

# Master in Advanced European and International Studies

*Mediterranean Studies*

# Academic Year 2023/2024



# ANNUAL REPORT



# 1 OVERVIEW

The 2023/2024 Mediterranean Studies programme of CIFE's Master in Advanced European and International Studies (MAEIS) was composed of a diverse group of 16 students from 12 different nationalities. The itinerant programme offered students intensive courses in Nice, Tunis and Istanbul over three terms extending from 4 October 2023 to 26 June 2024. Afterwards, students were given the option of continuing their training with an internship of maximum 3 months with a compulsory report upon completion. The following table represents the timetable of the programme:

Dates	Location
04/10/2023 – 10/01/2024	<b>NICE</b> Centre international de formation européenne (CIFE)
10/01/2024 – 19/03/2024	<b>TUNIS</b> in cooperation with the Université Mahmoud el Materi
19/03/2024 – 07/04/2024	<b>DAKAR</b> in cooperation with Groupe Ecole Supérieure de Commerce (Sup de CO) de Dakar
07/04/2024 – 14/04/2024	<b>BANJUL</b> in cooperation with Groupe Ecole Supérieure de Commerce (Sup de CO) de Banjul
14/04/2024 – 25/06/2024	<b>ISTANBUL</b> in cooperation with Istanbul Bilgi University
26/06/2024	<b>End of the Academic Year &amp; Graduation Ceremony</b>
Until 30/09/2024	<b>Optional Internship</b>

The Arab Spring, the post-Arab Spring period and Europeanisation, climate change and migration – the Mediterranean region with a population of more than 500 million people is faced with unprecedented challenges. In our bilingual programme (English-French), we seek to address the next generation of Euro-Mediterranean decision-makers and offer unique educational experiences at the crossroads of theory and practice.

The programme aims to prepare students for professional life in a challenging context. The academic curriculum has been designed in order to enable students to develop an overarching and all-encompassing understanding of the political, social, economic and cultural challenges of today's world, especially in the Mediterranean region.

Following the leitmotif "Learning and living the Mediterranean", the students rotated each term, moving their place of study from Nice to Tunis and then to Istanbul. During the second trimester with Tunisian professors, special emphasis was placed on the transformation of the Arab world, especially the Maghreb. On the other hand, during the third trimester, the focus was directed towards Turkey and its neighbouring countries and partners, as well as climate change issues. Between the second and third terms, students also benefitted from a study trip to Dakar and Banjul to discover, understand and analyse the challenges of African development. This was also an opportunity to discuss future relations between Europe and Africa.



# 2 ORGANISATION OF THE PROGRAMME

## THE MODULES

The curriculum was composed of five compulsory modules:

- A** Conflict Management and Peace Making
- B** Economics, Sustainable Development, Inequalities and Forms of Poverty
- C** Regional Integration and Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation
- D** Mediterranean Societies and Cultures
- E** Professional Skills Workshops

University teachers from various European, Tunisian and Turkish universities, as well as experts from international and European organisations and researchers from our partner institutes contributed to our programme.

Various teaching methods and course formats were applied within each module.



## **A** Conflict Management and Peace Making (76 hours)

The Mediterranean is a case study par excellence for Peace and Conflict Studies. Understanding and explaining questions of war and peace has been at the heart of International Relations as an academic discipline – from its very beginning after the First World War. In the last two decades, Mediterranean societies have been significantly affected by inter-group violence and inter-state conflicts: from the Western Balkans to Cyprus, from Israel to Palestine, from Syria to Libya. Mediterranean conflicts are partly characterised by external interventions. This module focussed on the causes and dynamics of both escalation and de-escalation, including international law and peace making with a multi-perspective approach. Theories of International Relations also helped in analysing the various case studies used in class.

### **TRIMESTER 1: NICE** (30 hours)

**Anna DIMITROVA** *Lecturer and Researcher at the ESSCA School of Management, Paris*

- The US Foreign Policy in the Middle East

**Susann HEINECKE-KUHN** *Director of the MAEIS Applied European Policy and Governance Studies*

- Introduction to Politics and International Relations: Terms, Concepts, Methodology
- Theories of International Relations

**Sören KEIL** *Academic Head of the International Research and Consulting Centre, Institute of Federalism, University of Fribourg*

- Introduction to Federalism and Federation
- The Anglo-American Tradition of Federalism: Case Studies of the USA and Canada
- The Continental European Tradition of Federalism: Case Studies of Germany, Switzerland and Austria
- Federalism and Conflict Resolution

### **TRIMESTER 2: TUNIS** (33 hours)

**Andreas HEINEMANN-GRÜDER** *Senior Researcher at Bonn International Centre for Conversion (BICC), Professor of Political Science, University of Bonn*

- Theories of Violence and Civil Wars

**Sören KEIL**

- Power Sharing and Federalism in the Mediterranean Region

### **TRIMESTER 3: ISTANBUL** (13 hours)

**George TZOGOPOULOS** *BESA Research Associate, Lecturer at the Democritus University of Thrace, Director of EU-China Programmes and Senior Research Fellow at CIFE*

- Geopolitical and Goeconomic Dynamics in the Mediterranean





## B Economics, Sustainable Development, Inequalities and Forms of Poverty (90 hours)

The module analysed the economic issues of the 21st century, taking care to dissociate industrialised countries like those in the EU, emerging countries such as Turkey and developing countries such as Tunisia.

In Nice, after a reminder of the fundamentals of economics, there was a focus on the European economy: its assets and challenges, as well as the future of the eurozone. In Tunis, students concentrated on Mediterranean economies, including the Tunisian economy. In Dakar and then in Istanbul, the challenges of human development (hunger, demographics, education, health) and sustainable development (climate change, energy policy, access to water) were introduced.

### TRIMESTER 1: NICE (30 hours)

**Jean-Claude VÉREZ** *Director of the MAEIS Mediterranean Studies and Professor of Economics at Université d'Artois*

- Économie mondiale et européenne

### TRIMESTER 2: TUNIS & DAKAR (30 hours)

**Jean-Claude VÉREZ**

- Économie du développement, pauvretés et inégalités

**Louay CHEBBI**

- Politique du développement

### TRIMESTER 3: ISTANBUL (30 hours)

**Laurent BAECHLER** *Director of the MAEIS European Integration and Global Studies*

- Sustainable Development: Concept and Challenges
- Climate Change Stakes and Strategies
- Energy Transition
- Access to Water

**Jean-Claude VÉREZ**

- Économie du développement, pauvretés et inégalités

## C Regional Integration and Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation (81 hours)

The European Union and its member states have become a 'model' of regional integration. European nation states have agreed to transform their sovereignty into a multi-level governance system with the goal of ensuring regional peace, fostering welfare for their citizens and increasing their interdependent economic power. How does the dynamic architecture of the European institutions function – including the European neighbourhood policy? How can we explain the transitions and differences in the Southern Mediterranean region since the Arab Spring?

This module offered insights into current dynamics in the Mediterranean from the standpoints of international relations, literature, European studies and the field of area studies devoted to exploring this complex and multifaceted region. Its complexity has been reconstructed and assessed with a view to providing students with fresh, critical tools to analyse and deal with it.

International guest lecturers were invited to present emerging patterns of international politics, European and area studies.

### TRIMESTER 1: NICE (39 hours)

**Paul CULLEY** *EU Policy Advisor, Tutor & Trainer, Former Director at the EU Council*

- EU Institutions and Decision-Making

**Frédéric LÉPINE** *Deputy Director General of CIFE*

- Dynamics of European Integration

**Matthias WAECHTER** *Director General of CIFE*

- Historical Aspects of European Integration





### TRIMESTER 2: TUNIS (30 hours)

**Farah HACHED** *Vice-President of the University Mahmoud El Materi*

- Politique dans le monde Arabe et enjeux du XXI siècle

**Philippe MARCHESIN** *Professor at Université Paris I*

- Intégration régionale et coopération

### TRIMESTER 3: ISTANBUL (12 hours)

**Ayhan KAYA** *Professor of Politics and Jean Monnet Chair of European Politics of Interculturalism at the Department of International Relations, Istanbul Bilgi University; Director of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence, Turkey*

- Turkey-EU Relations: Past, Present and Future
- Governance of Mass Migration in Turkey: Syrian Refugees
- Islamisation of Turkey Under the AKP Rule: From Conservative Democracy to Conservatism
- Islamist and Nativist Forms of Radicalisation in Europe

## D Mediterranean Societies and Cultures (57 hours)

Mediterranean societies are shaped by specific social, political and legal structures, inter-related discourses, institutions and actors. In the light of an unprecedented information revolution, interdependencies are growing. The module focused on the similarities and differences in Mediterranean societies, starting with a historiographical introduction, in order to approach several policy fields and social phenomena: migration, gender, religion and youth.

Both the current refugee crisis and the representation of youth in the Mediterranean are unprecedented. The Mediterranean and the European Union are challenged by an extraordinary refugee crisis. At the crossroads of theory and practice, this module identified challenges the Mediterranean societies are faced with.

Democratic transitions were analysed from a comparative perspective between the Arab Spring and the fall of the communist regimes.

### TRIMESTER 1: NICE (27 hours)

**Gilles FERREOL** *Professor Emeritus*

- Analyse sociologique

**Yvan GASTAUT** *Professor of History at Université Côte d'Azur*

- Histoire des migrations

### TRIMESTER 2: TUNIS (30 hours)

**Karima DIRECHE** *Research Director CNRS at Maison méditerranéenne des sciences de l'Homme, University of Aix-Marseille*

- Histoire du Maghreb contemporain

**Mohamed KERROU** *Professor of Political Science at the Faculty of Law and Political Sciences, Université de Tunis El Manar*

- Transition démocratique

## E Professional Skills Workshops (60 hours)

In an ever more globalised world, the government and the private sector are asked to provide more services with less. Moreover, the movement of peoples across borders has created challenges for an increasingly multicultural world. By default, there is more competition for resources, goals and interests at local, state and regional levels. In order to be credible, governments, business organisations and individuals must be able to deal with new challenges professionally and efficiently and to maximise the potential of any given situation. If we want to have an impact on and participate in the development of certain policies, we also need to open ourselves to consensus building, conflict management and negotiations.

In this module, professors sought to develop an understanding of cooperation in political processes and various approaches in support of dialogue, negotiation, conflict and risk management. During the workshops, students acquired skills in Project Cycle Management, Intercultural Communication, Negotiation and the tracking and analysis of EU law proposals. In individual coachings, we try to prepare our students at the crossroads of theory and practice for a professional life in challenging times.

### TRIMESTER 1: NICE (27 hours)

**Paul CULLEY**

- EU Policy Making at Work

**Mark YOUNG** *Negotiation Trainer, President of Rational Games, Inc.*

**Philippe GRUCA** *Psychological and Intercultural Language Coach, Founder of the Atelier Français*

- Negotiation Skills Workshop

### TRIMESTER 3: ISTANBUL (33 hours)

**Nazan CÖMERT** *Lecturer and Researcher at the University of Marmara, Istanbul*

- Risques collectifs, catastrophes et sociétés

**Volkan ERKAN** *Engineer*

- Introduction to Project Cycle Management





# 3 INTERMODULAR COURSES

## Simulation Game: European Council Summit

- **The Future of the European Union** 11–12 December 2023  
with **Katja SINKO** and **Stephan NAUMANN** from *Planpolitik*  
Article 1 *Re-Designing EU Migration Policy*  
Article 2 *Shaping the Enlargement Process*

## Language Courses

- **NICE** English classes with **Elaine CUNNINGHAM** *EC Formations*
- **TUNIS** Arabic classes with **Mrs DAADAD**

## Conferences, Speeches and Discussions

- Inaugural Lecture: Europe in a Dangerous World  
by **Herman VAN ROMPUY** *President of CIFE, President Emeritus of the European Council and Former Prime Minister of Belgium*
- Conference: EU Career Opportunities  
with **Luis DE AMORIM** *Head of Outreach and External Relations at EPSO*

## Alumni Professional Workshop

with

- Matthieu BRAGATO** (2015/2016)
- Sabrina BOUAICHA** (2018/2019)
- Merve SAMALP** (2018/2019)
- Marie-Solenne YACE** (2019/2020)
- Valentin VALETTE** (2019/2020)
- Jade ESCRIVA** (2021/2022)
- Lucas SWINNEN** (2021/2022)
- Giorgia MASET** (2022/2023)



# 4 STUDY TRIP TO DAKAR AND BANJUL

From 19 March to 14 April 2024, a study trip to Dakar, Senegal and Banjul, Gambia was organised in cooperation with Groupe Ecole Supérieure de Commerce (Sup de CO) de Dakar.

## Cultural Visits

- Kermel Market
- Renaissance Monument
- Museum of Black Civilisations
- Gorée Island
- Mosque of Divinity
- Visit to Kachikally Museum and Crocodile Pool
- Boat Trip

## Lectures

- Géopolitique et panorama des conflits with **Gorgui DIOUF**
- Les défis du développement with **Jean-Claude VÉREZ**
- Geopolitics in Western Africa with **Joshua Ogunando ADEBOLA**

## Institutional Visits

- Round Table organised in cooperation with the EU Delegation in Senegal and Sup de CO
- The EU Delegation in Senegal and Meeting with the European Ambassador
- NGO “Action contre la faim”
- NGO “Consortium Jeunesse”



With the students of the MAEIS Applied European Policy and Governance Studies



# 5 OTHER VISITS

## NICE

- Guided tour of Nice (Promenade des Anglais et Colline du Château) with **Nathalie BRICOUT** on 6 October 2023

## TUNIS

- Visit-Conference of the Medina of Tunis on 12 January 2024
- Visit to the NGOs Al-Bawsala and El-Kawakibi on 18 January 2024
- Visit to the Tunisian National Military Museum on 19 January 2024
- Visit to the Tunisian Court of Accounts on 26 January 2024
- Visit to the Tunisian Ministry of Education on 15 February 2024

## ISTANBUL

- Visit to AKOM – Disaster Coordination Centre in Istanbul on 7 May 2024
- Visit to the Red Crescent Istanbul on 7 May 2024
- Visit to the NGO ASAM (Association for Solidarity with Asylum Seekers and Migrants) on 9 May 2024



# 6 MASTER THESIS RESEARCH TOPICS

**Iman ALBERTINI** (France)

*Invisible in Black: Navigating National Identity of Black Tunisians in the City of Tunis*

Thesis Supervisor: Mohamed KERROU

**Anastasia APOSTOLIDIS** (Belgium)

*De la politique européenne à l'assiette grecque*

Thesis Supervisor: Laurent BAECHLER

**Julia DEVOLDER** (France)

*Entre Ayasofya et Marianne : l'encadrement religieux de la diaspora turque par Ankara en France, un enjeu pour « l'Islam des Lumières » et les valeurs républicaines ?*

Thesis Supervisor: Nazan CÖMERT

**Ursula FONTAINE** (France / Mauritius)

*Le rôle ambigu de l'Arabie Saoudite dans la lutte anti-terroriste contre Al-Qaïda*

Thesis Supervisor: Anna DIMITROVA

**Céline GÉRARD** (France / Turkey)

*Cap vers l'Est ? Le panturquisme et la diplomatie culturelle de la Turquie en Asie centrale turcophone depuis 1991*

Thesis Supervisor: Ayhan KAYA





**Sirin GOLLI** (Germany)

*L'externalisation des politiques migratoires européennes : application à la Tunisie ?*

Thesis Supervisor: Yvan GASTAUT

**Odi HAWAMDEH** (Jordan)

*Is War Between China and the United States Inevitable? A Critical Analysis of Thucydides Trap*

Thesis Supervisor: Matthias WAECHTER

**Giada KABRIT** (Italy / Lebanon)

*A Secure Middle East: A Complex Interdependence Between the European Union and Iran*

*Under a Weapons of Mass Destruction Free Zone?*

Thesis Supervisor: Anna DIMITROVA

**Hannah LANG** (Germany)

*La contribution de l'agriculture urbaine au défi de l'alimentation : Application à Dakar, Maputo et Tunis*

Thesis Supervisor: Jean-Claude VÉREZ

**Juan Jesús LÓPEZ MARTINEZ** (Spain)

*The EU and the Palestinian Conflict: The Case of the Two State Solution and the Settlements*

Thesis Supervisor: George TZOGOPOULOS

**Michelangelo MARCHISIO** (Italy)

*Analyse des critères d'une puissance émergente au XXIe siècle : application à la Turquie*

Thesis Supervisor: Jean-Claude VÉREZ

**Mariangela PANICO** (Italy)

*Foreign Policy: The Missing Piece in Türkiye-EU Relations*

Thesis Supervisor: Ayhan KAYA

**Clémence PLAZANET** (France / Canada)

*Atouts et limites de la contribution des Organisations non gouvernementales sur le développement humain au Sénégal*

Thesis Supervisor: Jean-Claude VÉREZ

**Jessica POWERS** (United States)

*Atouts et limites des politiques décoloniales : application au Sénégal*

Thesis Supervisor: Jean-Claude VÉREZ

**Elena RICCI** (Italy)

*The European Union's Migration Policy and the Protection of Human Rights:*

*The Italian-Libyan Case*

Thesis Supervisor: Karima DIRÈCHE

**Tahlia WEBBER** (Australia)

*Éduquer pour intégrer : Analyse de l'intégration sociale des réfugiés Syriens de 5 à 17 ans en Türkiye à travers la scolarisation*

Thesis Supervisor: Nazan CÖMERT



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