1 hour per week)



Independent team work (28 November 2026-18 February 2027): your responsibilities (ca. 100h)

- The teams continue to work on their project as planned with the mentor
- If the plan needs a major revision, the team will contact their mentor
- Team members complete their tasks and report to the team
- Attendance and documentation of team meetings
- Preparation of mid-term presentation and report
- Preparation of final presentation and report



What are the rules?



Formal rules

- Participation in the course requires official registration.
- Earning credits requires the completion of the portfolio.
- The portfolio will be evaluated as a whole (not by your mentor). All portfolio components must be completed.
- The course is ungraded (pass/fail).



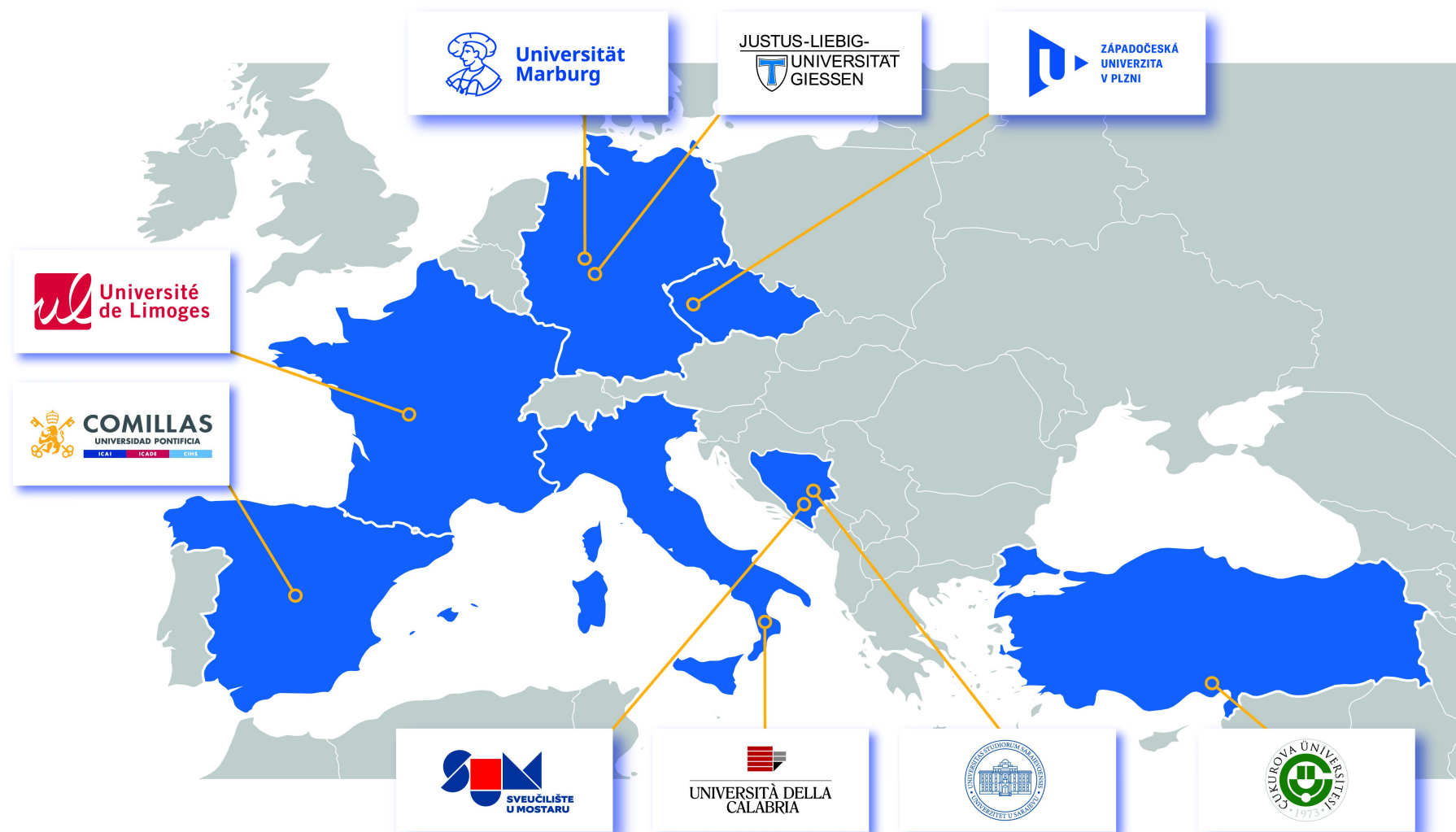
Informal rules

- Participate in the online meetings. Cooperation will be much harder to build up and to sustain if you miss the online sessions.
- Be kind and patient. For most of us, English is not our first language.
- Read and react to e-mails.
- Be prepared for online interaction. Make sure that your audio and your video connections are stable.
- Be creative, patient and kind.

What is EUPeace?



EUPeace



EUPeace mission

Tragically, the values of peace, justice, and inclusive societies cannot simply be taken for granted. They must be continuously cultivated, studied, and shaped to define the road to an ambitious and challenging socio-political goal. In this, universities have a key role to play. They are at the heart of societies, providing the insights and techniques necessary to address the environmental, technical, political, and social challenges the next generation has to face. Through research and education, they connect people of all generations; they can be model places for protecting and strengthening the values of mutual respect, justice, and inclusion. As such, they are powerful instruments for building peaceful communities.

EUPeace's mission is to provide tomorrow's citizens with the skills, knowledge, and experience to cultivate Peace, Justice, and Inclusive Societies. We explicitly address all sciences and fields, from the humanities and social sciences to the natural and life sciences as well as engineering, and are inspired by the rebuilt bridge of Mostar – the symbol in our logo – as a testament to how dialogue can overcome conflict.



EUPeace profile

The commitment to Peace, Justice, and Inclusive Societies is at the core of the European ideal and needs to be continuously cultivated. We argue that peace cannot flourish unless a set of enabling conditions are firmly in place: it goes hand in hand with a deep commitment to justice and inclusion.

EUPeace is comprised of 9 institutions that are similar in size, location and mission within their respective national ecosystems. We are a synergetic mix of universities, characterised by our territorial embeddedness, concern for impact and deep attention to the quality of student life within and beyond our campuses.

We are embracing and fostering our unique geographic distribution and the implications these geographic roots bring to EUPeace: our institutions are located in regions with a lot of internal diversity and sometimes a still recent history of conflict.



EUPeace approach

EUPeace is about strengthening the enabling conditions for peace: understanding them better through research, nurturing them actively through education, and fostering them broadly through societal outreach and innovative practices. We develop joint and innovative teaching and learning experiences in which students learn to understand ultimate as well as proximate causes of conflict situations – including aspects of technological and environmental interdependencies – gain experience in how to manage conflicts effectively, and how to implement solutions to conflicts.

We bring our entire academic communities together to generate knowledge, competence and innovative approaches to fostering peace, justice, and inclusive societies. All fields and sciences are required to grasp the conditions of conflict prevention, forecasting and resolution, in a world where material, technical and socio-political arrangements are intimately connected.

We come together with our partners from our local communities and international networks to co-construct concrete practices and solutions to turn these competencies into impact beyond academia. To achieve this, the exploration of innovative leverage points for impact is key.



What does EUPeace have to offer?

- The Student alliance EUPSA
- Student challenges
- Student-led events
- The European Track
- Living peace labs
- Bridge dialogues

Details on the portfolio



Submission

- You will submit your portfolio via the learning platform ILIAS.
- Pay attention to the deadlines.
- At most one late submission (a week after the original deadline) will be tolerated.

Details on the portfolio components

Reflection of the onboarding phase of the course

Please write a short text addressing the following questions:

- Do you feel as part of a group in which collaboration might succeed? How do you perceive your own role in this course?
- Which activities facilitated your onboarding, and which ones were less effective? How, and why?
- Which obstacles (if any) did you face? What did you try to overcome them?

Details on the portfolio components

Reflection of the onboarding phase of the course

Your reflection will help us to better understand the group dynamics and to evaluate the effectiveness of the learning activities.

You are encouraged to provide an honest assessment.

Basis for evaluation: consistency.



Details on the portfolio components

Participation in a survey to coordinate team projects

In a survey that will be conducted on ILIAS, we will ask for your team preferences. We will try to take your preferences into account as far as possible, while prioritizing diversity in the team compositions. The survey will contain a few questions on your background.

Basis for evaluation: participation.



Details on the portfolio components

Mid-term presentation and paper

Your team will present the results of your research by the end of December in an online session in a presentation (ca. 20 minutes) and in a short written report (ca. 500 + 200 words).

Point out your main perspective, and why your team chose it. Report your main findings, and the sources that you used.

The presentation and the biggest part of the paper are team tasks. In an individual section of the paper, you focus on your own contribution (ca. 200 words).



Details on the portfolio components

Mid-term presentation and report

Your mid-term report will be a milestone in your team's project. You will receive feedback from the course participants and the mentors on your research findings. Based on your expertise and the feedback, you will go on to develop your creative format.

Basis for evaluation: clarity of the exposition; adherence to academic standards

Details on the portfolio components

Your creative format: presentation and report

Your team will present their creative format in an online session (ca. 10 minutes) and in a short written report (ca. 500 + 200 words).

Point out the key perspective your team has worked on. How does your output format transport it? Who is a potential target audience of your output, and how will it impact them?

The presentation and the biggest part of the report are team tasks. In an individual section of the report, you will explain your key contribution to the project.



Details on the portfolio components

Final presentation and report

Your final report will be the official closure of your team's project. You will receive feedback from the course participants and the mentors.

Basis for evaluation: clarity of the exposition.



Details on the portfolio components

Description of three relevant resources (additional task for Master students)

You will add references to three novel and relevant resources to our collection. Such resources could be books, research articles, websites, etc. Provide a short description (ca. 50 words) for each of the resources, explaining why they are insightful or useful.

Basis for evaluation: completeness.